Business information in public libraries

The launch of eight business information collections in Victorian public libraries marks a new era of co-operation between local business communities and public libraries. It also coincides with the State Government's *Small Business May* promotions.

The business information collections, created in public libraries in Box Hill, Parkdale, Mornington, Caulfield, Frankston, Brighton, Coburg and Shepparton, are supported by specially trained staff and on-site electronic business information sources and document delivery systems.

The libraries' collections and services will provide local business people with a range of information to meet their needs — including 'how to' handbooks, statistical data, directories, business news and company, industrial, legal and government information.

The project has been a co-ordinated effort by representatives of Victorian public libraries and the State Library of Victoria's Business Information Service. It is one of a number of Statewide projects funded by the State Government's library development grants through the State Library. Over the next year it is planned to extend the project to a further eight public libraries and expand links with other business information providers.

Kerrie Carstensen, manager of the State Library's business information service said she was delighted to be involved in the expansion of business information throughout Victoria. The local public library is the most accessible point for information for the majority of Victorians, she said.

The project was launched on 21 May by Victor Perton, Member for Doncaster, at a function at Box Hill Library. ■

Attend the conference — free

ALIA Acquisitions Section sponsorship opportunity

The ALIA Acquisitions Section, New South Wales group would like to give the opportunity for someone with fairly recent experience in acquisitions to attend the ALIA 5th Biennial Conference 25–28 October in Adelaide. The sponsorship will include registration costs and airfare, but not accommodation, meals and other related expenses. The offer is open to anyone with up to five years experience in acquisitions as a professional or para-professional, is a New South Wales resident, and an ALIA member. All that is required is to write a 300-word submission on why you would like to attend and how the conference would benefit you. For further information please phone Gloria Lederer-Ponzer on 02 9514 3347 or Dimitria Dess on 02 9715 8325. The closing date for submissions is Monday 3 August 1998. Submissions are to be sent to: Gloria Lederer-Ponzer, University of Technology — City Campus Library, PO Box 123, Broadway NSW 2007

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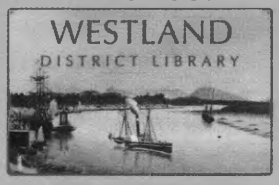

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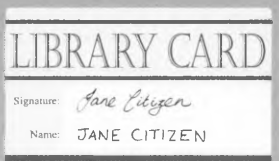

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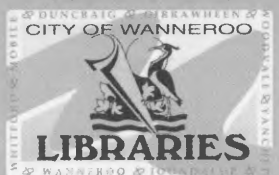

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