

## AL©C — Australian Libraries Copyright Committee

The Australian Libraries Copyright Committee (ALCC) is a cross-sectoral committee with representatives from the following organisations:

- National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA)
- National Archives of Australia (NAA)
- The Council of Australasian Archives and Records Authorities (CAARA)
- The Australian Society of Archivists (ASA)
- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
- Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL)
- Australian Government Libraries Information Network (AGLIN)
- National Library of Australia (NLA).

The ALCC considers the impact of copyright law reform on Australian libraries and archives, and raises awareness on copyright issues affecting libraries and archives. We provide advice to the Federal Government on how to maintain an optimum balance between reasonable access to creative works for copyright users on the one hand and an incentive for copyright creators and owners on the other. We place a particular emphasis on how possible copyright reforms will affect library users, and operations within libraries.

Another major function of the ALCC is to keep our member organisations informed about changes and developments on the Australian copyright landscape, as well as relevant overseas occurrences.

December 2006 brought about a whole raft of changes to Australian Copyright law when the *Copyright Amendment Act 2006* was passed. In general terms, the amendments introduced:

- changes to some existing exceptions
- a new fair dealing exception for the purpose of parody and satire
- some new consumer exceptions (eg format shifting)
- new exceptions for libraries, archives and educational institutions, most interestingly, a new 'flexible dealing' provision intended to operate 'like the fair use'
- new provisions relating to technological protection measures (TPMs) also known as digital locks or DRMs
- a new criminal offences regime, including a new infringement notice scheme that allows police officers to issue copyright infringement notices in the same way as with speeding fines.

From the beginning of this year, the ALCC knew that a major part of our work would be helping libraries and archives come to terms with the practical changes and effects of the *Copyright*

*continued on page 33*



### Additional features and options for SirsiDynix Symphony in 2007

- Optional Web-based staff clients supporting key circulation, cataloging, inventory and reporting functions - based on analysis of K-12 students
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- E-Vance calendar support in EPS
- Enhanced Unicode CJK browse search options
- Enhanced support for display and printing of right-to-left based scripts
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# Copyright Copyright

continued from page 31

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*Amendment Act 2006.* We sent an email out via our 'copy-lib' email list, to gauge whether our members would be interested in attending free ALCC copyright sessions. As soon as the email was sent, we immediately began to receive a flood of enthusiastic responses from librarians and archivists around Australia!

It was clear that there was a great deal of interest from people around Australia to be provided with both a general overview and refresher of copyright law in Australia, as well as a rundown of the 2006 changes to copyright, and how they will affect libraries and archives. As the Copyright Advisor for the Australian Libraries Copyright Committee, I have devoted the second half of this year to travelling to all the capital cities of Australia and running copyright training sessions.

The sessions have generally been very well attended, with most having at least 80 attendees. The Melbourne session was the largest with about 150 attendees. After setting the date for the Darwin session, we

were contacted by some people in Alice Springs who were also very interested in the sessions. With the help of our new contacts in Darwin and Alice Springs, we were able to arrange to video conference the Darwin session with Alice Springs.

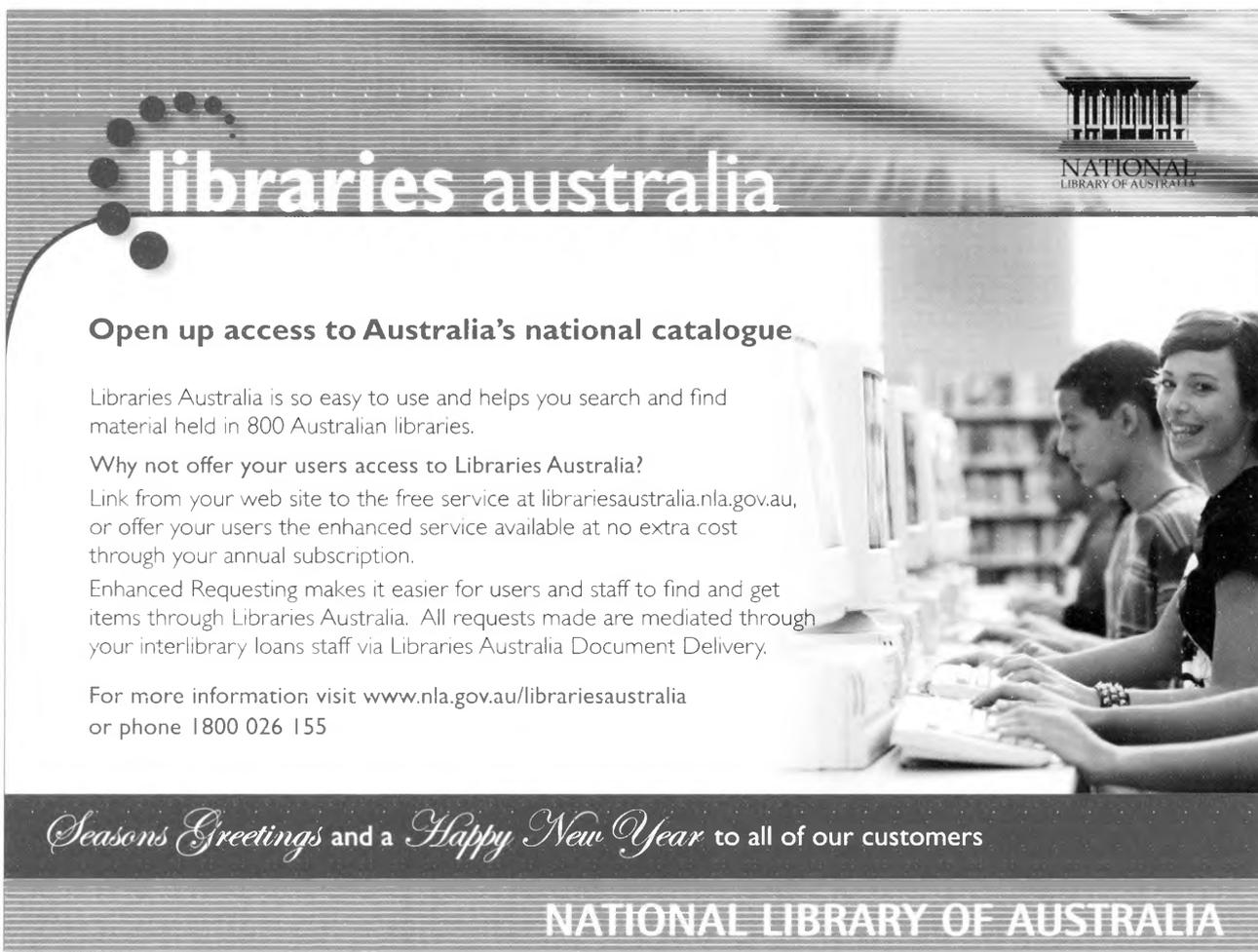
At all the sessions I have been pleasantly surprised by how interested the attendees have been to hear about copyright — I know people can find it a dry and complicated area to learn about! On the contrary, at all the sessions, librarians and archivists have engaged enthusiastically with the subject, and at each session I always had a number of interesting questions from attendees. I found that at all the sessions I always received a number of questions from people who deal with document delivery and interlibrary loans. I suppose that these are the people who often come into contact with copyright law on a daily basis and so are constantly forced to deal with some difficult copyright questions! I've had a great time travelling across Australia and meeting so many new people who work in libraries and archives.

It's been excellent to get first hand knowledge of the practical implications of copyright law for people in different fields, such as state libraries, universities, public libraries, government libraries and archives, and also people who run their own small libraries and archives.

The ALCC also received a number of expressions of interest from people outside the capital cities, so we will be looking at running further copyright training sessions in regional centres sometime in the new year.

If you'd like further information on the ALCC and what we do, please visit our website. We keep our website updated with copyright news, including our recent submissions, press releases, and notes from the copyright sessions. Please visit <http://www.digital.org.au/alcc/>.

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