

EDITOR'S NOTE

WILL PUBLISHING PERISH?

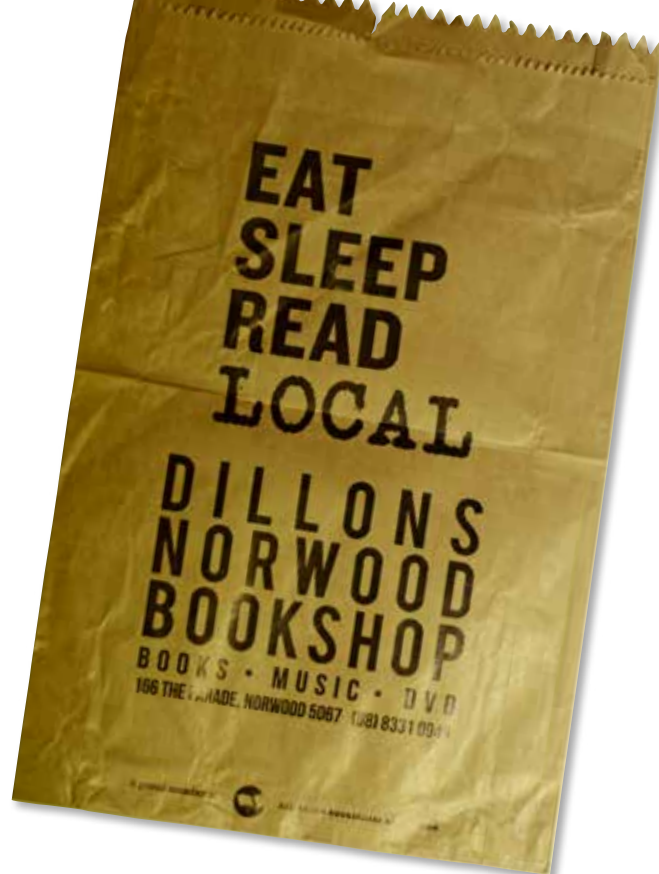
A few months ago, on a dimly cold and wet Friday evening I finished my working day by posting to Facebook that I was in my 'happy place', armed with a pile of books, a couple of dogs and a glass of wine, ready for a cosy night in. This may sound laughably old school to those of my colleagues who prefer to relax with an ebook but, either way, the comforting notion of many books on hand, ready to be enjoyed, remains powerful.

Yet as we are reading, the publishing landscape that feeds our hunger is changing. This is not a bad thing – although it's been pretty rough on bricks and mortar bookshops and newsagents of late. The horror stories abound of course – but we know too that Australians are massive consumers of magazines, books are still loved and people still want our help to get to the precious information contained in a myriad of formats. The publishing world is not coming to an end as far as we know, but Patricia Genat, President of the Australian Booksellers Association, is hoping it will be more excitable, as well as exciting, in the future. She tells us why in *OPINION* on page 14.

When *INCITE* set out to ask members about their interactions with the publishing industry for this issue, we were expecting to hear about some exciting initiatives – and we did. But, as is often the case, we also received submissions viewing our feature topic through very different eyes. Doreen Sullivan has delved into the workings of book reviewing with three experienced editors and Catherine New has some great advice for when you set out to write an attention-grabbing abstract. We also dug deep to find the first issue of *INCITE* and found it full of names and news, not to mention an incitement to riot in the name of information.

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Our cover story this month features Dr Marianne Broadbent, one of the keynote speakers at the ALIA National 2014 Conference. Marianne will be well-known to many of our readers and her article on team-building is just a taste of what's in store when she presents in Melbourne in a few short months. Have you registered yet?

This month we also introduce our new EEI Coordinator, Anna Walker. We welcome Anna to the team and you can read more about why she's stepping into this role in her column on page 30.

While we figure out how to navigate the state of flux existing in the publishing industry, not to mention our own profession, here's a bit of good advice lifted from a reliable source (to wit, a paper bag distributed by my nearest bookshop): 'Eat, sleep, read local'. Works for me!

LEE WELCH
Editor

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