

Techs at the top

Library technicians from around Australia and overseas will congregate in Darwin in July 1995 for the 8th national library technician's conference.

present papers during the conference, including Linda Owen, Technical Services Department, University of California, Riverside. Ms Owen is president of the Council on Library/Media Tech-

intrastate, interstate and overseas. Book and serial suppliers will also be represented. Techs expo visitors will also be able to enter a mystery competition and win a trip to a mysterious Territory destination. There will also be a trip for the best trade exhibition. Prizes will be presented at the closing ceremony.

The conference's opening ceremony will be conducted in the Territory's newly-commissioned parliament house which affords visitors magnificent views over Darwin harbour and the Timor Sea. An optional social program is planned for the evenings, including dinner at the Darwin Trailer Boat Club on the Fannie Bay waterfront.

An accompanying persons' program has also been planned, which includes tours of Darwin and the environs, Territory wildlife park (with a stop at Tolmer, Florence and Sandy Creek waterfalls), Majestic Orchid Farm and Mandorah. Also on offer is a full-day crocodile tour including a cruise on the Adelaide River to see crocs in the wild, as well as a visit to the new Crocodyllis Park for those who want to get a closer look at the Territory's famous prehistoric reptiles.

Conference convenor, Kaye Bartlett, says more than 300 library technicians are expected to attend the Library Techs conference, which is held every two years.

'The conference gives library technicians an opportunity to come together and interact with colleagues from other institutions and to bring themselves up-to-date on new methods and technologies,' Mrs Bartlett said.

The registrations brochure will be posted in December and all delegates are urged to get their registration and accommodation bookings in early. Accommodation and tours are at a premium in July, the Territory's peak tourist period. Failure to register early could result in missing out.

Major sponsors of the techs at the top conference include: the Education Company, Northern Territory University, NT Departments of Industries and Development, and Ansett Australia. ■



Members of the Conference Committee outside Northern Territory University Library discussing the program for Techs at the Top. Pictured from left: Jean Peters, Janet Aslin, Kaye Bartlett, Bev Davies, Pam McKeen and Susan Blake.

The conference, built on the theme *Changes and challenges around the world*, will be held at the Casuarina campus of the Northern Territory University on 12, 13 and 14 July. The keynote speaker on day one of the conference will be Sarah Wirawan, chief librarian, Hasanuddin University, Sulawesi, Indonesia. Tony Barry of the Australia National University library will keynote the conference on day two, and ABC funnyman, Lex Marinos, will be the guest speaker on day three.

More than 30 delegates will

nicians. The conference program will include open discussion groups, forums, workshops and library tours. Delegates will also be able to visit a 'technology playground' where they can access the Internet and CD-ROMs.

Topics scheduled for open discussion range from acquisitions to information systems to special libraries and reference services. The information industry will be represented with a trade exhibition, with 15 different exhibits and 18 booths. The exhibition will include the latest in technology from

Raid your library

Thousands of Victorian children will be sailing away in search of adventure and treasure, when they join the state-wide Summer Reading Club.

The Summer Reading Club has the support of authors such as Morris Gleitzman, Hazel Edwards and Gillian Rubinstein, and illustrators Graeme Base and Terry Denton. The Club aims to promote the enjoyment of reading for pleasure, is non-competitive and assists children in maintaining their reading skills.

Upon enrolling in the Club, each child receives a reading record/treasure map. Children progress around the treasure island by reading books. Along the way they receive incentives including stickers and bookmarks designed especially by Terry Denton, as well as book-lists, games and puzzle sheets. Children who successfully read their way around the whole island will be eligible for a ticket in the statewide draw for a Walkman.

The popularity and appeal of the Club is such, that in its five years of existence the numbers of children participating has been steadily increasing. Over 6 500 children participated last year and the committee is confident of similar results for 1994/1995. For more information call Susan Woodman on (03) 557 2815. ■