

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS REPORT MEETING HELD AT UMRL HQ WODONGA 14 NOV 02

Sherrey and Ian from Libraries Alive! travelled to Wodonga to meet with Lynne for a discussion of work-in-progress. The points below provide a snapshot.

1. Lynne has lodged all required documentation with ASIC, and anticipates that Public Libraries Australia Limited will be formally established later this month.
2. Division of tasks was confirmed (Lynne to focus on memberships, promotion and subscriptions; Ian to focus on corporate identity, specific projects, and relationships with ALGA and ALIA).
3. Lynne to follow-up on major library creditors as potential sponsors.
4. Ian reported on meetings held with David Toll and Roxanne Missingham at the National Library, and with Jennefer Nicholson and Susan Magnay at ALIA. The National Library is keen for PLA to have a strong advocacy role (facilitates access to Commonwealth funds), and in the Kinetica context, would welcome a national approach from public libraries for access to NLA services. A pilot public libraries portal is being set-up to provide access to electronic content, including APAIS full-text, Picture Australia and the NBD. Participants are Yarra Plenty, Yarra Melbourne, Moree and Brisbane public libraries. This model could be extended to all PLA members. ALIA is keen for PLA to become involved in specific projects, and has (sensibly) suggested that the point of contact with them should be their newly established Public Libraries Reference Group.
5. The meeting discussed the amount of work that needed to be done within the available time and budget, and it was agreed that it made sense for Ian to focus on one service-based initiative (database access), and one project fee-for-service opportunity (identifying a Commonwealth Government agency with a requirement for information dissemination through the library network). Contact will now be made with the National Farmers' Federation as part of a strategy to identify a rural/regional issue for further quantification.
6. Initial reaction to Brian Sadgrove's design concepts was highly favourable - especially for the 'computer book' logo, and Ian is to continue to work with Brian to refine PLA's corporate identity.
7. The meeting also discussed establishing a database of public library contacts. Major information sources were identified, but no further action is proposed, yet.

Ian McCallum
Libraries Alive!
15 November 2002