

neXt 2005 conference and Me!bourne – 20 years on... the 2007 conference

It has been 6 months since the *neXt 2005*: ALIA Library and Information Technicians Conference and there is 18 months until the next conference *Me!bourne – 20 years on...* Seven library technicians reflect on the highlights of *neXt* and Gail Schmidt, convenor of *Me!bourne – 20 years on...* gives us an indication of what to expect in 2007.

Marion Boyd (ACT)

My overall impression of *neXt 2005* was one of *eXcellence* both as a learning *eXperience* and enjoyment. The presentation of papers, trade *eXhibition*, tours, *eXciting* entertainment, helpfulness of the committee and students surpassed my *eXpectations*. As a former convenor of a library technician's conference I fully appreciate and thank all involved.

Jill Heffernan (NT)

Library technician educators participated in a session where we were able to discuss common issues. The session was very informative and networking with colleagues in the same field was a valuable addition to the conference. I look forward to participating in future discussions.

Kerrie Kelly (Vic)

The *neXt 2005* conference was a thought-provoking blend of papers and presentations. The program ranged from libraries on a global level, such as the work of IFLA, to the routine operations of libraries, as covered by the pre-conference tours on Tuesday. It covered the practical and the philosophical, with something for everyone.

Robyn Lather (Qld)

Presenting 'Profile Match – customising information delivery' was one of the most rewarding experiences in my career. After the presentation, a number of technicians contacted me and later visited our Library for real-time demonstrations – an outcome beyond my expectations!

Sunita Sagade (NSW)

The Australian Film and Television School Library was a highlight of the Industry tours. Then there were the papers presented about foreign language books acquisitions, secondment opportunities and experiences and e-learning for LTs. It was also great to chat with like-minded people, exchange ideas and network. I look forward to attending the next conference in Victoria 2007.

Louise Somerville (NSW)

Last September, *neXt 2005* delivered all that it promised: a beautiful location, beautiful weather and the chance for delegates and exhibitors to gather and communicate their expectations of one another. Papers of particular inspiration were: Dr Alex Byrne's Keynote Address about IFLA; Margaret Redrup-May's 'Once upon a time... The making of a library storytime' and Lois Phelps with her 'Babes 'n' books' program, where the audience got up and sang.

Pat Whalan (NT)

neXt allowed delegates to explore what's new, unique and beneficial and to observe how these elements can be applied to our changing work situations. I urge all who are able to attend and participate in a conference to do so, as they will receive a rich and rewarding experience.

Me!bourne – 20 years on...

In 2007, 20 years will have passed since the last conference in Melbourne and *Me!bourne – 20 years on...* will explore pertinent themes and aim to *!nform, !nnovate, !nitiate and !nspire* you! To be held in mid-spring at a leading Me!bourne

conference venue, *Me!bourne – 20 years on...* will offer marvellous professional development, networking and socialising opportunities.

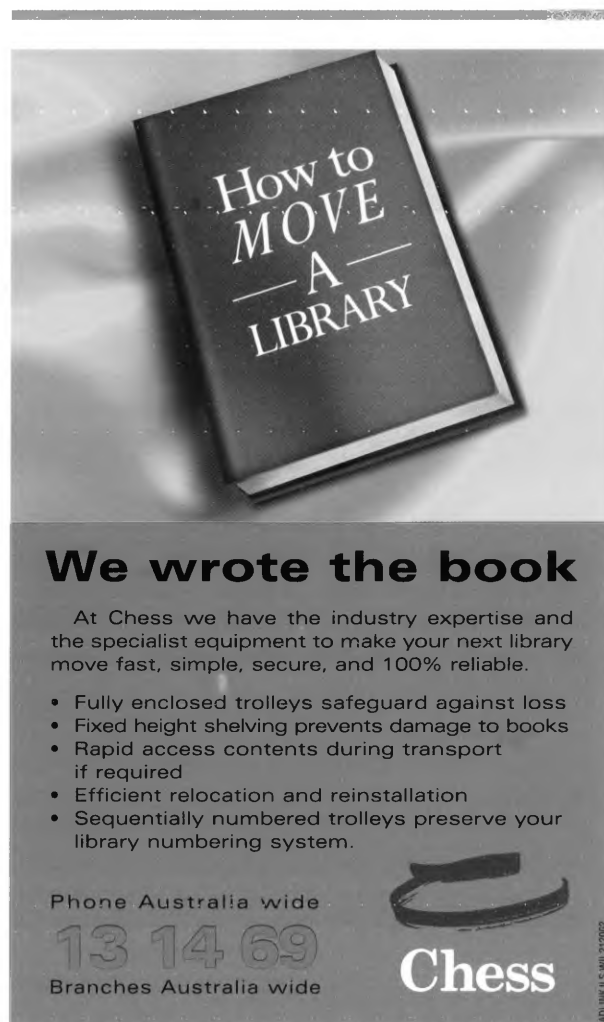
Planning is already well under way and a feature of *Me!bourne – 20 years on...* will be 'Themed Tours'. Delegates will have the chance to select a theme such as serials, rare books, family history, archives, children's literature, circulation, or their own individual type of library. It will give delegates a unique behind-the-scenes look at their area of specialisation and provide an opportunity for discussing issues with others who have a similar interest. Another great networking opportunity!

Team2007 are interested in your thoughts and suggestions for *Me!bourne – 20 years on...* Areas for consideration include:

- The program – ideas for workshops, presentations, speakers
- The networking – delegate registration
- The socialising – THE dinner, after-5 events, tourist sites
- The tours – themes, locations

Please e-mail me on gschmidt@slv.vic.gov.au with your thoughts and ideas.

Me!bourne – 20 years on... the place for !nformation, !nnovation, !nitiation and !nspiration! ■



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