



Groovy Baby!

The power of LIW
at the Bendigo Institute of TAFE Library

'Congratulations to the library on a job well done again' was just one of the compliments echoed by visitors to the Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE Library during the annual Library and Information Week celebrations.

Preparations for Library and Information Week began very early at the BRIT Library. As soon as the theme was announced in late February our library manager, Narelle Stone, powered into action. The 'Power your mind' theme instantly transformed into the groovy world of Austin Powers' Electric Psychedelic Pussycat Swinger's Club.

From the moment staff/students walked into the foyer of the library on Day 1 of Library and Information Week they sensed they were caught in some cosmic time shift. Flashing lights and an illuminated red pussycat sign, brightly coloured flowers and Austin Powers' music engaged their senses. All this before they had even entered the library!

Austin Powers (man of the moment) greeted visitors, Go-Go girls danced under a pink gobo light, a plush pink leopard-look Library Loans desk, mannequins dressed in the latest swinging 60s fashion, games of twister and 60s music all helped set the tempo of the week.

Day 2 and the scene was set for the BRIT Library's Annual Library Week morning tea. Characters from the Austin Powers' movies mingled with library clients. Morning tea was held in Dr Evil's Underground Lair, and was well attended by Institute Board Members, BRIT senior management and staff. Some staff members, so carried away with the theme, came dressed in their favourite outfits from the 60s. Members of local libraries and the general public were also in attendance at this much anticipated festivity. Dr Evil oversaw the function with her (his) finger on the eject button ready to eliminate any dissenters. BRIT CEO, Mr Robert Smillie, addressed the gathering, praising the efforts of the library staff, recognising their valued contribution to BRIT and their promotion of information literacy and BRIT's mission of life long learning.

Below: Powering into Library and Information Week 2003 were Narelle Stone (front), Amanda Steen, Lindy Phegan, and Marion Cagney.



Pictured: Narelle Stone (Austin Powers), Amanda Steen (Felicity Shagwell), Natalie Rose (Mrs Kensington), Jenny McIntyre (Dr Evil), Pam Dawkins (Mini Me), Lindy Phegan, Rosemary Rogers, Kathryn Launer, Carolyn Anderson, Michala Underwood, Marion Cagney, Sherry Bastin (Groovers).

A choreographed dance sequence displayed the talent of the library staff to all in and around the library after the morning tea. This was without doubt the highlight of Library and Information Week, with numerous encores requested throughout the day.

A treasure hunt was held to help promote and develop information literacy skills and an increased awareness of the information tools and resources available. Sherbet Bombs (left over from the 60s) were the reward for tackling this groovy task.

Our aim for Library and Information Week was to promote the BRIT Library within our own Institute and the wider community and to promote the power of information literacy.

Library and Information Week provides us with this valuable vehicle each year in which to achieve this aim and reaffirm the library's important role within our Institute and wider community.

The libraries adaptation of the Austin Powers' swinging 60s theme brought the 'Power your mind' theme to life and encouraged the involvement of students and staff of all ages.

Library and Information Week 2003 was a terrific success. In reflecting on this success library staff realised that they had learnt a lot from past years and worked smarter to achieve their aims. This culminated in an energised effort by library staff which further enhanced our client's experiences and reaffirmed our important contribution towards the achievement of our Institute's missions and goals.

**Natalie Rose and
Pam Dawkins, BRIT Library**