

Library technicians in 2005: the year that was ...

ACT — Beth Clary

ACT Technicians continued to gather socially over the course of the year at dinners, breakfast and afternoon teas. It has been encouraging to see new faces at these events. The National Library Technician's Day Breakfast continues to be very popular. Our guest speaker, Andrew Shiells (program co-ordinator, Library Studies, Canberra Institute of Technology), gave a presentation on the new diploma program. An afternoon tea for conference attendees also proved popular. PD activities were held in co-operation with ACTIVE ALIA and AGLIN.

NSW — Janette Telford

The NSW Library Technicians group ended the year with a meeting and Christmas party at a Parramatta restaurant in December. Approximately 15 people attended, representing university, public, special, school and government libraries. The highlight of the year was the neXt2005 Conference held during September in Sydney.

Northern Territory — Liam Casey

For their end-of-year celebrations library technicians from the Northern Territory joined the ALIA Top End Group at the Asian Gateway Thai Restaurant at Nightcliff. Some of the highlights for 2005: the National Library Technicians Day dinner at Darwin Sailing Club, the 3rd ALIA Top End Symposium and attending the neXt2005 Conference.

Queensland — Trish D'Arcy

Our Christmas party this year was held at the Ship Inn at Southbank Parklands in Brisbane on Saturday 26 November 2005. This was a lunchtime gathering and attracted about 23 attendees. This year we switched from a breakfast function to accommodate the needs of those members of the group who do not

live in Brisbane — brekkie was just a tad too early for some! There was a great mix of people who attended — students, regular enthusiastic members, and new arrivals to Brisbane, so it was a lively and buzzing atmosphere. Food was excellent, prizes were plentiful, little lolly bags and bonbons decorated the tables, so everyone had a very happy festive time in the lead-up to Christmas! A fitting end to an excellent year.

South Australia — Terri Pamment

For their end-of-year event the South Australian Library Technicians combined resources with other ALIA groups and held a joint celebration of achievements in 2005. On 6 December managers, librarians, library technicians and students from academic, public and special libraries attended 'Starry Starry Night'. Apart from celebrating the festive season the evening was an opportunity to acknowledge individuals, groups and organisations that have made a positive contribution to the library and information industry. Congratulations to all nominees. Finger food and entertainment in the form of 'library carols' assisted in making this a fun occasion.

Tasmania — Rebecca Evans

Towards the end of last year TALIA Tecs changed its group format to become a 'virtual' group. The group will communicate with other ALIA Library Technicians via e-mail with anything of interest to the group.

Victoria — Clare Bristow

Once again 2005 was a very busy and successful year for the Victorian Library Technicians. Many events were held, including 'Hot off the Press', National Library Technicians Day (2 events), the 8th Annual 'Techs on Tour', the AGM and of course the end-of-year celebrations which took place at Toorak Lion Hotel on 9th December. All were extremely well attended, and we look forward to continuing to offer a wide variety of events for 2006.

Western Australia — Judy Allan

Some of the highlights of 2005 for the WA Library Technicians were: listening to Courtyard Music at the Fremantle Arts Centre; an evening with Colin Falconer (*aka* Mark D'Arbanville, author of *The Naked Husband*) at the South Perth Book Caffe; a careers development workshop; an advanced internet searching workshop and a library bus tour. The Biennial WALTG Student Conference Grant was awarded to Felicity Seeber at the Library Technicians' Day Breakfast. We finished the year with a very enjoyable end-of-year dinner at the Broken Hill Hotel. ■

ALIA Appointments

<http://alia.org.au/employment/vacancies.html>

WANTED

a career in a library

I am looking for a full-time position, with a public library. I am a flexible, enthusiastic person, with a 'can do' attitude, who believes wholeheartedly in the role that libraries play in lifelong learning. I am a fit, healthy non-smoker, with a large personal collection of books. I have a good knowledge of automated library management systems, sound computer skills, and my customer service is first rate. I have worked in libraries in a volunteer capacity, and although my experience is limited, I am a fast learner. I am currently studying Library Science at Charles Sturt University, and have a Certificate III in Library Science.

I am willing to relocate to take up a position. My résumé, for your perusal, is available via e-mail — alieads1@optusnet.com.au.

Alison Edwards, student member of ALIA

'For I will consider my cat Jeffrey' public lecture

Award-winning poet Dorothy Porter will deliver the 2006 Colin Simpson Memorial Lecture on the theme 'Christopher Smart's cat and the New Australian Nationalism'. Christopher Smart was an 18th century English poet who was confined to a lunatic asylum for much of his life. Smart's ode to his cat begins 'For I will consider my cat Jeffrey'. Porter will explore a writer's intimate praise of the specific, personal and small in contrast to the loud, belligerent love of a country. The lecture is at Redfern Town Hall at 11.30am on Saturday 25 March 2006. This is a public lecture and everyone is welcome, so bring your family and friends and spread the news about this important literary event. ■