

Directline

IFLA WLIC 2007

The World Library and Information Congress is always an experience, for first-timers and the veterans. As Roxanne Missingham outlined in *Frontline* this year's Congress was a celebration of Australian initiative.

The Libs for Africa project, organised by Sharon Karasmanis and the team from the La Trobe University Library, was a positive and inspirational result of volunteering and philanthropy. Thank you to all of the Australian librarians and libraries that donated to this project. The results have been tangible and will be long lasting. Check out the website for photos and thank yous from the successful African librarians. <<http://www.lib.latrobe.edu.au/africa/>>.

We also look forward to hearing more of the results of the successful Gates Foundation Award to the Northern Territory Libraries.

And finally, there were a number of proud and happy moments with ALIA representatives and Australian delegates receiving the news of Brisbane being selected to host IFLA WLIC 2010. This was also very special for me personally — being a Queenslander and all. The Congress will be a wonderful opportunity for the Australian library community to showcase that we are leading-edge professionals in the international scene.

Roxanne Missingham and Keith Webster (who will chair the 2010 Australian National Organising Committee) celebrated the announcement with an Aussie Icon accompanying them onto the stage in Durban.

ALIA Group plans

ALIA currently has 50 self-nominating groups that are subject specific, sectoral or geographically based. Around this time each year the Office Bearers of the Groups begin planning for the next year and will complete a short plan of activities, due to the Executive Director by December <<http://www.alia.org.au/members-only/governance/obg/>>. If you have ideas for your local group, sector or subject group, why not get in touch with the convenor of the group and suggest an idea or activity. You might have recently attended a training day at your workplace, you might have noticed an interesting event held by another organisation or want to hear about an interesting development in our industry. Groups are a major and important part of the work of ALIA and we also thank very much the office-bearers and other volunteer members on these committees, putting in hundreds of hours of their time and expertise to improve and enhance what it means to be a member of ALIA. Anytime is a good time to get involved in an ALIA group so why not put up your hand to volunteer your time. Meet some of our other volunteers in our 'Volunteers in the spotlight' interview in *inCite*.

Want some more information or assistance? Please contact Robyn Ellard (Assistant Director: Member Services) on **1800 020 071** or email <robyn.ellard@alia.org.au>.

FA Sharr Medal – ALIA West Group Award

Rebecca Marchenkov was awarded the FA Sharr Medal on the 29th of August at a function at the State Library of Western Australia. Rebecca is a most worthy recipient of this medal. This is the 31st anniversary of its awarding to West Australian graduand librarians and library technicians. She exemplifies all the criteria for the Award which includes the potential of the winner to have a positive impact on their preferred stream of the library profession.

Rebecca has already shown her commitment to her chosen profession during her studies at Edith Cowan University by completing the course with outstanding results. Rebecca also has an undergraduate degree in Computer Science.

In today's workplace library and information professionals are required to have expertise in information technology and Rebecca has a particular interest in the development and use of blogging technologies to enhance community connections in public libraries. Rebecca also realises the potential of technology to provide professional development and build communities of best practice between library staff.

More IFLA news and photos from Durban in next month's issue. Papers from this year's conference are available at <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/Programme2007.htm>>.



The Librarians on ABC

The Librarians, a six-part ABC TV comedy, goes to air on 31 October 2007.

We would love to hear how you are planning to celebrate this special series. Please e-mail Jane Hardy at <jane.hardy@alia.org.au> with details of your events, your stories and photos.

For a synopsis and flyer see <<http://www.abc.net.au/abccontentsales/s2017580.htm>>.



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Local Liaison Officers

LLOs are ALIA representatives in each state/territory. Their duties include being a point of contact for members and non-members

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