



# AUSTRALIAN LITERACY EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION

## *Citation for Life Membership Marion Meiers July 2011*

Marion Meiers has given sustained commitment and dedication to ALEA since 1987 when she became the inaugural President of the Gippsland Local Council of the Australian Reading Association. In her many roles since then, Marion has created opportunities for teacher in-service education through meetings, seminars and conferences, as well as through her research and editorship of ALEA journals.

During the past two decades Marion has worked tirelessly for ALEA serving on state conference organising committees, as a conference convenor and as the Executive Liaison Officer of the Australian Literacy Federation (ALF), the umbrella organisation of ALEA, AATE, PETA, ACTA (Australian Council of TESOL Associations) and ACAL (Australian Council for Adult Literacy).

Marion has displayed exemplary leadership in the field of initiating and developing ALEA publications. In 1996-1999, she assumed the editorship of the then fledgling ALEA journal, *Literacy Learning: Secondary Thoughts*, developing it into a fully-fledged publication, *Literacy Learning: The Middle Years* from 2000 – 2004. In 2003 Marion was appointed ALEA's Publications' Director, a National Council position that she has held for eight years and will hold for another two years. This position requires Marion to work closely with ALEA's three editorial teams, canvass possible manuscripts, and oversee the publication process in association with ALEA office staff for both journals and books. During her leadership all ALEA's publications have gone from strength to strength. It is a demanding role that requires strong leadership as well as editorial and administration skills at the highest level. At the international level Marion has negotiated with the International Reading Association (IRA) Publications Manager and staff for the co-publication and promotion of books and monographs.

Marion's enthusiasm for her work is always to the fore and in that she enacts, if not epitomises, advocacy for all that ALEA represents. As a long time committed literacy educator Marion has used every position and forum she has held to promote the aims and purposes of ALEA. It is therefore with great pleasure that ALEA recognises Marion Meiers' outstanding contribution to the literacy community with Life Membership of the Association.