

The Fun Fun ABC library organizes activities to promote public use of the library's English-language reading materials. The library has been especially beneficial to families unable to buy English books for extracurricular reading. The book donation drive has also been highly successful in promoting cultural exchanges through sister city ties, overseas government offices, NATWA and other channels. (Chinese text provided by the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Taichung City)

■ *16th TIBE Spotlights Australia*

Australia's publishing industry stole the spotlight at the 16th Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE) from February 13 to 18, 2008, at the Taipei World Trade Center. The Australia National Pavilion showcased the youthful energy, natural attractions and cultural diversity of the land Down Under. Australian books, art, children's literature, travel destinations, life and cuisine were also introduced at the theme pavilion.

Among the special guests invited to the pavilion were Tony Wheeler, founder of the Lonely Planet series of travel guides, and his wife Maureen Wheeler; Markus Zusak, author of the bestseller *The Book Thief*; and multiple international award-winning book illustrator Shaun Tan. Twenty-five major Australian publishers also attended the exhibition, organizing a display of nearly 1,000 publications.

As a warm-up for this year's TIBE, the "World in Books: Huashan Book Fair" was held on February 2 to 3 at the Huashan Culture Park in Taipei. The fair featured a number of activities that challenged traditional ideas about book exhibitions, such as the "Handmade Reading:

Creative Competitive Bidding Fair." There was also an educational area with displays of various illustrated books and children's literature.

■ *NCL Highlights History at the 16th TIBE*

The National Central Library (NCL) presented a glimpse of yesteryear Taiwan at its exhibit during the 16th Taipei International Book Exhibition (TIBE), held from February 13 to 18, 2008. The NCL display highlighted rare books, historic contracts, old photographs, woodblock prints, postcards and historic maps of Taiwan in the library collection, opening a door to the beauty of Taiwan in former times. The two display signboards further underscored the exhibit theme with a collage of historic images of Taiwan.

Under the theme, "The More You Taste of Yesteryear, the More the Flavor Lingers," the NCL display provided an overview of its extensive collection of research resources. This collection includes over 2,600 historic contracts, about 8,000 genealogical records, over 4,000 scenic postcards from the Japanese occupation period, and a complete set of all 1,171 "Patriot Lottery Tickets" issued in Taiwan. The NCL has also obtained reproductions or usage authorizations through digitization cooperation projects with domestic and overseas libraries. These new collection materials



Visitors check out the NCL booth at this year's TIBE.



NCL Deputy Director General Sung Chien-cheng (center) and library colleagues at TIBE.

have been arranged and converted to digital format for public online access. The NCL exhibit at this year's TIBE specifically highlighted systems related to images of Taiwan.

The NCL also presented various library publications for sale, including *Tainan during the Japanese Occupation Period*, *Taipei during the Japanese Occupation Period*, *Feast for the Eyes: Historic Photographs of Taiwan*, *An Introduction to Selected Online Resources for Taiwan Studies*, *Catalog of Chinese Electronic Resources*, *A History of Books*, *Catalog of Taiwanese Maps (2000-2006)*, and *Concealing to Reveal; The "Private" and "Sentiment" in Chinese History and Culture (CD-ROM)*, and other highly rated books. The library also displayed a *Catalog of Selected Publications of the National Central Library* in Chinese and English, with brief introductions and ordering information.

■ ***Books on the Move: Jiabei Elementary Book Exchange Activity***

Chiayi City's Jiabei Elementary School kicked off a "Let Books Travel" book exchange activity on January 14, 2008. Last year the school held a book donation drive, during which students and

teachers donated nearly 500 secondhand books for the school's reading room. This year the school took a new approach to give students free access to good books during the winter vacation. The "Let Books Travel" activity also introduced students to the concept and joy of book sharing. At the back of each book is a section in which the students can share their thoughts about the book with other students.

Seminars

■ ***2007 Electronic Resources and Consortia international Symposium***

Organizer: Service Promotion Division, Science & Technology Policy Research and Information Center, National Applied Research Laboratories
Date: November 14 to 15, 2007

Venue: Union Library for Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica

■ ***Recreation and Derived Meaning—International Symposium on Source Document Studies***

Organizer: Department of Books and Documents, National Palace Museum

Date: November 15 to 16, 2007

Venue: National Palace Museum

■ ***Optimizing Research Resource—Symposium on High Quality Information of Research/Library Resources***

Organizers: Department of Library and Information Science, National Taiwan University; Thomson Scientific

Date: November 16, 2007