



Website of the month

We don't usually give this award to promotional weeks but at this time we think the need to re-learn the benefits of multiculturalism, racial tolerance, living together and recognising a common humanity warrants special attention be paid to Refugee Week from 8–14 October. AUSTCARE Refugee Week helps Australians understand that the plight of refugees concerns us all, and when positive action is taken to help, everyone benefits: <http://www.austcare.org.au/content/events.htm>.

ALA Conference in Kakadu

Enjoyable, stimulating, provocative are words that describe this year's Conference in Kakadu. Photos, commentaries and reports will be posted to the ALA website soon. Following the AGM the three new Executive members are Garry Traynor (NSW), Rita Bennink (SA) and Georgiana Poulter (Qld).

And the winners are...

ALA's annual award schedule has been altered to avoid clashing with ALW. Nominations have re-opened until 10 December. Awards will be made in February. Being recognised nationally as a winner would be a great way to start the Year! For details see <http://www.ala.asn.au>.

ACE on EdNA

Adult & Community Education now has a presence on the Education Network of Australia's (EdNA) website. Including ACE on EdNA is a very welcome move. It is the result of a positive collaboration between EdNA and ALA. See <http://www.edna.edu.au/ace.html>.

Victoria to research lifelong learning

The Victorian government has announced a major research study into lifelong learning and adult education in rural and regional Victoria. Minister Lynne Kosky said the \$300 000 study to be carried out by the Australian Catholic University will identify barriers preventing adults from participating in ACE education and training.

Charities Inquiry: Learning is for all

"In affirming the common law interpretation of 'the advancement of education' as a charitable purpose, the Committee supports the view that education should be understood as having a broad meaning which embraces the fostering of learning irrespective of age." So says the recently released report into the Definition of Charities and Related Organisations. To read more, including the recommendations, go to <http://www.cdi.gov.au>.

ALW around the world

UNESCO's Institute for Education has created an international ALW website. Read about ALW around the world at <http://www.unesco.org/education/uie/InternationalALW/FestivalsWorld.htm>.

Lifelong learning in Europe

A European memorandum and action plan on lifelong learning? A consultation of civil society on lifelong learning? Read about the latest from Europe via <http://www.ala.asn.au/III.html>.

ANTA site improves

Better, brighter and the best way to keep up-to-date with the latest in national VET policy and news – that's ANTA's new web site at <http://www.anta.gov.au>. Clearer language, better navigation, more resources and a new corporate look are features. User feedback is sought: email Paula Johnston at johnstonpm@anta.gov.au.

Business Services Training

The Business Services Training Package, covering topics such as Management, Business Development, Human Resources Administration and Record Keeping has been endorsed. Business Skills Victoria is conducting free Professional Development workshops on implementing the package in both regional and metropolitan Victoria. The next Melbourne session is on 23 October. Phone Anne-Marie Heath on (03) 9429 0004.

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