

Professional development

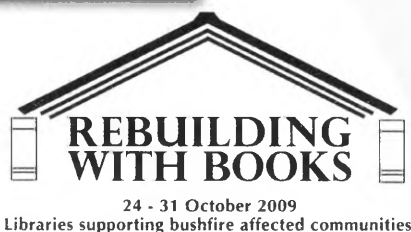


ALIA Career Expo Starter Pack: promotion of the library profession as a career

ALIA has produced a careers poster and postcard as part of a Career Expo Starter Pack for ALIA members and groups to use at careers fairs around Australia. The free pack includes an A3 poster, 50 Post cards, 25 leaflets: "What ALIA's Course recognition means for you", and a random sample of current ALIA promotional material. This free kit is available by contacting the Professional Development and Careers Manager, pd@alia.org.au. Extra packs are available for purchase.

This Career Pack complements the Destination wiki postcard and website.

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Libraries and book trade together help people rebuild with books

At the beginning of September, ALIA, the Australian Booksellers Association (ABA), and Australian Publishers' Association (APA), with the support of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, launched *Rebuilding with Books*, an initiative to help families who lost their homes in the 2009 Victorian bushfires.

More than 4800 people face the prospect of rebuilding. The immediate need is for walls, a roof, furniture, fittings, but what about those other things that make a house a home – the pictures, the music, the games and toys, and, of course, the books? The goal of the joint endeavour is to provide new books for families with empty bookshelves.

The campaign is in three parts.

First, the ABA has arranged for booksellers around Australia to participate in its campaign, running from early September to mid-October, urging members of the public to go into bookshops and buy book vouchers for bushfire affected families.

At the same time, the APA is asking its members to donate brand new books, according to the genres requested by families using an online form on the ALIA BAC wiki (<http://bacwiki.wikidot.com>). The books will be distributed through the local team at Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service and via the libraries in the affected communities.

The third stage is where libraries come into the picture.

At the time of the disaster, offers of help flooded in from library staff across Australia. The ALIA Disaster Recovery project was set up and Yarra Plenty Regional Library led the initiative, distributing an emergency stock of second-hand books for children and families who had lost everything in the inferno.

Many libraries asked what they could contribute. At the time, there was little anyone outside the affected area could do, but now there is an opportunity to be part of a nationwide library campaign from 24–31 October.

We know many public and school libraries have stockpiled second-hand books in the hope that these may be of use, so during the week, we are asking libraries to hold a booksale or some other fundraising activity to raise money for book vouchers. More information and downloadable support materials are available on the ALIA website (www.alia.org.au/disasterrecovery) or contact Sue McKerracher, ALIA disaster recovery project manager on 0404 456749, sue.mckerracher@alia.org.au.

The ALIA campaign is in partnership with the State Library of Victoria, School Library Association of Victoria, Public Libraries Victoria Network, and Friends of Libraries Australia.

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AUSTRALIAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION



Introducing ALIA's newest LLO

Carol Newton-Smith has worked in a range of positions in her librarian career. She is currently library manager at The University of Western Australia Medical and Dental Library in Perth. Previous to that, her librarian positions have included outreach reference librarian, database trainer, online search consultant, academic teacher, and special librarian in Perth, Brisbane, and Darwin. Carol has been a member of ALIA since she graduated with her professional qualifications and has served in many capacities (in several States) including two years as an ALIA Director. Her professional passions are evidence based practice, staff development, and mentoring. Carol is excited to become the ALIA Local Liaison Officer (LLO) for Western Australia.

Carol can be contacted on (08) 9381 5674 or email carol.newton-smith@alia.org.au