

August 2006

***Perfect Match or Perfect Marketing:  
The Science of Speed Dating***

Would “what’s your favourite pizza topping” be your first choice as a pick up line? If you answered no, then perhaps you should reconsider your approach. A mass speed dating study conducted in Edinburgh earlier this year, has discovered that “what’s your favourite pizza topping” actually was the number one pick-up line for participants!

Presenter Lish Hogge will draw on this new ‘pizza topping’ research for *Perfect Match or Perfect Marketing: The Science of Speed-Dating*. As a lead-in to the National Library’s *Love and Desire* literary conference, this interactive event is for anyone interested in human nature and the laws of attraction, and is a fun and mind-blowing insight into the way we operate. It’s speed-dating without speed dating! While we can’t guarantee that you will meet Mr or Ms Right on the night, you will definitely be entertained and enlightened by Lish’s explanations of love and human behaviour.



*Perfect Match or Perfect Marketing: The Science of Speed-Dating* will be held in the foyer of the National Library at 6pm on Friday, 22 September. Entertainment will be provided by Liz Frencham (of the folk band *JigZag*) and there will be a cash bar for refreshments. The cost for the evening is \$20 Friends and \$25 non-members, which includes a complimentary glass of champagne on arrival. Bookings are essential on 02 6262 1698, and when you book, you really will need to tell us what your favourite pizza topping is!!!

***Love and Desire Conference - Special Offer for Friends***

The National Library will host *Love and Desire: Literature and the Intimate*, a two day literary conference from 23-24 September 2006. Join David Malouf, Gail Jones, Brenda Walker, Brian Castro and many others at this fascinating conference, exploring different forms and expressions of love, friendship and intimacy, and how writing can encapsulate desire. Nick Earls will be presenting the dinner address. Friends of the NLA are able to attend this event at the special rate of just \$50 for 1 day or \$90 for both days. See the enclosed brochure for further information. Bookings essential (02) 6262 1271.

## Spring at Springfield – Friends Trip to Goulburn

The second Friends day-trip for the year has been organised, so pencil Saturday, 14 October into your diaries now. This trip will give you the chance to immerse yourself in the history of Goulburn and will include a visit to the historic station “Springfield” for morning tea and a tour of the gardens, a tour and lunch at the Goulburn brewery, a visit to places familiar to Miles Franklin as a schoolgirl, and a walking tour of the Towrang Stockade on the Wollondilly River at “Danganelly” station

The full day’s itinerary will be finalised shortly and published in the September newsletter, but we wanted to give you plenty of notice of the trip. Lunch, morning and afternoon tea are included in the price of \$75 for Friends and \$85 for non-members. If you would like to book early to avoid disappointment, call Jessica at the Friends office on 02 6262 1698. Payment is required by cob Friday, 6 October to secure your seat. Numbers are strictly limited.

## Friends Book Club

It seems that the *Gothic Passion in Wuthering Heights* event has sparked an interest in many of you to join a book club.

The new **Friends Book Club** will run on the last Tuesday of each month from 7-8.30pm in the Friends Lounge. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, 29 August and the book for August will be *March* by Geraldine Brooks, which was awarded the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.



As we have had very few volunteers to run the group, and no volunteers willing to take on the regular management of the group, the book club will be run in a slightly different way to previously advertised. Liz Yuncken will be the coordinator for the August meeting. At each meeting, a new coordinator will be selected for the following month’s meeting. The only responsibility of the coordinator is to get the discussion started, and perhaps break the group into smaller groups depending on the numbers at each meeting. The participants at the first meeting will decide on the book selection for the following months’ meetings, so make sure you bring along some title suggestions. Tea/Coffee will be available in the Friends Lounge as usual, but you might also like to bring some snacks to share with the group.

If you would like to participate in the August Friends Book Club, please RSVP to Sharyn in the Friends Office on 6262 1551 or [sobrien@nla.gov.au](mailto:sobrien@nla.gov.au). If you don’t already have a copy of *March*, copies are available to purchase from the National Library bookshop at a 15% discounts to Friends.

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### *Special Offers for Friends*

#### **Canberra Readers & Writers Festival**

The 2006 Canberra Readers and Writers Festival, presented by the ACT Writers Centre, will be held at the National Library from 25 to 27 August. Most of the Festival sessions are completely FREE, but the Festival organisers are offering concession prices to all Friends for some of the paid events such as the Opening Night Party and afternoon tea with Celestine Hitiura Vaite at the Pialligo Estate Winery, as well as all writing workshops. 2006 festival guests include Roger McDonald (winner of the 2006 Miles Franklin Award for *The Ballard of Desmond Kale*), Eva Sallis, Trudi Canavan, Marion Halligan, Tara June Winch and Canadian writer/comedian Stuart McLean. For full details of the Festival, please see the enclosed program.

#### **Expressions Dance Company**

Thanks to the Canberra Theatre, all Friends of the National Library of Australia may buy tickets to a wonderful new production by Expressions Dance Company at concession rates. *The Fifth Door* can be seen at The Playhouse from Tuesday, 19 September until Saturday, 23 September. Performances start at 8pm, with a matinee at 2pm on the Saturday. Full-priced tickets: \$48, **Concessions (and Friends of the National Library): \$41**. ACT and NSW Friends, see enclosed flyer for further information. For reservations call Canberra Ticketing on 02 6275 2700.

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### *The Second-Hand Bookshop Corner*

*Never read any book that is not a year old, advised Emerson. Go then to Gilbert's Books, he might have added. Gilbert's, established by Krisana in 1984, and still owned and managed by her, remains the only second hand bookshop in the centre of the City. Bibliophiles may have thought it would perish when the Centre Cinema closed in 2003, and renovation of the building commenced. Not so, it is now to be found, appropriately, in the oldest and most elegant commercial building in Canberra, the Sydney Building. It carries general second hand books with emphases on art, music, history and literature.*

*There are also sections devoted to paperback fiction, foreign language books, and textbooks.*

*Antique though it is (by Canberra standards), Gilbert's keeps up with the times. Selected books are advertised online. You can browse in the catalogue as a whole, or narrow your search to one of several categories. Nevertheless Gilbert's is best explored physically. Whether you are a casual reader, a serious collector, or a researcher, you are likely to find something of interest. And you can be sure Krisana will afford you any assistance you may require.*

*Ian Cowan, ACT*

If **you** have a favourite second-hand bookshop you'd like to tell us about, drop us a line: The Editor, Friends of the National Library Newsletter, c/- The National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, PARKES ACT 2600



## Bookshop Closures

We have recently discovered that two bookshops offering discounts to Friends have closed down. *Charmed Pages* (Tuggeranong, ACT) and *Village Booksellers* (Manuka, ACT) have both ceased operating, and will no doubt be much missed by their regular patrons.

## Coming Events August/September 2006

The full programme for August/September can be consulted in the 'What's On' section of the National Library's website at <http://www.nla.gov.au/apps/events/>.

### NLA exhibitions

<b><i>Sir Isaac Isaacs (1855-1948)</i></b> Until Friday 11 August, 2006 Manuscript Foyer	To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sir Isaac Isaacs, the showcases outside the Manuscript Reading Room on the 2nd floor are displaying items associated with Sir Isaac Isaacs' illustrious career.  The display is accessible from 9.00 till 5.00, Monday to Friday.
<b><i>Facing Percy Grainger</i></b> Until Sunday, 15 October, 2006 Exhibition Gallery	<i>Facing Percy Grainger</i> explores the life, artistic world and musical achievements of a unique Australian. Forever associated, perhaps to his detriment, with the tuneful 'Country Gardens', Percy Grainger (1882-1961) was a celebrated pianist and composer, a pioneering folklore collector, musical inventor, social commentator and archivist.
<b><i>Child's Play</i></b> Until Sunday, 8 October, 2006 Visitor Centre	Child's Play is drawn from a wide array of material in the Library's collection, suggesting just some of the changes and constants of that 200-year journey from Indigenous and settler/convict childhood through to today's children. The exhibition is loosely arranged under the themes of colonial life, schooling, bush and city life, Indigenous experience, street play and entertainments.

### NLA talks and events

<b>The National Library in Melbourne</b> Saturday, 12 August, 2006 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<b><i>Grainger in Concert - Live Broadcast</i></b>  Produced by ABC Classic FM, in association with the National Library of Australia, this Melbourne concert will feature some of Percy Grainger's popular works. Iwaki Auditorium, ABC Southbank, Melbourne Bookings: (02) 6262 1271
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<p><b>Love's Brother (2003)</b></p> <p>Thursday, 17 August, 2006 10:30 am and 6:00 pm Theatre Free</p>	<p>Giovanni Ribisi (Cold Mountain) plays Angelo who despairs of ever finding love and uses a photo of his handsome brother Gino to convince a beautiful Italian girl across the sea to marry him. This romantic comedy also stars Adam Garcia and Barry Otto.</p> <p><i>Two Screenings: Parents and Bubs at 10.30am and Evening session at 6pm.</i></p>
<p><b>An Hour with Percy and Larry</b></p> <p>Sunday, 20 August 12:30 pm Exhibition Gallery Free</p>	<p>Join author, composer, pianist and Australian National University Emeritus Professor, Larry Sitsky, in the <i>Facing Percy Grainger</i> exhibition as he demonstrates and explains the Duo-Art piano, using rolls of Grainger's music.</p>
<p><b>Canberra Readers &amp; Writers Festival</b></p> <p>Friday, 25 August - Sunday, 27 August, 2006 Theatre, Conference Room, &amp; Friends Lounge</p>	<p>The Canberra Readers and Writers Festival will be held at the National Library of Australia from 25-27 August 2006, with around 40 national and local authors in conversation and reading their work on the theme of <i>Deserts and desertion: landscape and escape</i>. The full festival program can be found online at <a href="http://www.actwriters.org.au">www.actwriters.org.au</a> or contact the ACT Writers Centre on 02 6262 9191.</p>
<p><b>Winter Tales</b></p> <p>Sunday afternoon seminars presented in association with the Australian Women's Archives Project</p> <p>Sunday, 3 September, 2006 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm Conference Room</p>	<p><i>Genomes and their use in Science</i></p> <p>Based at CSIRO's Black Mountain Laboratories, Liz Dennis is a leading researcher in plant development, genomics and responses to environmental stress. Dr Dennis has won many awards including the inaugural Prime Minister's Science Prize.</p> <p>Admission \$15 includes afternoon tea Bookings: (02) 6262 1161</p>
<p><b>ISAA Annual Lecture in collaboration with Civil Liberties</b></p> <p>Thursday, 14 September, 2006 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Theatre</p>	<p><i>Sedition: defending or subverting freedom?</i> with David Marr (SMH journalist, ex-ABC Media Watch presenter, author) and Professor Simon Bronitt (Director of the ANU's National Europe Centre and Professor of the College of Law, ANU)</p> <p>Bookings and information: Kris Klugman 6288 6137 or email <a href="mailto:secretary@claact.org.au">secretary@claact.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>Concert - Lincolnshire Posy</b></p> <p>Friday, 15 September, 2006 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Foyer</p>	<p><i>Room-music: Tit-bits and Beyond</i></p> <p>Enjoy the wind music of Percy Grainger with the Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, conducted by Major Geoff Grey, CSM.</p> <p>Tickets: \$25 or \$20 for Friends of the NLA/Concession Wine on arrival Bookings: (02) 6262 1271</p>