

PLANS OF A VERY COMMITTED LIBRARY PROFESSIONAL

I'm planning some extremely high-level professional development in Perth in September. I plan to attend the LibTech *Back To Basics* conference and the *New Librarians Symposium*. What an excellent professional learning and networking opportunity.

The speaker line-up looks very engaging. I am really looking forward to hearing about what my library and information services colleagues are up to and taking innovative ideas back to work.

I imagine that spring time in our most isolated capital city would probably be a great time to visit beautiful Kings Park too, with its breathtaking views over the Swan River and Perth CBD. And I've heard a lot about the magnificent Perth beaches and their stunning sunsets, places like Cottesloe and Trigg Beach. I can almost feel the fine, white sand between my toes right now. Pina Colada, anyone?

Hmmm... and one has to eat. (I have always been a bit of a gastro-tourist). Friends have told me about great fish and chips at Perth institutions like Cicerello's in Fremantle, the waterside restaurants at sparkling Hillary's Boat Harbour up north and the beachside cafes all the way up the coast with their fantastic views. That'd be nice.

I'm also quite keen to visit a couple of interesting looking restaurants I've read about. The city-located uber-cool Greenhouse includes a roof-top garden, worm farm, strawberry-plant covered exterior walls and cool recycled tableware and furniture made from things like old road signs and gas cylinders. Miss Maud's also looks cool, in an ironic way. Who wouldn't love a grinning Swedish chef and tables groaning with Nordic classics?

I wonder if I'll get a chance to check out the Perth Zoo, the historic Fremantle Prison and port city or the State Art Gallery? I see that the WA Ballet is performing *The Taming of the Shrew* at His Majesty's Theatre in September.

I suppose while I'm there it'd be crazy not to nip across to Rottnest Island and see if I can spot a quokka. Quute! And if I'm planning trips out of town it would be very remiss of me not to zip down to the legendary Margaret River for a day or two. For that matter, maybe I should schedule a chauffeured tour of the Swan Valley wine region too, it's only about 25 minutes from the city centre – so convenient.

If I'm really going to hit the town, someone's recommended Pure Bar in groovy inner-city Subiaco, and the local beach-front landmark Cottesloe Beach Hotel as well as the refurbished Queens Hotel in Highgate north of the city (especially the 'Bingay', bingo hosted by a drag queen). I've also heard great things about Little Creatures Brewery and their pizzas back in Fremantle. Do you think I might be able to fit in a twilight wine cruise on the Swan?

Yes. I really must get that sign-off for my Perth trip in September finalised and my registration forms in. It will be quite an onerous professional commitment but I am prepared to make the sacrifice.

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Editor's note: *OK, we're busted. Libby may be too good to be true, with her plans to be at both conferences and all. But she's been listening to our dedicated conference crews and staff and she knows the real deal about where to be and what to see in Perth this September. Take Libby's advice - register now!*

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