

A possibility for you?

Albury/Wodonga in 1992

You are thinking of attending the ALIA Conference in Albury/Wodonga in 1992. What will it cost? What can you expect?

Well, if you live in the Eastern States, you could comfortably travel by car. In that case, you could bring the family... the conference is in school holidays. If you choose the car, you could expect to travel for about 3 1/2 hours from Melbourne, about 7 hours from Sydney or 4 hours from Canberra.

If you travel by train, you would be up for about 4 hours travel at a cost of approximately \$35 economy (depending on how serious VicRail is about competing with airlines) from Melbourne, 7 hours and \$57 from Sydney, and 4 hours (by bus) and \$30 from Canberra. Coach travel is also available from other centres, generally at a lower price than rail.

The plane fare is mightily unpredictable, but maybe \$115 (if discount applies) in 45 minutes from Melbourne, \$180 in 65 minutes from Sydney, and \$86 in 40 minutes from Canberra. The Conference Committee has negotiated special rates on all travel to and from the conference.

Accommodation in Albury/Wodonga is quite varied. A medium priced hotel or motel would cost about \$100 for a family

room... or more or less, if you wish. Albury/Wodonga tends to be less expensive than capital cities. You could also choose from caravan park cabins (from \$20 per night per adult), out-of-town guesthouse (price varies greatly according to standard but can include some meals), or farm style accommodation at about \$50 per person including some meals (great for the kids!).

If you bring the family, the kids might enjoy some of their special programs while you attend the working sessions of this first ALIA Conference held outside a capital city. These kids' programs are more interesting activities than just baby-sitting, although in the evening you will appreciate the conference baby-sitting service, provided so that parents can enjoy their social activities.

Eating out can be a very varied experience in Albury/Wodonga. Lunch spots are numerous in the conference venue area, and a guide to eating out for both lunch and dinner will be provided to delegates on arrival. The Conference Committee is hoping that local restaurants will provide food stalls within the conference venue parklands as convenient lunching places.

Clubs and pubs provide meals ranging in price and quality. The pubs offer counter meals for both lunch and dinner ranging from \$7 for grilled fish to \$10 for a good steak. Most pubs and restaurants also cater for vegetarians.

Restaurants range from the Steak Pit in the Wodonga Hotel, a consistently good steak and seafood restaurant at \$30+ per head for dinner, to the reasonably priced bistro in the Commercial Club, to the interesting, inexpensive Asian restaurants. And for the kids... McDonalds, Kentucky Fried Chicken and the Pizza Hut!

Why not stay a little longer? The area surrounding Albury/Wodonga offers a great range of activities which could extend the conference into a most interesting holiday. There should still be skiable snow in the ski fields in September/October, and if not, certainly great bush walking. Beechworth and Yackandandah offer fascinating historical areas. The Rutherglen area offers an interesting range of wineries to visit. The Hume Weir provides water sports... where else could you sail a windsurfer within sight of snow-capped mountains?

Watch *inCite* for the conference registration information early in 1992. This conference can be great! Come and join a very enthusiastic committee to make it so... all we need is *you!*

Kaye Hathway

ALIA '92 Promotions Subcommittee

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