

quisitions over the last ten years. The majority of other staff was untrained assistants or attendants. The aim will be to have training and exchange of personnel with other professionals in participating countries.

- *Administration and legislation.* There is no administration in Iraq at present and is it very important to set up an administrative structure that includes libraries. However it is going to be very difficult to achieve this and to develop systems such as legal deposit.

Mr Arnoult noted that archaeology and antiquities are the priority for Iraqi authorities, and the library sector will need to keep pushing for inclusion

in the re-established administrative structure. He is of the view that, as for antiquities, collectors placed 'orders' for particular valuable texts. A delegate from Lebanon advised that many of the valuable holdings that disappeared in the devastation of the national library in the 1970s have yet to be retrieved, though the whereabouts of some are known. <http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/icbs-iraq.htm> provides further information on the libraries and archives in Iraq.

The Australian Government is the only member of the Coalition to be a signatory to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. ■

Aurora Leadership Institute 2004 ▲ AURORA FOUNDATION

Applications are now open for the seventh Aurora Leadership Institute to be held at Thredbo Alpine Village from 8–13 February 2004. Full details of application requirements and procedures may be found on the Aurora website. Once again, John Shannon and Becky Schreiber will lead the Institute.

Intending applicants are advised that the process of selection is quite competitive, and that the information sources listed on the website — including the May 2003 issue of the *Australian Library Journal* — should be consulted prior to submission. Successful applicants will be notified during October 2003. Professional involvement with ALIA is an advantage.

Further details are available from the website: <http://alia.org.au/aurora/> and from Ian McCallum, Aurora Foundation secretary, phone 02 6257 9177.

ALIAVic: who? what? why?

Who?

ALIAVic is pleased to announce the formation of a new committee.

What?

ALIAVic is *your* local group for all Victorian members of ALIA.

Why?

ALIAVic exists to facilitate communication and networking between Victorian library and information professionals. Regular meetings are held with speakers from a wide variety of workplaces. ALIAVic will avoid duplicating the efforts of other groups. Indeed, it will encourage the work of individual groups and only focus on the broader professional and intra-professional issues.

Details of ALIAVic can be found at: <http://alia.org.au/members-only/groups/aliavic/>.

ALIAVic also has an e-mail discussion list (aliaVIC) for the distribution of Victorian library and ALIA news to ALIA members and to promote communication and discussion amongst members. The e-list is used to advertise section and group activities. For details about joining this e-list go to: <http://lists.alia.org.au/mailman/listinfo/aliaVIC/>. Enter your e-

mail address and a password. You will be sent an e-mail asking you to confirm your subscription — just follow the instructions and you will be communicating with the rest of the group in no time at all.

Your committee

Convenor: Margaret Smith, State Library of Victoria, msmith@slv.vic.gov.au;

Secretary/treasurer: Ian McGregor, Yarra Plenty Regional Library, imgreg@yprl.vic.gov.au.

Committee members: Jill Baker, baker@acer.edu.au; Tania Barry, ktb@netspace.net.au; Jenelle Cleary, jenelle.cleary@parliament.vic.gov.au; Wendy Costigan, wcostigan@yprl.vic.gov.au; Jennifer Goh, jennifer.goh@dpi.vic.gov.au; Kerrie Kelly, kkelly@slv.vic.gov.au; Moyra McAllister, moyra.mcallister@bdw.com; Alison O'Connor, alison.o'connor@bdw.com; Margaret Roberts, mroberts@brightongrammar.vic.edu.au; Trevor Wakely, t.wakely@bom.gov.au; Cheryl Walker, walkcm@mornpen.vic.gov.au.

ALIA local presence officer Victoria: Margie Anderson, mmanderson@optushome.com.au. ■

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