

# Creating tomorrow today

Brenda Simpson, conference co-convenor

This conference certainly captured the imagination of many delegates. More than 400 people registered, and with day delegates and visitors to the trade exhibition there often seemed to be more than that.

The organising committee has met for an interim evaluation and will meet with the conference organisers in early 1998 (once the books are audited) to finalise things. The general feeling is that, as with all such ventures, there were things that we did well and things which we could have done better.

Delegates were generally positive about combining the Public Libraries Section and Reference and Information Services Section conferences so we would deem that to be a success.

There were many positive comments about the choice of venue and we were pleased to offer delegates a venue befitting the organisation and profession. A down-side to using such facilities was that there seemed to be



PUBRAISS 1997 organising committee, L-R Dale Drysdale, Vivien Nash, Ivan Catlin, Brenda Simpson, Michael Hallam, Ruth Cameron, Sue Willis, Geoff Chapman, Jennifer Slattery (absent Jann Webb)

an endless list of 'rules and regulations' — particularly about the catering costs and choices, and the provision of services after midnight (hence the abrupt halt of the music at dinner — sorry to those who wanted to party on!).

These are just some of the thoughts of a convenor in the post-conference phase. It was interesting and exciting to be part of such a positive professional experience. Would I do it again? Well, perhaps not in 1998. ■

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International Network of Public Libraries – an Initiative of the Bertelsmann Foundation. For further information please contact:

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