

BRIEF BACKGROUND

In October 2005 'Paint the West Read' a book relay, akin to the Olympic torch relay, was staged in Western NSW, visiting 60 towns and travelling over 5,500 km . . . from Goolooga to Wentworth and Broken Hill to Lithgow, literacy was celebrated.

Every town was 'painted' red and held a ceremony to greet the Reading Bug and book.

The much-travelled, much-read book has been resting in state on The Dish (Parkes Radio Telescope), awaiting the next leg of its journey.


The Department of Education and Training and Families NSW Initiative staged this event.

The Anti-Poverty Week Committee has embraced this unique way of awareness-raising.

'Paint the Town Read - Birth to Kindergarten' is an initiative of Parkes community and Western NSW DET Region.

Have you
read,
talked,
sung,
said
nursery rhymes
to your
baby today?

Remember:
**'The family that reads
together, succeeds
together'.**

The logo features a stylized sunburst of red and yellow dots above a white book with blue pages, all set against a red brushstroke background.

Paint the town read
Celebrating the gift of literacy . . . from west to east
Event 14 - **World Anti-Poverty Day** - 17 October 2008 -
Martin Place, Sydney
To highlight the link between poverty and illiteracy
and celebrate the gift of literacy



**From West to East . . .
help us raise awareness on
International Anti-Poverty Day**

Proudly endorsed by Australian Red Cross

RATIONALE

- Statistics show a direct correlation between illiteracy and poverty.
- No longer can agencies work successfully in isolation, to address social concerns. It is imperative that agencies connect more with each other and the community.

AIMS

- To increase the level of understanding of the impact of poor literacy skills on poverty and poverty on poor literacy skills.
- To bring together agencies which work towards the health and well-being of our community.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide a single, united event to allow organisations to highlight the role they play in combating poverty.
- To raise the value of literacy within the community by staging a major celebratory event, which will involve:
 - extending the 'Paint the West Read' / 'Birth to Kindergarten' project from Western NSW to the city;
 - 'Painting Martin Place Read' and wearing red to show you are well read;
 - celebrating literacy and the joys of reading.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Wednesday, 15 October 10.00 am

The much-travelled, much-read book commences its journey from 'The Dish' (in the west) to Sydney (in the east), joining the Reading Bug, Mayor and fire truck in Parkes.

(Initiative of Western NSW DET)

Thursday, 16 October - 4.30 pm

Arrival of vintage fire truck, Reading Bug, Wild Thing and Mayor at Parliament House for reading in the Upper House.

(Initiative of Western NSW DET)

Friday, 17 October 7.00 am - 1.30 pm

'Paint Martin Place Read' . . . major event at which Martin Place is decorated in red; team from Western NSW perform; arrival of book at 10.30 am; school students attend throughout morning; agencies operate stalls/booths/activities; reading circles operate.

(Under auspice of Australian Red Cross)

Note: Setting up will commence at 6.00 am

YOUR PART

- Wear red!
- Create an atmosphere of excitement and anticipation
- Set up a (red) display/stall to showcase the part your organisation plays in combating poverty.
- Provide handouts
- Be as fun-filled and creative as possible
- **Contact Co-ordinator . . .**
Rhonda Brain, now

Phone/Fax: 6862 1196

Mobile: 0432 164 320

Email: rbrain1@bigpond.com

Note:

- First entertainment commences at 8.00 am
- First handouts to commuters start at 7.00 am.



PATRON: HER EXCELLENCY, PROFESSOR MARIE BASHIR AC,
GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES