

# LIBRARY AND INFORMATION WEEK



The Library and Information Week theme for 2013 is share your story and we want to hear yours. Let us know why you love library and information services, what makes a great librarian or information professional, how you ended up in the LIS industry, or any other LIS-related story you would like to share. You can let us know by emailing [media@alia.org.au](mailto:media@alia.org.au), connecting with us on social media, sending us Youtube videos or Instagram photos, postcards through snail mail... anyway you can think of to connect with us, we will welcome.

We also want you to use Library and Information Week as a platform to get your users to tell their stories about libraries and the people who work in them. Here are some ideas for how you can get your users to share their story:

- Print out postcards from [www.alia.org.au/liw](http://www.alia.org.au/liw) and have your users send them to you or fill them out with their story
- Have a youtube video or Instagram photo competition encouraging your users to share their library story
- Create shadow people (like the ones on the LIW poster) and put them up on the wall. Encourage your users to write their story on the shadow people
- Encourage your users to reach out via social media and share their story
- Print out and laminate speech bubbles or get some small chalk boards. Have library staff and library users fill in their favourite things about your library or information service and take pictures to post in your libraries. You can even get some fun props involved
- If you live in a sunny place, have users write their stories in chalk outside the entrance of the library

The possibilities are endless. Make sure that you share your great ideas with us. We also would love to see the results. Make sure you share your favourite library users' stories with us and take any pictures (or video) and send it in to us.

## How can you see others' stories?

Keep an eye out on Twitter for the hashtag #liw13, or check out the compilation from across social media platforms on our storify page [www.storify.com/ALIANational/share-your-story](http://www.storify.com/ALIANational/share-your-story).

## What will we do with all of these stories?

We want a diverse multi-media database that tells the stories we find difficult to quantify in numbers. We will then use our 'story' for advocacy campaigns to help secure the future of the LIS industry. We plan to use these important and vibrant stories to create information packages that will go out to all federal MPs (post-election) and state MPs to let them know the importance of libraries and information services.

## Monday 20 May: LIW launch

To launch Library and Information Week, ALIA will be announcing the winner of the Australia's Favourite Librarian competition, launching the 13 Project campaign, working on finding an Australia definition of the word library, and asking library users and workers to share their story.

## Ideas for Monday at your library:

- Put up displays and event your users to share their stories about libraries and library workers
- Attend the ALIA QLD trivia night in Brisbane

## Tuesday 21 May: National Library Technicians' Day

National Library Technicians Day is celebrated on the Tuesday of Library and Information Week every year. The day provides an opportunity for Library Technicians to promote ALIA, the profession, and their role in libraries and to celebrate their many achievements.

## Ideas for Tuesday at your library:

- Celebrate the library technicians who work in your library
- Check out information and book in for the 2013 ALIA Library Technicians Symposium
- Have library technicians share their story about the industry
- Attend one of the many Library Technicians' Day events around the country

## Wednesday 22 May: National Simultaneous Storytime

Now in its 13<sup>th</sup> successful year, NSS is a colourful, vibrant, and fun event that aims to promote the value of literacy using an Australian children's book that explores age appropriate themes and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Grades 1 to 6. In 2012, 380 000 children at over 2000 locations across Australia took part in National Simultaneous Storytime. This year at 11am, children across Australia will be reading Nick Bland's *The Wrong Book*. Scholastic Australia is sponsoring this wonderful event. Let us know about your event by tweeting #nss13.



#### Ideas for Wednesday at your library:

- Make National Simultaneous Storytime a really big event by inviting a local politician or celebrity to read at your event. Make sure you invite the media along.
- Have a spare top hat and tails laying around? Dress up like Nicholas Ickle to read the book
- Have crafts, songs, and other books ready to go with the story.

#### Thursday 23 May: Biggest Morning Tea

Mid-May is a popular time for big events in Australia. The Thursday of Library and Information Week is always the Australian Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea.

#### Ideas for Thursday at your library:

- Put on a morning tea at your workplace and use the event as an opportunity to collect stories.
- If you really want to have some fun, have a morning team theme! At ALIA House last year, we had a book-themed morning tea.

#### Friday 24 May: Wrap up

Friday is the finale of Library and Information Week. Use this day to celebrate your achievements over the past week as well as the past year.

#### Ideas for Friday at your library:

- Work with your library staff to create your library's definition of the word 'library.' Let us know your definition by emailing [advocacy@alia.org.au](mailto:advocacy@alia.org.au) or tweeting it through #liw13

#### 13 Project

Library and Information Week happens to coincide this year with National Cyber Security Awareness Week, which has provided ALIA a perfect opportunity to launch the 13 Project campaign. The 13 Project is an exciting new initiative to promote the role of teacher librarians and school libraries and to engage students in learning cyber and digital literacy skills.

For more information on National Cyber Security Awareness as well as resources and information for your library or personal use, please visit [www.staysmartonline.gov.au](http://www.staysmartonline.gov.au)

Look out for our NSS and LIW wrap-ups on the ALIA website.

## Let's redefine 'library' for Library and Information Week

Speaking at the ALIA Information Online conference in Brisbane, in February, IFLA President Ingrid Parent talked about the need for a new definition for libraries. She reminded us that the Oxford Dictionary definition of library is 'a building containing collections of books, periodicals, and sometimes films and recorded music for use or borrowing by the public or the members of an institution'.

For Library and Information Week this year, we're asking you to help us create a new definition for the word 'library'. Here are some fabulous quotes from writers and commentators in America and Europe, but where are our Australian quotes?

Help us come up with some words we can use to help change how people think about libraries in Australia – public libraries, school libraries, university and TAFE libraries, and all those special libraries and information services – and we'll publish the best in INCITE.

Email [advocacy@alia.org.au](mailto:advocacy@alia.org.au) and join the discussion on Facebook and Twitter (#redefinelibrary).

*A library is  
thought in cold  
storage*

Herbert Samuel

*A library is not a  
luxury but one of  
the necessities of  
life*

Henry Ward Beecher

*The library is  
the temple of  
learning*

Carl T Rowan

*A library is a  
hospital for  
the mind*

Anonymous

*A library in the middle  
of a community is a  
cross between an  
emergency exit, a life  
raft and a festival*

Caitlin Moran

*A library is  
infinity under  
a roof*

Gail Carson Levine