Creating tomorrow today

Brenda Simpson, conference co-convenor

This conference certainly captured the imagination of many delegates. More than 400 people registered, and with day delegates and visitors to the trade exhibition there often seemed to be more than that.

The organising committee has met for an interim evaluation and will meet with the conference organisers in early 1998 (once the books are audited) to finalise things. The general feeling is that, as with all such ventures, there were things that we did well and things which we could have done better.

Delegates were generally positive about combining the Public Libraries Section and Reference and Information Services Section conferences so we would deem that to be a success.

There were many positive comments about the choice of venue and we were pleased to offer delegates a venue befitting the organisation and profession. A down-side to using such facilities was that there seemed to be an endless list of ‘rules and regulations’ — particularly about the catering costs and choices, and the provision of services after midnight (hence the abrupt halt of the music at dinner — sorry to those who wanted to party on!).

These are just some of the thoughts of a convenor in the post-conference phase. It was interesting and exciting to be part of such a positive professional experience. Would I do it again? Well, perhaps not in 1998.

New!
Special for ALIA members...

Purchase the newly-released Directory of libraries and archives in the Pacific Islands, and receive Asian resources: a directory of databases on Asia accessible in Australia for only $5!

The fine print...
Use the order form on the back of the inCite cover sheet.
This special offer is open to ALIA members only; normal member price is $12 for each directory; non-member price is $15 for each directory.

Asian resources:
A directory of databases on Asia accessible in Australia

International Network of Public Libraries — an initiative of the Bertelsmann Foundation. For further information please contact:
Kay Poustie
City of Stirling Public Libraries, City Administrative Centre
Tel. ++ 61 9 45 85 93
Fax. ++ 61 9 45 86 58
E-Mail: poustie.kay@stirling.wa.gov.au

Accepting the challenges of the future: learning together — implementing successfully

The International Network of Public Libraries was established in 1996 at the initiative of the Bertelsmann Foundation and is currently made up of 11 innovative heads of libraries from 9 countries. It pools the know-how that exists worldwide, strengthens the exchange of experience among experts, supports the development of successful management concepts and especially promotes the transfer of know-how into practice. Become a member of this network! To expand the group we are looking for five practitioners with outstanding experience and results in innovative library work. We invite candidates to work on the following subjects:

• Effective Leadership: demands placed on management, structures and methods to secure long-term motivation of staff
• Partnerships and Cooperation: successful partnerships and their integration into the overall concept of the library
• Efficient Employment of Resources: organization structures and mechanisms that lead to cost-consciousness and to thrifty business management
• New Distribution Channels — New Services: specially tailored offerings and innovative services for new, potential customers
• New Technologies: models for a permanent flexibility vis-a-vis technological innovation; formation of the personnel, financial and organisational structure.

February 1998