



APSIG Newsletter

ALIA Asia Pacific Special Interest Group

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Special IFLA Conference Issue

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Newsletter double issue

This issue of the APSIG newsletter is a combined issue for July and November, allowing us to present reports from the IFLA Conference in August. We hope you like it.

APSIG Christmas Lunch

The much-anticipated APSIG Christmas lunch will be held on 10 December in Canberra. This year's lunch will be a joint event with friends

and colleagues from the East Asian Library Resources Group of Australia.

Sanurs Balinese Restaurant, 1/114 Emu Bank, Belconnen.

Tuesday 10 December, 12.15pm

Menu: Indonesian banquet, cost around \$26, BYO, tea/coffee included.

RSVP to George Miller at

gmillar@grapevine.com.au

APSIG Lunchtime Talk: Elephant Diplomacy: Early Thai-French Relations



Louis XIV receives the Thai Ambassadors

On Wednesday 6 November 12.30 – 1.30 pm in the National Library Conference Room Andrew Gosling will give a talk entitled: ‘Elephant Diplomacy : Early Thai-French Relations’ on Thai-French links in the 1680s, drawing on the National Library’s rich collection of old and recent works. He will expand on his article, “Siam and the Sun King: France’s First Embassy to the Thais,” published in the *National Library Magazine*, March 2013. The talk will be accompanied by a display of some of the books discussed.

IFLA Conference reports

Over 3,500 delegates from all over the world gathered in Singapore from 16 to 21 August to attend the successful IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Singapore in August. Having an IFLA Conference in the region was a great opportunity for colleagues from all over the Asia Pacific region to get together, meet and discuss a wide range of topics.



Delegates attend a plenary session

A number of National Library staff lucky enough to attend the IFLA Conference in Singapore in August reported to a joint meeting of APSIG and the ALIA University and College Libraries group on 4 September. Their reports were from many different sections.



A Chinese lion dance at the opening ceremony.

Aileen Weir, Director Reader Services commented on the size of the Congress – 3500 delegates from Africa, South America, Europe, North America and many from the region. She referred to IFLA's important Trends initiative (which is reported below).



Former IFLA President Kay Raseroka with the State Library of NSW's Vicki McDonald.



ALIA President Julie Rae and Andrew Hiskens of the State Library of Victoria

Wan Wong, Director, Digitisation and Photography attended "Gold mining: text and data mining of journals", a session presented by the Serials & other continuing resources Section. This was the most fully attended session at the Conference with standing room only, showing that this is a hot topic. Text and data mining (TDM) happens more in scientific fields of study such as biomedical. A summary of points raised in the papers:

TDM Projects around the world include: JISC journal archives (>600 journals from different publishers) - allows discovery of similar articles through semantic content analysis to create summary of documents then search for documents with similar summaries

University of Chicago and National Bureau of Economic Research - analyses whether US newspapers have partisan bias in reports on national politics by indexing 425 daily newspapers in two commercial databases

Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University - analyses blogs in Iran and their themes and how popular they are by examining how many other blogs linked to them

HathiTrust Research Center - provides data mined from about 2 billion pages of digitised content for members of the Trust to play with

Issues facing TDM: it need co-operation or permission from publishers, especially scientific journal publishers; some data are free; others are proprietary; it's uncertain where the data mined can be stored after the research; building the right tools to mine the data; mining data of resources in languages other than English can be tricky.

The speakers all agreed libraries have a role to support TDM in including TDM in licensing negotiations with publishers or database providers (In the US downloading is permitted through fair use, but fair use can't be used for TDM which involves bulk data downloading). If this doesn't happen, TDM can only happen for open access material which is not the majority of research output. We also need to support researchers by supporting the open access movement to facilitate TDM and facilitate collaboration between publishers and research community.

Amelia McKenzie, Assistant Director-General, Collections Management commented on the changes being led by Jennefer Nicholson as Secretary-General on the way IFLA implements its programs. One of the most recent developments is the closure of the Preservation and Conservation Core Activity's secretariat in the National Library of France, which can no longer afford to host the program. It is to be taken over by IFLA HQ in much the same way as the Advancement of Libraries Core Programme was some years ago.

Amelia observed that the speed of development of library services in many Asian countries and the pace of change clearly reflected the link between libraries and economic development. She felt that in Southeast Asia there is more interest in regional co-operation while in northeast Asia the emphasis is on bilateral agreements.

Margy Burn, Assistant Director-General, Australian Collections and Reader Services attended many very good papers and noted that in spite of the rapid development of digital publishing, there seemed to be consensus that the book will continue for the foreseeable future.

Margarita Moreno, Manager Document Supply spoke of the conference sessions on legal frameworks for international inter-lending (her particular area of interest) and noted the need for clearer agreements on the cross-border flow of information.



Margarita Moreno and Aileen Weir, National Library

IFLA Trend Report

Our information environment is constantly changing. How will we access, use and benefit from information in an increasingly hyper-connected world? The IFLA Trend Report identifies five top level trends which will play a key role in shaping our future information ecosystem:

TREND 1 New technologies will both expand and limit who has access to information.

TREND 2 Online education will democratise and disrupt global learning.

TREND 3 The boundaries of privacy and data protection will be redefined.

TREND 4 Hyper-connected societies will listen to and empower new voices and groups.

TREND 5 The global information environment will be transformed by new technologies.

More at: <http://trends.ifla.org/>

IFLA Statement on Libraries and Development

[\[PDF\]](#)

At the Conference the IFLA Governing Board approved the IFLA Statement on Libraries and Development. The text is reproduced below.

Access to information is a fundamental human right that can break the cycle of poverty and support sustainable development. The library is the only place in many communities where people can access information that will help improve their education, develop new skills, find jobs, build businesses, make informed agricultural and health decisions, or gain insights into environmental issues. Their unique role makes libraries important development partners, both by providing access to information in all formats and by delivering services and programmes that meet the needs for information in a changing and increasingly complex society.

As the United Nations moves to establish a post-2015 framework to guide development worldwide, IFLA calls upon all stakeholders to recognise that libraries, in every part of the world, can be reliable mechanisms for underpinning the delivery of sustainable development programmes. IFLA affirms that:

Libraries provide opportunity for all

Libraries are found in all locations – in the countryside and in the city, on the campus and in the workplace. Libraries serve all people, regardless of their race, national or ethnic origin, gender or sexual preference, age, disability, religion, economic circumstances or political beliefs. Libraries support vulnerable and marginalised populations and help ensure that no person is denied basic economic opportunities and human rights.

Libraries empower people for their own self-development

Libraries underpin a society where people from any background can learn, create and innovate. Libraries support a culture of literacy and foster critical thinking and inquiry. Through libraries, people can harness the power of technology and the Internet to improve their lives and their communities. Libraries protect the rights of users to access information in a safe environment. Libraries are socially and culturally inclusive. They can help all people engage with the public institutions they need to access services, and can

act as gateways to civic participation and new e-government services.

Libraries offer access to the world's knowledge

Libraries are an essential part of a critical infrastructure that supports education, jobs and community growth. They offer meaningful, convenient access to information in all its forms, whether it is manuscript, printed, audio-visual or digital. They can support formal, informal and lifelong learning, the preservation of folk memories, traditional and indigenous knowledge, and the national cultural and scientific heritage. When national information policies aim to improve telecommunications and provide high-speed broadband networks, libraries are natural partners for the provision of public access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and networked information resources.

Librarians provide expert guidance

Library staff are trained, trusted intermediaries dedicated to guiding people to the information they seek. Librarians provide training and support for the media and information literacies people need to better understand and participate in the information society. They are also cultural stewards, curating and providing access to cultural heritage and supporting the development of identity.

Libraries are part of a multistakeholder society

Libraries work effectively with many different stakeholder groups in varied situations. They deliver programmes and services alongside local and national governments, community groups, charities, funding organisations, and private and corporate enterprises. Librarians are agile actors who are able to work alongside others in governments, civil society, business, academia and the technical community to help deliver policy goals.

Libraries must be recognised in development policy frameworks

As libraries have a natural role in providing access to the information content and networked services that underpin sustainable development, policymakers should encourage the strengthening and provision of libraries and utilise the skills of librarians and other information workers to help solve development problems at community levels.

IFLA therefore urges policymakers and development practitioners to leverage these powerful existing resources and ensure that any post 2015 development framework:

- Recognises the role of access to information as a fundamental element supporting development
- Acknowledges the role of libraries and librarians as agents for development
- Encourages UN Member State support of the information frameworks underpinning development – providing networks, information and human resources – such as libraries and other public interest bodies

Approved by the IFLA Governing Board in Singapore, 16 August 2013

Best IFLA Poster 2013

For colleagues who sometimes think about doing a poster session at a conference!

Shiho Suzuki, a librarian from the Fukushima area of Japan, won the Best IFLA Poster award for her poster ‘The Librarians of Fukushima’. This touching poster described what the librarians of Fukushima did to help the community recover in the aftermath of the East Japan earthquake and tsunami.

The jury selected this poster because:

- it tells a heroic story
- it shows that libraries can impact society and make a difference for the public
- of its simple design and hand drawn pictures
- of its arrangement and artistic quality
- the handout supports the message of the poster



The Miracle at Marrakesh

'First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win' - Mahatma Gandhi

There was quite a buzz at the Conference about the ‘miracle at Marrakesh’. What was it about? The Marrakesh Treaty for the Visually Impaired was adopted by the World Intellectual Property Organisation in June 2013, and conference delegates heard about it in detail at a session on international agreements affecting libraries.

The Marrakesh Treaty is the first WIPO treaty that focuses on user rights to participate in society and the first to affirm exceptions from copyright law. It has been described as a victory for visually disabled but also for the international treaty system.

The Treaty set out to solve two problems:

- The local production and distribution of books in accessible formats
- Cross-border distribution of books in accessible formats

Books for the visually impaired are difficult and expensive to produce. In developed countries, 5-7% of total publications are in accessible formats and in developing countries: 0-1% in accessible formats. Yet there are 285 million visually impaired people of which 90% are in the developing world. There is a book famine for visually impaired, especially for those in developing world.

Because they're expensive, it makes sense to share Braille and audio books across countries but current copyright limitations prevent cross-border sales and distribution. A Braille book created in America, for example, cannot legally be sold in Australia. Audio titles created in one country cannot be lent to a neighbouring country. Blind societies and charities must purchase rights and create a new work. The member states that have been working on this issue since 1981 had to negotiate hard and long against entrenched interests and were overjoyed to achieve

The Treaty requires its contracting parties to adopt national law provisions that permit the reproduction, distribution and making available of published works in accessible formats through limitations and exceptions to the rights of copyright rightholders. In other words, signatory countries provide a copyright exception to allow production and distribution of books in accessible formats at national level, which can be distributed by any means, and the exception can be expanded and narrowed according to commercial availability. TPMs cannot be used to subvert the treaty.

One speaker commented that for the first time, the visually impaired were not being treated as charity cases but as persons with equal rights.

Previously huge collections of accessible works are no longer trapped behind national barriers, depriving those in developing countries of this information. Cross border shipment will be legal and normal now. That is why this landmark event is being hailed as the 'Miracle at Marrakesh.'

http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=245323).

RSCAO activities at IFLA

Jayshree Mamtara reports that the Regional Standing Committee for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) met in Singapore and had an Open Session with a number of speakers (panel is pictured).



The changing role of community libraries: emerging centres for sustainable development. Speaker : Sanjana Shrestha (READ Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal)

Creating a library of the future: Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL) journey of rebuilding its University Library for the 21st century. Speakers : Mary Coghlan and Sabina Robertson (University Library, University of Melbourne)

Public library service in underdeveloped regions in China - A case study of Shanxi Province. Speakers : Shi Xin, Zhai Jianxiong and Hao Jinmin (The National Library of China, Beijing)

Future of Quiescent Public Library System: a developing country prospective. Speaker :Nosheen Fatima Warraich (Pakistan)

Increasing demands on public libraries in hard economic times: Innovation and partnership to

meet community needs at Davao City Public Library. Speaker : Nora Fe Alajar (Philippines)

Remaining relevant - how airports, banks and geeks can save frontline library services. Speakers : Shaun O'Dwyer and Belinda Sua (University of New South Wales)

RSCAO has a new Chair and Secretary:

Chair: Dr Chihfeng P. Lin from Taiwan
Secretary: Takashi Nagatsuka from Japan



Jayshree (pictured with Takashi) is now busy with the program for 2014 in Lyon, France!

The Building Strong Library Associations programme

[\[PDF\]](#)

The programme will be expanded to build capacity within the profession for equitable access to information and improved library services in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries Initiative.

At the Conference IFLA announced that its successful Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) programme will be expanded through a series of meetings and projects at the regional level in Africa, Asia and Oceania, and Latin America and the Caribbean. These regions have a rising demand for library services that can support their growing needs in education, literacy, information for the community, and access to electronic information services and delivery. There is also a need for certainty to secure libraries, library services and access to information within government legislative frameworks.

The BSLA programme consists of a training package and case studies on library association development; mentoring and advice on forming partnerships; an online platform for interactive learning and materials; and impact assessment. Between 2010 and 2012 IFLA delivered the BSLA programme in 6 countries (Botswana, Cameroon, Lebanon, Lithuania, Peru, Ukraine) and BSLA-related activities that reached a further 30 countries across the IFLA regions including Africa, Asia and Oceania, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Emerging and Transition countries.

A [report on the impact of the programme](#) was published in 2012.

Over the next three years until 2016, IFLA will build on the success of the programme and deliver convenings at the regional level where participants will be encouraged to think strategically about needs across the region, and in their own countries. Associations can apply for small project funding to implement further workshops and activities utilising BSLA materials, develop partnerships and strategies. The project will develop sustainable structures within regions for continued development, drawing on the expertise of associations and existing regional organisations.

IFLA President Ingrid Parent said, "Library associations represent the interests of all library users. This programme builds the skills and strategy needed to tell the story of libraries and gain policymaker support. The success of BSLA will now be extended to the regional level. The reach and pace of change possible through the programme will increase dramatically."

For more information: Fiona Bradley
Fiona.bradley@ifla.org

The British Library's Endangered Archives Programme

The Endangered Archives Programme at the British Library is now accepting grant applications for the next round of funding. Applications will be accepted in English or in French. The deadline for receipt of preliminary grant applications is 1 November 2013.

The Programme is funded by Arcadia, in pursuit of one of its charitable aims to preserve and

disseminate cultural knowledge and to promote education and research.

The Programme's objectives are achieved principally by awarding grants to applicants to locate relevant endangered archival collections, where possible to arrange their transfer to a suitable local archival home, and to deposit copies with local institutions and the British Library. Pilot projects are particularly welcomed, to investigate the survival of archival collections on a particular subject, in a discrete region, or in a specific format, and the feasibility of their recovery.

To be considered for funding under the Programme, the archival material should relate to a 'pre-modern' period of a society's history. There is no prescriptive definition of this, but it may typically mean, for instance, any period before industrialisation. The relevant time period will therefore vary according to the society.

For the purposes of the Programme, the term 'archival material' is interpreted widely to include rare printed books, newspapers and periodicals, audio and audio-visual materials, photographs and manuscripts. The Programme is keen to enhance local capabilities to manage and preserve archival collections in the future and it is essential that all projects include local archival partners in the country where the project is based. Professional training for local staff is one of the criteria for grant application assessment, whether it is in the area of archival collection management or technical training in digitisation.

The Programme is administered by the British Library and applications are considered in an annual competition by an international panel of historians and archivists.

For further details of application procedures and documentation as well as EAP projects and collections, please visit the Programme's website: <http://eap.bl.uk/> <<http://eap.bl.uk/>>

Email: endangeredarchives@bl.uk
(Catherine Collins, British Library)

Del Bovill welcomed in Canberra

Before setting off for Dili, Timor Leste to work in the Xanana Gusmao Reading Room as the Resource Centre Management Adviser, Del Bovill and her husband, Tony, visited Canberra

and made contact with the Canberra Friends of Dili and the National Library.



Del has worked for a number of years in Lake Macquarie Public Library and has had a variety of library experiences which will stand her in good stead in Timor Leste. She is on a two year contract with New Zealand's Volunteer Service Abroad which has undertaken to support the Xanana Reading Room. The National Library's extensive collection on Timor Leste, shown to her by Anya Dettman, was of great interest to her. Del is pictured on the left with Anya and Amelia McKenzie. We look forward to hearing further news of her activities in Dili.

Vale Barbara Burdon

Mrs Barbara Burdon, who died in March this year, was well-known to many as a founder of the Asia Bookroom in Macquarie, ACT.



An obituary by Paul Feain is on the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers website at http://www.ilab.org/eng/booksellers_main_page/Obituaries/Barbara_Burdon.html

Timor libraries fundraiser

Patti Manolis organized a fund-raising lunch with Dr Gordon Peake, author of the forthcoming title – *Beloved Land: Stories, Struggles and Secrets from Timor-Leste*, as a speaker. This is based on his experiences working in Timor-Leste. Dr Peake spent 2007-2011 in Dili. All proceeds of the lunch are to support the development of library services in Timor-Leste.

Gordon's book is published by Scribe and is priced at AU\$29.95 (ISBN 9781922070685).

Born in Belfast, Gordon Peake studied law before completing a Masters of Philosophy in Modern Middle Eastern Studies at Oxford University. Gordon is also a Doctor of Philosophy in Politics and International Relations and has worked as a researcher and consultant for the UN and other agencies in a number of third-world countries. Dr Peake has worked as a senior policy advisor to the Timor-Leste Development Program and has published widely on policing and police reform in Timor-Leste.

Farewell Karina



Colleagues of Karina Taylor, a young and well-regarded Pacific archivist were shocked and saddened to hear of her death in late May, shortly after her return from Australia to her native New Zealand to work at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington. Karina had worked as Pacific Research Archivist at the Australian National University for some years prior to her move. She is shown in the archives with Ms Josepha Joseph-Kapa. An obituary by Kylie Moloney is at

<http://www.parbica.org/news/vale-karina-taylor.aspx>

Australian Education engages with Asia

Five hundred and seventy delegates participated over three days, including 181 school leaders, in the Leading the 21st Century: Engage with Asia National Conference. Three hundred people also tuned in online to watch selected sessions live streamed via the AEF web portal. The program was diverse and engaging, focusing on experiential learning The Singapore Academy of Teachers and Hong Kong Institute of Education presented keynote focus groups, and delegates shared their expertise and knowledge in Spotlight on Schools sessions.

The conference was led by Tony Mackay, Executive Director, Centre for Strategic Education. Delegates heard from speakers drawn from diverse industries – academics and educators, politicians, artists, authors, journalists and CEOs, including: Bill Shorten MP, then-Minister for Education and Josh Frydenberg MP, Member for Kooyong representing the Leader of the Opposition, Tony Abbott MP

Young Asia-engaged Australians also participated: alumni of the Australia-Indonesia Youth Exchange Program performed an Acehese drumming performance to open the conference; 102 year three McKinnon Primary School students danced and sang in Mandarin for delegates; and 32 students took part in a dynamic Mini-model UN Conference. (Miriam Cahir, Asialink)

Joint BL / NLB project to digitize Malay manuscripts

From Annabel Gallop, Southeast Asia Curator at the British Library:

'I am delighted to announce a very exciting project, which aims to digitise all the Malay manuscripts in the British Library over the next two years. The project, in collaboration with the National Library of Singapore, is funded by American philanthropists William and Judith Bollinger, who are currently domiciled in Singapore.

For information on the project see:

<http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/asian-and-african/2013/08/british-librarians-malay-manuscripts-to-be-digitised-in-partnership-with-the-national-library-of-singapore.html>

So far 25 Malay manuscripts have been mounted online (search with the keywords 'Malay' or 'Jawi') and the others will follow over the coming year. For the first phase of the project, 2013, we are focusing on the historic British Museum collections (pp.105-110) of Ricklefs & Voorhoeve, 'Indonesian manuscripts in Great Britain' (1977). The second phase, 2014, will focus on manuscripts from the India Office collections (pp.121-127)."

Vanuatu celebrates

Libby Cass reports: Congratulations to Vanuatu on the opening of their new National Library and National Archive building. The building is a gift from Australia to mark 30 years of independence.



'Bukan rumpi tapi diskusi': Promoting the library collection and reviving Indonesian

Anita Dewi of Monash University Library has invented the phrase "Bukan rumpi tapi diskusi" - = "not gossiping but discussing" to name a series of reader activities she has initiated with her Indonesian language users. An interesting report is in the January issue of the East Asian Librarians Research Group newsletter at :

http://www.ealrga.org.au/newsletter1301/1301_dewi_1.html

APSIG Newsletter

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Copy deadline for March 2014 is Friday 14 February. Contributions are very welcome especially from the Asia/Pacific region.

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Issues mounted on the APSIG homepage at www.alia.org.au/groups/apsig/

Copies of the APSIG newsletter are sent via the Internet to members with email addresses.

