Welcome to our final Newsletter for 2013.

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**Events and Activities**

1. **Info Night**

   The Library participated in the Info Night with a *Walk Around Library* quiz, *Guess How Many Items in the Library* competition and display of books and other resources on Alice Springs; all of which were well received by visitors.

2. **Student Etchings**

   A display of student etchings was set up in the Library foyer exhibition space to coincide with the Info Night. This space is available for the exhibit of any staff or student creative works – contact us for further information.

3. **Centralian Senior College Textbooks**

   The CSC textbook collection has been assessed, weeded and reorganised into a single textbook storage space. This reorganisation has resulted in freeing up the former Maths & Science textbook room which will be converted to a small group collaborative work space/individual quiet study space for 2014.

4. **Jan Black**

   Customer Service Officer Jan Black has decided to leave the Library at the end of this year to concentrate on her first passion; sewing. The Library staff, and, I am sure, many CDU and CSC staff and students will miss Jan’s friendly smile and helpful service and wish her all the best in the future.
5. Centralian Senior College Student Survey

In September the Library asked Centralian Senior College students about their knowledge and usage of the library and feedback and suggestions for improving library services and resources in an online survey. Liaison Librarians, Alex and Melissa are currently collating and analysing the results and we intend to provide feedback to students and respond to recommendations early in 2014.

![Bar chart showing reasons students come to the library]

6. Centralian Middle School – Inspire and Believe Forum

40 Centralian Middle School students visited the Library for a Tools for Success information literacy session on the 21st and 22nd November as part of the ACIKE Inspire and Believe Forum and were shown how to become power Google searchers. On Monday 25th November the students participated in a Treasure Hunt, locating resources and information by searching through the Library.
7. **Henry Smith Painting**

Henry’s powerful portrait of Rod Moss is currently on display above the Liaison Librarians’ desks in the Library.

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**Library Resources**

The Library is emailing out a monthly list of new resources to all staff. Please contact us if you have any enquiries about any of the new titles or if you would like to recommend new resources.

1. **Staff Favourite Reads of 2013**

The holiday season is fast approaching - can you imagine yourself lying by the pool, sipping a refreshing drink and diving into a great book? - or - whiling away the delayed flight hours at the airport with an engrossing novel?  Try one of our favourite 2013 reads or check out our Holiday Reads display in the Library now!

We also have a great range of movie DVDs for holiday viewing and a small collection of audio books; perfect for those long car trips. We can extend the borrowing period for all items to cover your holidays, just ask us.

If you prefer to read using an electronic device, Amazon provides [free Kindle reading apps](#) for smartphones, tablets and computers.
Chasing after her yapping corgis on the palace grounds, the Queen comes across the City of Westminster mobile library. Out of an unerring sense of duty she borrows a novel, little realising the beginnings of an all-consuming obsession with reading. Egged on by Norman, a young palace kitchen hand turned literary guide, the Queen eagerly gobbles up the works of writers ranging from Proust to Nabokov to Henry James. However, not everyone is thrilled with Her Maj's newfound love affair with literature and subsequent neglect of public duty, least of all her controlling private secretary, Sir Kevin Scatchard.

Like the Queen, I gleefully ignored all of my own duties and responsibilities as I devoured this wonderfully witty and subversive novella. *The Uncommon Reader* is an entertaining, quick read and an affirmation of the power of books to transport and transform.

Daksin means south in Sanskrit and this book is about traditional South Indian vegetarian cooking from main dishes to tiffins and desserts. It is aimed at vegetarians to assist their healthy diet and lifestyle with various traditional cooking methods and techniques. It is easy to follow with step-by-step instructions with amazing photographs which show you how the food is being presented in various settings. There are a number of suggested menus that have been included to help you create a pure vegetarian feast for your special occasions. Dakshin is absolutely one of my favourite books and I use it quite often, and sometimes I twist the recipes with available ingredients and still find it comes out perfectly and is very tasty. The book explains that the secret ingredients for any vegetarian recipe are the fresh spices and herbs, which give the authentic flavour and aroma. Try one of the Dakshin recipes, you will enjoy it!!

This is only a shortish novel but it takes us on an epic journey with a young woman from a small farm in Western Australia to England, Soviet Armenia and back via the Middle East and it covers a range of universal themes; love and loss, the search for self, the meaning of home and travel. Many reviewers have praised Joan London’s sparse, stark writing style and I too loved it, particularly her evocative depictions of the Australian rural landscape; I felt myself walking through the bush with Edith, the central protagonist. Equally, her characters are intriguing; exotic yet familiar with their all too human yearnings, disappointments and stoicism.
Leonie

*Deliverance* by Don Greenlees 959.8603 GREE

My choice for a read from the Library collection was a non-fiction item, “*Deliverance: the inside story of East Timor’s fight for freedom*” co-authored by Don Greenlees and Robert Garran, both experienced journalists. This book gives an intriguing account into the incredibly complex nature of East Timor’s struggle for nationhood after the 24 year occupation by Indonesia. They cover the crisis from several viewpoints with information gained from informal interviews with government and military “insiders” and hundreds of secret documents. The background of personalities involved from multiple countries, the policy making in Jakarta, Dili, Canberra, New York and The United Nations, President Habibie’s decision to give the long oppressed population of East Timor the choice of independence /freedom, the armed forces role in attempting to disrupt the referendum and its involvement in the violence that occurred, an internationally monitored ballot, the damage to infrastructure by pro-Indonesian militia during its withdrawal and the arrival of the peacekeepers. You obtain an understanding of Australia’s role in gaining international support for action and the peacekeeping operation that followed.

Why did I choose this book? Purely personal, originally taken for my son to read prior to his Immersion trip to East Timor [Timor-Leste]. In 2004 OLSH College introduced the opportunity for Year 11 students to fund raise and travel to Marist sponsored communities and because of this programme we have become aware of the history, destruction and struggle for the Timorese people, Australia’s closest neighbour and one of Asia’s poorest nations. In 2004, 2009 and 2013 our three children have travelled to East Timor, Dili and then to the Baucau region. Baucau is the second-largest city in Timor and is about 120 miles east of the capital. From these trips we know that East Timor is slowly rebuilding and that they are an appreciative, friendly and happy people. This book was a great investigative read of one of the worst atrocities of the twenty first century, the occupation and invasion of East Timor by Indonesia and then the behind the scenes happenings as a small country becomes a nation.

Melissa

*The beginner’s goodbye* by Anne Tyler TYLE

Disclaimer: I have been addicted to Anne Tyler books ever since I read *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant* many years ago, so am bound to be biased in any review of her novels! As with all of Tyler’s novels, *The Beginner’s Goodbye* (her 19th) is set in suburban Baltimore. Aaron’s wife Dorothy is killed in an accident “involving an oak tree, a sun porch and elusive biscuits”. Aaron is bereft, but busies himself in everyday life. As Aaron has unfinished business with Dorothy, he is initially comforted when she begins to “materialise” in the strangest places. However, as he emerges from his grief, Aaron begins to question his “happy unremarkable marriage” and ultimately finds a new lease on life. Tyler, as always, is perceptive and insightful in her observations into “ordinary” lives and emotions. She has a great understanding of human imperfections and we are
endeared to her characters because of this. Although Aaron is no Ezra (Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant) or Macon (The Accidental Tourist), overall, The Beginner's Goodbye is subtly and emotionally satisfying.

Jan

The people smuggler by Robin De Crespigny 345.0237 DECR

This is the true story of Ali Al Jenabi and his struggle to find a safe place in the world. Very enlightening and sure to change some opinions on people who have to flee from unsafe and unsuitable conditions. I found this book hard to put down and reading it from my very safe and comfortable life I feel I have been awakened to a world I know little about. Having to leave family and trying to find security while living everyday with excruciating uncertainty about the future Ali is driven by his fierce love of freedom, which should be everyone’s right. This is a must read for anyone who has questions and doubts about the plight of these people. Ali is described as the ‘Oscar Schindler of Asia’; in my opinion very apt.

LibGuide

Our new LibGuides for CSC teachers and students:

Women’s Health and Well-Being

Interesting Websites and Articles for Higher Education

1. How are university students changing? OECD September 2013 report.

2. The ritual dance of university rankings Article from The Conversation, 3 October 2013.


4. Technology outlook : Australian Tertiary Education 2013-2018 A collaborative research effort between the New Media Consortium (NMC) and Open Universities Australia to help inform Australian educational leaders about significant developments in technologies supporting teaching, learning, and creative inquiry in tertiary education.

**Library Opening Hours – Semester Break**

11th November-19th December  
Monday to Friday  
8:00-4:00

20th December-5th January  
Closed

6th January-2nd March  
Monday to Friday  
8:00-4:00

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The Library Staff would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season.  
We look forward to working with you in 2014.