



STATE LIBRARY®
NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Library Services

August 2023

Welcome to PLS eNews

Public Library Services eNews provides an up-to-date report on the work of our services to public libraries, and lets you know about upcoming opportunities for professional development and promotion.

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For All Time: Shakespeare in Print

The Library's latest exhibition celebrates the First Folio, the first edition of the collected plays of the famous playwright and storyteller, William Shakespeare, which was published 400 years ago this year. The First Folio contains 36 plays, with 18 never before recorded in print. Without the First Folio we may have forever lost plays including *Macbeth*, *The Tempest* and *As You Like It*.

The State Library holds Australia's only copy of Shakespeare's First Folio, along with the three other Folios published in the 17th century. Displayed alongside our significant Shakespeare collection, this exhibition shares the stories behind Shakespeare's plays and investigates how the works of the most famous English playwright in history have been reimagined across generations.

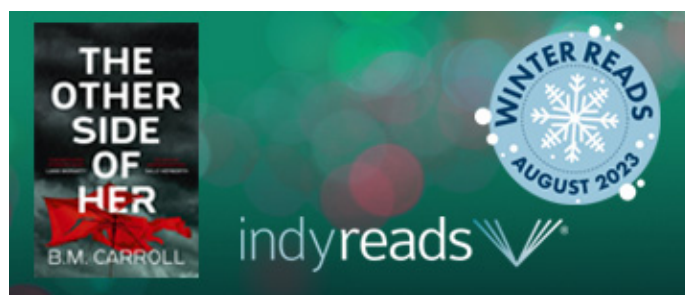
For All Time: Shakespeare in Print is on display in the Amaze Gallery now until Sunday 25 February 2024. A series of curator tours, talks and other events will take place in the months ahead to celebrate the exhibition and the 400th anniversary of the First Folio. Learn more [here](#).



Fiction collection development: fantasy

Following on from the recent adult fiction stock quality health check we present four free online collection-focused webinars looking at diverse titles in four popular genres of fiction.

These talks will be targeted for collections staff, but they will also be relevant for readers' advisory staff. You need to book for each webinar separately. The sessions will be recorded and made available later.



WinterReads on indyreads

WinterReads is the indyreads winter reading campaign. From August 1–31, B.M. Carroll's new book *The Other Side of Her* will be made available for simultaneous access to indyreads users across the state — no holds or waitlists!

The Other Side of Her, published by Affirm Press, is a gripping, fast-paced crime thriller. It centres on busy parents Mia and Ryan and single mother Beth, two

23 August 2023: Fantasy with Misha Stone

This webinar series begins with Misha Stone discussing the fantasy genre in adult fiction collections. Misha is a librarian at Seattle Public Library and has in-depth knowledge of fantasy as well as other genres.

Online via Zoom on Wednesday 23 August from 10–11.30 am. You can register [here](#).

Registrations are also open for the rest of this series, please see details below:

Horror, with Becky Sprafford, Wednesday 6 September 2023. Book [here](#).

Science fiction with Allyson Rogers, Tuesday 12 September 2023. Book [here](#).

Romance with Robin Bradford, Wednesday 11 October 2023. Book [here](#).

families connected by a dark secret. How far will they go to protect their own?

To support this initiative, we have created a campaign page featuring a range of resources and suggestions for promoting WinterReads to your community. The page includes digital signage, a media release, social image resources and more. To learn more, go [here](#).

The WinterReads promotion will also be celebrated with an author talk featuring BM Carroll in conversation with the State Library's Dr Rachel Franks, author of the 2022 book *An Uncommon Hangman*. We encourage libraries to promote this event to their communities. Libraries may wish to hold an online viewing at their library or people can watch the event from the comfort of their home.

BM Carroll in conversation with Rachel Franks via Zoom, Thursday 7 September at 6.30 pm. Register [here](#).



2022–23 multicultural bulk loan statistics

2022–23 saw the highest demand for multicultural bulk loans over a 5-year period with a total of 75,135 items circulated.

We saw a significant increase in demand for Ukrainian, Nepalese, Urdu and Arabic language material. This is the first time Arabic is placed among the top 10 languages.

84 NSW library services made use of our Multicultural Bulk Loan Service in 2022–23 compared to 77 in 2020–21. This include 83 NSW public libraries and the Metropolitan Remand & Reception Centre (MRRC) Library at Silverwater.

Of the 83 NSW public libraries, 30 were from the metropolitan region and 52 from regional NSW.

To learn more about the bulk loans service and useful resources for promoting your library service to



Where's the source? Gale databases for Library and Information Week

The theme of this year's [Library & Information Week](#) is 'Where's the source?'. It is an opportunity to remind library staff of the importance of critically examining information sources of all kinds, and a chance to remind your library users of using quality sources of information such as those provided by Gale databases.

The *Finding Answers with Damian* webinars feature topics aligned with the NSW school curriculum. This includes *Exploring the Rise of Fake and Fast News using Gale in Context: Global Issues*, examining the issue of misinformation as a societal issue. Go to the [Gale Support Hub](#) for this and other useful applications of Gale databases for NSW school students.

Want to learn about making the most of the Gale databases provided through the statewide

your community, go [here](#).

databases initiative? At **9 am on Tuesday 8 August** Gale will be hosting a webinar on resources available on the Gale Support Hub. Register [here](#).



Drug & Alcohol Info Pop-Up 2022–23

The Drug Info team are approaching the one-year anniversary of the Drug & Alcohol Info Pop-Up heading out on the road. Since September 2022, the pop-up has travelled to 22 NSW library services, with many events and great information displays across the state. We have also seen the display 'pop-up' in shopping centres, schools, community fairs and even a campsite! For a report on pop-up activities for 2022–23, go [here](#).

We would like to sincerely thank the libraries who have hosted the Drug & Alcohol Info Pop-Up for doing such a great job of promoting the program and the information available to the community through Drug Info. The service would not work without the creativity and commitment to serving the community so evident among NSW public library staff.

The Drug & Alcohol Info Pop-Up is back on the road and scheduled to visit libraries across NSW over the next 12 months. To learn more about the program and how your library can get involved, go [here](#).

Law Week 2023

Congratulations to everyone for another successful Law Week in 2023. Law Week is a wonderful opportunity for libraries to highlight the Find Legal Answers service and to provide interesting and useful legal information to your community.

It was wonderful to see so many libraries hosting community education talks by local solicitors and community legal centres. Many of you also hosted the Lunch and the Law series of webinars hosted by Legal Aid NSW.

Check out some highlights in our [Law Week 2023 report](#).

Anyone visiting your library may need legal information — they may be having a problem with their rental home, going through a divorce, have a traffic fine they can't pay, are trying to negotiate a new fence with their neighbours, or are thinking it's time they wrote their will.

Law Week events are a great way of providing much needed legal information to your community.



Digitised NSW subdivision plans

Subdivision plans are a goldmine for genealogists and local historians — they provide a glimpse into the past and are filled with fascinating details. Produced by real estate agents from the 1880s to the 1930s, these ephemeral plans were usually discarded once a site was sold.

Following the digitisation of Sydney subdivision plans a number of years ago, we are thrilled to announce that over 4,600 historic plans of 460 regional towns in NSW are now digitised and available for the first time on the State Library's website. You can explore the collection through the State Library catalogue or [go to our website](#) to learn more.

To promote this valuable collection to NSW communities, we have created some social media resources. You can access them [here](#).

The State Library launches Atlas Club

The State Library has just launched a free after-school club for curious kids called Atlas. Atlas brings together three online clubs — Art Club, Young Writers Club and Book Lovers Club — and is designed for young people between the ages of 5 and 15 years. Each club meets regularly during school term from 4–5 pm for interactive online sessions led by Library educators, with special guest appearances by authors and illustrators.

The Atlas Club website also features additional activities and information about special in-person events at the Library. Click [here](#) to learn more.

We would love public libraries to support the Atlas Club by promoting it to your library users — access the social media resources we have created to assist you [here](#).



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