

It's a big state...



Christine Mackenzie, president,
Queensland Branch

I am a relative newcomer to the sunshine state, having emigrated from Victoria at the beginning of 1998 to take up the position of manager of library services at the Brisbane City Council. I have been active in ALIA for a number of years, and have just completed a term as treasurer of the Queensland Branch.

The major activities planned for 1999 in Queensland are restructuring for the new organisation, reforming groups, ensuring the e-list becomes the vehicle for lively and enthusiastic debate, and offering professional development opportunities to members.

Queensland offers challenges in communications and promoting a sense of inclusiveness. This is a big state, and we are aiming for a new structure that accommodates this, with emphasis on regional groups. We need to balance the needs of regions with the overview a state-wide perspective brings. Particularly in the past year, through the good efforts of president Carolyn Young, this has been achieved by teleconferencing and spending a large part of the budget on travel, allowing Central and North Queensland participation in State Council and executive meetings.

Reforming special interest groups, amalgamating like-minded folks and resurrecting a couple of the moribund sections is also on the agenda. The former ACLIS IT group is first off the mark, and we look forward to their contribution to the new organisation.

The electronic list has just been launched, and will offer an effective means of communication to members. *Quill*, the excellent newsletter edited by Townsville members, will be produced ten times this year, appearing as an insert to *inCite* for Queenslanders.

A workshop is being planned next month on electronic licencing, and a career development seminar is scheduled shortly after. An evening for new members of the profession is also being held. All in all, an exciting year ahead is anticipated. ■

And the winner is...

Congratulations Paul Livingston from the National Library of Australia who has won an Ansett Australia flight to Melbourne.

The prize was offered as an incentive to delegates attending the *Adelaide 98: Pathways to conference* to fill out the conference evaluation form.



10th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

16-18 February, 2000
Melbourne Convention Centre, Melbourne



BOOKS AND BYTES: TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE HYBRID LIBRARY

The 10th Biennial Conference and Exhibition of the Victorian Association for Library Automation Inc, will be held at the Melbourne Convention Centre from Wednesday 16th February to Friday 18th February 2000.

The VALA conference is the Australian forum where the use of technology in libraries is discussed. The programme will feature overseas and Australian keynote speakers, plenary and concurrent sessions and an exhibition showcasing a comprehensive range of the latest products from leading suppliers.

CALL FOR PAPERS

DEADLINE – 28 April, 1999

You are invited to submit abstracts addressing technologies for the hybrid library, including electronic and digital management of information. The deadline for abstract submission is 28 April, 1999. Further detail on possible topics and the procedure for abstract submission is available on the VALA2000 home page at:

<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~vala/conf2000.htm>

FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information regarding abstract submission, Sponsorship and Exhibition opportunities or to order your copy of the Main Announcement and Registration brochure please contact:

VALA2000 CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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