The ALIA Vic & NSW
Library Technicians Sections

MILDURA WEEKEND WORKSHOP

"River of Opportunities"

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Australian Library Week workshop

The NSW and Victorian ALIA library technicians are organising a workshop, to be held during Australian Library Week 2000. The one-and a half-day workshop will be on Saturday 20 May and the following Sunday morning, at the historic Mildura Grand Hotel near the banks of the Murray River.

It should be a great weekend that will appeal to country and city library people in NSW, South Australia and Victoria. The idea grew from a suggestion made by Raeco's SA/NT Manager, Trevor McCann during last year's very successful South Australian Library Technicians workshop. He saw Mildura as the ideal city to attract a wide range of library staff from the tri-state area.

The event will appeal to most library workers, and topics include rural libraries online, electronic journals, childrens' storytime, employment prospects in the library industry, and much more. The social highlight of the workshop is dinner on Saturday night, cruising along the Murray aboard the showboat Avoca.

Two categories of registration will be available to cater for those people choosing to stay at the Mildura Grand, and another for local delegates who do not require accommodation. The estimated cost for full registration for ALIA Library technician members is $170. Full registration includes accommodation on Saturday night, meals/refreshments, the dinner cruise and workshop materials.

Registration forms are now available, and can be found on the NSW library technicians' website, http://www.alia.org.au/sections/libt/nsw/home.html .

For further information, please contact Stephen Coppins, NSW vice-president, phone: 02 9715 8316, e-mail: spcoppins@big pond.com. Kerrie Kelly, Victorian president, phone: 03 9669 9721, e-mail: kkelly@slv.vic.gov.au ■

Exploit Interactive

Exploit Interactive is a web magazine, funded by the European Commission's Telematics for Libraries program. Brian Kelly, UK Web Focus, University of Bath, reports that issue 4 is now available at http://www.exploit-lib.org/issue4/.

This issue contains a number of interesting articles on the theme of 'New Services for the New Millennium', including special feature articles from Bernard Smith, head of the Cultural Heritage Applications Unit in the European Commission, and Steve Coffman, Director of FYI, County of Los Angeles Public Library, on 'Building Europe's Largest Library.' There are also articles on several Telematics for Libraries projects, news on CULTIVATE-EU (an EU 'Fifth Framework' project), conference reports, and so on.

Issue 4 has undergone a technical upgrade. There are enhancements to the user interface, an improved search interface, a notification service of new issues and a single page for printing all articles in the new issue and for browsing all articles in the current and previous issues.

Issue 5 is due out in April 2000. Please send e-mail to exploit-editor@ukoln.ac.uk if you would like to contribute or have any comments on the new issue. ■

Measuring performance in public libraries

Study grant recipient to study performance evaluation and key performance indicators in the US

Alasdair Wardle, library service manager at Casey-Cardinia Library Corporation in Melbourne, has been awarded an ALIA study grant to travel to the United States of America to look at measuring the performance of public libraries. Alasdair has direct experience of the importance of measuring library service having been through the process of competitive tendering in Victoria. He is very interested in the problem of measuring quality as well as quantity in performance and also the new issue of measuring electronic or remote use of public libraries. His study tour will include visits to public libraries and meetings with library researchers who are looking at measuring and evaluating public library services.

Alasdair anticipates the three-week tour will be of considerable benefit with the introduction of 'Best Value' into local government in Victoria and looks forward to sharing the information he gathers. ■