

MERRY MAY

The merry month of May will have libraries on the run from event to event as we celebrate information awareness, cyber safety, thousands of children reading simultaneously and more.

May is always a big month for ALIA, and this one will be no exception. It starts with MayDay, it's Information Awareness Month, we hold our Annual General Meeting, the ALIA Roundtable, ALIA's Annual Higher Educators' Meeting, new Board inductions and transferring to new board members, Library and Information Week, National Simultaneous Storytime, National Library Technicians Day, and the Biggest Morning Tea. There's so much happening, all of our members will be involved in these at some stage – I hope you take time to enjoy being a part of it.

Volunteers play such an important role in our organisation – they are the lifeblood that flows and keeps us alive and thriving. May is also a month to say a big Thank You to our dedicated volunteer members who contribute their time, expertise, organising abilities and encouragement as we partake of celebrations for National Volunteers Week.

In celebrating our achievements this month we can chalk up another significant moment in the launch of *Beyond a Quality Service, Strengthening the Social Fabric: National Standards and Guidelines for Public Libraries*. Incoming President Margaret Allen and I were proud to launch the Standards and Guidelines alongside our public library association colleagues in Perth at the Public Libraries Western Australia conference. Along with important reports due out in May such as *Dollars and Sense: Value of Public Libraries in Victoria*, these resources give us even more tools to demonstrate our value and argue for funding and resources for this sector.

May is also budget month and ALIA will again be analysing the Federal Budget when it is released, with a summary for members being made available on the ALIA website.

As I write this, we are preparing for the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

That means it is also time for me to personally offer my thanks to our outgoing Board Members who are finishing their terms at the AGM on 17th May, and to welcome Vanessa Little, Joseph Cullen and Kathryn Cass as they start the ALIA Board journey. My thanks to them and all who support ALIA with your precious time and expertise.

Sue Hutley
ALIA Executive Director
sue.hutley@alia.org.au



Margaret Allen (ALIA Vice-president), Sue Hutley (ALIA Executive Director) and Julie Caddy (President, Public Libraries Western Australia) launching the National Standards and Guidelines for Public Libraries in Perth.

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www.alia.org.au/education/pd/scheme/recognition/

Standards and Guidelines for Australian Public Libraries launched

ALIA's President-elect Margaret Allen and Executive Director Sue Hutley launched the new national standards for Australian public libraries last month

www.alia.org.au/publiclibraries

Donate to Kay Poustie travel grant online

At the conferring of the Library Board of WA Fellows Kay Poustie in late 2010 the establishment of a travel grant in Kay's honour was announced in recognition of Kay's commitment to, and belief in, the vital role of the international perspective for our profession. The travel grant is being funded by donations to establish an inaugural award for 2012. You can donate online to support the profession by visiting www.statelibraryfoundation.org Just roll your mouse over the map of WA, click on Donation and in the fund allocation line In Memoriam write Kay's name. You will be sent a tax deductible receipt. Further details can be obtained from Ms Bronwyn Lewis - Executive Director, State Library of Western Australia Foundation bronwyn.lewis@slwa.wa.gov.au.