# 2017 adult fiction stock quality health check.

## Background/history

In 2011 the adult fiction Stock Quality Health Check was done to explore depth and breadth in NSW public libraries. It comprised five hundred titles, within genre clusters. These were representative across designated areas of reading interest which indicate the breadth and depth of an adult fiction collection in New South Wales. They were indicative titles rather than prescriptive, and not a list for purchase. Each author had only one title in the list. This was done to increase the diversity being investigated. The novels had to be written targeting adults, not, for example young adult titles which are read by adults as these would be addressed in another way.

When the adult fiction stock quality health check was available in 2011, 32 libraries across NSW participated. Thirteen of these were libraries from the metropolitan area, while the other nineteen were from country areas, including five regional libraries.

## Method

It was decided to revisit this methodology to help libraries explore their collections. In September 2016 an expression of interest was sent to NSW public library email lists encouraging NSW public library staff to participate in a working group to plan an adult fiction stock quality health check. Collections and readers’ advisory staff were sought from libraries of different sizes. 17 people volunteered, and because of the range of skills all were accepted. This brought involvement from libraries in a range of sizes and locations.

Thanks to:

Martin Mantle, Armidale Regional Council Library

Svetlana (Lana) Aksenova, Big Sky Libraries

Kerry-Ann Prideaux, Burwood Library

Tracey Craig, Central Coast Libraries

Gabriele Winter, City of Canada Bay Library Service

Martyn Williams, Clarence Regional Library

Jessie Kane, Coffs Harbour City Library

Jennifer Moss, Ku-ring-gai Library

Anne Moten, Lake Macquarie City Library

Scotia Tracey, Lithgow Library Learning Centre

Jennifer Blume, Maitland City Library

Patricia Annetts, Newcastle Region Library

Wendy Ford, Northern Beaches Libraries

Nicole Lonesborough, Shoalhaven Libraries

Kaye Johnson, Sutherland Shire Libraries and Information Services

Cheryl Woodward, Willoughby City Library

Laurie Popple, Wollongong City Libraries

for their enthusiasm for this work. Thanks also to the public libraries these staff are from as this enabled their participation.

For the 2017 project the previous list and size of each genre was not consulted as it was felt better to look at things without being influenced by the earlier stock quality check. This was a suggestion from the project steering committee.

The group met together on 15 February 2017 to discuss likely genres to include in the 500 titles, and then started suggesting authors and titles. After this meeting the information was placed on the NSW public library readers’ advisory wiki[[1]](#footnote-1) with a page per possible genre. This way library staff across NSW could add their suggestions to the lists as well as suggest other genres or names for some general topic areas. It also showed if there were suggested genres which were a better fit combined with another topic.

At the meeting in February there was discussion about the kind of authors and titles to include. This list is to help libraries check the depth and breadth of their adult fiction, so it was important that a wide range of writers was included. It needed to include new as well as established writers as public libraries should have a mix of styles in their collection. It was decided by the group that generally publications should be newer, and ideally still in print. This last point took a lot of checking by a small number of the steering group, especially Lana Aksenova, Anne Moten and Gabrielle Winter.

On 2 May there was a meeting to decide on which 500 titles would be indicative for adult fiction health. The size of the genres varied based on proportions which public library staff felt were representative of their collections.

Table 1 List of genres and number of titles for each genres

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Genre** | **Number of titles in list** |
| Action/Adventure | 20 |
| Australian | 30 |
| Classics | 20 |
| Crime/mystery | 60 |
| Everyday life | 20 |
| Fantasy | 30 |
| LGBQTI[[2]](#footnote-2) | 20 |
| Gentle reads | 10 |
| Historical | 40 |
| Horror | 20 |
| Humour | 10 |
| Indigenous[[3]](#footnote-3) | 10 |
| Literary fiction | 20 |
| Paranormal | 10 |
| Romance | 40 |
| Sagas | 20 |
| Science Fiction | 40 |
| Short stories | 10 |
| Thriller | 20 |
| War | 10 |
| Westerns | 10 |
| World Fiction | 30 |

The complete list of titles is in Appendix 1.

These divisions were to make it simpler for libraries to explore their collection strengths. The steering group acknowledged that the genres such as Indigenous were totally artificial as the writing within this fits in many genres. The separate genre was done to make sure that public libraries were including fiction by Aboriginal and Torres Strait writers. If these writers were scattered through other genres, this would be harder to track. As well as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait writers included in the Indigenous section, others were included elsewhere. Similarly, with fiction by or about Lesbian Gay Bisexual Queer Transgender Intersex (LGBQTI) people it was thought important for these works not to be lost or buried. This is also true for short stories as their content is across many genres, but it was important that this format was included. Graphic novels, because they are a format rather than a genre, were included in several genres. It was decided to try and have near even numbers of female and male writers on the list.

There were discussions about criteria for particular genres, for example romance had to have a happy ending (happy ever after or happy for now). Novels which included elements of romance but did not have happy endings was placed in other genres. The aim was to include novels with different appeal characteristics and styles. This is an indicative list not a shopping list, so if a library had a lower rating in a particular genre they were encouraged to have a look at that part of their collection in more depth and see if they need to do more work in that area. It was also decided that each author should only have one title on the list. If the author uses pseudonyms it was still one title for all of the output of an author

## Results

Sixty three libraries from all over NSW provided their results. No library held all 500 titles. One library held 499 titles, just missing one of the horror ones, see table 1 on spreadsheet for a detailed coverage. The data is available for each council, but has been coded for anonymity. The Australian Classification of Local Governments (see Appendix 3) was used, except for Regional libraries (libraries which are formed because of a formal agreement between two or more councils) which were given a separate classification of *RL*.

The genres which were strongest in public libraries were action/adventure, Australian, classics, crime and sagas (see table 1 on spreadsheet). The genres more libraries struggled with were LGBQTI, gentle reads, horror, Indigenous, science fiction, short stories and Westerns (see table 1 on spreadsheet).

## What happens now?

While this short report looks at the state wide view, there is work for individual libraries to do. Each library should be looking at how they scored, and in genres where their scores were lower, do a more detailed exploration looking at what they hold and where are their gaps. To help this work, talks by genre specialists will be organized to assist all libraries with their genre understanding. These will be by videoconference and be recorded, so that they are available to as many library staff as possible. This will be taking a collection focus to help all libraries, regardless of their size and budget improve their collections.

The libraries with the highest total percentage of holdings have been contacted to discuss their acquisition methods. From early discussions, the libraries with the highest percentage of holdings use a combination of standing orders (reviewed each year) and direct selection. These were the consistent variables.

## Appendix 1 2017 list of titles

1 Action/Adventure Berenson, Alex Prisoner

2 Action/Adventure Connolly, Bram The fighting season (2016)

3 Action/Adventure Crichton, Michael Pirate latitudes (2009/2016)

4 Action/Adventure Cussler, Clive Cutthroat (2017)

5 Action/Adventure Flynn, Vince with Kyle Mills Order to kill (2016)

6 Action/Adventure Higgins, Jack Midnight bell (2016)

7 Action/Adventure Lehane, Dennis World gone by

8 Action/Adventure Lustbader, Eric van Bourne enigma (2016)

9 Action/Adventure Marsden, John South of darkness (2014)

10 Action/Adventure McGuire, Ian North water 2016

11 Action/Adventure McNab, Andy Cold blood (2016)

12 Action/Adventure O'Brian, Patrick Master and Commander

13 Action/Adventure Park, Tony An empty coast (2015)

14 Action/Adventure Preston, Douglas The obsidian chamber

15 Action/Adventure Rollins, James The seventh plague (2016)

16 Action/Adventure Ryan, Chris Bad soldier (2016)

17 Action/Adventure Silva, Daniel The black widow

18 Action/Adventure Smith, Wilbur Golden lion (2015)

19 Action/Adventure Stockwin, Julian Tyger (2015)

20 Action/Adventure Tonkin, Peter Blind reef

21 Australian Allinson, Miles Fever of animals (2015)

22 Australian Behrendt, Larissa Legacy (2009)

23 Australian Bitto, Emily The strays (2014)

24 Australian Brooks, Geraldine People of the book (2008)

25 Australian Carey, Peter True history of the Kelly Gang (2000)

26 Australian Corris, Peter Win, lose or draw (2016)

27 Australian Flanagan, Richard The narrow road to the deep north (2013)

28 Australian Garner, Helen The spare room (2008)

28 Australian Grenville, Kate The secret river (2005)

30 Australian Harper, Jane The dry (2016)

31 Australian Keneally, Meg & Tom The soldier's curse: (No. 1: Monsarrat series) (2016)

32 Australian Kent, Hannah The good people (2016)

33 Australian Laguna, Sofie The eye of the sheep (2014)

34 Australian London, Joan The golden age (2014)

35 Australian Maguire, Emily An isolated incident (2016)

36 Australian Maitland, Barry Slaughter Park

37 Australian Moriarty, Liane Big little lies (2014)

38 Australian Morrissey, Di Rain music

39 Australian Morton, Kate The lake house (2015)

40 Australian Polites, Peter Down the Hume (2017)

41 Australian Reilly, Matthew The four legendary kingdoms (2016)

42 Australian Silvey, Craig Jasper Jones (2009)

43 Australian Stedman, ML The light between oceans (2012)

44 Australian Temple, Peter The broken shore (2005)

45 Australian Throsby, Holly Goodwood (2016)

46 Australian Treloar, Lucy Salt Creek (2016)

47 Australian Tsiolkas, Christos Barracuda (2013)

48 Australian Wilson, Josephine Extinctions (2015)

49 Australian Winton, Tim Eyrie (2013)

50 Australian Wood, Charlotte The natural way of things (2015)

51 Classics Austen, Jane Pride and prejudice (1813)

52 Classics Bronte, Charlotte Jane Eyre (1847)

53 Classics Dickens, Charles David Copperfield (1850)

54 Classics Eliot, George Middlemarch (1871)

55 Classics Fitzgerald, F. Scott The Great Gatsby

56 Classics Garcia Marquez, Gabriel One hundred years of solitude

57 Classics Golden, Arthur Memoirs of a Geisha (1997)

58 Classics Golding, William Lord of the Flies (1954)

58 Classics Hardy, Thomas Far from the madding crowd (1874)

60 Classics Johnston, George My brother Jack (Aust) (1964)

61 Classics Kafka, Franz The metamorphosis (1915)

62 Classics Lee, Harper To kill a mockingbird (1960)

63 Classics Lindsay, Joan Picnic at Hanging Rock (1967)

64 Classics Niland, Darcy The Shiralee (1955)

65 Classics Orwell, George 1984 (1948)

66 Classics Park, Ruth Harp in the south

67 Classics Salinger, JD The Catcher in the Rye

68 Classics Steinbeck, John Of mice and men (1937)

69 Classics Tolstoy, Leo War and Peace

70 Classics White, Patrick Voss (1957)

71 Crime/mystery Aaronvich, Ben Rivers of London (2011)

72 Crime/mystery Atkinson, Kate Case histories  (2004)

73 Crime/mystery Baldacci, David Memory man

74 Crime/mystery Beaton, MC Agatha Raisin and the quiche of death

75 Crime/mystery Billingham, Mark Time of death (2015) ;

76 Crime/mystery Bradley, Alan Thrice the brinded cat hath mew’d

77 Crime/mystery Camilleri, Andrea Blade of light

78 Crime/mystery Child, Lee Night school

79 Crime/mystery Childs, Laura Devonshire scream

80 Crime/mystery Christie, Agatha Murder at the vicarage

81 Crime/mystery Cleeves , Ann The moth catcher (2015)

82 Crime/mystery Coben, Harlan Fool me once

83 Crime/mystery Connelly, Michael The crossing (2015)

84 Crime/mystery Cornwell, Patricia Chaos

85 Crime/mystery Crombie , Deborah Garden of lamentations (2017)

86 Crime/mystery Deaver, Jeffery The burial hour

87 Crime/mystery Disher, Garry Bitter Wash Road

88 Crime/mystery Ellis, Kate The house of eyes (2016)

89 Crime/mystery Fairstein, Linda Killer look (2016)

90 Crime/mystery Fluke, Joanne Banana cream pie murder (2017)

91 Crime/mystery Flynn, Gillian Gone girl

92 Crime/mystery Fox, Candice Crimson Lake (2017)

93 Crime/mystery Galbraith, Robert Career of evil (2015)

94 Crime/mystery Grafton, Sue V is for vengeance (2011)

95 Crime/mystery Greenwood, Kerry Dead man’s chest

96 Crime/mystery Griffiths, Elly The woman in blue

97 Crime/mystery Grisham, John The whistler (2016)

98 Crime/mystery Høeg, Peter The quiet girl (2008)

99 Crime/mystery Holt, Anne Offline (2015)

100 Crime/mystery James, Peter Love you dead (2016)

101 Crime/mystery Kellerman, Jonathan Breakdown

102 Crime/mystery La Plante, Lynda Tennison (2015)

103 Crime/mystery Läckberg, Camilla The ice child (2016)

104 Crime/mystery Larsson, Stieg The girl with the dragon tattoo (2008)

105 Crime/mystery Leon, Donna The golden egg

106 Crime/mystery Penny, Louise A great reckoning (2016)

107 Crime/mystery Mankell, Henning The troubled man (2009)

108 Crime/mystery Marston, Edward Signal for vengeance (2016)

109 Crime/mystery Pryor, Mark The Paris librarian (2016)

110 Crime/mystery Martini , Steve Blood flag (2016)

111 Crime/mystery May, Peter Coffin Road (2016)

112 Crime/mystery McDermid, Val Splinter the silence (2015)

113 Crime/mystery McKinty, Adrian Police at the station and they don't look friendly (2016)

114 Crime/mystery Nesbo, Jo The thirst (2017)

115 Crime/mystery Neuhaus, Nele Snow White must die (2010)

116 Crime/mystery Parris, SJ Conspiracy (2016)

117 Crime/mystery Parsons. Tony The hanging club (2016)

118 Crime/mystery Patterson James Private London (2011)

119 Crime/mystery Rankin, Ian Rather be the devil (2016)

120 Crime/mystery Reichs, Kathy The bone collection

121 Crime/mystery Rendell, Ruth The girl next door

122 Crime/mystery Robinson , Peter When the music's over (2016)

123 Crime/mystery Robotham, Michael Life or death (2014)

124 Crime/mystery Schmidt, Sarah See what I have done (2017)

125 Crime/mystery Scottoline, Lisa Damaged (2016)

126 Crime/mystery Sigurdardottir, Yrsa Silence of the sea (2014)

127 Crime/mystery Slovo, Gillian Ten days (2016)

128 Crime/mystery Turow, Scott Identical (2013)

129 Crime/mystery Walker, Martin Fatal pursuit (2015)

130 Crime/mystery Winspear, Jacqueline In this grave hour (2017)

131 Everyday life Berg,Elizabeth The dream lover (2015)

132 Everyday life Byrski, Liz The woman next door (2016)

133 Everyday life Foster,Zoe The wrong girl (2014)

134 Everyday life Genova, Lisa Still Alice (2009)

135 Everyday life Haruf, Kent Our souls at night (2015)

136 Everyday life Healey, Emma Elizabeth is missing (2014)

137 Everyday life James, Wendy The golden child (2017)

138 Everyday life Jewell, Lisa Girls in the garden (2016)

139 Everyday life Kelly, Cathy Between sisters (2015)

140 Everyday life Mallery, Susan A million little things (2017)

141 Everyday life McCall Smith, Alexander 44 Scotland Street 2005

142 Everyday life McInerney, Monica Hello from the Gillespies (2014)

143 Everyday life Morgan, Christopher Currawalli Street

144 Everyday life Moriarty, Sinead The good mother (2017)

145 Everyday life Moyes, Jojo Me before you (2012)

146 Everyday life Picoult, Jodi Small great things

147 Everyday life Simonson, Helen Major Pettigrew's last stand (2010)

148 Everyday life Strout, Elizabeth Olive Kitteridge (2008)

149 Everyday life Sweeney, Cynthia D'Aprix The nest (2016)

150 Everyday life Toibin, Colm Nora Webster (2014)

151 Fantasy Canavan, Trudi Angel of Storms (2015)

152 Fantasy Chan, Kylie White tiger (2007)

153 Fantasy Jemisin, N.K. The fifth season (15)

154 Fantasy Eddings , David Pawn of prophesy (1982)

155 Fantasy Feist , Raymond A kingdom besieged (2013)

156 Fantasy Fforde, Jasper The Eyre affair (2001)

157 Fantasy Forsyth, Kate The beast's garden (2015)

158 Fantasy Goodkind, Terry Severed souls (2014) Sword of truth series

159 Fantasy Hearn, Lian Emperor of the eight islands (2016)

160 Fantasy Hobb, Robin Fool's quest (2015)

161 Fantasy Kristoff, Jay Nevernight (2016)

162 Fantasy Lackey, Mercedes Closer to the chest (2016)

163 Fantasy Lay, Duncan Bridge of swords (2012)

164 Fantasy Logan, Kirsty The gracekeepers (2015)

165 Fantasy Lynch, Scott The Lies of Locke Lamora

166 Fantasy Marillier, Juliet Den of wolves (2016)

167 Fantasy McCaffrey, Anne Dragonflight (1968)

168 Fantasy Miller, Fank Batman the dark knight returns (2015)GN

169 Fantasy Moore, Alan V for vendetta (2008) GN

170 Fantasy Morgenstern, Erin The night circus (2012)

171 Fantasy Novik, Naomi Empire of Ivory (2007)

172 Fantasy Pratchett, Terry Snuff (2011)

173 Fantasy Rothfuss, Patrick Wise man’s fear (2011)

174 Fantasy Sanderson, Brandon Arcanum unbounded (2016)

175 Fantasy Schwab, Victoria A gathering of shadows (2016)

176 Fantasy Showalter, Gena The darkest torment (2016)

177 Fantasy Mandel, Emily St. John Station Eleven (2014)

178 Fantasy Tolkien, JRR The fellowship of the ring (1954 + recent eds)

179 Fantasy Weeks, Brent The blood mirror (2016)

180 Fantasy Wilkins, Kim Sisters of the fire (2016)

181 LGBQTI Boyne, John The heart’s invisible furies (2017)

182 LGBQTI Brown, Rita Mae Cakewalk (2016)

183 LGBQTI Cunningham, Michael The hours (1999/2003)

184 LGBQTI Ebershoff, David The Danish girl (2000)

185 LGBQTI Eugenides, Jeffrey Middlesex (2002)

186 LGBQTI Flagg, Fannie Fried green tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café (1987)

187 LGBQTI Ford, Kelly J Cottonmouths: A Novel (2017)

188 LGBQTI Frankel, Laurie This is how it always is (2017)

189 LGBQTI Gale, Patrick A place called Winter (2015)

190 LGBQTI Haddad, George Populate and perish (2016)

191 LGBQTI Highsmith, Patricia Carol (1991/2011)

192 LGBQTI Lear, James While My Wife's Away (2017)

193 LGBQTI Louis, Edouard The End of Eddy: A Novel (2017)

194 LGBQTI Malouf, David Johnno

195 LGBQTI Maroh, Julie Blue is the warmest color (2013) GN

196 LGBQTI Maupin, Armistead Tales of the city

197 LGBQTI Okparanta, Chinelo Under the Udala Trees (2017)

198 LGBQTI Scott, Manda Into the fire (2015)

199 LGBQTI Waters, Sarah The paying guests (2014)

200 LGBQTI Winterson, Jeanette Oranges are not the only fruit (1997)

201 Gentle reads Chiaverini, Jennifer The wedding quilt (2012)

202 Gentle reads Gray, Shelley Shepard Daybreak (2013)

203 Gentle reads Kingsbury, Karen Chasing sunsets (2015)

204 Gentle reads Lewis, Beverly The photograph (2015)

205 Gentle reads Macomber, Debbie If not for you (2017)

206 Gentle reads Oke, Janette When calls the heart

207 Gentle reads Ryan, Jennifer The Chilbury ladies' choir (2017)

208 Gentle reads Sparks, Nicholas The notebook (1996/2017)

209 Gentle reads Trigiani, Adriana Kiss Carlo (2017)

210 Gentle reads Zevin, Gabrielle The collected works of AJ Fikry (2014)

211 Historical Ashley, Melissa The birdman's wife (2016)

212 Historical Baker Kline, Christine A piece of the world (2017)

213 Historical Barry, Sebastian Days without end (2017)

214 Historical Burton, Jessie The miniaturist (2014)

215 Historical Catton, Eleanor The Luminaries (2013)

216 Historical Cornwell , Bernard The empty throne (2014)

217 Historical Donoghue, Emma The Wonder (2016)

218 Historical Dunant, Sarah In the name of the family (2017)

219 Historical Dyer, David The midnight watch (2016)

220 Historical Fabbri,Robert Tribune of Rome (2011)

221 Historical Fellowes, Julian Belgravia (2016)

222 Historical Funder, Anna All that I am (2011)

223 Historical Ghosh, Amitav Flood of fire (2015)

224 Historical Gilbert , Elizabeth Signature of all things (2012)

225 Historical Gregory, Philippa The other Boleyn girl (2001)

226 Historical Hannah , Kristin The nightingale (2015)

227 Historical Hoffman, Alice The dovekeepers (2011)

228 Historical Iggulden, Conn Stormbird (2013)

229 Historical Jefferies, Dinah The tea planter's wife (2015)

230 Historical Jenoff , Pam The orphan's tale (2017)

231 Historical Jordan , Toni Nine days (2012)

232 Historical Kane, Ben Hunting the eagles (2016)

233 Historical Kiernan , Stephen P The baker's secret (2017)

234 Historical Lovett , Charlie The lost book of the grail (2017)

235 Historical Correa, Armando Lucas The German Girl (2016)

236 Historical Mantel, Hillary Wolf Hall (2009)

237 Historical McLain, Paula The Paris wife (2011)

238 Historical Miller , Andrew Pure (2011)

239 Historical Kidd, Sue Monk The invention of wings (2014)

240 Historical Perry, Sarah The Essex serpent (2016)

241 Historical Sansom, CJ Lamentation (2014)

242 Historical Saunders, George Lincoln in the Bardo (2017)

243 Historical Scarrow, Simon Invictus (2016)

244 Historical See, Lisa Shanghai girls (2009)

245 Historical Serov, Banafsheh The Russian tapestry (2013)

246 Historical Spufford, Francis Golden Hill (2016)

247 Historical Stockett, Kathryn The help (2009)

248 Historical Watt, Peter Beneath a rising sun (2015)

249 Historical Weir, Alison Anne Boleyn : a King's obsession (2017)

250 Historical Whitehead , Colson The underground railroad (2017)

251 Horror Barker, Clive, The scarlet gospels (2015)

252 Horror Carey, MR Fellside (2016)

253 Horror Oates, Joyce Carol The accursed (2013)

254 Horror Cook, Robin Cell (2014)

255 Horror Crouch , Blake Pines (2012) (Wayward pines series)

256 Horror Hill, Joe The fireman (2016)

257 Horror King, Stephen Finders Keepers (2015)

258 Horror Kirkman , Robert The walking dead: Volume 1: Days gone by (GN) 2013

259 Horror Koontz, Dean Ashley Bell (2016)

260 Horror Levin, Ira Rosemary’s baby (1967/2017)

261 Horror Lukyanenko, Sergei Night watch (2006)

262 Horror McDaniel , Tiffany The summer that melted everything (2016)

263 Horror McMahon, Jennifer The winter people (2016)

264 Horror Rice, Anne Prince Lestat and the realms of Atlantis (2015)

265 Horror Shelley, Mary Frankenstein

266 Horror Stoker, Bram Dracula

267 Horror Warren, Kaaron Grief hole (2016)

268 Horror Straub, Peter Interior darkness (2016)

269 Horror Jamieson, Trent Day boy (2015)

270 Horror McDermott, Kirstyn Perfections (2012)

271 Humour Adams, Douglas The hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy (1979/2004)

272 Humour Backman, Fredik My grandmother asked me to tell you she's sorry (2015)

273 Humour Evanovich, Janet Turbo twenty-three (2016)

274 Humour Fielding, Helen Bridget Jones’s diary (1996)

275 Humour Kinsella, Sophie My not so perfect life (2017)

276 Humour Nicholls, David One day (2010)

277 Humour Oswald, Debra Useful (2015)

278 Humour Semple, Maria Where'd you go, Bernadette (2012)

279 Humour Simsion, Graeme The Rosie Project (2013)

280 Humour Townsend, Sue The women who went to bed for a year (2012)

281 Indigenous Coleman, Dylan Mazin' Grace (2012)

282 Indigenous Heiss,Anita Barbed wire and cherry blossoms (2016)

283 Indigenous Janson, Julie The Crocodile Hotel (2015)

284 Indigenous Lucashenko, Melissa Mullumbimby (2013)

285 Indigenous Munkara, Marie A most peculiar act (2013)

286 Indigenous Scott, Kim That deadman dance (2011)

287 Indigenous van Neervan, Ellen Heat and Light (2014)

277 Indigenous Watson, Nicole The boundary (2011)

289 Indigenous Winch, Tara June Swallow the air (2006)

290 Indigenous Wright, Alexis Carpentaria (2006)

291 Literary fiction Barnes, Julian The sense of an ending (2011)

292 Literary fiction Amsterdam, Steven The easy way out (2016)

293 Literary fiction Nabokov, Vladimir Pale fire

294 Literary fiction Carroll, Steven A world of other people (2013)

295 Literary fiction Fowler, Karen Joy We are all completely beside ourselves (2014)

296 Literary fiction Franzen, Jonathan Purity (2015)

297 Literary fiction Johnson, Adam The orphan master's son (2012)

298 Literary fiction Joyce, Rachel The unlikely pilgrimage of Harold Fry (2012)

299 Literary fiction Kingsolver, Barbara The Poisonwood Bible (1999)

300 Literary fiction McEwan, Ian Nutshell (2016)

301 Literary fiction Patchett, Ann Commonwealth (2016)

302 Literary fiction Foer, Jonathan Safran Here I am (2016)

303 Literary fiction Searle, Nicholas The good liar (2016)

304 Literary fiction Smith , Ali How to be both (2014)

305 Literary fiction Smith, Dominic The last painting of Sara de Vos (2016)

306 Literary fiction Smith, Zadie Swing time (2016)

307 Literary fiction Tartt, Donna The Goldfinch (2013)

308 Literary fiction Nguyen, Viet Thanh The refugees (2017)

309 Literary fiction Tinti, Hannah The twelve lives of Samuel Hawley (2017)

310 Literary fiction Wyld, Evie All the birds singing (2014)

311 Paranormal Connolly, John A time of torment (2016)

312 Paranormal Day, Sylvia A hunger so wild (2012)

313 Paranormal Feehan, Christine Power game (2017)

314 Paranormal Gaiman, Neil American Gods (2006)

315 Paranormal Harris, Charlaine Night shift (2016)

316 Paranormal Lindqvist, John Ajvide Let the right one in (2007)

317 Paranormal Kenyon, Sherrilyn Born of vengeance (2017)

318 Paranormal Littlewood, Alison The hidden people (2016)

319 Paranormal Singh, Nalini Angels blood (2009)

320 Paranormal Ward, J.R. The beast (2016)

321 Romance Andre, Bella Since I fell for you (2016)

322 Romance Appleyard, Meredith No job for a girl (2017)

323 Romance Ashley, Trisha The little teashop of lost and found (2016)

324 Romance Balogh, Mary Someone to love (2016)

325 Romance Colgan, Jenny The bookshop on the corner (2016)

326 Romance Cooper, Tea The currency lass (2017)

327 Romance Dailey, Janet Sunrise Canyon (2016)

328 Romance de Botton, Alain The Course of Love (2016)

329 Romance Evans, Harriet Happily ever after (2012)

330 Romance Garwood, Julie Hotshot (2013)

331 Romance Goyer, Tricia The kissing bridge (2014)

332 Romance Graeme- Evans, Posie The island house (2012)

333 Romance Griffin, Matthew Hide (2015)

334 Romance Hannay, Barbara The grazier's wife (2016)

335 Romance Hein, Cathryn Wayward heart (2017)

336 Romance Herron, Rachael The darling songbirds (2016)

337 Romance Heyer, Georgette These old shades

338 Romance Hill, Loretta The girl in the steel capped boots (2012)

339 Romance Holden, Wendy Honeymoon suite (2016)

340 Romance James, Eloisa When beauty tamed the beast (2011)

341 Romance Johns, Rachael Talk of the town

342 Romance Johnson, Milly The teashop on the corner (2014)

343 Romance Lane, Karly Third time lucky (2016) ;

344 Romance Lauer, Rosalind A simple charity (2014)

345 Romance Laurens, Stephanie The daredevil snared (2016)

346 Romance Magro, Mandy Along country roads (2017) RR

347 Romance Mansell, Jill Meet me at Beachcomber Bay (2017)

348 Romance Matthews, Carole Paper hearts and summer kisses (2017)

349 Romance McArthur, Fiona Heart of the sky (2017)

350 Romance McDonald, Fleur Sapphire Falls (2016)

351 Romance Miller, Emma Anna’s gift (2011)

352 Romance Miller, Fenella-Jane Lady Charlotte's secret (2011)

353 Romance Moon, Josephine The Chocolate promise 2015

354 Romance Palmer, Fiona The Saddler boys (2015) RR

355 Romance Parry, Bronwyn Sunset shadows (2016)

356 Romance Phillips, Susan Elizabeth Heroes are my weakness (2014)

357 Romance Sendker, Jan-Philipp The art of hearing heartbeats (2012)

358 Romance Stringer, Tricia A chance of stormy weather (2017)

359 Romance Thorne, Sally The hating game (2017)

360 Romance Treasure, Rachael Clean skin cowgirls 2017

361 Sagas Alexander, Nicole River run (2016)

362 Sagas Alexandra, Belinda Southern Ruby (2016)

363 Sagas Andrews, Lyn Liverpool sisters (2016)

364 Sagas Archer, Jeffrey Only time will tell (2011)

365 Sagas Baker, Anne A Liverpool legacy (2013)

366 Sagas Cox, Josephine A family secret (2017)

367 Sagas Follett , Ken A column of fire (2017)

368 Sagas Gabaldon, Diana Outlander (1991)

369 Sagas Graham, Winston Ross Poldark

370 Sagas Howard, Audrey Softly grow the poppies (2012)

371 Sagas Hunter, Georgia We were the lucky ones (2017)

372 Sagas McCullough, Colleen The thorn birds (1977)

373 Sagas Nunn, Judy Elianne (2013)

374 Sagas Pieper, Liam The toymaker (2016)

375 Sagas Proulx, Annie Barkskins (2016)

376 Sagas Martin, George RR Song of fire and ice

377 Sagas Rutherfurd, Edward Paris

378 Sagas Smiley, Jane Some luck (2014)

379 Sagas Tan, Amy The Joy Luck Club (1989)

380 Sagas Tyler, Anne Spool of blue thread (2015)

381 Science Fiction Abbott, Jane Watershed (2016)

382 Science Fiction Anderson, Kevin J The dark between the stars (2014)

383 Science Fiction Asher , Neal Dark intelligence (2015)

384 Science Fiction Atwood, Margaret The handmaid's tale (1998/2017)

385 Science Fiction Baxter, Stephen The massacre of mankind: a sequel to War of the Worlds(2017)

386 Science Fiction Bear , Greg War dogs

387 Science Fiction Bova, Ben Mars

388 Science Fiction Boyle, T Coraghessan The Terranauts ( 2016)

389 Science Fiction Brown, Pierce Red Rising (2014)

390 Science Fiction Butcher, Jim The aeronaut's windlass (2015)

391 Science Fiction Butler, Octavia, Kindred (2014)

392 Science Fiction Campbell, Jack Dauntless (2006) Lost Fleet series

393 Science Fiction Cline, Ernest Ready Player One (2011)

394 Science Fiction Corey, James SA Leviathan Wakes (2011)

395 Science Fiction Dick , Philip K Do androids dream of electric sheep (aka Blade Runner) - (1968/2012)

396 Science Fiction Gibson, William The peripheral (2014)

397 Science Fiction Hamilton, Peter F The abyss beyond dreams (2014)

398 Science Fiction Herbert, Frank Dune (1990/2016)

399 Science Fiction Howey, Hugh Dust (2015)

400 Science Fiction Huxley, Aldous Brave new world (1932)

401 Science Fiction Ishiguro, Kazuo Never Let Me Go (2006)

402 Science Fiction Leckie, Ann Ancillary justice (2013)

403 Science Fiction Le Guin, Ursula The dispossessed (1974)

404 Science Fiction Liu, Cixin The three-body problem (2014)

105 Science Fiction McDevitt, Jack The engines of god

406 Science Fiction Bujold, Lois McMaster The sharing knife (2007) book 1: Beguilement

407 Science Fiction Mieville , China The census taker (2016)

408 Science Fiction Okorafor, Nnedi Binti (2016)

409 Science Fiction O'Malley, Daniel Stiletto, The Checquy Files series, book 2 (2016)

410 Science Fiction Priest, Cherie Brimstone (2017)

411 Science Fiction Reynolds, Alastair Revenger (2016)

412 Science Fiction Ringo, John Islands of rage and hope (2014) book 3 Black tide rising

413 Science Fiction Scalzi , John The end of all things (2015);

414 Science Fiction Stanley Robinson, Kim Aurora (2015)

415 Science Fiction Stephenson, Neal Seveneves (2015)

416 Science Fiction Tidhar,Lavie Central station (2016)

417 Science Fiction Turner, Rebekah Threader (2016)

418 Science Fiction Weber, David On Basilik Station (1993, 2003)

419 Science Fiction Weir. Andy The Martian (2011)

420 Science Fiction Zahn, Timothy Star Wars: Thrawn (2017)

421 Short stories Bennett Daylight, Tegan Six bedrooms (2015)

422 Short stories Clarke, Maxine Beneba Foreign soil (2014)

423 Short stories Constantine, David In another country (2015)

424 Short stories Dovey, Ceridwen Only the Animals (2014)

425 Short stories Kinsella. John Old growth

426 Short stories Le, Nam The boat (2009)

427 Short stories Li, Isabelle A Chinese affair (2016)

428 Short stories Lodge, David The man who wouldn’t get up and other stories (2016)

429 Short stories Low, Nic Arms race and other stories (2014)

430 Short stories Munro, Alice Dear Life

431 Thriller Berry, Steve The 14th colony (2016)

432 Thriller Block, Lawrence Borderline (2014)

433 Thriller Brown, Dan Inferno (2013)

434 Thriller Burke, James Lee The jealousy kind (2016)

435 Thriller Cole , Martina Betrayal

436 Thriller Dean, Averil Alice close your eyes

437 Thriller Ford, Jaye Darkest place (2016)

438 Thriller Foster, Sara The hidden hours (2017)

439 Thriller French,Nicci Friday on my mind (2015)

440 Thriller Greaney, Mark Back blast (2016)

441 Thriller Harris, Robert Conclave (2016)

442 Thriller Hawkins, Paula Into the water

443 Thriller Hoag, Tami Cold cold heart (2015)

444 Thriller Hurwitz, Gregg The nowhere man (2017)

445 Thriller Khoury, Raymond The end game (2016)

446 Thriller Le Carre, John Our kind of traitor

447 Thriller Pinborough, Sarah Behind her eyes (2017)

448 Thriller Raabe, Melanie The trap (2017)

449 Thriller Rimington,Stella Breaking cover (2016)

450 Thriller Ware,Ruth The woman in cabin 10 (2016)

451 War Baker, Jo A country road, a tree (2016)

452 War Barker , Pat Regeneration (1992)

453 War Clancy, Tom The hunt for Red October (1994/2010/2016)

454 War Doerr, Anthony All the light we cannot see (2014)

455 War Hamid, Moshin Exit west

456 War Némirovsky, Irene Suite Française (2004)

457 War Patric, AS Black rock white city (2016)

458 War Powers, Kevin The yellow birds (2012)

459 War Zable, Arnold Cafe Scheherazade (2001)

460 War Zusak, Markus The Book Thief (2005)

461 Westerns deWitt , Patrick The Sisters Brothers(2011)

462 Westerns Grey, Zane Shower of gold (2013)

463 Westerns Johnson, Craig Dry bones (2015)

464 Westerns McCarthy, Cormac No country for old men (2005)

465 Westerns McMurty, Larry Lonesome dove (1985/2010)

466 Westerns Meyer, Phillip The son (2013)

467 Westerns Miller, Linda Lael Big sky mountain 2012

468 Westerns Portis, Charles True grit (1968/2010)

469 Westerns Russell, Mary Doria Doc (2011)

470 Westerns Stewart, Amy Girl waits with gun (2015; Kopp sisters #1)

471 World Fiction Achland, Jenny The secret son (2015)

472 World Fiction Allende, Isabel The Japanese lover (2015)

473 World Fiction Anam, Tahmina A golden age (2007, The Bengal Trilogy, book 1)

474 World Fiction Chandra, Vikram Sacred Games

475 World Fiction Erdrich, Louise The round house (2012)

476 World Fiction Ferrante, Elena My brilliant friend

477 World Fiction Gardos, Peter Fever at dawn (2010)

478 World Fiction Gyasi, Yaa Homegoing

479 World Fiction Hashimi, Nadia A house without windows (2016)

480 World Fiction Hosseini, Khaled The kite runner

481 World Fiction Houellebecq, Michel Submission (political)

482 World Fiction James, Marlon A brief history seven killings

483 World Fiction Kang, Han The vegetarian (2007)

484 World Fiction Lianke, Yan The explosion chronicles (2017)

485 World Fiction Martel, Yann Life of Pi

486 World Fiction Murakami, Haruki Norwegian wood (1987)

487 World Fiction Navarro, Julia Story of a sociopath (2016)

488 World Fiction Adichie, Chimandanda Ngozi Americanah (2013)

489 World Fiction Obreht, Tea The tiger’s wife (2011)

490 World Fiction Onuzo, Chibundu Welcome to Lagos (2017)

491 World Fiction Otsuka, Julie The Buddha in the attic (2011)

492 World Fiction Ozeki, Ruth A tale for the time being (2013)

493 World Fiction Pamuk, Orhan A strangeness in my mind (2015)

494 World Fiction Petterson, Per Out stealing horses (2003)

495 World Fiction Sacheri, Eduardo A - The secret in their eyes (2015)

496 World Fiction Satrapi, Marjane Persepolis GN

497 World Fiction Seth, Vikram A suitable boy (1993)

498 World Fiction Swarup, Vikas Slumdog millionaire (2008)

499 World Fiction Uhly, Steven Kingdom of twilight (2016)

500 World Fiction Yoshimoto, Banana Moshi, Moshi (2016)

## Appendix 2

2011 Adult stock quality health check information

Table 2 2011 Adult stock quality health check information

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Genre** | **Number of titles on list** | **Percentage** |
| Action/adventure | 20 | 78.1% |
| Australian | 20 | 87.8% |
| Classics | 20 | 86.7% |
| Chick lit | 20 | 79.7% |
| Contemporary fiction | 20 | 73% |
| Crime/mystery | 60 | 74.3% |
| Family sagas | 20 | 70.1% |
| Fantasy | 40 | 61.5% |
| Gay and lesbian | 10 | 33.1% |
| Gentle reads/Inspirational | 10 | 40% |
| Historical | 20 | 77% |
| Horror | 20 | 50.2% |
| Humour | 20 | 61.9% |
| Indigenous | 10 | 55.6% |
| Military/war | 20 | 64.7% |
| Paranormal romance | 10 | 42.5% |
| Romance | 60 | 53.8% |
| Science fiction | 40 | 47.6% |
| Short stories | 10 | 51.8% |
| Thriller | 10 | 75.9% |
| Westerns | 20 | 29.7% |
| World fiction | 20 | 76.5% |

## Appendix 3

Australian Classification of Local Governments

[[4]](#footnote-4)

To cite this report please use

*2017 Adult Fiction Stock Quality Health Check. State Library of NSW, 2018, pp. 1–18, 2017 Adult Fiction Stock Quality Health Check.*

1. 2017 adult fiction collection health, NSW public library readers’ advisory wiki http://readersadvisory.wikifoundry.com/page/2017+adult+fiction+collection+health [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lesbian Gay Bisexual Queer Transgender Intersex [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander novelists [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. State Library of NSW, NSW public library statistics 2015/2016, prepared by Kathy Morrison, [NSW] J A Wales, October 2017 <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2015_16statistics.pdf> [accessed 25 January 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)