

ALIA local liaison officers

ALIA Local liaison officers have been appointed for New South Wales (Hillary Yerbury) and South Australia (Lee Welch). Hillary and Lee join the other local liaison officers: Kay Poustie (WA, ph 08 9382 1261, kay.poustie@alia.org.au), Gillian Hallam (Qld, ph 07 3864 2177 or 0402 159 818, gillian.hallam@alia.org.au), Margie Anderson (Vic, ph 03 9315 3522, margie.anderson@alia.org.au), and Jane Jeppson (Tas, ph 03 6231 9511, jane.jeppson@alia.org.au). The ALIA local liaison officers are responsible for promoting ALIA and supporting members at a grassroots level. See the August 2003 issue of *inCite* (p33) for more details.

Lee Welch (South Australia)

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Lee graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Library Studies in 1982 and later added a Diploma from the Australian College of Journalism. Her career has included stints in public, special and academic libraries, along with a wide variety of work as a consultant and as a freelance writer and editor. Members with long memories may recall Lee's work with PressCom and Business Information before she took off for Ethiopia, Canberra and Zimbabwe in the 1990s. Lee returned to Adelaide in 1997 and since then has worked with the National Textile Museum of Australia, chef Maggie Beer and the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Sciences.

Currently Lee is involved with a number of diverse projects in Adelaide, including developing material for the permanent exhibition at the National Wine Centre, assisting with a major research centre development project — and, of course, getting active with

ALIA in South Australia, where she is also a co-editor of *InterALIA*.

Lee co-edited *All day, every day: effective library promotion* with Joanne Fuller in 1994 and in 1999 her book *The other 51 weeks: a marketing handbook for librarians* was published. *A traveller's needle* by Anne Hetzel, for which Lee was project manager and editor, was published in 1999. She is now working on a book about her time in Ethiopia.

Lee remains a completely biased champion for libraries, whether she's working in one or not, has just become involved in initiatives to support The Smith Family's Learning for Life program and is still looking for someone to actually pay her to write cookbooks!

Hilary Yerbury (NSW)

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Hilary Yerbury has spent much of her professional life engaged in the education and professional development of information professionals, primarily at the University of Technology, Sydney. She has been passionate about freedom of access to information and the significance of information provision in contemporary society.

Hilary has been an active member of ALIA, held committee positions in several sections and was involved for many years in the recognition of applicants under the widened eligibility criteria. Recently, she has been working for Oxfam Community Aid Abroad on the International Youth Parliament project, with particular responsibility for the development of leadership skills in young people throughout the world. ■

World Summit on the Information Society

In preparation for the World Summit on the Information Society, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) held a pre-summit conference in the United Nations Assembly Hall in Geneva at the beginning of November 2003. The innovative conference brought together librarians from more than seventy countries and representatives of their government delegations to the Summit to discuss ways of advancing the information society globally.

Hailing its success, Alex Byrne noted that 'It shows that the worldwide network of libraries is at the heart of the information society. Over 2.5 billion users, more than the 1.6 billion mobile phone users, find the information for their lives, education, health and prosperity through our libraries. A modest further investment will give enormous returns.'

More in the March issue of *inCite*. ■



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