# APSIG Newsletter ALIA Asia Pacific Special Interest Group No. 98, November 2018

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#### **APSIG / ALRA Christmas Lunch**

Wednesday, 12 December 2018, 12.15

Lemon Grass Thai Restaurant, 1/88 Corinna Street, Woden (Cost: \$30.50, payable at the door)

Christmas crackers! Lucky door prize! Catch-up socially with colleagues from the Asian Library Resources of Australia (ALRA) and the Asia-Pacific Special Interest Group of the Australian Library and Information Association.

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Menu :Entree: Curry puff and deep fried battered prawn; Main courses: Massaman beef curry with coconut milk, potato and roasted peanuts;Thai green curry chicken with coconut milk, bamboo and eggplant; Pad Thai noodle with chicken, crushed peanut, egg, chilli jam and bean sprouts; Wok fried chicken with cashew nuts, chilli jam and corn. Steamed rice Dessert: Homemade Thai coconut ice-cream Reservations: By 10 December at the latest to George Miller <gmiller@grapevine.com.au>. Please advise of any special dietary requirements.

#### **Cook and the Pacific**

Not to be missed if you are in Canberra is Cook and the Pacific, the National Library's stunning international exhibition on James Cook's three remarkable Pacific voyages, through the eyes of the British voyagers and the First Nations peoples they met.



Cook and the Pacific recounts the journey to the Pacific 250 years ago, with destinations including Tahiti, New Zealand, the east coast of Australia, Hawaii and even Siberia. With works drawn from institutions around the world, the exhibition features maps, manuscripts, rare books, large oil paintings, delicate watercolours by voyage artists, medallions, cartoons and poetry.

The striking image of Cook shown above entitled *Cookie in Te Wai Pounamu Meets Cook Strait* 2011 (acrylic on canvas) was created by artist Michel Tuffery (b.1966) for the exhibition. The artist states: 'Depicts Cookie when he realised Te Wai Pounamu (South Island) and Te Ika a Maui (North Island) weren't connected, whence is the reason why it's named the 'Cook Strait'. The Ika in his ears are a metaphor to Tupaia, an Arioi from Raiatea; there is no existing image of Tupaia. He was Cookie's constant guide and translator on his first voyage.'

## Maori Markings : Ta Moko

Forthcoming exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra, 23 March—25 August 2019



This wonderful image from the Nan Kivell Collection is by Gottfried Lindauer, *Tomika Te Mutu, chief of the Ngaiterangi tribe, Bay of Plenty,* 1880.

The exhibition includes a unique art event featuring Moko artists engaging in a live demonstration of this phenomenal practice. Free.

By marking the skin and face with connecting patterns, Māori Tā Moko artists tell stories of prestige, authority and identity. To receive and wear Moko is a great cultural privilege. Captivating photographs, paintings and sculptures trace the history of Tā Moko from the 18th century to its contemporary resurgence, including illustrations created during Captain Cook's first voyages to Māori Chiefs.

# Australians visit Myanmar

Roxanne Missingham, University Librarian, ANU writes:

Libraries and archives stand at the heart of activities to preserve memory – culture, government, economy and much more. Through good times and challenging time, we work together to collect and preserve for the current and future world.



Dr Mary Carrol, Charles Sturt University and I had the privilege of visiting the National Archives in Yangon in Myanmar earlier this year with Dr Ni Win Zaw, Head of the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of Yangon. The National Archives is located in Yangon and the capital, Naypyidaw. The University of Yangon has educated many of the staff in archives through their library course. Increasingly, there need for specialised education in archives is being discussed with a view to reviewing course content.

The National Archives of Myanmar, officially known as the Department of

National Archives (NAD), is collects, safeguards and conserves national records and archives. Because of the nature of Myanmar government, the archives collections are a treasure house of government activities that in Australia occur at national, state and local level.



Archives staff are passionate about improving their knowledge and communicating archives to the community. The exhibitions we visited included a history of schools and treasures from the archives relating to the political history of the nation.

The Director and her staff are strongly committed to improving their practice through education and reflective practice. A fortnightly discussion and reading group workshops the standard text, <u>Keeping</u> <u>Archives</u> 1<sup>st</sup> edition (a photocopied volume). They recently held a Seminar on Archive Administration, record management and Manuscriptology (12-11 November 2018).

National Archives Department Director General U San Myint has commented that "A state need to have a defined boundary, sovereignty, leader, citizens, national emblem, flag, language and literature. Colonial era records kept in the Archives are more than 200 years old, and without the Archives such records could not be found and would be lost forever. These are the history of the state, as well as being a (cultural) heritage. It is a reference for future generations." (Zin, Hmwe Kyu, 2018) To support the continuing development of professional archival expertise and knowledge we would like to acquire some contemporary publications, including the third edition of <u>Keeping Archives</u> by Jackie Bettington to donate to National archives and the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of Yangon. Do contact me if you have some materials you would like to contribute.

Thank you to our sponsors: the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trades Government Partnerships for Development (GPFD) program, Dr Maxine Rochester, ANU Library and Charles Sturt University School of Information Studies.

#### References

Zin, Hmwe Kyu (2018) <u>National Archives:</u> <u>where national and historical records are</u> <u>kept</u>, Global new light of Myanmar. The National Archives of Myanmar, Yangon <u>Facebook</u> page.

Roxanne Missingham University Librarian (Chief Scholarly Information Services), ANU Library

#### Celebrating 50 years of the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau

In 2018, the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (PMB) marked its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a celebration at the Australian National University (ANU).

PMB was established in 1968 to copy manuscripts, photographs and rare printed materials about the Pacific Islands, and to make them accessible to researchers through a network of libraries.

As guests arrived at the August event, ANU Pasifika students performed dances from all Pacific regions, in front of a slideshow of highlights from PMB's history. Michael Wesley, Dean of the College of Asia and the Pacific, opened formalities, highlighting the important role PMB plays in the Pacific research community. Professor Wesley was followed by former Executive Officers Ewan Maidment and Kylie Moloney. Ewan spoke on the origins of the Bureau and paid tribute to those who pioneered and sustained the initiative. Kylie paid tribute to Ewan for his 17 years of meticulous and prolific service and reflected on key achievements of her tenure of which she rightly feels proud. She highlighted the transition from microfilm to digital, which has enabled PMB to lower membership fees for libraries in independent Pacific Island nations, resulting in unprecedented access to PMB collections for researchers in the Pacific.



L to R Three 'generations' of PMB Executive Officers - Ewan Maidment, Kari James and Kylie Moloney

A highlight of the evening was the formal signing of PMB's newest member library, the University of Papua New Guinea (pictured below). The PMB collection has more titles about Papua New Guinea than any other country, so UPNG's membership means their students now have access to PMB digital collections.



UPNG's representative, Mrs Leah Kalamoroh, was introduced by Margy Burn,

who recently stepped down from her long involvement with PMB as a representative of two founding members, the Mitchell Library and the National Library of Australia.

After the formal signing of the Member Agreement, Executive Officer Kari James gave an update on current digitisation projects, and outlined a future vision, including increasing Pacific voices in the collection, expanding membership in the Pacific and growing PMB's networks through social media. Before guests moved to the foyer for celebratory drinks and canapes, formalities were drawn to a close with the singing of grace in Tongan language by long term PMB staff member Mrs Sioana Faupula, with members of Canberra's Pasifika community standing to join her in song.

Thank you to those who assisted with making this celebration such a successful event and to the countless people and organisations who've contributed to PMB throughout its 50 years. For more information about the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, please visit http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/pambu/ or follow them on Facebook.

# NLA welcomes visitors from the region in 2017-18

In 2017-18 over 20 delegations from National Libraries, Library Boards and universities, as well as journalists, diplomats and government officials visited the National Library in Canberra. Originating from Pakistan, China, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Marshall Islands, the visits met a variety of needs. There were study tours to discuss projects, tours of the building and reading rooms, visits to view collection highlights from their country and present material for the collection, and in-depth discussions of Library IT and system developments.



The National Library of Australia, recognisable by its white pillars, situated on Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra (Photo: T. Zhao)

Some of the visits were Australian government-coordinated but many were initiated by national library colleagues from the region. An example is the NLA's own relationship with the National Library of Indonesia, with a visit in August 2018 from the NLI to discuss the systems behind the Library's new edeposit service. These are great opportunities to share knowledge ad developments.

Another example is the repeat visits NLA has had since 2002 by the young Indonesian journalists and leaders participating in the Australia-Indonesia Muslim Exchange Program, an initiative of the Australia-Indonesia Institute.

Coincidentally Amelia McKenzie, Assistant Director-General of Collections Management at the NLA was able to make a return visit to Jakarta the next month, en route to the IFLA Congress in Malaysia. She was impressed by NLI's grand new building – at 24 storeys, believed to be the tallest national library in the world!

#### Dual degrees: Ritsumeikan University Library Visit

Still on visits, ANU Library staff recently hosted a visit of key Library staff from Ritsumeikan University Japan. This key meeting discussed services, facilities and resources provided to staff and students at ANU. The visit also discussed both libraries' important role in the new dual-degree program being jointly offered by ANU and Ritsumeikan University.

The dual-degree program offers students the unique opportunity to study in both Japan and Australia, and graduate with two degrees - from ANU and Ritsumeikan University – in four years. It is the first undergraduate dual-degree program between an Australian university and a Japanese university, and students will graduate with a 'Bachelor of Asia Pacific Affairs' from ANU and a 'Bachelor of Global Liberal Arts' from RU.

#### Indonesian Library Association Congress: Christine Mackenzie reports

The theme of the  $16^{th}$  Indonesia Library Association National Congress held in Surabaya 9 – 11 October was *Transforming the Library, Transforming the Society*. It was attended by around 700 librarians from all over Indonesia. Surabaya is the second biggest city in Java, and is a business centre for the region.



The conference was opened by the Secretary of East Java Province, Dr Heru Chayono, The Director of the National Library of Indonesia, Sri Sularsih, and the President of the Indonesian Library Association, Dedi Junaedi. Traditional dancers and musicians also performed at the evening ceremony. I liked the theme of the conference because it used active words to describe its purpose. We are all on a journey of transformation and we know the power of libraries, how they can change lives; whether that is in the magnificent new National Library Building, which at 24 floors I was told is the biggest National Library in the world, or in a small municipal library.

The Indonesian library field has a very strong commitment to improving literacy. With low literacy levels, particularly in the rural areas, it is recognised that this must be the main focus of libraries. The Salam Literasi campaign was prominent during the conference and has obviously struck a chord with library practitioners.

In my presentation I spoke about the Global Vision for libraries and also about advocacy - how to speak out for libraries, how libraries can help countries achieve their Sustainable Development Goals and the important role that libraries play in literacy and learning. I also emphasised that libraries contain humankind's intellectual heritage. The week before the Indonesian conference I was in Side in Turkey and visited the ancient Greco-Roman ruins, where the remains of a library from the 2nd Century are still standing. Libraries have always been an integral part of human development and as we move into an increasingly online visual world, they will remain so. Libraries have been transforming themselves for the past 2,000 years and we must continue to do that.

The City of Surabaya is fortunate to have a very proactive and progressive Mayor, Dr (H.C.) Tri Rismaharini, who is working to develop the city as a smart and sustainable city. She has made real inroads into this agenda, by cleaning up the river and planting many trees as well as promoting a digital agenda with free wifi in the city and other initiatives.

I was delighted that I was able to visit the Surabaya Public Library, which was busy and full while I was there. The library has an important local history collection and also provides a small mobile library that travels to schools and other venues for story times. The staff are very proud of their library and the programs and services they offer. Indonesian library leaders are eager to be more involved internationally and to have greater interaction with IFLA. The annual meeting of the Indonesian Library Association elected a new President for the next 3 years, and he, as I am, is enthusiastic about the future of libraries in Indonesia. (Christine Mackenzie, President-elect IFLA 2017-2019, formerly head of Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service)

#### The Silk Road documented

In his capacity of Special Advisor, MOWCAP (Memory of the World Committee for Asia Pacific) Ray Edmondson visited the Chinese cities of Fuzhou (6-8 November) and Suzhou (9-12 November) to participate in international symposia on the Documentary Heritage of the Silk Routes, and the Memory of the World program in China.

Other events were linked - the opening of Memory of the World Knowledge Centres in each city; a meeting of EASTICA; laying the foundation stone of the National Silk Archives in Suzhou; touring a Suzhou school where Memory of the World is part of the curriculum (pictured below), and in each city the opening of public exhibitions linked to the heritage of the Silk Road. Added extra attractions were a visit to the Silk Museum in Suzhou, and the "old town" of Fuzhou (where even the local Starbucks has to fit into the ambience).



Students at Jiangsu Suzhou No 10 High School

The events were, of course, linked to China's current "Belt and Road" initiative by

drawing on the documentary heritage of the ancient overland and maritime "silk road" trading routes between China and Europe.

A note from Ray:

"My UNESCO-published book, "Audiovisual Archiving: Philosophy and Principles" has become something of a professional staple. The first edition appeared in 1998. There is third (2016) edition, and the book is now available for the first time in three Asian languages - Chinese, Japanese, Thai (just published) - and Portuguese. A Burmese translation is in the offing but not yet published. And there is the English original, of course.

It's all available free and downloadable from UNESCO. : <u>https://bangkok.unesco.org/content/audiovis</u> ual-archiving-philosophy-and-principles

### Digitisation update, ANU

ANU Library reports the digitisation of Pacific Trade and Development Conference papers.

The Pacific Trade and Development (PAFTAD) Conference, which originated in 1968, promotes policy-oriented academic research and discussion of Asia. PAFTAD papers have an important role as a source of policy ideas on regional trade development issues. Eight past volumes are now available online, with ANU staff working hard to get permission for the rest of the back issues and proceedings to be digitised.

George E. Morrison orations

A series of lectures in ethnology founded by George E. Morrison, an Australian journalist, traveller and political adviser to the Chinese government in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The lectures on China are an annual event and the longest running of its kind in Australia, only pausing for the period over the war.

https://anulib.anu.edu.au/newsevents/news/digitisation-update-october-2018

# Papua New Guinea Post Courier digitised



NLA is pleased to report the digitisation of the <u>Papua New Guinea Post-Courier</u>, with all of its previous titles from 1911 to 1981, now available on Trove.

# New ebook licenses at NLA

Over the last couple of months, the Asian Collections team at the National Library of Australia have signed new licence agreements for both Chinese and Thai ebooks.

Airiti Books supply traditional Chinese script ebooks in a range of subjects including social sciences, history, geography, literature and the arts. Published primarily in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau, the availability of books in traditional script (as opposed to simplified) fills a gap in the Chinese ebook collection, complementing the Library's current holdings published outside mainland China.

After several years investigating potential Thai ebook providers, the NLA chose STAQ Technologies to provide access to a broad range of full-text ebooks from Thailand and Southeast Asia covering subject areas from history, economics, politics, humanities and literature. These resources can be accessed onsite or offsite with an NLA library card. For more information contact Elizabeth Baillie, Director of Overseas Collections Management <u>ebaillie@nla.gov.au</u>

### Australian children's book wins award in China

In 2017 the National Library of Australia licensed seven NLA Publishing children's books the National Library of China (NLC)'s Publishing House. The seven Chinese translations were published as a series 'National Library Picture Book Garden'.

Di Ouyang, manager of Asian Collections at NLA, provided advice on translating Australian words and concepts to the Chief Editor of the NLC Publishing House to produce the translations.



Her efforts were rewarded when we heard that the Chinese version of *Have you seen my egg*, by Penny Olsen and illustrated by Rhonda N. Garward, won an award for China's National Popular Science Books of Excellence 2017.

# **APSIG Newsletter**

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Issues mounted on the APSIG homepage at : https://www.alia.org.au/groups/alia-asia-pacific-special-interest-group

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