

1.3 MILLION FOR NYR 2012

We Love2Read!

It was a great occasion for the Prime Minister to confirm her support and that of the Australian Government for the National Year of Reading 2012 at the PM's Literary Award ceremony - reconfirmed when State Manager, Claudia Davies also caught a few minutes of her time a few days later during a Brisbane shopping mall visit. The funding announced will be focussed on the One Country Reading program and Workplace Literacy initiatives. love2read.org.au

All ALIA Members can play a role in the National Year of Reading - by planning events in your library, in your community, a national program perhaps, or a fun evening with friends. Please also connect us with your business connections and colleagues. They can become partners and friends (there is no charge) by following the details on the Love2Read wiki.

I will add my thanks to Sue McKerracher and also my ALIA National Office team for their tireless behind-the-scenes work on all the negotiations for the funding so far. Thanks also to the lobbying efforts of other Founding Partner members. But now the real work is just starting. It's going to be a great year, but we also need our ALIA members' support. You may have seen the start of a campaign for *52 Reasons Why You Should Join ALIA* - the work done on behalf of members for the National Year of Reading is just one of those reasons.

Library holidays

Would you plan a holiday around visiting a library? I think many library people (and their long-suffering families) would say, "yes". And not just for the incentive of a tax deduction either. Visiting libraries

is useful for inspiration, comparing services, gaining ideas and as a sign that you support your profession. You can even get PD points for it!

Libraries all over the world are proven drawcards for tourism, not just for library-types. Australia showcases some of the best every year to international visitors and friends. Have you ever done a secret shopper for your library to see how 'visitor friendly' it is, especially for international travellers who may not speak english?

Public library funding cuts

As this *INCITE* goes to press we note the Victorian State Government's proposal to cut funding to Victorian public libraries. We reported the release of the *Dollars and Sense and Public Libraries* report in *INCITE* last month - real facts and figures that will be critical in this discussion. You can follow developments on the proposal on our twitterstream, e-lists and Facebook.

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Perth conference social media sponsor announced

ALIA welcomes Perth Convention Bureau as our social media sponsor for both the Library Technicians Back To Basics conference and New Librarians Symposium 5 in Perth next month.

National Bookshop Day

ALIA works closely on a range of advocacy projects with the Australian Booksellers Association so it's time to show our support. The ABA has launched National Bookshop Day,

to be celebrated on August 20. Check it out at www.aba.org.au and show your support for the contributions our local bookshops make to Australian literature, culture and society.

DBCDE Digital Hubs

Funding is now available for initiatives with the National Digital Economy Strategy. and libraries in NBN rollout regions are eligible. More info at www.nbn.gov.au/the-vision/digitaleconomystrategy/.

Au revoir but not goodbye

This month we say au revoir and thanks to Alyson Dalby for her wonderful work as ALIA State Manager for Queensland. It's not goodbye though, we are sure Alyson will continue to be a very active member of the Association.