



APSIG Newsletter

ALIA Asia Pacific Special Interest Group

No. 89, November 2015

Contents of this issue:

APSIG Christmas lunch	1
APSIG Breakfast event	1
UNESCO MoW workshop, Timor Leste	2
Buk bilong Pikinini	3
IFLA in Capetown	3
IFLA 2016 Travel Grants	5
IFLA RSCAO 2016 events	4
ASAA in Canberra in 2016	6
PARBICA meets in Auckland	5
EALRGA geared up for new era	6
Asian scholars met in Adelaide	7
APSIG Newsletter details	7

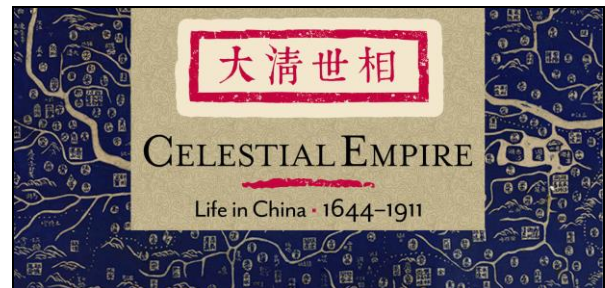
APSIG Christmas lunch

Tuesday 8 December 2015, 12 15 pm, the Lemongrass Thai Restaurant, Corinna Street, Woden Town Centre.

A banquet lunch consisting of entrees, main course dishes and rice with coconut ice cream dessert has been ordered. BYO. \$30 per head. We will be joined by our colleagues in the newly formed Asian Library Resources of Australia (ALRA).

Bookings to Alex Philp : email alex.philp@nla.gov.au tel 02 62 62 1519 by Friday 4 December. Please specify if you want a vegetarian meal when you book. Pay at the lunch.

Breakfast and exhibition viewing event



A special event for APSIG members: breakfast and early morning viewing of Celestial Empire: Life in China, the NLA's summer exhibition.

Date: Wednesday 17 February 2016
Time: 8.00am to 10.00 am

Breakfast in the National Library's Bookplate café will be followed by a special viewing of the exhibition with curator Dr Nathan Woolley at 9 am, before the Library opens to the public.

The set menu breakfast for \$25 per head offers tea and coffee, pastry, muffin, fruit, eggs benedict or pancakes.

Bookings are essential by Friday 12 February 2016 to Alex Philp email : aphilp@nla.gov.au. Pay on the day.

Celestial Empire : life in China, 1644-1911 is the National Library's major summer exhibition. It brings treasures from the collections of the National Library of China, not seen outside China before, together with

beautiful works from the National Library of Australia's rich Chinese collections.

UNESCO Memory of the World Workshop in Timor-Leste



UNESCO, the Regional Committee for the Memory of the World Program Asia-Pacific (MoWCAP), and the State Secretariat of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Timor-Leste, collaborated to hold a training workshop from the 27-28 July 2015 in Dili, Timor-Leste (participants pictured). The workshop was held as part of the wider project entitled 'Safeguarding the Documentary Heritage and Developing the National Library and Archives of Timor-Leste through the UNESCO Memory of the World (MoW) Program' and brought together over 30 participants from key cultural institutions in Timor-Leste.

The workshop began with the launch of the booklet 'Memory of the World: Asia Pacific Program' by H.E Ms. Maria Isabel de Jesus Ximenes, the State Secretary for Tourism Arts and Culture. The booklet, written in Tetum, Portuguese, and English, explains how the program aims to support the safeguarding and increased access to the world's documentary heritage. The booklet also highlights the rich documentary heritage of the Asia Pacific region through a number of case studies of collections that have already been recognized on the UNESCO MoW registers. The booklet will be distributed to the public and key agencies in Timor-Leste.

The workshop program itself was conducted over two days and aimed to introduce participants to the overall objective and purpose of the program, the nomination process to the international and regional MoW registers, and to map out the steps needed for Timor-Leste to establish its own National MoW Committee.

The workshop was facilitated by two Australian experts, Dr. Ray Edmondson, Special Advisor to the MoWCAP Bureau, and Dr. Roslyn Russell, Chair of the UNESCO Australian MoW Committee. The first day of the workshop was dedicated to theoretical work, while the second day involved participants identifying significant documentary heritage in Timor-Leste with potential for the registers. A number of significant collections were identified by participants including the records of the Timor-Leste Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation and the records of the National Archive relating to the 1999 independence referendum.

The workshop was followed by three days of intensive meetings and site visits by the two Australians with key cultural agencies involved in the safeguarding of documentary heritage in Timor-Leste. The objective of these meetings was to learn more about what initiatives are taking place in Timor-Leste, share how the MoW could benefit in this work, and establish the road map for the establishment of a Timor-Leste National Committee for the MoW Program. They will develop a report with detailed recommendations that will be translated into Tetum and shared with key stakeholders in Timor-Leste. Following this, a national meeting will take place to discuss the next steps in developing a Timor-Leste National Committee for the UNESCO MoW program.

Update: The UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Committee has received funding from the Australian National Commission for UNESCO to bring a representative of the National Memory of the World Committee for Timor-Leste to

Canberra next year to attend the Australian Committee's annual Planning Day and also to visit a number of our national collecting institutions.

The National Archives of Australia has already indicated a willingness to have a visit from the Timor-Leste delegate. It is hoped that this visit will provide an opportunity for the Timor-Leste delegate to see how our Committee works, as well as to build connections with Australian documentary institutions.

Buk bilong Pikinini

Anne-Sophie Herman gave an entertaining lunch time talk on the project she has founded, Buk bilong Pikinini, bringing books to kids on Friday 31 July 2015 at the National Library of Australia.



Buk bilong Pikinini has opened 16 libraries for children across Papua New Guinea since 2007. The event was organised by the National Library and ALIA APSIG.

An important new development is the more formal establishment of libraries with local staff and the expansion of the project into more remote areas away from Port Moresby where it started. The aim is to promote literacy in Papua New Guinea by the supply of children's books as there is a desperate lack of resources in the country. Books and other resources are coming from charities, publishers, institutions and other supporters in Australia. Anne-Sophie has also been greatly helped by corporate sources and companies active in the country.

More details of Buk bilong Pikinini at : www.bukbilongpikinini.org

IFLA Conference, Cape Town 2015

IFLA RSCAO Committee 2015-2017

At the IFLA General Conference in Cape Town in August this year, Jayshree Mamtora from Australia was elected the new Chair of RSCAO (Regional Standing Committee on Asia and Oceania), and Sanjay Bihani from India takes over as its new Secretary. New committee members elected earlier this year include:

Samer Abou Haidar, Lebanon
Madhu Bhargava, India
Sanjay Kumar Bihani, India
Susmita Chakraborty, India
Premila Gamage, Sri Lanka
Ramesh C. Gaur, India
Eulsoon Ma, Korea
Takashi Nagatsuka, Japan
Paul Nielsen, Australia
Wathmanel Seneviratne, Sri Lanka
Irina Shubina, Kazakhstan
Heather Todd, Australia

Continuing committee members include:

Fawz Abdallah, Lebanon
Hasna Askhita, Syria
S. B. Ghosh, India
Jayshree Mamtora, Australia
Teresita Moran, Philippines
Yigang Sun, China
Winston Roberts, New Zealand.

IFLA RSCAO Open Session 2015

All the papers from the 2015 RSCAO Open Session are now available from the IFLA repository www.ifla.org/free-tags/repository. The topic was : Repositioning libraries in the Asia Pacific region: evolving strategies, innovative services.

1. Caught in the Tide of Change: How Libraries Can Adapt to Turbulent Times. Steve O'Connor, Information Exponentials Consultancy, Lismore, Australia. Steve described the disruption which the Internet is causing to established institutions including libraries and calls upon librarians to use all their imaginative powers to continue to provide needed services for their users and institutions.
2. Innovative Public Libraries in United Arab Emirates: Taking Library Services in Public Spaces :three authors : Mary Sengati-Zimba, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates;Judith Mavodza, Library, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates; Emad Abu Eid, Abu Dhabi City Municipality, United Arab Emirates : the authors described very new and innovative attempts to bring public library and information services to shopping malls, beaches, etc.
3. Achieving the Aables: Reimagining the Digital Discovery Services at the National Library of Singapore : Chris Tang, National Library Content & Services, National Library Board, Singapore. Patrons need to be given the most accessible digital services.
4. Exploring the Effectiveness of Library Services and Resources in Academic Libraries in Lebanon from Users' Perspectives : Fawz Abdallah, Lebanese University, Faculty of Information, Lebanon; Dania Bilal, School of Information Sciences, University of Tennessee, United States. Described new methods of assessing library user satisfaction.

5. Cross Sector Collaboration Helps Public Learning across Boundaries -- A Case Study of the Wuhan Area Library Consortium,China : Jin Zhu, Wuhan Municipal Culture Bureau, China and Jingxia Li, Wuhan Library, China. Describe a consortium in Wuhan.

IFLA RSCAO 2016 Events

WLIC 2016 will be held in Columbus, Ohio with the conference theme of: Connections, Collaboration, Community.

Planning is under way for the annual RSCAO Open Session which will have as its theme: 'Access to information for sustainable communities'.

As well, a RSCAO satellite event will be held immediately prior to the main conference with a theme linked to that of the RSCAO open session: 'Access to information in small island developing states'. The satellite event has three objectives:

- 1) to provide an opportunity for effective international engagement on current issues by library and information professionals in small island developing states in the Asia-Oceania region
- 2) to enhance awareness of IFLA's presence in the region and offer an opportunity to promote the work of RSCAO to prospective members;
- 3) to discuss the application of IFLA's Strategic Plan to the region.

The RSCAO pre-conference theme will also reference the newly-developed Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, in particular the Strategic Directions of 'Libraries in Society' and 'Capacity Building'.

The call for papers for both events will be released shortly and we will be looking for speakers!

Subscribe to the RSCAO mailing list here:
<http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/rsc-ao-1>

Jayshree Mamtora, RSCAO Chair 2015-2017, Research Services Co-ordinator, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Australia
Email : jayshree.mamtora@cdu.edu.au

IFLA 2016 National Committee Fellowship Grants Announced!

The IFLA 2016 National Committee, through generous donations from the North American library community, will offer up to 50 full fellowships to librarians from outside North America (U.S. and Canada) to attend the IFLA 2016 Congress in Columbus, Ohio.

The fellowship will cover travel, accommodation, a per diem food allowance, and conference registration fees. Priority will be given to younger professionals with a minimum of 5 years' experience in the field of libraries who do not usually attend IFLA Conferences. Applications close on 31 December 2015.

More information on the Application Process can be found on the [Congress Website](#).
Libby Cass

Asian Studies Association of Australia Conference in Canberra next July

The ASAA conference next year will be held in Canberra. Details will be forthcoming but bookmark the site now!

<http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/asiapacific-region/asian-studies-association-australia>
Amy Chan

PARBICA Meets in Auckland

The Sixteenth Conference of the Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (PARBICA) was held in

conjunction with the New Zealand Archive and Record Keeping Association conference in Auckland in September.

The conference is a key activity of PARBICA and provides an opportunity to make and renew friendships amongst professional archivists who often work in isolation throughout the Pacific Islands. PARBICA 16 included representatives from 15 countries including Kiribati, Tuvalu, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

It was a cold and wet week which many of our Islander colleagues found challenging, but the feeling of the conference was warm and collaborative. The theme of the 2015 PARBICA conference was *Footprints in space and time*. The conference included a programme of workshops on assessing significance of collections, disaster preparedness and ICA-AtoM, an important software system (www.ica-atom.org).



L to R Mrs. Julian Chonigolo (Solomon Islands National Archives, NASI), Ms. Kari James (former volunteer with NASI) and Louisa Laekani (NASI)

Interesting conference panel sessions were delivered including Tukul Kaiku's (University of Papua New Guinea) paper on "*Missing footprints in a nation's historical documentary heritage: Looking across the Papua New Guinea information landscape*" and Stephen Innes' (University of Auckland) paper on "*The Western Pacific Archives: The continuing journey*".

Social networking events included a welcome reception and private viewing of the Pacific galleries at the Auckland Museum and an enjoyable conference dinner at the Auckland University's *Fale Pasifika* featuring a Pacific Island dance and drum performance.

Kylie Moloney from the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (PMB) presented a paper titled "*Connecting and collaborating: The innovative transformation of the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau in a digital environment*" outlining the Bureau's transformation from using microfilm to digital copying technologies. Kylie also assisted the organisers with a workshop on developing a case study for a basic implementation of ICA-AtoM (an open-source archival software program developed by the International Council of Archives) in a Pacific Island country.



Kylie Moloney (PMB) and Teawa Tuare (Kiribati National Library and Archive) at the Auckland Museum welcome reception.

A recurring theme of the conference included the important role of PARBICA members in leading change in their respective countries through driving effective records management for good governance and keeping the memory of their nation preserved for the long term. Other themes included the potential and possibilities of digital technology to advance the capacity of recordkeeping and archiving professionals in the Pacific Islands and the importance of working in partnership with national, regional and international organisations to develop sound

recordkeeping and archival systems throughout the Pacific region.

The PARBICA General Conference included an official governance meeting where activities and current developments of many of the Island member countries were presented. A newly elected Bureau for 2015-2017 was announced with Mr. Opeta Alefaio (Fiji National Archives) taking the role of President.
Kylie Moloney, PMB

EALRGA geared up for a new era -- Asian Library Resources of Australia ALRA

APSIG members might or might not be familiar with the existence of EALRGA (The East Asian Library Resources Group of Australia). This Group has been an advocate for East Asian library resources and librarianship for the past thirty-seven years. There has also been professional networking and knowledge sharing on wider Asian studies-related matters in the Group without geographical borders.

In this year's EALRGA Annual General Meeting, the 1978-era Constitution was significantly updated to meet changes of the field which have grown over recent years. The Group has now been renamed to become Asian Library Resources of Australia (ALRA), to more properly recognize its broader scope, and to better embrace strong participation from a wider community. Those attending the AGM were keen to vote for the new name as it was less tongue twisting than the old one! The full version of the [ALRA Constitution](#) can be found in the [ALRA website](#).

The updated Constitution guides ALRA into a direction that meets the latest needs and emerging expectations of practicing librarians, library resources users, and everyone who is interested and passionate in this field. ALRA's established and easy to use communication platforms (mailing list

and biennial newsletter) will enable development of a stronger network between members and beyond. As the subject interests represented by ALRA and APSIG are converging, we envisage closer connections growing between the two Groups.

An official re-election of office bearers for ALRA was also conducted in the past two months according to the process in the updated Constitution. I am delighted to announce that the following new Committee members are in place as of November 2015, to serve a term of two years.

President

Dr Amy Chan (Australian National University)

Secretary

Dr Aline Scott-Maxwell (Monash University)

Newsletter editor

Darrell Dorrington (Australian National University)

Web manager

Jung Sim Kim (Monash University)

Treasurer

Rebecca Wong (formerly Australian National University)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring Committee, especially Di Pin Ouyang and Ayako Hatta, for the efforts they made towards the gradual transition of the Group in the past two years. As all remaining Committee members who are staying on for this new term, I believe their passion and involvement in ALRA will only grow stronger under this new vision

ALRA's new domain is <http://alra.org.au>. For those who have bookmarked the EALRGA URL, please ensure that you update it before the old URL ealrga.org.au expires early next year.

Membership of **ALRA** is free by signing up to the ALRA mailing list, if you would like to become a member please visit this [link](#). Members are welcome to use the ALRA mailing list to post news or exchange information with colleagues. Simply post your message to alra@alra.org.au.

With this new role in the new Committee, I look forward to see ALRA progress into a new era with enthusiastic involvement by a wider community, a broader vision and a stronger purpose.

Rebecca Wong, Outgoing President Asian Library Resources of Australia (ALRA) (formerly East Asian Library Resources Group of Australia EALRGA)

Asian scholars meet in Adelaide

The 9th International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS) was held in Adelaide from 5-9 July 2015. ICAS has grown into the largest biennial Asian studies event outside the US and this was the first time it has been held in Australia. The conference was attended by over 1,000 delegates from around the world, covering all disciplines of Asian studies.



L to R Dr Aline Scott-Maxwell (Monash University) Ching Liang (Adelaide University), Di Pin Ouyang (NLA)

The theme for ICAS9 was 'Interculturality'. The Chinese Studies Association of Australia (CSAA), the Malaysia and

Singapore Society of Australia (MASSA) and the South Asian Studies Association of Australia (SASSA) held their conferences as part of ICAS9 ensuring there was always at least two or three interesting papers being presented at the one time.

The conference was officially opened by the Hon Jay Weatherill, Premier of South Australia. The Conference program was conducted across 125 parallel sessions with various topics, including political, history, business, tourism, defence, energy or other issues involving Asia. A number of librarians were also able to attend and made sure to catch up with each other at the National Library stand, which was promoting the forthcoming blockbuster exhibition at the NLA featuring treasures from the National Library of China and the NLA's rich Chinese collections, Celestial Empire.

APSIG Newsletter

Published three times a year : March, July and November. Address : PO Box 5051, Lyneham, A.C.T. 2602, Australia. ISSN 1327 1024

Copy deadline for March 2016 is Friday 19 February. Contributions very welcome especially from the Asia/Pacific region. Contact : Marie Sexton, Editor (msexton@netspeed.com.au) telephone 02-62 477795.

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

