

Professional development in the Riverina

Maxine Rochester and Chris Griffiths, Riverina regional group

There were a dozen participants at the professional development workshop of the ALIA Riverina Regional Group held at the Wagga Wagga campus library of the Riverina Institute of TAFE on Wednesday 3 July. Presenters included Jennefer Nicholson, deputy executive director of ALIA, who spoke about the *ALIA Framework for continuing professional development*, and later about ALIA's role in education/training, and current issues in continuing professional development. Two spokespeople contributed on 'What education/training is available': Judith Colwill on behalf of Charles Sturt University and Cheryl McKee for Riverina Institute of TAFE.

A panel of employers gave their views on what employers expect: Carol Mills, Charles Sturt University; Marion Bannister, Riverina Institute of TAFE; and Robert Knight, Riverina

Regional Library. The employers outlined what they looked for in employees, giving good advice on applications, interviews and presentation skills. They noted the need to be analytical, and not just descriptive, and to give supporting evidence in applications.

Jennefer Nicholson emphasised the need for lifelong learning, and the need to evaluate one's career regularly. She said continuing professional development was the responsibility of the individual. Mentoring could help with career planning, but Jennefer thought it best to limit development needs and aims to no more than two to three years. When addressing current issues Jennefer noted the good job prospects for those with library and information skills, spoke about the competency movement, and the need to convince people that libraries are worth funding. ■

Who's where

Trevor Wakely returns to the National Meteorological Library in January 1997 after eighteen months leave. During his time away from the Bureau of Meteorology, Trevor undertook a total change of career and work environment to look at 'customer service' in a very different industry — Crown Casino. Refreshed and recharged, Trevor returns to librarianship — not that he ever really left since he continued his commitment to the ALIA 1996 biennial conference committee as convenor of the publicity and sponsorship group; plus represented FLIN on Victorian Branch.

Tim O'Daly has been appointed general manager sales and marketing of Stowe Computing Australia. In his new role he will be responsible for consolidating Stowe's market leadership in the Australasian local government sector and building the company's presence in library management systems.

Mr O'Daly has extensive experience in the information technology industry. Most recently he has been a management consultant in Australia and overseas for International Training and Management.

SilverPlatter Information

has opened a regional office in Sydney to support its operations in Australia and New Zealand. **Katie Blake**, a long-time champion of the local online information industry, has been appointed to manage the new office.

The Sydney regional office will support SilverPlatter's existing distribution partners and ERL server sites as well as Publishing Partners — the organisations using SilverPlatter technology to publish local databases. Ms Blake is the founding editor of *Online currents*, the newsletter covering the Australian online information industry. ■



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e-mail prue.deacon@hhlhcs.aus-govhcs.telmemo.au.

• **24-26/9/97 Library Technicians conference.** *interACTION*. Venue: National Convention Centre, Canberra. Contact: Marion Boyd, High Court of Australia, PO Box E435, Kingston 2604, fax (06) 273 2110.

• **12-16/10/1997 7th Asian Pacific Specials, Health and Law Librarians' conference and exhibition — Perth On The Edge.** Venue: Duxton Hotel, Perth. Motive Conventions, GPO Box Z5327, St Georges Terrace, Perth 6831, ph (09) 322 2666, fax (09) 322 1417, e-mail edge1997@portia.murdoch.edu.au.

• **9-12/11/97 Public Libraries Section and Reference and Information Service Section conference** *Creating tomorrow today: can you imagine...* Venue: Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Contact: Kelly Flynn, Conference Secretariat, PO Box 1280, Milton 4064, ph (07) 3369 0477, fax (07) 3369 1512, e-mail pub97@sunray.im.com.au.

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