

Library Stars: best of the best

Outstanding and inspirational public library programs

The *Library Stars: best of the best* forum will be held on Tuesday 19 September 2006 at the Perth Convention Centre as a satellite event for the ALIA Biennial Conference. *Library Stars* will showcase libraries, projects and successes to recognise outstanding achievements in the public library sector and to inspire public library practitioners.

The ALIA Public Libraries Reference Group is pleased to announce the draft program for the *Library Stars* forum. After receiving 39 nominations from public libraries throughout Australia, the ALIA Public Libraries reference group has selected seven outstanding public library programs for presentations at the forum.

The presentations include three diverse reading programs, local knowledge collections and services to remote and disabled users.

- Moreland City Libraries (Vic) 'Read more: a celebration of reading and Moreland's identity' – a program that explores reading in its broadest sense, including a range of languages, formats activities and themes to appeal to Moreland's highly diverse community.
- South Australia's state-wide reading programs, The Big Book Club (TBBC) and the Little Big Book Club (TLBBC), delivered in concert by the state government, public libraries, the Advertiser newspaper, Five aa, Arts SA, The Australian Council and booksellers and publishers.
- Hume City Council's (Vic) Bi-lingual Storytimes is for children aged 0–5 years and their parents. Bi-lingual Storytimes are presented by trained storytellers, are conducted in Arabic, Turkish and Vietnamese in pre-schools, childcare centres, playgroups women's groups and community group meetings.
- Alice Springs Public Library's (NT) Akaltje Antheme local knowledge collection, produced for and by the Aboriginal people of Central Australia. This unique collection of indigenous resources ensures that items for, by and about the local indigenous community are conserved and available to all visitors to the library.
- Redcliffe Library's (Qld) 'Redcliffe remembers the war years: 1939–1949' local history project records in book, DVD and website formats, the social and cultural history of Redcliffe during the decade of the Second World War and is based on extensive oral and video histories of local people and photographs of the period.
- Burnside Library Service (SA) Books in the Sky (BITS) project uses broadband technology, a portable audio playback device and a content management system to create

a cost effective, easy to use digital solution to providing books, magazines and newspapers to people with sight impairment.

- Northern Territory Library (NTL) is finding creative and cost effective ways to provide support and training to Community Library Officers (CLOs) in one-person library services in 22 remote NT communities, including an annual CLO forum in Darwin for four days of training and development activities.

The keynote address will be delivered by Rolf Hapel, director of Aarhus Public Libraries in Denmark. Aarhus Public Libraries won the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation 'Access to Learning' Award in 2004 for its innovative use of the internet and information technology to deliver library service to a growing refugee and immigrant community. Rolf will speak about outreach programs, internet-based services and library development projects in Aarhus Public Libraries and in Denmark generally.

The ALIA Public Libraries Reference Group thanks everyone who submitted a nomination for the forum. The Reference Group is exploring ways to showcase the many exciting and innovative public library programs nominated.

For more information, visit <http://alia.org.au/governance/committees/public.libraries/stars.html>. Registrations for the forum opened in May. 'Library Stars: best of the best' is sponsored by Peter Pal Library Supplier and SirsiDynix. ■

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Once you have your renewal, we can process it online <http://membership.alia.org.au/renewal.aspx>, via B-pay, by phone 1800 020 071, fax 02 6282 2249, or post. Direct-debit payment is also available.

Any questions? Please contact Jason or Chris in membership, ph 02 6215 8282 [membership@alia.org.au]. ■

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PO Box 727 South Melbourne
Victoria 3205 Australia
maxus@maxus.net.au
www.maxus.net.au
(03) 9646 1988