

# Public libraries spearhead celebrations

## Australian Library Week in South Australia

South Australians got into the swing of library week this year in fine style. Public libraries spearheaded an effort to both celebrate and raise awareness of libraries.

The State Library went on the road during Australian Library Week, with a staff member visiting regional centres including Cowell, Cleve and Wudinna on the Eyre Peninsula. The aim was to raise the State Library's profile in regional South Australia, promote its resources and services, and showcase its web-site. Back in the city, South Australians were treated to displays from the Library's amazing collections.

The Tea Tree Gully Library also made good use of displays, with one set up in the very busy Westfield Tea Tree Plaza shopping centre. The display was intended to encourage people to use the library and is now set up in the Golden Grove Recreation Centre to further spread the word.

The Marion Library Service launched Australian Library Week with

a variety concert for children at the Sturt Road Branch. A good time was had by all at the concert, hosted by Leigh Newton. There was more fun in store for the children under the age of five at a storytelling and craft session in the library on the Thursday of Australian Library Week. The theme, 'Libraries here for the long run', was well illustrated when everyone made walking bears. After all, you have to walk before you can run!

The Friends of the Marion Library rounded off the week with a quiz night. It was well attended, and raised some very welcome funds for the library.

The West Torrens Library was also very busy, holding an evening of Australian poetry and music in the Old Mayor's Parlor above the Thebarton Library. It began with Hanna Jasinska (Thebarton Library co-ordinator) welcoming the guests with wine, tea/coffee and biscuits. Joan Priebe, from the Thebarton Historical Society brought the grand piano to life with music from

early Australian era, followed by Amber McMahon and David Heinrich, students at Flinders University Drama Centre, who delivered dramatic readings of Australian poetry.

The West Torrens Library also held a one-hour internet lock-in. Library staff provided supervision and assistance during the lock-in as favourite internet sites were shared and electronic cards were sent to family members. The more eager kids researched homework topics, while others accessed and shared jokes and found information on their favourite sports and television shows.

Other activities offered this year at the West Torrens Library included 'Learn about your library' tours, a children's book information evening, storytelling and craft activities and 'ask a computer expert' sessions.

With other activities going on around the State, Australian Library Week was certainly well celebrated!

Amanda Nixon

## Learning Environment Technology Australia 2000 Conference

The theme of the LETA 2000 conference is *Making Lifelong Learning a Reality for All*.

Within this theme the conference will explore the implications of lifelong learning for:

- the role of the library in 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment
- the nature of the built environment of learning
- the application of information and communication technologies to learning

LETA 2000 will bring together librarians, educators, facility planners and IT specialists.

Speakers in the library stream include Mark Latham MHR for Werriwa, Andrew McDonald a leader in library lifelong learning initiatives in the UK, and university, public, TAFE and school librarians.

The conference will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from 17 to 21 September 2000.

For registration and programme booklet contact:  
Bill Cations, ph (08) 8201 2103,  
Bill.Cations@flinders.edu.au

See also: [www.leta2000.sa.edu.au](http://www.leta2000.sa.edu.au)

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