

## NORTHERN TERRITORY LIBRARY NEWS

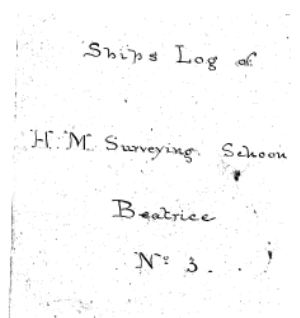


### Rise in visitors by Jo McGill, Director

Northern Territory Library has had a record month with 14,650 people visiting the Library at Parliament House in July. This follows an increase in visitors from 83000 to 89000 in the 2006/07 financial year and an additional 46000 people visited the very popular travelling exhibition, National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries held at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory. The Treasures exhibition was drawn from collections of Australia's National, State and Territory libraries and contained a diverse range of iconic objects that tell the story of the nation's history, folklore and identity.  
Cont page 2

### First Fleet Journals and Sources of the Finke River by Diana Richards, Manager Heritages Services

At a recent auction of rare and valuable Australian manuscripts and publications, the Library was successful in securing two very rare and significant historical documents. The 1886 account by Charles Chewings records his successful attempts to discover the source of the Finke River. The work includes a very rare map of the area and should prove an invaluable resource for serious researchers and professional historians.  
Cont page 2



### Preserving treasures by Louise Paynter, Librarian Heritages Services

Everyone has valuable documents, pictures, family videos, coins, medals, gramophone records, and textile materials – the meaning of our precious objects only grows with time. Perfect storage conditions would not include cyclones, humidity, mould, light, floods, cockroaches, mice... preventive care is the best you can do to improve the long term survival of your treasured memories in our difficult environment.

Good packaging in archival packaging products suitable for housing documents, photographs and ephemera; considering the storage location; avoiding direct handling and displaying or using copies rather than originals are the most important aspects when safeguarding treasured memories. A good general reference document is available on-line at <http://archive.amol.org.au/recollections/>  
Cont page 2



### Northern Territory Library events

**11 August 2007, 9.30am:** Family History Seminar.

**16 August 2007, 6.30pm:** In conversation with journalist and author Paul Cleary and ABC journalist Mark Bowling.  
Cont page 2



## Rise in visitors

Currently the Library is hosting the ABC exhibition "Through Australian Eyes". The exhibition is a retrospective of seventy years of ABC foreign reporting from the 1930s to the present day. Talks by such notable people as Peter Cave and Tony Eastley have attracted a new audience to the Northern Territory Library.

This month the Library continues to present a range of speakers including Steve Sunk (Walkabout Chef), authors Paul Cleary, Mark Bowling and Alexis Wright (2007 Winner of the Miles Franklin Award) along with the Shanaka Fernando, recipient of the Australia's Local Hero Award in 2007. The Library provides a fantastic setting for talks, attracting both locals and visitors to Darwin.

## First Fleet Journals and Sources of the Finke River

The second purchase: Northern Territory Survey, 1864-6: Howard – Hutchison Archive of the Northern Territory Survey in H.M. Surveying Schooner Beatrice, is a highly important archive of manuscripts and printed documents relating to the first attempt to establish a permanent settlement in the Northern Territory. It has been likened to the 'First Fleet' Journals that are so important to NSW. This will complement and enhance Hutchinson's log of the same voyage already held by the library. The Archive includes the extensive personal archive retained by Lieutenant Frederick Howard and documents the important expedition to explore and survey the north-west coasts and rivers of the Northern Territory between Victoria River and Van Diemen's Gulf, and the early settlement at Escape Cliffs.

Advice on when these documents will be available for public display will be advised this month. It is very exciting to secure such important documents that will ensure Territorians have access to original material relating to early settlement of the Northern Territory.

## Preserving treasures

Good general texts can be found in the Northern Territory Library and other public libraries on the shelf at Call No. 745.1028.

It is important to understand that no matter what type of records you have, paper or non-paper based, all materials will degrade over time. Collection managers and preservation staff from the Northern Territory Library, NT Archives, National Australian Archives, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory and Charles Darwin University attend regular workshops and meetings in their efforts to understand how to best manage the preservation of cultural materials. Conditions may be better in these institutions than the home situation, but big or small, preservation is made better and simpler with protective measures.

## Northern Territory Library events

**23 August 2007, 12:10pm - 1pm:** Mark Bowling, ABC journalist and author of 'Running Amok - when news deadlines, family and foreign affairs collide'.

**24 August 2007, 12:10pm - 1pm:** The Lentil as Anything Story – A Practical Model for Cooperative Management by Shanaka Fernando.

**26 August 2007, 5pm - 6.30pm:** Alexis Wright is the Miles Franklin Literary Award 2007 winner for her novel 'Carpentaria'.

**28 August 2007, 12:10pm - 1pm:** Back to Basics., Steve Sunk, NT Master Chef aka The Walkabout Chef.

The Library wants this newsletter to meet *your* needs. Please send your comments and suggestions to [ntinfo.dlghs@nt.gov.au](mailto:ntinfo.dlghs@nt.gov.au).