

South Australia becomes the 'knowledge state' in October!



Conference update

South Australia is set to become the *knowledge state* when librarians from across the country converge on Adelaide for the 1998 ALIA Biennial Conference, in October.

The conference committee is expecting up to 2000 delegates to attend, and registrations are on target to achieve this goal, according to conference convenor Di Booker.

'We are more than pleased with the response to the conference program, which was released in June,' she said. 'Delegates are obviously taking advantage of the early bird registration fees,' Di said.

Adelaide 98: Pathways to knowledge promises to be a conference that has relevance for everyone in the library profession.

'We designed a biennial conference program that would appeal to all ALIA members,' Di said. 'We deliberately set out to appeal to librarians and technicians, in all career stages.'

'For the first time we are attempting a pre-conference fringe program that features the experienced members of our profession;

and is aimed at inspiring the younger members of our profession.'

The conference is a good example of 'he who writes can speak', featuring an abundance of accomplished authors among the keynote speakers.

The conference features influential social commentators (and authors) Phillip Adams and Don Edgar, and overseas library identity (and author) Michael Gorman. If you ever wanted to have your first edition of *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* autographed, here's your chance!

The program also features some high achievers who have built interesting careers on the strong foundations of a library background.

Fij Miller is a former teacher and librarian who is now the successful co-owner of Adelaide's popular children's bookshop, Kidsbooks. In her 'spare' time Fij is the Small Business Advocate for South Australia, deputy chair of the Libraries Board of South Australia, and has chaired two of the most successful Adelaide Writers' Week programs, during her seven years on the committee.

Mairead Browne is a high-profile library educator with a strong historical involvement with ALIA and the American Library Association, including the ALIA Board of Education and a stint as state president of New South Wales branch (1988). Mairead has just been elected to the position on ALIA vice-president 1999. She is a long-serving and highly respected member of the council of the National Library of Australia.

Mairead's keynote address will be focussed on the theme '*Threat or promise? The information society and the information profession.*' Her research interests are in the areas of information and decision-making; evaluation of information services; the future of the information profession; and information policy. Mairead is currently professor of information studies and dean of the University Graduate School at the University of Technology, Sydney. She conducts research locally and overseas and her keynote is one not to be missed!

Jillian Dellit has a background as teacher, librarian, principal, and teachers' centre manager. She is currently responsible for the strategy, policy and marketing of Education.Au Limited, the company which now manages EdNA.

She, too, is a lively and experienced speaker, and promises a session that is informative, interesting and challenging. ■

Have you booked your breakfast?

Information Literacy Special Interest Group

The Information Literacy Special Interest Group was formed in 1998. It currently has 115 members and is still growing. Here are some facts about the membership:

- institutional members: schools: 5; TAFE: 3; special libraries: 3; public libraries: 3; universities: 2.
- personal members: schools: 26; TAFE: 18; special libraries: 3; public/state libraries: 6; universities: 24; self employed: 1; library educators/trainers: 4; political party: 1; international member: 2; sector not specified: 14.

A questionnaire will be circulated shortly canvassing possible activities, communication processes, and particular information literacy interest. If you are not yet a member of the special interest group, but would like to be kept informed, please contact Di Booker, e-mail dibooker@tafe.sa.edu.au, or fax 08 8207 8249.

Have you booked for the Information Literacy Special Interest Group breakfast during the ALIA Biennial Conference? The venue is the beautiful Glasserie at the Convention Centre at 7:30-8:45am on Wednesday 28 October. Tick the box (code SF8) on the conference registration form or contact the conference organisers to make a booking, Hartley Management Group, phone 08 8363 4399, or e-mail hmg@hartleymgt.com.au.