

State Library  
of Western Australia

**KNOWIT**  
*magazine*

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2003 NO.266



**Hidden Treasures**  
of the State Reference Library

## Comment from Claire



Acting CEO and State Librarian  
Claire Forte.

This issue of knowit features some of the many magnificent treasures held in the State Reference Library which collectively chronicle the history of the printed word. There are examples from across the centuries of fine printing and binding and exquisite illustrations that will tantalise all bibliophiles.

The origins of the State Reference Library date back to 1887 when the Western Australian Legislative Council voted to provide 5000 pounds to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign, allocating some of the funds towards the foundation of the Victoria Public Library in Perth. The Library opened its doors to the public for the first time on 26 January 1889 with a total of 1,796 volumes on its shelves.

More than a century later, many of the collections acquired by the early founders of the now State Library of Western Australia, remain as important historical records and valuable reference works held in trust for the Western Australian community.

As this is the final issue for 2003, I would like to wish all our readers greetings for the festive season and every good wish for the coming year.



## Nestlé Write Around Australia

This year's Western Australian State presentation of Nestlé Write Around Australia awards was held at the Alexander Library Building Theatre on Friday 31 October.

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Claire Forte, was MC for the event. Norman Jorgensen, winner of this year's Children's Book Council of Australia, Picture Book of the Year Award, spoke to the young writers in the audience and read an extract from his new book before teaming with Craig Urquhart, from Nestlé Australia's Western Australian office, to present prizes to the zone and State winners.

The presentation was the culmination of another successful year for Nestlé Write Around Australia, which has been running in Western Australia since 1995. The program, funded by Nestlé Australia and coordinated by the State Library of New South Wales is a national creative writing program for primary school students in years six and seven. State and public libraries throughout Australia support the program. In Western Australia, the State Library of Western Australia coordinates the program and in 2003 libraries in Nedlands, Melville, Victoria Park, Broome, Kalgoorlie and Harvey hosted the competition in their communities.

The Program encourages young people to be involved in the creative writing process by entering a writing competition and participating in creative writing workshops conducted by published Australian children's authors. Five Western Australian authors, Glyn Parry, Elaine Forrester,

Dianne Wolfer, Geoff Havel and Mark Greenwood, as well as Northern Territory based author Kim Caraher, presented writing workshops for students as part of this year's program. Glowing reports about the writing workshops came from children, parents, teachers and authors in the six host zones. As well as inspiring creative and effective writers, many teachers and parents comment on the Program's ability to improve children's self esteem, particularly for those who are not high achievers in sport and other more high profile pursuits.

In Western Australia, over 3000 entries were received, 1890 from the metropolitan area and a record number of 1109 country entries. The twelve zone winners from the six Western Australian zones came to Perth for the State presentation. Both of this year's State winners were from metropolitan zones. Zoe Yusoff from Assumption Catholic Primary School in Mandurah was the year six State winner with her chilling story Hidden Danger. The year seven State winner was Michael Hind from Helena Valley Primary School with Kooka's Lunch, a very funny and clever story.

As we approach the tenth anniversary of this excellent program in 2004 we look forward to another exciting year of hearing from Western Australia's talented young writers.

Cover image:  
 Hidden Treasures of the State Library.  
 Strix Castanops, Gould - Chestnut-faced owls  
 Gould, John. *The Birds of Australia in seven  
 volumes* (limited ed [first published 1848],  
 facsimile ed 1972)(from Vol. 1)



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<b>COMMENT FROM CLAIRE</b>	<b>&lt;</b>
<b>NESTLÉ WRITE AROUND AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>&lt;</b>
<b>HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE STATE LIBRARY</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MULTILANGUAGE RESOURCES</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>“GEMS OF TIME”</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>SAVE OUR FILM PROJECT</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>FREYCINET: OUR FRENCH COLLECTION</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>CREATING COMMUNITIES WORKSHOP</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>BATTYE ABOUT BOOKS</b>	<b>13</b>



2



7



8



10



12

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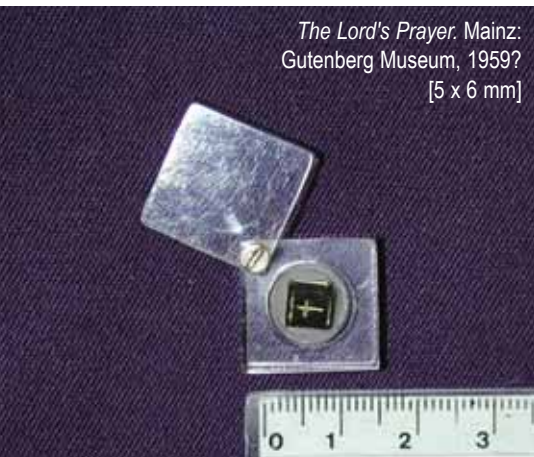
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*The Lord's Prayer. Mainz:  
Gutenberg Museum, 1959?  
[5 x 6 mm]*



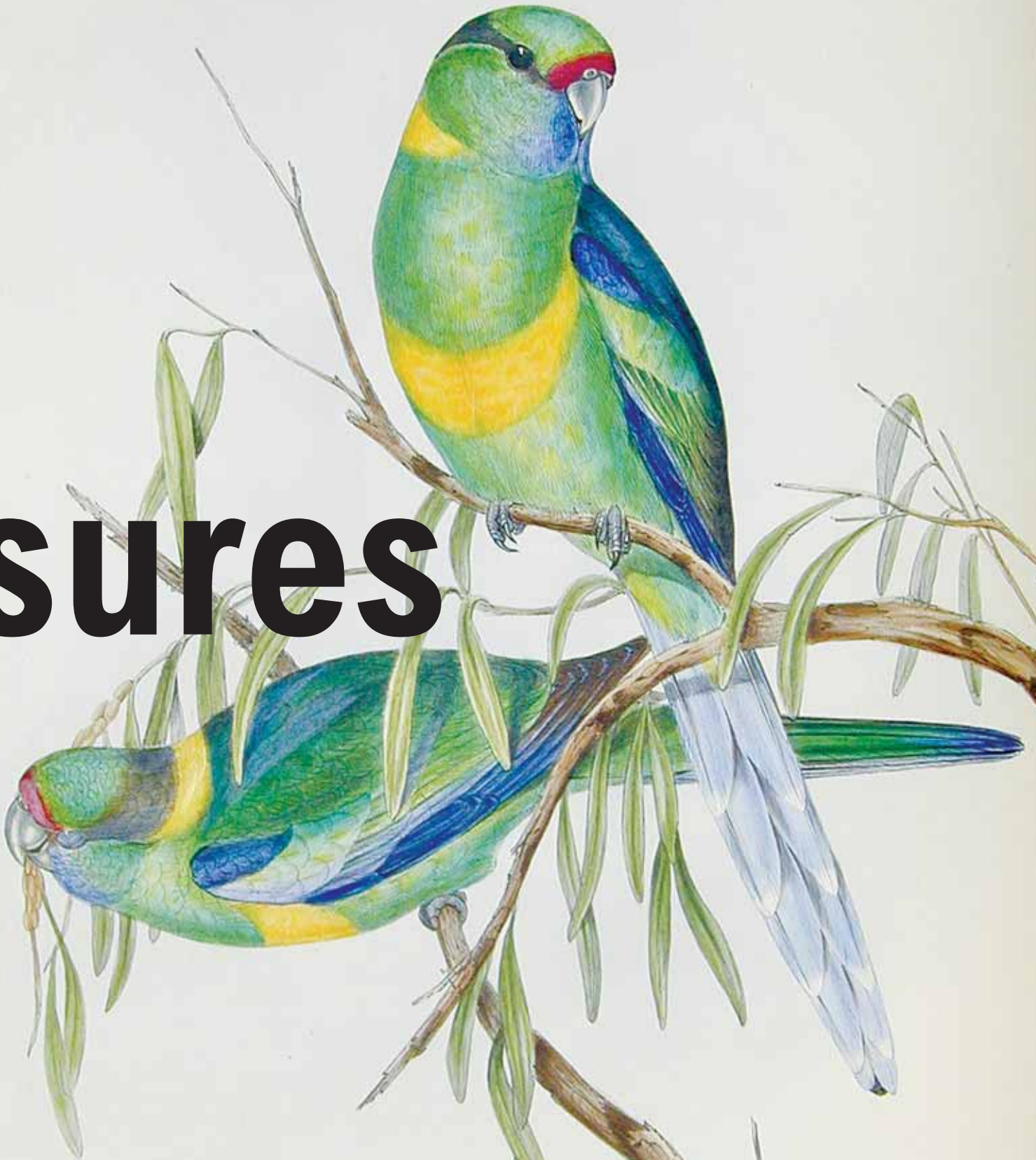
# Hidden Treasures

## of the State Reference Library

The rare book collection of the State Reference Library of Western Australia contains over 4000 hidden treasures, representing more than 500 years of the printed word.

There are general works on art, literature, philosophy, religion, natural history, science and technology, as well as a respectable collection of Australiana. For the purposes of collection development 'rare books' are defined as those printed before 1801, but the classification can also include limited, signed or first editions, facsimile editions where these are known to be unusual or valuable, and examples of fine printing or binding. Although these books are kept under lock and key they do not have to be kept secret, so here are a few of our special treasures.

# sures



*Platycercus Barnardi*, Vig. and Horsf. - Barnard's Parakeet (from vol. 5) from the book: Gould, John. *The Birds of Australia in seven volumes* (limited ed [first published 1848], facsimile ed 1972)

The oldest book in the collection is the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, or *Liber Cronicarum*, published in 1493 as a pictorial history of the earth from Creation. The thick wooden cover of this massive volume is cracked and worm-holed, reflecting the passing of the centuries. Inside, the contents are divided into Seven Ages illustrated with over 1800 prints taken from 645 woodcuts. There are

and King Lear was based on Holinshed's description of the love test between Leir and his daughters. Although named after the editor, Holinshed's *Chronicles* was in fact a collaboration between clergymen, members of parliament, poets and publishers, and provides fascinating insights into how the Elizabethan middle class viewed their society.



Junius, (18th cent.) *The letters of Junius, complete in one volume*. London, 1820. Fore-edge painting under gold, or view of Fleet Street in the early nineteenth century.



twenty-six town views with landmarks still well known today, and a curious resemblance between many of the historical figures since one woodcut was often used for more than one image. *The Nuremberg Chronicle* is still recognised as one of the most important works ever published and it is an important asset to the State Reference Library.

Other treasures large and small include an impressive assortment of huge, heavy family bibles, the earliest being a Latin edition published in 1520, and some pocket-sized prayer books. The tiniest treasure in the collection is a 5mm by 6mm edition of *The Lord's Prayer*. Nestling in a hollow transparent plastic block within a jeweller's case this fingernail-sized

*The oldest book in the collection is the Nuremberg Chronicle, or Liber Cronicarum, published in 1493 as a pictorial history of the earth from Creation.*

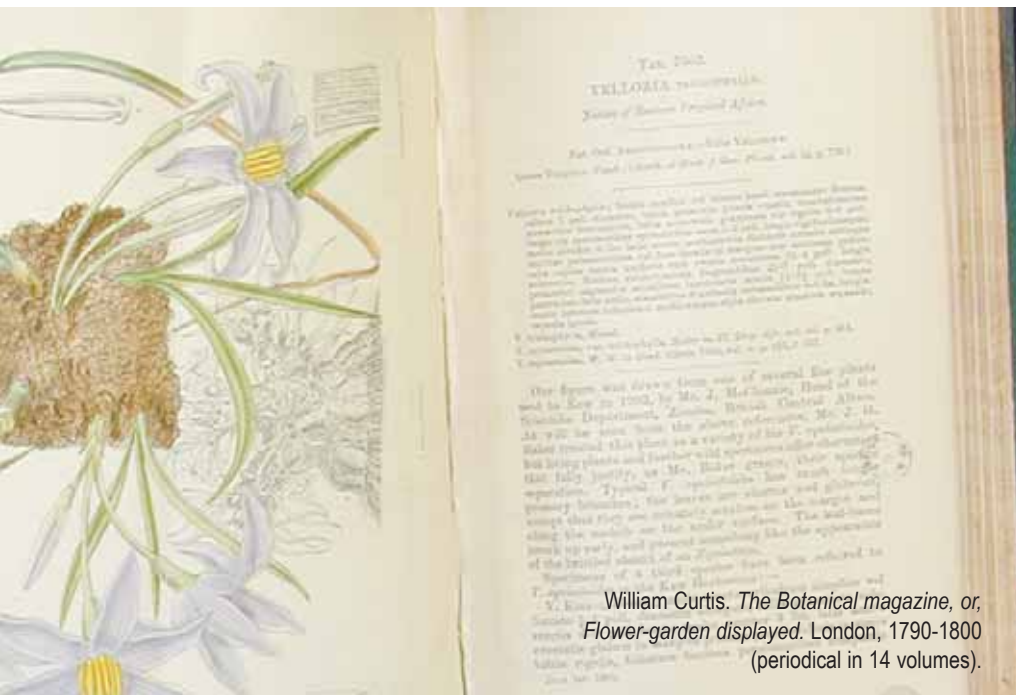
Another ancient gem is Holinshed's *Chronicles*, the greatest of the Elizabethan chronicles, published from 1586 to 1587 in London. This comprehensive history and description of England, Scotland and Ireland was very popular in its day, widely consulted by the Elizabethan dramatists and extensively used by Shakespeare for material for his tragedies and historical plays. The outline of *Macbeth*, for example, was derived from Holinshed's account of Kings Duncan and Macbeth,

text is unique enough to qualify as rare despite a relatively recent publication date of 1958.

The State Reference Library is also fortunate to have a fine example of a 'disappearing painting'. *The Letters of Junius* (1820) is a small, handsome, gilt-edged volume, which shows no trace of anything unusual until the leaves are gently flexed and fanned. Miraculously, a view of Fleet Street in the early nineteenth century

appears. The curious art of fore-edge painting under gold was practised by London binders from 1650 onwards. The technique involved fanning and clamping the leaves of the text before painting a scene in water-colours on the outer edge of the text block. When dry the front edge would be gilded or marbled, thus concealing the existence of the painting. Who knows, perhaps there are other books

The Botanical Magazine or *Flower-garden displayed*, held from 1787 to the present day, is the longest continual run of a journal in the Library. It contains exquisite drawings illustrating "the most ornamental Foreign Plants, cultivated in the Open Ground, the Green-House, and the Stove, accurately represented in their natural colours", and many Australian natives are described.



William Curtis. *The Botanical Magazine, or, Flower-garden displayed*. London, 1790-1800 (periodical in 14 volumes).



*Platycercus splendidus*, Gould  
- Splendid Parakeet (from vol. 5) from the book: Gould, John. *The Birds of Australia in seven volumes* (limited ed [first published 1848], facsimile ed 1972)

in the rare book collection, just waiting to have their pages ruffled in a particular light ☐.

The rare book collection also includes several noteworthy periodicals. *The Gentleman's Magazine*, variously sub-titled *Trader's Monthly Intelligencer* and *Historical Chronicle*, was the most popular and influential journal of its time and our holdings from 1731 to 1902 provide a unique record of all aspects of eighteenth century life. Adjacent on the shelves sits the feminine equivalent, *The Lady's Magazine* (1738-39), boasting a wonderfully descriptive sub-title: the compleat library containing a very curious collection of histories, travels novels, poems, songs, letters &c. The first edition informs us that: "this miscellany was calculated for the Benefit of Persons in all Ranks and Conditions; but in a Particular Manner, with a View to the Improvement of the Fair Sex (that noble Part of Creation) and as an Amusement for their vacant Hours".

There are over 350 works on historical geography and travel, covering the most famous voyages of exploration and discovery around the world and including some fine old atlases, so heavy and large that they require two staff members to lift them. Items with a specifically Australian focus include several key publications for any collection on Australia - the journals and accounts from the time of the First Fleet. Watkin Tench's *A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay*, published in London in 1789, was the earliest authentic account of the colony. This proved such an immediate success that two further editions came out that same year - the State Reference Library owns a second edition. Another important asset is a first edition of Arthur Phillip's *The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay*, also published in London in 1789. This work records in great detail the early expeditions and coastal voyages of discovery around Botany Bay and Port Jackson, with illustrations and charts, including the

painstaking labour to complete the lavish illustrations, since each sketch had to be transferred to a limestone block with special pencils, printed by hand in a single colour, and then hand-coloured. The accuracy and artistry of Gould's prints make *Birds of Australia* one of the finest works of bird illustrations, and needless to say, the high cost of producing the colour-plates meant that only 250 sets were printed for the very wealthy, hence their rarity today.

The State Reference Library of West Australia is the only State Library to have these diaries, a valuable record of Australia's military history. This has been just a random dabble through the contents of the two rare book rooms of the State Library of Western Australia. Some of these treasures are exquisite works of art, some are famous, well-loved publications, others so plain and obscure-looking as to belie their significance, but all deserve to be

*Strix Castanops*, Gould - Chestnut-faced owls (from Vol. 1) from the book: Gould, John. *The Birds of Australia in seven volumes* (limited ed [first published 1848], facsimile ed 1972



Schedel, Hartmann. *Liber chronicarum*. Commonly called *The Nuremberg chronicle*. 1493, Nuremberg.



earliest plan of the settlement of Sydney Cove. Other First Fleet books include Surgeon General John White's *Journal of a Voyage to New South Wales with Sixty-five plates of Nondescript Animals, Birds, Lizards, Serpents, curious Cones of Trees and other Natural Productions* (1790) and John Hunter's *An Historical Journal of the Transactions at Port Jackson and Norfolk Island* (1793). There are also later but limited editions of other significant accounts from this time, forming a nucleus of rare and valuable works about European settlement and exploration of Australia.

One of the most spectacular treasures in the Australiana collection would have to be John Gould's *Birds of Australia*, published in London in 1848. This set of seven folio volumes is the result of the years Gould spent travelling around Australia from 1838 to 1840, meticulously recording all 681 varieties of bird known at the time, in their natural habitats. It was to take a further eight years of

More recent treasures include a unique 21-volume set of the *Precis of War Diary* from 1915 to 1918, which provides dramatic insight into daily life in the Australian Imperial Force. Some entries are succinct: "The day was fairly quiet though our artillers and trench mortars gave the enemy a lively time", while others are lengthy descriptions of the action: "This minor but daring operation completely 'put the wind up' the enemy. At zero hour the parties were in position about 20 yards from the enemy trenches, and at the word from the commanders, rushed forward and jumped into the trench. The surprise was complete and the Bosche made off without resisting the entry. Moving with great rapidity the parties were soon on their way to their objective. In this brilliant action about 1200 yards of trench was won by 2 officers and 40 other ranks, at the expense of 3 casualties" (9th July, 1918, 29th Battalion, Villiers Bretranneux).

carefully preserved for their historical, educational and social value. Many of these works can be requested and made available for supervised viewing in the Battye Researcher's Room on the 4th floor of the Alexander Library Building. Clients wishing to access the rare book collection are required to register as Researchers. Registration can be done at most reference desks in the State Reference Library. Viewing hours are from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday to Friday. Please enjoy these treasures and help us to preserve them for future generations.

Viewing times for State Reference Library rare books are Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 4.30pm, except Public Holidays. For further information consult the Conditions for the Use of Materials document, available at the Library's reference desks or online at the State Library of Western Australia's website [www.liswa.wa.gov.au/srlrare.html](http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/srlrare.html)



Lately there has been a lot of work going on quietly behind the scenes at the State Library. A dedicated team of people ably led by Oliver Gatty have finally managed to automate our Multilanguage Collection. With over 70,000 items in forty four languages this was no small feat. Before we started on this project less than 10,000 items in our Multilanguage Collection were located to public libraries on Innopac, our computerised catalogue. We kept track of the remaining thousands of Multilanguage items through a tedious manual card catalogue. Automation has made life so much easier for both the State Library's Multilanguage team and for the many public libraries that borrow items in various languages for their clients. So much so that the thousands of Multilanguage catalogue cards necessary for the manual system are now obsolete. To celebrate this milestone, Public Library Services staff were asked to suggest novelty uses for these catalogue cards. George Cowcher's dashing outfit, that rivalled the credit card dress at the Academy Awards, was the most memorable response. See for yourself!



Teresa Epps at the Catalogue. Public Library Services celebrated the demise of the use of the manual card catalogue for the Multi Language Resource Collection

## Multilanguage Resources

### - a quiet revolution

Congratulations to all involved and thank you to public libraries who forwarded 500 files of records for Multilanguage items that they wished to keep in their libraries. In just over a month, Public Library Services delivered over 20,000 items from the State Library's collection out to public libraries as our aim was to have the collection out in public libraries. As a result, our collection is more accessible as every public library and the clients themselves can readily see which library holds any particular Multilanguage title.

Ruth Balding  
Public Library Services



Sue McDonald selecting resources from the shelves. In just under a month 20,000 Multi Language Resource Collection items were delivered to public libraries across WA

Mollie Lukis the first State Archivist



to lodge in the Battye Library and the State Archives, as well as promoting local history collections. Mollie was a pioneer in the field of oral history, starting collecting and recording interviews in 1961.

Mollie Lukis has published many papers on topics ranging over history and archival practice, and served on countless committees. Her personal papers have been deposited in the Battye Library. She has also been a member of the Friends of Battye Library since its inception.

#### Leslie Marchant

Leslie Ronald Marchant, has earned a place in the history of Western Australia for his seminal work on French maritime exploration in Australia. His book, *France Australe*,

# The Friends of Battye Library honour "Gems of Time"

The Friends of Battye Library held their final meeting for the year on Proclamation Day, 21 October. The speaker for the night was Sir William Heseltine who captivated Friends and guests with a lively address exploring some of his research regarding a forebear who was a warden in Fremantle at the time of the escape of Fenian convicts on the Catalpa.

Another highlight of the evening, presided over by Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton, was the conferring of the award of 'Gem of Time' to acknowledge Western Australia's living treasures who have had a long-term and significant commitment to the aims and objectives of the Battye Library and/or the State Records office.

Last year the Friends inaugural 'Gem of Time' was Rica Erickson and this year three outstanding Western Australians were honoured; Miss Mollie Lukis, Professor Leslie Marchant, and Sir Charles Court. As the following citations show, the 'Gems of Time' for 2003 have made

a remarkable contribution to the recording, collection and preservation of Western Australia's history.

#### Mollie Lukis

Mollie Lukis has earned a place in the history of Western Australia for her work as the State's first Archivist. She was appointed to the newly created position of Archives Officer in January 1945, after the establishment of an Archives Branch in the Perth Public Library (renamed the State Library of Western Australia in 1956). This position later became that of State Archivist.

When the J S Battye Library of West Australian History was formed in 1956 as a branch of the State Library, Mollie Lukis was the first librarian in charge. In this capacity she made a major contribution to the people of Western Australia until her retirement in 1971. She studied archival practices around the world, and applied them to the records in her care. She sought to provide resources reflecting the history of the whole State, and travelled into country areas to collect materials

has been widely acclaimed both here and in France where it has been recognised by conferment of the title Chevalier, Ordre National du MØrite. He has also been made a member of their distinguished AcadØmie Des Sciences d'Outre-mer. Professor Marchant is noted for his research, writing and teaching on Chinese history and on the history of Aboriginal Affairs administration in Western Australia. His impressive body of work reflects his wide ranging interests and passion for history.

Professor Marchant has used the resources of the Battye Library and State Records Office extensively in the past and has generously donated his papers and other collections to the library for the benefit of future researchers. In recognition of his distinguished career he was invited to be a visiting scholar to the Library Board of Western Australia.

Professor Marchant is currently working on four more books extending his work on exploration and its links to Western Australia's natural history. He is Scholar/Adviser to the Nyoongar

people, and one aim is to retrieve their language and culture.

### Sir Charles Court

Sir Charles has earned his place in Western Australia's history through his long career as politician and Premier, and his enormous commitment to economic development and the community. A true assessment of his contribution to the history of the State has yet to be written but it will be considerable.

It was under the Charles Court Government that the need for a new State Library building was recognised and funds provided for its completion. Sir Charles unveiled a plaque on 30 November 1979, in the State's 150th anniversary year, to commemorate the commencement of construction of the Alexander Library Building, completed in 1985.

Among his lesser known attributes has been his long time support for the Battye Library. His personal support has included seeking sponsorship for the Save our Film campaign and lobbying his friends and associates to donate their records to the Battye Library. When all his State papers were lodged automatically in the State Record Office, he saw to it that his personal papers were deposited in the Battye Library and he paid for an archivist to organise and list them in 1994. Since then he has continued to regularly deposit personal and other materials in the Battye Library and devoted many hours to recording an oral history for the Battye Library's oral history collection.

Miss Lukis and Professor Marchant were present to receive their awards. Sir Charles Court was not able to attend the function due to a prior commitment.

At the conclusion of the meeting Sir William Heseltine, Miss Lukis and Professor Marchant joined 35 members and guests for a buffet supper to celebrate another successful year for the Friends of Battye Library and the conferring of "Gem" status on three special Friends. **K**



Sir William Heseltine addressing the meeting



Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton speaks to Professor Leslie Marchant



Professor Leslie Marchant enjoying the company of the evening

# Save Our Film Project



## The project

Through the generous support of Lotterywest, the State Library of Western Australia has been able to save 60 historic Western Australian films. These films were fast reaching the end of their life and the grant from Lotterywest has enabled them to be preserved for posterity. Staff in Preservation Services at the Battye Library, estimate that we will not have to worry about the condition of the preserved films at least 200 years.

The saved films were originally made on acetate film, a type of film that was considered a very safe alternative to nitrate. Nitrate film is reputed to be dangerous (it will spontaneously combust in the right conditions) and caused very bad cinema fires until it was phased out in the 1940s. Acetate film was more commonly called 'Safety Film' and although it is far from dangerous, it has been known for some time now that, unfortunately, it holds within its chemical makeup the seeds of its own destruction. Acetate films are subject to a kind of degradation called "vinegar syndrome". When

acetate films begin to degrade acetic acid is released. This is exactly the kind of acid that makes vinegar smell and taste like vinegar. The release of the acid into the air in the film's canister begins a rapidly accelerating process of film degradation that can only be stopped by copying onto modern polyester film.

Under proper storage conditions polyester film has estimated to have a life expectancy over 200 years. Acetate films older than about 30 years, are displaying severe vinegar syndrome degradation and therefore it is imperative to save our Western Australian film heritage before it is too late.

A lot of work has gone into this project by the staff of the Battye Library and Preservation Services. It has involved identifying uniquely Western Australian films and physically examining them to see which ones are most in danger. Examining the condition of films is a highly technical process and the films identified for this project have been scrutinised in ways that have never been done by the State Library before.

The preservation process has involved arranging for the transfer of the films from old and deteriorating film stock to new stable film prints. From these prints digital masters have been created. The beauty of this project is that for the first time, films documenting the history, lifestyle and culture of Western Australia will be able to be viewed on DVD.

## The Saved Films

The films that have been saved by Lotterywest are those that document Western Australia's history and lifestyle from 1929 to the 1970s. Many of the films were in very bad condition and tough decisions had to be made about which films were saved in this project. All are Western Australian but the films cover a variety of subjects.

They include promotional films such as *Floral Harmony* made in 1953, *Sunsplash Trail* made in 1962, *Hammersley Range National Park* made in the 1960s and *And the Natives are Friendly in Perth* made in 1970, all encouraging tourism in Western

Australia as well as depicting the lifestyle at the time.

Some very important personal film collections have been saved. These include 24 short films made by Sir Frederick Samson, onetime Mayor of Fremantle, that document events in Fremantle from just before World War Two until the late 1960s. Films made by Dr Leslie Le Souef have also been saved and these films depict station life in the North West in the 1940s and 1950s as well as having very rare non-official footage of the Atomic Bomb blast on the Monte Bello Islands in the 1950s.

Some of the films in the worst condition included films documenting Western

Australia's Mining Boom in the 1960s. Without funding from Lotterywest films such as *Ore for the Asking*, *Ord River Project*, *Mount Newman* and *The Capricorn Contract*, films that depict the development of the North West and the excitement of the mining boom, would not have been saved.

Other films saved cover diverse subjects and include *Fairbridge in its heyday*, a film depicting life at Fairbridge Farm in Pinjarra from 1929-1937; *Salute to Citizenship* made in 1948 by the WA Government Film Unit and describing the civic life of Western Australia; *This Day is Ours* showing the May day procession in Fremantle in 1954; *Fremantle the*

*Western Gateway* a record of events and exhibitions of the Festival of the Western Gateway in October 1958; *Modern traffic interchange at the approaches to the Narrows Bridge* an early version of a community service announcement describing the intricacies of crossing the newly completed Narrows Bridge; *Gold Town*, *Ghost Town - Coolgardie* depicting the discovery, boom and decline of the Coolgardie and containing footage of Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie and Kambalda in the late 1960s; and *Pearl of the Kimberleys* a film about life at Broome in the 1960s.

A selection of saved films were shown at special screenings in November.



# Freycinet: Our French Collection

exhibition on the move

Ron Sheen addresses the audience at Albany.

Following the spectacular success of the exhibition in the Alexander Library Building in February and March a travelling version has been put together to tour the State.

The exhibition comprises twelve framed facsimiles of maps and drawings, acquired at a Christies' auction in September 2002, as well as 23 beautifully designed panels telling the story of the voyages of Nicolas Baudin in 1801-1804 and Louis de Freycinet in 1817-1820.

The first port of call was Geraldton where the exhibition was on show at the Geraldton Museum in July. Chairman of the Library Board, Kaye Poustie and Acting CEO and State Librarian, Claire Forte travelled north for the opening and were thrilled by the obvious interest and support

shown by the local community which responded enthusiastically to this opportunity.

In August the exhibition went to Shark Bay and was displayed in the Town Hall at Denham for two weeks. For the people here the exhibition had special significance since one of the major drawings exhibited was that of the observatory set up by Freycinet on the Peron Peninsular in 1818.

The City of Albany hosted the exhibition in October, with Ron Sheen, President of the WA State Library Custodians, (who had raised the money to

purchase the Freycinet collection), present for the opening ceremony. In November the exhibition went on display at the City of Busselton Public Library. and again was warmly received by the public and the local media.

In 2004 "Travelling Freycinet" will continue at Margaret River in February, Karratha in March and Narrogin in April. Details of the itinerary after that are not yet fixed but we can be sure the exhibition will be on the road for a long time to come.





Allan Tranter

People want to be engaged and connected at a local level but due to our fragmentation have lost the skills, the art of being community. Hence there is enormous potential for locally driven projects within the community. The opportunity exists for partnerships to form between commercial and community enterprises as there is mutual self-benefit in creating a good community.

Public libraries need to know their community and who makes up their community; the different generations and their characteristics; the ethnic mix and their values; what is happening in the economy and with developing technologies. If your library is to be successful in the community it must offer what people are looking for i.e. entertainment, information, interaction and transaction.

# Creating Communities Workshop

Or how public libraries can be vital in their community

On 29 October, Public Library Services hosted a workshop at the State Library around the theme of how public libraries can connect with the people in the area to play a vital role in the community. This turned out to be a very popular workshop with sixty library staff there on the day.

Allan Tranter, the Director of the "Creating Communities" organisation led the workshop. Allan's energy, insights and funny anecdotes made this a stimulating and entertaining day for all participants. The feedback we received was excellent; Allan certainly got everyone thinking and talking.

Some of the points that Allan covered were how and why community is formed, its importance in the modern world, people's need for community and the role public libraries can play.

Community used to occur naturally when we all went to the same shops, the same schools. This constrained geographical space led to interactions with others as we naturally bumped into the same people.

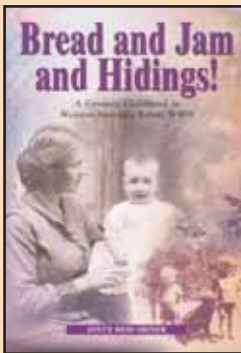
Now communities don't occur naturally. We live fragmented lives where we may never meet our neighbours accidentally. Community is a social construct, not spatial. It is about people, an expectation of friendship and support. However, our community has been planned and designed as a spatial concept. For communities to form they must be locally or commercially driven, they cannot be driven by government or by external large organisations.

Community has become more important because many of the events happening in the world are outside our control so we look locally to see what is important to us, what does matter and how we can influence local events and make a difference.

The library must also be able to offer the community a vision for the future and be able to involve the community in the vision and keep persisting until the vision is achieved. If a library can be part of the interests and aspirations of the community it will become part of the community.

The workshop ended with the following challenge. Public libraries must create the future they are looking for. Lead the way and have a role in a thriving community. People want thriving communities. Be in charge of your change. **K**

# Battye about Books

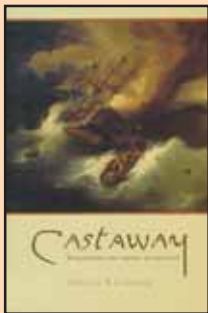


## **Bread and Jam and Hidings: a country childhood in Western Australia before WWII**

Joyce Reid Shiner

A fascinating story of childhood in the bush by Albany author Joyce Reid Shiner.

**Western Australian Museum, Albany WA, 2003**



## **Castaway: remarkable true stories of survival**

Douglas R G Sellick

The stories told here actually happened; none is imaginary, none is embellished, all are more fantastic than fiction and are little known. These true tales of 19th century survival reveal the terror, the dark truths about human nature, the limits of courage and the fragility of life.

**Fremantle Arts Centre Press, Fremantle WA, 2003**

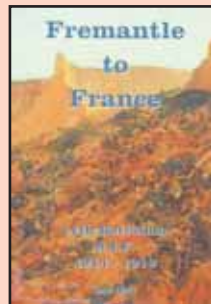


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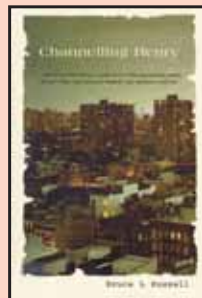


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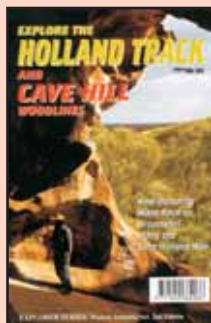


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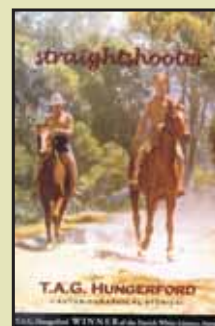


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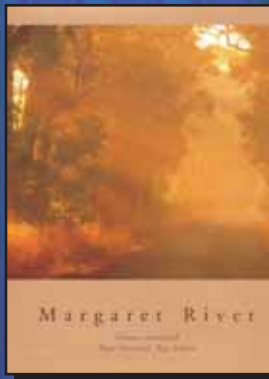
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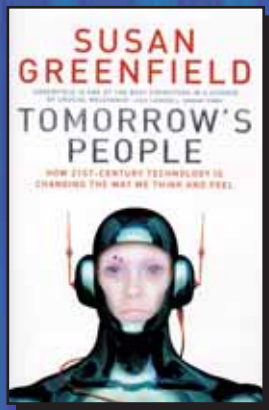
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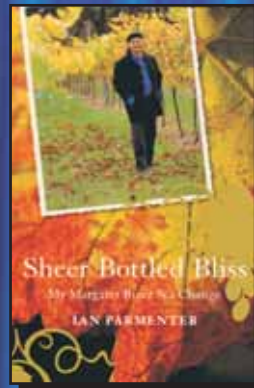
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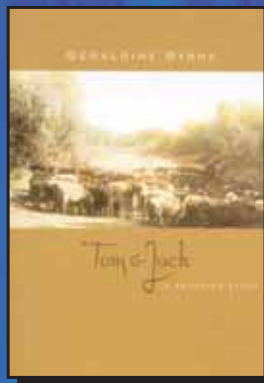
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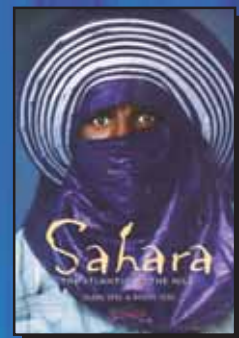
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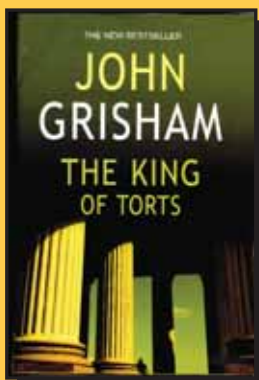


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