

Southern Cross University Library Newsletter | Number 28 | September 2007



Katherine Howell

Author events

In association with the Co-op Bookshop, the Lismore Campus Library hosted two author events in the week leading up to the Byron Bay Writers Festival.

Martin Chatterton, a children's author and illustrator, presented an entertaining lecture on the interaction of illustration and text, drawing on his diverse experience in publishing and design. Martin's most recent book, and the first to feature an Australian setting, is *The Brain Finds a Leg*.

Katherine Howell, an SCU creative writing graduate, launched her first novel, *Frantic*. Katherine spoke about the process of writing and of how she drew upon her experience as a former ambulance officer to create characters and events in the novel.

Both works can be found in the Lismore Campus Library collection.



Martin Chatterton

















Inside

Discover your community – 2006 Census of Population and Housing | Need help?

Responding to your feedback | Academic staff profile | Who's who in the Library?



NAIDOC Week poster exhibition



Anne Freer from ABS with information session participants

Discover your community – 2006 Census of Population and Housing

The first results of the 2006 Census were released nationally on Wednesday 27 June 2007. The city of Lismore was one of a select group of regional and metropolitan centres chosen to host staff from Australia's national statistical agency, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, for a series of media interviews and statements on the day. Information sessions, designed to help decision makers understand what data is available and how to access it, were presented throughout Australia in the ensuing weeks.

Lismore was also chosen as the first regional centre in New South Wales to host this training, with sessions presented on Thursday 28 June by staff from the Bureau's Sydney office. The venue was the Library Training Room at Southern Cross University Library and 65 people attended the two presentations, including staff from the planning departments of most regional councils, various State Government agencies, local NGOs and, of course, SCU Library staff.

The focus of the sessions was on retrieving data using the Bureau's new Census web products QuickStats, MapStats

and Census Tables. These products make it a very simple process to select data by topic and location and present it either in a table or as a thematic map.

The ABS website can be accessed from the Library home page via the *Library databases* link. Once at their general site, you will see a *Census* link incorporated into the banner at the top of the page. Remember that this is only the first release of data and that much more will be coming online in the near future, including the range of basic, indigenous and time series Community Profiles.

The Library will schedule and advertise its own Census information sessions for members of the University community in coming weeks.

If you can't wait until then and you need some help navigating the ABS site and using the products, please contact your Liaison Librarian to arrange an individual demonstration. If you're not sure who that librarian is, follow the link *Library staff*, also on the Library home page.



Responding to your feedback – double-sided printing

Responding to feedback from students, the Lismore Campus Library has been investigating ways to offer a double-sided printing option on its network.

Library Systems staff have been working hard to overcome numerous technical problems associated with developing such an option and integrating it with the current Library Resource Card system. We are very close to a solution and hope to have the facility implemented in the first few weeks of semester.

All being well, the service will then be extended to include the B Block computer labs. The outcomes will include both a cost saving for students and a substantial reduction in the amount of paper being consumed.

For many years we have used 100% recycled paper in Library printers and photocopiers and we see this new initiative as an important step in further reducing our impact on the environment.

Academic staff profile

Jill Cowley, Lecturer, School of Law and Justice

How long have you been at SCU and what attracted you to working here?

My family and I moved to the Northern Rivers in 1980 and I've been a full-time academic at SCU for ten years. Before that I worked in private practice as a solicitor and at the University part-time. I had a background as a teacher-librarian, working in high schools and TAFE, before studying Law as a distance education student through Macquarie University. I think this has given me a good understanding of the needs of external students.

What is your teaching area?

I began in the Law School's resident tutor role, providing assistance to first year students across their major study units. In the past I have taught Property Law and Interviewing, Negotiation and Ethics. I now teach both Legal Research and Writing (in association with the Law Liaison Librarian) and Family Law. I'm a member of the School's Library Committee and work closely with the Law Liaison Librarian on collection development and access to electronic resources. We aim to make as much material available online as possible to benefit external students. Having access to current serials is the backbone of legal research, with most books having a publishing time lag.

What are your research interests?

I have wide research interests. My Masters degree explored the role of



paralegals in the provision of legal services in Australia, in comparison to the UK and USA. The University-level paralegal course at SCU is unique within Australia. My other research interests include legal education and the law of higher education. My latest article was in the area of family law, on the legal consequences of marriage.

What are your interests outside of academic work?

My ideal is to have an afternoon where I go for a walk and then settle back with a good book and a cup of tea. I also like cooking, and reading cookbooks – which can be a way of discovering the world. And I love travelling.

What do you like most about the Library?

I've always had a good relationship with the librarians. Staff on the front desk are amazingly patient and very helpful. The strength of the Library is its people. I like the Training Room – I couldn't conduct Legal Research and Writing without it, and it's close to the Law Collection. The library is a lawyer's laboratory.

If there was one thing you could change about the Library, what would it be?

If there was one thing I could change it would be funding for more resources, be they virtual or print-based.

Need help? Book a 'drop in' session

Would you like to be able to sit down in private with someone to talk through the problems you're having using the Library effectively and finding resources for your assignments? Well, at Lismore, you can.

Librarians are available for half hour individual or small group appointments from Monday to Thursday during semester, with appointment times at 10.30am, 11am and 11.30am. You can book a session in advance by phoning 6620 3752, emailing refdesk@scu.edu.au, or by writing your name on the booking sheets posted on the noticeboard opposite the Information Desk. Of course, if there are no prior bookings and the librarian is still on duty, you're more than welcome to just 'drop in' and ask for some assistance on the spot.

We'll help you with any research query, from an introduction to the Library catalogue to find books from your reading list, right through to developing complex strategies for searching Library databases to find journal articles. If we're not able to help you immediately with some technical and software queries, we can usually point you in the right direction to find the help you need.

Who's who in the Library?

Glenda Kimmins, Liaison Librarian

What is your role in the Library?

I have just been appointed as Liaison Librarian for the School of Environmental Science and Management. My role involves interacting with academic staff and students through collection development, orientation and database classes, and information literacy programs. Previously, I was Document Supply Supervisor for seven years. I'm enjoying the change to a different role, but I'm on a steep learning curve! My experience in Document Supply makes the liaison role easier since I've had plenty of time to get to know students and staff, and the information they're after.

How long have you worked here?

I've been here almost twenty two years. I began as a casual part-

time shelver and moved to full-time permanent work when I completed my Associate Diploma in Library Practice in the early 1990s. During the nineties the number of external students grew enormously, with a corresponding expansion of document supply services. I graduated with a degree in librarianship from Charles Sturt University in 2005 and am looking forward to the next phase of my career.



I enjoy the detective work associated with tracking down information. I like being involved with postgraduate researchers and helping them to find information – especially grey literature and obscure material.

Do you have any advice for students?

Attend Library classes when you can. This will give you a head start on researching assignment topics, and give you clues on how to locate information in the vast array of Library databases that you can access. Students studying in my School can always contact me directly.

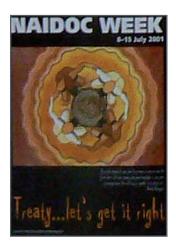
What are your other interests?

I enjoy camping, bushwalking, fishing and swimming. Reading, of course, and travel.

NAIDOC Week poster exhibition

To celebrate NAIDOC (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week, the Lismore Campus Library mounted an exhibition of selected NAIDOC posters from the 1970s to the present. The posters illustrated the great diversity of graphic styles and themes over the past thirty years.







Contacts

	web	email	phone
General	www.scu.edu.au/library	libdesk@scu.edu.au	1800 659 460
Lismore	www.scu.edu.au/library	libdesk@scu.edu.au	02 6620 3752
Coffs Harbour	www.scu.edu.au/library/chec	coffslibrary@scu.edu.au	02 6659 3232
Tweed Gold Coast	www.scu.edu.au/library/tgcc	goldcoastlibrary@scu.edu.au	07 5506 9205

