

# 3rd ALIA Top End Symposium

## Technology, Visions or Nightmares: True Stories in the Territory

A large delegation of library professionals turned out for the 3rd ALIA Top End Symposium in Darwin, 7–8 October 2005. They came from all over the Northern Territory and also from interstate and overseas to attend what has become an important annual event in the local calendar.

Delegates were welcomed to the Charles Darwin University Palmerston Campus on the Friday afternoon. The symposium was officially opened by Annette Burke, the Mayor of Palmerston, who spoke about keeping up with the latest trends in libraries and discussed the new Palmerston Public library (to be opened in March 2006).

Hayley Leaver of LexisNexis Australia welcomed our keynote speaker Di Thompson, librarian and webmaster at the Legal Services Commission in Adelaide. Di's topic was 'Having an IT nightmare? Rescue your vision from the dark side'. Di told the story of her experience at the Legal Services Commission, from the nightmare in 1988 to the realisation of her vision. She left us with a message — to be clear on our goals and to be passionate about our projects.

The symposium covered a wide range of issues associated with the chosen theme. Papers on the Friday included presentations on e-books, the digitisation of photographs and the implementation of X Box game consoles in public libraries in Darwin.

A highlight for most attendees would have to be the Symposium Dinner, held at Kantilla's Restaurant at Marrara. The guest speaker Valmai Hankel took us on an exciting journey with her humorous, and at times sad, tales of the outback in 'Sand and paper: a brief look at four Northern Territory explorers, with a glance at my own travels'.

On Saturday delegates were enthralled by papers on digital archiving, the marketing of new technology, assisted technology computers, the creation of the learning precinct in the Charles Darwin University Library, implementing electronic document management systems, technology challenges in distance education and the use of MultiScreen Channel at Darwin City Council Libraries.

The winner of the best paper (sponsored by Northern Territory Library) this year was Brian Lloyd, project officer at Northern Territory Library, who gave us an intellectual look at the old subject of print versus electronic with his interesting topic 'What's our business: book or wires?'.

Overall the 3rd ALIA Top End Symposium was a fantastic event, highlighting the depth of knowledge and strength of perseverance within the Territory's libraries. The organisers would like to thank the Symposium's sponsors for their contribution towards a very successful event:

**Gold:** Charttes Training Advisory Council, RAECO, LexisNexis, CCH, Charles Darwin University Palmerston Campus, Angus & Robertson, Darwin City Council Libraries

**Silver:** James Bennett, SYSADMIN, Thomson Gale

**Bronze:** Charles Darwin University Library, Northern Territory Library

**Blue:** Locate Your Library NT, @ your library

**Liam Casey, organising committee, 3rd ALIA Top End Symposium 2005**



Guest speaker: Valmai Hankel



Symposium organising committee: Frances O'Reilly, Frieda Evans, Dianne Wilcox, Stephen Barnett and Liam Casey

## ALI Appointments

<http://alia.org.au/employment/vacancies.html>

Australian Library and Information Association  
Inform • Innovate • Inspire

### Local liaison officers

#### South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales part-time positions

As a member of our team you will be situated in the Adelaide, Perth or Sydney areas. Your responsibilities will focus on providing high quality management of activities by members and ALIA groups at the local level.

The job requires demonstrated knowledge of ALIA's structure, purpose and functions, proven capacity for building effective working relationships with a range of individuals, and representatives of organisations, sound understanding and awareness of the library and information services sector and of the policy and practice environment in which the Association must operate, excellent written and oral communication skills, commitment to customer-service principles and the importance of quality services to members, and the capacity and preparedness to work productively in a small, flexible, virtual workgroup environment.

There is also a requirement of access to the equivalent of a home office, phone, answering machine/voice-mail, computer with internet access, printer, fax.

Salary: The position attracts remuneration of \$30 per hour.

Contact: Georgina Dale, Manager, member services and groups liaison, 02 6215 8229, [georgina.dale@alia.org.au](mailto:georgina.dale@alia.org.au)

Please address the selection criteria, provide three referees, and post or e-mail the application to: Executive director, Australian Library and Information Association, PO Box 6335, Kingston ACT 2604, e-mail [sue.hutley@alia.org.au](mailto:sue.hutley@alia.org.au).

Selection criteria and further information can be found at: <http://alia.org.au/employment/vacancies.html>

closing date for applications: **3 March 2006**

## WANTED

### a career in a library

I am looking for a full-time position, with a public library. I am a flexible, enthusiastic person, with a 'can do' attitude, who believes wholeheartedly of the role that libraries play in lifelong learning. I am a fit, healthy non-smoker, with a large personal collection of books. I have a good knowledge of automated library management systems, sound computer skills, and my customer service is first rate. I have worked in Libraries in a volunteer capacity, and although my experience is limited, I am a fast learner. I am currently studying Library Science at Charles Sturt University, and have a Certificate III in Library Science.

I am willing to relocate to take up the position. My résumé for your perusal, is via e-mail — [alieads@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alieads@optusnet.com.au).

Alison Edwards, student member of ALIA