

Libraries light up lives!

2003 Country Public Libraries Association of New South Wales annual conference,
2-4 July 2003, Twin Towns Service Club, Wharf Street, Tweed Heads

The theme for the 2003 Country Public Libraries Association of New South Wales conference is *Libraries light up lives!* And indeed they do — but more so when they are well funded, well designed, well promoted, professionally presented, have trained and experienced staff and are responsive to the changing needs of the communities that they serve. The conference committee has brought together experienced and talented speakers who will address these key areas.

Chris Batt, director of the Libraries and Information Society team at Resource (UK), will outline the successful program of Central Government Funding which is enabling libraries in the United Kingdom to become 'Beacons for the learning community'. Bruce Graham, librarian, author and former Tweed Shire councillor, will show how effective advocacy at the local level can improve investment in library services, and Chris Russell will reveal how to run a successful campaign for improved state funding.

Dr Alan Bundy will examine public libraries as social capital; Fiona Lange will detail South Australia's innovative and successful '@ your library' campaign; while Linda Dunn will explain the challenges and rewards of introducing retail techniques into the library world. Heather Fisher will reveal what today's teenagers think of the public library service, and offer insights into what services libraries should be providing to attract this important client group. Other speakers will outline new opportunities in staff training, new initiatives in reference services, service to indigenous communities, and in practical marketing techniques.

An extensive trade fair will showcase the latest in library technology, products and services.

Southern Scene Pty Ltd is the major sponsor of the conference. Other supporters of the conference are The Book House, Keith Ainsworth, 3M Australia, Kinetic, and the State Library of New South Wales.

For more information and to request a copy of the registration brochure, contact Michelle Collins, 2003 CPLA conference, Richmond-Tweed Regional Library, PO Box 4031, Goonellabah 2480, phone 02 6625 1415, fax 02 6625 1479, or e-mail rtrl@rtrl.nsw.gov.au.

LISEKA update

CPD initiatives announced elsewhere in this issue of *inCite*, such as the agreement with Monash Learning Fast, respond to member requests through the LISEKA consultation process that the Association provide an enhanced CPD program easily accessible to all members.

At the same time, the pilot to determine how members participating in regular staff development activities can have these credited within ALIA's CPD scheme is continuing. Using the Brisbane City Council Library development program, the LISEKA group has devised, and is testing, a method which recognises a number of workplace developmental activities. Members participating in such activities would then have these recognised within ALIA's CPD scheme.

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