

# ABS Public Libraries Survey 2003–04

As part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) commitment to providing statistics on a range of service industries in Australia, the bureau is conducting a survey of public libraries and archives in respect of the 2003–04 financial year. The last

survey of this type was conducted for the 1999–2000 financial year, with the results available in *Public Libraries Australia, 1999–2000* (cat n° 8561.0).

The 2003–04 survey questionnaire was despatched to national and state/territory libraries, national and state/

territory archival service organisations and a sample of public libraries across Australia in August 2004.

The results from the survey will provide key financial and activity measures on public library and archive services in Australia. These measures will be used by government analysts to address policy issues relating to public library and archive services. Co-operation is sought from public libraries and archives to produce accurate and timely results in order to maximise the use of these new statistics. ABS will accept careful estimates if exact figures are not available.

Data from the public libraries survey is expected to be available in mid-2005. Broader aggregate data will be available on-line, and further detail will be available on request, subject to confidentiality.

For more information about the survey contact William Milne, ph 03 9615 7862, or David Cannington, ph 03 9615 7338, or for assistance in competing the survey form ph 1300 303 813.

## Aurora news

The Board of the Aurora Foundation Ltd wishes to publicly acknowledge the generous bequest received from the estate of Warren Horton.

Ian McCallum, the foundation's secretary commented: 'It's remarkable. Warren — an avowed atheist — has found a way to contribute to the Foundation's activities from beyond the pale. I'm sure that he would have chuckled at the irony. We are again touched by his generosity. He left Aurora a substantial sum; the interest from which is more than enough to cover our administration costs for the foreseeable future. "Larger than life" sums him up.'

## Applications open for Aurora Leadership Institute 2005

The 8th Aurora Leadership Institute will be held at Thredbo Alpine Village from 16 to 21 February 2005. Becky Schreiber and John Shannon will again lead the Institute, assisted by eight prominent mentors from Australia and New Zealand. Applications will close at the end of September 2004. For details, please see <http://alia.org.au/aurora/>. Apply early — there are only 32 places.

Contact: Ian McCallum, secretary, Aurora Foundation Ltd, 02 6257 9177 ■



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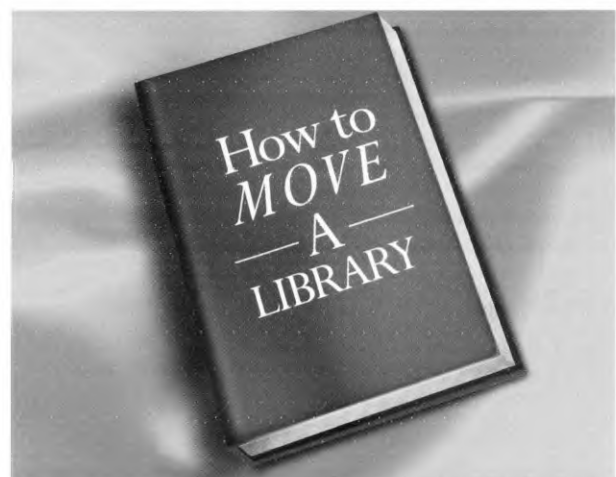
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