

## From the UK to Sri Lanka with Northern Tasmania in between

Cherie Holmes, Northern Areas Regional Group (Tasmania)

The Northern Areas Regional Group kicked off the year with a tour of the new TAFE Library in Launceston and a presentation on United Kingdom community libraries. In March we were treated to a tour of the Tasmanian Conservation Centre, a division of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, where we were shown the finer points of paper conservation. A family picnic by the Tamar River was enjoyed after visiting the Australian Maritime College Library at Beauty Point in April.

To celebrate Australian Library Week the group, together with the Launceston Library, presented library bags containing a picture book, tee shirt, balloons, bookmarks and library registration card to all babies born or transferred to St Lukes Hospital in Launceston during the week. A joint luncheon was held with the TALIA Techs in June at the Launceston Cataract Gorge Restaurant. In August we viewed the re-vamped Launceston Library and the new services offered including the new Online Access Centre and Events Database.

In October we learnt about the pains and gains experienced by Launceston's Scotch Oakburn College Library while changing library software systems. A tour of the Sir John Ramsay Memorial Library at the Launceston General Hospital, together with a presentation recommending that library professionals need to clarify their roles, identify and market their skills in order to take advantage of today's employment opportunities was enjoyed in November.

Our grand finale was a Christmas dinner with a guest speaker who has been working in the library and information field in Sri Lanka. ■

## Developing internet skills

Marg Beasley, North Central Victorian Regional Group

This year our activities have focussed on further developing the internet skills of local librarians, and increasing our awareness of local collections.

The feedback from the two internet workshops — 'Finding information on the internet: strategies and search engines' in March, and 'Classifying internet resources: Clayton's gateway to the web' in September — indicates a pressing need for librarians to update and share strategies for getting the most out of the internet. These strategies can include both technical information about ways to configure a computer to make it do what you want it to do, well as

learning about search engines and their capability. As information managers, these skills are essential for librarians. Because professional development activities do not focus on this area of need, we in the North Central Victorian region are supporting our fellow librarians by sharing knowledge with each other.

The group was also treated to an inspirational visit from Fran Awcock, Librarian of the State Library of Victoria who spoke on the 'State Library into the 21st Century'.

We rounded off the year with a tour of health libraries in Bendigo in November. ■

# ALIA's PREMIER AWARDS

*Nominations are now being called  
for the following awards of the  
Australian Library and Information Association*

### HCL ANDERSON AWARD

This award commemorates HCL Anderson, who was the principal librarian of the Free Public Library of New South Wales from 1906 and is the highest honour the

Association can bestow on a professional member. The HCL Anderson Award is conferred in recognition of outstanding service to librarianship, the profession, ALIA, or to the theory and practice of librarianship. Previous winners of the award include John Wallace Metcalfe, Harrison Bryan, Warren Horton and Margaret Trask. To be eligible for the

award nominees must be Associate members of the Association.



### REDMOND BARRY AWARD

The Redmond Barry Award is conferred in recognition of outstanding service to ALIA, to the promotion/theory/practice of library and information science or an associated field. Nominees must be people who are not eligible to become a professional member; and not employed in the field of library and information science.

Prof Donald Lamberton and The Hon EG Whitlam are previous recipients of this award.



### ELLINOR ARCHER AWARD

Ellinor Archer was a foundation member of the Australian Institute of Librarians and its first woman president. The Ellinor Archer Award

is conferred in recognition of outstanding service to a library and information service, the promotion/theory/practice of library and information science, or an associated field. Nominees must be, or have been, employed in libraries, but be ineligible for Associate membership. A previous recipient is Ena Noël.



#### Confidentiality

It is essential that nominees should NOT be aware that they are nominated for an award. Nominations are considered by the National Awards Committee and General Council in committee, and details are published only when the nominations are successful. Divisions of ALIA are particularly asked not to note nominations in their agenda papers or minutes. Disclosure of such details can prejudice a nomination.

#### Nomination forms

Nomination forms are available from  
ALIA National Office, PO Box E441, Kingston ACT 2604  
phone 02 6285 1877, fax 02 6282 2249  
e-mail awards@alia.org.au URL <http://www.alia.org.au/awards/>

**Nominations close 1 February 2000**