

Quiet achievers

Is your school or children's library — or someone in it — an unknown quiet achiever, too busy helping young people to have the time to share the achievement with colleagues?

Customer service is the heart of the library and our youth are the heart of Australia. Recognising this, young people's librarians — in public and school libraries — have

focused attention on the need to provide quality library service to youth. There are many excellent, but little-known programs in operation. The pages of our national journal of school and children's librarianship provide an ideal forum for sharing these experiences. If your library has an interesting program, please take the time to jot the details down (a page or so should

be sufficient) and send them to David Berry, Editor of *Orana*, 37 Velvet Street, Blacksoil Qld 4306 or you can e-mail to dberry@gil.ipswichcity.qld.gov.au.

The following headings can be used as a guide: The idea; the target group; the setting; Program description; funding; and the contact persons name, phone, fax, e-mail and postal address. ■

1995 TDK Australian audio book award

The National Library of Australia is now calling for entries in the 1995 TDK Australian audio book award. Audio books are making literature more accessible to diverse groups of Australians. The aim of the Australian audio book award is to encourage excellence in the production of audio books and to heighten public awareness of literature in this form.

This award, established in 1989, has contributed to a growing interest in recorded books which is benefiting not only those who depend on having print turned into sound for much of their access to the written word but also making literature accessible to groups which formerly had little interest in reading or restricted time for this activity. Thanks to the cassette player and the walkman, occasions for enjoying and learning from written works no longer demand that time be allocated exclusively for this purpose. Audio books can be listened to while walking, jogging, house cleaning, gardening, ironing or travelling.

For entry forms or further information contact Mary Dickenson, TDK Award coordinator, National Library of Australia, ACT 2600, phone

(06) 262 1289, or fax (06) 273 4493. Entries close on 5 June and the winners will be announced at a function in Canberra on 14 November 1995. ■

A comparative snapshot

In view of the 1994 success of ALIA in focusing federal government attention on the Australian public library system as the country's access point to the information highway, the following data will be of interest to *inCite* readers. The source of the data is the *Directory of Australian public libraries*, the latest

edition of which was published in February 1995 and is available for \$38 + \$6 p&p from Auslib Press, PO Box 622, Blackwood SA 5051. A more detailed analysis of public library trends will be published in the March 1995 issue of *Australasian public libraries and information services*. ■

The Australian public library lending system

	1986	1990	1994
Number of services	470	523	532
Number of branches	820	847	857
Number of bookmobiles	116	100	110
Total book stock	24 793 116	26 956 439	31 379 744
Serial titles	42 086	46 907	59 981
Audiocassettes/tapes/CDs	1 267 275	1 118 908	1 186 559
Videotapes	27 266	68 700	241 400
Total loans	97 793 116	110 077 112	141 984 430
Staff—EFT positions	4 554.39	4 790.39	5 660.66
M'ship % of population	40.6	40.26	43.9

Who
What
Where &
When?

Vamosi Information Publications,
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Tel: (042) 26 2662. Fax: (042) 28 7121.

 The Australian Conference
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