

ern Territory News promoting library and information week 2001. A banner was also displayed on the highway in Darwin. Local identity Tom Pauling launched the week on a short ABC community broadcast on television.

The ALIA NT Awards were also announced during Library and Information Week. Special guest Anne Lipow (director and founder of Library Solutions Institute and Press, in the United States), presented this years awards:

- NT Library and Information Worker Librarian/Library Technician/Library Assistant of the Year: Gaynor Lovett of the Northern Territory Library.
- NT Library and Information Community Award: Giselle Pryor of the NT Open Education Library, Darwin, NT.
- NT Organisational Innovation Award: Electronic Resources Project, Northern Territory Library, Darwin, NT.
- NT University Most Outstanding Student in the Diploma of Library and Information Studies Award: Roger Coutts.

Three groups arose out of the ALIA restructure: LIWNT: Library and Information Workers of the NT; LATTe: Library Assistants and Technicians in the Territory; and CARG: Central Australian Regional Group.

A copyright seminar presented by Nick Smith of the Australian Digital Alliance focused on the new *Digital Agenda Bill*. The seminar proved to be of great interest and was attended by approximately fifty people.

Group meetings coincided with visits to three libraries: Territory Health Services Library, Mines and Energy Library and the Joint-Use Taminmin Community and High School Library.

**Ruth Quinn, LIWNT convenor**



## Roundup 2001 – Qld...

### Keeping health information professionals up-to-date...

ALIA Queensland Health Libraries [<http://groups.alia.org.au/healthqld/>]

The ALIA Queensland Health Libraries group held a number of activities during 2001. In July the group hosted a presentation that outlined projects of the University of Queensland's Centre for Online Health. There was a live demonstration of the e-healthcare portal being developed by the Centre. Discussion on the scope, selection standards, technology and ongoing management issues of the portal were also covered. The session was available remotely via teleconference and was followed by a dinner for participants.

The group participated in a seminar, *Conference capers*, held on 4 September and organised as part of the ALIA CPD series, to discuss papers presented at the recent ALIA Special, Health and Law Libraries Conference in Melbourne.

An all-day workshop, *Evidence-based practice skills* (EBP), was held on 5 December, at Princess Alexandra Hospital. The workshop was intended for information professionals and educators (including those in pre-vocational training) in the healthcare industry. Participants learned to focus an EBP question using the PICO method, the basics of study design and statistical methods in health sciences research (by Dr Miranda Mortlock, statistician) and critical appraisal skills for randomised controlled trials.

**TREASURES**  
FROM THE WORLD'S GREAT LIBRARIES

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Johannes de Voer, *Rotterdam Harbor 1691* (detail), 56.0 x 285.0 cm. Courtesy of Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague

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► The group has plans for another evidence-based healthcare seminar for early next year. This seminar will focus on advanced skills such as the use of filters for finding evidence-based information and will cover sources such as CATs, Poems, Sumsearch, and the TRIP database.

With prior notification the group will provide videoconferencing of sessions on request for those working outside the Brisbane area.

**Janice Michel, convenor, ALIA Queensland Health Libraries**

## Support and networking...

**ALIA Queensland Library Technicians** [<http://groups.alia.org.au/libtqld/>]

The ALIA Queensland Library Technicians group has had a busy year and has been successful in achieving their purpose and goals for 2001.

Support and networking opportunities included the annual dinner in June, National Library Technicians Day celebrations with a breakfast and an after work drinks gathering in May, and an upcoming Christmas break-up in the form of a 'Texmas time' breakfast.

Learning, information and discussion activities have taken place at our general meetings in April, July, September and November. We visited the James Hardie Library of Australian Fine Arts and the Toowong Library for a hands-on look at e-books. A 'conference capers' evening allowed members to share the experience of attending, preparing and delivering a paper, and participating in conference activities in Hobart, and an interactive 'Marketing your library' evening completed the year's activities. Each event was well supported by members.

The group has also actively promoted the benefits of ALIA membership. We began the year with a meeting in February to discuss the restructuring of ALIA with Board of Directors member, Naida Tattersall. Committee members have also visited library technician students at Southbank TAFE to promote ALIA membership and its benefits. A letter to students promoting ALIA membership and the Queensland Library Technicians Group activities was sent in November.

The award of the Queensland Library Technician of the Year (Recent Graduate) to Michelle Alcock from QML Libraries, Brisbane recognised excellence within the profession.

**Marian Moyle, convenor, ALIA Queensland Library Technicians**

## Funds raised help a new graduate

**ALIA SEQ Publics** [<http://www.alia.org.au/groups/pubseqld/>]

Funds raised at activities held by the ALIA SEQ Publics group this year were used to send a final-year library and information studies student to the ALIA Public Libraries National Conference in Melbourne.

To select the lucky student, the group held an essay competition. Veronica Lunn, of Lunn Consulting, kindly agreed to judge the entries that addressed the topic of the future of public libraries. The competition was open to final year students and new graduates of library and information studies. The winner, Daniel McDonald will share his thoughts on the conference at the group's end of year social function.

At our first function, the mulled wine was as much appreciated as the practical retail strategies for libraries presented by international retail consultant, John Stanely.

Our biggest success of the year was the information evening — *Kick start your career* — drawing a crowd of more than sixty people. The audience was eager to hear Deirdre Gibb, of One Umbrella, reveal what employers in the library and information sector are looking for. Information on mentoring and the BCC recruitment program was also presented.

We extended our audience beyond public libraries with our seminar *Managing organisational politics*. Our guest speakers, Jude Munro (chief executive officer, Brisbane City Council), Councillor Paul Pisasale (deputy mayor, Ipswich City Council) and Jane Cowell (chief librarian, Caboolture Shire Council) each provided a different perspective on organisational politics in local government.

ALIA president, Dr Alan Bundy joined us to for our seminar on advocating for libraries and the profession. Taking Alan's paper 'Better libraries just won't happen...' as our theme, the seminar was called *Making better libraries happen*. Janette Wright, managing director of Rowecom Australia, also spoke, sharing her experience of campaigning for increased support and funding for technology infrastructure in public libraries.

We thank the numerous people who generously gave their time to speak at our functions.

**Sheryl Bolin, secretary, ALIA SEQ Publics**

## A year of transformation...

**TropicALIA** [<http://groups.alia.org.au/tropicalia/>]

It seems change is the only constant and it has been a busy year for the 'old' North Queensland Division of ALIA as it transforms itself into the newly formed TropicALIA group.

The new group is now up and running with slightly different boundaries and objectives than the previous group. Over the last twelve months we have been involved in a number of activities, and have seen our role as primarily promoting and facilitating activities, rather than as a provider of CPD.

As a small group in a regional area, we work with all sectors of the library and information services industry. We began the year's activities with a very successful 'meet and greet', and intend to hold a similar activity at the beginning of 2002. We assisted in publicity and sponsorship of the Children's Literature Festival dinner held by the local branch of the Children's Book Council in Townsville, which was a great opportunity for members to meet with some notable authors who were in town for the Book Bizarre. The Information Specialists' session with Erica Maxwell and an AIMA workshop on Virtual Reference held at James Cook University were well attended and TropicALIA assisted with alerting library workers to these events.

We feel that it is an important role for us to ensure that CPD opportunities come to our region, and that members are made aware of events that they might like to attend. We hope to continue with this pattern into next year, and link our members with as many professional development and social functions as we can. An end-of-year dinner on 14 November will round off this year's activities, with planning for next year well under way.

**Chris Bendle, convenor, TropicALIA**