



Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District
Minister for the Arts
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Women's Affairs



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MEDIA RELEASE

Share of \$1 million of book funding for Bayswater District libraries

Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation will receive \$60,539 to add new books to its collection in the lead up to next year's Premiers' Reading Challenge, Bayswater District MP Heidi Victoria has announced.

Ms Victoria welcomed the new funding for The Eastern Region Library Corporation from the 2014-15, \$1 million Premiers' Reading Challenge Book Fund.

Eastern Region Library Corporation includes libraries at Bayswater, Boronia and Ringwood.

"This funding is important to ensure that the libraries can provide a wonderful stock of books to benefit young readers in Bayswater District," Ms Victoria said.

"The annual Premiers' Reading challenge is a great way to encourage more children to read, to read more often and to read more widely."

Ms Victoria said the funding was part of the Victorian Coalition Government's commitment to improving literacy skills for younger readers.

"Readers already have rich pickings – from Asimov, Bronte, Dickens, D H Lawrence, Dr Seuss, Roald Dahl, Graeme Base and J K Rowling to name just a few of the authors to challenge and delight children of all ages," Ms Victoria said.

"And there'll be even more to come thanks to this latest allocation from the Premiers' Reading Challenge Book Fund."

Ms Victoria said while Victoria has a world class public library network, the Victorian Coalition Government is intent on improving library services and facilities across the state.

"The four-year \$4.5 million Premiers' Reading Challenge Book Fund complements this government's \$17.2 million *Living Libraries Infrastructure Fund*, and the \$38.6 million *Public Libraries Funding Program* – providing record funding the state's library network," she said.

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