

THE ABORIGINAL LITERACY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

ALFABET



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2015

ALF ONLINE

The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation is proud to announce our brand new website is up and running. This website is designed to keep you informed about all of our programs, events and latest news. You can take a look here aboriginalliteracyfoundation.org

If you haven't joined us on Facebook yet, we would love to see you there! At the time of writing, our online community has grown to include over 1450 of you, and we are working hard to make sure we share all the latest news around Indigenous literacy! You can find us at [facebook.com/aboriginalliteracyfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/aboriginalliteracyfoundation)

We have also recently increased our presence on Twitter, with over 1000 followers currently. You can find us on Twitter at twitter.com/Aboriginal_Lit

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

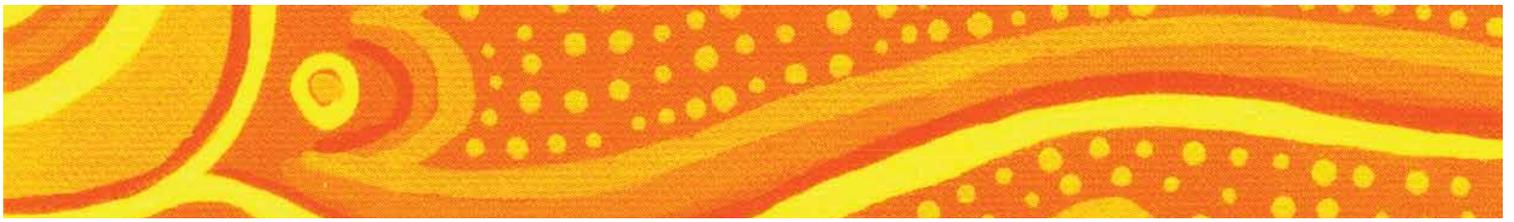
It is easier now more so than ever before to become a monthly donor using GiveNow, which is an online donation platform where you can opt to give a recurring donation. We have been overwhelmed with support, and have received over \$117,700 through GiveNow at the time of writing. You can make a one-off or recurring donation by visiting givenow.com.au/aboriginalliteracyfoundation

If you aren't online yet, you can also become a monthly donor by calling us on **(03) 9650 1006**.

GO GREEN: SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER

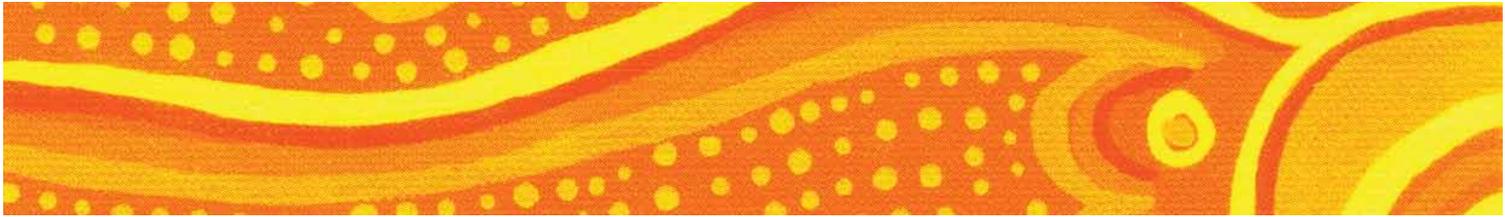
We are conscious of our impact on the environment. To reduce paper waste we encourage you to subscribe to our e-newsletter to save precious resources.

To subscribe to our e-newsletter and stop receiving this print version email info@aboriginalliteracyfoundation.org



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THANK YOU FOR **YOUR** SUPPORT!

Only two weekends ago we held another one of our Literacy and Heritage Camps in Ballarat, Victoria, and I was reflecting on the new kids who came, and their mothers, aunties and grandmothers who brought them along. I began thinking just how wonderful this is for them all, how much fun it is, and just how much they will gain from it! I thought that some of the philanthropic foundations and corporates who changed their mind about supporting us this year really should come to such sessions to understand how much their contributions mean to these kids. I also thought about the 1500+ private supporters whose generous donations make these type of camps happen every year! So I am starting this newsletter off by saying thankyou to each and every one of you! Without your unwavering support we would not be able to do what we do.

This year has been a very busy year! It has been a year that has seen our reach move further afield to now have a positive impact in over 150 locations around Australia. From tutorial sessions to book distribution, our team and partners have been extremely busy making sure more Indigenous kids learn how to read and receive the literacy resources they need. This year has also seen our Digital Literacy Hub become a reality. Access to this hub will be delivered around Australia to nearly 60,000 participants in the ALF & partners network.

This year has also seen more than 50,000 books delivered to students and schools across Australia - but that's not the end of it! Over the next few months we hope to formally announce new plans to see our book distribution triple and our direct tutorial reach expand tenfold! These new developments will prove not only exciting and rewarding for our students and organisation in general, but will, we hope, translate into life changing developments for the Indigenous community. So please stay tuned to our newsletter and social media for news of these developments.

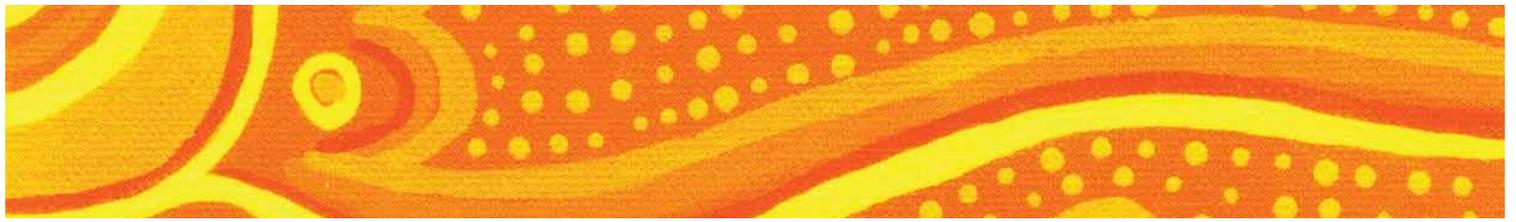
While this is all fantastic, it is only with your help that we can continue to do such vital work. Your investment and continuing support in our organisation is essential. Large philanthropic supporters are always changing their direction in gifts, and the competition for these gifts is becoming more difficult in the light of Government funding cuts and a general lack of funding from corporate organisations. As such, we rely more on our private individual donors, including you. So thankyou for your wonderful support – it really does make a huge difference!

I hope you find this latest edition of our newsletter interesting and insightful.

Best wishes for the festive season,

David Perrin

CEO, Aboriginal Literacy Foundation



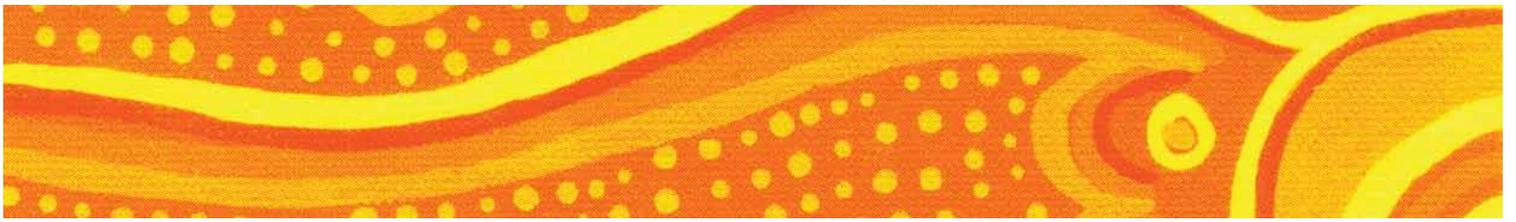
LITERACY & HERITAGE CAMPS

This year, The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation held a number of Literacy & Heritage camps in both Ballarat and Melbourne. We have been delighted to see between 20 and 30 people attending each camp, including Indigenous children, parents and guardians, elders and tutors.

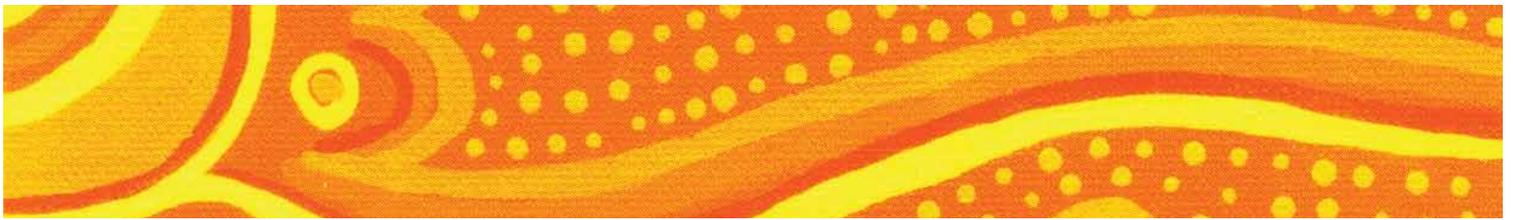
The camps provide a fast-track intensive literacy learning program for some of the most struggling students in our wider tutoring program. This involves literacy and numeracy testing, one-on-one tutoring sessions, open discussions with mentors, and literacy themed computer games and activities.

After the morning of literacy learning and activities, a healthy lunch is provided. During the afternoon, the kids engage in arts and cultural sessions with mentors and elders, where they can learn about their Aboriginal history whilst creating some traditional artworks. The kids then head out for some fun sporting sessions or horse riding.

Here are some wonderful photos from our most recent camp held in late October at Ballarat University's newly built BCTC building!



1 - Students and tutors during literacy exercises 2 - CEO David Perrin, Sue Bacon and Dr Tony Cree 3 - Anne Cooper with grandson, Dominic 4 - Students taking part in Indigenous painting cultural activity 5 - Students preparing to set out from Mt Rinaldi Riding School



MUTTONBIRDS 10KM OCEAN SWIM

Six Sydney women by the collective name of 'The Muttonbirds' took on the huge challenge of training for a 10km ocean swim from Bondi Beach to Watson's Bay on 18th May to support our vital work.

The group saw some amazing sights along the way and raised a spectacular \$18,000+ for our foundation. We would like to extend a huge thankyou to the Muttonbirds team and all those who donated!

NAIDOC WEEK TRIVIA NIGHT



Aboriginal Literacy Foundation supporter Cassie Zurek held a trivia night to raise funds for our Melbourne Learning Centre campaign. The fundraiser was held on 12th July during NAIDOC Week, and celebrated the histories, cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

More than 70 people attended the fundraiser, which was held at Fleming Park Hall in Brunswick East. Questions and games throughout the night aimed to educate the teams about the vast areas of Aboriginal achievement including sport, entertainment, politics, art and literature.

There were 2 raffles drawn throughout the night with prizes including an Apple Ipad Mini, Cinema Nova passes, IMAX passes, Hoyts Cinema passes, Heidi Museum of Modern Art passes, wine, and tickets to the First Peoples Exhibition at Melbourne Museum.

Overall, \$1750 was raised for our Melbourne Learning Centre – such a fantastic achievement! We would like to say a big thankyou to Cassie for all her hard work!

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL CUPCAKE DRIVE

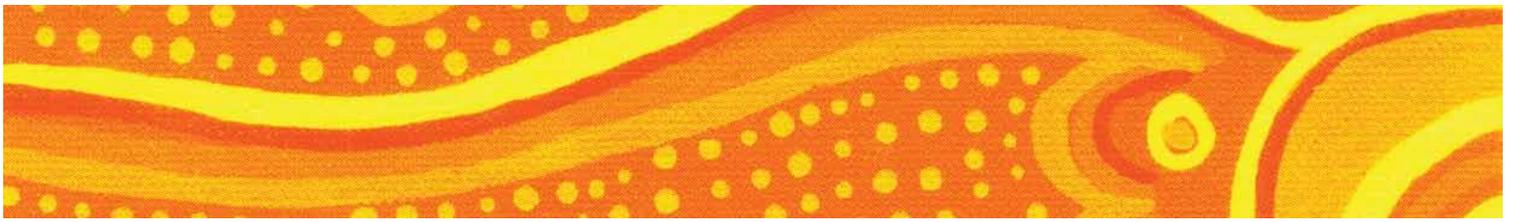


Students from the book club at Westminster School held a cupcake drive on Tuesday 20th August, selling book themed cupcakes at lunchtimes and recess at school.

The cupcake drive raised \$210 for The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation, as well as almost 10kg of wonderful children's books to be included in our Books for Learning program.

Rachel Abercrombie, Senior Teacher of English/Drama at Westminster School in Marion, South Australia, said "The Westminster School Book Club know that we are very lucky to have access to the books and information that we do, and wanted to help others who do not have these opportunities".

Thankyou to Rachel and all the students involved in the cupcake drive!



AMBARA'S ART AUCTION

The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation was honoured to be the beneficiary of a special exhibition of Chinese brush paintings, 'Brushes Dialogue II', by Dr R.A Ambara Baratawidjaja.

The exhibition was held on Friday 3rd October at The Victorian Artists' Society in East Melbourne.

ALF CEO David Perrin attended the exhibition, which raised \$640 towards literacy resources for the ALF. David was also delighted to be presented with one of Dr Baratawidjaja's paintings valued at \$1500, to be auctioned at a later date.

Brent Watkins, a young Indigenous didgeridoo player and break dancer, gave the audience a wonderful treat of didgeridoo playing, dancing (traditional and modern), and Brent also retold a number of stories of his struggles during school and finding his art.

Altogether the night was extraordinarily successful and very interesting!

JOEY JUMPSTART QUIZ NIGHT

The South Australian Library and Information Network (SALIN) and the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) hosted a quiz night in August, with all proceeds going towards our Joey Jumpstart Campaign.

The theme for the quiz night, which was held at Goodwood Community Centre in Goodwood, SA, was 'Literary Genres'. There were prizes for those placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the quiz, and a Haigh's chocolate hamper was up for grabs for the best dressed team.

Over 160 information professionals, librarians and friends attended the quiz night, raising a total of \$1850 for our Joey Jumpstart Campaign.

Marni Trevena, the Treasurer of SALIN and Digital Librarian at Westminster School in Marion, SA, said of fundraising for ALF – "Both SALIN and Westminster School are very happy to be part of such a noble and vital cause!"

We would like to extend a huge thankyou to all those involved in the success of the quiz night.

If you would like to hold a fundraiser for us, please visit our website aborignalliteracyfoundation.org, where you can find more information including our fundraising guidelines. If you have recently undertaken a fundraiser in support of our work, we would love to hear about it! Please get in touch by emailing us at info@aborignalliteracyfoundation.org



PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

BACCHUS MARSH & DARLEY HOMEWORK CLUB



Djerriwarrh Health Services, Darley Neighbourhood House, Aboriginal Literacy Foundation and the Shire of Moorabool have joined together to form the Darley Indigenous Homework & Wellbeing Program.

This program was initiated via discussions between the community of Bacchus Marsh and the ALF. This new homework club was born out of a real need experienced by many communities. Too many Aboriginal children are facing difficulties in school and becoming increasingly disengaged, to the point that they feel dropping out may be an easier option. As such, a number of concerned parents have approached our foundation for help. After some months of planning and negotiation, together we have begun a very successful and growing early reader, homework and mentoring club for the wider Bacchus Marsh community.

Presently, the program assists Indigenous children from primary and secondary schools in Bacchus Marsh, but it will extend to surrounding communities. We are hoping that the program will extend to Melton, another nearby town. In time we hope to assist more than 100 Indigenous children and their families from the district. Currently the program comprises of weekly homework and tutorial sessions, and regular Literacy & Heritage camps. We hope to incorporate a number of exciting presentations from a range of Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders and personalities to inspire the kids and their families. Healthy catering is provided at the sessions for the kids, which is much needed after a long day at school. Already we are seeing a lift in the kids' understanding of their school work and excitement to use the computers and attend the Literacy & Heritage Camps. This spark in their eyes is one goal already achieved!

The joint venture is being coordinated by the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation and Djerriwarrh Health Services, with excellent assistance from Anna Curry and Sue Bacon from the Darley Neighbourhood House. The program began on Tuesday 7th October 2014, and has received funding from HV McKay Charitable Trust and Marian & E.H Flack Trust.

If you would like more information about this program, you can contact us on **(03) 9650 1006**.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR STATE?

FOCUS ON QUEENSLAND



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW QUEENSLAND MANAGER

We are honoured to work with Mr Richard Muller. Since joining us from Government, Richard has done magnificent work pulling together our network of projects and partnerships in Queensland. He is quickly becoming a significant force for positive change in the Queensland context.

If you wish to contact Richard for any information on our work in Queensland please do not hesitate to email him at richardmuller@aboriginalliteracyfoundation.org or give him a call on 0402 773 329.

QUEENSLAND LITERACY SUPPORT PROGRAM (QLSP)

The second half of this year has seen The Aboriginal Literacy Foundation increase its presence in Queensland. With over a quarter of all Indigenous Australians residing in the state, and with literacy and numeracy levels below the national average, we saw it necessary to direct increased resources and funding towards furthering our Queensland Literacy Support Program.

We are fortunate to already work with a number of excellent partners in the state, including Cathy Freeman Foundation, Indigenous Community Volunteers, Red Dust, Rotary, and a range of local schools. These partners have assisted us in delivering books and literacy backpacks to a number of child care centres across Queensland over the last 3 years.

More recently, we have also assisted in the development of a new literacy tutorial club at the Kulila Indigenous Kindergarten in Toowoomba. This club will see another 44 Indigenous boys and girls receive excellent literacy assistance from experienced tutors and mentors.

Already our work in Queensland has been recognised by two larger supporters. In September, we were thrilled to receive a \$2000 community grant from Brisbane Airport Community Giving Fund. In October we received a \$7711 cheque from the accommodation village workers in South West Queensland at QGC/Spotless Resources.

We have directed these grants to our Queensland Literacy Support Program, which will directly address the need to improve literacy and numeracy skills of Indigenous youth and promote key wellbeing messages within a Queensland context. The funding will also allow us to better invest in resources, staffing, equipment, backpacks and books for the children in our literacy support groups such as the one in Kulila.

Richard Muller attended both presentation ceremonies and gave a speech of thanks to both organisations, their leader,s and their staff who were responsible for the gifts. We are very excited with their feedback which suggests both groups will continue their support. Such commitment, along with our private individual Queensland supporters (which are growing in number year by year) will allow our Queensland projects to continue to expand and succeed.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

Over the last six months we have welcomed John Pearson Consulting – Indigenous Workstars, Queensland University of Technology – Oodgeroo Unit, The Benevolent Society, Read Australia, and Volunteering Queensland. Each of these new partnerships will assist in the development of a suite of new programs which aim to enhance lifelong learning within the Indigenous community.

We are hugely excited by our work and growing presence in Queensland!



(Left) Richard at the Brisbane Airport cheque presentation

(Below) Richard Muller with Craig Madigan and Felipe Bruxel



LATEST NEWS FROM ACROSS AUSTRALIA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Book distribution and fundraising events have seen good connections being built with Challa Gardens Primary School, Westminster School and a number of other primary and secondary schools. Challa Gardens has warmly reported back to us that they have seen their students hugely excited at the prospect of new book deliveries. Reading and excitement has boomed!

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Discovery Book Club in Perth and Fremantle continues to expand and offer kids wonderful assistance with literacy and reading resources. ALF delivers thousands of books to these clubs each year. We have also seen 'MirraBOOKa' Book club come aboard. This new club hopes to build on the success of the Discovery Book Club. Together these groups help more than 1000 Indigenous children in care.

NEW SOUTH WALES

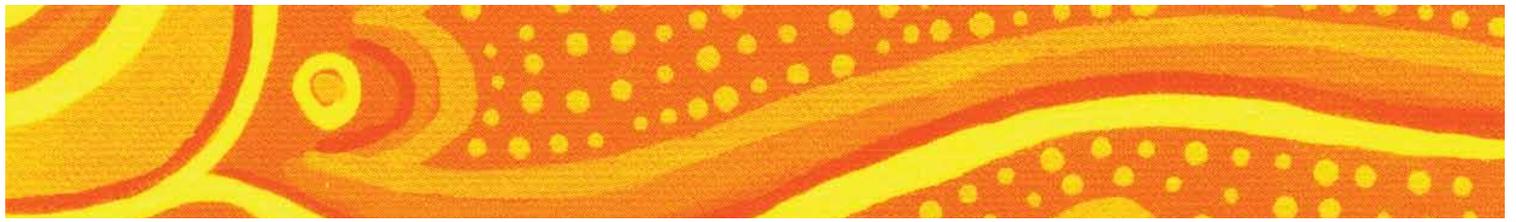
Over the last six months the ALF have delivered more than 5000 books to a range of Childcare Centres in NSW. We have also sent a huge number of books and backpacks to Clarence Valley, Central Sydney, and a range of schools in Northern New South Wales.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

By far the most books and backpacks have gone to the NT. More than 20,000 books and backpacks have found their way to more than 20 schools and groups in the territory. We have also been building relationships with new partners in the region. We hope to announce three new NT partners soon that will help us with our book distribution.



(A couple of happy girls from the Challa Gardens reading club with their new books)



BOOK DRIVES & DONATIONS



In August, we launched our **Joey Jumpstart** campaign, which specifically aims to deliver brand new books to Indigenous babies, toddlers, and preschool children aged 0-5 years. The campaign aims to encourage parents to read to their children, and ignite a love of reading in young Indigenous kids by providing them with quality books that they can learn from and enjoy.

Below are some of our wonderful supporters who have held book drives or simply donated books to us for our Joey Jumpstart campaign, and other programs such as Books for Learning.

Students **Stephanie and Jaimie** from Gladstone Park Secondary College collected and donated 7 boxes of books, with the help of family and friends.

The students of **Pymble Ladies' College**, NSW, collected an impressive 2153 books in their book drive. Biana, a year 12 student from the Torres Strait initiated the project, which was embraced by the entire school.

Balmain Children's Centre delivered a range of brand new books for our Joey Jumpstart Campaign.

Recently, **Challa Gardens Reading Club** in SA received a delivery of new books, and here is what one student, Bryce, had to say – "Thank you Aboriginal Literacy Foundation for donating books. They have helped me and my siblings in learning how to pronounce new words we didn't know before. I have started a collection of new books to read at home".

We have also very recently received donations of books from Westminster School in South Australia, **The Scalzo Family** and their staff at Scalzo Foods in Victoria, and Mount Eliza Secondary School in Victoria. All of these and many more supporters have allowed our Books for Learning program to prosper.

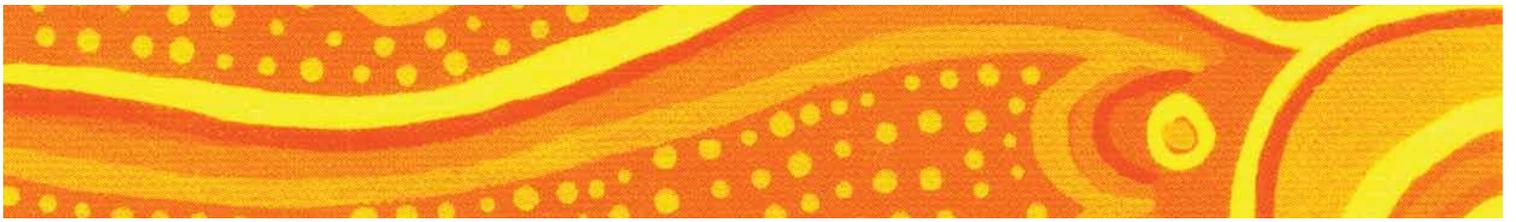
If you would like to donate books and give young Indigenous children the gift of literacy, please visit our website aboriginalliteracyfoundation.org for details, or email us info@aboriginalliteracyfoundation.org



(Top of page) Students from Pymble Ladies' College

(Top right) Stephanie and Jaimie from Gladstone Park Secondary College

(Middle and bottom right) Challa Gardens Reading Club



WHERE WE WORK

YOUR DONATIONS OF NEW BOOKS REALLY DO MAKE A HUGE IMPACT ON THE READING AND LITERACY LEVELS OF INDIGENOUS CHILDREN. IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS ALONE WE HAVE SENT OVER

50,000 BOOKS TO **150** AREAS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.

NT

ADELAIDE RIVER
ALICE SPRINGS
ALPURRURULAM
ANGURUGU
APUTULA
AREYONGA
BATHURST ISLAND
BRAITLING
DALY RIVER
DARWIN
DONYDJI
EAST ARNHAM
LAND
EMU POINT

GILLEN
GROVE HILL
HERMANSBURG
HUMPTY DOO
LARAPINTA
NHULUNBUY
PAPUNYA
PINE CREEK
STUART
TENNANT CREEK
TI TREE
WADEYE
WINNELLIE
YULARA

QLD

ATHERTON
AURUKUN
BRISBANE
BUNGALOW
CAIRNS
CAPE YORK
GOLD COAST
MACKAY
MOUNT ISA
PALM ISLAND
PORMPURA AW
ROCKHAMPTON
ROMA
TOOWOOMBA
TOWNSVILLE

WA

ALBANY
BROOME
BUNBURY
CANNINGTON
CARNARVON
CENTRAL DESERT REGION
DERBY
EXMOUTH
FREEMANTLE
GASCOYNE
GERALDTON
GOLDFIELDS
KALBARRI
KARRATHA
KIMBERLEY REGION
KUNUNURRA
MANDURAH
MIRRABOOKA
MURCHISON
NEWMAN
NORTHAM
PERTH
PORT HEDLAND
ROEBURN
SUBIACO
TIMBERCREEK
WEST PERTH
WICKHAM
WYNDHAM

SA

ADELAIDE
ANANGU
BARMERA
MAITLAND
PITJANTJATJARA
PORT AUGUSTA
PORT LINCOLN
SINCLAIR
TAILEM BEND
TAPEROO
TORRENSVILLE
VICTOR HARBOUR
WHYALLA
YANKUNYJTJATJARA

VIC

BACCHUS MARSH
BAIRNSDALE
BALLAN
BALLARAT
BUNDOORA
CAMPASPE
DARLEY
EAST GIPPSLAND
EPPING
GANNAWARRA SHIRE
GLADSTONE PARK
GLENELG SHIRE
GREATER SHEPPARTON
HAMILTON
HAWTHORN
HORSHAM
KEW
LATROBE
LATROBE SHIRE
MELTON
MILDURA
ROBINVALE SHIRE
SPRINGVALE SOUTH
SWAN HILL
THORNBURY

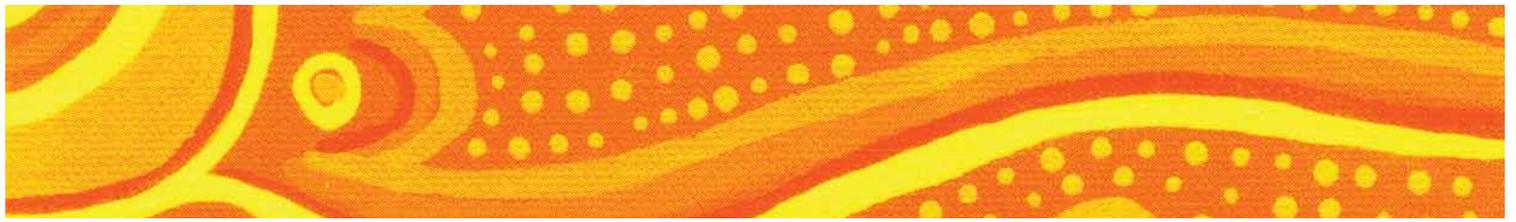
TAS

HOBART
LAUNCESTON

NSW

BLACKTOWN BOURKE
BREWARRINA
BROKEN HILL
CAMPBELLTOWN
CENTRAL DARLING
CLARENCE VALLEY
COFFS HARBOUR
DUBBO
GOSFORD
KEMPSEY
LEPPINGTON
LIDCOMBE
LIVERPOOL
MOREE PLAINS
NEWCASTLE
PENRITH
SHOALHAVEN
SYDNEY
TAMWORTH
TWEED
WAGGA WAGGA
WALGETT
WELLMORINGLE
WOLLONGONG
WYONG





SUPPORTING OUR INDIGENOUS GIRLS

MANY YOUNG INDIGENOUS GIRLS ARE AT RISK OF POOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL EARLY DUE TO A LACK OF PROGRAMS TAILORED TO THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS AND INTERESTS. THEREFORE, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF SOME WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS, WE BEGAN THE ASPIRE PROGRAM.

Aspire is an aspirational program of academic tutelage and personal mentoring, which has been built to advance the education and life possibilities of young Indigenous girls up to 18 years. The program is currently based at Ross House in Melbourne, but will eventually have subsidiary locations around Australia.

The program has been specifically designed for girls from low socio-economic family backgrounds represented by poor education and health outcomes, high welfare dependency and significant social problems. As a result of these circumstances, the girls may become disengaged in their education and are at risk of leaving school at a young age.

The program provides professional and flexible assistance via weekly after school homework clubs, monthly Literacy and Heritage camps, aspirational presentations, and regular visits to significant cultural locations. All of these aspects of the program have been designed to build academic success, aspiration and self-esteem.

Our aim through these young girls is to encourage generational change within local Indigenous communities, and promote higher educational and employment outcomes. The way to create a lasting impact is through these young women – the mothers and carers of future generations to come.

This project is supported by the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust, The Pierce Armstrong Foundation, and several other trusts that wish to remain anonymous.



Victorian Women's  Benevolent Trust

Investing in Women and Girls.

THE PIERCE ARMSTRONG
FOUNDATION 

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL

- ALF distributes the Melbourne Learning Centre Campaign leaflets to our Victorian donors. The campaign raised over \$40,000 which will go towards the centre. Our centre will soon open its first phase in November 2014. Thankyou to all the generous donors!
- ALF commemorates ANZAC day on social media. We pay our respects to all of the Indigenous men and women who have served our country.

MAY

- ALF celebrates National Volunteer Week from 12TH – 18TH May 2014. We would like to extend a huge thankyou to our dedicated network of volunteers past and present who have helped our organisation grow.
- ALF is featured in the Grill'd Degraeves Street Local Matters program, receiving a \$300 donation towards new office equipment.
- A team of six Sydney women named 'The Muttonbirds' completed a 10km ocean swim from Bondi Beach to Watson's Bay on 18th May in support of the ALF, raising over \$18,000! Congratulations and a huge thankyou to The Muttonbirds for your outstanding fundraising efforts!
- ALF is thrilled to receive a donation of 150 colourful handmade bookmarks from supporter Trish. Thankyou Trish, they will make a great addition to our Literacy Backpacks.
- ALF CEO David Perrin attends the official launch of the Footy Nuts program at NAB Village in Melbourne. The Lord Mayor of Melbourne also attended the event, which was hosted by TV personality Leila Gurruwiwi. ALF is a proud supporter of the Footy Nuts healthy eating campaign, which is designed to encourage Indigenous children to make healthier food choices.

JUNE

- Hayley Foster from the ALF office attends The Muttonbirds art auction in Sydney. This amazing group undertook a number of physical activities and then followed it up with a hugely successful art auction. ALF was the beneficiary of nearly \$20,000 in gifts from the group and its supporters! This huge effort is most appreciated!
- We received a beautiful letter from donor Alex Hayward, who opened the first kindergarten for Aboriginal children over 50 years ago on the Yorke Peninsula, South Australia. Included were some lovely photographs and stories. Thankyou for sharing Alex!
- ALF are excited to hear that the girls from Pymble Ladies College in New South Wales have been running a book drive for us. The school is proud to have a number of Indigenous scholars across years 7-12. Biana, a year 12 student from the Torres Strait, initiated the book drive which has been embraced by the entire school. A total of 2153 books were donated to us from the drive. Thankyou to all the wonderful students and staff for your inspiring effort!
- ALF CEO David Perrin visits the ladies of St Stephen and St Mary's Mothers Union in Mount Waverley, who have provided great support for our foundation. They are pictured here with our Healthy Living Series books. David has visited many groups this year, and we welcome invitations from any social club or group interested in hearing about and supporting our activities. If you have group keen to be involved please call David on 03 9650 1006 in Victoria or Richard on 0402 773 329 in Queensland. Representatives in other states will be available soon.

JULY

- ALF travelled to Bacchus Marsh to celebrate NAIDOC week. In the coming months we will be getting more involved in the area, establishing homework clubs for Indigenous youth. ALF also acknowledges NAIDOC week through our social media, celebrating the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- ALF supporter Cassie Zurek held a trivia night on 12th July during NAIDOC week to raise funds for our Melbourne Learning Centre. More than 70 people attended the fundraiser which was held at Fleming Park Hall in Brunswick East. Overall, \$1750 was raised – thankyou for your fantastic efforts Cassie!
- ALF received a generous donation of seven boxes of books from students Stephanie and Jaimie from Gladstone Park Secondary College, Melbourne. They collected the books together with the help of their family and friends – thank you Stephanie and Jaimie!

AUGUST

- ALF received some lovely feedback from the children at Challa Gardens Reading Club, South Australia, whom the ALF has donated books to. Challa Gardens which is a very proactive school in literacy is becoming one of favourite destinations for books in South Australia.
- ALF is proud to announce our newest literacy tutorial partnership in Toowoomba, Queensland. ALF and the Toowoomba community (lead by Jeff Chesters) will be working together to initiate a number of literacy tutorials for Indigenous children and adults. Initially based at the Kulila Indigenous Kindergarten, the program expects to expand to other schools and community centres.

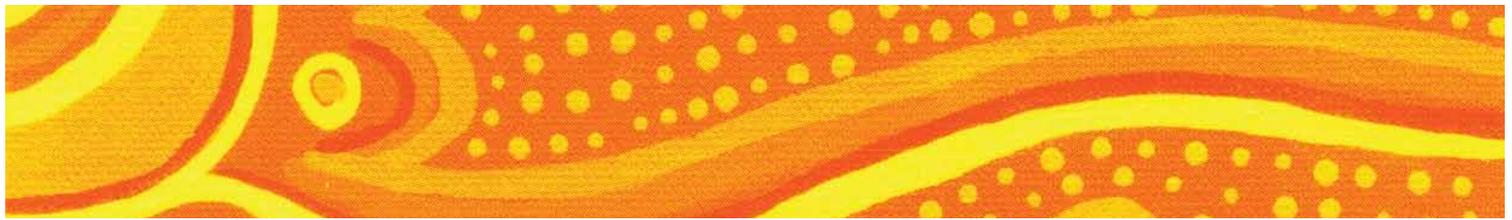


(Top to bottom) Leila Gurruwiwi with ALF CEO David Perrin at the official launch of the Footy Nuts program

Ladies of St Stephen and St Mary's Mothers Union in Mount Waverley

Sue Bacon in Bacchus Marsh, during NAIDOC week celebrations

Challa Gardens Reading Club



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

• Throughout July and August, Hayley Foster from the ALF office has been busy putting together book orders. 13 orders in total have gone out to schools and childcare centres across WA, NT, SA, NSW and QLD and one of our partnerships, The Discovery Book Club.

• ALF celebrates National Literacy and Numeracy Week by gifting 500 new books and 50 digital reading devices to 50 kindergarten kids in Toowoomba, Queensland.

• ALF's Richard Muller met with John Pearson and Glenys Gregson from Indigenous Workstars to discuss pathways for our network of students to enter employment and traineeships. Indigenous Workstars will be joining our new Aboriginal Digital Literacy Hub, which will offer not only academic assistance, but also links to employment and training solutions for our students and their families. This is part of our growing effort to provide life long pathways for our students and their families. More about this program will be provided in coming issues.

SEPTEMBER

• Our Facebook page reached a milestone of 1000 likes! If you haven't already, please head over to our Facebook page and 'like' us for regular updates on the work we do - [facebook.com/aboriginalliteracyfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/aboriginalliteracyfoundation)

• Almost 3000 books have been distributed to students, schools, and partners in Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia and New South Wales throughout September as part of our Books for Learning Program.



• September marks the 3 year anniversary of our partnership with Mazda Foundation to deliver tutorial and educational assistance to thousands of Indigenous children across Victoria. We would like to express our appreciation to Mazda Foundation for being a wonderful partner over the 3 years! Mazda Foundation has been the cornerstone of our Victorian

program, without this support our association would have found staging our Victorian Literacy and Heritage Camps a great deal harder.

• ALF would like to thank Balmain Children's Centre for the delivery of brand new books for our Joey Jumpstart campaign, which was officially launched this month. These books will be sure to find new homes and loving owners soon.

 • ALF signs a Memorandum of Understanding with Read Australia. We will be working with Miss Emma and her team to deliver more of their proven literacy and 'Learn how to Read' programs all around the nation. We hope this new partnership will deliver real outcomes to a number of our most challenged students.

• ALF received a generous gift from Brisbane Airport Community Giving Fund towards our Queensland Literacy Support Program. ALF Queensland manager Richard Muller attended a special presentation ceremony at Brisbane Airport Corporation HQ.

• ALF CEO David Perrin visits Rotary Club of Central Melbourne - Sunrise at the RACV club in Melbourne to present some information on our work across the state.

OCTOBER

• ALF is honoured to be the beneficiary of a special exhibition of Chinese brush paintings by Dr Ambara Baratawidjaja. The exhibition was held on Friday 3rd October at The Victorian Artists Society in Melbourne, and raised \$640.

• We are happy to hear that 800 of our Healthy Living Series books have arrived in Clarence Valley, NSW for the local mob to share.

• ALF opens a new homework club in the Bacchus Marsh & Darley area of Victoria, together with Djerrirriwarrh Health Services, Shire of Moorabool and Darley Neighbourhood House.

• We received a wonderful donation and almost 10kg of

books from the students and staff of the Westminster School book club in South Australia.

• Melbourne author, Jason Silverstein, presented ALF CEO David Perrin with 100 free copies of his new book 'Nick's Fabulous Footy Cards'. These will make a wonderful Christmas gift for our footy mad boys and girls!

• ALF reaches 1000 followers Twitters! Thank you to all who support us through this channel! If you haven't already, you can follow us by searching for Aboriginal_Lit.

• Author Harry Mayr generously gifted us some copies of his childrens' books from the 'Isla the funny looking hippopotamus' range, which will find new homes very soon through our Books for Learning program.

• ALF announces our wonderful greeting cards are now on sale to the general public. The set of 4 cards, made in Australia with beautiful Indigenous artwork by acclaimed artist Bibi Barba, cost \$1 each (inclusive of postage and GST), and are perfect for the festive season. You can order cards through our online shop at aboriginalliteracyfoundation.org or call us on (03) 9650 1006.

• ALF wishes to express our sincere thanks to Mr Amadeo Astorino and the young ladies of Mentone Girls Secondary College for their amazing efforts in organising a second hand book sale during National Literacy Week. The group raised \$200 for the ALF. Your very generous gift will help our Books for Learning program deliver more books and resources to our young students!

• We received a fantastic donation of nearly 500 books from Mount Eliza Secondary College for the ALF Books for Learning Program. In particular a big thankyou to Lizzie and Ms Hudson for being prime motivators of the project!

• We were grateful to receive a donation of 24 boxes of books from SCALZO foods. Thank you to Quin Scalzo and family for being so generous!



(Top to bottom) Richard Muller with John Pearson and Glenys Gregson from Indigenous Workstars

Illustration from Healthy Living Series

ALF CEO David Perrin with Jason Silverstein

David Perrin with students from Mount Eliza Secondary College

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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MAJOR PARTNERS. YOUR SUPPORT IS ENORMOUSLY APPRECIATED.



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