

Ticking all the boxes

With only a few months to go till 2011 wraps up, it's a good time to run through what ALIA is doing at the strategic level across our profession and our sector. Here's a quick scan over our current activities:

The Convergence Review

ALIA, along with our Safer Internet Group colleagues (including Google and Yahoo) are continuing to work on the Government's *Convergence Review*. At the last Cybersafety Working Group meeting and supported by the group, we were able to discuss with Minister Conroy the advancement of the eSmart program. ALIA is currently working with the Alannah and Madeline Foundation to deliver *eSmart Libraries* over the next few years.

Libraries in NBN rollout regions

With the *Digital Hubs* applications now due, ALIA continues to host regular teleconferences with the libraries involved and stakeholders such as NBN Co. I am also working with Prime Minister and Cabinet on the *Cyber White Paper* due to be tabled next year. You can find recommendations on public libraries from the National Broadband Inquiry on the ALIA website.

National Year of Reading 2012

There's not long to go now till NYR2012 kicks off. Our funding and programming discussions with a number of government departments continue, following on the great success achieved by NYR2012 for \$1.3m in funding from the Prime Minister, as previously reported in *INCITE*.

The Library Initiative

Our work with the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs continues to benefit communities, currently focusing on the delivery of technology to assist the print-disabled (see story below).

The Book Industry Strategy Group report

The BISG report is currently being finalised. ALIA has been very active in seeking out and communicating professional concerns related to the strategy. More on this soon.

The School Library Inquiry

We await the discussion in Parliament on the recommendations of the *School Library Inquiry* and have been in discussion with Minister Garrett and his Office about progressing these.

Special Libraries Association MoU

We recently re-signed our Memorandum of Understanding with the Special Libraries Association (you can see all our affiliations at www.alia.org.au/governance/affiliations).

IFLA Treaty on Copyright

As a global working environment continues to challenge us, ALIA is supporting the IFLA Treaty on Copyright. For more on this, visit www.ifla.org/en/publications/draft-treaty-on-copyright-exceptions-and-limitations-for-libraries-and-archives.

Disaster recovery – sharing the lessons learned

This month I will be speaking at the *Australian Law Librarians Conference* about ALIA disaster recovery experiences and resources. From the Victorian bushfires to the Queensland floods, the rest of the world is now looking to the hard-won expertise of Australian library professionals as the benchmark for best practice in disaster recovery.

And of course ALIA is also constantly receiving and responding to requests from the media to discuss issues important to libraries and information services, our staff and our users. We're also dealing regularly with confidential industrial relations issues. So at a local, state, national and international level, your Association is working for you – and your membership fees are what make this possible.

Sue Hutley

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William McInnes with National Year of Reading founder partners (l to r) Graham Smith (PLNSW), Sue Hutley (ALIA) and John Murrell (PLVN)



YOUR ALIA SNAPSHOT

ALIA Product and Services Directory in INCITE

Watch out for the November issue of *INCITE* to get your copy of our annual product and services directory. Keep it handy for when you need help with design, fittings, technology, collection management and specialist cleaning and conservation services – just to name a few, plus a full list of ALIA's services. All in November *INCITE*.

National Cultural Policy submission in preparation

ALIA will be making a submission to the National Cultural Policy Discussion Paper. If you have comments, email them to advocacy@alia.org.au by 14 October 2011.

Public Library Internet Access Survey 2011

The 2011 ALIA Internet Access in Public Libraries Survey is causing quite a stir, with lots of hits on the survey results online at www.alia.org.au/advocacy/internet.access/Internet.Access.Survey.2011.pdf.

Library Initiative progressing

The Australian Federal Government's \$1m initiative focusing on increasing accessibility through the provision of digital playback devices through public libraries is continuing a successful rollout, co-ordinated by ALIA. Canada Bay's libraries in NSW have been amongst recent recipients of 10 new Daisy Players through the Initiative, presented with the assistance of the Member of Reid, John Murphy and Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities, Senator Jan McLucas.

International School Library Month

October is International School Library Month. This year's theme is *School libraries empower learners for life*. More at www.iasl-online.org.

Every Member an Advocate back in 2012

In line with the ALIA Strategic Plan 2011-2015, we will again be running *Every Member an Advocate* sessions for members in 2012. Do you have any feedback? Email training@alia.org.au