

The eyes and ears of the Association — grass roots advocacy identification

Our ALIA members are our eyes and ears in so many communities. If you hear of a story that we should be aware of, please contact us so that we may be able to assist or provide advice. Think of us first if there is an issue that relates to your library, your colleagues or a service that ALIA offers. While staff at National Office aim to monitor what's going on, sometimes we need your help to find out about a local story, or something on the horizon that will become a bigger issue. All members are encouraged to monitor issues of importance to the profession. Board members and senior staff at ALIA National Office are always available to receive your emails or phone calls. Not sure if ALIA can respond to an issue? Give us a call to discuss it first – 1800 020 071. Visit our advocacy page: <<http://www.alia.org.au/advocacy>>.

Your Association at work

ALIA has co-ordinated a joint response to the government's Regional Telecommunications Review Discussion Paper with National and State Libraries Association, Australian School Library Association, Australian Law Librarians Association and School Library Association of Victoria. Our thanks to the members who have contributed their time and comments towards this important submission. Details can be found at <<http://www.alia.org.au/advocacy/submissions>>.

Members are also encouraged to make comment on the Review of the Extension of Legal Deposit — see <<http://www.ag.gov.au>>. Sue Little, as Chair of the ALIA Government Publications Advisory Committee, is co-ordinating responses, comments and feedback on the paper as part of ALIA's submission. Sue can be contacted on <suelit@lib.monash.edu.au>. Comments from members should be provided by 3rd January 2008 for inclusion in the submission which is due on 11th January 2008. More information about this ALIA Advisory Committee is on the ALIA website: <http://www.alia.org.au/governance/committees/government_publications>.

A new membership system in 2008

In 2008, ALIA will be implementing a new membership system that will also see significant upgrades to the website and a content management system. This will improve and change all of our workings at National Office during the coming year. For any of you who have been a part of implementing a new library management system (LMS) in your own library, you will know the time, training and unpredictable things that crop up in such a massive project that relates to your core business. We will be keeping you up to date with our system changes with news in *inCite*, *aliaNEWS* and on the website so stay tuned.

Library Lovers Day — 14th February 2008

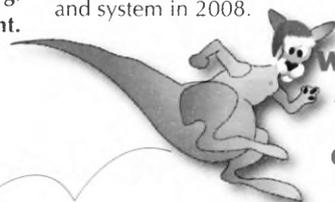
Make a date for Library Lovers Day 2008 — start planning something special. ALIA and PLA will again partner to conduct this program but it's not just for public libraries - any type of library can get involved, just use your imagination! Visit the website for downloads, ideas and links for purchasing merchandise. Our thanks to our 2008 sponsors for Library Lovers Day: DA Books and Southern Scene.

Volunteer thank you

The end of the year is also the time to recognise the thousands of hours that our ALIA volunteers have put into events, conferences, group meetings, e-lists, standing committees, advisory committees, the Board, government submissions and mentoring other members. ALIA's work by volunteers is the heart of our organisation — and our heartfelt thanks goes to you all. Keep up the great work!

Christmas wishes at National Office

December already? Where did the year go? I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful staff at ALIA National Office for their amazing capacity for hard work and keeping a sense of humour. I think our 'team Christmas wish' would be better work-life balance and a seamless transition to a new membership database and system in 2008.



**WISHING YOU
ALL A VERY
HOPPY
CHRISTMAS**



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Local Liaison Officers

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