

Future perspectives

Sue Hutley, Queensland Audit Office

The Queen's Trust is a philanthropic trust which began in 1977 (the Jubilee Year) and provides grant support and leadership programs for young Australians. This year I was fortunate enough to be selected to attend the 'Future perspectives' youth forum which was held in Melbourne from 6-12 July. I was nominated by my ALIA colleague, Beth Mayo and my nomination was seconded by the assistant auditor-general at the Queensland Audit Office. I was successful with my application and interview and was one of fourteen participants selected from Queensland.

At the forum 100 young Australians, aged between 23 and 30, and from a wide range of occupations were brought together to discuss issues facing the future of our country. Eminent speakers talked to us on subjects such as the environment, our economy, Asia, our national identity, drugs, crime and imprisonment. Other speakers talked about personal experiences of terminal illness, incest and racism. Participants also visited a correctional centre. Throughout the week we also got together in syndicate groups of ten people to discuss what we had heard, talk about our own situations and opinions, and to think about possible solutions and how we can contribute to society.

It was a very challenging and rewarding week full of discussions and debate about the difficult, complex and often disturbing problems of our society. It was a great opportunity to focus on issues that are not a part of a librarian's 'everyday' experience. The speakers were of a very high calibre and the program was well structured so that each speaker and topic built on the last to complete the big picture. Meeting the other participants who were all achievers in their field was also a wonderful experience. Much of what I heard and experienced were situations and issues that were out of my 'comfort zone' but I feel that I now have a better understanding of these problems and how individuals and groups can make a difference.

It is important that information professionals take part in these types of leadership and community programs. We need to be involved and represented. Next time you hear about one of these programs nominate a colleague! ■

The Queen's Trust offers grants for young Australians and the 'Future perspectives forum' is held each year in July. For more information about The Queen's Trust contact the Queen's Trust National Office on 03 9670 5436.

Conference sponsorship

The Country Public Libraries Association three day seminar was held in July and hosted by the Wollongong City Council. A number of high-profile speakers attended, including Richard Walsh, chief executive officer of Australian Consolidated Press and Dale Spender AM, leading author, media commentator and consultant in

the area of information technology.

Graham Deutscher, chief executive of the City of Wollongong Library believes sponsorships were a key component of the conference's success.

3M Australia, major sponsor of the seminar, have extended their thanks to the three hundred participants

for their attendance and interest in the show. 3M will continue profiling its products and services to librarians for the remainder of this year at the Asian Pacific Special, Health and Law Librarians conference in Perth in October and the Public Libraries and Reference and Information Services Section conference in Brisbane in November. ■



... from previous page

or, Louise LeNay. Old Castlemain Gaol, Bowden Street, Castlemain. \$205 ALIA members, \$230 non-members (accommodation and meals). Contact: Terry May, ph 03 9743 1168.

- 20/11 Vic UCRLS Year's end celebration and meeting. *Electronic publications issues and decisions*. Speakers: Frank Prain of The Age, Tony Arthur, Melbourne Uni, La Trobe Uni. Library Staff. Seminar Room, La Trobe Uni Library, Bundoora. 6pm for 6:30. RSVP to: Gay Butler, ph 03 9479 2924, G.Butler@latrobe.edu.au.

- 5/12 Joint Vic Branch and ACLIS Christmas party. Venue and cost: TBA. Transport subsidies available for Regional groups to attend. Contact: Trevor Wakely, ph 03 9669 4301, fx 03 9669 4611, t.wakely@bom.gov.au.

- 12/12 Vic Health Libraries section. *AGM and Christmas party*. Venue still to be confirmed, but put the date in your diary now!

WA

- 9/10-11/12 National Special Libraries section committee meetings. (9/10; 13/11; 11/12). Alexander Library Building, Ground Floor, Room G2. Time: 5pm. Contact: Joyce Stevens, ph 08 9459 0602.

- 10/10 WA Special Libraries Award — nominations close. Nominations forms are available from Tracy Gerritsen, ph 08 9366 4737, fx 08 9366 4799, gerritsent@eec.com.au. Send completed forms marked personal and confidential to: Tracy Gerritsen, Energy Equity Corporation Ltd, 220 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000.

- 22/10-18/11 WA Library Technician section meeting dates. (22/10; 18/11). For further details contact: Jodie Stevens, ph 08 9222 9265, fx 08 9222 9290, jstevens@mpc.wa.gov.au

- 27/10 WA Special Libraries section committee meeting. 5:30 for 6:30pm, venue to be advised. Contact: Tracy Gerritsen, ph 08 9366 4737, fx 08 9366 4779, gerritsent@eec.com.au.

4-6/11 Insearch/Knight-Ridder Information Seminars. Introductory DIALOG (4/11), Beyond the Basics (5/11), DIALOG Web Workshop (6/11). Perth contact: 02 9212 2867, krinfo.uts.edu.au.

continued page 38...



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