

LIASA Western Cape Branch NEWSLETTER



Branch Chair 2014-2016
Samantha Bennett



Branch Chair-Elect 2014-2016
Laddy Mc Kechnie



Branch Additional Member:
Newsletter Editor 2014-2016
Jeremiah Pietersen

CHAIR'S LETTER

Dearest members,

To get where we are now as a branch has been a journey, but part of the journey has been uncovering the many qualities that reside within our Branch Executive Committee (BEC). It made me realise the important role that we, as LIASA members, play in our profession. As John Wooden said, "ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there". Having had the Bosberaad on 22 November 2014, I came to the realisation that each of the BEC and Interest Group (IG) members contain character traits that speaks of dedication, sophistication and professionalism. I certainly believe that this leadership will support and sustain the Western Cape members as we continue growing in our profession.

It goes without saying that our success depends on you, the members. Have you renewed your membership yet? If not, hurry! You are missing great opportunities for development and an

access to a large network of information professionals geared towards collaborative efforts and professional development. Be bold, take a stand and make things happen for yourself! Take a look at our upcoming events and show your support by attending. They are, after all, planned for your benefit.

As a branch, we are honoured to be hosting both South African Library Week and the annual IFLA conference. Those who have committed to working on organizing and facilitating these event have our full appreciation.

The theme for the SA Library Week is *Connect @ your library*. What do we as librarians do to have people connect to our libraries? Share your stories with our Newsletter editor, Jeremiah.

May you embrace every opportunity that comes your way! Make every day count!

Samantha Bennett

Upcoming events:

- 13 March - South African Library Week Launch
- 8-9 April - Book Making & Disaster Recovery Workshop
- 23 April - Story telling workshop at Grassy Park Public Library
- 3 June - Mentorship Workshop
- 1 July - Creative writing workshop - Crawford Campus, College of Cape Town
- 15-21 August - IFLA WLIC Cape Town
- 9 October - Workshop on job searching and interviewing techniques at Muizenberg (False Bay college)
- 2 December - Annual Recruitment Breakfast



Editor's note

With WLIC IFLA 2015 on the horizon and South African Library Week approaching fast, 2015 is shaping up to be a busy and exciting year. Adding to the excitement is the recent announcement of LIASA attaining professional body status. Communication on the LIASA listserv is indicative of how engaged LIASA members are this year. We hope that the year continues on such a strong note.

Jeremiah Pietersen



CHILDREN'S INTEREST GROUP HOSTS BOOK DASH & NAL'IBALI



The City of Cape Town's LIS Department hosts quarterly Children's Interest Group meetings open to all staff, especially those interested in children's librarianship. Guest speakers included Arthur Atwell of Book Dash and Righardt le Roux of PRAESA.

Book Dash is an organization attempting to print and distribute free picture books for South African children. The organization believes that every child should own a hundred books by the age of five. Although seemingly daunting, having started a crowdfunding campaign, this goal has become attainable.

So how does a Book Dash work? In the words of Arthur, they bring together writers, illustrators and designers and in a period of 12 hours attempt to produce ten picture books. These picture books are then made available under a creative commons licence, making these books available for download by anyone. Arthur, who has a publishing background, started doing this with people he knew from the industry and has so far hosted two Book Dash events at the City's Central Library. The results can be viewed on their website at <http://bookdash.org>. How do libraries fit into this picture? I thought it important that librarians knew about this

initiative as in recent days we have again been confronted by dismal results for Maths by Grade 9 learners and as a librarian, the importance of a literate society should be uppermost in our minds. Initiatives like this counter dismal results produced by our schooling systems. The cornerstone of education lies with reading and having access to information. This is what makes the jobs of librarians so important. As Nal'ibali's tagline reads "It all starts with a story"... and it should be important for us to support these initiatives by doing some of the following:

- Hosting future Book Dash events at some of our libraries, especially in our developing communities where lots of talent exists but has no means to reach their goals;
- Displaying posters to market the initiative; and,
- Garner the support of Friends of the Library organizations.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution towards the crowdfunding initiative can visit <https://thundafund.com/bookdash>.

The Interest Group meeting also hosted Righardt le Roux from PRAESA as noted above and he regaled us with stories of his life among books and stories. He also informed us about current and

future Nal'ibali projects. Some of the City's libraries are collaborating with Nal'ibali in spreading the love of reading and there is talk of exploring new ways of supporting each other. Librarians attending the meeting received copies of the Nal'ibali Literacy Charter.

Nazeem Hardy

It all starts with a story...

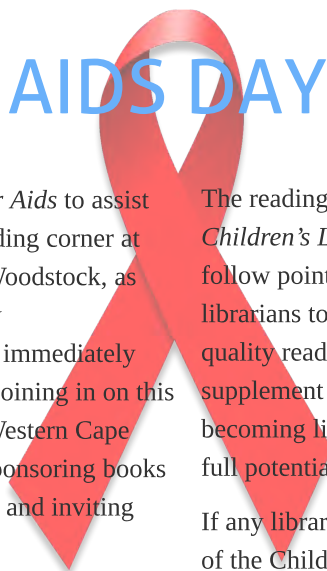


Some of the titles produced by Book Dash.





WORLD AIDS DAY EVENT



When approached by *Aid for Aids* to assist renovating a dilapidated reading corner at the All Noor orphanage in Woodstock, as part of their World AIDS Day Commemorations, *Nal'ibali* immediately started networking. Groups joining in on this effort included the LIASA Western Cape Branch and Biblionef SA, sponsoring books and posters to create a warm and inviting space.

The reading corner also features the *Nal'ibali Children's Literacy Charter* stating 11 easy to follow points for parents, care givers or librarians to ensure that all children enjoy a quality reading experience. It is hoped that this supplement will contribute to children becoming lifelong readers and tap into their full potential.

If any library would like to receive their copy of the Children's Literacy Charter please get into contact with *Nal'ibali* at www.nalibali.org.

Righardt le Roux

Western Cape Branch Interest Groups

The Western Cape Branch enjoys the company of active and engaging interest groups. Below are the committee members for the period of 2014-2016.

Public and Community Libraries Interest Group (PACLIG)

- Chair: Glorine Hannah
- Chair-Elect: Rika Smit
- Secretary: Jacinta Avontuur
- Treasurer: Nadia Ismail
- Public Relations Officer: Christelle Lubbe
- Membership: Samantha Christians
- Additional Member: Charl September
- Additional Member: Gilbert Isaac
- Additional Member: Madelein Koegelenberg

Support Staff Interest Group (SSIG)

- Chair: Lizel Johnson
- Chair-Elect: Helen Titus
- Secretary: Andrid Pieters
- Treasurer: Shahiema Nadia Engelman
- Public Relations Officer: Anoletter du Toit
- Additional Member: Joan Fortuin
- Additional Member: Shirley van Huffel
- Additional Member: William Wiese
- Additional Member: Marie Blignaut
- Additional Member: Martin Brown

School Libraries Interest Group (SLSIG)

- Chair: Marianne Elliot
- Secretary: Theresa De Young
- Treasurer: Fatima McCallum
- Public Relations Officer: Kate Whitaker
- Additional Member: Jacqueline Kwezi
- Additional Member: Colin Sass
- Additional Member: Fadeelah Davids
- Additional Member: Sandy Zinn
- Additional Member: Faith Lawrence

Western Cape Higher Education Interest Group (WCHELIG)

- Chair: Yusuf Ras
- Chair-Elect: Alfred Nqotole
- Secretary: Russel Chisango
- Treasurer: Colin Macjackie
- Additional Member: Geraldine Cele

LIASA Special Libraries Interest Group (LiSLIG)

- Chair: Zuthobek Mvakade
- Chair-Elect: Luleke Ngudu
- Treasurer: Margie Struthers
- Secretary: Nomvelase Skade

