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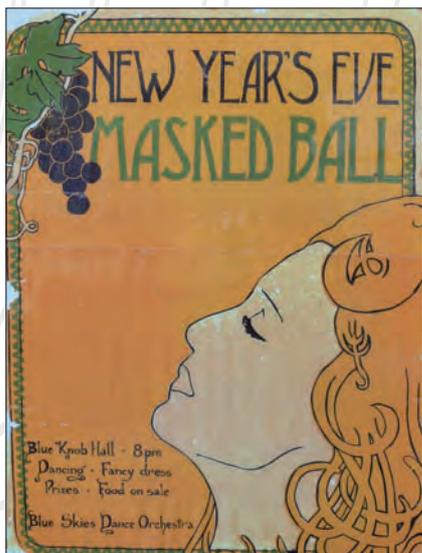


Rainbow Posters 1973–1994

An exhibition of historic local poster art was opened on 23 March by Professor Paul Thom, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts. The posters were on display for several weeks in the University Library Exhibition Space as a joint project of the Aquarian Archive Inc., Southern Cross University Library, and Southern Cross University's Office of Regional Engagement.

In selecting works for the exhibition, the curators favoured posters relating to historically significant local events. Each poster has a story, and together the works document the visual and cultural history of the 'new settlers' in the Rainbow Region.

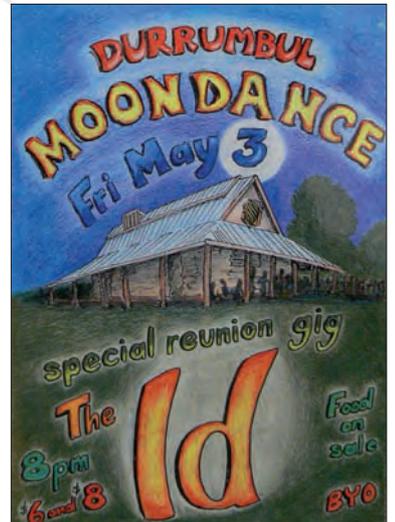
In the early 1970s, new settlers began to arrive in the Northern Rivers seeking alternatives to urban consumerist lifestyles and brought with them a sense of celebration which revived country-hall culture. The 1973 Aquarius Festival at Nimbin swelled their ranks by thousands and they called the area the 'Rainbow Region'.



Design by Brian Meehan and Ruth Miller

Dances, fetes, markets and concerts were held and new preschools and schools sprang up, adding to the reasons for fun and fundraising in local venues. The 1980s and '90s saw the arrival of new subcultures spawning new festivals, and the expansion of the local college into a university saw the growth of student social culture. The exhibition presented a selection of the artwork created to advertise some of these many events.

New settler artists brought skills in graphic design and local posters morphed art deco and psychedelic styles with bush themes and self-parodying humour. Posters were hand-drawn, silk-screened, roneoed and offset printed before photocopiers were common. The works are now collectable items and many people will remember seeing them pasted and pinned to fences and trees, to telegraph poles and noticeboards, in shop windows, in cafes and on walls around Lismore, Mullumbimby, Byron Bay and many hinterland villages.



Design by Chester Harris and Rhonda Ellis



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Law library book fund

The Honourable Justice Michael Kirby, one of Australia's longest serving judicial officers, gave the keynote address 'A decade on the High Court' at the inaugural Michael Kirby Lecture series, hosted by Southern Cross University's School of Law and Justice. The lecture was sponsored by North Coast legal firm Bourke Love McCartney Young.

Justice Kirby has been a strong advocate for human rights and is patron of Southern Cross University's Centre for Peace and Social Justice. Professor Bee Chen Goh, Head of the School of Law and Justice, said the lecture series was designed to enrich the intellectual life of the University and the North Coast community.

The keynote address was held on Friday, 30 March at the Lismore campus. A dinner was held at the Function Room at the Plaza. Proceeds of the lecture and dinner are going towards the Library Fund for Law.

For information about the fund, please contact Des Stewart des.stewart@scu.edu.au or phone 02 6620 3984.



Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Clark with School Captain Amelia Hosseini (left) and Vice-Captain Taya Smith from Kadina High School

School Access Program launch

The Library's new School Access Program was officially launched by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Clark, on Tuesday 15 May. The program offers senior secondary school students membership of the Lismore Campus Library, providing them with the opportunity to access Library resources for their HSC or future university studies.

The launch was attended by local senior high school students, school principals, careers advisors and librarians. Schools in the initial phase of the program include: Lismore Trinity College, Kyogle High School, St. John's College Woodlawn, Lismore High School, Richmond River High School and Kadina High School. Further information on the program is available from the Library website <http://www.scu.edu.au/library>.

Library SMS trial

SCU Library is trialling a service which enables you to SMS your queries in an instant using your mobile phone, and the Library to SMS you when books that you have reserved or requested are available for you to collect. Since the launch of our SMS trial on 14 March we have sent 144 SMS messages for hold and inter-library loan notifications, and have received positive feedback from a number of clients who appreciated the convenience of the service.

Please let us know if you would like to (or prefer not to) receive SMS messages from us. You can let the Library staff know in person, email libdesk@scu.edu.au, phone 02 6620 3752 or 1800 659 460, or of course you can SMS us! The number is 0428 767 728 (which translates to 0428 SMS SCU). Enter this number in your phone's address book and our incoming messages will be identified as being from 'SCU Library'.

During the trial the service will be available 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. The trial finishes at the end of first semester.

It is vital that we get your feedback on this service so we can decide whether to continue with it beyond the trial stage. Please let us know what you think via email to refdesk@scu.edu.au, via the web feedback page http://www.scu.edu.au/library/tell_us/, SMS us, or phone 1800 659 460.

Researcher profile

Professor Robert Henry *, Director, Centre for Plant Conservation Genetics

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

I came to SCU in 1996 from the University of Queensland to establish the Centre for Plant Conservation Genetics. This was part of a University strategy to develop the research culture and to create a dedicated research centre. This approach has been very successful and I can confidently say that we are the best in the world at what we do. We recently celebrated our tenth anniversary of the Centre and in that time we have attracted about \$30 million in research funding.

What are the main functions of the Centre for Plant Conservation Genetics?

The functions are very wide-ranging, but in brief our main focus is on developing technologies for the conservation and sustainable utilisation of plant genetic resources. In Australia, the main food plants we focus on are wheat, barley, rice, sorghum and sugar cane. We are concerned with gene discovery and the quality of the product, rather than with breeding and agricultural productivity. We've also been involved in forestry research, including looking at ways of developing better wood properties.

We have collaborative relationships with research groups in many countries, including the US, Japan, Brazil and the Philippines, and receive research funding from outside Australia. Many of our PhD students are also from overseas.

What are your current research interests?

I've been researching how environments influence genetic diversity, and we have recently undertaken a study of the impact of changing climate on genetic populations of wild barley in Israel. This research was done in collaboration with



the Institute for Evolution in Haifa. Such research helps us to understand where food crops can be grown.

How do you use the Library in your research?

Researchers at the Centre are big users of the interlibrary loans service. We also consult Web of Science to see who is citing whom. Consultation with librarians and regular updating on the information resources available is essential.

What are your interests outside your research work?

Apart from work and family, I enjoy cultivating a garden of rare plants and am involved in some rainforest regeneration on my property. At work, I appreciate plants from the inside; at home, I appreciate plants from the outside!

What do you like most about the Library?

The focus on being helpful and supportive, and the electronic tools that are available. The culture of online access is very strong and positive.

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

In an ideal world, more resources and access to all the research literature - but I recognise that we need to achieve value for money in our investment in information resources.

* Professor Henry is included in the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) list of the 100 most highly-cited researchers in agriculture, and is one of only two such researchers in Australia.

The Library at a glance – 2006

Number of books	226,139
Books acquired	8,051
Current journal titles (print and electronic)	27,604
Loans	187,699
Visits to the Library	222,068
Interlibrary book loans	2,033
Photocopies requested	5,814
Off-campus student requests	4,744
Opening hours per week	70
Number of staff	44.8
Number of libraries	3
Enquiries (in person, email and phone)	16,378

"Problems of human behaviour continue to baffle us, but at least in the library we have them properly filed."

– Anita Brookner



SCU Alumni

As a member of the SCU Alumni you may register as a Library borrower free of charge.

There is no charge for borrowing. All you need to do is provide photo ID and proof of Alumni membership. Registration is for a 12-month period and will expire on 15 March each year.

When registered, you will have walk-in borrowing privileges and access to Library electronic resources as our guest. If you wish to use our Document Delivery Service there is a charge of \$20 per item. Document Delivery is only available from suppliers within Australia. This fee also applies for intercampus loans.

By becoming a member of the Southern Cross University Alumni you are also eligible to have free remote access to the ProQuest databases. You will need to ask for a ProQuest password when registering with the Alumni Office. This access has been negotiated through CAUL (Council of Australian University Librarians).

If you require more information please contact the Library on 02 6620 3752.

Who's who in the Library?

Dean Winwood, Client Support Technician

What is your role in the Library?

I'm a Client Support Technician and my role involves support, assistance, and IT troubleshooting for the eSpace computer environment, photocopying and printing services, and disability access services. I'm also a representative on the University's Occupational Health and Safety Committee and on the Inter-Faith Committee.

How long have you worked here?

I've been here twenty three years, starting at the Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education in Keen Street, Lismore. The University has been a great place to work, especially the Library, where there are quite a few long-term staff and we've developed good relationships, even a sense of family, over this time. Apart from the University environment, there have been immense changes since I first began work in Audiovisual Services, particularly the move from analogue to

digital technologies. Access to online databases and the World Wide Web has also transformed the whole information and study experience.

I think we can be proud of the fact that the University has an overall warm, approachable culture, where staff are often able to get know students' names and are generally very willing to help.

What do you like most about your job?

People. I get to deal with people every day and I love interacting with students and staff – it makes each day more worthwhile. I enjoy helping people – resolving issues and, in whatever small way I can, contributing to the enhancement of their educational experience and aspirations.

Do you have any advice for students?

If you need help – ask! Don't be afraid of the technology. I find many problems arise because students aren't aware of how to access information and of how technology interfaces with the



educational environment. Students should also access, as much as possible, the excellent help available from services like Learning Assistance and do so from the very beginning of their courses.

What are your other interests?

The usual pastimes – reading, music and movies. I'm connected to Centre Church in Lismore, which involves me with preaching, youth and music ministry. I collect and listen to music from all genres, on both vinyl and CD, and enjoy quality hi-fi equipment. I also love socialising with friends, jazz nights at The Tatts and sharing good food and wine.



Coffs Harbour Library Manager, Judy Hibberd, congratulates Simon White

Orientation prize

To encourage attendance at Coffs Harbour Campus 'O' Week Library orientation sessions this year, we offered a \$50 book voucher from the Co-op Bookshop as a prize.

The lucky student drawn from the box of entries was Simon White, a first year Bachelor of Technology Education student. When phoned about winning the book voucher he said "Sweet!", and about the orientation session he said, "If I hadn't gone to the Library class, I would have missed out on heaps".



"Librarianship has for its purpose the maintenance of the part of the life of the individual which is the activity of thinking freely."

– A. Broadfield

Contacts

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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