

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

The last few months flew by so fast; it's hard to believe we're already in a new year. I still find myself typing 2013 when it should be 2014.

2013 was our 'Year of Renewal'. It included launching the new website, refreshing the INCITE magazine design and content, introducing our online newsletter ALIA Weekly, delivering a record-breaking year of training, and mounting the successful ALIA Information Online conference.

We also continued actively to lobby and advocate for libraries, library and information professionals, and for positive outcomes that affect our members and society in general, such as copyright reform.

We created the Certified Professional status, with a health focus specialisation up and running and more specialisations to follow this year. We also looked at our course accreditation process and we will be putting in place changes to support students, educators and employers. Included in this will be an Education, Skills and Employability Summit as part of our National Conference in Melbourne in September.

ALL THIS WORK HAS SET THE SCENE FOR 2014, DURING WHICH WE WILL FOCUS ON THE INDISPUTABLE FACT THAT 'TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER'.

This is the theme of our National Conference and it can be interpreted in a number of ways. First, it is about our reasons for joining the Association. Together, we can achieve far more than we could individually. Second, it is about our voice in government and the wider community. Together, we have a far greater presence and this adds significant weight to our case. Third, it describes our interest in collaborating with others to make our members' ambitions a reality.

We have been pleased to work with national and state-based associations representing different sectors, as well as our own Advisory Committees and ALIA Groups during 2013, and this cooperation has made our advocacy even more effective.

We will be relaunching the ALIA Awards in the first quarter of 2014, encouraging you to think about members who deserve very special recognition. This year we will also be developing an ALIA repository and we will be carrying out

an analysis of the likely size of the workforce in 2020, related to the number of professionals who will be retiring and the number of new graduates coming through our accredited courses.

During the next 12 months we will be asking you, our members, to help spread the word to non-members and to encourage them to join the Association.

For Library and Information Week in May, we will be holding a Join ALIA Day and we are hoping members will hold events in your workplaces and use the opportunity to encourage people to subscribe to ALIA as professional and general members.

Although ALIA is primarily about the library and information profession, we always welcome members from other disciplines who work in the library and information sector and the service providers who support us.

Please make advocating for membership one of your new year's resolutions because it really is true—together we are stronger.



SUE MCKERRACHER
ALIA Executive Director

library lovers' day
14 february 2014












Australian Library and
Information Association

#librarylove
www.alia.org.au/libraryloversday

INCITE

APRIL 2014

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE 'L' WORD



Did the words 'librarian' or 'library technician' actually appear in the last job advertisement you looked at? Is it even in your job description? And should you care?

INCITE wants your opinion and we want to know about your experiences in gaining employment or advancement, with or without the 'right' words attached. We also want to hear from employers with success stories of best practice in staff development, career advancement and succession planning in the workplace. It's time to share your successes and your advice.

The deadline for contributions is 17 February 2014.

Check the guidelines for contributions on the ALIA website and email your stories and images to incite@alia.org.au. Please note all images must be high resolution (at least 300dpi) and sent separately as jpg files. Images may be reproduced in print and online.

CAN YOU LEND A HELPING HAND?

It may seem a while ago now but the work of clearing up after Typhoon Haiyan that devastated the Philippines late last year continues. We are in touch with colleagues in LIANZA, Blue Shield Australia and IFLA, and we are focusing our efforts on supporting the Philippine Librarians' Association Inc (PLAI). PLAI's President, Elizabeth Peralejo has issued a call for action (<http://bit.ly/1gsfepa>) which includes information on how to send financial support. Can you help?

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