

Rewarding excellence in the Northern Territory

The Northern Territory Branch of ALIA celebrated Australian Library Week by rewarding excellence — recognising the efforts, hard work, achievements and dedication of individuals to the library profession and to the community.

The Minister for Corporate and Information Services, Peter Adamson, presented the awards at a ceremony attended by thirty people. The winner of the 'Northern Territory Library Technician of the Year' award which recognises the outstanding contribution of Northern Territory library workers was Jan Jones. Jan is the team leader of end processing and stock rotation at the Resource Management and Development section of the Northern Territory Library and Information Service. Jan is a library technician who has an outstanding record for performance over and above expected output. Jan has been a positive influence on staff.

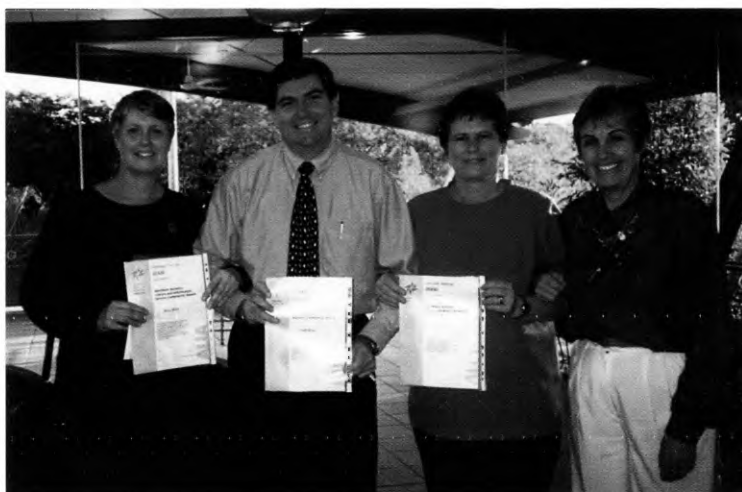
The second category 'Northern Territory Library and Information Service Community Award' recognises outstanding contribution to the promotion and delivery of library and information service to the Northern Territory com-

munity by way of a specific project, event, or research; or for demonstrating such service over a period of time.

Gail Dous and Mary West, school library consultants with the Northern Territory Library and Information Service, received the community award. Their efforts over the past ten years to promote and support school libraries

throughout the Northern Territory go far beyond what is required of them.

The judging panel was impressed by their commitment to tailor services to the needs of their remote clients. Awareness of their work is far-reaching with interest in their work being expressed from librarians in other Australian states and overseas. ■



Gail Dous, Peter Adamson, Jan Jones and Haydee Adel (ALIA NT Branch president). Mary West was not able to attend the presentation and Peter Adamson is holding her award

The Australasian virtual engineering library

On Saturday, 8 July 2000, the president of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, Martin Cole, launched a website (<http://avel.edu.au>) designed to revolutionise access to high quality IT and engineering information.

The Australasian Virtual Engineering Library (AVEL) is a gateway designed to help engineers and information technology professionals save time and find relevant information on the web quickly. It provides free access to over 2000 quality Australasian information sources. AVEL has been developed through a unique partnership between the library community and the engineering academic and professional communities scattered across Australia.

Associate Professor David Radcliffe from the Mechanical Engineering Department of the University of Queensland is the leader of the group that has created this virtual library.

'AVEL is a dynamic virtual research space with its integrated structure, incorporating a database of quality and reliable engineering and IT resources, a list of conferences in the Australasian region, employment listings, and access to full-text theses. An online bookshop covering engineering, IT and latest web resources in

relevant fields is also included.' Professor Radcliffe explained.

'You can search or browse AVEL. For example, you can look up manufacturing or software engineering or search for a conference on software security and access resources which have been hand-picked, indexed using metadata and updated by librarians and industry experts,' Professor Radcliffe added.

AVEL is a collaborative initiative involving the Universities of Queensland, New South Wales, Melbourne and Monash, Queensland University of Technology, the Centre for Mining Technology and Equipment (CMTE), the CRC for Enterprise Distributed Systems Technology and the Institution of Engineers, Australia.

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