



**FROM THE CHAIRPERSON'S DESK**



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Colleagues let us continue with the dialogue and engage with stakeholders in pushing the agenda of community development forward. There is lot that we can do to contribute in the development of our communities through LIASA. I hope you will enjoy reading this issue of our branch newsletters featuring the celebration of our icon, former president Nelson Mandela, by different libraries within the Gauteng South branch, and we are wishing him speedy recovery at home. We are expecting to see a good attendance in the upcoming Annual General Meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, where our branch achievements and LOY will be celebrated. Hope to see you in Cape Town for the Annual Conference.



**MANDELA DAY CELEBRATIONS IN GAUTENG SOUTH**

**WITS HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY**

**Donation of books to Charlotte Maxeke Academic Hospital children wards**

The WHSL staff decided to collect a selection of children's books, specially selected from the Bedfordview Rotary Club, and to distribute these to Paediatric Wards at the Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic

Hospital in celebration of Mandela Day on July 18 this year. WHSL staff wanted to show their appreciation to the clinical staff and students for what they do, and to demonstrate empathy for their patients, in this highly tangible way that connected our world (that of books) to their world (that of sick children, in this particular case). Well done WHSL for your empathy and support!



### **UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG LIBRARIES**

#### **Reading to children and donation of books to hospital school library**

The University of Johannesburg Libraries have joined students and academics to serve at the Baragwanath, Helen Joseph and Charlotte Maxeke hospitals. A donation of 67 children's books were donated from the Women for Children's Literacy Project to the UJ 67 Minutes project to the Charlotte Maxeke hospital for reading and donating to the children's library at the hospital. This project is greatly blessed and is going from strength to strength. Julia Paris has been interviewed twice on Radio Sonder Grense, by Martelize Brink and Jackie Januarie regarding the impact of the project and was officially declared as a RSG Empathy Angel. A satellite of the project will soon be launched in Worcester and one in Springs. LIASA and UKS blessings seem to continue to impact my life in the most positive way.





## ***RDA IS .....***

### **SLISIG Gauteng South Branch Meeting**

**“RDA is...” presented by Susan Battison**

**28 August 2013 at The Concrete Institute in Midrand**

Susan Battison, from the Concrete Institute's Information Centre, presented this very interesting introduction to RDA. Susan represents special libraries on the South African RDA Steering Committee, also serving as the Vice Chair and leader of the Implementation Sub-committee.

RDA (Resource Description and Access) is the new set of cataloguing guidelines for the description of and access to information resources. It is a data element set that supports the specific user tasks of finding, identifying, selecting and obtaining information resources using catalogues. The new RDA guidelines are particularly useful to special librarians who often have to process non-book materials, as RDA provides guidelines for recording data for all types of content and media. There is a lot of information on RDA on the Internet, e.g. at <http://rda-jsc.org/> and <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/>. Susan's advice is to read as much as possible in order to become familiar with the new terms and concepts and to take full advantage of the new guidelines. Her presentation will be available on the Web site of the South African Steering Committee for the Implementation of RDA at <http://www.rda-sa.org.za>

The morning concluded with a visit to the Concrete Institute's Information Centre. The Centre serves all South Africans wherever and whenever they are through its user-friendly online catalogue. This valuable, unique and extensive collection of more than 100 000 items unlocks a world of information about cement and concrete. The Information Centre provides free enquiry, lending and online request services and sells the Institute's technical publications catering to all levels of expertise. More information is available under “Information Centre” on the Institute's Web site at <http://www.theconcreteinstitute.org.za>



Thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter.