Library technicians to see 'The best Government House in any British colony'

Novelist Anthony Trollope described Tasmania's Government House in these exact words after visiting the House in 1873. He wrote that it, 'lacks for nothing necessary for a perfect English residence.' (*Government House, Tasmania*. Published by the Government Printer, [1989])

Library technicians attending the 11th ALIA National Library Technicians conference in Hobart this year, have been invited by His Excellency, the Governor of Tasmania, Sir Guy Green AC KBE and Lady Green, to attend a reception at the residence often referred to as 'Australia's finest Government House'.

The house was built between 1855 and 1857 in the neo-Gothic style and is situated in extensive and beautiful grounds, adjacent to the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. It is built on Pavilion Point, just 1.5 km from the conference venue. Overlooking the River Derwent in two directions, its sandstone exterior displays exceptional stone work including window mullions, gargoyles, clock tower, turrets and individual chimney pots.

Government House boasts seventy rooms including the elegant Main Hall with atrium; the Dining Room to seat thirty-six dignitaries and guests at its original mahogany table; the Anti-Drawing Room where the Governor receives guests; the Drawing Room including French Empire furniture original to the House and probably the only such collection in daily use in Australia; the Ballroom featuring magnificent Bohemian crystal chandeliers and superb stained glass; and the Solarium, the only addition made to the House since its completion in 1857.

Numbers for attendance to this reception will be limited and delegates are advised to register early for their opportunity to view this magnificent building first-hand. To register now contact our conference organisers *Convention Wise* by e-mail at mail@conventionwise.com.au or by phone on 03 6234 1424. You may also download and print the registration form by following the *Program and registration* link from our website http://www.alia.org.au/groups/libtnat/.

Government House, Tasmania