

Libraries: here for the long run

Australian Library week in Darling Downs



The quiz in progress

The ALIA Darling Downs Regional Group embraced the theme of Australian Library Week by conducting a 'find-it-fast' quiz and hosting a breakfast talk entitled 'Career planning for the long run'.

The 'find-it-fast' quiz was held at the Grand Central Shopping Centre in Toowoomba. In his opening address, Johan Wiesner, president of the Darling Downs Regional Group, wished the contestants wisdom in the quiz, and thanked the sponsors and committee members. He stressed, for the benefit of onlookers, that libraries are more important than ever. The internet was not the death knell for libraries, quite the opposite, libraries are more alive and we can thank the internet for that.

Quiz sponsors — Coles Supermarket, *The Chronicle*, Webster's Publishing, Angus & Robertson Bookworld, Darrell Lea Chocolates and Australian Geographic — supported the group by supplying prizes and advertising. *The Chronicle* newspaper ran the quiz's entry form for two days free of charge. Entrants were asked questions and the correct entries were included in a draw for six game contestants in two age categories.

The organising committee were amazed at the difficulties encountered when attempting to obtain from Toowoomba libraries three identical editions in each subject area for quiz

reference sources. The celebrity section of the night included ABC radio announcer Stuart Robertson; Peter Swannell, vice-chancellor of the University of Southern Queensland; Roslyn Cousins, manager of Toowoomba Public Library; and Ilona Eberle, liaison librarian at University of Southern Queensland. The group made up of Peter Swannell and Ilona Eberle came from behind to win.

True to the theme was the title of the talk 'Career planning for the long run' given by Phil Teece, ALIA's manager for personnel and industrial relations. This stimulating and motivational presentation aimed at not just the students of library studies but all library workers. Phil said that it is not possible to predict the future, but it is still necessary to plan, even for the 'baby boomers' retiring in ten to fifteen years. Complacency will not achieve anything as expertise will be lost, equity issues will not be solved and professional development will be thwarted.

The breakfast was held at Herries House and it proved to be both a relaxing morning and an excellent networking opportunity for busy library workers. Congratulations to Alison Hunter for bringing this successful activity to fruition.

*Dianne Turner,
Darling Downs Regional Group*

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GRIND OUT OF
KNOWLEDGE
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