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Parliament of Australia Internet trial

The Parliament of Australia has commenced an Internet trial, with the assistance of the Australian National University, offering public access to a range of parliamentary materials, including the *Notice papers* of both Houses, the *Daily program* and *Order of business*, the *House votes and Proceedings* and the *Journals of the Senate*, and the weekly official version of *Hansard* (the transcripts).

The Home Page for the trial is at <http://www.aph.gov.au/library/trialhorn.html>

Nordic WWW/WAIS library project

As an answer to some of the weaknesses of the most important NIDR (Networked Information Discovery and Retrieval) tools, the Nordic WAIS/WWW Project started to explore the possibilities of improving navigation and searching in the Net. It was a joint project between Lund University Library and the National Technological Library of Denmark, and the summary report of the project is at <http://www.ub2.lu.se/W4/summary.html>

By the end of 1994, the project had achieved a successful gateway between WWW and the ALIS DPAC, the automatic classification of WAIS databases, a gateway from WWW to WAIS preserving the full functionality of WAIS, and a model of indexing the Web into distributed WAIS servers.

Not just another Web index

Try out the Web Index at <http://opentext.uunet.ca:8080/omw.html> and get an idea about where Web navigation is going. Not only can you search by subject, heading and title, but Boolean operators beyond *and* and



or such as *but not*, *near* and *followed by* are supported.

The Web Index uses the text indexing and search facilities from Open Text Corporation, which has been proved on large databases and is designed for operation over networks. The database has nearly half a million pages and around 7.7 million hypertext links. And response times are pretty good so far. ■

Spinning the Web

This book deals with all the processes necessary to create and manage a Web site including how to create and prepare hypertext documents, security issues, setting up a web server, how to select and evaluate software, samples from well-executed Web documents and case studies that illustrate the step-by-step process of getting the Web up and running. It is aimed at people who want to publish information on the Web and have experience of the Internet and some understanding of what the common Internet services offer. The Australian example is from AusArts at the Australian National University Institute of the Arts Library (<http://online.anu.edu.au/ITA/AusArts/index.html>).

Part One provides an overview of the issues involved in running a Web site including advice on the structuring of information and use of links. Part Two is aimed specifically at authors and contributors and provides detailed coverage of the information needed for writing new documents and converting existing

documents to enable their publication on the Web. It describes Hypertext Markup Language, the inclusion of images in Web documents, the various uses of images in documents and the design of fill-out forms, a method used for eliciting user feedback. Part Three is aimed at system administrators and covers the processes involved in administering a Web servers, and how to write programs that dynamically generate Web documents.

The Appendices include a comprehensive resource guide and pointers to software freely available on the Net as well as sources of further information.

The book is available from Thomas Nelson Australia, 102 Dodds Street, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205 Telephone: 1800 65 4831 Fax: 1800 64 1823. *Spinning the Web* costs \$54.95.

Ford, Andrew. *Spinning the Web: How to provide Information on the Internet* London: International Thomson Publishing, 1995. 227p. ISBN 1850321415.

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Contributions and suggestions for this column are always welcome. Please contact Kerry Webb at k.webb@nla.gov.au or via the ALIA National Office

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