

Your voice

Congratulations Alex Byrne, IFLA president-elect

As member of the profession and former vice-president of the Papua New Guinea Library and Information Association, I'd like to congratulate Mr Alex Byrne on his election as president-elect of IFLA. He is the second president-elect from outside of Europe or the United States.

I was a participant at the 68th IFLA 2002 Glasgow conference in Scotland. And whilst witnessing the declaration of the venue for IFLA 2007 in Durban, South Africa, I thought — wah! how I wish the IFLA conference was held in Australia. I represented Papua New Guinea Library and Information Association, and casted the vote on behalf of the professional body (PNGLIA). I chose Australia for many reasons — that geographically it is our neighbour; Australia and ALIA have nurtured and developed librarianship and the profession in Papua New

Guinea; and still the Australian government and ALIA provides technical and financial support to the profession in the country.

I tried communicating with Jennefer Nicholson, the executive director for ALIA to get her views on ALIA bidding to host the next IFLA conference — probably in 2008. And Alex Byrne's election is rather an indication of the event to take place.

Once again congratulations Alex — truly IFLA is a global organisation and you have got PNGLIA covered. We are proud of it.

Paul Oerepa Jagipa, circulation librarian, PNG University of Technology

What does 'library' stand for?

While it is wonderful to live in an 'information society' in the 'knowledge age', the following explication of 'library' should not be neglected.

There is a capital 'L' for leisure. One 'r' for relaxation and

one 'r' for recreation. The 'i' is for internet; the 'b' for books; and the 'a' for audio-visual materials. Finally the 'y' represents 'Yes! — library staff are ready to help you'.

Keith Gaymer, Dapto

The life and work of Ida Leeson

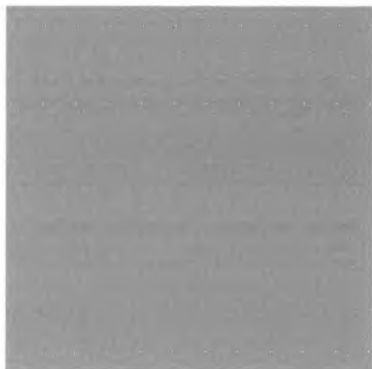
As the 2002 C H Currey Fellow at the State Library of New South Wales, I am researching the life and work of Ida Leeson, Mitchell librarian from 1932 to 1946. For a librarian whose passion was manuscripts, there are remarkably few archival resources about this important figure in the history of librarianship in Australia. I would love to hear from anyone who has any information about Ida Leeson's life or work. I can be contacted on sylviana@bigpond.net.au or by post to 188 Allingham Street, Armidale NSW 2350.

Dr Sylvia Martin, Armidale

Your letters on any issue of relevance to the library and information sector are welcomed.

All letters should be addressed to the *inCite* editor and may be e-mailed to incite@alia.org.au, or faxed to 02 6282 2249, or posted to: *Your voice*, ALIA, PO Box E441, Kingston 2604. Please include your name and postal address with your letter or e-mail.

Letters will be accepted for publication until the 18th of the month.



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