

SA state patron a first for ALIA

Alan Smith, director of the State Library of South Australia is to be the patron of ALIASA. He is the first official patron of a branch or group within the Association. The ALIASA committee has been reviewing operations and programs over several months and the proposal to ask Alan to take the role of patron arose from these discussions. ALIASA felt a patron could help the Association in South Australia to identify and contribute more effectively in areas such as advocacy, and would also provide members with an insight into effective leadership.

As patron, Alan will work closely with ALIASA to make the most of opportunities for advocacy and promotion of the profession and the sector in South Australia. The South Australian library and information community faces similar challenges to their



Alan (centre) with Ray Choate and Sue Hutley at a Nuts and Bolts event held in Adelaide in March 2006.

interstate colleagues in terms of the ageing workforce, constant restructure and review and depleted resources. In addition, the state's library education system is also undergoing significant restructuring.

On accepting the invitation, Alan said, 'It's a great privilege to be asked to support our profession in this way. I am a great believer in the positive role that professional associations can have in nurturing, challenging and advocating for people.'

Miles Franklin Literary Award 2006 shortlist

We congratulate the 2006 shortlist:

Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living, Carrie Tiffany, Picador

The Ballad of Desmond Kale, Roger McDonald, Vintage (Random House Australia)

The Garden Book, Brian Castro, Giramondo Publishing Company

The Secret River, Kate Grenville, Text Publishing

The Wing of Night, Brenda Walker, Viking (Penguin Group Australia)

For more information about the shortlist please visit: http://www.trust.com.au/awards/miles_franklin.

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