

Library and Information Week, 23–29 May 2005

Library and
INFORMATION WEEK

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Libraries around Australia celebrated Library and Information Week (LIW) last month with some fantastic events aimed at raising awareness of the value of libraries, information services and information professionals around Australia.

ALIA West in partnership with the City of Belmont kicked off the week on Monday 23 May with *An Evening of Excellence* at the City of Belmont reception rooms. The evening's proceedings included the presentation of the ALIA National Excellence Award to Natasha Griggs by the Hon. Ljiljana Ravlich MLC, WA Minister for Education and Training, and the presentation of the FA Sharr Medal.

National Technicians Day on Tuesday 24 May saw a host of breakfast, lunch and dinner events take place around the country. Tuesday was also the date for the announcement of the winner of the Australian Bureau of Statistics LEP Excellence Award in Canberra.

As part of the Sydney Writers' Festival, well-known US author and librarian Nancy Pearl spoke at an exclusive free event for librarians on Thursday 26 May 2005, *Calling all librarians*. Friday 27 May

saw brains ticking overtime at the ALIA SA and Alice Springs trivia nights, while the Victorian ALIA Library Technicians boogied the day away with *Discotechs*, a day of fun and learning touring Victoria's west coast libraries.

Watch for the July edition of *inCite* for a detailed wrap-up of events during LIW 2005 and if you didn't order merchandise in time for LIW 2005, never fear — LIW merchandise is available all year round! Head to <http://shop.alia.org.au> to purchase some fantastic products to decorate and use in your library.

ALIA would again like to thank our principal sponsor for LIW 2005, NetAlert Limited. During Library and Information Week, NetAlert, in conjunction with ALIA, was excited to launch *A Librarian's guide to internet safety*. This publication is geared towards helping librarians keep their young patrons safe when using the internet. The guide covers topics such as:

- Benefits of the internet
- Internet safety — the issues
- Managing risks associated with particular technologies
- Library strategies for internet safety



- Internet safety glossary
- A selection of NetAlert resources
- Other useful resources (Commonwealth, State and Territory and sectoral advice)

Given the importance of the internet in public libraries, the guide is a valuable tool for librarians in helping to make young patrons aware of the risks and in equipping them accordingly with safety strategies. For more information, contact NetAlert on 1800 880 176 or e-mail enquiries@netalert.net.au. ■

Big Night Out in Adelaide!

South Australian library leaders and ALIA members came together for fun, food and celebration at the *ALIA SA Big Night Out!* in April. Proudly sponsored by Dynix, the evening provided the perfect opportunity to welcome, farewell and congratulate members of the local South Australian library community.

Over 50 guests gathered in the courtyard of the Medina Grand Adelaide Treasury as ALIA SA group convenor, Philip Keane, began the official part of the evening.

Paul Wilkins, deputy university librarian at the University of Adelaide, thanked Alan Bundy on behalf of the South Australian library community for his efforts during his distinguished 21 years as university librarian at the University of South Australia. As described in the May 2005 issue of *inCite*, Alan leaves a long legacy of achievements at the University, and will continue to contribute to the profession with the expansion of his consultancy and Auslib Press.



l-r Gillian Hallam, Alan Bundy and Philip Keane celebrate at the Big Night Out!

Philip Keane was then pleased to welcome to Adelaide his former colleague from Canberra days, the new director of library services at the University of South Australia, Helen Livingstone. Bringing her Carlton football

doll and a die-hard passion for the team to her new city, Helen was excited about the opportunities ahead in her new position and welcomed all ribbing from local Port Adelaide fans!

Although he has been in Adelaide for a few months now, the evening also provided the perfect occasion to officially welcome Alan Smith to South Australia, in his role as the director of the State Library of South Australia. Alan expressed both his intention to be in his new position for 'at least the next decade' and his delight at the welcome he has received so far.

The official part of the evening wrapped up with the presentation of the ALIA Metcalfe Award to Kate Sinclair. Kate is the first recipient of the new peer-nominated Metcalfe Award, which recognises high achievement by a personal member in their first five years of practice. In reading Kate's citation, ALIA president Gillian Hallam described Kate's achievements and her outstanding professionalism in her position as law liaison librarian in the Law Library of Flinders University and in her many roles within ALIA. (See the article on page 16 of this issue.)

Guests of the *ALIA SA Big Night Out!* continued on into the evening with drinks and canapés, enjoying the warm Adelaide evening and the main purpose of the event — celebrating and socialising with colleagues new and old. ■



Alan Bundy and Dynix rep Margareta Nicholas