

DIGITAL HUBS THE FOCUS FOR NEW ALIA GROUP

With a focus on the importance of internet accessibility, ALIA's Public Library Advisory Committee recently launched a new group called the ALIA Digital Hubs.

Our ALIA group allows libraries implementing Digital Hubs to discuss the new programs and services they are delivering as well as the new technologies they are using with their communities.

The Digital Hubs Group will be giving priority to sharing information about the National Broadband Network (NBN) roll-out and takes its name from the government programs that are being established to provide community based computer training and

internet access points, supplied with a number of internet ready computers, all over Australia.

The ALIA Digital Hubs Group brings together public libraries around Australia that are at various stages of introducing a government-funded Digital Hub, to share information, program ideas and resources. The bi-monthly teleconferences for this group already regularly attract more than 20 participants.

As Digital Hubs Group member Michelle Hudson says, "The rollout of the NBN offers huge potential for public libraries around Australia as well as many challenges.

"Our ALIA group allows libraries implementing Digital Hubs to discuss the new programs and services they are delivering as well as the new technologies they are using with their communities. The group facilitates the

exchange of ideas and encourages libraries to work together across Australia."

For more information on the ALIA Digital Hubs Group, contact Groups Coordinator, Emily Peters at groups@alia.org.au.

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