

# A SENSE OF PLACE: LOCAL STUDIES IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

**PRECONFERENCE STUDY TOUR WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2011 12noon-5pm**

## **CONFERENCE DAY ONE Thursday 5 May 2011**

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| <b>8.15-9.00am</b>   | <i>Registration and tea/coffee</i>  |  |
| <b>9.00-9.15am</b>   | <b>Conference opening</b><br><i>Alan Bundy</i><br>Conference Chair  |  |
| <b>9.15-9.45am</b>   | <b>Working collaboratively in local studies in Orange NSW</b><br><br><i>Jan Richards</i><br>Manager Central West Libraries NSW  | In July 2008 the Orange Family History Group entered into a partnership with Central West Libraries to merge its activities and resources into the library's infrastructure. This has been a win/win for both parties, and for family and local historians. The 'members' still meet but now have time to focus on matters of interest rather than administrative issues. Together, exciting projects have been developed which allow for rewarding volunteering and which deliver great benefits to clients. Most importantly, through the expertise and enthusiasm of the members, it has been possible to value add to the reference and research service.  |
| <b>9.45-10.15am</b>  | <b>Connecting our past with our future: a new gateway to Maitland's history and heritage</b><br><br><i>Keryl Collard</i><br>City Librarian<br>Maitland City Council NSW | The Maitland Local Studies Strategy was developed as a result of a city-wide strategic review undertaken by Maitland City Library, which highlighted the importance of fostering the management of Maitland's local history and heritage resources. The strategy promotes networks, development of standards that are relevant to local resources, supports local heritage organisations, promotes heritage education and sustains recognition of Maitland's history and cultural heritage. The paper will provide an overview of the strategy development and outcomes, with a focus on how public libraries can position themselves beyond the role of repository and into community leadership.   |
| <b>10.15-10.45am</b> | <b>Sustaining community archives in the 21<sup>st</sup> century</b><br><br><i>Joanna Newman</i><br>Consultant<br>Auckland New Zealand                                   | Community archives play an important role in heritage and cultural wellbeing but the quality of care they receive and their accessibility, vary greatly. This paper will present the results of research which investigated the factors required for maintenance of community archives and how well a selection of New Zealand archives exhibited them. Results showed that many of the factors required for maintenance are interrelated and interdependent but that certain ones have a particularly strong impact on the maintenance of the archival records and the evidence they contain. Based on these, possible strategies for enhancing the sustainability of community archives in the future are put forward.   |
| <b>10.45-11.15am</b> | <i>Morning tea</i>  |  |
| <b>11.15-11.45am</b> | <b>The Bendigo Regional Archives as a new collaborative model</b><br><br><i>Vivien Newton</i><br>Manager Bendigo Library<br>Bendigo Regional Archives Vic               | Bendigo Regional Archives is a new public access historical archives located within the Bendigo Library. In a new collaborative model, Goldfields Library Corporation, the City of Greater Bendigo and Public Records Office Victoria have joined forces to provide a purpose built reading room and repository for local government, business, community and private records dating from the mid 1850s and building on the region's goldfields history. As previously unavailable records are sorted, identified and indexed, visitors to the archives can add depth and colour to their families' stories and build a picture of their ancestors' community involvement.   |
| <b>11.45-12.15pm</b> | <b>Looking out, not in: the greatest little archive in New Zealand</b><br><br><i>Sandy Green</i><br>Acting Library Manager<br>Masterton District Library New Zealand    | Wairarapa Archive, established 1989, is part of the Masterton Library business unit. It is a community archive focused on an active outreach program. Staff present to community groups and schools, write numerous newspaper and magazine articles and have overseen a publishing program of 17 titles in 12 years. A digital strategy community partnership project, Picture Wairarapa, was completed in July 2010 with 6,000 images, of one million held. These are available with full metadata, and contributed to Matapihi and Digital New Zealand websites, Kete Masterton, administered by the library, and Picture Wairarapa are linked to provide additional information and teachers resources. All year 7 & 8 students do a local history project with the archivist presenting class preparation sessions and working with students through the process. 1800-2000 researchers a year sign in to use the archive, which also holds a large digital oral history repository. |

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| 12.15-12.45pm | <b>Waratahs and kookaburras in the library: the role of survey exhibitions at Mosman Library NSW</b><br><br><i>Donna Braye</i><br>Local Studies Librarian<br>Mosman Library NSW  | Collecting, preserving and enabling access to materials are fundamental to local studies. However the most important role is promoting an awareness of them. Exhibitions have proved to be most effective in achieving this goal. In 2009 a significant survey exhibition <i>All fired up: the Society of Arts and Craft in NSW 1908-1950</i> was held at Mosman Library. It was a first for a public library and in 2011 it is intended to present another significant survey exhibition. How these exhibitions evolved, the challenges and strategic responses, the generosity encountered and the nationwide response and why libraries should initiate them are discussed.   |
| 12.45-1.15pm  | <b>Innovation in local studies collections and programs: how Melbourne Library Service is fostering community pride</b><br><br><i>Shirley Bateman</i><br>Team Leader – Reader Development and East Melbourne Library<br>Melbourne Library Service  | One of the best ways to engage the community is through the provision of high quality, innovative local history collections and programs. Some ways Melbourne Library Service does this are the <i>Snapped: Melbourne past and present</i> photography competition; a series of Melbourne focused events, mainly in partnership with Arcade Publications; a Melbourne collection – Melbourne stories and Melbourne's marvelous history; celebrating Melbourne's status as a UNESCO City of Literature; partnerships with local historical societies; a local history staff training program; and local and family history web pages.   |
| 1.15-2.00pm   | <i>Lunch</i>   |  |
| 2.00-2.30pm   | <b>Local studies cooperation in Camden NSW</b><br><br><i>Jo Oliver</i><br>Local Studies Librarian<br>Camden Council Library Service  | Camden Council Library Service, Camden Museum operated by Camden Historical Society and Camden Area Family History Society are colocated in the centre of the historic town of Camden on the semi rural fringe of Sydney. These three organisations work in partnership guided by a memorandum of understanding. The partnership includes joint contribution to and referral of information and research enquiries; quarterly meetings to discuss issues, projects and programs; the operation of an image database and website 'Camden images past and present'; planning a program of events focused on a Heritage Festival in April and History Week in September; jointly run school tours for school and adult interest groups; electronic links between collection catalogues. |
| 2.30-3.00pm   | <b>The power of history: telling your library's story</b><br><br><i>Richard Sayers</i><br>Director and Principal Consultant<br>Richard Sayers and Associates   | Writing and publishing the history of your library can be a powerful marketing tool with unique promotional and advocacy benefits that ripple far beyond your loyal community of users. When funding is tight and cutbacks are being considered, it is often true that 'A page of history is worth a volume of logic' (O W Holmes). Library history projects also provide excellent opportunities for hands on staff development and training in skills as diverse as project management, grant writing, community engagement, oral history interviewing, social media, setting up and managing local history collections, preservation, publishing and marketing.   |
| 3.00-3.30pm   | <b>Museum initiatives and projects applicable to local studies</b><br><i>Vicki Warden</i><br>Museum Development Officer Southern Inland Qld, Queensland Museum<br><br><i>Jayne Fitzpatrick</i><br>Special Collections Librarian<br>Toowoomba Local History Library Qld<br>presented by Jayne Fitzpatrick | The Cultural Heritage Network – Toowoomba is a new organisation comprising museums, art galleries, libraries and archives. Vicki Warden (Museum Development Officer) in collaboration with Cobb & Co Museum Toowoomba, assisted participants in planning and mounting displays for one month for each of the eight participating organisations. The paper will outline the program, including requirements, planning, implementation and evaluation.   |
| 3.30-4.00pm   | <b>Local studies in the Wentworth Library: our sense of place</b><br><br><i>Leanne Watmuff</i><br>Library Technician/Local Studies<br>Wentworth Shire Library NSW  | On most days in Wentworth Shire Library, 300m from the Murray-Darling Junction, you will find volunteers from the Wentworth Historical Society busy researching queries, accessioning donations and indexing records. Pastoral station, riverboat trade, local government, church, community and family history records are housed in archival conditions in the Jeff Whyte Local History Room, publicly accessible during library hours. The relationship between the library and historical society, integrating local history and community in a comfortable atmosphere, reflects our sense of place.   |
| 4.00-4.15pm   | <i>Afternoon tea</i>   |  |
| 4.15-5.15pm   | <b>First panel session</b><br><br>This will be recorded and a transcript included in the conference proceedings  | The panel will comprise the first day speakers and will provide conference delegates with the opportunity to ask questions, seek and share <i>their</i> information with other delegates.  |
| 5.30-7.30pm   | <b>Conference reception</b><br><br>Friends Lounge State Library of NSW   | An entertaining short address will be given by Maggie Patton, Maps Librarian at the State Library of NSW   |

## CONFERENCE DAY TWO Friday 6 May 2011

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| 8.15-9.00am   | <i>Registration and tea/coffee</i>   |  |
| 9.00-9.45am   | <p><b>From manuscripts to metadata: the changing face of local studies librarianship</b></p> <p><i>Diana Dixon</i><br/>Hon Curator Southwold Museum UK<br/>Local studies activist and bibliographer</p>  | <p>In a period of rapid change local studies librarians worldwide are facing new challenges in terms of increased demand and limited financial resources. An overview of the development of British local studies libraries, with reference to local studies in other countries, and the role of the local studies librarian will precede a discussion of the impact of digitisation of materials and the use of social media.</p>   |
| 9.45-10.15am  | <p><b>A virtual sense of place: public libraries as creators of local studies indexes and resources</b></p> <p><i>Fran Inkster</i><br/>Customer Services Librarian<br/>Manly Library NSW</p>   | <p>There is a pressing need for public libraries to create their indexes and resources relating to their local area. They can no longer rely on historical societies or genealogy groups to produce pamphlets or local histories to be catalogued and put into their collections. They need to be proactive and instigate these projects, whether they do the work themselves or use volunteers. The resources produced then need to be accessible online via library websites, thus creating a virtual sense of place.</p>  |
| 10.15-10.45am | <p><b>A R u feeling appy: augmented reality, apps and mobile access to local studies information</b></p> <p><i>Ellen Forsyth</i><br/>Consultant Public Library Services<br/>State Library of New South Wales</p>   | <p>Apps, mobile access and augmented reality can present different ways for people to find out about local studies related information whether they are in the library, or at an historical site. This paper will discuss what mobile discovery tools are available for local studies sites; how are they already being used; how could they be used in the future; how easy are they to implement.</p>  |
| 10.45-11.15am | <i>Morning tea</i>   |  |
| 11.15-11.45am | <p><b>In Google we trust: Gen Y, the internet and local and family history in libraries</b></p> <p><i>Carly Reimann</i> Team Member and <i>David Brooks</i> Local History Officer<br/>City of Tea Tree Gully Library Local History Office SA<br/><i>presented by Carly Reimann</i></p> | <p>To many older internet users it often poses more questions than it answers. Generation Y has no such compunctions. This group was brought up on a diet of Google and Wikipedia. They are more tech savvy but also less tech cautious and much less likely to use non web based sources. This presents a range of potential problems for those engaged in presenting local history to them. Ways in which the promotion of local and family history can be enhanced through an online and/or a web 2.0 presence will be explored.</p>  |
| 11.45-12.15pm | <p><b>Blogging and local studies: a new approach to old stories</b></p> <p><i>John MacRitchie</i><br/>Local Studies Librarian<br/>Manly Library NSW</p>  | <p>Local studies librarians have been slow to embrace blogging. This paper will describe the set up of a local studies blog, what sort of content to include, the benefits and drawbacks of blogging, and the unexpected delights, illustrated with examples from the Manly Library Local Studies blog and other good examples.</p>  |
| 12.15-12.45pm | <p><b>Digitising council minutes at the City of Nedlands, Western Australia</b></p> <p><i>Anthea Harris</i><br/>Local Studies Librarian City of Nedlands WA</p>  | <p>This paper will review issues in the digitization of the council minutes at the City of Nedlands WA. It will cover Nedland's history, the need for historical research, FOI and legal requirements, problems of space, poor indexing and deterioration, a joint digitization project with Records and library purchase of the same camera equipment as State Records and the State Library, enlistment of volunteers; and use of jpg, pdf, ocr, and trim formats.</p>   |
| 12.45-1.15pm  | <p><b>From filing cabinet to cultural centre: the creation of a community history centre at the City of Wanneroo WA</b></p> <p><i>Carol Leigh</i><br/>Community History Librarian<br/>City of Wanneroo Libraries WA</p>  | <p>Wanneroo's Community History Centre opened in 2009 as part of the new Wanneroo Library and Cultural Centre, a hybrid library/museum/archive/arts development, housing a library, museum, exhibition gallery and public venue spaces. It is an integral part of the Wanneroo Regional Museum and was started from scratch with the contents of a filing cabinet, as Wanneroo's original local studies collection was removed to the City of Joondalup when the region split in 1998 into two local authorities. This offered an opportunity to assess and adopt best practice standards for online photographs, the digitization of oral histories, the preservation of newspapers and photographs and the arrangement of archival material.</p> |

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| 1.15-2.00pm | Lunch  |   |
| 2.00-2.30pm | <p><b>Many interests, one group: creating and celebrating history in a modern environment</b></p> <p><i>Amanda Peckham</i><br/>Williamstown Library Team Leader - Family and Local History<br/>Hobsons Bay Libraries Vic</p> | <p>The Hobsons Bay Libraries Family History Group draws together a community on a monthly basis giving maximum returns for minimum outlay. By offering themes as diverse as its community and alternating between training in resources, such as library ancestry, specialist guest speakers and a broad, popular and responsive program is provided for the community. Each session includes afternoon tea, a forum for feedback and suggestions for future meetings. The added benefit to the library is the creation of a relevant and enthusiastic focus group giving the community the opportunity to build social networks around common interests.</p> |
| 2.30-3.00pm | <p><b>Unlock the past: promoting history, genealogy and heritage in Australia and New Zealand</b></p> <p><i>Sauna Hicks</i><br/>Director Sauna Hicks History Enterprises Vic, and partner in Unlock the Past</p>             | <p>Established in August 2009, Unlock The Past (UTP) is a collaborative venture involving authors, speakers, archives, libraries, historical societies, genealogy and family history societies, commercial companies and individuals in activities which revolve around history, genealogy and heritage in Australia and New Zealand. This paper will outline how UTP can assist archives and libraries with their own objectives in reaching out to stakeholders and client groups, especially genealogists and local and family historians.</p>   |
| 3.00-3.15pm | Afternoon tea  |   |
| 3.15-4.15pm | <p><b>Second panel session</b></p> <p>This will be recorded and a transcript included in the conference proceedings</p>  | <p>The panel will comprise the second day speakers and will provide conference delegates with the opportunity to ask questions, seek and share <i>their</i> information with other delegates.</p>   |
| 4.15-4.30pm | <p><b>Conference recommendations</b></p> <p><i>Alan Bundy</i> Conference Chair</p>   | <p>Draft recommendations, with space for <i>your</i> recommendations, will be be on a sheet in the conference folders. <b><i>Preconference draft recommendations may be sent to <a href="mailto:alan.bundy@auslib.com.au">alan.bundy@auslib.com.au</a> as soon as possible.</i></b></p>   |