

# My 'first time': a Click '06 report

I was delighted to be provided with the opportunity by the University of Canberra Library to attend the 2006 ALIA Biennial Conference, Click '06. Despite working as a professional tertiary librarian for over 20 years, this was to be my 'first time'.

Why this Biennial Conference you ask? A number of reasons: both professional and personal.

Professionally, several papers were particularly appealing because they had a direct relationship to the accountabilities of the library team I currently lead – particularly information literacy and reference services. Others were related to projects that I am currently involved in, such as the LRMS Reference Group, or related to specific development needs that I had listed on

my current staff development plan, which included learning more about the application of new technologies.

On a personal level, with my three children now a little older, 4 days without Mum's presence appeared to be an option all parties could consider. Also I'd never travelled further west than Adelaide, so the opportunity to catch a glimpse of Perth was tantalising – though it was quite clear, glancing at the packed agenda, that a quick glimpse was all I could realistically expect!

The flight over was pleasant, but not eventful: unfortunately not so my first night at my nominated hotel – sleep remains elusive when your room overlooks a busy freeway! Whilst an early start in order to attend the First Timers' Breakfast was a struggle, the welcoming atmosphere, first-rate food and opportunity to meet other First Timers was an experience that I would highly recommend.

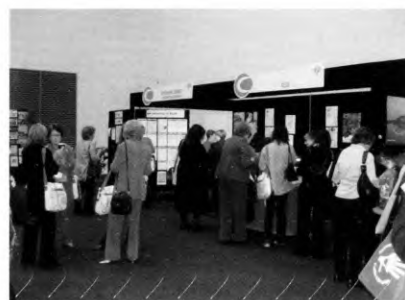
Three very full days were to follow: the keynote speakers were certainly inspiring, particularly Dawn Casey and Neil McClelland; the 11 concurrent sessions I attended catered to my professional needs, although I must say not always to the depth I had

expected; the catering was first-class, be it tea breaks, lunch or the elegant conference dinner; and the trade exhibitions well presented and informative. The effort to retain the Spanish theme throughout was a credit to the organising committee, as was the humour of the character Dr Click.

Certainly, once the hotel was able to relocate me, I was able to make the most of all opportunities, personal and professional, offered by the Click '06 conference.

Alice Springs in 2008 – I'm more than happy to consider it!

*Judy Currier  
University of Canberra*



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## Be **WARM** this **June** on the **Sunshine** Coast

New awards for writers around Australia and an ambitious plan for a month of events in June 2007 to nurture, showcase and celebrate the literary arts have been launched on the Sunshine Coast. WARM – Writers', Artists' and Readers' Month – was unveiled at a spectacular launch on the Sunshine Coast in December 2006, complete with fire twirlers, exotic dancers, exploding liquid glass and a court jester.

Two established events in June – Voices on the Coast and the Noosa Long Weekend – now come under the WARM 'umbrella'. They both have a strong literary component, with 'Voices' reaching a youthful audience and the 'Noosa Long Weekend', which was initiated by playwright David Williamson, appealing to a more adult market with writers and celebrities playing starring roles.

One of the highlights of WARM will be the gala dinner, which will include the presentation of the inaugural WARM Literary Awards for poets, playwrights, authors and publishers.

Entries are open to any writer residing, working or studying in Australia. Some of the awards call for a Sunshine Coast connection, either in subject matter, theme, or having been written while residing, visiting, studying or working on the Coast. WARM Literary Awards close on 31 March 2007.

*More information about the first WARM Literary Awards, including entry kits, appears on the website <http://www.warmwriting.org>.*