

History online

Australia's largest library image database, *Picman*, is now available on the internet from the Mitchell Library, part of the State Library of New South Wales (<http://www.slnsw.gov.au/picman/welcome.htm>).

Picman encompasses eight digitised collections of photographs dating back to 1870. It also includes personal papers, private archives, paintings, drawings, posters and architectural plans. There is a small but significant component of original manuscripts and pictures.

Picman offers a basic keyword search or refinements by author, artist, creator, topic, place, name, genre, or date. A search can exclude digitised image collections and focus on manuscript records alone — useful for avoiding slowing the process with digital photographs.

Picman was developed co-operatively between library staff and Sanderson Computers Pty Ltd, whose web interface provides a bridge between web browsers and the Spydus Information Management System. ■

That sinking feeling...? This gem is among thousands available online via the Picman database. The caption leaves us guessing, telling us only that it is a photo of the 1972 Sydney to Hobart race.



RMIT Publishing
Publishers across the Media

Library Week Special Offer

RMIT Publishing is offering **free** internet access to selected databases on *Informit Online* during Australian Library Week, May 17-23, 1999.

Libraries will have free access to a range of databases on sport, tourism, hospitality, historical records, genealogy, current affairs and more!

Key information resources such as *ANZBiP*, which lists over 120,000 book titles, and *AUSTGUIDE*, which abstracts popular titles, will be available during Library Week.

For further information on the Library Week Special Offer, or other products, contact RMIT Publishing on (03) 9349-4994 or visit the *Informit Online* site direct at:

www.informit.com.au

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THE PEAKE PRIZE 1999


CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Peake Prize is named in honour of Dorothy Peake, former Librarian of the University of Technology, Sydney, and founding Editor of *LASIE* (Library Automated Systems Information Exchange). The prize aims to encourage librarians and archivists new to the profession to share their ideas and observations on the challenges of information technology with colleagues in Australia and overseas.

The prize of \$1,000 will be awarded for an outstanding article on practical applications of information technology in libraries and kindred institutions. The article must be original and have been written by a professional librarian or archivist within five years of completing their first professional library qualification at an Australian school of librarianship. The article must be suitable for publication in *LASIE*.

CLOSING DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 1999

Applications and inquiries to:
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STATE LIBRARY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES