

Convention Centre, 4:45pm, observers welcome. Contact: Robyn Gattera, ph 07 3403 5938.

- 12/11 Qld Branch. *Kerry Smith, ALIA president on What did ALIA do for us this year?* 5:30 for 6pm, venue to be decided. Contact: Janice Rickards, ph 07 3875 7134, j.rickards@ins.gu.edu.au. *RSVP by 7/11.*

13-14/11 ILANET courses — Searching Australian Databases — morning (13/11), Internet course — afternoon (13/11), Searching International Databases I (14/11). Course outlines and bookings, ph 1800 801 659, ilanet@ilanet.slnsw.gov.au.

- 10/12 Qld Branch. *Christmas breakfast and AGM.* Heather Gordon, Sunshine Coast Uni College Librarian will speak about setting up a University Library from scratch. 7 for 7:30am, Gazebo Hotel, \$10. Contact: Jann Dowsett, ph 07 3365 5353, j.dowsett@library.uq.edu.au. *RSVP by 3/12.*

## SA

21-22/10 Insearch/Knight-Ridder Information Seminars. DIALOG Web Workshop (21/10), introductory DIALOG (22/10). Adelaide contact: 02 9212 2867, krinfo.uts.edu.au.

- 5/11-4/12 SA Health Libraries section AGM. Meetings are held at SAHC at 1pm. (5/11 — Conference report; 4/12 — AGM). To add items to the agenda or for apologies contact: Juliet Marconi, secretary, ph 08 8226 8157, or Anne Fricker, president, ph 08 8222 3224.

- 17/11 SA Library Technician section. *AGM/Dinner meeting.* Semaphore Palais, 90 The Esplanade, Semaphore. 6:30pm meeting; 7:30pm dinner. Contact: Jennifer Bodey, ph 08 8341 0244, fx 08 8341 0793. *RSVP by 1/11*

## TAS

- 6/10 8th Asian Pacific Specials, Health and Law Librarian's conference planning committee 1999. *Get together for delegates going to Perth conference.* Dept of Community Services and Health, Conference room, 34 Davey Street, Hobart, 12:30pm. Contact: Meredith Newman, ph 03 6232 5258, fx 03 6232 5103, newmandk@acslink.aone.net.au.

- 9/10 Tas Branch lunch meeting. *Kerry Smith, ALIA president, will be speaking about Mentoring.* Woolstore Restaurant Function Room, 11:30-2pm. Cost: \$16 members, \$20 non-members, includes buffet lunch. Contact: Meredith Newman,

# Kakoda Trail joins information super highway

The government of Papua New Guinea is now surfing the information super highway and nattering on the net thanks to close collaboration between the National Library of Australia and the Papua New Guinea Office of Libraries and Archives.

The project was completed in time to enable the Office of Libraries and Archives to take immediate advantage of Internet satellite facilities when they came on stream for the first time in June. Papua New Guinea's first international e-mail using the new Internet satellite link was sent by Daniel Paraide, the national librarian, to the director-general of the National Library of Australia, Warren Horton.

This message was the culmination of months of planning, negotiation, training and technical installation. With the help of the National Library of Australia, the Office

of Libraries and Archives is the first government agency in Papua New Guinea to gain access to e-mail and the world wide web and to have its own home page. The proposal to connect Papua New Guinea to the Internet was developed last year by the National Library of Australia in response to concern expressed by librarians in that country over their lack of access to the Internet.

As the technological leader in the provision of access to networked information in Papua New Guinea, it is expected that the Office of Libraries and Archives will facilitate the availability of Internet access to citizens throughout the country through school and public libraries. Universities and government departments in Papua New Guinea plan to draw upon the Office of Libraries and Archives' newly acquired skills to establish their own Internet access facilities and home pages. ■

# Networking communities conference

A call has gone out for potential speakers and workshop organisers to take part in a major conference on low-cost electronic community networking.

The Third Communities Networking/Networking Communities Conference is being hosted by the Victorian Association of Community Information Centres and the Victoria University of Technology, and will take place on 27-28 February 1998 at the Victoria University of Technology St Albans Campus in Melbourne.

The conference aims to bring together a diverse range of people to learn about practical and theoretical issues in electronic com-

munity networking; to establish an on-going co-ordinating structure in Victoria and to set up an on-going electronic forum on the world wide web.

Proposed themes for papers include issues around access; adult, community and further education; community development and organisation; gender and electronic networking; training for electronic access; the role of public libraries in electronic networking; government, community and business partnerships; technological innovations that assist in electronic community networking; content regulation and management of community networks; and political economy, policy, planning, research and

evaluation of community networking.

Potential participants are requested to send a 200 word description/abstract by e-mail to vacic@vicnet.net.au; or by mail to the Steering Committee, 4/136 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000.

Further details about the conference are available from the Victorian Association of Community Information Centres Steering Committee, 4/136 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000; phone (03) 9650 5322; fax (03) 9650 5817; e-mail vacic@vicnet.net.au or visit the home page at <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~communit>. A full conference program will be available in November 1997. ■

continued next page...