

## MEDIA RELEASE 24 May 2016

## **ONE MILLION STORIES**

Alice Springs Public Library is partnering with Yarra City Libraries in Victoria to deliver a joint project focussed on developing early literacy skills. It is a project for children, parents, businesses and institutions which aims to increase the exposure of children aged 0-8 years to stories (print and oral), embedding a culture of "a story a day" through story sharing within the family and the wider community. Individually taken tallies of stories shared with children aged 0-8 years will be collected by the Library. The project aims to reach 1,000,000 stories shared within Yarra and Alice Springs collectively.

The project will launch on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, with an event held within Alice Springs Public Library. The event will consist of two sessions:

- 10:15am: A special Storytime: Kite Tales with 'The Kiteman' Rob King followed by kite making. For children ages 2-5.
- 11:15am: Morning tea and program launch help us launch the first Million Stories Kite!

Alice Springs Public Library will provide registered participants of One Million Stories with materials to record the number of stories that are delivered to children aged 0-8 years. These stories can be in any format, including written, oral, sung, or imagined stories. Parents and institutions are encouraged to involve children in tallying the number of stories shared, celebrating and rewarding milestones. Children, parents and organisations can register at the Library information desk.

Alice Springs Public Library will be rewarding participation at the end of each month with a prize draw. Draws will occur during Friday Story Sharing events in the Library at the end of each month. These afternoons will consist of activities that encourage children to share stories with one another. These will be open to all children participating in the project. The first Friday Story Sharing afternoon will be held on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of June from 3:30pm until 5:00pm.

Alice Springs Public Library is grateful for the partnership of Yarra City Libraries in this project, and hopes to continue collaborating with other Australian and international libraries in future projects.

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## For further information contact:

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