



STATE LIBRARY®
NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Library Services

July 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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Northern Rivers visit

Members of the Library Council of NSW along with State Librarian John Vallance and Cameron Morley, Head, Public Library Services had a very successful visit to the North Coast in June.

The group visited libraries at Evans Head, Ballina, Lennox Head, Casino and Kyogle. All of the libraries have benefited from recent State Library grants and it was great to see the results. A highlight was attending the opening of the fantastic new outdoor space at Casino Library.

The Library Council visits a range of libraries every year, assisting the Council to fulfil its duties under the *Library Act 1939*. Members appreciate meeting library and council staff, and take particular note of the collections and services available to the public.

Farewell Oriana

Oriana Acevedo, the State Library's Multicultural Consultant, is retiring at the end of June. Many of you will know Oriana and I'm sure that you will join with us in wishing her all the best.

Oriana started in the role in 1998, and since that time she has helped to build the Library's multicultural unit into a high profile, effective and unique service. This includes the popular bulk loans service in 43 languages, the purchasing cooperative, public library consultancy work, research projects and the promotional activities that are delivered directly to communities all over NSW.

Oriana notably has developed relationships with peak bodies and diverse multicultural communities, and regularly encourages them to connect with local libraries and the State Library. In recent years Oriana has worked closely with refugee settlement organisations and new migrant communities to raise the profile of libraries as safe and welcoming spaces. Libraries from around Australia and the world regularly contact us about the multicultural lending collection and services, which is a testament to the great achievements of Oriana and her team.



New exhibition at SLNSW: Charles Rodius

One of Australia's most talented yet least-known artists has emerged from the archives with the opening of the first retrospective exhibition of the work of Charles Rodius (1802–1860), on display at the State Library until 12 May 2024.

Over 90 original watercolours, drawings and prints — many never seen by Australian audiences — from public and private collections in Australia and the UK, including the Library's own unrivalled collection, are on display in this ambitious exhibition simply titled *Charles Rodius*.

You can learn more about the exhibition [here](#), and view the Library's digitised collection of Rodius artworks through [the catalogue](#).



Tibetan collection launch at Dee Why Library

The State Library of New South Wales' new Tibetan collection was launched at Dee Why Library on the 3 June 2023. The Tibetan community turned up in full force to show their support. They shared their traditional dances, costumes, food and amazing stories.

There are over 600 titles in this new collection. NSW Public Libraries can put in bulk loan requests for the Tibetan language books through the [order form](#). If you are new to our Multicultural Bulk Loans Service, click [here](#) or [contact Joanna Goh](#) to find out more.



Recorded SLNSW events

Each month the State Library hosts a diverse range of live events, with talks from authors and academics, discoveries and curios from the Library's curatorial team and awards ceremonies such as the recent NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

Miss an event you were interested in? Many events are recorded, and can be viewed online via the State Library website. Simply go to our [recorded events](#) page and browse through a wide range of stories from the vault.

Public library staff can also find useful professional development opportunities on this page, including a webinar on tracing [Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander family history](#) and our series on using the [Historical Land Records Viewer \(HLRV\)](#).



Voice referendum: translated resources

It is important that culturally and linguistically diverse communities have appropriate factual information on the upcoming referendum about whether to change the Constitution by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

A section of the [Voice website](#) has been launched with a [translated materials section](#), that has a community toolkit with resources in 16 languages. The toolkit includes posters, infographics, factsheets and audio in each language. There is also a community toolkit with [First Nations resources](#) available.



GALE databases in the school holidays

With restless primary school students and older teenagers busily preparing for the HSC or working on holiday assignments, the July school holidays are a great time to promote the Gale resources available free to NSW public libraries through the statewide databases initiative.

National Geographic Kids features full-text magazines and books, videos, and images. With just a few clicks curious young minds can explore science, animals, technology, cultures, and history.

For older kids, the Gale suite includes a wide range of resources perfect for HSC students studying subjects such as Society & Culture, History, English and Science subjects.

Use the [Gale Support Hub](#) to find a range of promotional resources for your social media channels and in-library promotions. The Gale Support Hub also includes short webinars aligned with the NSW secondary curriculum, with great tips on making the most of these great resources.



Drug Info winter mocktail: The Toddy in the Library

The Drug Info team are excited to announce the latest addition to our [Literary Mocktails](#), a collection of book-themed mocktail recipes available to public libraries to promote healthy alternatives to alcohol.

WinterReads on indyreads

We are excited to announce WinterReads, a new winter reading campaign on indyreads. The initiative follows on from the successful Summer Book Club with Grace Chan's *Every Version of You*, and comes fresh from Grace winning the People's Choice award at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

For the inaugural instalment of WinterReads, we are once again partnering with Affirm Press for a statewide campaign to promote literacy and the great range of titles available free to your library users via indyreads.

[The Other Side of Her](#) is the new book from Sydney author BM Carroll. A gripping, fast-paced crime thriller, it follows two families connected by a dark secret. Many readers will be familiar with the book's Hunter region setting, while themes of motherhood, marital relations and financial insecurity will make for free-flowing book club discussions.

WinterReads will run for four weeks this August — watch this space for more news!



Legal help and assistance online: a new website

The [Financial Rights Legal Centre](#) has recently updated its website. There are over 50 plain language [legal information fact sheets](#) on the site, covering a wide range of topics including mortgage stress, insurance, and loans. You'll also find the [motor vehicle accident problem solver](#) and the [debt](#)

[The Toddy in the Library](#), inspired by Agatha Christie's *The Body in the Library*, is a winter-themed hot recipe. A tea-based drink infused with lemon, honey and cinnamon, it is the perfect companion to a cosy winter night in with a great book.

Go to our [campaign page](#) for social media resources, a downloadable poster, and ideas for incorporating The Toddy in the Library into your library's winter programs and events.

Looking for more ways to promote Drug Info to your community? Don't forget to bookmark our [social media page](#) which is updated monthly.

[problem solver](#) — great interactive tools that give targeted help after you answer a few questions.

The free nationwide legal advice and financial counselling service [Mob Strong Debt Help](#) has a dedicated section of the Financial Rights website with culturally appropriate graphics and content designed for First Nations consumers. There is tailored content about energy and water, phone and internet, money problems, debt, funeral products, car problems, housing, and superannuation and insurance.



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