

## From the President...

As joint president of WASLA, I act on behalf of the state body in national affairs. This entails keeping on top of what's going on nationally and acting when it affects WA. I then pass on information to Barbara Combes who organizes the committee and WA affairs. I also read reports and numerous emails from the ASLA Council who meet with the ASLA executive approximately once a term. I am the voting member for WA on national issues, which means being aware of opinions of the WA committee and WASLA members. Jo Critch (Projects) and Tehani Wessely (Publications) are also WASLA representatives on the national council and continue their WA roles when needed at a national level. Marie Clarke is on the National Executive, as the Vice President of ASLA.

This has been one of the most dynamic beginnings to a school year for teacher librarians for many years, impacting greatly on the future of our profession. WASLA members will be aware of many of the current issues, as feedback has been requested from all library staff across the state.

their Teacher Librarian positions after many years in their school and management of the library has been left to Library Officers. This has greatly affected their morale and the services offered to students. Hopefully as the inquiry continues positive steps will be taken to build our school libraries again into vibrant places with inspiring staff who are critical to the ongoing progression of school programs. Follow the inquiry on the following website:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/edt/schoollibraries/hearings.htm>

Barbara Combes will no doubt discuss other aspects and the developments for WA when the inquiry comes to Perth in July.

### Consultation for draft Curriculum K — 10

The consultation process for this ends on 23 May. The WASLA draft report has been sent to ASLA to compile a national picture of the views of teacher librarians and write a report on behalf of the whole association. The WASLA report will then be sent to ACARA after Marie Martin has addressed all the comments made by members and attendees of the Saturday session at ECU. All states are sending a report. The WA organisation of the Saturday session facilitated by Marie gave us a quick and efficient avenue for discussion and evaluation and it was wonderful to see so many library staff in attendance.

### ERA

ASLA has supported the development of ERA (Electronic Resources Australia) and encouraged members to be involved. June Wall is the ASLA representative at the annual forum. Her report on the forum earlier this year included:

The school participants suggested a "basic package" approach, whereby certain databases were identified as being core to a primary or secondary school and therefore having that package in a price point that would hopefully be better for vendors (more sales) and be better for schools (lower prices as well as already evaluated databases against the National Curriculum). It was agreed that a financial year and calendar year subscription cycle was need — all other library sectors operate on a financial year but schools need the calendar year. The school

Term 2, 2010

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### Federal Government Inquiry

A letter was sent to Julia Gillard from ASLA on 24 November 2009 about the need to investigate the current situation in libraries and a reply of consideration was received on 17 December. The establishment of a Federal Government Inquiry into Australian School Libraries came as a welcome surprise to be able to expose the deteriorating situation for school libraries across the country. The timeframe of one month, to be completed on 16 April, left only a short time to compile feedback and send submissions to the inquiry committee. In true style the profession rallied and the inquiry committee has been swamped with submissions from all over the country.

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/edt/schoollibraries/index.htm>

Thank you to those members who replied to my email from all over the state, telling me their stories that were often disheartening to say the least. Many of our colleagues have persevered for years with less than adequate environments, staffing, recognition and support. Others have been removed from

sector also raised the issue of appropriate Australian content in the databases and all sectors talked about the issue of discoverability and marketing of online resources.

The sessions presented were on: the Gulliver consortium in Victoria, the issues of online database use for smart learners; and the National Library presented its future developments for Trove. If you have not seen Trove — check it out at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

Content in journals will be digitised in the future — discussions with RMIT and Gale are proceeding with this in mind and other vendors expressed interest as well.

Thanks to Rosemary Burton for WATLnet messages about ERA on WATLnet.

A new “plain English” constitution is being drawn up for ASLA and will be voted on in May. It will bring a few changes to the way ASLA is organized. I’ll update members in the next newsletter.

The revision of National Teaching Standards should be completed later this year. It is being carried out by The **Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership** (AITSL) which was originally called Teaching Australia. This is where you will find the draft:

[http://mceecdya.edu.au/mceecdya/npst2010-consultation-call\\_for\\_submissions,30532.html](http://mceecdya.edu.au/mceecdya/npst2010-consultation-call_for_submissions,30532.html)

The public consultation closed on 7 May 2010.

### **New publication**

ASLA is currently developing a new book “Learning in a changing world”. Keep a lookout for it when it’s published later this year.

### **Road Shows**

These are travelling around the country to give PD to country areas in most states. WASLA’s roadshow is coming up on 28-30 May in Bunbury and Albany. We look forward to seeing lots of country members and school library staff in those towns.

If you have any questions regarding any of these issues, please contact me and I’ll be happy to discuss them with you.

**Mary Hookey**

**Joint President WASLA — ASLA Strategic Councillor**

**[mhookey@ccgs.wa.edu.au](mailto:mhookey@ccgs.wa.edu.au)**

## ***CMIS says goodbye to Jill Midolo: it was wonderful to work with you***



**Jill with the CMIS team**

what she really liked. She loved picture books and maintained an extensive personal collection, with a soft spot for Mo Willems’ ‘Knuffle Bunny’ books.

Ever the true teacher, Jill was always willing to share her knowledge and wealth of experience gained through an extensive career in teaching, school libraries and work with CMIS Evaluation as a Curriculum Officer and then manager. Many lively and interesting discussions about resources could be heard in our unit on any day as Jill teased out with her staff ideas about the best resources, uses of technology and pathways to follow next. Animated conversations continued at morning tea where Jill regaled us with her latest escapades (of which there were many) while listening with equal interest about the activities of her staff.

Over time, the extensive uses and capabilities of technology have impacted on the work of CMIS and the way we deliver our services. Jill helped all of us understand that the integration and use of communications technology was the way of the future and our work plans centred on that integration. Jill pushed boundaries and took on new ideas to assist teachers with more relevant and ‘on-time’ strategies for classroom resources. CMIS colleagues put her ideas into practice and as we move into the future, many of Jill’s ideas and enthusiasm to ‘think outside the box’ will stay with us.

Goodbye Jill — it’s been a privilege working with you and even better knowing you.

**Your friends and colleagues at CMIS**

## Preparing for the end of the world: are you ready for a library disaster?

On Monday 23 March, 2010, just after 4.00pm, Perth was hit with a “once in 50 years” storm that devastated homes, businesses, hospitals, traffic and schools with torrential rain, flash flooding, enormous hail and wild winds. Electricity, telephone and Internet services were disrupted — in some cases for days afterwards — roads were cut, thousands of vehicles written off with hail damage, and many schools closed with structural damage. Incredibly, despite millions of dollars worth of damage and disruption, there was no loss of life and few injuries. But sometimes the damage done to property can be heartbreaking, and the cleanup and salvage process long and hard.

In Perth, some schools experienced so much damage that they were forced to close for days or even weeks. Years 8, 9 and 10 students at Ocean Reef Senior High School, Duncraig Senior High School and Shenton College were not permitted back to school until the beginning of term two, almost a full month after the storms. In only two days, insurance companies reported over \$200 million in more than 42,000 claims, a number that continued to rise over the following weeks.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/03/25/2855900.htm?site=perth>



Photo by Jordan Russell

Some of the most distressing pictures after the storm came from the University of Western Australia library. Hit with over 40 millimetres of rain in a short space of time, the library was deluged with mud and floodwater, destroying thousands of books, shelving, carpet and furniture. For a report on the ongoing recovery of the university facilities and how they reacted in the immediate aftermath, visit

<http://www.news.uwa.edu.au/201004062360/features/how-we-weathered-storm>

Clean up from such events is time consuming, wearying, depressing and expensive. When there are hundreds of homes and businesses competing for cleaning services capable of dealing with the damage at short notice, it may be difficult to access these services quickly enough to minimise the harm. In many cases, electricity may be unavailable due to service interruption and/or localised damage, inhibiting the ability of staff to begin the salvage process themselves. Frustration and despair are close to the surface for library staff in this situation, when beloved collections are destroyed, and regular routines disrupted. So is there anything that can help in such a traumatic time?

### DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The National Library of Australia (NLA) hosts a paper by Dr Jan Lyall available on how to devise and implement a disaster management plan. The paper outlines three main areas: Preparedness/Prevention (Before), Response (During), and Recovery (After). Also detailed are categories of risk, and a selected bibliography of suggested support reading, including publications on salvaging water-damaged items.

<http://www.nla.gov.au/nla/staffpaper/lyall1.html>

Disasters are inherently unable to be planned for, but organisations can take steps to prevent and prepare for damage, and by rehearsing possible scenarios, can better respond during an emergency situation. Lyall's paper suggests the following:

- Preventive plans recommend actions that can help prevent disasters. Things such as the repair of leaking roofs, the improvement of maintenance and the upgrading of security.
- Preparedness plans recommend actions such as the identification of important items in the collection, the purchase of plastic sheeting, the provision of freezing facilities and the training of staff to enable them to respond to a variety of disasters.
- The effectiveness of response to specific disasters is governed by the thoroughness of the preparedness plan.
- Due to the unique nature of every disaster, recovery plans can never be formulated in detail.
- Most disasters affecting libraries and archives involve water damage: extinguishing a fire, burst water pipes, leaking roof, blocked drain, flooding or cyclone damage. All key personnel should be familiar with salvage methods for wet library and archival materials.

It is essential that consideration is given to all areas likely to be affected by the disaster:

- personnel including staff, users and visitors
- collections and records
- building and equipment including equipment, vehicles, air conditioning plant, plumbing, electrical services and computers

<http://www.nla.gov.au/nla/staffpaper/lyall1.html#descr>



## INSURANCE COVER

Do you know what your insurance cover value for your collection is? Does your bursar or registrar keep up to date with the real value of the collection housed in your library? Are you insured for replacement value and does that value include funds for staff time to process and accession the replacements, or, indeed, the materials required for this task? Books can cost over \$3.00 each to process (including staff time), which adds a significant amount to the budget needed to get items shelf-ready.

What's worse, many librarians may not have updated the value of their collections with

**Photo by Jordan Russell** the school records — replacement value is a very different figure to the figure the bursar may generate using common depreciation equations, which are generally designed to write the value of books off to a zero value within three to five years. While this is useful for tax purposes, it would be impossible to replace even a reasonable proportion of library and bookhire collections (if the school holds bookhire resources – many do, even if it only consists of English class sets) based on depreciation figures.

I queried our own insurance cover after the big Perth storm, asking whether replacement value included processing and accessioning costs. I won't identify the insurance company, but this is the response I received:

*I can't speak on behalf of other insurers, each company has slight differences in their respective covers.*

*We place a value on contents for your library. We don't have any exclusions for the books themselves, unless they are an antique and the value of the book exceeds \$5,000. For example; if you have \$25k worth of books destroyed, we will provide you with the replacement books or provide you with a cash settlement for you to buy similar books.*

*With regards to the query of 'staff time'; your College has Consequential Loss (which is similar to Business Interruption) under your Composite Risk Insurance policy, which has an extension to cover re-writing of records. This cover can be used to employ someone to help input information etc.*

**(Personal email, March 31, 2010)**

This reply demonstrates it is essential that the "value on contents" that your insurer has on record is accurate to the amount you would need to fully replace the contents of your collection. In my own collection, we have begun to include the processing cost (materials plus staff time, which we have worked out is approximately \$3.50 per book) in the Replacement Cost field of our library management program. This helps provide a more accurate reflection of the replacement value of our collection.

## FROM OUR SCHOOL LIBRARIES

*We recently set up our Auditory Verbal Library. It is a toy library which is an integral part of the Auditory-Verbal Programme at TSH. Play activities experienced during therapy sessions can then be repeated in the home environment with the use of carefully chosen toys. The activities chosen encourage the development of auditory and spoken language development. The library has been set up with two of each game, puzzles and books so when therapists use resources with the child, parents are able to borrow our take-home copy and continue working with the child at home.*

*Unfortunately the ceiling gave way and damaged 92 books, 40 games and 26 puzzles. Luckily the week before I had our volunteer maintenance man make wooden dust covers to go on to the top shelves. This saved many of our resources!*

*Julie, Librarian*  
**Telethon Speech & Hearing**

*We are waiting to see if we have to take everything out so the carpet can be ripped up. All our power is off as all the wires are wet. We had no book or other damage because the kids who were studying in the library at the time moved everything out of the way while the storm raged around us.*

Sally, Teacher-Librarian (TIC)  
**Churchlands Senior High School**

*We had terrible storm damage — we lost our entire graphic novel collection (and it was only replaced less than a year ago when we last had a storm!) as well as a couple of bays of fiction books. We haven't yet begun sorting out the insurance and replacement. Well, the last time it happened, insurance covered the cost of replacing the books, but not the time taken in processing them. And it does take a lot of time!*

Emma, Library Technician  
**P. L. Duffy Resource Centre, Trinity College**

*Mindarie Senior College Library has:*

- large water logged areas of new carpet*
- cracks in ceilings*
- cracks in walls*
- small collapsed ceiling section*
- wireless network connections down*

**Early warnings:**

- if you have drips from ceiling this indicates weakness and get them acted on early, rather than waiting for a downpour.*
- Keep a track of wall cracks and note their travelling as this can be an indicator of damage that may be dangerous in the long term.*
- If you know a storm is coming, cover the computers before you go home.*

**Tips:**

- take photos of damage.*
- write a damage report asap saving to do one in a hurry later.*
- we have been advised that chipboard laminate shelving takes some days before damage is shown regarding warping, smell etc. Make sure you have some allowance for making future claims.*

Marie  
**Mindarie Senior College**

*Our school is closed until next term for students in 8, 9 and 10 with years 11 and 12 going to a neighbouring school. All admin staff including library officers and lab techs are working out of the untouched part of the school which happens to be the Admin, Staff Room and Students Services. We are not allowed to go anywhere near the Library or other parts of the school because of OPHS issues as trades people have to do the clean up not staff. Our Library compared to other parts of the school isn't that bad, not anywhere like poor UWA's library. Most of our books apparently are okay but the furniture and carpets are very wet and dirty. Electricians have to assess all the computers and lights.*

Lorri, Library Officer  
**Ocean Reef Senior High School**

## HELPFUL RESOURCES

### **Disaster Planning for Libraries and Archives: Understanding the Essential Issues**

A paper written and presented by Dr Jan Lyall, Director, National Preservation Office for the Pan-African Conference on the Preservation and Conservation of Library and Archival Materials, Nairobi, Kenya: 21-25 June 1993 (published in the Proceedings of the Pan-African conference on the preservation and conservation of library and archival materials, Nairobi, Kenya: 21-25 June 1993, IFLA, ISBN 90-70916-51-7, p103-112).

<http://www.nla.gov.au/nla/staffpaper/lyall1.html>

### **Tips for Salvaging Flood & Water Damaged Photos**

By Kimberly Powell, About.com Guide

[http://genealogy.about.com/od/photos/a/water\\_damage.htm](http://genealogy.about.com/od/photos/a/water_damage.htm)

### **Procedures for Salvage of Water Damaged Library Materials**

*extracts from unpublished revised text by Peter Waters, July 1993, The Library of Congress*

<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/conservation/library-materials-01.html>

<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/conservation/library-materials-02.html>

<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/conservation/library-materials-03.html>

Another comprehensive resource on salvaging water damaged materials here:

[http://calpreservation.org/disasters/generic/salvage\\_of\\_water\\_damaged\\_materials.rtf](http://calpreservation.org/disasters/generic/salvage_of_water_damaged_materials.rtf)

## Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year

The Australian School Library Association Inc. and Pledger Consulting Pty Ltd (LinksPlus/WebLinks) are proud to sponsor the **Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year** Award.

This national award recognises and honours an exceptional Australian teacher librarian in a school setting whose professional practice has a positive impact on student achievement and information literacy. This award carries a \$1500 cash prize, payable to the **Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year**, and \$500 of products for the respective school community. This award is made possible by Pledger Consulting Pty Ltd (LinksPlus/WebLinks).

### Who can be nominated?

Qualified teacher librarians with a minimum of three years experience as a teacher librarian, who are financial members (personal or school) of one of the ASLA member associations.

Nominations for the **Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year** should be sent to the relevant Member Association for endorsement on or before 31 May 2010. Re-nomination of previous nominees is encouraged.

Deadline to ASLA Member Associations 31 May 2010 . Member Associations will be required to submit their final selection on or before 30 June 2010 to the ASLA Executive Officer.

The **Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year** for 2010 will be announced on International School Library Day in October 2010.

Download the nomination form at <http://www.asla.org.au/advocacy/award/>

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## The GigggleIT Project — Carine Senior High School

GigggleIT is a teaching program based on humour run by the International Association of School Libraries. It can be used in primary or secondary school. All resources are provided and can be adapted for student age and learning styles. At the end of this year, an e-book is going to be produced using student work. Last year I ran the project with a Year 8 class and here is a snapshot of my experience.

GigggleIT was a great opportunity to work closely with an English teacher, Geraldine, and her Year 8 class, in order to get to know them better and to try some new teaching and learning techniques. In the process I developed collaborative links with the English Learning Area and also got to know a Year 8 class far better than when they come to the library for research and reading. I found the GigggleIT experience challenging and thoroughly rewarding for myself and also for the class I worked with. Not only did they have their fabulous work published online that will now go into an e-book, or digidoc as one of the GigggleIT competitions renamed it, but they got the benefits of collaborative teaching and learning in different learning situations that they would not have experienced through their usual program.

To get started, I created a GigggleIT classroom atmosphere by having a wall display incorporating a fabulous heading designed by our library officer, Debbie, and surrounding it with comedy movie posters and comedians. The students then added jokes to the display throughout the project. Debbie also created a large cardboard tree to use as our vocabulary tree. When we came across new words, like 'pun', 'slapstick', 'double entendre' students wrote them on a leaf and then velcroed them onto the tree. The room became a GigggleIT theme and it helped to make the project seem special and a fun way to learn.

There is much I could say about running GigggleIT, but following are some of the highs and lows of the project from a first timers' perspective:

### Pros

- By personally getting to know the students in a classroom situation now assists me greatly when they come to the library. This is especially beneficial with Year 8's because I now have these connections for the rest of their time at high school.
- Working collaboratively with Geraldine meant we both learnt from each other and the work was shared. For one, I learnt some new classroom management techniques from my colleague, and you can never have too many of these! The classroom was a learning experience for all of us.

- Most importantly, the students loved the project. They looked forward to English and got involved in the GigggleIT tasks with enthusiasm. They learnt lots about humour, writing, sharing, working in teams and even performing. The list of learning experiences was really extensive.
- Students were put in situations where they worked in groups with students they would not usually choose to work with, but because of the way GigggleIT does this, by randomly drawing names out of a box, the students found it exciting to find out who was in their group and were very accepting of each other.

### Cons

- Initially it was very time consuming for me to set up and get started, so good teacher librarian staffing helps. I am fortunate to be in a situation with fairly good staffing and a supportive head librarian, Diane, who backed the project all the way when it was taking a lot of my time. Once started, the workload was still considerable, especially since I was then timetabled to work with the class 4 periods per week for approximately 8 weeks. However, you do not have to be as committed as I was and can run a shorter version of GigggleIT or possibly even visit the class once a week.
- The hardest thing I found was getting student work edited and ready to be published for an international audience. Time wise this was difficult and I ended up doing a lot of it myself. This year when I do GigggleIT I am going to try and have a small student group to work as editors or some alternative way to get this done more efficiently and effectively.
- I realised halfway through the project that colour and pictures are really important to complement student work online, whereas I was busy focussing on just getting their work up on the website. Next time we will work on including colour and pictures as well.

Overall, the GigggleIT experience was fantastic — for the teacher I worked with, the students and myself. We are planning to run the project with Year 8 classes this year and after reflecting on last year's experience, it will be even better this time. I am looking forward to getting to know another Year 8 class and by focussing on the GigggleIT topic of humour, we are sure to have plenty of learning experiences in a fun, positive and engaging classroom environment.

**Diana Kirkland**  
**Teacher Librarian, Carine Senior High School**

## Entertaining and informative: Unshelved

If you have not yet discovered the webcomic *Unshelved*, I highly recommend you check it out. Created by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum, *Unshelved* lives in a public library and examines so many of the challenges librarians across the world face. Relevant, topical, and ever fun, *Unshelved* is a great daily entertainment, and may even provide you with some cool ideas for YOUR library. At least one TL I know uses the "Unshelved Book Club" (colour strip) for book displays!

It's taken me weeks to work my way through the archives of the comic, but here's some of my favourites: "Internet vs Book" (there's at least a weeks worth of these): <http://www.unshelved.com/2007-7-10>

### Book Clubs:

*Alanna: the first adventure*, by Tamora Pierce <http://www.unshelved.com/2006-10-29>

*Ranger's Apprentice: the ruins of Gorlan*, by John Flanagan <http://www.unshelved.com/2006-6-11>

*Peeps*, by Scott Westerfeld <http://www.unshelved.com/2006-2-05>

*Tomorrow when the war began*, by John Marsden <http://www.unshelved.com/2008-4-20>

*The day my butt went psycho*, by Andy Griffiths <http://www.unshelved.com/2008-5-25>

*The Color of Magic*, by Terry Pratchett <http://www.unshelved.com/2006-4-16>

*Shade's Children*, by Garth Nix <http://www.unshelved.com/2008-11-23>

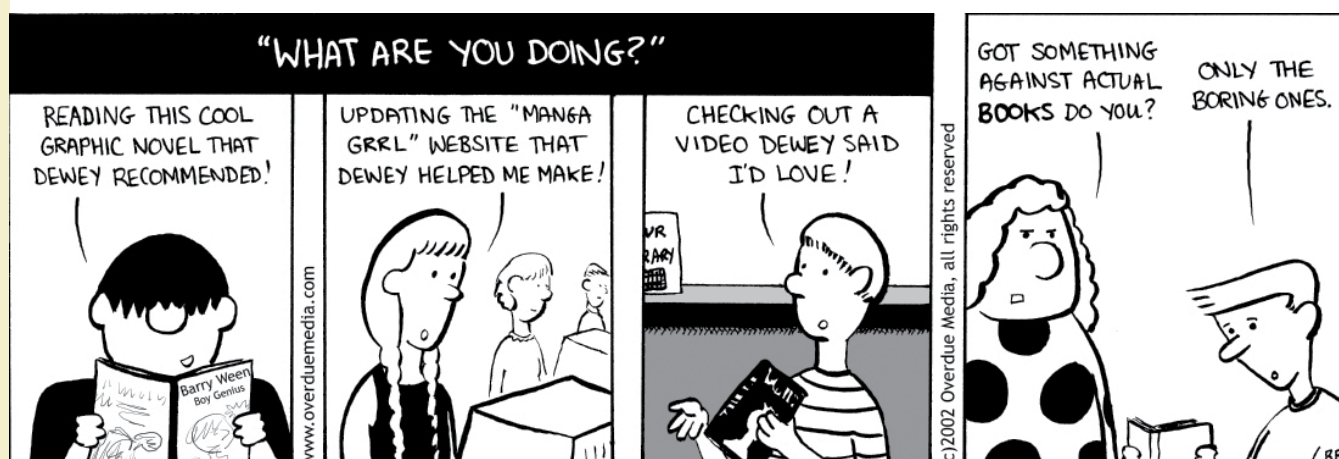
*Skulduggery Pleasant*, by Derek Landy <http://www.unshelved.com/2008-6-22>

*Harriet the Spy*, by Louise Fitzhugh <http://www.unshelved.com/2009-5-3>

*The Forest of Hands and Teeth*, by Carrie Ryan <http://www.unshelved.com/2009-8-9>

And "The seven stages of falling in love with the Author" (which I'm certain many of you will recognise!): <http://www.unshelved.com/2006-2-26>

**A word of caution — reading may be addictive!**



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[www.unshelved.com](http://www.unshelved.com)

## SLAQ / IASL 2010 Conference

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Brisbane, Qld, Australia

27 September — 1 October 2010



*Diversity Challenge Resilience*

**SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN ACTION**



# Nomination form for the Library Officer/ Technician of the Year Award

This form is to reach The Executive Officer — WASLA, PO Box 1272, WEST PERTH 6872, by 31 August, 2010.

Name of Nominee

Current Position

Principal/Employer's Name

Address

Email address

Contact phone numbers

## QUALIFICATIONS and RATIONALE for NOMINATION

Formal qualifications of nominee (if applicable)

Work History

Areas of outstanding service to school libraries in WA

Reasons for nomination

Other supportive information

Actions initiated/undertaken for the benefit of the school library

Testimonials enclosed

## ENCLOSURES

[ ] Curriculum vitae of nominee (compulsory)

[ ] Support documentation (optional)

[ ] Photograph(s) (optional)

This nomination has been forwarded by:

Full name of nominator

Address of nominator

Phone number of nominator

Nominator's email address

The candidate described above has my official support.

I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information supplied on and with this form is correct in every detail.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Call for Newsletter Items

The WASLA Newsletter relies on input from WASLA members to look great and be informative and interesting to readers.

If you have any library-related news and events, articles, tips and suggestions that you would like to share with WASLA members, please email Tehani at:

**editormum75@gmail.com**

We really love to see photos accompanying your articles. Please send these as separate files, rather than embedded in your document.

I look forward to seeing your innovations, ideas and thoughts!

Many thanks, **Tehani**

**www.wasla.asn.au**

The newsletter is now available to members via email.

If you would like to receive the email version of this newsletter, please forward your email address to our Executive Officer at **ceo@wasla.asn.au**

## WASLA Membership

### WA School Library Association Electronic Payment Details

**Account Name:** WASLA

**BSB:** 306107

**Account Number:** 4198265

**Bank/Branch:** BankWest

**Contact Person:** Rosemary Burton, Executive Officer

**Remittance Advice:**

**Email address (preferred):** [Rosemary.Burton@det.wa.edu.au](mailto:Rosemary.Burton@det.wa.edu.au)

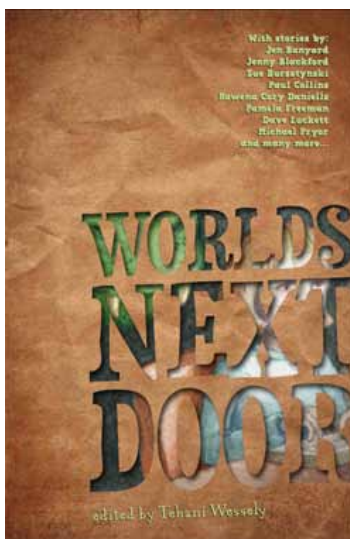
**Remittance Advice**

**Post:** WASLA, PO Box 1272, West Perth WA, 6872

Please annotate the deposit clearly with the name of the depositor, and if possible, what it is for. On the remittance advice, please give the amount deposited, receipt number and date of the deposit as well as details of depositor and reason for deposit.

With thanks

**Rosemary Burton**  
Executive Officer, WASLA



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**Released June 2010**

## Professional Development: Australian Curriculum

On Saturday 24 April at 9am, over fifty teacher librarians met at Edith Cowan University to learn more about the forthcoming Australian Curriculum. In a three hour session facilitated by Marie Martin of Learning Conversations, attendees explored the Australian Curriculum website and were invited to examine the way the Curriculum has been put together.

During the morning, it became clear that teacher librarians had a lot to offer school staff in supporting the implementation of the new Curriculum; resourcing is one obvious area, but also in making information literacy and literacy integral to the structure.



Participants had the opportunity to contribute to the consultative process by workshopping a number of ideas generated from the session, which Marie then took away and pulled together into a document to submit. Areas of particular concern identified included: how other curricula fit within the Australian Curriculum framework (eg: VET, Montessori etc); catering for all learners; information literacy across all subject areas; and literacy across all subject areas.



At the end of the morning, many attendees expressed thanks to Marie for facilitating the workshop, naming it one of the most useful professional development sessions they had been at in a long time. With practical suggestions and a lot of food for thought offered, teacher librarians were able to return to work armed with ideas of how to be active and indispensable participants in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in our schools.

**For live notes from the day, go to Twitter and search #natcurric**

### Western Australian School Library Association Professional Development Calendar

Dates, venues etc to be confirmed — for Term 1 events, watch for information on WATLnet

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>Term 2</b> May 28-30 May 31 Tues June 1, 4.15pm June 15	Rural Roadshow Nominations for Teacher Librarian of the Year Award close WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102 Lecture/Social Function — TBC
<b>Term 3</b> Wed Aug 4, 4.15pm Aug 31 Sep 27– Oct 1	WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102 Nominations for Library Officer/Library Technician Award close SLAQ/IASL Conference, Brisbane
<b>Term 4</b> Oct (TBC)	International School Library Day Dinner. Presentation of Teacher Librarian & Library Officer/Library Technician of the Year Awards. <b>Venue:</b> TBC
Thurs Oct 14 Mon Nov 15 Wed Nov 24	WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102 WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102 WASLA AGM <b>Venue:</b> Millpoint Bookcaffe including talk by Celia Cole.
Mon Dec 13	WASLA Committee Meeting, ECU, Building 13, Room 13.102

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