

General Councillor makes Local Council

Kerry Smith, ALIA General Councillor for Western Australia, was elected as Councillor to the Town of Cambridge municipality in Western Australia as a result of elections held on 6 May.

The Town of Cambridge is one of four local government areas formed from a restructure of the old City of Perth. Kerry was elected for a four year term. Kerry ran on a team ticket which included members of the local ratepayers association, of which she was president. Kerry's portfolio responsibilities for the team ticket were libraries and the environment.

Kerry arrived in Perth in 1970. She says she has always 'lurked' in the local community, being involved in sporting committees and the like when her boys were younger. When the restructure of the old City of Perth came into effect in October 1993, she realised that there was a lot at stake as her community was well endowed with natural beauty and community assets. She became involved in the lo-

cal ratepayers association where she was elected to the post of Secretary, and in 1994, to the post of President.

In the lead up to the municipal election there were all the trappings of a serious campaign. Leaflets were arranged and letterbox drops were undertaken. Phones ran hot. Kerry spent a whole week doorknocking. The team even had a fund raiser to help with costs. Kerry says that the campaign 'got a bit murky at times' and although no mud was intentionally slung at her, the team did suffer a bit. Such is the gentle art of politics.

Why did she do it? Kerry has found in her experience with negotiating with an extensive set of government and other bodies that the ethos our profession practices has enlightened many. Librarianship is a collaborative profession which is intimately bound to the community interests it serves. Kerry points to the thrust ALIA is making into



Kerry Smith and the Hon Paul Omodei, MLA Minister for Local Government at her induction

areas of community participation and networking. Kerry hopes there will be wins for librarians and libraries in local government and will be doing her bit to assist. ■



congratulates

SilverPlatter

on its award

"Outstanding Product of the Year"

presented at the Computers in Libraries conference in Virginia, USA.



**STOP
PRESS**

CAUL (Council of Australian University Libraries) has chosen SilverPlatter's client/server solution to provide a national database access service.