## Librarians don't read on the job

Michael Carney - State Library NSW Holger Aman - Law Courts Library NSW

### Career expectations vs Professional realities



### Libraries and books

#### Sections of International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

Academic and Research Libraries Acquisition and Collection Development Africa Art Libraries Asia and Oceania Audiovisual and Multimedia Bibliography Cataloguing **Classification and Indexing** Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning **Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Education and Training** Genealogy and Local History **Government Information and Official Publications Government Libraries** Health and Biosciences Libraries Information Literacy Knowledge Management Latin America and the Caribbean Law Libraries Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities

Libraries for Children and Young Adults Library Buildings and Equipment Library Services to Multicultural Populations Library Services to People with Special Needs Library Theory and Research Library and Research Services for Parliaments Literacy and Reading Management and Marketing Management of Library Associations Metropolitan Libraries National Libraries Newspapers Preservation and Conservation Public Libraries **Rare Books and Manuscripts** Reference and Information Services School Libraries Science and Technology Libraries Serials and Other Continuing Resources Social Science Libraries Statistics and Evaluation



### Release your inner antelope

Photographer: Photo: Asim Patel under a Creative Commons license. - See more at: <u>http://blog.nature.org/science/2014/06/26/nilgai-blue-antelope-of-the-anthropocene/nilgai/#sthash.jDj7XaEB.dpuf</u>

# 1. What were you doing before you became a librarian?

2. What made you want to become a librarian?

# 3. What did you expect librarianship to be like when you first considered it?

4. Did your studies change your expectations?

#### 5. How does your current experience as a qualified librarian compare to your expectations?

6. Which skills do you expect to become more important as your career progresses?

# and just 3 more questions your honour.... if you please

7. How long have you been a qualified librarian?8. What is your name and (If currently employed), what is your position? If not, what was your most recent position9. Are you willing to be quoted in the presentation of this paper?

### How does one find 245 librarians?

(who also like surveys)

ALIA weekly newsletter eList of Australian Law Libraries Assocation (ALLA) Twitter, email networks of colleagues

### Biased!? I'm not biased!

Volunteer Bias - Rosenthal and Rosnow, 1975 Recall bias - Smelser and Reed, 2012 Social-desirability bias - Johnson and Fendrich, 2005

### Library Characters



• Job jumpers 🕻



Adapters



• Noobs





• People People



• The Lovers



• Fallback Kids



Technology Ghosts



• Нарру

• Sad

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Indifferent

• Technologists

• Traditionalists

Managers

• Adapters





### Kate Waldmann,

# Children's and Youth Librarian, City of Victor Harbor:

"Wanting to find out about anything and everything"



### Julie Pearce, Teacher Librarian:

Was: Advertising account executive

"Libraries are my most favourite space in the whole world"



### Athina Mavromataki,

### Team Leader/Learning Technologies Librarian:

"I'm now a library branch manager, and find that much of my role is taken up with administrative work (building matters, staff issues). I'm still rostered on desk most days, so the contact with patrons is still there, but I do miss being 'just' a librarian"



### **Anonymous:**

## "I really just loved being around books to be honest"



### Anonymous, Information Officer:

- What did you expect librarianship to be like when you first considered it?
- "More about books"
- How does your current experience as a qualified librarian compare to your expectations?
- Completely different. I am a corporate librarian working in chemistry R&D. So not much to do with books.



### **Anonymous:**

"I see flexibility, adaptability and change management as the future focus of my career development"



### Jane Harding, Heritage & Special Projects Librarian/Literacy Coordinator/Webmaster:

Was: Paralegal. Before that Ski Resort Manager. Before that Advertising Exec.

"There's a lot more to a contemporary public library than books and reading (although this is still an integral and important part of the service)"



### Suzie (less than 5 years experience):

### "I need to find work first! Having a degree in my profession isn't worth much in this economy!"

