



<http://librariesaustralia.nla.gov.au>

LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCES MEMBERSHIP OFFER FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Libraries Australia has implemented a new subscription model under which member libraries are charged according to library size, using a measure such as library budget, FTE staff, or population served. The new model was introduced for university libraries in 2007, for state and public libraries in 2008, and will be introduced for special libraries in July 2009.

We have now reviewed the charges applying to school libraries. Effective 1 July 2009, the subscription fee will be set at \$385 per year (including GST) for all school libraries. Existing school library members have been notified of this change.

We are also announcing a discount membership offer to any school library that joins Libraries Australia, as a new member, between today and 31 December 2009. For these libraries, the fee for the first year of membership (ending 30 June 2010) will be \$200. For libraries that join after July 2009, the rate will be pro-rated at \$16.67 for each month remaining prior to July 2010.

School libraries that currently use SCIS may find benefit in using Libraries Australia in addition to SCIS. The benefits of using Libraries Australia include:

- access to additional cataloguing data;
- access to APAIS – the Australian Public Affairs Information Service - free of charge;
- greater visibility of the school library collection;
- greater visibility of other library collections to your school community;
- an opportunity to use Libraries Australia “personalisation” which allows other nearby libraries to be featured prominently in search results;
- a Help Desk function during business hours: 1800 026 155;
- a means of exporting school library data to WorldCat, to take advantage of some OCLC services; and
- experience by students in using a system that they will encounter later in their education.

Libraries that take up this offer will be asked to respond to a short survey, to be issued around May 2010, concerning the value of Libraries Australia to school libraries, and concerning any changes which may be required to meet school library needs.

Many school libraries may find that the free Libraries Australia search service, encompassing the content of the Australian National Bibliographic Database and

Picture Australia, is sufficient for their purposes. Both are available at <http://librariesaustralia.nla.gov.au>. The free service is being redeveloped to include a greater variety of content from a wide range of National Library services and beyond. An early prototype is available for use at: <http://sbdsproto.nla.gov.au/> and all comments are welcome.

Any school library interested in the discount membership offer is encouraged to contact:

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