

Help flooding in

Members of the ALIA Central Australian Regional Group have been busy packing boxes of reference material to help rebuild the Katherine Public Library Service which lost about half of its collection in the January floods.

Donations from central Australia have been flooding in (pardon the pun) from local institutions such as the Alice Springs Public Library, Central Land Council and the Institute for Aboriginal Development, with the Public Library staff co-ordinating the transport.

The Katherine Public Library would love to replace their popular authors' works, children's picture books and videos and documentary videos as a first priority, but also need non-fiction and reference tools if anyone has duplicates to spare.

Carol Banks, acting chief librarian, sug-



Central Australian Regional Group members in Alice Springs packing donations for Katherine Public Library following the January 1998 floods. (l-r) Margaret Gaff, Amy O'Donoghue, Doro Elvey, Sandy O'Donoghue, Carmel Leonard

gested people with material to offer could fax her a list from which she could select, initially, as they will only have about one third of their previous accommodation area. Carol would hate to reject material for lack of space after donors had packed and paid freight to send it to her.

Carol can be contacted by fax to the Katherine Town Council 08 8971 0305. ■

Young writers encouraged

Sally Armistead, Warrnambool City Library

This year the Corangamite Regional Library Corporation — Warrnambool Branch is hosting the Nestlé Write Around Australia competition for the zone covering Corangamite, Glenelg and Geelong Regions.

We got off to a fine start with competition entry forms being collected from the library in the first week of March. Our official launch took place at the library on Tuesday 31 March, with the Mayor, Councillors, a Nestlé representative from Dennington, and Warrnambool teaching staff and students in attendance.

Once the official procedures had been attended to the children received some Nestlé goodies and then had a surf on the Nestlé Home Page (<http://www.writearound.com.au>). The site contains tips for writing, details about various authors, tips for teachers and much more.

The competition is for grade five and six students and aims to promote creative writing. The story is to be no more than 500 words. Entries close 8 May. Twenty finalists are to be drawn from each zone in Australia. Other hosting libraries in Victoria include: Brimbank Library and Information Services; Central Highlands Regional Library, Ballarat; Eastern Regional Library Corporation; Gunawarra Library Service; Monash Public Library; Mornington Peninsula Libraries; Stonnington Library and Information Service; Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service; and Wellington Library Service.

In the week 27–31 July children's author Janeen Brian will be visiting the Warrnambool City Library and conducting writing workshops. Local schools have already shown much interest. For further information in the Warrnambool zone contact us on 03 5562 2258, or contact your nearest local public library. ■



ACT

4–5/6 The Dialog Corporation. *Update 98: what's happening with Dialog?* Seminars on business, patents, health/medical and sciences. Training courses. Contact: Haydn Glick, ph 02 9299 6767.

5/5 ACT UCRLS section. *An opportunity to rethink what we're here for!* Speaker: Gaynor Austen, QUT on Australian tertiary libraries — redefining our core business. ANU, Menzies Library, McDonald Room, 1pm. BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided. Contact: Nancy Clarke, ph 02 6209 1117, n.clarke@signadou.acu.edu.au.

7/5 ACT Branch: ALW function. Paulk Reekie, CSIRO publisher, will talk on scientific publishing and libraries in information provision. 6 for 6:15pm in the NLA, 4th Floor Conference Room. Contact: Roxanne Missingham, ph 02 6242 1659, roxanne.missingham@dwe.csiro.au.

7/5 ACT Specials Librarian's Libations. Every first payday of the month. Come along to the Hyatt Hotel at 5:30pm to chat and exchange news and ideas. Contact: Julie Philips, ph 02 6208 5112, fx 02 6208 5149, j.philips@nma.gov.au.

13/5 ACT Branch/ALIS meeting. NLA, 4th Floor Conference Room, 5:30pm. Contact: ALIA ACT Branch secretary, Libby Coates, ph 6246 1177, libby@elc.aiatsis.gov.au.

10/6 ALIA ACT Branch. *Breakfast at the ADFA staff club.* Virginia Walsh will speak on 'How to make management take notice and learn to value our 21st century libraries'. 7:30am, \$10 for full hot breakfast, with cereals, pastries etc. Contact: Priscilla Aiken, ph 02 6268 8125, fx 02 6247 2324, p-aiken@adfa.oz.au. *RSVP (vital!) by 5/6.*

15/7 ACT Branch. *Winter dinner and awards night.* Venue: Terraferma Italian Restaurant and Bar, Campbell Shops (4 Blamey Place). 7:30 for 8pm. Cost \$35. Contact: Priscilla Aiken, ph 02 6268 8125, fx 02 6247 2324, p-aiken@adfa.oz.au. *RSVP by 10/7.*

NSW

4/5 Riverina Regional Group. *Launch of ALW in Wagga Wagga* by Rosemary Campbell, Director, Riverina Institute of TAFE. Wagga TAFE library 4:30pm. All welcome. Contact: Jennifer Vaughan, ph 02 69381407, fx 02 69381489.

4/5–1/12 NSW School Libraries section. *Committee meetings.* Venue: Joint council rooms, Leichhardt Primary School, Cnr Norton and Marion Streets. 6–8pm. Dates: 4/5, 2/6, 5/8, 7/9, 13/10, 4/11, 1/12. Contact: Andrew Barber, ph 9519 1544, library@newton-pah.dse.nsw.edu.au.

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