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The University  
of South  
Australia Library  
in association with ALIA  
presents



**THE VITAL LINK 3:  
STAFFING IN LIBRARY AND  
INFORMATION SERVICES  
IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**  
Friday 29 November &  
Saturday 30 November 2002 at  
the Townhouse on Hindley,  
Adelaide

#### Conference aims

- Education
- Industrial relations
- Managing change
- Mentoring
- Training
- Workplace planning

#### Further information

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## Emphasising lifelong learning, cultural diversity and information literacy

Rockdale City Library, in Sydney's south, used Australian Library and Information Week 2002 as the focus of its promotion activities for 2001–2002. The library hosted a range of activities which emphasised lifelong learning, cultural diversity and information literacy.

Each lunchtime during the week professional musicians performed in the Rockdale library. The diverse range of music included a solo violinist, a troupe of musicians playing medieval music, jazz guitarist Steve Brien, traditional Chinese music and a concert harp performance.

As part of the library's commitment to lifelong learning free classes were organised. French and Chinese cooking demonstrations, and a tai chi demonstration were held through the week. These activities emphasised the library as a community place where learning of all kinds occurs.

Rockdale Library's mission is to provide the community with the knowledge it needs to fulfil its potential. To help with the development of information literacy in the community a talk on techniques for searching the web was presented. The aim of the talk was to develop a basic understanding of search techniques and the operations of the World Wide Web. The library also launched a new collection of 600 DVD titles.

Finally, the library received recognition from its major stakeholder — the City Council. The library was the recipient of a 'Mayoral Minute' at the 22 May Rockdale City Council meeting. The Mayoral Minute recognised the importance of libraries to Australian society and, in part, read:

*... libraries, and everything they embody, make our cities livable cities.*

*Libraries are very special places. They are dedicated to diversity, equity of access and continuous learning. They are well known as safe places, open to the whole community. Public libraries are unique because they are the only social spaces in our cities that are open to all people that are dedicated to knowledge.*

Overall, Australian Library and Information Week 2002 was a fantastic opportunity to promote our services and mission. The library managed to create a great deal of good will in the community chiefly through the interaction of customers with our enthusiastic and professional staff. We celebrated the range of services we offer and managed to generate some local media attention.

*David Mitchell, acting manager, Library and Information Service, Rockdale City Council*

## Not the ALIA conference...

RAIS Qld launched LIW 2002 celebrations in Queensland with 'Not the ALIA 2002 conference' drinks on Monday 20 May. More than forty members, new librarians, librarianship students and friends joined with representatives of sponsor Resource Options to network and party in style at the Premiers Lounge Bar in Brisbane's Treasury Casino.

Advertised as Queensland's 'alternative ALIA 2002 function of the year', the evening did not disappoint with genteel surroundings, convivial company, good food, and a selection of drinks to tempt every palate from the robust to the refined. The committee would like to thank Jenny Hale, the team at Resource Options, and all those who attended and made the evening an event to remember. We hope to see everyone again at RAIS Qld's premier social event for the year, 'RAIS-a-matazz' in November.

*Richard Sayers, convenor, RAIS Queensland*