

COOKING FOR COPYRIGHT

Libraries around the nation held another huge #CookingforCopyright day on 31 July 2017 to celebrate the sweet taste of success. As **HEATHER WELLARD** reports, FAIR and ALIA's advocacy campaign paid off when the law was changed to unlock millions of historical manuscripts and archives.

It was a moment to reflect on how advocacy in the library world led to real change, experience a sugar overload and participate in some civil disobedience at the same time. July 31 marked the two-year anniversary of the #CookingforCopyright campaign and it was the day that librarians around the nation did a victory dance over baked goods to celebrate the passing of amendments to *The Copyright Amendment (Disability Access and Other Measures) Act 2017*.

Morning and afternoon teas featured recipes from the archives, like lamingtons and ANZAC biscuits, which are published on the FAIR website in contravention of the law. Some ALIA Members even wore some natty FAIR threads to cook in style. And there was an online event held on Sunday 30 July, moderated by ALIA Member Sue Hutley, which featured guest speakers: copyright advocate Trish Hepworth, ALIA Board Member Jane Cowell, University of Southern Queensland's Carmel O'Sullivan and Jessica Coates from the Australian Libraries Copyright Committee.

We celebrated these important copyright reforms because FAIR supporters and ALIA Members' efforts to lobby our elected representatives led to real change. In July – August 2015, we held the campaign which raised awareness of our muddled copyright law and helped lead to the amendments being passed.

Back then, FAIR published 35 handwritten recipes on the website – effectively contravening the current copyright law. We asked ALIA Members, FAIR

supporters and Australians to cook one of these recipes – or choose an old favourite – and to post a photo to facebook or tweet using #CookingforCopyright.

FAIR and ALIA had incredible support from National and State Libraries Australasia, archive, museum and historical society colleagues, who provided dozens of recipes, ranging from perfect morning tea fodder through to weird medicinal products. The campaign report was sent to federal politicians asking them to change the law. On June 15 2017 the Bill was passed which included a number of important and overdue amendments that will dramatically free up how Australians access and use copyright material.

The amendments will start from December 2017 (learn more on page 28) so get ready for the change. FAIR and ALIA thank you for your wonderful support of this important campaign. 🍪



Top: National Library of Australia staff celebrating in style. Left: Kate Bunker, Librarian: ALIA Education, Research and Policy, cutting her amazing '40's inspired' popcorn cake. Right: ALIA Director – Corporate Services, David Patrick gathers the ALIA House morning tea together.