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Roundup 2001 – Tas...

Speakers provide a wealth of information

ALIA Tasmania Group
(<http://groups.alia.org.au/aliatas>)

The ALIA Tasmania Group has been busy since the introduction of the new group structure, but not quite matching the energy levels of the Tasmanian TALIATecs with their very successful National Library Technicians conference in August — our congratulations go to them for their achievements.

The Tasmania group has held a number of activities, in both the north and south of the state since July. In July the group held a lunch with guest speaker Siobhan Gaskell, director of library services at the State Library of Tasmania, who gave a thought-provoking talk on future directions of libraries.

In August an evening session was held in conjunction with ASLA, to host Pam Saunders from the Yarra-Plenty Library Service in Victoria who spoke on her study tour to the United States researching the potential applications of e-books for public libraries in Australia. Being able to use the demonstration e-books Pam brought with her was a bonus for those attending. Also in August, the group hosted a breakfast session to catch the very busy president of ALIA, Dr Alan Bundy, during his attendance at the Library Technicians Conference.

Dr Bundy's talk on information literacy attracted an audience representing a wide cross-section of library and information service providers as well as academics.

In the north of the state the Tasmania Group has hosted a session with Peter Richardson, the project manager for the State Library's E-heritage project, a new and innovative project working with local groups to record and preserve Tasmania's cultural heritage. In November, the group welcomed Kelsey Hartland as guest speaker with a stimulating presentation on her attendance at the national Storytelling conference.

Activities still to come before the end of the year include 'What's new in cataloguing' — an update with a panel of speakers after their attendance at the national cataloguing conference and what ALIA year would be complete without a Christmas party — here in Tasmania, we are having two to make sure we celebrate properly — one in Launceston and one in Hobart.

For next year we have a one-day conference *Knowledge management — buzzword or reality* planned for 1 March 2002 with Gray Southon from the University of Technology, Sydney as the keynote speaker.

*Jane Coatman, convenor,
ALIA Tasmania Group*



Roundup 2001 – Vic...

Focus on professional development

ALIA Schools Victoria
(<http://groups.alia.org.au/schoolsvic/>)

The first professional development session offered by ALIA Schools Victoria in 2001 was called *What do we do next?: initiatives and directions for 2001*. This successful seminar, held in March, focused on information literacy and gave teacher librarians the opportunity to hear about:

- the changes in the second edition of *Learning for the future*;
- the results of research for a Masters thesis which investigated the characteristics of an information literate person; and
- the progress of two action research projects about information literacy

projects being conducted in Victorian schools.

In addition participants took part in a workshop about implementing Curriculum Standards Framework 11 (CSF11) through integrating information literacy skills.

Learning for the future, second edition, was published in May and marked the completion of work commenced in 1998 by a joint ASLA/ALIA working party. Kris Johnstone and Sandra Ryan from Victoria and Anne Plowman from New South Wales were the ALIA representatives on this national committee. *Learning for the future* is a significant policy document which sets directions for the teacher librarianship profession and highlights priorities for school libraries.

In the spirit of collegiality shown by this joint working party, SLAV and ALIA Schools Victoria co-hosted professional development sessions presented in July

by Dr Sheila Offman Gersch, a visiting lecturer from New York. Sheila's area of expertise is *Teaching and learning with the internet* and her insights into practice were greatly appreciated.

The School Libraries Day Dinner in October was another successful joint venture with SLAV.

Intranetting was the title of the final ALIA Schools seminar for 2001. This was held in October and focused on digital copyright issues, the commercial software applications available for intranets and three models showing how library staff had contributed to the development of intranets within their schools. Participants' evaluation comments were very positive.

The 2001 committee has made a substantial contribution to the professional development of teacher librarians in Victoria and looks forward to another successful year in 2002.

Sandra Ryan, convenor, ALIA School Libraries Victoria

Intranetting

Intranets are becoming an indispensable part of information management in modern-day schools. So it is important that school librarians, the information specialists, become involved. Because of this,

ALIA Schools Victoria conducted a one-day seminar, at Star of the Sea College Gardenvale, to introduce some issues and practicalities involved with managing intranets.

The day started with a talk from Ann Grieve, manager of copyright services for the Victorian Education Department, who discussed in particular the implications of the new *Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Act 2000* for loading information on intranets. As usual with copyright there are dangers and protections and it's important to know just how far you can safely go and still provide a useful service.

This was followed by two product demonstrations: Masterfile and Impaq. Both systems can provide a great service but it is important to carefully assess the school's needs before committing to major outlays.

After lunch, we had demonstrations of how intranets work at three different schools: Star of the Sea College, Santa Maria College Northcote and St Joseph's College Mildura. Participants rated the day as very good to excellent and said that it had inspired them to take a more prominent role in the functioning of their school's intranet.

Maelor Himbury, St Albans Secondary College



Roundup 2001 – WA...

Ensuring services continue...

WA Forum [<http://groups.alia.org.au/forumwa/>]

The WA Forum recognised that there were several services which were once provided by the WA Branch that were too important to be lost with the demise of the old branch structure. Those services are: the FA Sharr Medal, Library and Information Week, the monthly newsletter *Biblia*, and continuing professional development activities. The WA Forum was established to ensure that these services continue to be delivered, and also to provide a forum for discussion and debate on issues affecting or of interest to all ALIA members in Western Australia.

Each service has a small team that operates under the guidance of the WA Forum. The *Biblia* team publishes a monthly newsletter in electronic and hardcopy formats. All ALIA groups in Western Australia are welcome to report and promote their activities in *Biblia*. The FA Sharr Medal team manages the selection of the library student

with the potential to have a positive impact on the profession. The Library and Information Week team arranges events and co-ordinates publicity for Library and Information Week in Western Australia.

The continuing professional development team provides opportunities for professional development for ALIA members in Western Australia. Projects undertaken in the last six months include: the establishment of a professional reading group with regular monthly meetings; collaborative projects with CAVAL to bring knowledgeable presenters to Perth; 'Where do we go from here? Librarians moving out of the library' for careers beyond the library; and 'Managers do things right: Leaders do the right things' leadership seminar.

The WA Forum has achieved much in a short time since 1 July 2001. The services it provides will continue to benefit all ALIA members in Western Australia.

Bobby Bruce, convenor, WA Forum ▶

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