

Taking care of business

Not only are we well into the business of the year, we're actually fast approaching the point where some bright spark usually mentions getting organised for Christmas. June is also the end of the financial year for many so there will be a lot of budgets being finalised around now. It's an opportune time to consider the business of the industry.

These days, a business-like frame of mind is an essential professional tool. Sometimes that's not a comfortable fit with our mission to sally forth and share information for the common good. But it's a fact of life for everybody, everywhere.

This month we have invited comment on the state of our business from a number of vendors. ALIA has member vendors and of course we work with many suppliers. These businesses are unfailing supporters of our industry and often of the Association, providing sponsorship for local awards, supporting our conferences and much more. What are they seeing as the emerging trends for the industry? Read on to find out – and visit these vendors at the upcoming

ALIA Biennial in Sydney this month to learn even more. Our thanks go to each of them for fitting in time to contribute to *INCITE*.

Very few of us would be unaware of the tightening reins on resources and the need to push great ideas over to the 'some day' list instead of getting going on them now. But there are those days, aren't there, when the reward for thinking smarter and getting on with the job comes unexpectedly upon us. Here's one such example: launching her latest book, *Bold Palates*, in Adelaide last month, Professor Barbara Santich, an internationally recognised authority in food history and coordinator of food studies at the University of Adelaide, paid tribute to many who assisted her in completing the work. But for the librarians in the room (and there were quite a few), the sweetest treat in this book is the dedication, which in part reads "To all the librarians and all the libraries throughout Australia – without them this book would not have been possible".

What a great reminder and tribute to the wonderful business we are in.



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