



TechNique

ALIA NATIONAL LT GROUP



Australian
Library and
Information
Association

From the Editor

Welcome to our second exciting issue of TechNique for 2008.

In this issue we look at some of the fun ways libraries celebrated National Library Technicians Day and the Olympic Games.

Julie-Ann Wolfe tells how the FaHCSIA Library celebrated the Olympics with a display that included a genuine Olympic torch from the Beijing Olympics.

Trish D'Arcy provides an interesting account of the Old Library Technicians' group library tours which took in the Pathways Library and the Redcliffe Hospital Library.

Liam Casey shares his (slightly blurred) version of events of the WA Library Technicians' group biennial Weekend Workshop held at Curtin University's Muresk Institute.

Spotlight on Your National Committee introduces two more hard working members of the National Library Technicians group.

Finally, for a bit of fun we have included a book

review and the fun fact file again, along with upcoming events and interesting and useful library blogs and links.

Christmas is just around the corner. How will your library be celebrating? If you have any library technician news or been to any conferences or events that you would like to share in the next issue of Technique, please send your stories and photos to Karen Mills at karen.mills@alia.org.au

or Trish Olsson at trish.olsson@airservicesaustralia.com

Read on and enjoy!

The Editorial Team (ALIA ACT Library Technician Group)

Karen Mills - ALIA

Trish Olsson - Airservices Australia

Colleen Gammage - The Treasury

Julie-Ann Wolfe - FaHCSIA

Nicola Cross - Australian Bureau of Statistics

Issue 2

May-Aug 2008

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ACT Libtech committee members with Sue Hutley (ALIA Executive Director) at the Library Technicians conference, Melbourne, 2007. L-R Colleen Gammage, Sue, Trish Olsson, Julie-Ann Wolfe, and Karen Mills





National Library Technician's Day Celebrations 2008

ACT

The ACT ALIA Library Technician Group celebrated "National Library Technicians Day" at [The Soul Bar](#) in Woden over drinks and platters of delicious nibbles.

Many library technicians representing various libraries from around the ACT turned up on the night braving a very chilly Canberra evening.

Everyone had a great night catching up with old friends and making some new ones too.



Our special guest Roxanne Missingham (past ALIA President) welcomed us with a speech acknowledging the great work Library Technicians do within Libraries.

ALIA was also represented with the attendance of Dianne Walton-Sonda (ALIA Education Manager) and Anna-Maria Sviatko (ALIA Groups Liaison Officer).

Julie-Ann Wolfe,
ACT



Tasmania

Library Technician's from the greater Hobart area attended an informal breakfast at a Bakery in the city to celebrate National Library technician's Day.

Several types of libraries were represented including school, special, public and academic.

It was a great way for people to catch up, meet new people and network.

The bakery staff were kept busy and as the conversation level increased it was a noisy but friendly gathering.

As usual there wasn't quite enough time to catch up with everyone as work beckoned.

When I returned to my workplace I was greeted with a gorgeous bunch of flowers from my Teacher Librarian as a show of appreciation.

Jen Johnson,
Tasmania





Old Lib Tech's Library Tours

Old LTs enjoyed a great day out on Saturday 23 August when about 16 of us were guests of Margot Keane and the Pathways Library of the newly-formed Moreton Bay Regional Council (previously Pine Rivers Council Library Service), and then of Fiona Winston-Brown, Redcliffe Hospital Library.

Convenor, Trish D'Arcy, had made contact with Margot in October 2007 at the National Library and Information Technicians Conference in Melbourne, where Margot and a work colleague presented a paper on a special project devised by their library service.

The project, Loud@Pathways Library, is a youth initiative in the Pine Rivers Shire, to promote libraries as "cool" places to be, catering for 12 - 17 year olds. The aim of the project is to provide a meeting place where kids have space to interact and meet new friends whilst in a fun, safe environment.

The Pathways Library Tour

On Saturday morning, Margot hosted a morning tea followed by a brief talk about Loud@Pathways, then escorted us on a tour of her library.



Pathways Library

Some of the group were particularly taken with their "Soundtube", a ceiling-mounted speaker device, which one wag of the group quickly dubbed the "cone of silence" (she must be watching too many old television episodes of Get Smart!).

This speaker is used for their big-screen wall-mounted television and the sound of the television can only be heard if the listener stands directly under the Soundtube. This ensures that other library users will not be disturbed by background noise, but the patrons can still hear the television if they so desire. Margot mentioned this was particularly effective while the Olympics have been on.

Following our enjoyable tour, most of the attendees headed across the road to the local pub where we were served very promptly and the food was really delicious too.

The Redcliffe Hospital Library Tour

From there, we headed up the road to Redcliffe, which was only about 10 minutes from Pathways. There we found Fiona, Librarian for the Redcliffe Hospital library, waiting patiently for our arrival.

Once the stragglers caught up with us, we set off on a little journey to her library tucked away neatly at the back of the main hospital building.

Fiona is on contract (her usual position is with Australian College of Natural Medicine) but she has been given free

rein to make changes if she wishes to.

While the Redcliffe Hospital Library does not occupy a large space, it is a very efficiently run service and Fiona is very pleased with its operational scope.



Redcliffe Hospital Library

Our group is now looking ahead to a special workshop weekend we are planning with our Blackbutt, Nanango and Kingaroy colleagues in October.

As these towns are in a rural area, (about 2 hours drive northwest of Brisbane), staff are not always able to take advantage of workshop opportunities in Brisbane.

Our group felt we would like to reach out to network with our colleagues, and to provide some much needed updates on technology usage in public libraries such as Facebook, blogs, and wikis.

We are hoping to make this venture a success which we can then use to build future networking.

Trish D'Arcy,
Old



FaHCSIA Library celebrates the Beijing Olympics

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) Library celebrated the Olympics by inviting the National Office staff to come and watch the telecast of the Beijing Olympics in the library throughout the day and during work breaks.

The library supplied a large television and made seating available for staff to come in, eat their lunch, and get into the Olympic spirit.



The library staff set up an Olympics themed display with a genuine Olympic torch from the Beijing Olympics as the centre piece.

One of our departmental staffers was lucky enough to have participated in the torch relay when it came through Canberra. We asked if we could put his precious torch

on display for a week if we took great care of it. He was happy to oblige and said it would be a great honour.

The celebrations also included a quiz we put together for enthusiastic Olympic Games followers to participate in and enjoy.

Julie-Ann Wolfe
FaHCSIA, ACT



National Library helps to keep Olympic spirit online

Did you know.....

Sydney 2000, dubbed the "best Games ever", also had the distinction of being the first truly online Olympics? More than 150 official and unofficial web sites on almost every aspect of the Olympic Games were created but have now vanished from the live Internet.

The National Library of Australia, in its vital role of preserving and making accessible Australia's recorded history, has undertaken to preserve many of the Olympic web sites as part of the PANDORA Archive.



The PANDORA (Preserving and Accessing Networked Documentary Resources of Australia) Archive System <http://pandora.nla.gov.au>, is a publicly accessible online archive containing single documents, electronic journals, and entire web sites, which have been identified as significant for Australia's cultural heritage.

With the publishers permission, the National Library collected copies of web sites relating to the Sydney 2000

Olympics in the PANDORA Archive in order to save an important historical and cultural event. Much of the online Olympics has been captured and preserved for future generations.

Sites archived daily during the 2000 Olympics include the official SOCOG site <http://nla.gov.au/nla.arc-10194>, the official site for the Australian Paralympic Team <http://nla.gov.au/nla.arc-13814>, and the AMP Torch Relay <http://nla.gov.au/nla.arc-10760>.

For further information, contact the National Library of Australia's Electronic Unit at elecunit@nla.gov.au.



Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) System Vs Chinese Library Classification (CLC) System

In the spirit of the Olympics in China this month here is a look at the differences and similarities between the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) System and the Chinese Library Classification (CLC) System.

Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) System

The DDC system is the most widely used library classification system in the world, used in more than 135 countries. It is made up of ten main classes, each divided into ten secondary classes, each having ten subdivisions of its own.

000 – Computer science, information, and general works

100 – Philosophy and psychology

200 – Religion

300 – Social sciences

400 – Languages

500 – Science

600 – Technology applied science

700 – Arts and recreation

800 – Literature

900 – History and geography and biography

For more information on DDC and CLC click on the hyperlinks.



Chinese Library Classification (CLC) System

CLC is the national library classification scheme in China. It is used in schools, universities, academic institutions, and public libraries. CLC has 22 top-level categories and contains 43600 categories.

1.1 A. Marxism, Leninism, Maoism & Deng Xiaoping Theory

1.2 B. Philosophy and Religion

1.3 C. Social Sciences

1.4 D. Politics and Law

1.5 E. Military Science

1.6 F. Economics

1.7 G. Culture, Science, Education and Sports

1.8 H. Languages and Linguistics

1.9 I. Literature

1.10 J. Art

1.11 K. History and Geography

1.12 N. Natural Science

1.13 O. Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry

1.14 P. Astronomy and Geoscience

1.15 Q. Life Sciences

1.16 R. Medicine and Health Sciences

1.17 S. Agricultural Science

1.18 T. Industrial Technology

1.19 U. Transportation

1.20 V. Aviation and Aerospace

1.21 X. Environmental Science

1.22 Z. General, Miscellaneous, Auxiliary and Others





WA Lib Tech's Weekend Workshop

The WA Library Technicians' group recently held their biennial Weekend Workshop at Curtin University's Muresk Institute (Curtin's school of agribusiness, applied biosciences and environmental biology), situated 90 klms east of Perth in the heart of the picturesque Avon Valley.



The weekend workshop was held over the weekend of 25 – 27 July 2008 beginning on Friday evening when the delegates enjoyed getting to know each other over a light supper and a few fine wines.

<http://agrienvi.curtin.edu.au/>

Saturday's program began with a guided Tour of the Muresk Library, conducted by Karen Shackleton, resident Library Technician at Muresk.

The following session's included *Supervision of library assistants* – Katherine Allen and Narelle Beebe; *Using Web 2.0 in libraries* – Jean Broomhall and Lesley Dorrington; and finally *Disaster planning – does your Library have a disaster plan?* which was a group discussion led by Judith Allan.

Then it was off for a walk, most people choosing to walk up the surrounding hills for the view, with one more adventurous (and thirsty) person walking to the local pub – 5km away! OK, I admit it, it was me.

With only 1km to go on my trek, a lovely LT pulled up alongside and offered me a lift – thanks Jean. We then proceeded to the local for a couple of well earned coldies.

It was then time to head back to Muresk for Saturday night's entertainment which included a dinner followed by a fun social evening of wine (yes, more wine) and nibbles, while partaking in a quiz night which was expertly organised and run by Judy Claymore.

As you can imagine it was a night full of much fun and laughter!

Before I knew it, Sunday morning had arrived and I emerged bleary-eyed into the glorious Muresk sunshine (OK – it was raining) for a hearty breakfast.



The first session, was *Using digital cameras* – Susan Courtland and Louise Draper-Sevenson. This was a fun

session which involved all of us traipsing around the farm taking photos of anything and everything, before returning to the Computer Lab to edit and enhance our photos using Picasa software.

This was followed by Web page creation using Frontpage with Chris Lawson which was also very educational and a lot of fun. People came up with some amazing web pages.

The weekend concluded with lunch and a photo shoot of all the delegates on the front steps of Muresk's original Dempster Homestead.



On behalf of the delegates I would like to thank the organising committee for an extremely enjoyable and educational experience. I look forward to the next one!

Liam Casey,
Publicity Officer,
WALT Group





The National Library of Australia building turns 40

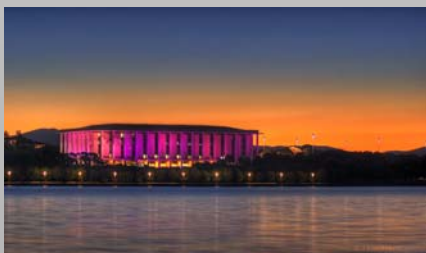
The National Library of Australia recently celebrated the 40th anniversary of its building in the Parliamentary Triangle in Canberra, which has stored Australia's documentary heritage since it opened on 15 August 1968.



[The National Library of Australia at night, Canberra, April 1968](#)

The landmark building with its classical lines has obvious references to the Parthenon in Athens but also encompasses more contemporary architectural trends.

The Library was a tribute to the vision of architects Bunning and Madden, after their Sydney firm was appointed as architect for a new library on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin in 1961. Contributions to the design also included artists Henry Moore, Tom Bass and Leonard French.



National Library at night

Photo source: <http://flickr.com/photos/20753493@N00/274636888>

In the mid-1950s, almost 30 years after the Library had moved from Melbourne, its collection was spread across 15 buildings in Canberra. The buildings included the local morgue, the laundry and caretakers office at the old Canberra Hospital; a grocery store at the railway station; and an explosives shed at the Mugga quarry.

The foundation stone was laid on 31 March 1966 by then Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies. The National Library of Australia was completed two years later and was officially opened by Prime Minister John Gorton, admitting its first readers on 18 August 1968.



The library's "columns" as requested by Sir Robert Menzies

Photo source: <http://flickr.com/photos/shinglor/2182218749/>

Director-General of the Library, Jan Fullerton, said the anniversary was about much more than merely celebrating the building's past. "It is a time to embark on the Library's vision for the future, including a focus on preserving our digital memory and the creation of a new Treasures Gallery."



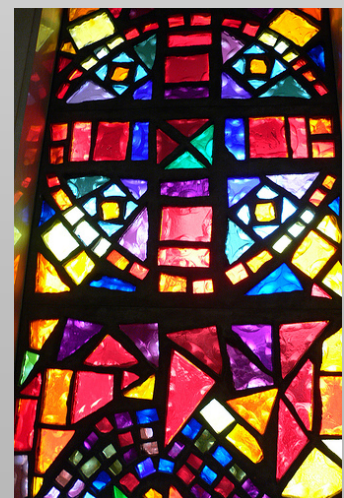
Balloons over the National Library

Photo source: <http://flickr.com/photos/allyeska/2430965252/>

More information about the 40th birthday celebrations is available at www.nla.gov.au

A display, *The Opening Chapter: Building the National Library*, can be seen in the Visitors' Centre until 16 November 2008.

High-resolution images of the history of the Library's construction, are available for download at www.nla.gov.au/media/openingchapter/index.html



Mosaic window at NLA

Photo source: <http://flickr.com/photos/louisedesign/535642272/>





Spotlight on Your National Committee

Trish D'Arcy

ALIA National LT Group

A member of the National Libtech committee, Trish D'Arcy is also the Convenor of the ALIA Qld Library Technicians Group.

Trish is a Library Technician (Lending Services & Document Delivery) at Australian Catholic University (ACU). Trish has worked for ACU for 13 years, with the last 5 years working at the Banyo campus, in a new purpose-built library.

Trish says "Our environment here is beautiful with lots of wide open space, a swimming pool, and tennis courts. The campus is high on a hill that

overlooks Brisbane Airport, the Gateway Motorway and the mouth of the Brisbane River. I find it really soothing to go out at lunch time and watch the cars, airplanes, and ships busily going about their business."

Trish says of the Qld LT group "We are a very enthusiastic, energetic bunch. This year we have had great success running two workshops, and have visited a variety of libraries, including the Qld Police Service library at Oxley Police Academy, usually restricted access to the public. We have finalised our budget and planning for 2008, and I feel it is shaping up as another great year."

Trish was the Treasurer for the ALIA National LT Group on the previous committee, but this year handed over to Jennifer Dyer. Trish has volunteered to stay on the committee as a general member as she feels it is very important to support the national group.

Trish says "It is a lot more difficult to run the National group than the state groups because we are all so spread out across the country. So, good luck to Kevin and the executive team, and let's hope we have a wonderful 2 years with the new committee."

Colleen Gammage

ALIA National LT Group

Colleen had an interest in libraries since she was in the 4th grade in Lake Macquarie due to her aunt working in a library. After moving to Canberra in 1992 and completing her Higher School Certificate, Colleen started working in the retail industry and had the opportunity to work at the ACT public Library on a work experience program run by the ACT government.

Colleen married and had two children but forgot about having a career until after she divorced. She decided to go back to the one thing she always dreamt of doing and enrolled in the CIT Library and Information Services Diploma. Four years and another child later, Colleen

completed the diploma making some life long friendships along the way.

Towards the end of the diploma Colleen started working for Lynn Farkas Information Services as a Contractor. She worked part-time with the ACT public library as a cataloguer in the collection development team, and then later worked at AusAID as their Serials/ILL/and Loans officer. Of her time at AusAID Colleen says "I not only learned a lot but gained some wonderful friends as well as experiencing the fun of relocating a collection to an offsite facility."

Colleen decided to do the Advanced Diploma of Library Studies and also started working at the Treasury library as their serials officer. After nearly a year of juggling three

part-time library positions, library studies, and three children, Colleen left Lynn Farkas and AusAID to work at Treasury full time.

Today Colleen is enjoying working across a variety of different areas of the Treasury library while being actively involved with the ACT libtech group and this year with the National Libtech Committee.

Colleen says "the highlight of my time working in the library sector was attending the National Libtech Conference in Melbourne last year where I met a huge number of people, learnt a lot, and had a ball."





Book Review

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Sydney: Pan Macmillan, 2008

The Book Thief is a superbly written and compelling story, set in World War II Nazi Germany. Death narrates the story of 9-year-old Liesel Meminger's ordeal, her resilience, and the moments when she almost comes within his reach.

Death first meets Liesel when he comes to take her little brother while on the way to live with a foster family in a small town outside Munich.

As the gravediggers are burying her little brother, Liesel steals the gravedigger's hand-book, even though she hasn't yet learned to read.

Her foster father uses the book to teach her to read when she's woken by nightmares about her younger brother's death.

Reading opens new worlds to Liesel and soon she is looking

for other material for distraction. Over the years Liesel collects more stolen books as well as an unusual array of friends.

She meets Rudy, a young boy who becomes her best friend as together they discover the power of words, language and friendship.

Max, a Jewish refugee, who hides out in her basement, whitewashes the pages of a copy of *Mein Kampf* to create his own book for Liesel to sustain her through the bombing raids and her grief.

Liesel also begins stealing books from her friend the mayor's wife, who has a whole library from which she allows her to steal. She even rescues a book from a pile being burned by the Nazis.

Australian author Markus Zusak has written an engaging story that is beautiful, touching and life-changing.

Trish Olsson,
ACT

"Elegant, philosophical and moving. A work to read slowly and savour. Beautiful and important" Kirkus Reviews

"A triumph of control... one of the most unusual and compelling of recent Australian novels" The Age



Read more at: **Amazon** — <http://www.amazon.com/Book-Thief-Markus-Zusak/dp/0375831002>

Wikipedia — http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Book_Thief

Fun Fact File

Book and Library Quotes

- A good book is the best of friends. *English Proverb*
- Choose an author as you would a friend. *Wentworth Dillon*
- Your library is your portrait. *Holbrook Jackson*
- No furniture so charming as books. *Sydney Smith*
- 'Classic': A book which people praise but don't read. *Mark Twain*
- Books are lighthouses erected in the great sea of time. *Edwin P. Whipple*
- In reading, as in eating, an appetite is half the feast. *Anonymous*

For library jokes and other funny library stories go to:
http://www.guy-sports.com/humor/stories/story_library.htm



Library Technician Events



Presented by the ACT, NSW & Victorian ALIA Library Technicians Groups

This weekend event on 25th and 26th October 2008 will include a variety of topical papers, library tours and a Workshop dinner on the Lake Burley Griffin dinner cruise.

Papers will include information on some of the initiatives at the National Library and a range

of behind the scenes tours at some of Canberra's unique libraries include the National Library of Australia, Parliamentary Library, the Australian War Memorial and Civic Libraries.

Confirmed papers of the workshop are the work of LIS Training Library at Canberra Institute of Technology and Roxanne Missingham, Parliamentary Librarian. **Raeco** will again be sponsoring Rivers V.

Place: [Mantra on Northbourne](#), Canberra.

Estimated cost is : \$140.00 ALIA member, full registration

\$190.00 Non-member, full registration. [Registration Form](#)

Dinner on Saturday night, optional extra, delegates own expense.

For more information: contact Libby Brackenridge

libby.brackenridge@deakin.edu.au or phone (03) 9244 3894

Library Blogs & Links

American Library Association - Library Support Staff Interest Round Table (LSSIRT) August edition

http://lib.colostate.edu/lts/jk/August2008_LSSIRT.pdf

Bronwyn's Library Blog

<http://pivotalpoints.com.au/liblogger/>

iLibrarian - News and resources on Library 2.0 and the information revolution. By Ellyssa Kroski, Reference Librarian at Columbia University's Butler Library. <http://oedb.org/blogs/ilibrarian>

Librarian In Black - a one-stop-shop for all Techie Library Staff. By Sarah Houghton-Jan, Digital Futures Manager at the San José Public Library. <http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/librarianinblack/>

Librarians Matter - Musing, enthusing, libraries, emerging technologies, balancing, being mum. By Kathryn Greenhill, Emerging Technologies Specialist, Murdoch University Library, Fremantle, WA. <http://librariansmatter.com/blog/>

Wordle - a toy for generating "word clouds" from your own words (art for the non artistic) – try putting a few words together on a topic of interest and see how it looks! <http://wordle.net/>

Contributors

Colleen Gammage
The Treasury, ACT

Trish Olsson
Airservices Australia,
ACT

Julie-Ann Wolfe
FaHCSIA, ACT

Trish D'Arcy
Australian Catholic
University, Qld

Jennifer Johnson
Guilford Young
College Glenorchy
Campus, Tas

Liam Casey
Curtin University, WA

Technique