



The current

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From the Executive Director

I have now been in the job for a month. I have visited two ALA branches—in the ACT and in Tasmania—and in late May I'll be attending the NSW branch AGM. In June I will be visiting Adelaide and Queensland. I encourage all members to get in touch. My email is f.beddie@ala.asn.au

Staffing matters have been a major preoccupation for the National Office. The replacement for Cath Styles as web manager is Jacqui Levan, who has started with us today and we have just appointed a new office administrator, Jenny Jankowski, who will be spending a considerable amount of time on Adult Learners' Week as preparations for the week gain momentum.

Adult Learners' Week

Now is the time to plan your Adult Learners' Week (2-8 September) activities. You can either present a special activity to celebrate lifelong learning or else badge your ordinary activities as "Adult Learners' Week" activities and invite members of your community to join in.

There are two types of promotional posters, the 'internal' ones for display within learning centres and the 'outreach' ones to be put in places which potential learners visit, shopping malls and clubs for example. The 'internal' campaign materials are being distributed by the State and Territory Adult Learners' Week co-ordinators from late May. The 'outreach' campaign materials will be distributed by the ALA national office during June and July.

To download the Adult Learners Week logo and to get handy hints for planning activities, visit www.adultlearnersweek.org or email info@adultlearnersweek.org. And remember, the ALW website hosts the official online calendar where organisations can promote their ALW events free of charge.

Website of the Month

Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association (ASCCA):
<http://www.seniorcomputing.org/>

This site meets the ALA's criteria that a good site be simple and fast-loading. Its home page leads you straight into lots of great information, both for first-timers and experienced computer users. Importantly it's also very up-to-date.

ASCCA is the National Peak Body for Seniors and Technology. It advises and supports existing Computer Clubs for Seniors, helps people to establish new clubs and liaises with government and other organisations on behalf of its members. Its aim is to enthuse and assist seniors to explore the advantages of computer technology.

Computer Clubs for Seniors can play a tremendous role in breaking down the isolation many older people experience because of lack of physical mobility or access to transport. They can also provide great intellectual and social stimulus.

If you are interested in setting up your own Computer Club for Seniors you'll find the ASCCA Development Kit to help you. Just go to the front page of <http://www.seniorcomputing.org/> and follow the links.

New ALADIN Directory published

The 2002 Directory of Members of the Adult Learning Documentation and Information Network (ALADIN) has been published. It contains details about 84 documentation and information centres in the area of adult education worldwide. The ALADIN Coordinator is Lisa Krolak (l.krolak@unesco.org).

Commentary

For those of you missing Commentary, please be patient. It will be returning.