



Sue Hutley

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Moving forward...

As the theme for this month's *inCite* is 'Moving forward in an electronic environment...' it seems a good time to announce the launch of the ALIA executive director's blog. It is the first of a number of developments using technology to enhance our ALIA communication channels. In the blog you will read about the interesting things that I see and do as well as find useful and informative links to an array of library and information material. [<http://blogs.alia.org.au>] While the blog will start out fairly simply, as with everything in technology, advances and evolution will occur along the way. The ALIA Board of Directors will also be feeding material into the blog. In the 15 December 2005 edition of *BRW*, Kath Walters' article ('Blogging power', p78, where our own Belinda Weaver's website was among those cited) recommended that more CEOs should blog, because blogs can really give an insight into the business and the person behind it. The article suggests that blogs can provide 'a useful filter against information overload'. This sounds like another way of describing a librarian — that could be the reason why so many librarian's blogs are so good.

Be involved in ALIA's current poll on questions and issues relating to our sector. It's on the sidebar of our home page: try it out. This is another of the ways we are seeking your feedback on issues relevant to our future.

Advocacy update

The ALIA National Office staff is currently working on two significant sector issues. First, the results of ALIA's survey on internet filtering were released in early March and are available on our website. This survey will be useful for all libraries in Australia when responding to enquiries regarding access to the internet in libraries and internet filtering.

Second, ALIA has made a further submission to the Clever Networks program, part

of the DCITA Broadband Connect initiatives. We are in discussions with a range of organisations about how Australian libraries can be best placed to achieve the outcomes of the broadband agenda. Our work with DCITA and the Australian Local Government Association will, we hope, result in better internet access for libraries across Australia. Read our submission at <http://alia.org.au/advocacy/submissions/broadband.content.html>. From there we've put in a link to the Clever Networks page on DCITA's site if you want further information.

Treasures

I was very fortunate that I moved to Canberra just in time to catch the National Library's Great Treasures Exhibition, which is leaving here to travel around the country. Each of Australia's libraries, no matter how big or small, all have their own treasures — can you identify the treasures in your library? It might be a special book of interest, something unique or are your staff the real treasures? As this significant public exhibition travels around Australia I encourage you to recognise the treasures in your own library and let your clients know about them. ■

Local liaison officers

LLOs are ALIA representatives in each state/territory. Their duties include being a point of contact for members and non-members and ALIA groups.

ACT: Georgina Dale, ALIA,
ph 02 6215 8229,
georgina.dale@alia.org.au

NSW: *position vacant*

NT: *position vacant*

QLD: Claudia Davies,
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Annerley 4103,
ph 0407 964 967,
claudia.davies@alia.org.au

SA: *position vacant*

TAS: Jane Jeppson,
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VIC: Margie Anderson,
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ph 03 9315 1090,
margie.anderson@alia.org.au

WA: *position vacant*

Remember to vote!

Board of Directors elections

Your ballot paper is in this copy of *inCite*. Institutional representatives: your voting materials will arrive by mail. If you don't receive, or misplace your papers, please call us: we can send replacements. Three director positions and the vice-president (president-elect) will be decided by your choices. Post your vote to the National Office, it must arrive BEFORE 5:00pm, Monday 10 April 2006. ■



(L to R) Helen Kon (assistant director-general, public programs, NLA), Roxanne Missingham (parliamentary librarian), Sue Hutley (executive director, ALIA) and Deborah Thomas (editor, *Australian Women's Weekly*) at the Amazing Women event at the Treasures Exhibition