



Biblia

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NEWSLETTER OF ALIA WEST

The online version of Biblia is available at
<http://alia.org.au/aliawest/biblia/>

September 2005

Hi and welcome to a new edition of Biblia. This month is going to be busy one, the neXt 2005 conference in Sydney is being held this month and we have some excited people going along to have a fantastic time. To those who are going, don't forget to send in the pictures and articles detailing your highlights of your time at the conference. For those not going, two other events will be occurring in Perth. The first, the Show and Tell session, being hosted by the National Library of Australia at the State Library and the second, WA's Regional National Advisory Congress at the UWA Medical and Dental Library, more information about these events inside.

Thank you to all those who provided articles on events around Perth and even occurring internationally, Oslo seems to have been wonderful Kerry! Another interesting article, which I can attest at being at times, is Lorraine Bradshaw's article on Structured Procrastination, and I will be needing that cup of coffee soon.

Bonnie and I always on the lookout for articles and pictures so, please do not forget that if you do attend an event or social occasion send in an article and it will be published.

Have a wonderful month

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Australian Library and Information Association

Academic & Research Libraries (WA Group) ALIA Leaders' Forum

On Tuesday evening 26th July 2005, the Academic & Research Libraries Group held a Leaders' Forum at Edith Cowan University Library, Mt. Lawley campus. Five speakers from Perth academic libraries and the State Library of WA were invited to talk about their vision on future library trends, and how these trends may impact on service delivery. A panel discussion followed the formal presentations.

This was a very popular topic, as more than fifty people came along to hear our guest speakers, including Margaret Allen CEO and State Librarian; Dan Archibald, Edith Cowan University; John Arfield, University of Western Australia; Imogen Garner, Curtin University of Technology; and Margaret Jones from Murdoch University.

Margaret Allen spoke about public library services in Western Australia, and the trend to public library design and site selection that facilitates the development of community hubs, or multi function service points for local councils. In this environment clients are able to access a variety of services including library collections, electronic resources, and bill paying services from their local library building. Other factors impacting on public library services include the demand for 24 x 7 access to information, accessing digitised unique materials, the increasing use of non book formats such as books on CD and MP3, and self service circulation systems.

A further challenge for public library services is the digital divide between seemingly information rich city dwellers, as opposed to information poor library users in rural areas scattered throughout this vast State. Ultimately, finding solutions to the digital divide will result in the creation of informed and empowered communities through the development of public libraries as convenient and comfortable places of learning, relevant to the needs of all library patrons, from those interested in recreational reading and self education, through to students of higher education, and the increasing demand for the provision of electronic resources in remote areas.

John Arfield's talk entitled "Re-placing the library" concentrated on the changing study habits of students in academic libraries. Where previous generations relied heavily on print resources that could only be found in the library, students of today belong to the Google generation, more likely to use an Internet search engine to find information, rather than relying on print resources stored in libraries. This new generation of informed users have new expectations that demand service delivery at the point of need.

The challenge over the next couple of years (and who can predict past this time frame!) will be to provide a student study environment for the next generation of 'net-gen' students that encompasses E-research, or a collaborative research environment that encourages scholarly communication. Some emerging strategic themes for university librarians are to respond to users, integrate information, communicate knowledge, foster collaboration, and thus transform the organisation. John's presentation was illustrated throughout by some highly entertaining and pertinent slides, demonstrating that today's students rely on technology including mobile phones, smart cards, personal digital assistants, and other electronic 'stuff' to satisfy their educational needs. The library building is a comfortable environment to study and communicate with fellow students, but the print collections are no longer as relevant.

Dan Archibald touched a familiar chord for many in the audience, when he spoke about his experience in academic libraries, and the vast changes in technology that have occurred in the last two decades alone. From bygone days of card catalogues, and librarians accessing dial up databases to search for information on the client's behalf, enormous changes in technologies enable far greater access to information, delivered electronically to the end user. From a traditional model of the library as a repository of information, the emphasis has also switched to make the library a repository of online learning, with increasing demand to deliver a wide range of electronic range of resources to students and academic staff whether located on campus, or via remote access. The library has become a learning and social space for students with an emphasis on access, and smaller or non-existent collections.



Hazarding an educated guess at significant factors for the immediate future, Dan cited continued advances in electronic resources and information technology, content and digital rights management, e-repositories and other systems. Other media that may impact on service provision are video, DVD, video streaming, published titles available for download rather than purchase, and RSS feeds. Libraries must be aware of each new step along the way, and keep involved to avoid irrelevance.

In her presentation, Imogen Garner used the acronym for the Click06 ALIA conference to be held in Perth next September **CLICK**: (Create, Lead, Innovate, Connect, Knowledge) as the basis of her talk. There is a trend of workplace reform, and we need staff with flexible and creative leadership skills. It is important for library teams to have people able to **create** new services and see potential (eg SMS, PDAs, Blogs).

We need people to **lead**, not just in management roles, but also among library staff in general. The Aurora Leadership Institute aims to do just this. It is important to realise you don't need to be a manager or supervisor to influence and empower yourself and others. **Innovation** is not just a bright idea, but where ideas take us as part of a team. We need four characteristics: clarifiers, idealists, developers and implementers in order to make a difference. It's important to look at the spread of skills, develop skills in people, and work out how we get relevant skills into our skill set.

We need to **connect** with each other by networking with colleagues and make social contacts. Connecting makes us grow and develop, and provides us with a broad view of what's happening in our profession. Finally we need a core set of **knowledge** skills and attributes. We need to pursue professional development and understand what we mean about librarianship.

Margaret Jones was the final speaker. Her talk on the sustainable community focussed on the ability to make development choices that respects the relationship between the three E's, economy, ecology and equity. All libraries have an intrinsic role in sustaining communities by providing spaces that enable communities of scholars, communities of learners, both in the local, and global communities.

The library as a place in society may not necessarily be bound by the traditional image of the library as a physical building. Higher education libraries may support local communities by redefining the term 'community', and considering how far we should go to reach out to the wider community. The role of regional academic libraries may disseminate relevant research through digital repositories, and become a joint use library through collaboration with the wider community. In this environment, all members of the community share knowledge networks and in turn sustain the wider and therefore sustainable community.

Margaret spoke of her personal experience of using a telecentre/public library service in the South West of Western Australia while enjoying time away at her holiday home. This experience neatly dovetailed with Margaret Allen's talk about the trend towards making better use of public library facilities, transforming them to become welcoming places where all members of the community enjoy a wide range of facilities relevant to information needs.

In summary, the Leader's Forum attracted a lot of interest. It was terrific to have all of Perth's University Librarians, and the State Librarian together (a major coup) to hear their vision on future trends in library services and how these trends may impact on service delivery. The Academic & Research Libraries Group committee was also pleased to welcome a number of library studies students to this event, as our future leaders will surely come from this next generation of library professionals.

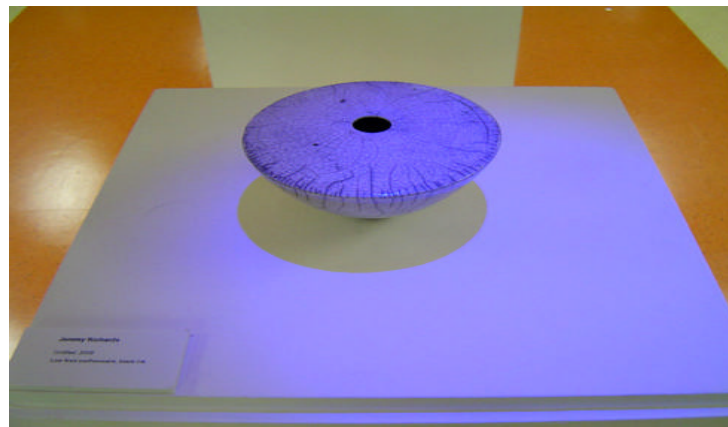
Gaye Sweeney

Convenor: Academic & Research Libraries (WA Group)



Curtin Library hosts student art display

In August the Curtin Library hosted an exhibition of art works created by students in the *Craft* art group. The exhibition pieces enlivened many spaces throughout the Library and produced a great deal of discussion among students and staff. Below are some pictures of exhibition pieces in and around the Library lounge.



Around the traps this month!

The next Library Technicians conference neXt 2005 is on in September and to celebrate the WALT's Group had a pre-conference dinner to get in the mood. Have a wonderful time at the conference!



Structured Procrastination: What is it? Why do we do it? and what can we do to stop it?

Do you give 100% every day? Perhaps more importantly, do you devote 100% of your energy to the right things? Do you get to the end of the day and feel satisfied of a job well done, or is there a little twinge of guilt that you could have done just a little bit more?

I'm sure you have at least one "to do list" sitting on your desk right now. If you are anything like your neighbours and colleagues, you probably have several lists – one for work, one for home, one in your briefcase just in case you forget where you put the other lists you created last week, and a list of things you need to do "when you get the time". The thing is, lists are easy to create, they are also easy to lose, easy to overlook, and easy to forget about when other more urgent items get dropped on your already overflowing desk.

So why do we spend a lot of time creating something that very rarely works? Well there are a lot of reasons, not least of which – having a list means that we can create structure and form out of the chaos that is our desks. We know what we need to do, and we know when we need to have it done by. The problem with most lists, is that there is always something far more exciting to do further down the list rather than the item that sits at number one – which is now important and urgent by the way. We reason that in order to get into the right frame of mind needed to tackle the item that is at number one spot, we'll do one of the other items on our to do list, and then we will get around to the number one item. Except of course, we very rarely do, until someone, somewhere (usually the boss) asks where the item is. All of a sudden, the important and urgent item becomes important, urgent and overdue. We work late into the afternoon and evening to produce whatever it is that we need to produce. People (especially the boss) can see us working feverishly away, and reason that we must be very busy, because we are always working so hard.

And because you were able to produce something (OK it wasn't up to your best standard, but hey you simply ran out of time), this reinforces your belief that you work best under pressure, so instead of starting right away on the next item on the list, you take time out to congratulate yourself on a job well done, perhaps taking time to read the paper, make a cup of coffee, talk to people about how busy you are and so the cycle starts again.

Believe it or not, this is a form of structured procrastination. We put off doing something we ought to do, usually by doing something else simply because we can. And because you are still producing something, you can create the illusion that you are busy and productive, when in reality all you are is busy. You may deceive yourself into thinking that your working day has structure and purpose, you have managed to cross some of the items off your list after all. But I am sure that if you were truly and brutally honest with yourself you will know that you haven't achieved what you set out to do today at all.

One of the best ways to get rid of structured procrastination is to remove temptation from your working life. It has been said "the typical office worker is interrupted every three minutes by a phone call, e-mail, instant message or other distraction.

The problem is that it takes about 8 uninterrupted minutes for our brains to get into really creative state."

http://news.com.com/2102-1022_3-5797028.html?tag=st.util.print. So how can you deal with this problem? One of the easiest things to do is to turn off the email message window that pops up every few seconds distracting you from whatever it was you were supposed to be doing. Set aside a few minutes at certain points during the day to respond to messages, and discipline yourself to turn the electronic mail off again, after you have done so.

Another simple solution to getting more out of every day is to write down what you have done. Carry a notebook, or create a simple spreadsheet that gives the time that you started a task, and the time that you completed it. This personal record should give you a very quick and clear indication where you are spending your time and energy. Once you have this information you can determine if you really ought to be spending so much time talking with a colleague about your weekend plans, rather than on your projects. And this technique can be extended to cover your home life too. Do not judge your actions, simply make a note of how you spend your time, then you can decide if you really ought to be watching another TV programme, or whether you should work on your job application. The choice as they say is yours.

So what have you been putting off doing today??

Lorraine Bradshaw works for Information Enterprises Australia (IEA) .



**INFORMATION STUDIES @
CURTIN UNIVERSITY**



With
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&

ALIAWest



INVITE YOU TO THE

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA'S

SHOW AND TELL SESSION

Come and find out about:

- the new ventures the National Library is undertaking,
- progress on those it currently maintains, and
- ideas for the future

DATE: TUESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2005

**WHERE: State Library of WA Theatre,
Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre**

**TIME: 9:30am - Arrival coffee/tea
9:45am - Presentations begin
and will include Q&A/feedback session
12:30pm - Light lunch, to conclude by 1:30pm
(refreshments provided by the National Library of Australia)**

RSVP: please for catering purposes, by cob Friday 16th September 2005. to:
Kerry Smith, Curtin University, phone 9266 7217,
Email: K.Smith@curtin.edu.au

IFLA Conference 2005 Oslo



Yet another interesting and worthwhile IFLA World Library and Information Conference has ended. While a number of the delegates were affected by the Heathrow strike with some staying at Heathrow airport until flights resumed, others not receiving their luggage until 3 – 4 days later, this intrepid conference goer and colleague Anne Horn were amongst those who were well looked after by The Spirit of Australia – Qantas - on the way over. We arrived a little late, but it could have been a lot worse.

My hotel was towards the centre of what is not a very large city and it took me 15 minutes to walk to the conference each day. The conference website at: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/index.htm> gives the full conference details. My own activities centred around the Library Theory and Research Section of IFLA - see: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s24/index.htm> and I stepped down as Chair after the IFLA sunset clause of 4 years clicked in. I was able to attend sessions on copyright, open access and also government information. There is nothing like an IFLA conference for a world view on library issues.

I also took a public library tour to the Tonsberg-Notteroy Public Library, built on the ancient ruins of an old monastery, parts of which are remembered in the construction of the library. I brought home some delightful bookmarks showcasing childrens' artwork.

The conference always starts with a colourful opening and this one was no exception. We were entertained musically by a harpist with rock accompaniment, a tenor and Secret Garden band; all in the presence of King Harald of Norway. The opening plenary given by Francis Sejersted, focussed on the importance of libraries for freedom of expression. It was a very thoughtful paper and can be found at: <http://ifla.org/IV/ifla71/papers/185-Sejersted.pdf> The social events held each evening included the Opening of the refurbished National Library of Norway; a reception at the Oslo Public Library: an imposing mix of the old and the new; and a Cultural evening where we were bussed to the Norwegian Museum of Cultural History – an open air museum featuring authentic buildings from different national regions over different periods of time. I was also able to take in the Kon Tiki Museum.

Retiring IFLA President Kay Raseroka (who gave me permission to reproduce this photo) was given a standing ovation at the conclusion of the conference. Alex Byrne, now IFLA President and the first Australian in this role, will have a hard act to follow.



The next conference is in Seoul, Korea, 20 – 24 August 2006. Check out the details as they are posted on the website: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/index.htm>

There were over 3000 delegates at the conference.



Forty Australians are listed in the delegates list and amongst the first timers were Alex Petrie and Margo Lundy from WA!



WA Region National Advisory Congress

'All members of ALIA are invited to the WA Region National Advisory Congress meeting to be held on October 12, 2005. This is an opportunity for WA members to participate in discussion on policy, planning and any topical issues relevant to the Association. Come along and have a say on issues related to your professional association. Board member Carol Newton Smith will be in attendance and we hope to get some stimulating discussion on the evening.

The event will be held at the UWA Medical and Dental Library, Corner Thomas St and Monash Ave, Nedlands, 5:30pm. Parking at the door, refreshments provided.

For more information, contact Kay Poustie, ALIA WA Local Liaison Officer, phone 9382 1261 or email queries to kpoustie@tpg.com.au

Curtin Library loads 500th digital thesis

Recently the Curtin Library celebrated the addition of the 500th Curtin thesis to the Australian Digital Thesis Database.

The 500th thesis belonged to Dr Margot Wood and was titled *A study of the perception of the impact of modelling on the development of commitment to action in Decision Conferencing*. Dr Wood received a certificate of recognition at a small ceremony at the Library.



Dr Margot Wood (centre) and Library staff (left to right) David Wells, Constance Wiebrands, University Librarian Imogen Garner and Michaela Shepherdson

The Australian Digital Thesis project aims to make theses written by postgraduate research students at Australian universities easily available to the international scholarly community using the internet. The database presently contains some 4000 doctoral and master's theses from 29 Australian institutions.

DIARY DATES**SEPTEMBER**

DATE: 2ND (FRI)
 EVENT: New Norcia Library Lecture
 SPEAKER: Dr Massimo Ceresa
 VENUE: New Norcia
 COST: \$66 adults, \$30 students
 CONTACT: library@newnorcia.wa.edu.au

DATE: 7TH (WED)
 EVENT: KDD training
 VENUE: Training room, 4th floor
 State Library of Western Australia
 TIME: 9:15am - 4:30pm
 COST: \$264
 BOOKINGS: Jane Jones jjones@liswa.wa.gov.au

DATE: 11TH (SUN) - 14TH (WED)
 EVENT: RMAA 2005 Convention
<http://www.rmaa.com.au/natconf2005/index.cfm>
 COST: Early registration (before 31 July)
 \$990 member, \$1320 non-member, \$550 student
 Day registration (member) \$330
 Day registration (non-member) \$440

DATE: 13TH (TUES)
 EVENT: IIM half-day workshop on taxonomy
 SPEAKERS: Gaynor Deal, IRIS WA plus guest speakers
 Water Corporation

DATE: 16TH (FRI)
 EVENT: FIRK (Fellowship in Information and Record Keeping) breakfast
 TIME: 7:30am

DATE: 21ST (WED)
 EVENT: Kinetica information session
 VENUE: State Library
 TIME: 5:30 - 6:30pm

DATE: 22ND (THURS)
 EVENT: Kinetica Annual User Meeting
 VENUE: University Club of Western Australia
 TIME: 9am - 5pm
 COST: \$90 (includes cocktail reception and library tour)
<http://www.nla.gov.au/kinetica/aum/>

DATE: 30TH (FRI)
 EVENT: ECU/WASLA half day seminar
 eLearning: What do I need to know?
 VENUE: Building 17, Edith Cowan University
 Mount Lawley Campus
 TIME: 8:45am - 1pm
 COST: \$35 non-member
 \$30 WASLA members
 Return registration form to
 Edith Cowan University, SCIS
 2 Bradford Street Mount Lawley 6050
 CONTACT: Barbara Combes 9370 6072
 b.combes@ecu.edu.au

OCTOBER

DATE: 1ST (SAT)
 EVENT: Transforming Information and Learning Conference
<http://www.chs.edu.au/TILC/>

DATE: 17TH (MON)
 EVENT: State Records office of Western Australia
 Sandwich Seminar
 TOPIC: Cultivating the sources: agriculture, horticulture and landscape in the State Records Office
 VENUE: South West Room
 Alexander Library Building
 TIME: 12:30 - 1:30pm
 BOOKINGS: Book at the enquiry desk or 9427 3360

DATE: 28TH (FRI)
 EVENT: FIRK (Fellowship in Information and Record Keeping) breakfast
 TIME: 7:30am

DATE: OCTOBER
 EVENT: IIM Breakfast
 Knowledge Management Case Study from the Water Corporation
 SPEAKERS: Mary Papachristos and Ling Heang

DECEMBER

DATE: 9TH (FRI)
 EVENT: FIRK (Fellowship in Information and Record Keeping) breakfast
 TIME: 7:30am

DATE: DECEMBER
 EVENT: State Records office of Western Australia
 Sandwich Seminar
 TOPIC: End of year review
 VENUE: South West Room
 Alexander Library Building
 TIME: 12:30 - 1:30pm
 BOOKINGS: Book at the enquiry desk or 9427 3360

From the editors

The deadline for copy is the 25th of the month. Articles and photos about recent events, news about upcoming events, suggestions for columns, and contributions from groups may be sent to Sharon Coppin at cyrilina@inet.net.au or scoppin@mlc.wa.edu.au or Bonnie-Rae Bruce at b.bruce@curtin.edu.au

