

# New directions...



**Sue Hutley**

ALIA executive director  
sue.hutley@alia.org.au

The new year has brought so much change for me already, including a new job and an interstate move. As you know, when starting a new job there is great excitement and anticipation, as well as so many things to organise and become familiar with. It is an honour to become executive director of ALIA. Gill Hallam has mentioned some of the requirements of the position in her Frontline column this month. I am looking forward to providing linkages with the Board of Directors, ALIA National Office staff, the community, government and our many members to promote the interests of our profession.

I'm not sure if 'passionate' is the right word, so...it is possibly my *obsession* with libraries that led me to this role. From cataloguing my home library (at the age of 8), mentored by my school librarian, to doing work experience at the local college library, being a shelver while at university and then working in special, public, TAFE and academic libraries. I have been continuously involved with ALIA since graduation, and the Association has given me some of my most rewarding career experiences. I am looking forward to consolidating my library experience and my community involvement to contribute to the future of ALIA.

In 2006 and beyond we want to encourage more people to join our profession and to stay with it and us. As one of the letters in 'Your voice' this month suggests, some would-be and working librarians don't have the best of experiences. How are you encouraging your

LIS students, your colleagues or your staff to move through their careers? ALIA is continuing to enhance the range of useful mechanisms for members in the sector to support each other. The effects of isolation or discouraging career prospects can be reduced by joining one of ALIA's many groups, but members often need to provide that initial encouragement for friends or colleagues to join.

The contribution that members make to the work of ALIA is, and always has been, phenomenal. We want to encourage members to be involved with ALIA and to keep our communication channels with you wide open. I hope to meet many ALIA members over the next few years and to have the chance to discuss your hopes and dreams for the association. In the meantime, do not hesitate to contact me by phone or e-mail to give me your thoughts on the future of *your* association.

In each state local liaison officers, or LLOs, provide a valuable link to ALIA and can provide direction to members in their regions. We say 'farewell' this month to Kay Poustie, who has resigned as LLO for Western Australia, but will continue to be involved with ALIA through other commitments, including program convenor of CLICK06. Kay was the first LLO appointed in 2002. She has done a wonderful job and we thank her for her contribution to the Association. Claudia Davies has been appointed as LLO in Queensland, and she looks forward to hearing from Queensland members. ■

## Local liaison officers

LLOs are ALIA representatives in each state/territory. Their duties include being a point of contact for members and non-members and ALIA groups.

ACT: Georgina Dale, ALIA,  
ph 02 6215 8229,  
georgina.dale@alia.org.au

NSW: *position vacant*

NT: Ana Govan, GPO Box 2096,  
Darwin NT 0801, ph 0401  
118 193, fx 08 8985 8038,  
ana.govan@alia.org.au

QLD: Claudia Davies, 90 Cracknell Road, Annerley 4103,  
ph 0407 964 967,  
claudia.davies@alia.org.au

SA: *position vacant*

TAS: Jane Jeppson, GPO Box  
1287, Hobart 7001, ph 03  
6231 9511, fx 03 6233 7506,  
jane.jeppson@alia.org.au

VIC: Margie Anderson, 105 Anderson Street, Yarraville 3013,  
ph 03 9315 1090,  
margie.anderson@alia.org.au

WA: *position vacant*

## National licensing proposal

For some years individual libraries and Australian library consortia have subscribed to a variety of electronic resources. However, there are still some Australians who do not have access to resources they would like to use, simply because they are not affiliated with a library which subscribes to the resources they're interested in.

In response to the 2003 recommendations of the Parliament of Australia's Senate Inquiry into the Role of Libraries in the Online Environment, the National Library of Australia convened Site Licensing Forums in 2004–2005, with representatives from a range of library groups and consortia. These discussions gave rise to the National Licensing Proposal (NLP) Reference Group in October 2005. The Reference Group, with support from the National Library, will create a national

site licence agreement for selected full-text databases.

The Reference Group issued a survey of electronic products in December 2005 and was pleased to have received over 760 responses from wide range of Australian libraries. The top priority for Australian libraries was found to be news and current affairs information services (73.9 per cent), followed by general reference (71.9 per cent) and health information databases (44.4 per cent).

Keep informed and get involved through the NLP website <http://www.nla.gov.au/nlp/> and NLP-L discussion list. Alternatively, e-mail [nlp@nla.gov.au](mailto:nlp@nla.gov.au) or contact any of the members of the Reference Group directly (<http://www.nla.gov.au/nlp/referencegroup.html>).

**National Licensing Proposal Reference Group**