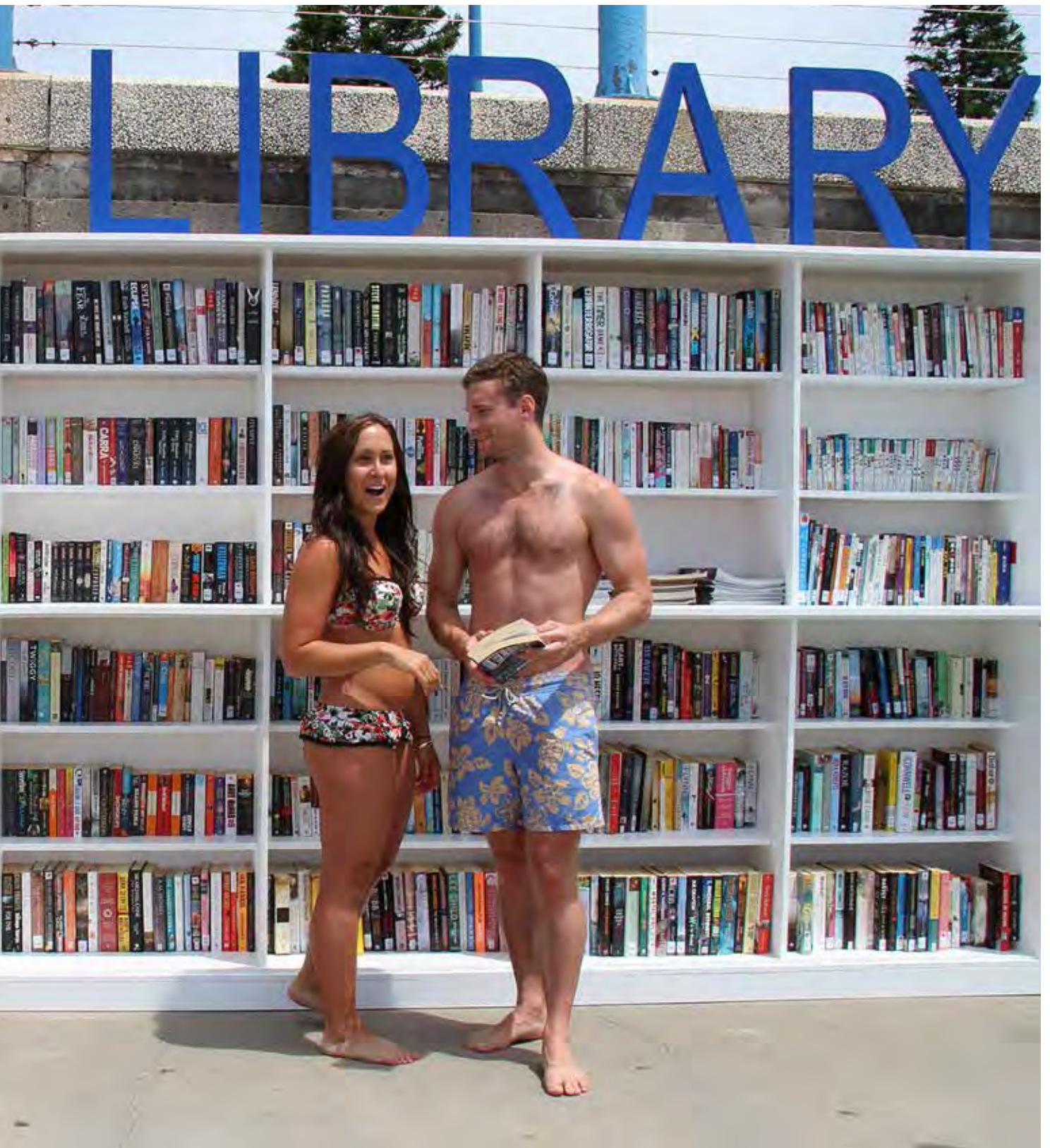


# Public Library News



STATE LIBRARY®  
NEW SOUTH WALES

—  
Volume 21 No 3  
December 2015



# Public Library News

Volume 21 No 3  
December 2015

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the December 2015 issue of *Public Library News*, where we feature a snapshot of what is happening in the area of marketing and promotion in public libraries, from going viral on YouTube to harnessing the power of word of mouth. We hope that you will find some useful tips and be inspired to get that great marketing project off the ground.

We also catch up on all the news in libraries from festivals and joint partnership projects, to anniversaries and author talks.

Don't forget that all photos submitted to *Public Library News* can be viewed on our Pinterest board at <[www.pinterest.com/slswpls/public-library-news](http://www.pinterest.com/slswpls/public-library-news)>

**EDWINA DUFFY**  
Editor

## PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS REVIEW

2016 will see a new-look *Public Library News*.

We would like to see the publication feature more articles on public library planning, management and strategy; we would love to feature more case studies of innovative projects, programs and partnerships. Some ideas that we have include a theme for each issue, reviewing the current columns, inviting guest authors to write feature articles and exploring online newsletter formats to share event updates and photos.

As we review *Public Library News* over the next few months, we will ask for your feedback via an online survey.



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Front cover image: Coogee Beach Library by Randwick City Library (see story, page 9)

# Marketing and promotion

The Bookends Scenarios project of 2009, which developed a series of future scenarios for NSW public libraries towards 2030, identified Branding & Identity as a key strategic domain in which public libraries need to be active in order to be successful and sustainable in the future.

The Building on the Bookends Scenarios project of 2014 suggested some strategies for the NSW public library network to implement in this area. These included creating a statewide logo or signage for public libraries, developing one library card for all NSW services, establishing pop-up and mobile libraries, working together on campaigns promoting the value of libraries, improving the messages we send to clients and funding bodies, and engaging brand consultants to help us tell our story.

The articles over the following pages, grouped into the themes of social media, library services and programs, events and working in partnership, show that many of these strategies are already being implemented in libraries, and with great success.

Libraries are using social media such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Instagram not just to promote services and programs, but to tell unique stories, reach new audiences and change perceptions of what libraries are and what they do.

We see how pop-up libraries, mobile libraries and events increase awareness of libraries in local communities, and how joined-up approaches to marketing with other council services can better focus resources and have a greater impact than working alone.

We share some free, open source tools to support your marketing activities.

There is also support available from the public library network. *Public Library News* is a fantastic resource to find ideas and inspiration, as well as a great way of sharing your success stories.

You can join the Marketing e-list, which is open to any library staff involved in marketing and promoting NSW public libraries. Instructions on how to join e-lists are available on the Public Library Services page of the State Library’s website.

The NSW Public Libraries Marketing Working Group shares best practice, knowledge and ideas,



and develops joint projects, such as the NSW Public Libraries Facebook page (see article on page 5).

Awards are a great way to acknowledge achievements and celebrate success. The NSW Marketing Awards for Public Libraries (MAPLs) are awarded annually by the NSW Public Libraries Association and recognise successful marketing projects in NSW public libraries. More information about the awards, as well as case studies from previous winners, can be found on the NSWPLA website, <http://www.nswpla.org.au/>

# Marketing and promotion: Social media



A STILL FROM SHOALHAVEN LIBRARIES' LIBRARIAN RHAPSODY FILM, WHICH WENT VIRAL ON YOUTUBE

## Librarian rhapsody goes viral

In July of this year Shoalhaven Libraries staff were asked to collate the past year's achievements for a presentation to their section of council. A small team got together and discussed the options. As several units were presenting, it soon became clear that everyone may be subjected to a slow and painful death by PowerPoint. This was when they decided to put their accomplishments to a song and make a film clip.

The iconic rock anthem, *Bohemian Rhapsody* was chosen as the tune. One staff member wrote alternate words in one evening. The song was rehearsed and recorded in under three hours and was filmed after 5pm one afternoon.

With a little bit of magic from some very clever library husbands, the finished product wowed the council staff. The plan had always been to put it up on YouTube as a debut clip on Shoalhaven Libraries' channel, so on the 8th of September it was uploaded.

This year has seen Shoalhaven Libraries launch a new, more dynamic and user friendly website that has been accepted and praised widely by the community. Twitter and Facebook are also used frequently by the library and followers have been steadily growing. Using YouTube has always been on the agenda so the film clip suited our debut perfectly. The success of YouTube is widely known. It has millions of subscribers and if a video is popular, can reach

more people than many other social or traditional marketing tools.

The video is a fun, lighthearted attempt to market all the amazing things that Shoalhaven Libraries do for their community. The target audience was anyone that would listen really, but it was mainly aimed to reach those who have a pre-conceived idea of librarians and libraries. It was meant to shock and surprise those who have not visited a library recently, and to demonstrate the huge change in today's modern library services. The objective was to reach as many people as possible through social media channels, and the enormous response and support was far beyond expectations. There have been hundreds of comments praising the library for its efforts. It has put the Shoalhaven, and specifically Shoalhaven Libraries on the map, giving it worldwide attention.

In less than two weeks, tweets, YouTube subscribers, Facebook shares and likes from all around the world were flooding in. Every local media organization had interviewed staff and added the clip to their websites. Brian May, Queen guitarist added the clip to his site, and SBS and ABC had also done so. *The Sydney Morning Herald* ran an article, and the clip was listed as one of the top five most watched videos on their online edition. At time of writing, the YouTube clip has been viewed over 131,000 times, with 84,000 seeing it from the libraries Facebook page, not to mention the hundreds of tweets received.

The budget consisted of \$50 for pizza to lure staff into staying back after hours. Shoalhaven Libraries were lucky to have some creative husbands of staff that could be called on: one studying filmmaking and another who owns a recording studio. They were rewarded for their time with a six pack of beer. Not a bad investment for the coverage it produced!

For any library thinking of doing something like this, here are Shoalhaven's top tips for success:

1. Keep it simple
2. Keep it light
3. Work to your strengths (who can write, sing, act, dance etc)
4. Who do you know with skills that can help?
5. Ensure buy-in and commitment from everyone involved
6. Have fun

**ROBIN SHARPE**  
Shoalhaven Libraries

## Facebook: Worth the bother

Port Macquarie-Hastings Libraries' Facebook page went live in May 2013, though its inception really began 12 months earlier. Having convinced the library manager that we desperately needed a social media presence to promote our services, we then had to approach and convince our Council's Communications department of the same thing. This turned out to be a tougher sell than anticipated and meant another year before we would finally see our first post. Council already had a number of social media accounts at the time and was trying to consolidate those rather than give permission for another. We needed to present a proposal to Executive outlining the reasons why the library service was sufficiently unique to require its own Facebook and Youtube presence. The ability to exaggerate in these circumstances cannot be overstated. Thankfully the decision was made to allow us to create our own Facebook and Youtube pages, with a look to review the workload impact on library resources within six months.

We pushed the Facebook page hard, adding "like us" to existing promotional materials, bookmarks, and signage all around the library and shoving it in the face of as many library users as possible. We hassled our families and loved ones to like our page to inflate the success of our launch and stick it to the naysayers. We inadvertently announced our arrival to the Facebook world with a post of a cover photo of the library. It attracted a whopping three likes and considerable consternation from our manager as he questioned whether this "Facespace" stuff was worth all the bother. Two and a bit years later and we're approaching a modest 1,000 likes on our page and a manager that still doesn't understand the power of cats.

When establishing our Facebook page we really wanted to push the image of our library as a fun, sometimes funny, always busy space. And increasingly we've found that it's the humorous posts that tend to get the most reach and engagement, even if they don't specifically refer to a program or service. And that's OK, because amongst the fun and frivolity are meaningful and informative posts that hopefully end up reaching more people than have already engaged with us and our page. Other times there are serendipitous opportunities, like the 102 year old man that came in with his laptop for some tech help, or the man who was walking around with



LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR LIBRARY AND CAPTURE THEM: A FACEBOOK POST FROM PORT MACQUARIE-HASTING LIBRARIES

the biggest tree frog I've ever seen clinging onto his arm. Oftentimes it's posts about these moments that do the best but they can just as easily be missed. The trick is to identify when such opportunities arise.

We have also started posting short video clips to push a service, event, or program. These have so far been incredibly successful. You just need to find staff that are willing to humiliate themselves in front of the camera. So far for us that hasn't been difficult. Our next project is to put together a travelling company of vagabond librarians, available for hire - performing at children's parties in phase one, rolling out to weddings and Marvel films by phase two. To book your librarian call Jeff on 6581 8755.

Our top seven social media tips:

1. Get a decent DSLR camera, preferably one that can do video as well. There's no excuse for bad promotional photos anymore.
2. Look for opportunities. If something cool happens in your library capture it and post it.
3. Don't be annoying. Posting more than twice a day may lead to getting hidden or \*gasp\* UNLIKED.
4. Don't be afraid to make a joke or be cheeky. If it fails just say someone hacked the account.
5. If desperate it is OK to use a photo of a cat.
6. Don't sign up for anything and everything just because everyone else has. It's OK not to SnapKik, or whatever the kids are calling it these days.
7. Never put a figure on the number of tips you're going to offer.

**BRENDAN MCDONALD**  
Port Macquarie-Hastings Libraries

## Sharing the library love: Libraries on Instagram

Standing at our library circulation desk listening to a colleague serve a customer and overhearing the magic words “Can I reserve a book I saw on your Instagram?” – I nearly jumped the desk and hugged her. When Campbelltown City Library Services joined the social media platform of Instagram 18 months ago it was with the idea of marketing and promotion. Through photo sharing we could promote library programs, publicise our collection and market a product – our library service. We launched @campbelltowncitylibrary. Our first photo received two likes – we needed an audience.

Realising that in order to promote our library we had to first promote our Instagram account; we set a goal of 100 followers. As library staff we are forever indebted to subject headings – they gather topics. On Instagram we call them hashtags – they gather topics. On Instagram we call them hashtags. Add a hashtag to an Instagram photo (#library #libraries) and amongst the 70 million photos shared each day people will find you. Other libraries find you! We marketed and promoted our Instagram account – signs in the library, talked to customers and encouraged staff to join. On Instagram we searched for other libraries and followed them – we interacted.

This created a conundrum. Are we promoting and marketing our library using Instagram or are we promoting and marketing an Instagram account using a library? Will our Instagram account increase membership? Do programs promoted on Instagram gain more attendees? Do people visit a library because of a pretty Instagram photo? While we pondered these questions we kept Instagramming. Increasing genuine likes and follows on Instagram is a challenge and requires being proactive. Liking, following, praising and communicating with followers and potential followers is essential! When your library joins #librariesofinstagram it becomes part of a worldwide library family celebrating ideas, achievements, milestones and all things library. A library Instagram gives a candid, behind the scenes glimpse into the library world – fascinating for customers and staff alike.

Using Instagram to promote library services is not the question anymore - it is a way to promote Australian libraries to the world. While our account has several loyal local followers who use our feed to view photos of their children at Storytime or photos of new books our main followers are



INSTAGRAM POST BY @CAMPBELLTOWNCITYLIBRARY  
FEATURING A #BOOKISHWAVE

other libraries. We are part of a growing group of Australian libraries (@noosalibraryservice @camlib @townsvillelib @sclibraries @inverelllibrary and more) using Instagram in conjunction with other social media to showcase their library, staff and programs – and the rest of the world loves it! Library Instagramming is about creating a presence and sharing the #librarylove. Although it is too soon to tell if social media will alter library statistics, libraries on Instagram are changing the mindset of staff and customers. That we are #morethanbooks goes without saying.

**JULIE LEVELL**  
Campbelltown City Library

## Public Libraries in NSW Facebook page

With over 1.49 billion active users worldwide, it is widely understood that Facebook is a fantastic platform for engaging consumers. To capitalise on this audience, the NSW public libraries Marketing Group established the Public Libraries in NSW Facebook page to change community perceptions of public libraries by creating conversations and building advocates.

The Public Libraries in NSW Facebook page has been successful in communicating libraries' relevancy, services and value to the community. Content is collated from submissions and relevant Facebook pages, gathered across all public libraries and features a mix of new, shared and linked content.

Since its launch on 26 April 2015, the page has grown to 374 likes (as of 16 October 2015) with a primarily Sydney based, female audience aged 35-44. To date, over 336 posts have been made achieving a lifetime reach of 97,875 people.

Want to join the conversation? Visit:  
<https://www.facebook.com/PublicLibrariesNSW/>

**ERIC CONNERTON**  
Randwick City Library  
On behalf of the Marketing Working Group

## #nswpubliclibraries: How is it being used?

The State Library of NSW launched the hashtag #nswpubliclibraries on 19 December 2013. We did it to encourage public libraries to connect with each other online over their photographs, information and services.

Hashtags are a useful way to connect people and organisations to shared ideas. The Rocky Mountains National Park, celebrating their one hundredth anniversary this year, encouraged people to use the hashtag #rmnp on Instagram. They were aiming for 100,000 uses of this hashtag this year, and they achieved that. Not everyone will have this much engagement.

The numbers for #nswpubliclibraries are not as big, but we are still pleased with them. Since the launch of the hashtag it has been used 608 times on Flickr, 874 times on Instagram, and 1106 times on



THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NSW FACEBOOK PAGE

Twitter. These statistics are from 1 October 2015. The hashtag has also been used on Facebook, but that is much more difficult to track. The key thing is that the hashtag is connecting public libraries through social media. Thank you very much to the libraries who have been using it.

We are using different tracking tools to count the tweets and images. The hashtag is not being used evenly across the state, a small number of libraries are using it a lot. The PLS Flickr and Instagram accounts have contributed a small number of items, but most have contributed by public libraries. For Twitter Fairfield City, Shellharbour City and Canada Bay Libraries have tweeted the most using #nswpubliclibraries, and it has been used by 23 other libraries and individuals. For Instagram the most use is by Campbelltown, Inverell and Canada Bay Libraries and for Flickr it is Coffs Harbour, Canterbury and Shoalhaven Libraries.

To see some of the great images, programs and stories being shared, follow the links on the Public Library Services home page [http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/public\\_libraries/index.html](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/public_libraries/index.html).

**ELLEN FORSYTH**  
Consultant, Public Library Services  
State Library of NSW

A TWEET FROM THE STATE LIBRARY'S #DIGITISEMYSUBURB CAMPAIGN, TWEETED BY ABC 702

## Social media at the State Library

Social media is an essential part of the State Library's core activities. It assists the Library in providing equitable access to contemporary and historical collections and knowledge, as well as fostering strong relationships between the Library and communities.

Social media is not only a means of promotion but more and more it is becoming an important community engagement tool, allowing the Library to connect and converse with new audiences everywhere.

The State Library of NSW has 32 owned accounts across: Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, Tumblr, Instagram, HistoryPin, Flickr, Vimeo and YouTube.

As well as the main @statelibrarynsw corporate accounts the Library also operates accounts that are dedicated to specific Library services and programs - like Find Legal Answers and learning programs. These accounts reach specific niche interest groups and have small but very active community engagement. There is often cross posting between channels and accounts.

The main corporate accounts - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and Tumblr - are mostly used for promotional purposes to encourage people to attend exhibitions, access online content and engage with campaigns the Library has instigated, (e.g. #DigitiseMySuburb) or local and international campaigns the Library is participating in (e.g. #librarylove, #libraryshelfieday, #askacurator). They are also used to engage with different communities such as photographers, local history groups and map enthusiasts. Service enquiries are also fielded through these accounts.

Special interest accounts are used to engage directly with communities around a particular topic or passion point. These help establish a core community around these topics and put clients directly in touch with the subject experts who manage these accounts. For example, the Indigenous Services unit operates a Tumblr blog to connect with those interested in Indigenous history and highlight the relevance of the State Library's collection to this community.

Here are a few quick statistics on the State Library's accounts:

- Facebook yearly reach over 3.6 million



- Twitter yearly reach over 9.8 million
- 25 million views on Flickr
- #PulpConfidential (exhibition campaign) - 179 Instagram images, Tweets reach potential 980,000 people
- #DigitiseMySuburb campaign - over 1,000 tweets reaching approx. 1.3 million followers

Social media is part of everyone's job now. By removing the demarcation that social media is just a 'marketing thing' it helps it to become an organisation-wide priority. By involving staff in campaign planning we have seen more staff start to incorporate social media into their thinking and preparation, and they now have a better understanding of what's involved in making a successful campaign.

It's important to make sure staff are aware of what is expected from them and they have the support to do it well but once they do - it's just as important to trust them and allow them to feel confident in their own abilities.

**GOLDA MITCHELL**  
Media & Communications Officer  
State Library of NSW

## Campaign case study: #DigitiseMySuburb

To celebrate the digitisation of its historic collection of NSW subdivision plans, the State Library launched a campaign on Twitter to encourage the public to vote to have their suburb digitised.

The project involved the digitisation of 250 historic subdivision plans from NSW towns and suburbs. The initial project plan was for the plans to be digitised in alphabetical order, however we saw an opportunity



for community engagement: a competition where members of the public could vote via Twitter to have their suburb digitised using #DigitiseMySuburb.

The project had all the elements of a great campaign:

- Local: content that people could engage with at a local level, not just Sydney metro but NSW-wide.
- Interest: maps are always popular, people like to find their street and place themselves in the map.
- Novelty: the maps themselves are stunning. People also enjoy the 'now and then' factor to see how their area has developed and see how prices have changed over the last 100 years.
- Timely: the digitisation of the plans was already underway; it was summer and the ideal time for this kind of 'light' story; and property prices are always a favourite media topic.

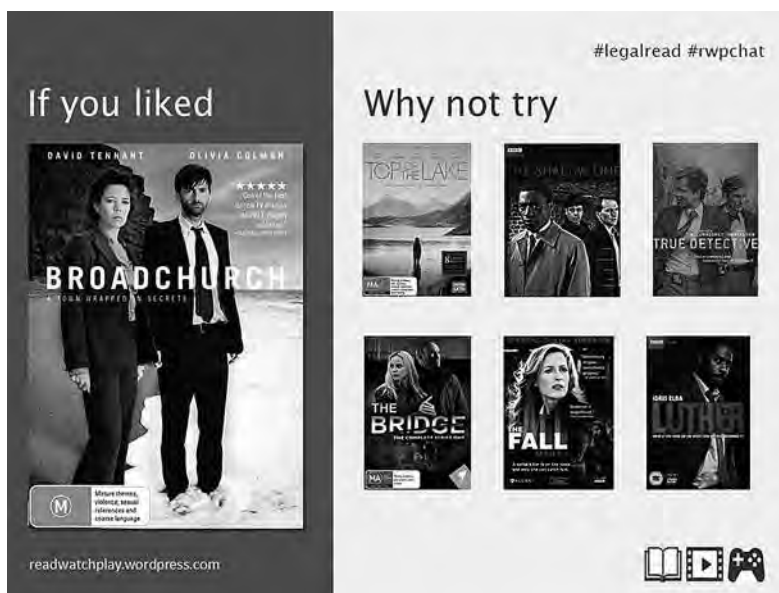
The Digitisation team at the Library came on board and worked their project schedule around the campaign needs. The Media & Communications team developed a strategy for engagement, created the messaging, wrote media releases, maintained a web presence and monitored the hashtag. Our expert curators executed the campaign by pushing it out through our channels and generating interest and engagement.

The suburb of Woollahra was announced as the overall winner, thanks in part to a strong grassroots effort from an active follower who motivated others to also vote. Due to the overwhelming response received the Library decided to also prioritise digitisation of the second and third most voted suburbs: Parramatta and Chippendale.

This campaign has now reached approximately 1.3 million Twitter followers and has firmly established the hashtag - #DigitiseMySuburb - as the conversation tag around this digitisation project.

Around 40,000 historic subdivision plans will be digitised alphabetically and made available online over the next few years.

**GOLDA MITCHELL**  
Media & Communications Officer  
State Library of NSW



## Read Watch Play

Read Watch Play is a monthly reading group that celebrates all kinds of reading. Be it a book (printed, talking, or electronic), a movie, a game, or a piece of music, we value all kinds of reading experiences which provide enjoyment, knowledge, understanding, and relaxation.

Each month the group reads around a particular theme, creating resources that can be shared and repurposed by your library. These resources only feature the 'Read Watch Play' branding, and we'd like to suggest some ways your library can take advantage of these free resources:

- Read Watch Play blog – featuring posts about each month's theme and regular posts from guest bloggers <https://readwatchplay.wordpress.com/>
- Twitter – there is a discussion on the last Tuesday of each month. Join in, follow along, or invite your community to be part of the discussion <https://twitter.com/readwatchplay>
- Tumblr – read-a-like suggestions that can easily be shared on other social media channels, on your website or on digital screens in your library <http://read-watch-play.tumblr.com/>

SOME OF THE SAMPLE  
RESOURCES AVAILABLE  
FROM READ WATCH PLAY

- Pinterest – follow the boards for reading suggestions and inspiration  
<https://www.pinterest.com/readwatchplay/>
- Facebook – fantastic reading suggestions that can easily be repurposed across your own social media channels <https://www.facebook.com/Readwatchplay/>

We encourage you to use the themes and resources in the way that best suits the needs of your library and your community. If your library does not use Twitter, why not share content on Facebook? If you only have access to social media accounts managed by your council, why not ask them to post some of these resources? You will probably find that they are happy to have fresh content to use.

If you are short on time, a social media management system like Hootsuite can be used to program your posts months in advance, so you could take care of an entire year's worth of posts in a just a few hours.

If you don't have access to any social media channels, there are resources that can be used on digital screens, or even printed and displayed in the library.

The monthly themes are carefully chosen to allow broad discussion, and can be used seriously or for fun. The 2016 themes and blog posts are already available, and we will be kicking off the year with #wildread in January.

This reading group is brought to you by the NSW Readers' Advisory Working Group in Australia, working with the State Library of NSW and in partnership with a number of libraries around the world, so it is a great way to connect with other libraries in NSW and as far afield as Surrey.

Use the monthly theme tag and #rwpchat so others can follow the conversation, and let us know how your library is getting involved.

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**MELANIE MUTCH**  
Hornsby Library  
On behalf of the NSW Readers' Advisory Working Group

## Tips and tools

There are a lot of free and open source tools available online to help you with marketing and promotion, we have listed a few here:

### Planning a digital engagement strategy

- Digital engagement framework  
<http://digitalengagementframework.com/>
- Online Community Engagement Toolkit for Rural, Remote and Indigenous councils  
<http://www.acelg.org.au/online-community-engagement-toolkit-rural-remote-and-indigenous-councils#tkmenu>

### Designing infographics, adding quotes, resizing photos, etc:

- Easel.ly <http://www.easel.ly/>
- Wordle <http://www.wordle.net/>
- PicMonkey <http://www.picmonkey.com/>
- Quotes Cover.com  
<http://www.quotescover.com/>

### Making animations and animated gifs:

- Powtoon <http://www.powtoon.com/>
- Wideo <http://wideo.co/en/>
- Library Hacks: creating animated gifs  
<https://blog.library.si.edu/2014/02/library-hacks-creating-animated-gifs/>

### Making your own screencasts:

- Screenr <https://www.screenr.com/>
- Camstudio <http://camstudio.org/>

### Searching social media:

- Social Mention <http://socialmention.com/>
- Topsy <http://topsy.com/>

### Scheduling and monitoring social media:

- Buffer <https://buffer.com/>
- Hootsuite <https://hootsuite.com/>

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**MYLEE JOSEPH**  
Consultant, Public Library Services  
State Library of NSW

# Marketing and promotion: Library services and programs

## How do you describe a library?

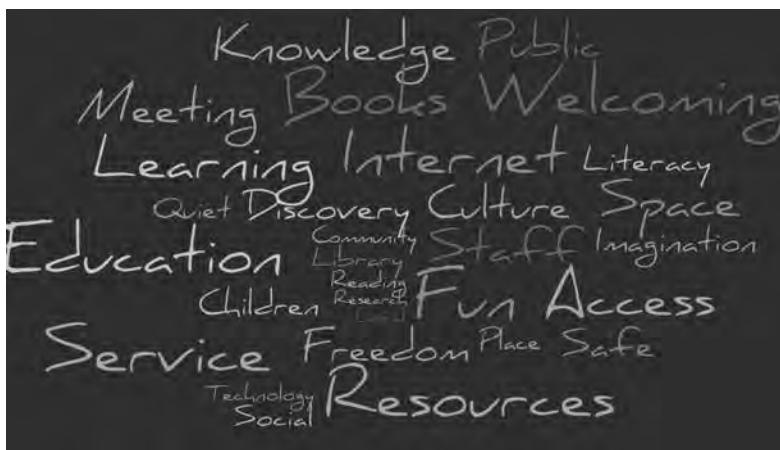
The concept for this project had its genesis at the IFLA Public Libraries Standing Committee's meeting at the 2012 IFLA Congress in Helsinki when we were discussing the papers that had been given over the course of the past week. It was noted that certain words had consistently been used by presenters to describe public libraries. We asked ourselves if these were the current 'buzz' words or did they truly reflect public libraries? In an attempt to get to the bottom of it we decided to ask the wider library and information community what words or concepts immediately came to mind when thinking about a public library.

This was never meant to be an in-depth or scientifically accurate survey. Rather it was designed as a vox pop to give the Standing Committee some direction for its marketing and advocacy campaign. I turned to Survey Monkey and blithely sent the link on its way little realising how many responses we would receive.

We had 1,234 replies from colleagues in 13 countries. Regardless of which country the respondent hailed from the same words had prominence with books, community, access, knowledge, reading and space being firm favourites.

In 2013 it was agreed that it would be a great idea to expand the project to gain a community perspective and to map how well this matched the words used by library professionals. Once again Survey Monkey was called into play, with the added attraction of having the survey available in seven languages. Library users from 21 countries across six continents responded to our request with 500 plus completing the survey. The results mirrored those of library professionals with books, community, free and a range of words which can be encompassed by the word 'inclusive'. While there were slight national variations in a 'quick and dirty' survey like this it could generally be said that the words to describe public libraries were universal and that most of these are based in our contribution to social capital.

**JAN RICHARDS**  
Central West Libraries  
Secretary/Information Co-ordinator  
IFLA Public Libraries Section



## Coogee Beach Library by Randwick City Library

"Kindles and e-readers are so difficult to read at the beach!" This was the inspiration for Randwick City Council to launch Australia's first beach library: a pop-up library where swimwear is the norm and books and magazines are borrowed under an honour system at one of Sydney's busiest beaches.

Located on the lower beach promenade right next to the sand, the six-metre wide, freestanding timber bookshelf constructed by Council's carpenters stocked more than 1,000 fiction and non-fiction books and magazines in various languages and genres, ensuring there was something for everyone to pick up and enjoy.

With more than a million visits to Coogee Beach each summer, the Coogee Beach Library was an innovative approach to engage with Randwick City's residents, ratepayers and visitors, increase awareness of Randwick City Library and shake off the negative stereotypes of libraries.

The Beach Library was launched on 1 December 2014 to operate throughout the summer of 2014-15. While no investment was made in traditional advertising, the project had fantastic media coverage across TV, radio and print media likely seen by many thousands of people. It resonated strongly with locals and visitors generating hundreds of organic social media posts. The tone of comments received

SOME OF THE WORDS  
THAT ARE USED  
INTERNATIONALLY TO  
DESCRIBE A LIBRARY

- 01 COOGEE BEACH LIBRARY BY RANDWICK CITY LIBRARY
- 02 STANTON LIBRARY'S LUNCHTIME LIBRARY STALL

via social media appreciated the quirkiness of the concept and the investment in encouraging reading and literature. Key results included:

- 200+ organic tweets
- 297 organic Instagram posts
- Randwick City Council's Facebook coverage included 583 likes, 60 comments and 129 shares reaching over 40,000 people.
- Media coverage on ABC 702 Mornings with Linda Mottram, Channel 10's The Project, ABC News 24 Breakfast, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Southern Courier*, MX Sydney, 2SER FM and *The Beast*

Around 5,000 books and magazines were borrowed from the Beach Library. At any one point in time, Randwick City Council's lifeguards reported dozens of people gathering around the library, taking photos, talking to staff and others and reviewing the range of books.

Randwick City Library held three special children's storytime events which were attended by more than 200 people, many of whom were new attendees who hadn't previously attended library children's activities.

A first for Randwick City and an Australian-first, the Beach Library created something which people actively sought out, shared with friends and commented on. It has helped promote libraries as innovative, relevant services and gone some way to shifting negative stereotypes.

The Beach Library typified the changing face of libraries, communicating that modern libraries are dynamic, highly relevant and innovative community hubs that offer far more than loan books – instead being a place for people to meet, socialise, learn and interact.

**ERIC CONNERTON**  
Randwick City Library

## The Lunchtime Library

One sunny Friday in July, Stanton Library staff created a pop-up library stall in Brett Whiteley Place, an open air mall in the North Sydney CBD.

For a few hours over lunchtime, the area was set up with tables, comfortable chairs and ottomans to create a lounge room feel, and we were lucky to be joined by a string quartet who had been booked to perform on the same day. In the weeks leading up to



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the event, library staff had set aside a range of new books and magazines that were displayed on hired bookshelves. We were able to sign up new members, and lend out items on the spot. Visitors to the stall were treated with a drink voucher to a popular nearby café, and library members who showed their card were given a free library bag.

The project came about in partnership with Council's events team who are currently working on a longer term 'Happiness works here' project to bring more life and activity to the North Sydney CBD. Our library is located on the fringe of the main business district, and the event demonstrated the value of reaching out to office workers who didn't realise we are only a short walk away. Many people who commute from outside the area were not aware that they were eligible to become members, and the range of materials they would be able to access by joining. Based on the success of the event, another stall is planned for later this year.

**KATE STEWART**  
Stanton Library

## Strategies to promote eMagazines

It is always a challenge to promote library eResources to the public. To overcome the challenges Bankstown Library & Knowledge Centre embarked on a marketing project that integrated three key strategic components to promote the database Zinio.

**Myth 1:** Staff know all about libraries eResources products. **Strategy 1:** A structured training program for all staff.

We discovered that if staff did not have enough knowledge about the eResources products, they would not direct the patrons to them. Every staff member in frontline contact with the public needs to be well equipped. A well designed training program for staff is the foremost strategy in marketing our eResources.

**Myth 2:** The public knows what the library offers.

**Strategy 2:** Impressive display in the library.

Conveying captivating images with short content messages was found to be an effective strategy. Concentrate on the content of the database, because the name of the database Zinio does not make sense to the public. Aim to convey messages such as, eMagazines, identical replica of the printed version, current issues, no limits, free download and 24/7. We used a board display and a continuous loop PowerPoint presentation with creative animation on a Smartboard.

**Myth 3:** Patrons will come to the Information Desk to enquire about the databases. **Strategy 3:** Technology Booth.

Staff need to be proactive in marketing library eResources. We thought of a creative way of directly reaching patrons of specific interests in the library - setting up a Technology Booth at Ground Floor.

The Technology Booth was strategically placed near the shelves housing the magazines at Ground Floor. The Booth was well decorated with messages displaying the benefit of using the database Zinio. The Booth was setup with a smartphone, tablets and laptop.

Staff on duty dressed up to attract attention to library patrons passing by. We wore sashes with the words "Ask me about Zinio eMagazines", caps and badges with promoting slogans.

Patrons were given the opportunity of using the devices to trial the database themselves. It helped customers realise how enjoyable and easy it is to use Zinio.



BANKSTOWN'S TECHNOLOGY BOOTH, WHICH WAS SET UP TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE ERESOURCES IN THE LIBRARY

Implementing these strategies has resulted in an increase in the database usage by 20%. We have found that the library staff have become more confident to encourage the patrons to use the databases. We believe that library staff play a crucial part in promoting the library eResources. Bankstown Library and Technology Centre will continue to implement these strategies to further market our library eResources.

**DAVID BOTROS**  
Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre

## Hipster Month at Waverley Library

The latest trend of the local community is the rise and rise of the hipster. Who is the hipster? What does the hipster read? Are you already a hipster and don't even know it!? The aim of our Reader Services department creative hipster display was to educate and promote the community on current trends in fashion, food and literature. The hipster idea is that it's ever so important to be seen reading a certain 'hipster read' or being able to say 'I read that book before it was a movie'!

A tongue in cheek display was created and included unique book lists with the most hipster books that you must read from Kerouac to Murakami. A spotlight was shone on innovative fashion trends, trending fads like the Bondi Hipsters, the replacement of the glass for a jar in cafes and pubs, whole coconuts as a fashion accessory with a straw,

- 01 WAVERLEY'S HIPSTER DISPLAY WAS FEATURED IN LOCAL PAPER THE WENTWORTH COURIER
- 02 LOCAL CHILDREN PAINT NEW SIGNAGE FOR LIGHTNING RIDGE LIBRARY

the power and influence of the beard and all its glory to the relevance of the op shop and how Grandpa was wearing the best clothes the whole time!! Reading glasses for better vision – I think not!

The idea of the promotion was to educate patrons on the wide range of trending products the Library contains, from hipster reads and Indieflex to public programs run with in the Library in conjunction with Laneway Learning. Our library holds a fantastic range of CDs, DVDs and books considered hipster but may not have been seen by many as relevant and trendy. Trending literature and current events are at every library, so why not show a fun side to library displays and play up to current trends.

With the rise of social media and the use of apps like Instagram and Twitter, Waverley Library wanted to inform the public that the Library is still relevant and on trend and in some (or most) cases already at the forefront of the trend. Waverley is stocked with hipster musicians like Angus and Julia Stone, Chet Faker and Florence and the Machine, as well as a wide range of books from pickling, homemade crafts and recycled clothing, tattoo design and those books you know the name of because you've heard it referenced a dozen times in pop culture.

The display attracted media attention from the local paper, *The Wentworth Courier*, who was informed by patrons who had visited the Library. Being aware of the trend, the *Courier* visited the Library and interviewed me about the display and the Library's ability to follow trends. All in all a great success!

**SIMON WELSH**  
Waverley Library

## Your place your space: Lightning Ridge Library Signs project

Refurbishment of the gardens at Lightning Ridge Library has been completed with exciting landscaping and new planting. Children who visit the library on a regular basis have been busy designing and painting new signage to be erected on the perimeter fence. The children gave the returns chute a whole new image, painting animals and birds on the exterior. This initiative has given the children confidence in 'their space their place' and enhanced their ownership of their works and the facility. The ingenuity was supervised by local artist Sarah Dugan.



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Staff and community are very excited about the fresh look of the library. This will assist greatly in promoting our library to community members.

“For the Lightning Ridge Library Signs Project the goal was to create bright, attention grabbing imagery which reflected the theme of ‘your space, your place within the bush library,’” said artist Sarah Dugan. “To achieve this, the signs are designed as outback scenes filled with local wildlife interacting with books. The most important aspect of the project was to create a fun, interactive workshop which engaged the local kids of Lightning Ridge. The kids enjoyed painting the signs in anticipation of having their work seen on display for the public. All ages participated on the project and they were each asked to paint two handprints on the central panel, on one to write their name and on the second to write a message for the library. This gave the kids a sense of ownership and pride over their work.”

**CHRISTINE DUGAN**  
Walgett Library

## Promoting Readers' Advisory through Redbubble

In 2009 the NSW Readers' Advisory working group started planning for our next seminar which developed into a discussion of ways of promoting Readers' Advisory and our Readers' Advisory seminars. That discussion led to the NSW Reference and Information Services Group setting up a Redbubble account (<http://www.redbubble.com/people/nswrisg>) in 2010. Redbubble became the online artistic space for the group to express events occurring within the nswRISG calendar, resulting in a range of T-shirts to promote RISG events and activities – including the Readers' Advisory, Reference, and Games seminars.

All items listed by nswRISG on Redbubble are available at cost-price. nswRISG makes no profit from the sale of these items, nor is there any intention to do so. The aim is, and has always been, to provide an alternative form of promotional and marketable material for our activities, and primarily to promote public libraries. It was also to encourage public libraries to think about using tools like Redbubble for promotion in their libraries.

The group's first endeavour was for Bookbinge in April 2010: a month long reading extravaganza to read as much as possible in that one single month. #Bookbinge was the Twitter tag used throughout the event.

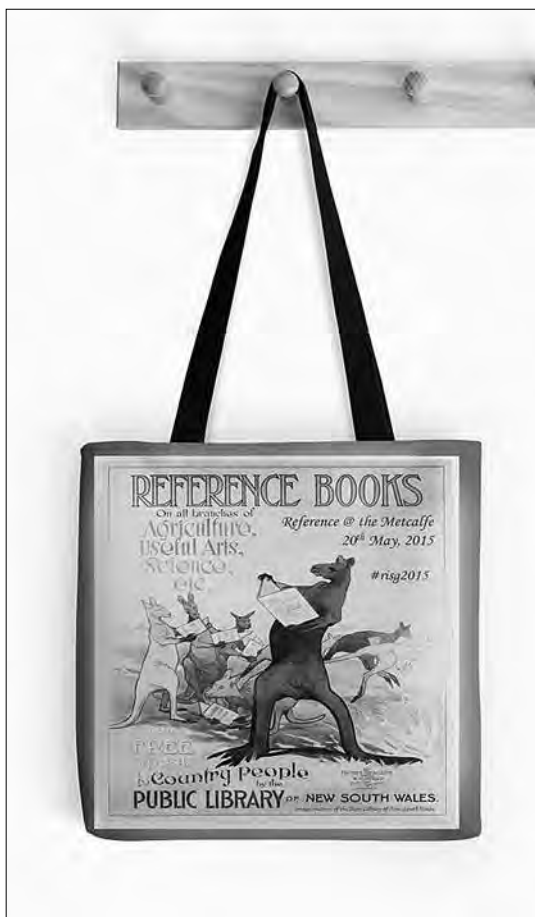
Since then the group has expanded along with Redbubble to create T-shirts of various styles, sizes, and colours with simple yet relevant 'artwork' celebrating the Reference, and Gaming seminars held throughout the year. The aim was always simple – start with the hashtag and the year and let it flow from there.

In 2015 the range expanded into bags. RedBubble does in fact provide printing options for a range of wares but we went with bags, posters, stickers and shirts. The bags have been fun to work on and design and this year have featured images for the very first time.

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### CATHY JOHNSTON

Coffs Harbour City Library  
On behalf of the NSW Reference & Information Services Group, and NSW Readers' Advisory Working Group



ONE OF THE NSW READERS' ADVISORY WORKING GROUP'S REDBUBBLE DESIGNS

## Made with SLNSW

A small selection of the State Library's amazing images is now available on a range of gifts through its online store at Redbubble.com. Choose from the Library's most popular Flickr images, cool suburban maps or natural history. Select an image and have it printed on a T-shirt, iPhone case, laptop sleeve, tote bag or mug. Simply search madewithslnsw.

Redbubble attracts 10 million visitors per month and is a fantastic platform to promote Library collections to a mass audience. Redbubble stores are easy to create with no set-up costs.

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### VANESSA BOND

Manager, Media & Communications  
State Library of NSW

## Marrickville Library: promoting with purpose

"Everyone is trying to get from A to B. We have to show them how we'll help them get there quickly and more successfully," says Terry Kendrick in Ned Potter's work, *The Library Marketing Toolkit*. Kendrick is a guru of the strategic marketing world – specifically within the library sector. With his simple phrase in mind, Marrickville Library and History is moving towards an increasingly strategic and streamlined marketing and promotions practice. So, what have we been doing?

**Books à la Carte** is an internal promotions initiative and a recent addition to our ever-growing list of offerings, albeit one solely for Council staff. Hatched as an idea (looking through rose tinted glasses) to improve awareness of the Library across Council, Books à la Carte has blossomed into an encouraging internal promotions strategy and is a fun way in communicating with all Council staff. In turn, Council staff have extensive community contact networks of their own, making Books à la Carte a valued and powerful motivation for spreading the word. Word-of-mouth marketing (WOMM) is an oft overlooked, but important, way in telling others about our services and events.

**Marketing to non-users.** Public libraries are great at advocating their strength to users within the library: think innovative displays, engaging posters and informed staff. But, what can we do to get non-members through the doors? One of many solutions recently implemented at Marrickville is the wider distribution of monthly newsletters to local businesses. In spreading the word outside branches and council facilities, the benefits of using the library are getting stronger, far-reaching coverage. Not only are more people discovering the library beyond our bricks and mortar presences, we have also created valued, ongoing relationships with local business.

**The media is your friend.** In the last six months, Marrickville Library and History has distributed 30 media releases. Releases are targeted to media outlets relevant to the subject, and many have received extensive coverage from both local and major metro publications. In July, our screening of *To Kill a Mockingbird* – to coincide with the release of *Go Set a Watchman* – received coverage from the *Sydney Morning Herald* (online) and ABC radio. In addition

MARRICKVILLE council  
Library & History Services

**"Books are a uniquely portable magic."  
–Stephen King**

Welcome to What's On – your library's monthly update on events, programs and fun stuff.  
For more info on what we offer, click [here](#). To join the library online, click [here](#).

**CORNERSMITH**  
Two local leaders in sustainable food, Alex Elliott-Howery of *Cornersmith* and Laura Dalrymple of *Feather and Bone*, will talk about their shared philosophies and resulting mouth-watering food. This event coincides with the recent release of *Cornersmith: recipes from the cafe and pickery*, available for purchase at the event.  
Come join the conversation and hear about how we can make our food-related decisions as informed and considered as possible.  
Sunday 15 November  
2.30pm-3.30pm  
Marrickville Library  
Free. [Book here.](#)

**Judy Nunn at the Library**  
Join well known and loved Australian author, Judy Nunn, as she discusses her latest novel, *Spins of the Ghan*. Set in 2001, the book tells the story of the century-old dream to complete the mighty Ghan railway linking Adelaide with the Top End. Nunn's working life has been illustrious, having been a successful actor and scriptwriter for TV and radio, before turning to prose.  
Thursday 26 November  
7.45pm-9.30pm  
Marrickville Library  
Free. [Book here.](#)

to this, ABC television's *The Book Club* program filmed vox pops at the event for the first episode of its new season.

**On brand, but not boring.** Marrickville is determined to constantly improve our brand. Not simply the logo, but the broader perception that people have of Marrickville Library and History. An effective brand strategy provides a major edge in an increasingly competitive market. In developing a dynamic brand, Marrickville Library and History has launched a Facebook page and modified our What's On, eNews and Welcome Booklet to be more engaging, streamlined and to include a greater mix of content.

**RUTH KOTEVICH**  
Marrickville Library



# Marketing and promotion: Events

## Slam action at Kempsey Library

Fourteen poets went 'live to the mic' in the Kempsey heat of the Australian Poetry Slam, held on a balmy September evening in the library in West Kempsey.

No stranger to hosting the annual Australian Poetry Slam event, library staff have previously worked in partnership with a local Arts Council to promote and run the event in a nearby coastal town. This year we flew solo, and took a punt on creating a successful event by ourselves, with the library as the venue. The result was an impressive crowd of around 80 people, which exceeded our expectations.

A feature of the promotional activities for this event was the identification of key community members who spread the word amongst their own contacts via word of mouth, emails and Facebook posts. These key players included members of local and regional poetry, drama and writing groups, and high school teachers with professional involvement in arts, drama and English studies.

We also utilised our relationships with local and regional print and broadcast media to build and sustain interest in the event over a six week period. This included securing live to air time on community radio and a live interview on ABC regional radio three days before the event.

From library surveys we know that local newspaper coverage is one of the most common ways in which people attending our events find out about them. We were therefore delighted when the local papers ran two news items on the Slam, including an article placed on page three at our request.

The starting point for the campaign was the creation of a professional looking poster incorporating the Australian Poetry Slam logo and an image of the host for the event – Zohab Zee Khan. Zohab is a current Australian Poetry Slam Champion with a distinctive style and appearance which set the tone for the visual design.

We also created a short and memorable blurb that could be reproduced (with variations) in all communications. This blurb was based on the Australian Poetry Slam website content, ensuring consistent marketing between our own regional heat and the New South Wales and national events.

Slam events are a great leveller – anyone can compete, and the judges are chosen at random from the audience by the toss of a soft toy – whoever catches one gets to be a judge. Judges then rate



AUSTRALIAN POETRY SLAM HOST ZOHAB ZEE KHAN SHOWS HIS DISTINCTIVE STYLE

each performer out of ten, then the highest and lowest scores are discarded and the remaining three scores added together. The winner is quite simply the poet with the highest score.

Both the winner and the second place getter were sponsored by Kempsey Library to attend the New South Wales finals in Sydney in early October.

As an added bonus to this year's event, the 'People's Choice' winner was a local youth who has offered to create a video of the evening as a student project. Both Word Travels (the organisers of the Australian Poetry Slam) and library staff are looking forward to making this available through You Tube for promotion of future Slam events.

**ALISON POPE**  
Kempsey Library

01 WORD OF MOUTH SUCCESS: HSC LOCK-IN STUDENTS BREAK FOR PIZZA AT MOSMAN LIBRARY

02 A FESTIVAL DAY AT WAVERLEY LIBRARY CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALICE IN WONDERLAND



/01

## The best form of marketing... word of mouth

As usual this year, like a lot of libraries Mosman Library holds HSC Lock-ins and stays open on Wednesday nights when we normally close at 5.30pm.

We planned Lock-ins in the three weeks leading up to the start of the HSC, with the first one on Wednesday 23 October. We stayed open exclusively for HSC students from 5.30 - 8pm so they could study in 'peace'.

We did the usual marketing, with posters up around the Library, Facebook and Twitter posts, and advertisements in our monthly What's On flyer, items in the Mosman Now section of the Mosman Daily and added them to our Mosman Events website.

At the first Lock-in we had 18 students mostly from Mosman High who came along and quietly studied until the pizza arrived at 6.30pm when they happily stood around munching and chatting with us. I asked them how they found out about the Lock-in and some said they'd seen the posters in the Library and others had been told by friends (who had seen the posters).

The following week 28 students came. Again, mostly from Mosman High and about a third from the many different private schools that Mosman students attend and on the last night we had a record number of 52 - because, as you might have guessed from the title of this article - friends had spread the word about the... pizza!! and of course about what a great place to study Mosman Library is.

So don't forget the power of good old fashioned word of mouth marketing. By talking to your HSC customers you develop relationships that make them feel comfortable and then they tell all their friends.

**JANE BROADBERE**  
Mosman Library



/02

## Festival days

The children's and young adult services team at Waverley Library have introduced festival days into their regular calendar of events with great success. These events have generated upwards of 200 visitors to the library, and continue to grow bigger each year. Festival days are one-off events to celebrate a particular anniversary or special day, such as the 150th anniversary of *Alice in Wonderland*.

These festival days are used as a tool to promote the library as a place of fun and wonder, activating the space to demonstrate that public libraries are places of community interest and not just for quiet study. We utilise the entire children's section and include activities such as games, magicians and crazy hair studios. These activities get users moving around the different areas of the library, which generates interest in our collections and creates an informal environment in which we can discuss our services and events.

**NATASHA ALDRICH**  
Waverley Library

# Marketing and promotion: Working in partnership

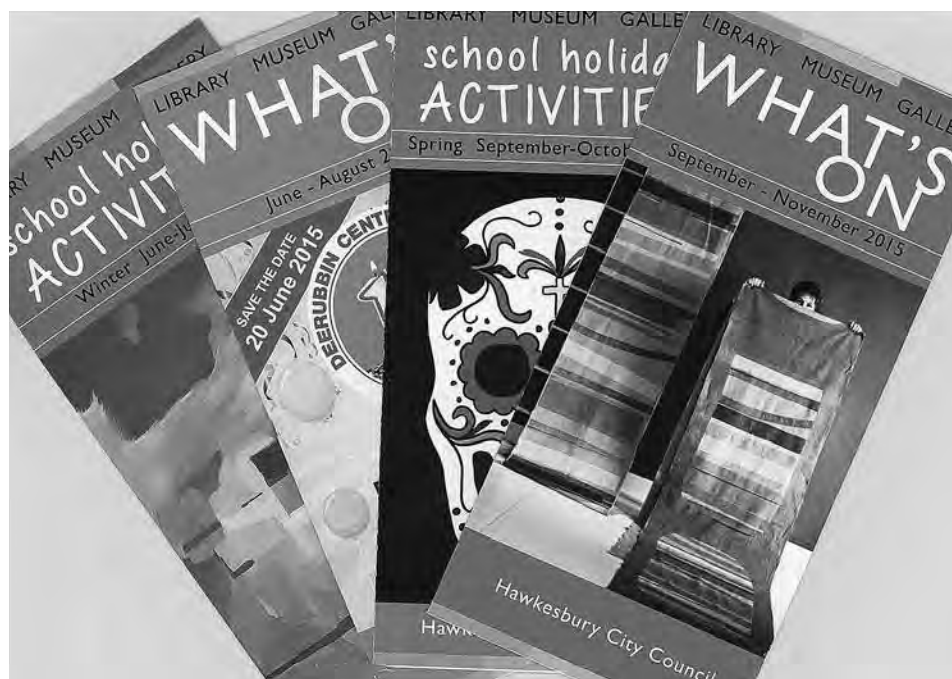
## Cultural services cross-promotion

In 2010 Hawkesbury Library Service developed a quarterly brochure promoting our Library events which was professionally designed and printed. Two years ago we commenced a partnership with other sections of our Cultural Services department, producing a combined effort across the Library Service, Regional Gallery and Regional Museum. Not only is this cost effective it enables a cross-promotion approach across our section which the community appear to appreciate.

Rebadged as the *What's On* brochure, it has now doubled in size and is full of fantastic programs, events and services for the Hawkesbury community. More recently the Library, Museum and Gallery (LMG) have also partnered and produced a combined leaflet for our activities aimed for children during School Holiday periods. These brochures are designed in-house through our Council's graphics department. The brochures are available in hardcopy from the Library and various service points and are also available to download from our website.

Along with these brochures, the LMG also have joint advertising space within a local newspaper each month. Additionally, Library patrons can sign up and receive a monthly eNewsletter that promotes upcoming events, displays and services. Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HawkesburyLibrary/> which has been operating for several years continues as another platform to inform our friends of our programs and activities and to promote the Library and reading in general.

**MICHELLE NICHOLS**  
Hawkesbury Library Service



## User-friendly focus at Hurstville

Modern, functional and user-friendly design are the themes behind Hurstville's Library Museum and Gallery (LMG) & Hurstville Entertainment Centre's (HEC) recently developed information and services booklet. In the past our customers were provided with information about our services by way of various pamphlets specific to each venue, which were often printed off in-house as required. In seeing a need to simplify this delivery we combined all information into one simplified resource which is now printed annually.

The booklet has allowed us to easily provide more detailed information to our customers than the previous pamphlets and now incorporates information not just about library services but also about the entertainment centre and the museum and gallery.

It was important when designing this booklet that we ended up with a user-friendly product. The information needed to be easy to navigate with clear

A COLLECTION OF  
HAWKESBURY'S CROSS-  
PROMOTIONAL LEAFLETS

HURSTVILLE LIBRARY'S  
NEW INFORMATION AND  
SERVICES BOOKLET



sections so the reader would not feel overwhelmed. A clean and modern design was chosen which was complemented by interesting photographs that added bright and bold colour and helped break up the text. The inclusion of an envelope containing our fees and charges, inside the back cover of the booklet allows us to easily update these details at the change of financial year and is conveniently located for customers' quick reference.

These recent changes reflect objectives in Hurstville City Council's Community Strategic Plan 2025 which calls for customer-focussed communication that informs and raises general awareness of Council's activities.

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**ASHLEIGH COMMON**  
Hurstville Library Museum & Gallery

# Encouraging cybersafety and digital inclusion in your community

As you know, libraries play an important role in bridging the digital divide by providing opportunities for Australians of all ages to appreciate the benefits of technology, regardless of their income or skill.

The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's multi-year partnership with the Telstra Foundation provides eSmart Libraries at no cost to public libraries right across Australia.

It is a purpose-built cybersafety solution system designed to equip library staff and users with the skills to be smart, safe and responsible when using online technology.

More than 40 per cent of Australia's public libraries are signed up for eSmart Libraries with branches in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of Australia joining every week.

In New South Wales, Parramatta Library Service eSmart Coordinator Ali Hussein said their library service had almost completed its eSmart journey after registering in late 2013.

Mr Hussein said the library service had moved through the program as quickly as possible to help both staff and the public become better equipped with the right amount of knowledge to keep them safe online. He also emphasised that the library service provided a number of digital options to people from various backgrounds and demographics.

"Our public computer network usage is extremely popular and we are always booked out from opening to closing times," Mr Hussein said. "Prior to being introduced to eSmart we ran a number of classes that focused on internet safety, which were popular with our users.

"eSmart Libraries helped us provide a safe environment to help us build on and improve our current library policies, strategies and guidelines especially around the smart, safe and responsible use of technology."

The eSmart accreditation can be paused and progressed at any time. Across Australia 668 public library branches based in metropolitan, regional and remote areas of the country are now participating in the program.

Australian Library and Information Association Executive Director Sue McKerracher said ALIA was in full support of the program.



"We are really supportive of this initiative. It fits so well with libraries being essential community resources - physical and online spaces for people to share knowledge and ideas," Ms McKerracher said. "The internet has opened so many new doors for library professionals to help library users discover inspiration and information at their fingertips."

For more information or to register for training visit [www.esmartlibraries.org.au](http://www.esmartlibraries.org.au)

**JOANNA WHITFORD**  
eSmart Libraries  
The Alannah and Madeline Foundation

THE ESMART LIBRARIES PROGRAM HELPS LIBRARY STAFF AND USERS BE SMART, SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE ONLINE

# Responding! Public libraries and refugees

AUSTRIAN LIBRARIES  
WELCOME REFUGEES  
WITH WELCOME POSTERS  
IN 30 LANGUAGES



Libraries throughout the world have a strong history of responding to natural disasters and humanitarian crises, providing a welcoming environment, a place of refuge for body and soul, and a source of information.

As we have watched the refugee crisis unfold in Europe IFLA's Public Libraries Standing Committee and their colleagues have joined together to collect some examples and stories of how public libraries have responded in practical and heartfelt ways.

To quote EBLIDA (The European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations): "Throughout Europe, public libraries have a proud tradition of welcoming everyone, regardless of ethnic origin. Libraries welcome refugees arriving into European countries with plenty of activities for children and adults, as well as access to information and education."

The resulting document is not meant to be exhaustive but is more of a starting point for shared experience and inspiration and demonstrates the power of libraries to make a difference in people's lives. These are but a few examples:

- The Austrian Library Association is supporting the profession with services, special training and book packages. They distributed Welcome posters in 30 languages to their members and these are now on the doors and walls of 2,800 Austrian libraries.

- Finnish public libraries have been working with the Red Cross to ensure that all refugee centres have access to resources in their native language through Press Display.
- Bibliothèque publique d'information in Paris, (France) has developed a partnership with major humanitarian agency, France Terre d'Asile, where a mediator is present in the library, twice a week, to provide refugees with social, legal and administrative expertise.
- The Catholic Public Library Erbach (Germany) offers writing workshop for primary school children. In cooperation with the Foreign Office and a free e-book by young authors on the topic "My Home, Your Home" was published containing stories of the children's flight to Germany.
- Stockholm Public Library (Sweden) arranges for mini-mobile libraries/pop-up libraries to be in place at appropriate locations allowing refugees to read on site while awaiting asylum information or on their way to other destinations.
- In the UK CILIP has published Welcoming Refugees to the UK (and to Libraries): The role of libraries in times of crisis. This site includes a link to Welcome Statement issued by The Society of Chief Librarians (SCL) and the Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians (ASCEL) as well as links to practical examples of what libraries can do. Bookmark this site and watch as it develops. <http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/blog/welcoming-refugees-uk-libraries>

We'd love to extend this resource to include examples from Australia; together we can make a difference.

As a 'heads up' the Public Libraries program will focus on library services to refugees at the IFLA Congress to be held in Columbus Ohio in August 2016.

**JAN RICHARDS**  
Central West Libraries  
Secretary/Information Co-ordinator  
IFLA Public Libraries Section

# In Touch with the State Library

## MOBILE AND OUTREACH SERVICES PROJECT

In 2014 the State Library commissioned a project to explore the mobile and outreach services that are currently offered by NSW public libraries. The need for the project was identified by the lack of up-to-date information available on what NSW public libraries are doing in the area of outreach services.

The report, which was recently published and circulated to libraries, identified the range and scope of NSW public library mobile and outreach service models. It explores the strengths, weaknesses, benefits and opportunities of different outreach models and provides good practice guidelines for outreach service models in NSW public libraries.

Information for the report was gathered through desktop research, site visits and surveys of NSW public libraries. To enhance the guidelines and measurement sections information from International Organization for Standardization (ISO) publications was included.

The State Library obtained a licence to include references to ISO:16439:2014 (E) in the report, which allowed us to print one copy for each of the 101 NSW public library services. To make the information in the rest of the report more widely available we have published an online version of the report without the information from ISO:16439. This is available on the State Library website.

**KATE O'GRADY**  
Consultant, Public Library Services  
State Library of NSW

## LIAC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Congratulations to Gunnedah Shire Library and Sutherland Shire Libraries, the two deserving winners of the 2015 LIAC Centre of Excellence Award!

A LIAC Centre of Excellence Award recognises innovative and creative achievement in promoting a library's legal information service at the local level. Christiane Birkett and Debra Hilton from Gunnedah, and Deborah Best and Julie Evans from Sutherland were presented with their Award trophies at the NSW Law and Justice Foundation's Justice Awards dinner at Parliament House on Thursday 15 October.

Gunnedah Shire Library won for their successful outreach program. Their Law Week 2015 outreach to non-library members achieved great success in raising awareness of plain language legal information. The program targeted, among others, people who are unable to visit the library.



JULIE EVANS, DEBORAH BEST, CHRISTIANE BIRKETT AND DEBRA HILTON AT THE JUSTICE AWARDS DINNER. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAW AND JUSTICE FOUNDATION OF NSW.

The library distributed packages of plain language legal information to housebound people, local community groups and clubs, and youth and Indigenous groups. In a unique initiative, the library distributed information to 'shop-bound' people – those who run small businesses which they are unable to leave to visit the library. The program succeeded in increasing knowledge and driving use of the Find Legal Answers service.

Fulfilling their commitment to providing access to legal information to all segments of the community, the library's Toddler Time had a focus on the law, with books and activities about the role the police play in society. Gunnedah Shire Library also partnered with Gunnedah Shire Council to send packages of plain language legal information to 1,000 local residents.

Sutherland Shire Libraries won for two strategies: their very successful ongoing partnership with the Sutherland Local Court, and their Law Week initiative, which raised awareness of the legal resources available in the library among non-library members.

Sutherland Shire Libraries participates in the local courts / public libraries project run by Courts and Tribunal Services, Department of Justice and LIAC. This project promotes public libraries and the Find Legal Answers website as sources of legal information and encourages court staff to make referrals. Sutherland Library communicates regularly with Sutherland Local Court, sharing new legal resources, providing promotional material and arranging legal information training for court staff. Sutherland Library's commitment to the project has seen an improvement in client service for people attending court.

Congratulations again to our two winning libraries!

**CATHERINE BRYANT**  
LIAC  
State Library of NSW

# In Touch with the State Library



THE STATE LIBRARY'S CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC ADVISORY BOARD AT ITS FIRST MEETING ON 19 OCTOBER 2015

## FIRST MEETING OF THE CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC ADVISORY BOARD

The State Library is committed to being an inclusive organisation that serves the people of NSW.

In 2013, the Library implemented its first Cultural Diversity Strategy. The focus of the strategy is to develop a coordinated approach to work with and engage culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. It acknowledges that this is part of the Library's core role as the premier memory institution for the history of NSW and for making its services and collections accessible and usable for all people in NSW.

The Library aims to build strong relationships with external organisations working with CALD communities. As a part of this commitment the Library Council of NSW endorsed the establishment of a Cultural and Linguistic Advisory Board to assist it to better serve CALD communities in NSW.

The key roles of the Board are to advise the Library Council on cultural and linguistic matters relating to the diverse population of NSW, assist the Library Council and the State Library to build relationships with CALD communities and to advise on the development of the State Library's Cultural Diversity Strategy.

The first meeting of the Advisory Board was held on Monday 19 October 2015. The members of the Cultural and Linguistic Advisory Board are:

- Mr Michael Caulfield, member of Library Council and Chair of the Advisory Board

- Professor Martin Nakata, member of Library Council
- Dr Alex Byrne, NSW State Librarian and Chief Executive
- Ms Najeeba Wazefadost, President Hazara Women of Australia
- Ms Randa Kattan, CEO Arab Council Australia
- Dr Eman Sharobeem, CEO Immigrant Women's Health Service
- Mr Frank Newah-Jarfoi, Multicultural Community Liaison Southwest NSW
- Cr John Arkan, Coffs Harbour City Council
- Mr Thang Ngo, Etcom General Manager
- Mr Anthony Pang, Director Chinese Australian Services Society Ltd

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### ORIANA ACEVEDO

Multicultural Consultant, Public Library Services  
State Library of NSW

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## DIGITAL INNOVATION: DX LAB

The State Library's new DX Lab is a place where innovation and collaboration is explored. We deliver creative, engaging and new ways to explore the Library's collections, data sets and services through a diverse range of digital experiences. We use existing and emerging technologies to build a range of digital experiences onsite, online and on tour.

The Lab's first data visualisation, Loom which explores ways to view images of three Sydney locations (Circular Quay, Darling Harbour and the Botanic Gardens) from the Library's collection, was launched at the Remix Summit on 3 June 2015. See <http://dxlab.sl.nsw.gov.au/loom/>

The Lab hosted its first onsite event, Meet the Data Owners, in collaboration with the non-profit organisation Code for Australia. This was a chance for the developer community to learn about the DX Lab and for them to engage with our collections and to hear about the stories that were shared by our Curators.

The Lab is fostering a digital drop-in culture and believes that collaboration and great ideas come from a range of different places and people. The Lab hosted its first digital drop-in in August. Erika Taylor, Curator from Tweed Regional Museum was awarded a Museums and Galleries NSW grant. Erica worked with the Lab developers for a two-week period to produce an online viewer that incorporated collection materials from both the Tweed Regional Museum and the State Library, and the newspapers



in Trove from the time periods. The resulting project, Mainstreet, was published on the DX Lab site at <http://dxlab.sl.nsw.gov.au/mainstreet/app/web/>

The DX Lab has recently announced the first dedicated digital fellowship offered by a cultural heritage organisation at \$30,000, which will provide a creative technologist an opportunity to propose and build something innovative using the Library's data. Find out more about DX Lab at <http://dxlab.sl.nsw.gov.au/>

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**PAULA BRAY**  
DX Lab Leader  
State Library of NSW

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## INDIGENOUS SERVICES IN NSW PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The State Library recently conducted a survey of Indigenous Services in NSW Public Libraries to seek information from the network on services targeted for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community over the past two years (2013 – 2015). It had been 10 years since a similar survey was conducted looking at the nature and extent of public library services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people communities in NSW.

The results of the survey highlighted a general interest in developing better services especially targeted for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population and a general enthusiasm and willingness for promoting and developing library services and programs dedicated to Indigenous Australian people and communities. However, the poor response rate to the survey and data regarding, for example, Indigenous Australian staff employed in libraries, drew attention to the need for continued discussion in this area.

The results of this survey will be utilised to plan and develop a strategy in support of NSW public libraries into the future. Thank you to those Library Managers who completed the survey online.

The Library will be working on developing helpful tools, suggestions and training to support libraries in creating welcoming spaces for Indigenous people in their local communities.

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**MONICA GALASSI**  
Project Officer, Indigenous Services  
State Library of NSW

## TECH SAVVY SENIORS

The Tech Savvy Seniors program has been running in NSW public libraries since 2013. A partnership between the NSW Government and Telstra, the program offers free technology training for seniors, to help them get connected, keep in touch with family and friends and use the increasing number of online services in our daily lives like shopping and banking.

This year Tech Savvy Seniors training was delivered to seniors from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds in community languages. The State Library partnered with the Ethnic Communities Council of NSW to provide bilingual trainers. Training was delivered in six languages (Arabic, Cantonese, Dari, Hindi, Mandarin and Vietnamese) across 15 public libraries in Sydney.

The program has been a great success, with many sessions booked out with long waiting lists. Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with the general consensus "we want more training!". Trainers have also spoken about how much they enjoy delivering training at the host libraries.

The NSW Government and Telstra have recognised the demand for training in community languages and the success of the program, and will be continuing funding and support for the CALD program in 2016. The CALD program will be extended to country areas, with Newcastle, Wollongong, Griffith and Wagga Wagga hosting training. Training will be offered in two additional languages: Greek and Italian, and funding will also be available for English sessions.

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**EDWINA DUFFY**  
Project Coordinator, Public Library Services  
State Library of NSW

# In the Libraries

ALBURY LIBRARIES' WAM FESTIVAL: LAUNCH OF *IN OUR GARDEN*, WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY THE LOCAL KOORI KINDERMANNNA PRESCHOOL

## Albury Libraries

### WRITE AROUND THE MURRAY WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

Write Around the Murray (WAM) is a literary and story based festival managed by the AlburyCity LibraryMuseum team and supported by a community committee, with events targeted at writers, readers, artists, school students and the general community. The festival has operated for nine years from 2007 with the most recent festival occurring over the five days of 9 - 13 September 2015, with a theme of 'journeys to alternate worlds'. The festival is funded through grant funds, LibraryMuseum programs budget, ticket and retail sales and partnership arrangements.

As with previous festivals the 2015 festival included a range of writing and arts workshops, a schools program, festival dinner with guest presenter, a literary lunch, panel sessions and presentations, short story competitions, a wood-fire oven event, performance events and cultural development projects, in a mixture of free and paid events. Approximately 4,900 people participated in events over the five days, not only a great argument for retaining funding, but also great to know that more people are accessing what the festival offers.

The 2015 program incorporated 66 events and sessions, including 29 schools program sessions, with 30 presenters. We certainly journeyed far and wide in our 'journeys to alternate worlds' with festival strands including fantasy and science fiction writing and the environment. The festival opened with the launch of *In our Garden*, a picture book written and illustrated by the local Koori Kindermanna Preschool in collaboration with a writer and Kids Own Publishing. A highlight was the opening night event that featured a Doctor Who inspired play, co-starring David Tennant lookalike Rob Lloyd. Key events and speakers included: Professor Tim Flannery who drew a full house to his interview, popular TV chef Adam Liaw cooking up a storm at the woodfire oven,



comedian Adam Richard who performed for the festival dinner, popular authors Graeme Simsion and Isobelle Carmody, author-illustrators Narelle Oliver and Marc McBride, and the Pop Culture Party (cosplay event) which drew a younger demographic to the festival.

WAM continued to develop its profile and partnerships with the highly successful ABC Radio National storytelling event *Now Hear This* and the HotHouse Theatre and La Trobe University monologue writing competitions. Rotary Club of Albury North continued their sponsorship, this year with the inaugural postcard competition. We formalised a media partnership with ABC Goulburn-Murray, who also live-streamed the Tim Flannery event and ran promotional competitions for the Festival.

As always, a number of events showcased local talent and expertise with local authors featuring in book launches and writing workshops. Next year we'll be celebrating the tenth Write around the Murray Festival, and yes, we're already excited about it!

**CARINA CLEMENT**  
Albury Libraries

## Bathurst Library

### BATHURST PUBLISHES AWARD-WINNING LOCAL HISTORY BOOK

We all know that libraries are more than just places that lend books. However, books still have a significant and valued part to play in libraries. No more so than in local history where this is often the last recorded and remaining history to pass on.

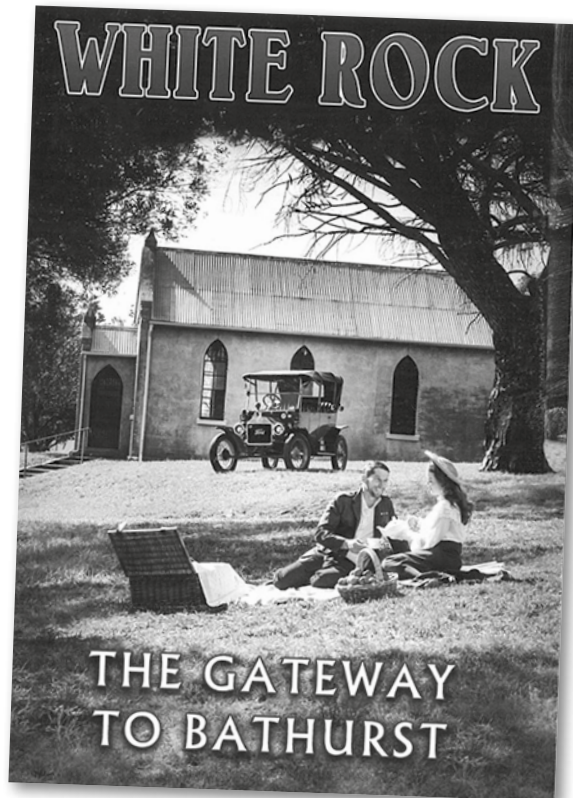
Members of the White Rock Progress Association have researched and written a history of the White Rock area. It has then been published and made available to the community for purchase and through the library. Response has been considerable and the library has received enquiries both locally and Australia-wide via telephone and social media.

Publications such as this are extremely important in preserving and documenting the histories of local areas and families of those areas. As time continues to march on, we now find ourselves on the brink of losing a lot of 'living history' that is, sharing the memories of living persons. Those people who lived at White Rock in the 1870s now only have their living grandchildren to pass on their personal experiences. After that, it becomes documented histories – and this is where *White Rock: The gateway to Bathurst* is so important.

From a library perspective the book has raised a lot of interest within the immediate Bathurst community. Those wanting to know where White Rock is, maps handed out and interest in Bathurst's local history. Visitor interest has also been generated in the local community. On a more personal note, this book has brought back memories to people of all ages of earlier years and childhoods – of picnics and happy days at White Rock. White Rock was (and is) a small community which has many stories and gems to tell. If not recorded in this publication, White Rock would be lost to the future in the annals of time.

At the recent Bathurst Bicentenary National Trust Heritage Awards, the book received a Highly Commended award.

**BETH HALL**  
Bathurst Library



WHITE ROCK: THE GATEWAY TO BATHURST, DOCUMENTS THE HISTORY OF LOCAL AREA WHITE ROCK

## Blacktown City Libraries

### LIBRARY AND CENTRELINK INFORMATION SESSIONS

Blacktown City Libraries have developed a partnership with the Department of Human Services that focuses on library services and the myGov website (online government services).

The purpose of this joint project was to provide targeted vulnerable community members the opportunity to build technology literacy skills to aid them in accessing services.

The project encourages participants to create an email account and navigate websites in a safe and supportive environment with the outcome being participant access to government and non-government services online.

As services move 'online', this project has the potential to identify, influence and assist vulnerable community members in accessing critical services. Collaboration with local service organisations may result in stronger community partnerships and aids in the development of a technologically literate community. It may also potentially provide the opportunity to identify service gaps.

The target group for the pilot project were members of the CALD community who were chosen by Centrelink staff in consultation with local migrant organisations. Five participants were chosen from the same cultural background to attend a series of three information sessions.

Library staff led the delivery of the first session with Centrelink staff acting as support. This session

# In the Libraries

01 PARTICIPANTS AT BLACKTOWN'S LIBRARY AND CENTRELINK INFORMATION SESSIONS

02 BLACKTOWN MAYOR, COUNCILLOR STEPHEN BALI, ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF BLACKTOWN'S WASTE NOT WANT NOT PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

included a library tour, library website navigation, presentation on library services and resources and email account set-up.

Centrelink staff delivered the second and third sessions with a focus on Centrelink services via the myGov website.

Since the success of the pilot project the program has continued to be delivered at Max Webber Library Blacktown and expanded to Our Library @ The Mount Drutt Hub.

Feedback from participants included: "I was really confused and scared every time I have to go online at Centrelink or other places because I did not know what I was doing, however the workshop helped me build confidence and I am able to do Centrelink online and also have a library card which gives me free access to computer and internet."

**MARY TERNES**  
Blacktown City Libraries

## WASTE NOT WANT NOT PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION

In 2014 Blacktown City Libraries successfully applied for funding from the NSW Environment Protection Authority's Waste Less, Recycle More initiative to run a number of programs, such as #skatepark@LPK, where young people learnt about scripting, filming, and editing to produce a short film about littering in the local skatepark, and the *Waste Not Want Not* Photographic Competition for adults.

The *Waste Not Want Not* Photographic Competition was an online endeavour where people from Blacktown could take photographs of what sustainability meant visually to them, with the slight catch the photograph had to be taken in Blacktown. Examples could be vintage, recycled or 'upcycled' items from the local area.

We received close to 200 entries, but only about 60 entries fitted the selection criteria of being local, and these were put up on the library's website. There were two categories of winners; one selected by a panel of judges and one was a people's choice. We received over 500 votes for the people's choice.

We had the top 10 photographs printed and displayed as an exhibition in the Max Webber Library, Blacktown and we had a presentation evening on Friday 4 September 2015, with our Mayor, Councillor Stephen Bali to announce the winners.

**MARGARET REDRUP-MAY**  
Blacktown City Libraries



/01



/02

## LOVE... ROMANCE... FLOWERS... AND A SURPRISE PROPOSAL

Eight years ago Anthony and Cassandra met at Max Webber Library, Blacktown. The library became their study hub as they prepared for their HSC. It also proved to be the place where friendship began and love blossomed. Eight years later Anthony decided it was time to take the next step in their relationship at the place where their love story started. He emailed staff at Blacktown City Libraries and found the support he needed for his big romantic gesture.

Anthony's and Cassandra's family and friends gathered after the library had closed and prepared the library with roses, petals, fairy lights, music and cameras. Meanwhile, Anthony brought trusting Cassandra blindfolded to the library, and instructed her in the lift to remove the blindfold after he had exited on level 1. He left Cassandra in the lift and sent her back to the ground level. Anthony positioned himself at the top of Max Webber Library's grand staircase and waited nervously. As the lift doors opened, Cassandra took off the blindfold and was quick to notice the scattered rose petals leading her up to the library's grand staircase. Nervously making her way up the stairs, Cassandra and Anthony

embraced before Anthony got down on one knee and proposed.

There was not a dry eye in sight, and if you can watch the video on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BlacktownCityLibraries>), you will be sure to get that warm feeling inside. Upon Cassandra's response (she said YES) family members and friends emerged from their hiding spots within the library to congratulate the happy couple. We wish Anthony and Cassandra all the best, and if they are looking for a wedding venue, we do have a function centre at the library!

**VESNA VIDOVIC**  
Library Assistant (aka Library Proposal/Wedding Planner)  
Blacktown City Libraries

## Blue Mountains City Library

### EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! LOCAL NEWSPAPERS OF YESTERYEAR AVAILABLE ONLINE

For those of you who have wanted to find out more about the history of a particular Blue Mountains street or a Blue Mountains name and connection, the local historical newspapers are a great place to start. August this year saw the culmination of a project in which Blue Mountains City Library joined forces with the National Library of Australia and the State Library of NSW in the Australian Newspapers Digitisation Program to make a number of Blue Mountains historical newspapers available at the click of a button.

Seventeen newspapers such as *The Katoomba Times* and *The Blue Mountains Echo* from as early as 1889 have been digitised and are now available to read online via Trove, a website maintained by the National Library of Australia. The collection is fully searchable, just enter a name, a subject or a location to see what pops up!

These precious local newspapers are now safely preserved in digital format thanks to the meticulous conservation efforts of Blue Mountains City Library. Through the years, staff had carefully archived the original newspapers and, later, employed the latest 1980s technology to store them on microfilm. These actions have now allowed the historical material to be digitised.



/01



/02

This achievement demonstrates a decades-long commitment by Library staff to honour the heritage and history of the Blue Mountains. Without this foresight the universal access to these precious resources would not be possible. This truly is a project for all people to enjoy and embodies the spirit of the public library.

The Blue Mountains newspaper digitisation project ensures that Blue Mountains historic newspapers are accessible now and into the future. It has been made possible with the help of a State Library of NSW grant and contributions from the Springwood Historians and Blue Mountains City Council.

**THERESA LOCK**  
Blue Mountains City Library

### MOUNTAINS OF STORIES

The very aptly named *Mountains of Stories* was a pilot program for Blue Mountains City Library's creative writing workshops for adults. Four monthly workshops between July and October this year were planned and sold out within a very short space of time demonstrating that, as we had suspected, there are many writers and aspiring authors with stories to tell living in the Mountains.

Indeed, demand for these workshops and the bi-monthly services of our Editor in Residence, Natalie Muller, has been strong all year. *Mountains of Stories* are, essentially, low-cost, all-day writing workshops facilitated by professional writers, Ingle

- 01 A SURPRISE PROPOSAL AT MAX WEBBER LIBRARY
- 02 THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ECHO FROM MARCH 1913, DIGITISED BY BLUE MOUNTAINS CITY LIBRARY

# In the Libraries



/01

01 PARTICIPANTS AT BLUE MOUNTAINS CITY LIBRARY'S *MOUNTAINS OF STORIES* CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

02 ONE OF THE IMAGES FEATURED ON CAMPBELLTOWN'S THE HISTORY BUFF BLOG

03 PERPETUAL POPPIES KNITTED AND CROCHETED BY CANTERBURY RESIDENTS



/02

Knight, Carla Billingham and Cymbeline Buhler. The feedback from participants in both programs has been so positive that the Library will certainly continue and broaden the *Mountains of Stories* and Editor in Residence programs in 2016 and hopes that the Mountains really can generate plenty of stories for the benefit of readers.

**THERESA LOCK**  
Blue Mountains City Library

## Campbelltown City Library

### BLOGGING THE HISTORY OF CAMPBELLTOWN

Type "Campbelltown history" into Google and our blog The History Buff appears on the first page. The blog receives around 100 visits a day and is the work of Local Information Librarian, Andrew Allen and his team.

Loving a subject makes blogging enjoyable and Andrew's weekly articles promote the local area, history of Campbelltown and our Local Information collection. Tales of local bushrangers and ghosts, subjects as diverse as the Glenfield Siege or a Communist Training Club in Minto make great reading for anyone interested in local history.

With enormous growth in our region the blog reminds us of our history. Inspired by historical buildings, photographs or objects donated to the library The History Buff brings old Campbelltown back to life. Oral history interviews with longtime residents form part of some articles – words from a bygone era transformed into a blog about their town.

**JULIE LEVELL**  
Campbelltown City Library



/03

## City of Canterbury Library

### ENGAGING RESIDENTS WITH CANTERBURY'S HISTORY

Members of the public were invited to bring war related memorabilia to Campsie library during History Week. During our *We Can Scan It!* event local studies staff created quality digitised copies of photos, postcards and letters for participating residents. All digital images and stories collected on the day (some more than 100 years old) were kindly donated to the library's photograph collection.

Campsie library also hosted two photographic exhibitions during the month of September.

*A Camera on Gallipoli* was made available to us through the Australian War Memorial and featured some of the most graphic and important images from the Gallipoli campaign, photographed by Sir Charles Ryan.

*Lemnos 1915* featured the photographic work of Albert William Savage and told the story of Lemnos during the Gallipoli campaign. We were also fortunate to host the Consul-General of Greece, Dr Stavros Kyrimis, who met with Mayor Brian Robson to promote the exhibition. This meeting was photographed by the local newspapers, providing excellent publicity for the library.

As part of the "Speakers Connect" program through the History Council of NSW, Dr Jeannine Baker gave an engaging talk in September at Campsie Library, revealing the little-known experiences of a remarkable group of women journalists during World War II. Her new book *Australian Women War Reporters: Boer War to Vietnam* has just been released

and was promoted in *The Daily Telegraph* several days before the event.

Campsie library hosted the *ABCs of Photo Organising* with Jann Gallen from Creative Archiving in celebration of Family History Month. Jann discussed the simple steps to get started on organising, saving and sharing family memories. This event was extremely popular and we received feedback indicating strong interest from the community for further photograph scanning, storage and management workshops.

Our ongoing *Perpetual Poppies Project* has also surpassed expectations with poppies of all shapes and sizes being delivered day and night. The project invites members of the community to knit or crochet a poppy in dedication of a particular soldier and donate it to the City of Canterbury Library's local history collection. Some poppies have been gifted with incredible personal stories of relatives loved and lost. We have extended the closing date for this project and aim to launch it on Remembrance Day this year.

**ELISSA JAMES**  
City of Canterbury Library

## City of Canada Bay Libraries

### GAME OF THRONES 'IRON THRONE' HITS CONCORD LIBRARY

Fantasy fans were ecstatic to take their rightful place on the famous 'Iron Throne' on 3 and 4 October as part of City of Canada Bay Libraries' Comic Conversations celebrations.

Fantasy and sci-fi fans of all ages braved the heat dressed in *Star Wars* gear to full medieval armour. Fans regally posed on the powerful limited edition throne for a photo opp. Enthusiasts could get up close with a range of treasured memorabilia including pieces from *Game of Thrones*, *Lord of the Rings* and *Star Wars*. Plus local graphic novel artists, Stephen Kok and Richard Smith, were on hand to chat to about the comic industry to aspiring comic artists.

The Comic Con-versations program continued its celebration of comics and pop culture with a Fantasy trivia night and exquisite exhibition of local Sydney graphic artist, Regine Clarke. Special thanks go to our sponsors including 501st Legion, Anime @ Abbotsford, Galaxy Bookshop and Kings Comics.



These events attracted many new visitors from all over Sydney and exposed them to the libraries' wonderful graphic novel collections and enthusiasm for pop culture.

**TARA KLEIN & LIM GOODARZI**  
City of Canada Bay Libraries

STAR WARS FANS AT  
CITY OF CANADA BAY'S  
COMIC CON-VERSATIONS  
CELEBRATIONS

## Clarence Regional Library

### MACLEAN LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT

Maclean Library was refurbished with new paint and carpet throughout the building plus decorative features using our logo dots, 'dotted' around the library.

Quirky 'art work' was installed such as a canvas of the slip of paper that is inside fiction books where borrowers 'can mark this book if they have borrowed it before'. The canvas shows real borrowers' signatures copied onto the canvas. This is an engagement strategy with our borrowers, that they will feel connected with the library when they visit when they see their squiggle on the wall.

The second piece of art work are the local photos copied onto a transfer and positioned on the wall above the PCs and in the walk through area of the Library. The photos we obtained from Council's Economic Development Team and are images of local people and points of interest in the Maclean area.

THE NEWLY REFURBISHED MACLEAN LIBRARY, FEATURING A TIMBER SERVICE DESK MADE BY LOCAL MEN'S SHED



Once again, our logo dots ‘playfully’ surround the images, re-enforcing our brand to our users.

The local Men’s Shed were approached to make new timber tops for our Service Desk and new computer desks and benches. The Service Desk is made of camphor laurel and the public are frequently admiring the beauty of it and we see added pleasure when we inform them that it was the Men’s Shed that made it. The modernity of the new computer desk and bench with bar stools, is a drawcard for the youth. They more often are congregating around the technology and new furniture than hiding in back corners of the Library.

**ANGELA CLARKE**  
Libraries East, Clarence Regional Library

### POP-UP CO-WORKING IN THE LIBRARY

On Monday 20 July the Bellingen Library opened its doors to host a day for Bellingen’s growing co-working community of freelancers, sole-traders and small business owners. Bellingen Co-Workers, which started out with 20 interested people six months ago, has now doubled to include 45 self-starters, itching to get out of their home-based offices, interact and learn from each other. The library has since hosted two more Bellingen Co-Workers days and each has attracted up to 20 co-workers.

As well as solo working time with use of the library’s free Wi-Fi, the days the co-workers utilise the library feature optional interactive sessions; facilitated Offers and Needs market, to tap into their

collective skills and wisdom, and brief updates on other local co-working related initiatives.

The Shire Librarian, Sharon Uthmann is present on these days tuning into the needs of freelancers and sole-traders, to see if the library can help supply relevant resources. “I currently subscribe to the Harvard Business Review, to stay abreast of business trends to assist my freelance writing,” says co-working initiator Thea O’Connor. “After one conversation with Sharon I discovered I could access it for free through the State Library, saving me \$300 a year. You might be surprised what you can access for your business,” she says and encourages others to come along and find out. This has been a great success to date and more sessions are planned.

**SHARON UTHMANN**  
Bellingen Shire Library  
Clarence Regional Library

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In what has become an annual event, the Clarence Regional Libraries are again giving library goers the opportunity to choose new books to be added to the library shelves. While our libraries are always responsive to requests from the community for new book purchases, this event gives people the chance to go through a large selection of new books and pick the ones they would like to read. It is also a good opportunity for community members to chat to library staff and booksellers about their reading passion, while enjoying a nibble and a cup of tea.

This year’s community book selection events occurred in Bellingen Library on 29 September and in Maclean Library on 24 November. Library members can have the books reserved on the day so that after the items have been processed, they can be the first to take them home.

This was a chance for mums and dads, for kids and teachers and for everyone to have their say in what the library buys. These annual events have now been supplemented by a web based Book Vote tool.

Library members of the Clarence Regional Library can now click and vote for new books that they would like to see on the library shelves.

Library users select from fiction, non-fiction, teen or children’s books and simply click on the titles of their choice to add them to the monthly vote. Each title has a plot summary to aid in the selection and voting process. Library staff then review the votes and purchase the books that receive high numbers of votes.



The Voting Tool has been successfully promoted through Media Releases, regular Facebook posts, a web slider on our website, posters within the library, a DL flyer and staff recommendations. In the first month of being available over 475 votes were received from the community and staff.

These events and tools form part of our focus on community engagement in order to provide a high quality, relevant service and collection to our communities.

**MARTY WILLIAMS & KATHRYN BREWARD**  
Clarence Regional Library

## Great Lakes Library

### BETTER READING BETTER COMMUNITIES

The *Better Reading Better Communities* action group continues to go from strength to strength. BRBC is built on the back of a group of community members (who form the action group) and a large number of literacy volunteers who help people in the community to improve their reading skills.

Recently we've had two major achievements. First, we ran a literacy tutoring course specifically for our local Aboriginal community. We ended up working with the Aboriginal mothers group and now we have a number of young Aboriginal women working in and with their community to improve reading skills.

Second, TAFE have designed an online version of the literacy tutor program. We can now start training up tutors in communities that were too remote to attend the face-to-face course.

Finally, as BRBC is about reading rather than just literacy we've developed a service around volunteers reading to people in nursing homes.

### LIBRARY CHAMPION

As a key part of its Local Government Week celebration, Great Lakes Council acknowledged the efforts of Felicity Carter and awarded her the title of Library Champion. Felicity joins an elite group of five other library champions.

The title of Library Champion is not given lightly. A library champion has to not only support the library but to do so actively and publicly. Felicity ticked all of these boxes, with ticks to spare.



/01

01 COMMUNITY BOOK SELECTION DAY AT BELLINGIN LIBRARY

02 THE BETTER READING BETTER COMMUNITIES PROJECT AT GREAT LAKES LIBRARY



/02

She is a volunteer literacy tutor and spends tireless hours in the community networking and spreading the word of the Better Reading Better Communities Project. She also works with other volunteers in reading children's stories at the local markets (a BRBC initiative). Felicity is now looking at how the Better Reading Better Communities model can be expanded to provide even further support to the local Aboriginal community.

Thank you Felicity.

### LIBRARY AS PERFORMERSPACE?

There has been much talk of libraries as makerspaces. Maybe we should add performerspace to the vocabulary or job description. A classic example would be the *Company of Voices* concert Great Lakes Library hosted recently. All the "making" occurs offsite - what the library offers is the ideal venue to perform. The event itself again drew a large crowd and the performance was, as always, brilliant.

This is just one example of Great Lakes as a performerspace. Earlier in the year we hosted a film

# In the Libraries

HILLS SHIRE LIBRARY  
MASCOT FRIBBIT THE  
FROG GETS OUT AND  
ABOUT AT THE THE  
ORANGE BLOSSOM  
FESTIVAL

night (featuring locally and international produced short films) and we're gearing up for our Jazz concert shortly. All of them have been going so long that they have become institutions in the local events calendar.

When we first started all of these events (between 10 and 15 years ago) it seemed like a radical idea. Now we have adapted our library around them and it has even been suggested we should design in a dance floor. What was revolutionary is not only the norm, it's expected.

There's a curious but important aspect that's emerged in all of this. The library was never designed to be a performance space, and yet people love performing in it. There is something about a performance, whether it be a film, a play (as we did with *Dead Men Talking*) or a concert that when it's surrounded by books, it just works. For audience and performers alike. I think, in no small part, that it has to do with the connection the library has with its community. We are safe, we are inclusive and we are owned by everyone (good acoustics helps as well).

Shakespeare reckoned all the world was a stage. We can expand on that and say that all the public libraries are a stage as well.

So perhaps, hand-in-hand with the makerspace movement, we should be taken on the mantle of performerspace as well. And the key word, of course, is space.

**CHRIS JONES**  
Great Lakes Library

## The Hills Shire Library

Hills Shire Library staff have increased outreach at major events in the community via the Hills Pop Up Library. Utilising the successful cardboard shelving system the library popped up at the recently revamped Orange Blossom Festival. With attendance numbers at Council's major events totalling over 18,000 having a visible and memorable presence has provided valuable exposure for the service.

One customer at the Orange Blossom Festival commented that she now looks out for the library at each event as her children love to visit. Using pre-loved donations and unsold stock from the annual book sale over 300 books were given new readers at the Festival and over 50 Pop Up Storytimes were run with children often staying for more than one story. Our library mascot Friabbit the Frog has been getting out and about much to the delight of children,



an effective draw-card he poses for photos, gives high fives and even a fist pump when requested. Council's events team have requested the library come back for their events in 2016 so further innovation and improvements are underway to keep the library fresh and eye-catching!

**ERICA WORT**  
The Hills Shire Library Service

## Hornsby Library

### RICHARD GLOVER DELIGHTS HORNSBY LIBRARY AUDIENCE

Richard Glover departed his radio microphone from his drive time show, jumped in his car and arrived at Hornsby Library 30 minutes later to talk to a crowd of 180 on his latest book *Flesh Wounds*. In his ever warm and friendly style Richard let us all in on his world growing up and the peculiarities of his parents. His book arose from his dinner party game of who's got the weirdest parents, a game he thought he would always win. Richard was thoroughly entertaining and had the audience laughing with his witty and dry recounts of childhood and beyond. So engaging was he that most of the audience stayed on for the opportunity to purchase and have their copy of *Flesh Wounds* signed by Richard.



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## Ku-ring-gai Library

### RICHARD GLOVER AT KU-RING-GAI LIBRARY, GORDON

On 24 September, Ku-ring-gai Library, Gordon hosted the very popular Richard Glover. Richard spoke to an audience of 178 rapt listeners about his recent book, *Flesh Wounds*. The evening was dark and stormy with hail and menacing thunderstorms but Richard prevailed and the hall was packed for an entertaining evening of weird and wonderful reminiscences of Richard's family life and upbringing.

The library at Gordon maintained its tradition of getting an autographed copy of the promotional posters that advertise our visiting authors for our ENCOUNTERS WALL and Richard was only too happy to contribute for the third time.

LYNNE FRANCES  
Ku-ring-gai Library

### KU-RING-GAI LIBRARY MERCHANTS AT THE MEDIEVAL FAIRE

Being library merchants at the St Ives Medieval Faire, plying our medieval knowledge, righted us on our path to a weekend of games, craft, colouring, quizzing and loads of fun.

10,000 Sydneysiders entered the annual magical world of the Medieval Faire at the St Ives Showground on 19 and 20 September 2015. The two-day festival organised by Ku-ring-gai Council included some of the world's best jousters competing in the Tournament of St Ives, battle scenes from history re-enacted by costumed warriors, birds of prey swooping and attacking on command, and of course a delightful medieval library tent!

What was on offer in our fabulous tent?

- **Relax and have a medieval read**

Kids loved our reading corner which was filled with picture books about dragons, knights and stories of days gone by.

- **Make your own delightful bookmarks**

This year not only were the castles and knights bookmarks for children popular, there were bookmarks for the adults as well. Tapping into the popular colouring fad for adults, our communications team designed an intricate and beautiful medieval book mark of illuminated letters which spelt READ. It was great to see moments of colouring calmness.

01 AUTHOR RICHARD GLOVER ENTERTAINS THE AUDIENCE AT HORNSBY LIBRARY

02 KU-RING-GAI LIBRARY MERCHANTS AT THE ST IVES MEDIEVAL FAIRE

### LESS MESS DE-CLUTTER WORKSHOP

It seems many of us have a clutter spot, bulging cupboards or overflowing garage we'd like to tame. De-clutter specialist Susanne Thiebe visited Hornsby Library for a Less Mess De-clutter workshop and the response was huge. We were unable to accommodate the interest from the community and the staff listened to many a story of how that customer desperately needed to attend this workshop and could we please squeeze one more person in to the session.

The response from those that attended was positive and for several days post the event we had proud customers phone the library and tell us of their latest de-clutter success. Susanne gave practical solutions and routines for maintenance. Each participant worked through their own workbook where Susanne takes a holistic approach to how and why we get disorganised. Given the high community interest in this topic we are hosting future workshops with Susanne.

KATHLEEN ALLEN  
Hornsby Library

# In the Libraries

STAR WARS READS DAY  
AT CARDIFF LIBRARY

- **Get creative with chatterboxes**  
Paper chatterboxes with medieval fun were created with enthusiasm.
- **Make fierce bubble dragons**  
Is there anything more fun for kids than bubbles? Fierce dragon bubbles made out of a cup and soapy water was hugely popular and fascinating for the kids. It certainly was also a drawcard that got people to gravitate towards our tent.
- **Enjoy a game or two: Quoits, Tic Tac Toe and Draughts**  
Beautifully hand sewn large table-sized cloth boards for Tic Tac Toe and Draughts saw many a game played on it with differing sets of rules! Also, the game of Quoits brought out the fun competitive side of those passing our tent.
- **Test your medieval knowledge with a quiz**  
Quiz questions with answers using databases and books was a great idea but we had a few connectivity problems for accessing the databases. Next year we will focus on physical books!
- **Go back in time with technology: eBooks and eMagazines**  
This was yet another opportunity to showcase our e-collection and we did that by downloading medieval/historical eBooks and eMagazines onto our iPads and Android tablets.

All in all, the Library tent was a welcome break between the jousting, trebuchet and the occasional showers from above. And we, the medieval library lasses and lads had a very merry time in our very own medieval tent marketing our wares!

**SHOBA ABRAHAM**  
Ku-ring-gai Library

## Lake Mac Libraries

### HISTORY WEEK AT LAKE MACQUARIE HISTORY ONLINE

Community History staff at Lake Mac Libraries embraced this year's History Week theme, "War, Nationalism and Identity", by compiling an index of enlisted World War II personnel with ties to Lake Macquarie.



Over 4,000 names have been gathered from the service records of airmen, merchant seamen, sailors and soldiers who had some association with Lake Macquarie, whether by birth, enlistment, residence or next of kin.

The list, with links to service records, is a valuable resource for local researchers and is available for viewing and download, along with many other World War I and II resources, at <http://history.lakemac.com.au/>

**ANN CRUMP**  
Lake Mac Libraries

### STAR WARS READS DAY AT CARDIFF LIBRARY

The Force was strong at Cardiff Library on Saturday 10 October. Children dressed up as their favourite *Star Wars* characters and had their photo taken with the special *Star Wars* celebrities.

This event brought together like-minded people and Cardiff Library was the perfect venue for this to happen. Staff enjoyed the morning, as the library was buzzing and the smiles on the customers faces were always a delight. It was wonderful to see so many children dressing up for the day.

Staff on hand for the day assisted with the photo booth, library photographer, 3D printing and facilitated a storytime session.

It was also an opportunity for the public to find out about all the good and important things Lake Mac Libraries provide for the community. Cardiff Library would like to thank the 501 Legion for being able to participate in this event.

**MELISSA KITE**  
Cardiff Library

## Lane Cove Library

### LANE COVE LIBRARY: A PART OF LIFE FOR 60 YEARS

In August 2015 Lane Cove Library celebrated its 60th anniversary with two events that were featured in Lane Cove's 24th Cameraygal Festival program. As well as marking the Library's 60th anniversary the community were invited to celebrate five years in the extended Library.

Lane Cove Library was officially opened on Friday 11 February 1955 by John Metcalfe, Principal Librarian of the Public (State) Library of New South Wales. The Library was originally located in the Lane Cove War Memorial School of Arts but was relocated to the renovated third Council Chambers (built 1924) in 1962 and has been operating from this site ever since. By the 1970s Lane Cove Library was suffering overcrowding and an extension on the back of the building was opened in 1976.

A Local Studies collection was established in May 1980 (with four books), to collect and preserve materials about the history of Lane Cove. The collection was renamed the Marjorie Barnard collection in 1981 and Council Archives were transferred to the Library in 1982. Local Studies was extended by knocking down a wall between it and the World War II Civil Defence Room in 1982 and a Local Studies Reading Room, compactus and staircase was added in 1985.

Other popular services include the Marjorie Propsting Memorial Library (Greenwich Library) which opened 7 November 1964, the Home Library Service which commenced in July 1986 and the very busy Junior Library. The Junior Library was relocated within the building twice (in 1975 and 1982) to meet community needs and improve access.

From the mid-1990s the need for more space became a pressing issue and Council considered a range of options. The Market Square development provided an opportunity to improve car parking facilities and to extend the Library. Construction commenced in 2008 and the Library officially opened on 9 July 2010. The extended Library features a range of flexible spaces including a Storytime Room, Youth Room, Meeting Rooms, Training Rooms and a number of study areas.

When planning the anniversary celebrations Council wanted to ensure community participation - inclusion in the Cameraygal Festival program



offered good promotional opportunities. Library staff were conscious that an event that entertained adult borrowers was not necessarily one that children would enjoy so...two events were planned.

*A Glittering Evening!* was held Wednesday 19 August and included a speech and cake cutting by Clr David Brooks-Horn, Mayor of Lane Cove. The evening featured performances by the Dewey Decibels, La Voce Community Choir and guitarist/vocalist, Phil Bowley. The Dewey Decibels is a recently formed trio of Library staff who were willing to sing excerpts from songs featuring diamonds. Guests participated in laughter yoga, ukulele and beading workshops and played a variety of giant games. The Local Studies staff set up a Memory Booth and recorded people's memories of Lane Cove Library - these visual recordings have been added to the Local Studies collection.

*Just for Kids!* was held Saturday 22 August (at the start of Australian Children's Book Week) and featured the Jingles the Clown Magic Show, balloon twisting, the Children's Book Week Competition Presentation, a Walkabout Reptile Show, giant games and a birthday cake. The Library Manager and brave Library staff were photographed with a diamond python that the Walkabout Reptile Show brought especially for the event.

More than 800 people including Councillors, current and former staff and many borrowers helped celebrate the Library's 60th anniversary. Feedback from the community, Councillors and the Executive Team has confirmed that the events were successful and enhanced the reputation of Lane Cove Library.

**JENNIFER BICE**  
Lane Cove Library

LANE COVE LIBRARY  
CELEBRATES ITS 60TH  
ANNIVERSARY

# In the Libraries

MAITLAND CITY LIBRARY  
RECENTLY LAUNCHED ITS  
DIGITISED HISTORIC MAP  
COLLECTION



## Maitland City Library

### THE ROMANCE OF MAPS

Maitland City Library revealed its historic map collection at a special event on 18 June, combining the launch of online access to the digitised maps and an exploration of maps in all their variety and beauty by estate cartographer, Claire Philp.

Over the last three years, the Library has been working on a project to digitise selected collections that have been identified as significant to the history and heritage of Maitland. The project is a key component of the Maitland Local Studies Strategy 2009-2014 in preserving and improving access to local historical information for the community now and into the future.

The digitisation of the Library's map collection is another major step in the development of the City's local studies resources. A range of other collections have already been digitised, including almost 2,000 historic photographs, minutes of Council proceedings from 1862-1945 and the rich resources which make up the Harry Boyle and Andrew Burg collections.

The map collection includes over 150 maps of the local area dating from 1841 through to 1973. Every map tells a story of the past – how the town of Maitland developed over time, the names of the streets or subdivisions, the location of mining quarries or significant landholdings. The availability of the collection is the result of efforts of the Library's Information Systems Coordinator Peter Woodley and Local Studies Librarian, Judy Nicholson in organising the digitisation and cataloguing of the maps. This has been a milestone in building our collection, making it accessible and preserving it for future generations.

The launch of the map collection happily coincided with International Map Year, a worldwide celebration of maps and their unique role in the world. Trisha Moriarty, President of the Mapping Sciences Institute, Australia and Australian representative for International Map Year activities, attended the launch and reinforced the importance of maps in making sense of our world.

To mark the launch of access to the Maitland City Library map collection, each of the Library's branches at East Maitland, Maitland, Rutherford and Thornton featured a local historical map enlarged and glazed onto library entries. This has been attracting strong community interest in the collection.

**KERYL COLLARD**  
Maitland City Library

## Liverpool City Library

### ANCESTRY AFTER DARK

Libraries and librarians do make a difference to people's lives.

Beginning family history research can seem like a daunting task, which is why Liverpool City Library's Regional Family History Centre decided to host this innovative program known as *Ancestry After Dark*. It is a regular and unique event, held on the third Wednesday of each month from 4pm to 10pm, that endeavours to assist customers attempting to discover their family history. Ancestry after Dark is a chance to get one-on-one assistance from Librarians and Genealogists. The event provides extra research time, collection tours, friendly and personal research sessions and occasional short talks.

On a recent night of *Ancestry After Dark*, a customer (in his early 60s) came to us with a sad story of having only recently been given some clues as to the identity of his father. All he had was a street name from the 1950s, a surname starting with M but with the letter 'K' in it. We worked with him on the first night to try and help to uncover the past through our many databases. We found a little snippet that we didn't realise at the time would lead to unravelling the mystery.

On his next visit the volunteers from the Liverpool Genealogy Society worked with him to continue to uncover snippets of his past. Together we have found his missing family. Respecting the sensitivities of this research, the customer has made contact with relatives and is very excited for the future.

Our work is exciting and the above story shows Libraries do make a difference to people's lives.

**SUE DREDGE AND JULIE SENIOR**  
Liverpool City Library

## Monaro Regional Libraries

### AUTHOR TALK AT COOMA LIBRARY

It was standing room only when writer, naturalist and walker John Blay visited Cooma Library in September to speak about his new book *On Track: Searching out the Bundian Way*. The track is a historically and culturally important 360 km walk which traverses some of Australia's wildest and most remarkable landscapes from Mt Kosciuszko in the Snowy Mountains to Twofold Bay on the South Coast. John's fascinating story traces the region's people, and natural and Aboriginal history and the rediscovery of an ancient track. Thanks to the author, the Bundian Way is destined to become one of Australia's greatest walking tracks.

Attendees at the book talk were absolutely enthralled with the author's retracing of his many years journey and discoveries along the track. The day certainly highlighted the importance of the track to this region and the pure dedication and commitment of a man who will ensure this track is recognised as an important part of Australian and Aboriginal history.

**PAM VEISS**  
Monaro Regional Libraries

## Mosman Library Service

### COLOUR BETWEEN THE LINES AT MOSMAN LIBRARY SERVICE

What will we do for Adult Learner's Week this year?

We had digital literacy covered with our Technology Tuesday sessions and how to download the Library's free eBooks taken care of so we had to come up with something new and different.

What about trying a colouring-in session for adults? After all adult colouring books are topping the best sellers lists and every book shop you walk into has piles of them and we could pitch it as getting in touch with your creative side while meeting new people and we would supply the pencils and pictures and refreshments... and so it was decided, we would try it and see if anyone would come.

And the result? Seven women turned up on Thursday 3 September and had a great time colouring-in and getting to know each other. There was even a chance to showcase the resources we have on colour, which were enthusiastically borrowed.



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The one and a half hour session soon stretched into two hours and before we knew it they asked if they could come back and do it again. So now we have a new monthly event - Colour between the Lines from 10.30 - 12.30 on the last Thursday of the month.

Colour between the Lines has proven to be a multi-generational magnet with the session at the end of September attracting ages from the 20s to the 60s and it's amazing how good everyone feels by the end of the session...now if only we could get some men interested...

**JANE BROADBERE**  
Mosman Library

## Newcastle Region Library

### NAIDOC WEEK EVENT: CHARLIE'S COUNTRY

To celebrate NAIDOC Week 2015 and to strengthen broader community knowledge and engagement in NAIDOC Week Newcastle Region Library had the great pleasure to partner with The Wollotuka Institute - University of Newcastle and our local

01 AUTHOR JOHN BLAY TALKS ABOUT THE BUNDIAN WAY AT COOMA LIBRARY

02 COLOUR BETWEEN THE LINES COLOURING-IN SESSION AT MOSMAN LIBRARY

A POSTER FOR *CHARLIE'S COUNTRY*, SCREENED AT NEWCASTLE REGION LIBRARY AS PART OF NAIDOC WEEK

community cinema, The Regal Cinema, to host a screening of *Charlie's Country*. The event also acted as a fundraiser for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

The night was a huge success. With the cinema full to capacity, the thought-provoking film inspired the broader community to extend their understanding and knowledge of contemporary issues faced by Aboriginal Australians, and offered an opportunity for informal discussion with Professor Peter Radoll, Director, Academic and Research and Dean of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Research, Wollotuka Institute. It was a wonderful example of a successful collaboration between the library and community partners.

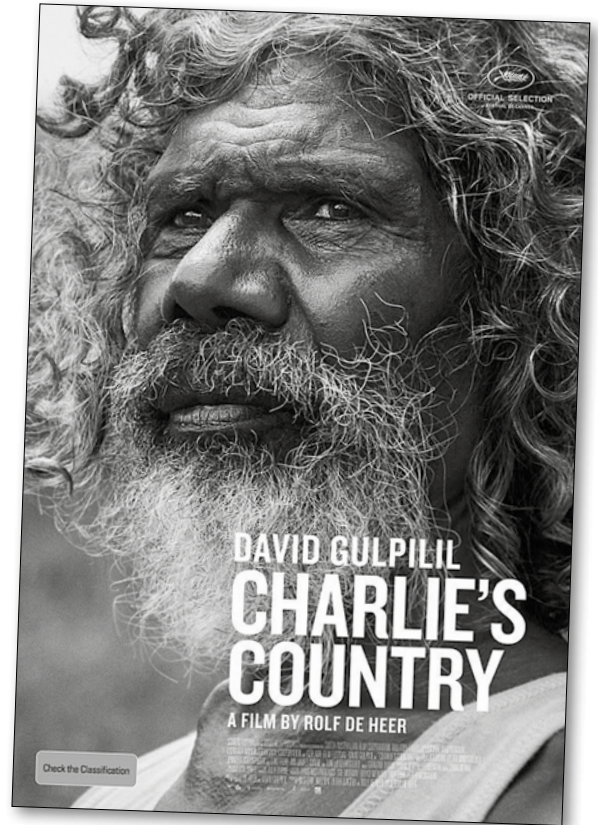
In addition, sharing this amazing and thought-provoking film, the Library was able to showcase relevant NRL library services and resources. The Library is pleased to have been able to play a small part in the development of a greater understanding of the issues facing our Indigenous Peoples and communities, and raising awareness of the fundamental right to literacy and importance of literacy in the growth of all individuals.

**SHARON WITT & MARY GISSING**  
Newcastle Region Library

## FUN AT THE WALLSEND WINTER FAIR

Newcastle Region Library joined in the fun of the 30th Anniversary of the Wallsend Winter Fair on Sunday 9 August. The Wallsend Winter Fair is the largest street fair in the western corridor of Newcastle. The Fair provided the perfect opportunity for the Library to move outside and join our community in an event providing an abundant amount of opportunities for us to meaningfully engage with our community. Over the day, six staff worked to talk to as many people as possible promoting the fantastic services the Newcastle Region Library has to offer. We set up a marquee showcasing historic photos of the local area and we handed out 250 of our 'What's On' brochures. These brochures offered a great way to initiate a conversation with people at our stall and while staff mingled with the crowd. Staff were exhausted by the end of the day but really enthused by the amount of positive feedback we gained from our community!

**TONIA BISHOP**  
Newcastle Region Library



## Parkes Shire Libraries

### ART MURMURS

During the month of September, Parkes Shire Libraries hosted Curiosity & Wonder, a strong, creative and innovative arts-led celebration of storytelling, drawing and science. For a month and a bit, local newspapers and radio stations are saturated with library events and news. Short term, high-impact marketing is the aim.

Rachael Baez, Marcelo Baez and Matt Lin worked with the team to deliver the first Artists-in-Residence project, including art workshops at local schools.

Marcelo, an illustrator with international clients such as Marvel, wowed the primary students with his drawing skills, tips and hints for forging their own arts-based careers. Rachael guided high schoolers through her own journey, exhibiting examples of her award winning Polaroid photography. Rachael's evening event inspired adults into forming a local Polaroid movement, something the library is happy to support with a variety of new resources.



Matt Lin, Manga specialist, joined Rachel and Marcelo for the first week of the school holidays. The three took up residence in opposite corners of the library, displaying art and working on their current projects. Each artist held drawing workshops and availed themselves to groups and individuals with a strong interest in photography, drawing or comic creation.

One enthusiastic attendee travelled 130 kilometres from Carcoar after hearing about the Artist in Residence project on ABC regional radio.

Science Hot Pot school holiday workshops were held in Parkes and at Peak Hill with sessions fully booked. Budding scientists burst balloons with sprays of orange juice which set unsuspecting hearts racing.

Celebrations culminated during the October long weekend with the library hosting its second Fun Palaces, a UK based mission, where participants take the opportunity to flex both their scientific and artistic muscles. With 496 people through the doors, Parkes staff were thrilled with their new event record.

Sean Murphy, fresh from the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, performed 'Kids Party Confidential' in front of a crowd of 103, drawing in the teens and juniors with his crazy storytelling and party moves. The balloon tying workshop-with-a-difference proved very popular with the crowd, extending last year's focus on the value of games in creative play.

The Fun Palaces self-directed science and art stations were very low fuss, enabling staff to offer a wide variety of fun experiences from Splatter Painting to Gem Fossicking to Construction Corner.

The Fun Palaces principle of jumping in and having a go resonated well with Parkes families. Some began their day as soon as the doors opened. They played, went home for lunch, then returned on the kids' demands!

**TRACIE MAURO**  
Parkes Shire Libraries

## Parramatta City Library

### MOVING EXPERIENCE FOR PARRAMATTA LIBRARY

Parramatta City Library has NEW DIGS! With the massive Parramatta Square redevelopment project slated to redefine the centre of Parramatta, came the demise of our faithful OLD building harking back to the 1960s.



ARTIST RACHAEL BAEZ  
LEADS A POLAROID  
SESSION AT PARKES  
LIBRARY

The history of Parramatta City Library began in the 1950s and was originally housed in the Historic Parramatta Town Hall. The Library was established by Miss Margaret Miller, a pioneer in the library world at that time. Miss Miller was also instrumental in creating the first vocational training course for librarians, the (Librarianship Certificate course) at the old Sydney Technical College, now Sydney TAFE.

When the Library outgrew the limited space in the Town Hall, a designated Library in Civic Place Parramatta was built and opened in 1964 and became our home for the next 50 years. Many generations of adults and children visited the Library, borrowed resources, attended programs and witnessed the changes for the better that digitization has brought to public libraries. Parramatta was the first NSW public library to appoint a designated Young Adult Librarian for example, visitation has always numbered over 1,000 per day due to its central location, spacious study area and excellent collections and services. Over the years the building underwent many changes, extensions, upgrades and refurbishments, to meet the needs of our rapidly growing city and changing face of the city's demographic: these days 50% of Parramatta's population was born overseas, for example.

The deadline to vacate the Civic Place old Library building was looming and it was becoming imperative for us to find a new home, and FAST! Luckily exactly the right location presented itself at 1-3 Fitzwilliam Street, Parramatta, which is close to transport hubs, conveniently accessible for our patrons, with lots of

# In the Libraries

- 01 PARTICIPANTS SHOW OFF THEIR CREATIONS AT A FELTED BOWLS WORKSHOP AT COOLAMON LIBRARY
- 02 WINNER OF THE 2015 ROCKDALE RON RATHBONE LOCAL HISTORY PRIZE, DR GARRY DARBY

light bright spaces, now filled with great new Library resources for students, families and in fact everyone, because libraries invite the whole community to come on in. Along the way we were able to learn the logistics of project management, sustainability, Standards, linear metres and BCA. We are now happily ensconced in our new/ temporary location for at least three years, until the Parramatta Square redevelopment comes to fruition and then we will happily start all over again on another “moving experience”.

**KATHERINE MITCHELL**  
Parramatta City Library

## PARRAMATTA'S MATCHMAKING SERVICE

Parramatta launched our reading ‘matchmaker’ service, *Parra Reads Match*, to celebrate Library and Information Week in May with nervous anticipation and an eye-catching logo. Our borrowers will receive five personalised reading suggestions provided by our wonderfully capable team of librarians. All we ask are a few questions about their reading likes and dislikes, reading age and preferred formats via a form on our Library catalogue. Our ‘reading matchmakers’ then create a customised list of titles/ authors with cover images, a brief description of the suggestions and links to the catalogue sent within 10 business days. Our matchmakers are so enthusiastic that most responses have more than five suggestions and are answered within a week. The feedback received about their suggested reads (dates) has been overwhelmingly positive and hope to make even more matches in future.

**SUZANNE MICALLEF**  
Parramatta City Library

## JOB CLUB WORKSHOP AT DUNDAS LIBRARY

With the aim of helping the community with returning to work, new migrants to seek suitable jobs and in general to learn more about making better resumes, preparing and looking for appropriate jobs, Dundas Library organised a workshop on Job Seeking Skills in partnership with Mission Australia on 12 August 2015. Seventeen members from Dundas, Rydalmere and the Hills communities went through a three hour intensive program and came out with improved job seeking skills.

**AMBAR & DUNDAS LIBRARY TEAM**  
Dundas Library



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## Riverina Regional Library

### COOLAMON LIBRARY FELTED BOWLS WORKSHOP

Coolamon Library held a workshop called *Felted Bowls* in September 2015. This program was offered to adults and facilitated by Tracey Luhrs from Riverina Regional Library. Participants were highly engaged in learning how to make wet felted bowl shaped vessels from wool fibre. Participants experimented with colours and explored texture by embellishing their bowls with interesting wool, silk fibres and yarn. The workshop was very popular with participants who were thrilled with their completed items and craftsmanship skills.

**HELEN MCLOUGHIN**  
Coolamon Library

## Rockdale City Library

### RON RATHBONE LOCAL HISTORY PRIZE

In 2006, Rockdale City Council launched a Local History Prize in honour of a former Mayor and Councillor – Ron Rathbone OAM – who was also a

prolific local historian. The prize offers \$5,000 to the author of the best piece of original research on any aspect of the City of Rockdale. Entrants in the prize are asked to submit a substantial piece of work that provides new insights into our city's history.

This year we had a total of 13 entries that covered a range of topics including: Rockdale's involvement in the First and Second World Wars; the early days of Sans Souci; the history of Rocky Point Road; the history of the Macedonian community in Rockdale; the story of Brighton-Le-Sands Public School; the history of Rockdale Council's first art prize and the forgotten story of a local hero who risked his own life to try and save a teenage boy being attacked by a shark in Lady Robinsons Beach.

The winner, Dr Garry Darby, was announced by the Mayor in a ceremony on 5 September – the beginning of History Week. Dr Darby's work showed how the building of Rocky Point Road, part of which was later renamed Princes Highway, was intrinsically linked to the development of the whole Rockdale area, making possible the opening up and settlement of the land between the Cooks and Georges rivers. All the entries will be placed in Rockdale Library's Local History Collection and are also available online at [http://www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au/library/Pages/Library\\_RonRathbonePrize.aspx](http://www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au/library/Pages/Library_RonRathbonePrize.aspx)

**KIRSTEN BRODERICK**  
Rockdale City Library

## Ryde Library Service

### IPADS FOR EBOOK DISCOVERY

Ryde Library has recently introduced an iPad for customer browsing at its service desk, designed to display eBook and eMagazine collections so people can see it when they enter the library. In doing so, the library is marketing the online collection in its physical space.

Secured to the desk by an arm and locked rotating case, the iPad has been configured to showcase the library's online library, as well as provide an information access point for enquiries such as local transport, Good Reads and the library website. The position of the iPad is facing the customer, and staff members join the patron in front of the desk to show them library apps and services. This produces a collaborative and customer-focused experience.



IPADS AVAILABLE FOR CUSTOMER BROWSING AT RYDE'S SERVICE DESK

Prior to display, the iPad was configured with preset apps and permissions to ensure that the tablet has access to unrestricted Wi-Fi bandwidth and appropriate security measures.

The benefit is twofold. Customers can instantly explore the online collection at the desk while accessing other services, or simply browse at their leisure without having to find the website on their own device, log into a nearby computer or navigate from the OPAC. The second benefit is that it keeps staff members constantly up to date with changes in the online library as customers ask about them. It essentially forces you to practise.

### RYDE LIBRARY SERVICE

### LIBRARY KNIT-IN STILL ROARING SUCCESS

The Ryde community can't get enough of coming together and crafting in their public libraries. Following the immense success of the 2,000 Poppies project which coordinated the production of 3,000 individual crafted poppies throughout the Ryde Area, the Annual Knit-In is still going strong.

On Friday 7 August, Ryde Library hosted the event amongst its knit-in and exhibition, showcasing colourful and creative works. This event is the culmination of a year's worth of regular knitting at Gladesville, Eastwood and West Ryde libraries, where groups meet to knit, sew and crochet blankets for the charity Wrap With Love. The library forwards the wraps to the charity's warehouse, from where they are sent to people in need all around the world. Each wrap is large enough to create a warm, cosy covering for an adult.

# In the Libraries

CROWDS AT SHELLHARBOUR LIBRARIES' BODY MIND SPIRIT EXPO 2015

This year's tally reached a very impressive 502 wraps. Groups have been meeting in our libraries since 2007 and our community has completed an inspiring 3,327 wraps in total since then, some of which have made their way to Nepal, Vanuatu, Mongolia, and Burundi.

Our community's pride in their work was evident on the day, with many knitters and non-knitters alike taking the time to walk around the library and view the many wraps which had been on display all week. Our community is looking forward to another year of knitting in our libraries and once again providing colourful warmth to those who need it most.

## RYDE LIBRARY SERVICE

### Shellharbour City Libraries

#### HEALTH AND WELLBEING AT SHELLHARBOUR CITY LIBRARIES

Shellharbour City Libraries once again held its popular Body Mind Spirit Expo in September 2015. In its third year running this popular lifestyle, health and wellbeing expo was bigger and better than ever before. In response to community support, the 2015 event saw an increase in exhibitors, a larger venue and a more aggressive marketing campaign.

As a result, the event was a huge success with over 1,800 people attending the two-day event, making it the largest attended library event in the history of the service. The community had the opportunity to explore natural and alternative therapies and connect with a diverse range of wellness specialists. The event also offered free performances and workshops allowing community members to discover the many health and wellbeing options available to them.

The pop-up library was a major feature of the event, where members of the community took the opportunity to join the library and borrow from a wide range of wellness and health related resources. Library team members really engaged with participants generating interest not only in the event, but surprising visitors with all the free quality resources available through their local libraries. The event also showcased the diversity in our programs and capacity of our libraries to be able to host such events, moving beyond the traditional role of a public library. Our expos allow us to promote our collections and services out amongst the community where they are.

**KYLIE BARRETT**  
Shellharbour City Libraries



### Waverley Library

#### EAT, PRAY NACHES: JEWISH COMMUNITY STORIES

Waverley Library has just packed down the Eat, Pray, Naches (EPN) exhibition and is currently taking stock of the tremendous learning the library and community have gone through together in creating this expression of local identity.

More than 17% of the people of Waverley in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs identify as Jewish, making Waverley Council home to the second largest Jewish community in Australia.

The exhibition launched at the peak of media attention surrounding the Syrian refugee crisis which escalated the project designed to showcase an expression of local cultural identity to one of much greater significance. The newly launched *Huffington Post Australia* made the migration story of EPN project participant Alex Rychin its lead item immediately prior to Australia's announcement of an increased refugee intake from Syria.

The story of migration is one of extraordinary relevance in contemporary Australia. Many of the participants shared their stories of naches, a Yiddish word roughly translated to joy, which richly reflected a strong community spirit and family values and a zeal for life that stands in such remarkable contrast to the desperation families faced when fleeing their homelands prior to coming to Australia. The Eat, Pray, Naches exhibition was able to capture and reflect a positive picture of immigration at a time of acute importance.

EPN spent considerable time in development. It was initiated in 2013 by a council motion and comprised a physical exhibition that shared the migration stories of 26 locals. The anchor to the exhibition is the website [www.epn.org.au](http://www.epn.org.au) which features edited video interviews, an interactive map, historical photographs and full interview transcripts of the featured participants.

A key ingredient to the success of the project was an extensive community consultation which ensured duplication with other research into the Jewish diaspora was able to be avoided and something new and different was created.

Over 40 hours of original video material was created and will be added to the Local Studies collection along with full transcripts. Participants contributed 800 photographs to the project and additional materials were drawn from *The Australian Jewish News*, *The Australian Jewish Times* and the library of the Sydney Jewish Museum.

Public programs in support of the exhibition allowed participants to engage with the ideas expressed in the exhibition.

Next the exhibition will tour nationally. A considerable number of libraries and other institutions have already made bookings to host the physical exhibition over the coming two years.

The process of honouring our local stories, engaging directly with our community and hosting a high quality physical exhibition within the library space has allowed us to reflect on the huge positive impact of the post-war Jewish migration to the area.

The Eat, Pray, Naches project is supported through funding from the Australian Government's Community Heritage and Icons Grants Programme.

**MATTHEW FALLON**  
Waverley Library

## Wingecarribee Public Libraries

### IPAD CATALOGUES IN BOWRAL LIBRARY

As it was time to upgrade the catalogue computers in Bowral Library, the decision was made to replace our two desk top computers with three iPads. These have been installed at the rear of the library near our public use computers, in the middle of the library outside the Young Adult room and in the Children's



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- 01 AN IMAGE FROM WAVERLEY LIBRARY'S EAT, PRAY NACHES EXHIBITION. PHOTO COURTESY ALEX RYVCHIN
- 02 NEW IPAD CATALOGUES AT BOWRAL LIBRARY



/02

area. The technology is user-friendly, the download speed is fast and the screen size can be enlarged for easy viewing. New red slat wall and signage has completed the upgrade and we feel we have created three very accessible spaces for library patrons to use.

You can see in the photo that Doris our library dog usually positions herself near the catalogue in the Children's area. She likes the attention and she loves it when the kids sit on her as they use the iPad.

### FATHER'S DAY IN THE HIGHLANDS

Wingecarribee Public Libraries celebrated Father's Day by taking the ROADS Mobile Library to Shire's most eastern village of Robertson. The Mobile Library held a Father's Day craft activity at the Robertson Community Centre where 24 children used their creativity to colour and decorate a Father's Day card and colour, decorate and fill a Dad's Goodie

# In the Libraries



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- 01 DIGITISING FAMILY PHOTOS WITH THE LATEST EQUIPMENT AT WOLLONDILLY LIBRARY
- 02 PORTRAITS PRODUCED AT A PORTRAIT-DRAWING WORKSHOP AT WOLLONDILLY LIBRARY

Bag. Everyone then enjoyed a tour through the Mobile Library. The Mobile Library hosts regular events like this throughout the year. It's a great way to attract new members and to showcase both our mobile vehicle and all of our library services.

This year the Father's Day Craft event was generously sponsored by the Friends of Wingecarribee Public Library.

**TRUDY ECCLESTON & JULIANA GLUMAC**  
Wingecarribee Public Libraries

## Wollondilly Library Service

### DIGITISING FAMILY PHOTOS SERVICE

Wollondilly Library Service is now offering a Digitising Family Photos service. Participants are invited to come to the library with their family photographs or any other images and memorabilia they wish to have digitised. Participants are then trained one-on-one by a skilled staff member to use the latest in digitisation equipment provided by the library. Participants are enabled to digitise, store and organise their treasured family photographs, images or memorabilia - be it a small collection of photos from a family holiday or a large project in preparation for an upcoming reunion. Wollondilly Library is providing this free service as it has recognised and is addressing the growing needs within the community both to have access to high quality digitisation equipment, as well as acquiring the skills required to effectively use it.



/02

### PORTRAIT DRAWING WORKSHOP

As part of National History Month, Wollondilly Library Service facilitated a portrait drawing workshop. Participants were taught by a local artist on how to sketch a realistic portrait from a family photograph using charcoal. The workshop taught and developed participants drawing techniques and charcoal skills to produce a range of very impressive family portraits. Participants were also provided with access to a range of library resources to enhance their artistic skills.

**CARMELINA NUNNARI**  
Wollondilly Library Service

## Wollongong City Libraries

### "REMEMBER WHEN" AT HELENSBURGH LIBRARY

On Wednesday 23 September, Helensburgh Library held an open day to "Remember When" the library opened in the early 1980s.

The day was full of activities including a visit from the fire truck, a sausage sizzle, a face painter, children's craft and story storms, a circus performance, a talk by the first permanent Helensburgh librarian, and performances by local musicians Fiddledance and Jennifer Taylor. Staff and visitors enjoyed dressing up 80s style, having a jig with the folk band and trying out some circus stunts. Prizes for a colouring competition and local historical places guessing competition were drawn.

The community loved the event. By the end of the day our door count stood at 882, which was five

visitors short of Wollongong Central Library for the day - very pleasing for our smallest library branch!

This and the smiles on our customers' faces were evidence of the great day had by all.

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**MARISA VERNON**  
Wollongong City Libraries

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### **NOEL BEDDOE AUTHOR TALK AT WARRAWONG LIBRARY**

Local author Noel Beddoe had the audience totally engaged as he spoke at Warrawong District Library in October. Noel shared some very personal stories and revealed a funny anecdote about why you should always proof read your work. "In *Six Gun Justice* by my nom de plume Buck McClure I had my hero come through the batwing doors of the saloon 'with a gun in each hand and a Bowie knife in the other'".

Noel Beddoe started his career as a high school teacher – the first of his family to attend university. He has worked as a high school principal for 20 years and has been involved in Aboriginal education for most of his adult life, becoming the inaugural chairperson of the Aboriginal Education Reference Group.

His book *On Cringila Hill* had an extra special meaning to the group as some who grew up in the area related so well, and there were others new to the area who thanked Noel for a story that helped them understand the weird and wonderful happenings of Cringila, Warrawong, Lake Heights and Port Kembla.

Warrawong District Library looks forward to hosting Noel again next year when he releases his new book *Linda* which tells the story of the extraordinary life of Deputy NSW Opposition Leader, the Honourable Linda Jean Burney.

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**CLARA WIEBERS**  
Wollongong City Libraries

## **Woollahra Libraries**

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### **NEW DOUBLE BAY LIBRARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES SURVEY**

In the lead up to the opening of the new Double Bay Library in early 2016, we surveyed our library customers in 2015 to see what kinds of events and activities they would like in the new library. Surprisingly, live musical performances and art exhibitions received the most favourable response,



AUTHOR NOEL BEDDOE  
SPEAKS AT WARRAWONG  
LIBRARY

with 86% of respondents indicating they would be likely or highly likely to attend this kind of cultural event. This confirms our suspicion that local residents want their new library to also be a cultural hub.

Other popular potential events included author talks, book clubs, and film screenings. The results of this survey will help us plan our program for 2016, with a number of fun cultural events planned. These evening events may be developed and curated by library staff or external partners who will bring new life and energy to our library programming and offer something a little different.

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### **AUTHOR TALK: DR NANCY UNDERHILL ON SIDNEY NOLAN**

On 1 October 2015, Woollahra Libraries hosted art historian Dr Nancy Underhill for a discussion on the life and art of Sidney Nolan. As Nolan's biographer, Dr Underhill has spent several months each year at *The Rodd*, Nolan's rural house in England, working with his papers and correspondence. With access to documents seen by few other historians, Dr Underhill has been able to sieve through the many stories and fabrications promoted by Nolan and tease the myth of the man from the reality. Both views offer fascinating insight into the life and work of possibly Australia's most famous artist and Dr Underhill's research has resulted in the book *Sidney Nolan: A Life*. Her presentation at Double Bay Library was both informative and visually impressive, with

# In the Libraries

many images of Nolan's work accompanying her recollections and stories of the man, as well as some expert explanations of the meaning of his paintings.

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**JENN MARTIN**  
Woollahra Libraries

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## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM AT WOOLLAHRA

The recent creation of a Library Volunteer Coordinator position, and appointment to the role, has supported rapid strides in development of the volunteer program at Woollahra Libraries. From early July implementation of a Library Volunteer Project Plan detailing recruitment, interview, induction, training and coordination processes has been in progress. Initially volunteer roles within Home Library Service and 'General Library Service' have been focussed on.

A significant growth in the number of volunteers at the Library has taken place: since July 2015, 98 volunteers have applied and 31 volunteers have been inducted. In November, a social event will be hosted for volunteers where both established and 'newcomers' can 'meet and mingle'. 'Welcome ambassadors' will receive training in the new year in readiness for the opening of the new Double Bay Library. Local History volunteer roles and other areas for volunteer contributions will become available at the new library location.

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**PAT MOORE**  
Woollahra Libraries

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## Wyong Library Service

### AMAZING PERFORMANCE

On August 24, in the middle of a thunderstorm, NZ veteran actor, Helen Moulder, performed her one woman play called *Gloria's Handbag*. The audience of nearly fifty were spellbound for two hours as Helen entertained us with six characters, operatic singing, audience participation and sleight of hand magic.

*Gloria's Handbag* is a tale set in the not so distant future, and it features an elderly lady coming to terms with all aspects of ageing. She has many prized possessions, but her only son thinks it is all junk. He wants to clear out all her things, sell her home and move her into a nursing home, but she finds a way to do things differently.

One of the many positive comments received was "Fabulous performer and show. Especially relevant for an ageing population faced with what to do with accumulated possessions from one's own and previous generations".

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**LYNDA SMITH**  
Bateau Bay Library



# Children's News

## REPORT FROM NORTH EAST ZONE CHILDREN'S & YOUTH SERVICES GROUP

The 2015 North East Zone Children's Services meeting was held recently at the Sir Earle Page Library and Education Centre, Grafton. It was a great opportunity to renew connections with a group of people who are passionate about providing quality library services.

With 16 different library services represented, there was a constant buzz as we exchanged ideas and experiences. The focus was on services to youth and we were fortunate that State Library of NSW Consultant Kate O'Grady was able to attend the meeting. Kate highlighted some key aspects of the services provided by State Library, including support for libraries in the form of focused e-lists, the provision of training and professional development opportunities, and the array of resources available via the State Library website.

The NE Zone group has met regularly since 2006. With a pooling of ideas and resources, we have been able to support each other to provide author visits, guest presenters, and regional training opportunities. We have also been able to share each other's ideas and repeat successful events and programs in other libraries within the zone. The group will continue to exchange ideas and information via our Facebook Group until we meet again in 2016, to celebrate 10 years of collaboration and friendship.

### JUDY ATKINSON

Coffs Harbour City Library  
On behalf of North East Zone Children's  
& Youth Services Group

## BOOK WEEK AT CITY OF CANTERBURY LIBRARIES

The theme for Book Week this year was "Books Light up our World" and the library featured events from 24 August with record attendance of 1,377 kids. Children and teachers had the chance to banter with Noni the Pony and learn about the shortlisted Australian authors and illustrators for this year. They also enjoyed performances of *Pig the Pug*, *Go to Sleep, Jessie!*, a Memory Game and received a copy of the Library-produced Book Week Activity Book, which included activities based on some of the shortlisted books as well as information about the City of Canterbury Libraries and a membership form.

### JEREMY MACPHERSON

City of Canterbury Library



MEMBERS OF THE NORTH EAST ZONE CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH SERVICES GROUP MEET AT GRAFTON

## THEATRESPORTS

Theatresports at Orange City Library proved popular during the school holidays with 100 children taking part in the junior and senior sessions over two days. For the first time a stage and back drop were set up at the back of the Library for the events.

Four sessions were held across two days with classes for 5 – 11 year-olds and then 11 year-olds and above. A competition between groups of four was held on the second day.

Games included death in a minute, taxi driver and party quirks. The classes were led by two drama teachers from Canobolas Rural Technology High School.

### JASMINE VIDLER Central West Libraries

## GLOBAL CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

Giant elephants, a rocket, robots, a castle and space station were just some of the creative projects made by about 30 children who took part in Orange City Library's Global Cardboard Challenge during the school holidays.

The event for ages 5 through to adults was held over two days with the theme *inspire, imagine and build* for day one followed up with *play and share* for day two.

Many children were assisted by a parent or carer who had just as much fun as the children making interesting creations. Many of the creations stayed in the library for display during the Orange Youth Arts Festival.

# Children's News

01 BUILDING WITH CARDBOARD: ORANGE CITY LIBRARY'S GLOBAL CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

02 COFFS HARBOUR CELEBRATED BOOK WEEK WITH LIGHTHOUSE THEMED DECORATIONS AND STORYTIME



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The Global Cardboard Challenge organised by the Imagination Foundation aims to get 100,000 children in 50 countries to use their imagination and creativity to make things from cardboard. Children of all ages are invited to build anything they can dream up using cardboard, recycled materials and imagination.

**JASMINE VIDLER**  
Central West Libraries

## BOOK WEEK AT COFFS HARBOUR LIBRARIES

Coffs Harbour City Libraries celebrated Children's Book Week 2015 from August 22 -28 with sessions for children well attended at the three branches. Those who attended – 140 people in total - enjoyed stories selected from the Children's Book Council of Australia

2015 shortlisted books as well as some well-rehearsed action songs followed by a book week themed craft. Honour book *Noni the Pony goes to the Beach* by author Alison Lester was a favourite with the kids as was Stephen Michael King's *Snail and Turtle are Friends*.

The theme for this year – “Books Light up our World” was the focus for displays at the branches. The lighthouse constructed out of cardboard was a focal point for children who visited the Harry Bailey Memorial Library during the week and was successful in drawing attention to the displayed 2015 Shortlisted books. The lighthouse theme was carried through to the regular craft sessions that follow each Storytime. Children were all well engaged creating their own collage lighthouse.

There was much anticipation amongst our regular borrowers (and staff!!) to discover which entries would be crowned with the winner and honour titles for the five categories. Much discussion ensued once the winners were announced!

The Storytime team look forward to next year's 70th anniversary of the first Book of the Year Awards and have already started gathering ideas for the 2016 Book week theme “Australia: Story Country”.

**SUSAN MCINNERNEY**  
Coffs Harbour City Libraries

## COOLAMON LIBRARY STORYTIME ON THE ROAD

Coolamon Library arranged a program titled *Storytime on the Road* during Local Government Week in August 2015. Storytime sessions were offered to the local preschools and public school within the Shire and the aim was to provide the children and staff at these schools the opportunity to be involved in Storytime. Due to their remote locations, many of the children are unable to attend regular Storytime sessions at the Coolamon Library and the children appreciated the opportunity to hear stories, sing songs and participate in craft activities. Library staff also handed out stickers and library bags during the visit. The children loved the visits so much they asked Library staff to come back next week! It is a great way to promote the Library and encourage membership for students and their families.

**HELEN MCLOUGHIN**  
Coolamon Library



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## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN AT HAWKESBURY LIBRARY

Hawkesbury Library held a number of very popular activities during the school holidays this year. Our recycled art workshops provided children with the opportunity to use their imaginations and creative skills to build robots and ‘Things That Go’ simply by using the contents of the recycling bin.

Children discovered and experienced the world of Indigenous people and their rich culture during NAIDOC Week with a workshop by An Indigenous Experience. The audience were captivated by the interesting facts, stories and music. The children especially enjoyed going outside to play with the boomerangs and various other traditional items such as spears and shields.

Inspired by the festivities of Halloween, we organised a Creepy Lab and Wicked Wounds workshop where participants made disgusting wounds whilst learning about the human anatomy. Although a success among the kids, we didn’t anticipate the mess!

Our biggest surprise during the most recent school holidays was the demand for our Paper Planes Workshop. What was originally only one program quickly expanded to three additional sessions. A total of 129 participants joined us in making a variety of paper planes which had their limits tested during our flying competition. Prizes were awarded to those who had their plane fly the furthest. This activity was a lovely tie in with our *Paper Planes* movie screening the following week.

**LAURA SAUNDERS**  
Hawkesbury Library Service



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## BOOKS BY THE BEACH AT KIAMA

As part of our Book Week celebrations, Kiama Library had a ‘Books by the Beach’ pop-up library at the weekly Kiama Farmers Markets at Black Beach, Kiama. We had a *Noni the Pony Goes to the Beach* book walk where kids could walk along and read the pages of the books on signposts, as well as a storytime for children. We were fortunate with a nice sunny day, and local residents really enjoyed it.

**MICHAEL DALITZ**  
Kiama Library

## BOOK WEEK AT KIAMA LIBRARY

Books lit up the world at Kiama Library during Book Week 2015, with many of the fantastic nominated book titles taking centre stage in the form of beautiful paper bag lanterns and strings of ‘peg’ lights displaying the shortlisted books’ covers. A Friendship Tree was ‘grown’ by the municipality’s children over the course of the week, with many children taking the opportunity to express how they could be a good friend to someone by writing on a paper leaf and adding it to the tree.

Over 500 children participated in a variety of activities including school visits to the library (with a Treasure Hunt and a Memory Game included!) and a special *Snail and Turtle are Friends* pre-school story time. Our focus was on friendship, caring for others and embracing differences in people, magnificently assisted by Irena Kobold’s *My Two Blankets*, our feature book for the week.

**ELIZABETH SKORULIS**  
Kiama Library

- 01 PAPER PLANES WORKSHOP AT HAWKESBURY LIBRARY
- 02 KIAMA LIBRARY’S BOOKS BY THE BEACH STORYTIME AND BOOK WALK

# Children's News

- 01 MAITLAND CITY LIBRARY'S STAR WARS-THEMED BOOK WEEK ROAD SHOW
- 02 COMEDIAN SEAN MURPHY ENTERTAINS CHILDREN AT COOMA LIBRARY

## NUMBER NINJAS MATHS PROGRAM AT LEICHHARDT

We wrote and presented an eight week maths program for an hour after school each Monday at both of our branches for 5 to 10 year olds. This was not a Homework Help program or a tutor style course of any kind.

We based our program on the Crazy 8's program which is conducted in USA. With the aid of emails giving us some fun ideas from the creators of that program and toys and games from Modern Teaching Aids, our program was centred on making maths enjoyable.

This first eight week course contained subjects like fractions, time, weights and measurements, shapes, probability, counting, multiplication and money. We capped our classes at 15 students for the eight weeks.

We attacked these classes from a similar angle that we approached with our Wiggle and Jiggle classes for our 2 to 3s: the program was meant to be fun but at the same time, you could learn something.

For our second instalment, we are doing a five week program. It has also been fine tuned, dropping three of the subjects that we had in favour of the ones that worked best.

I am sure that each time that we run the course, we will work out better and more fun ways of doing things. The toys and games are only one part of the program. We played clock patience as part of our "time" week. We created a supermarket for our money week from cans and old food boxes. We looked at the shapes around us in everyday life as well as playing games and making patterns.

It is only in its infancy. We are still finding our way. Numeracy and literacy can go hand in hand together, you just need to have a play with it.

**KAREN JOHNSON**  
Leichhardt Library Service

## MAITLAND LIBRARY HITS THE ROAD FOR BOOK WEEK

The Maitland City Library Book Week Road Show is an anticipated event, with schools, preschools and child care centres clamouring to see the Children's Book Week Road Show performances even before the invitations were sent. This year The Book Week Road Show visited 12 schools and performed 16 shows for 1,630 children, bringing the shortlisted books to life and promoting Australian books, authors and illustrators in a fun and engaging way.



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With two different Road Shows, one for Pre-schoolers to Year 2 and one for Year 3 to Year 6, there was something to entertain all. *Pig the Pug* was a crowd favourite for the younger children thanks to the wonderful acting abilities of our cast Kelly, Heather, Emma, Laurelle and Michelle. For the older children, there was an interactive version of *The A-Z of Convicts*. Both groups loved the *Star Wars* themed show opening and closing in which Darth Vader made appearances and was won over by the power of reading and how books can light up our life.

**DEBRA SOUTHWELL**  
Maitland City Library

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## SPRING HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT COOMA LIBRARY

Crowds of children enjoyed the September/October school holiday activities at Cooma and Bombala Libraries. *All Things Spring* was the theme, where over two weeks more than 50 children made wind catchers and decorated paper pots to germinate some sunflower seeds for spring. In a matter of 10 days sunflowers were popping up all over the place with many children excited about their blooms at home and ready to plant them in the garden for some huge flowers next month.

Comedian Sean Murphy entertained almost 100 children at both Cooma Library and in Jindabyne with hilarious tales about how to organise a kids' birthday party and what can go wrong!!! The event proved to be very entertaining and resulted in many giggles, laughter and some embarrassing moments!

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**IRA HENDRIKS**  
Monaro Regional Libraries

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## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT DUNDAS LIBRARY

September school holiday programs of Dundas Library were so popular that they got booked out within two days of being available on the online booking system. Over the two weeks of the holidays the younger members of Dundas Valley and surrounding areas were entertained with fun and yet educative programs which involved getting up close with native animals and making wooden Native American totems. Sydney Wildlife, a volunteer rescue organisation, presented a collection of interesting native animals. The children patted a possum, fed a blue tongue lizard and watched a tawny frogmouth and some more. They also showed how to rescue these animals. On another occasion colourful wooden totems were made which the children carried home proudly.

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**AMBAR & DUNDAS LIBRARY TEAM**  
Dundas Library  
Parramatta City Library

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## NAIDOC WEEK EVENT

On 8 July 2015 as part of the NAIDOC Week Celebration Constitution Hill Branch Library presented a performance by Chris Tobin. He enthralled the children by explaining to the kids how Aboriginal people lived, hunted for food, made fire and what they ate. Everything came from the bush.



Everyone had fun dancing and listening to Chris' stories about the Dreamtime and Aboriginal people.

CHILDREN AT DUNDAS LIBRARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS CREATE ANIMAL TOTEMS

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**JO BERTONCELJ**  
Constitution Hill Library  
Parramatta City Library

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## PPR READING DAY @ CONSTITUTION HILL BRANCH LIBRARY

Constitution Hill Branch Library hosted our Paint Parra REAd Reading Day on Friday 27 June 2015.

Paint Parra REAd is a community literacy strategy which aims to promote the importance of reading to, talking to, singing to and playing with children from birth.

We encouraged both children and their parents/caregivers during this session, to read to their children from birth.

The day started with a visit from REDSEE, singing and dancing with popular rhymes and songs, followed by storytelling and craft activities.

We had up to 30 children and 20 adults participate in this program. It was a great success.

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**JO, MAGDA, ZHORIK, ELIZABETH & BARBARA**  
The Constitution Hill Branch Team  
Parramatta City Library

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## QUEANBEYAN CELEBRATES BOOK WEEK

Queanbeyan City Library staff weren't "sleeping on the job" when they transformed their downstairs activity room into a bedroom, complete with bed,

# Children's News



QUEANBEYAN CELEBRATES BOOK WEEK WITH A SESSION FOR A LOCAL PRE-SCHOOL

bedside table, lamp, soft toys, framed book covers and a curtained window to present their Children's Book Week sessions. All the local schools were invited to create banners depicting the "Books Light up our World" theme which were attached to the bedroom walls. Enlarged photos of these were also displayed upstairs in the Children's area for all the public to admire.

There were 30 different sessions for local pre-schools and primary schools presented over a fortnight. They walked or travelled by bus to enjoy an hourly program of stories, games and a tour of the library displays upstairs.

Children's Librarian, Lynette Sebbens (still dressed in pyjamas after being woken up by each class group) used several significant props and animal puppets and invited individual children to help tell the story of *Scary Night* to each class. She then turned the bedside lamp down to low and told the cumulative tale of *A Dark, Dark Tale* and only managed to frighten a few children when a mouse jumped out of a box at the end!!

All children then enjoyed playing our "Lighten Up" flip book game which required them to correctly answer fun questions and complete challenges all based on lights, the world and reading to be able to lighten the world picture on each flip page. The final question was reserved for a teacher who had to identify where in the world a Queanbeyan Library

bag was (from a photo taken by staff on their overseas holiday). Each child received an original activity magazine and bookmark designed by library staff and fun sticker as a reminder of their library visit. A fun and lively time was had by all and many children returned after their visit eager to show their parents and siblings the displays.

**LYNETTE SEBBENS**  
Queanbeyan City Library

## FATHER'S DAY STORY TIME

Father's Day, that one day of the year when dads around the world enjoy being the centre of attention, showered with gifts and receiving breakfast in bed (usually burnt toast and cold coffee). It's also a great day for bonding with their children, and what better way than over a story or two and some silly dancing at a special Father's Day Story Time session which was held at Bexley Library branch on Saturday 6 September 2015.

I am always up for challenge myself and when approached by Rockdale Libraries' Children's and Youth Specialist, Heike Ohrmann, to run the program this year I said "yeah sure, no problem". Everything was arranged by the very talented staff at Rockdale Library, all I had to do was perform.

I expected a full house and that's what I received, 20 children and 20 adults including a smattering of dads filled the kids' section of the library. As always we start our Story Time session with the ringing of the triangle which I always have problems finding in my box of mysteries. Next we launched into an all-time favourite song, "Shake my sillies out" from the Play School CD which had all the kids jiggling about and a fair number of dads and mums too (I always love it when they join in), followed by a reading of *My Daddy is a Giant* by Carl Norac, a story that shows that even though dad will always win at football, you can always beat him at marbles because his fingers are just too big! Two more songs and one more story later and we were into the craft where some lovely "World's Best Dad" certificates were created and also faces were painted by the wonderful Miss Tippytoes.

The whole event had a party like atmosphere to it with loads of fun and laughter, face painting and copious amounts of sugar in the form cakes and biscuits.

**DAVID HALL**  
Rockdale City Library

## WINTER READING CHALLENGE IN THE HIGHLANDS

The Summer Reading Challenge 2015 had barely finished when our patrons started asking for the Winter Reading Challenge dates.

This year we asked participants to read at least five books and record the title and author on prepared snowflake templates. We used these snowflakes to create a Winter Wonderland display in our Children's areas of the libraries. There was certainly an overflow of snowflakes on display and they matched the heavy snow we received this year.

Given the popularity of this Challenge and the cold winter weather that makes it such a pleasure to read indoors, the Winter Reading Challenge has become a permanent fixture in our Children's Activities calendar.

**TRUDY ECCLESTON & JULIANA GLUMAC**  
Wingecarribee Public Libraries

## BOOK WEEK AT WOLLONDILLY

The Wollondilly Library Service again took their show on the road visiting 11 schools within Wollondilly Shire and performing presentations to over 2,000 students and teachers. Presentations included book talks, games, skits and activities to engage young people with the shortlisted titles and promote the library, its services and resources. To highlight the shortlisted title *Two Wolves* by Tristan Bancks, students were asked to contribute to The Seven Million Dollar School story which is published on Wollondilly Library Service's website and helps create links between the school and library communities.

**JULIE ABRAHAMS**  
Wollondilly Library Service

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - STEAMING AHEAD

Wollongong City Libraries are endeavouring to theme school holiday activities to include STEAM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths).

During the June - July holidays Wollongong City Libraries delivered Zombie film workshops, Sci-Fi film workshops, Lego science, toothbrush robots and electronic cards (using simple electronic circuits) to approximately 600 extremely enthusiastic children and youth.

All staff really enjoyed extending our capabilities, and the children and youth really enjoyed the sessions.

**LAURA GOMES**  
Wollongong City Libraries



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- 01 WINGECARRIBEE'S WINTER READING CHALLENGE
- 02 BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES AT WOLLONDILLY LIBRARY
- 03 WOLLONGONG CITY LIBRARIES' STEAMING AHEAD SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

# Children's News

## LAKE HAVEN BOOK WEEK DISPLAY

Lake Haven Library created a wonderful display for Book Week. The back drop was made from 1950s children's books, stitched on Branch Officer Emma Wheeler's sewing machine and glued together, a light bulb shape was cut out to form the back drop and hung separately.

The book was made from pages of a 1970s children's encyclopaedia. The letters were printed large and cut out and attached to wire springs.

The display was situated in the large window at the front of the library door and generated a lot of comment and discussion. People were fascinated by books that looked like the ones they had read as children!

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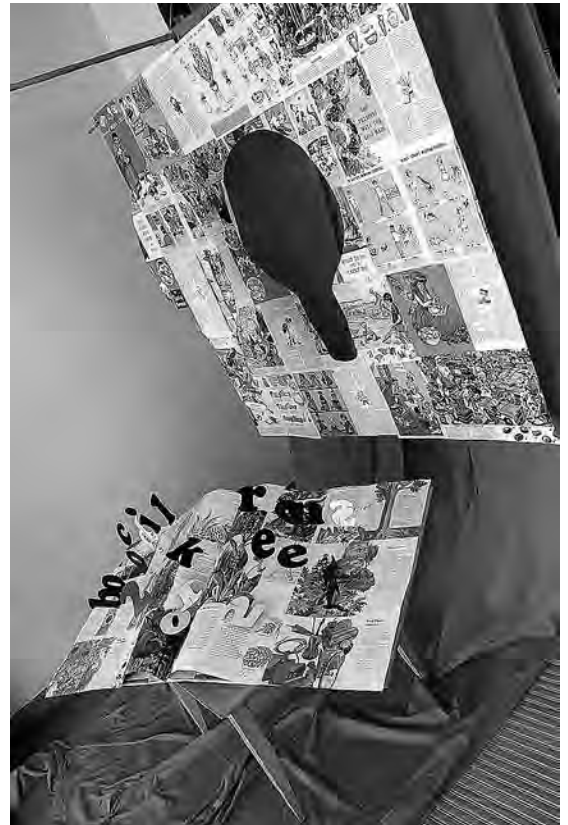
**MICHELLE GOLDSMITH**  
Wyong Library Service

## CARTOONING WORKSHOPS AT TUGGERAH

Australian TV cartoonist Dave Hackett returned to Tuggerah Library with two wonderful shows: Crazy animals and Cartooning with just five shapes. The show is aimed at 5-10 year olds and is very hands on – all participants have the opportunity to interact with Dave as he creates amazing cartoons on the whiteboard. Dave is a great performer, he is enthusiastic and engages with the young people in a very positive manner. He even managed to talk the parents and grandparents into trying their skills! Dave appears on TOASTED TV every Wednesday morning at 7am on Channel Eleven so there were lots of 'I know you!' from the audience.

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**MICHELLE GOLDSMITH**  
Wyong Library Service



LAKE HAVEN'S BOOK WEEK DISPLAY



# Young Adults Update

## FLASHBACK FASHION

To celebrate the State Library of NSW's touring photography exhibition *Flashback: 160 Years of Australian Fashion Photos*, Goulburn Mulwaree Library worked in conjunction with Goulburn Mulwaree Council's Youth Officer to provide a fun fashion event at the library.

FLASHBACK Fashion provided the young people of Goulburn with a social evening full of activities, including paper dress making, a clothing swap and book swap, along with a movie on the big screen, and food. We marketed the event through Facebook by creating different posters for each aspect of the night and posting them in the lead up to the event. The young people who attended the evening were very relaxed and enjoyed being in the library space, they made crafts and held their own fashion show from clothing swapped. Attendees created dresses from discarded books, magazines and newspapers that were displayed in the library after the event. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the exhibition and have a lot of fun.

**MICHELLE STUART**  
Goulburn Mulwaree Library

## LOUNGE ROOM HSC

Once again Great Lakes Library opened its doors to HSC students, providing quality time and space - a precious commodity in active families.

This year the Student Representative Council eagerly awaited our visit to discuss available dates for the nights. The students now anticipate and plan how they'll take advantage of the time to study in the library.

It is one of the simplest events the library hosts and the gratitude from the students is fantastic. It is also a great way to connect with youth, find out what is important to them in planning the new library youth space.

We find this age group the hardest to connect with we've learned that less is best. Open the space, address their needs; Wi-Fi, printing and food, add some trust, comfort, make them feel welcome



/01



/02

and success is ensured. This is also an awesome opportunity to create positive and memorable library experiences.

**MEREDITH CAMPBELL**  
Great Lakes Library

## DISCOVER AND GO AT THE HILLS

Understanding that it can be difficult for students to navigate and find authoritative information for homework, The Hills Shire Library Service developed 'Discover and Go', a series of informative hands-on sessions to show students in Years 6 and 11 how to access the library's online full-text journals, magazines, encyclopaedias and databases. These sessions were developed to be delivered in schools and in the library with an aim to show parents and

- 01 SOME OF THE PAPER FASHION DESIGNS AT GOULBURN MULWAREE LIBRARY'S FLASHBACK FASHION EVENT
- 02 HSC STUDENTS TAKE A BREAK FROM STUDYING AT GREAT LAKES LIBRARY



STUDENT FEEDBACK  
FROM KU-RING-GAI  
LIBRARY HSC LOCK-IN

kids how to find child-friendly information and support their independent homework research skills.

Since February 2014 over 600 students have attended a Discover and Go Session via 16 visits to schools across the Hills Shire. Very positive feedback from students and teachers encouraged us to continue these sessions which are now held across the five branches of the Hills Libraries.

In-house Discover and Go sessions have also been very successful. Emphasising the 24/7 access and free use (with library membership), response from students and parents has been very positive. The students themselves saw the benefits of using the databases and needed little encouragement once shown how to use them. An indicator of the success of the program is the increase in statistics we have enjoyed since starting the program. One eResource had a 950.72% increase in use and another had 97.78% increase in use.

Feedback from students has been very positive and include comments such as: "What I enjoyed most was that you can learn about everything the world/universe contains".

**ERICA WORT**  
The Hills Shire Library Service

### KU-RING-GAI LIBRARY HSC EVENTS

Ku-ring-gai Library hosted a talk by Rowan Kunz at its Gordon branch to help HSC students make best use of the month leading up to the exams. Rowan gave a great presentation and the feedback from students indicated how much they appreciated the event and what techniques they had not considered using before.

This was followed by a series of HSC lock-ins held over three nights, where over 240 students were given exclusive use of the library for extra hours after official closing times. Food and snacks were provided, plenty of study spaces were utilised and good

feedback received on how to enhance the program for next year.

**JOANNE POTTER**  
Ku-ring-gai Library

### YOUTH JOB CLUB

In March Parramatta City Library launched its first youth job club in partnership with Granville Youth and Community Recreation Centre and the Community Migrant Resource Centre to encourage and prepare young people to develop skills to make the search for their first job less daunting.

Youth Job Club is free and open to 15-20 year olds who meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month during school term at Parramatta City Library. Sessions focus on successful job search strategies, resume writing, interview skills, gaining skills with volunteering opportunities and pathways to further study. The club's focus is youth who are disadvantaged and at risk in our community. The club welcomes young job seekers who may be searching for their first opportunity into the workforce including young people from migrant or refugee backgrounds.

Since the launch of Youth Job Club, the program has successfully seen two local young people who were identified as being at risk find jobs in Parramatta Area.

**HIBA KANJ**  
Parramatta Library

### HSC LOCK-INS AT SINGLETON LIBRARY

Since discontinuing our *Your Tutor* subscription in 2013 through lack of use, Singleton Library has looked to utilise the funds to directly engage with local schools to support students in their studies.

Working in cooperation with our local Youth Venue we organised meetings with local high school principals in order to find how best we could use the funds to effectively support local students. Motivating them to learn and enhancing the curriculum was the main feedback from them.

We decided on a first year program of *The Surfing Scientist* Reuben Meerman, enthusing kids around studying science (he's excellent), Bell Shakespeare workshops as well as a visit by author and social researcher Maggie Hamilton. Maggie spoke to parents on how they can support their kids in the

early high school years. It was all well received with total attendance around the 1,500 mark.

The following year's program was also successful, while not quite attracting the same large numbers. It featured Steve Herrick (enthusiasing about poetry), Amal Awad (portrayal of Muslims in media) and Chris Turney (Scientific exploration). What the program did bring home was the sheer difficulty and time consuming nature of trying to coordinate our three local high schools in order for them to be able to participate equally in the program. Herding cats comes to mind!

This year began then with a focus on offering more practical assistance, without the need for coordinating schools. Four HSC 'lock-ins' were organised in the lead up to October's HSC exam period. We organised tutors to be present each night and wangled Domino's pizza into doing us a good deal on pizza deliveries for each of the nights. The tutors were selected around the topics suggested by the students themselves in the lead up to the program. They thought Maths, English and Science tutors would be most helpful. We thought that the pizzas would offer an added incentive to attend. On each night we wheeled out the coffee maker as well (teenagers like coffee! Just make sure you also have lots of sugar).

The library stayed open until 11pm each of the four nights. The sessions attracted a total of 122 students – a number we were very happy with. The highest attendance was 51 for the English session. Having the tutors was well worth the expense, the kids making good use of their services. The pizza was also proved a good idea. Delivered at 9pm allowed everyone to have a break and a refuel with most attendees sticking it out 'till closing.

The feedback has all been positive. It's actually been a really satisfying program. It's been well supported, has created a positive vibe for the Council in the community and it has been really nice to offer the kids some good, practical support at a time when they and their families really need it.

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**ROB STEWART**  
Singleton Library

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## DRUMMING NATION

One, two, three, GO! That was the cue for Drumming Nation to pound their djembes in perfect synchronicity live on stage, compelling spellbound onlookers to be inexorably drawn into the atavistic



rhythms that spoke to the very heart of their human nature.

Facilitated by the Wagga Wagga City Library, Drumming Nation brought together thirty 12-17 year olds to learn the djembe, a large West African drum played with the hands. The students, most of whom had no prior experience, were moulded into fine-tuned beat-masters by local djembe experts Frank Newal-Jarfoi, Sam Avo and Adrienne Roydhouse during a series of five seriously fun workshops.

The workshops culminated in Drumming Nation performing as the opening act at the annual Fusion15 festival, a celebration of multiculturalism and diversity in the Wagga Wagga community attended by over 10,000 people. The Wagga Wagga City Library was thrilled to contribute the mile-wide smiles on the faces of everyone involved.

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**MICHAEL SCUTTI**  
Wagga Wagga City Library

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## GIRL POWER

We have been very lucky to have Pam Northcoate run "Girl Power" on a number of occasions. The program is designed for tween girls to promote positive friendships and discuss body concerns. Pam recently facilitated another two sessions at Lake Haven and Tuggerah Libraries and the feedback was so good we jumped at the opportunity to have Pam talk about a Stress Free HSC. She discussed how important it is to allow time for relaxation during study periods. Pam took the group through some breathing exercises and mindful meditation and they came away refreshed and raring to go.

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**MICHELLE GOLDSMITH**  
Wyong Library Service

DRUMMING NATION  
AFRICAN DRUM  
WORKSHOP AT WAGGA  
WAGGA CITY LIBRARY

# Seniors News



## NEWCASTLE HAS “A TALENT TO AMUSE” SENIORS AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY

As a component of the ‘Creative Seeds’ Outreach Program, staff of the Newcastle Region Library collaborated with our City Library Living Treasure, Peter Trist, of Allegro Productions, and the Newcastle Art Gallery in the development and premier performance of “A Talent to Amuse.” Presented as part of Seniors Week 2015 “A Talent to Amuse”, an afternoon filled with the wit and music of Noel Coward, was written and directed by Peter Trist. Peter, a valued volunteer who gives his time and talents generously to the library, drew upon literary, video, and audio resources in the Newcastle Region Library collection as catalysts. These “Creative Seeds” were displayed at the event to raise awareness of the potential of our collections to inspire everyone in the community. The capacity audience of over 130 Seniors were entertained with songs played by Philip Sketchley on the Newcastle Art Gallery’s Start and Sons grand piano, and performed by Nola Wallace, Graeme Hands, Tayla Choice and Ben Freeman. After the performance there was a chance to catch up with friends and connect with new ones over a delicious afternoon tea.

**MARY GISSING**  
Newcastle Region Library

## SMARTPHONE SAVVY WORKSHOP SERIES AT WOLLONDILLY

During the month of September, Wollondilly Library Service facilitated a four week Smartphone Savvy Workshop Series. Participants were invited to bring in their smartphones and during the workshop series they learnt and developed a range of smartphone skills including calling, messaging, using touchscreens, downloading apps, accessing the internet, smartphone photography, sending emails and more. This was a very successful workshop series that enabled participants to learn new skills both from the library staff and each other. Participants grew in confidence by building on the skills learnt each week and feedback indicates that participants are now better able to use their smartphones to connect and communicate with their friends and family.

**CARMELINA NUNNARI**  
Wollondilly Library Service

“A TALENT TO AMUSE”  
AT NEWCASTLE REGION  
LIBRARY

# Multicultural News

## ASHFIELD LAUNCHES COMMUNITY COOKBOOK

On Thursday 15 October 2015 we held the launch for our community cookbook, *Appetites of Ashfield*. With over 60 recipes from over 40 contributors, the book celebrates good wholesome food and rich diverse recipes, each of which has a unique story and memories that are associated with the dish.

*Appetites of Ashfield* would not be possible without the State Library of NSW who provided 100% of funding through the NSW Local Special Project Grant.

Proceeds from sales of the book on launch night all went to Ozharvest, and we raised over \$650.

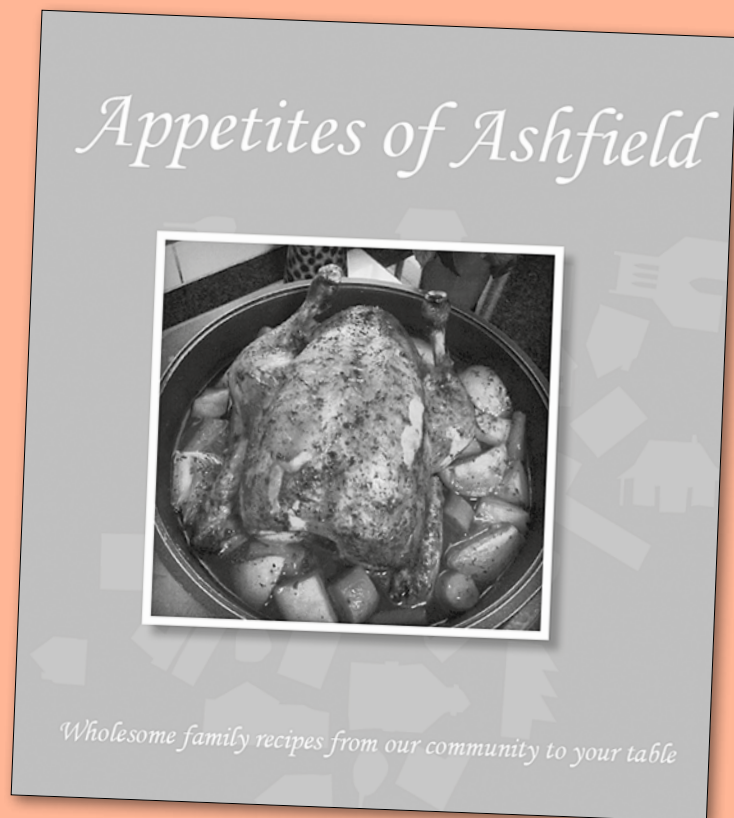
EMMA SUYASA  
Ashfield Library

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE CONVERSATION MEET AND GREET

Gosford City has a growing multicultural community. With a popular English Literacy collection and an increasing number of customers from non-English speaking backgrounds, an English Language Conversation Meet and Greet group was started in July this year.

The group meets fortnightly and has members that speak Chinese, Italian, Croatian, Russian and Korean at home. Most have lived in Australia for under one year and attend English language classes at TAFE. Staff members attended volunteer English language tutoring training at the local TAFE campus, gaining valuable skills and making contacts.

In the initial stages, two staff members facilitated the sessions, with each meeting having a particular theme of conversation, such as Cooking & Food or Leisure Time & Hobbies. After a few months, two volunteers began coordinating the group conversation.



Now in its fourth month, the English Language Conversation Meet and Greet attracts a mixed group for conversation and a light morning tea. Group members have also prepared food from their home countries, with pork dumplings proving to be a popular addition to the morning tea line up on one occasion. We are working to expand the group so it continues to provide an avenue of support for community members.

KIRA PAZNIKOV  
Gosford City Library

ASHFIELD'S COMMUNITY COOKBOOK APPETITES OF ASHFIELD

# Multicultural News

TECH SAVVY SENIORS  
TRAINING SESSION  
IN VIETNAMESE AT  
BANKSTOWN LIBRARY  
AND KNOWLEDGE  
CENTRE



## TECH SAVVY SENIORS AT BANKSTOWN

Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre was delighted to be one of 15 libraries successful in winning a grant from the NSW State Government and Telstra to conduct Tech Savvy classes for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Seniors this year.

The classes have been held in our purpose-built Training Room of the Library's Technology Centre. They have continually been fully booked.

Participants rapidly progress from being computer-shy novices to becoming more confident computer users in the space of only two hours.

The great news is staff have seen students return to the Library's Technology Centre to access and practise on library computers after the classes have ended.

Another highlight for Bankstown Library was the winning of a new iPad by one of our students, Mr Van Thanh Mac. Mr Mac was utterly speechless when told the news, and then expressed deep gratitude.

Bankstown is holding classes in Vietnamese, Cantonese and Arabic, and participants are keen for more.

The CALD Tech Savvy Seniors program has been excellent in providing targeted classes for the community, answering needs, and promoting social inclusion and participation; and the library has

been a positive agent of change and a fabulous local community resource.

**JANN DEBENHAM**  
Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre

## MANDARIN CLASSES AT ROCKDALE LIBRARY

Rockdale City Library has just finished its first successful term of weekly Mandarin Classes for Adult Beginners. These free classes are run in partnership with Sydney HSK Centre, who offer intermediate and advanced classes for students who wish to further their studies.

The students started with Yi Er San (1,2,3) then Ni hao (hello), and progressed to Ta nu er jin nian er shi sui (her daughter is 20 years old this year). The volunteer teacher is very experienced and enjoys teaching Mandarin in her local community and the students are very enthusiastic to learn Mandarin.

Some feedback comments from our students included "Thank you for the class. I enjoyed it" and "I need to practise more (my problem not yours!)".

With the success of our first term and the enthusiasm of our students, we will be starting another class in Term 4.

**STEPHANIE LEE**  
Rockdale City Library



## CELEBRATING CULTURES AT CAMPSIE

The City of Canterbury Library conducts regular cultural celebrations for the established and emerging community language groups in our City. The aim of these events is twofold; to ensure that Canterbury's non-English speaking background community feel that the library has a place in their lives, and to expose all library users to the different cultures within our community. Each year the library highlights an emerging culture. This year on 17 September the library celebrated Nepalese culture and welcomed the growing number of community members residing in Canterbury and to highlight their culture to the wider diverse community in our City. This was a very successful event celebrating the Nepalese community at Campsie Library with over 250 attendees and featured presentations, food and dancing.

**JEREMY MACPHERSON**  
City of Canterbury Library

PERFORMERS AT THE  
NEPALESE CULTURAL  
CELEBRATION AT  
CAMPSIE LIBRARY

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## IN THE STATE LIBRARY GALLERIES

### *Field of Flowers: Tributes from the Martin Place Siege*

Until 17 January 2016

Soon after the tragedy that has come to be known as the Martin Place siege, the first bouquet of flowers was placed in the vicinity of the Lindt Cafe. Over the following days, tens of thousands of people blanketed Martin Place with flowers, messages and other items in an outpouring of empathy and connection.

A year on, the *Field of Flowers* exhibition features a rich assortment of the tributes that were left at the makeshift memorial – evidence of a community united in mourning but determined on a positive future.

### *What a Life! Rock Photography by Tony Mott*

Until 7 February 2016

Australia's premier rock photographer, Tony Mott, has captured all aspects of the rock and roll lifestyle through his camera lens. An untrained photographer, he got his break with a photograph of Chrissie Amphlett, lead singer of the Divinyls. Mott went on to have over 30,000 photographs published in 20 countries and his images have appeared on the covers of 500 CDs, 400 posters and more than 900 magazines.

Mott was the photographer bands asked for and his portfolio features everyone from the Rolling Stones to members of the local independent band scene. From candid portraits to awe-inspiring live shots, Mott has a unique ability to connect with his subject.

### *Satire in the Time of War: Cartoons of Hal Eyre 1914–1918*

Until 28 February 2016

Hal Eyre began working as a cartoonist for *The Daily Telegraph* in 1908. The 357 original drawings he produced for the paper during World War I were purchased by the State Library of NSW in 1920. This collection depicts the war from a cartoonist's perspective. He satirised themes of national identity and political power plays and the disintegration of the great European powers as the world erupted in warfare.

### *Family Fragments: Photographic Etchings by Sally McInerney*

13 February to 8 May 2016

When photographer and writer Sally McInerney discovered a box of half-destroyed family photographs, she set out to piece these family fragments together. The photographs included six unpublished images by her late mother, Olive Cotton, one of Australia's greatest photographers.

Originally conceived as an artist book, the unfolding personal history of her late father Ross and the McInerney family offers a rare insight into a part of Australia's artistic past, all beautifully told through 37 haunting photo-etchings.

### *Imagine a City: 200 Years of Public Architecture in NSW*

20 February to 8 May 2016

Public buildings and spaces define our towns and cities. This fascinating exhibition explores the remarkable impact and legacy of our government architects since the early years of settlement. In their bicentenary year we look back at the influence this unique group of architects has had in creating many landmark buildings. The exhibition features a rich and rarely seen collection of original drawings, photographs, plans, paintings and models from both historic and contemporary times.

### *Celebration: Photographs of Jewish Communities*

1 March to 5 June 2016

Sydney-based Polish photographer D-Mo Zajac has been documenting refugee and migrant communities in Australia and overseas since 2010. Having recently discovered her own Jewish heritage, photographing the Jewish community was a personal journey for Zajac. Her intimate glimpses of religious and cultural events are on display in *Celebration: Photographs of Jewish Communities*, launched as part of Multicultural March.

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## DEADLINES FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

The deadlines for 2016 issues of *Public Library News* will be reviewed and provided in 2016.

Send all submissions to: [pl.news@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pl.news@sl.nsw.gov.au)