



PRESS STATEMENT

26 January 2026

The international association *Public Lending Right International* (PLRI) has heard with great sadness the passing away of the founder of the PLR International network in 1995, Jim (James) Parker.

As UK PLR Registrar and later coordinator of the PLRI network, Jim was an ardent supporter of a fair remuneration for authors and other rightsholders when their copyrighted works are lent in public libraries. Countless were his interventions in many countries to convince the authorities that a well-functioning public lending scheme was the appropriate solution to secure a fair compensation for rightsholders whilst also sustaining the creative sector and cultural diversity.

The President of PRLI Arjen Polman and the Board present their sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Jim Parker.

They will honour his memory when they next meet in Rome for the bi-annual PLR conference.

Jim will be dearly missed as a true PLR hero and as a friend.

Photograph taken at the Brussels PLR conference in 2011.



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