

# Library and Information Week 14–20 May 2001

## Information Rights Day Monday 14 May

The first Information Rights Day to be held in Australia will be celebrated at the beginning of the Library and Information Week. The theme for the Day is Information matters! It aims to focus attention on the democratic and equal right to information for individual and societal benefit, and to showcase the vital role of library and information specialists in the provision of quality access to and use of information resources.

Information Rights Day is an opportunity for libraries and others who support access to information to increase public awareness of information policy issues such as:

- equitable access — the information 'rich' and information 'poor'
- public space on the information highway
- access to government information
- intellectual property matters
- privacy concerns
- the need for information-literate citizens and organisations

ALIA encourages libraries and library professionals to play a leadership role within their communities by planning promotions and hosting programs for Information Rights Day 2001. Suggested activities range from seeking political endorsement of the Information Rights Day proclamation, to public education programming on access and privacy issues.

An Information Rights Day kit, including programming suggestions and bibliography, has been developed by ALIA National Office and will be available at <http://www.alia.org.au/alw/> or from ALIA National Office.

## National Library Technicians Day Tuesday 15 May

All library and information workers are invited to join library technicians to celebrate National Library Technicians Day on 15 May, during Library and Information Week. The li-



brary technician sections in all States and Territories are planning a range of activities — details of events will appear in future issues of *inCite*.

Activities will also be advertised via the sections through State and Territory newsletters, on the ALIA Libtec discussion list, and of course by word of mouth.

Our first celebration last year was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, resulting in many comments of 'Wish we had joined you' and 'Will make sure we come next year'. So highlight the date and the activity in your diaries and come along and join us.

The list below provides an initial selection of activities planned by the sections for National Library Technicians Day 2001. Not all sections have met yet this year, so we will keep you up to date as details come to hand.

ACT — Breakfast

Queensland — Dinner

Northern Territory — TBA

South Australia — Breakfast

Tasmania — TBA

Victoria — Visits to library studies school; dinner

Western Australia — TBA

## Libraries Thank You Day Wednesday 16 May

Your library is the centre of information in your community and workplace. Thank You Day is an opportunity to show your appreciation to elected officials, Friends of Libraries groups, and users for their support of your library.

We realise that thanking your elected officials and users is something that you may already be doing on a regular basis. However, you may wish to take this opportunity to formally invite elected officials, the community, the media, and library supporters and users to meet people who have benefited from your library's programs.

Design a presentation that highlights your new and innovative programs, tailored to your community or

workplace. Good publicity increases awareness and builds support among the general public, government, decision makers, other supporting organisations, and likely library users.

## National Simultaneous Storytime Thursday 17 May

Be part of this major Library Week event, when the same story will be read at the same time in libraries and schools around the country. An announcement about the book to be read will be made very soon. Keep an eye on ALIANet for further details. Register your interest to participate at <http://www.alia.org.au/alw/2001/>.

## Libraries Online Day Friday 18 May

This is your opportunity to reinforce your library's ongoing commitment to delivery of online services to the public and raising public awareness of the internet. ALIANet will keep you up to date with what's happening in libraries around the country.

For the second year in a row the State Library of Queensland is conducting its online puzzle. To be launched at the beginning of Library and Information Week the Online Quiz will run until Tuesday 5 June at <http://www.slq.gov.au/quiz/>.

Don't forget to publicise your Library and Information Week events in *inCite* and on ALIANet. Further information on all LIW events can be found on ALIANet at <http://www.alia.org.au/alw/> or contact your state LIW coordinator or Amanda Jacobsen at ALIA National Office. ■

