

Developing online networks

Diana Harrison, TAFE librarian, RMIT

TAFE (VET) library staff around Australia now have access to a range of online communication strategies, thanks to an ANTA project called 'Developing online networks'. These strategies include a facility for sharing files, a discussion forum, web chat facilities and a mailing list. There are also hints on useful software for online networking and a help button.

The ANTA project was carried out by a consortium which included staff from RMIT Carlton (VET) Library, with the brief of determining effective strategies for establishing online networks using a case study approach. The project team worked with seven groups in VET in Australia, including teachers writing curriculum, private provider consortiums, adult and community education providers, industry training advisory boards and library staff. The national working group for TAFE library services worked in

collaboration with the project team to nominate library staff volunteers from all states, who were then trained in the use of online strategies. This pilot group were then encouraged to utilise these strategies to exchange information and discuss issues of concern to VET libraries.

Feedback from these volunteers indicated that such information exchange and discussion was particularly valuable, and the national working group has now recommended that the communications strategies be made available to TAFE library staff around Australia as a valuable mechanism for cross fertilisation of ideas. The site may be viewed at <http://www.ncver.edu.au/library/natlib/natlib.htm> and TAFE library staff are encouraged to explore the site and initiate discussion. The facilitator would be happy to discuss the utilisation of the site via e-mail to dianah@library.lib.rmit.edu.au ■

Leading librarian retires

Lennie McCall, director of the Battye Library retired recently. Lennie has made a major contribution to library services in Western Australia. She joined the staff of the State Library Service (now the Library and Information Service of Western Australia) in 1953.

In 1965 Lennie was appointed to the position of divisional librarian of the State Bibliographical Centre, a position she held until 1982. This centre was the first of its kind in Australia and led the

way in the co-ordination of library resources to satisfy readers' requests. Lennie developed and managed the state-wide request and information service, built up the union catalogues and bibliographical stock, and gained the goodwill of those participating.

From 1982-1988 Lennie held the position of principal librarian: public lending services. Her next position was director: corporate services which brought together finance, information technology, human resource

management, preservation services, publications and display, and building services.

Lennie has been an active member of ALIA since 1963: she was a member of the Western Australian Branch Council from 1971 to 1983, general councillor from 1977-1979, and president of the Western Australian branch in 1978-79. Lennie has been awarded the Certificate of Recognition for her contribution to the profession in Western Australia. ■



... from previous page

12pm. Venue: QUT, Faculty of Information Technology. Presented by BRISQ and QUT. Ph 07 3840 7794 (Future courses 2/10, 12/11, 13/11).

• **Nov Qld Library Technician section. AGM.** Details: TBA. Contact: Peta Shine, ph 07 3244 5980, fx 07 3244 5986, pmshine@uq.net.au.

SA

• **9/9 SA Special Libraries and RAISS sections. Special Libraries display.** This is to be a repeat of the very successful 'Who you gonna call? The Specialists' evening where a number of special libraries displayed their work. Contact: Jackie Williams, ph 08 8226 2890 or Ros Emms, ph 08 8205 0172.

• **15/9-17/11 SA Branch. Council meeting dates.** Uni of Adelaide, Barr Smith Library, Seminar room B, 5:30pm. 15/9, 20/10, 17/11. Contact: Janine Tan, ph 08 8303 5225, fx 08 8303 4369, jtan@library.adelaide.edu.au.

• **22/9 SA Branch. Conference program committee meeting date.** Contact: Janine Tan, ph 08 8303 5225, fx 08 8303 4369, jtan@library.adelaide.edu.au.

• **6 & 7/10 SA Health Libraries section. National full-day Train-the-trainer Seminar in the Cochrane Library of Evidence-based medicine.** Venue: Adelaide College of TAFE. \$50 Contact: Caryl Armstrong, Drug & Alcohol Services Council Library, ph 08 82743360, fx 08 83730749, carmstrong@dasc.sa.gov.au

• **26/10 SA Special Libraries section. Conference dinner.** This will be held in conjunction with the Health Libraries section and is intended to welcome interstate visitors for the Biennial Conference. Contact: Caryl Armstrong, ph 08 8274 3360, fx 08 83730749, carmstrong@dasc.sa.gov.au.

• **26/10 National UCRLS section. AGM followed by tour of Jam Factory and cocktail party.** Part of the Biennial conference. Details to be advised. Contact: Susan Bray, ph 03 9344 8322, fx 03 9347 0974, bray@lib.unimelb.edu.au.

• **29/10 RMIT Publishing. Informit Online — information sessions.** Replacing NLA's existing Ozline service, Informit Online provides access to over 50 databases via the Internet. Venue: South Australian Museum. Two sessions available: 10am and 2pm. No cost, but registration essential. Contact: Kathy McBrien, kathym@rmitpublishing.com.au or fx: 03 9349 4583.

• **16/11 SA Library Technician section. AGM.** Details: TBA. Contact: Marion Fielke, ph 08 8374 6258.

continued next page...

Do you want to work in the UK?

TFPL has a regular demand for temporary library and information staff. We require qualified or experienced people for vacancies which last from a few days to many months.

Contact Luisa Jefford, Faye Sanderson or Lucy Wingar on **0171 251 5522** on your arrival or whenever you're seeking library / information work during your stay.

Employment Agencies Licence No SE10131



recruitment

TFPL Ltd. · 17-18 Britton Street · London · EC1M 5NQ

Tel: +44 171 2515522 · Fax: +44 171 251 8318 · URL: <http://www.tfpl.com>