

Public Library News



STATE LIBRARY®
NEW SOUTH WALES

Volume 20 No 3
December 2014 – January 2015



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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the December – January issue of *Public Library News*. This month we feature a wrap-up of the celebrations for the 75th anniversary of the Library Act. Libraries across the State participated in a wide range of activities in November, thank you for sharing your stories and photos. Don't forget that you can catch up on all the celebrations on our blog, <http://libraryact75th.tumblr.com> or by searching on the #libraryact75th tag on social media.

This issue also highlights the events taking place at your libraries for History Week, Family History Month, Diwali, HSC preparation and World War 1 commemorations.

Thank you for all your contributions, we couldn't fit all your articles in the printed edition, but you can see all your photos on our *Public Library News* Pinterest board at www.pinterest.com/slnswpls/public-library-news/

Our next issue will focus on the centenary of the First World War and Anzac Day, so please send us articles about what your library has been doing or will be doing to commemorate the event.

EDWINA DUFFY



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Front cover image: #Bookface campaign at Hurstville Library, Museum & Gallery

Celebrating 75 Years!



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In the last issue of *Public Library News* we outlined our plans for the 75th anniversary of the Library Act celebrations. Since then the State Library and public libraries have celebrated through a range of activities, from cutting cakes to capturing memories to considering the future of public libraries.

Spreading the word

In order for libraries to generate excitement about the 75th anniversary of the Library Act, we needed to spread the word.

We produced a Celebrating 75 Years toolkit for libraries, which outlined a history of the Library Act, suggested activities to celebrate the anniversary, poster templates and media release templates.

We also used social media, setting up our Libraryact75th blog <http://libraryact75th.tumblr.com> and using the hashtag #libraryact75th on Twitter.

On 1 October we kicked off our #libraryaday campaign, a call out to each NSW public library service on Twitter via @statelibrarynsw throughout the month of October.

We integrated the campaign across other social media platforms, using our Libraryact75th blog and the State Library Facebook page.

There was a great response from libraries to #libraryaday, with libraries tweeting about the campaign, their own library service and other library services.

The campaign was even mentioned in ALIA weekly and made it onto the list of Great Oz Government tweets on 1 October.



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Cake overload

29 library services cut cake and hosted a range of celebration events on 3 November.

The Library Act was passed by State Parliament in the early hours of 3 November 1939. The last debate in parliament was recorded at 2.49am, but most libraries celebrated at a more reasonable hour.

Here's just a snapshot of the activity: the State Library hosted afternoon tea for staff; Hunter and Central Coast libraries hosted a simultaneous cake cutting at 10.30 am; Parramatta turned the heat up with some anniversary zumba; City of Canada Bay held a display of old and new photos of their branches, and shared 50 quotes about libraries and librarians; ABC Central West broadcast from Central West Libraries in Orange with guest speakers and a tower of cupcakes; and Gilgandra gave away free library bags.

In the words of one librarian, it was cake overload!

We encouraged libraries to share photos of their celebrations on social media using #libraryact75th. As well as all the beautifully decorated cakes, it was great to see libraries carrying out the activities suggested in the Celebrating 75 Years toolkit, using the 75th anniversary branding in their marketing materials and displays, and receiving local media coverage.

You can read about library celebrations from page 4 onwards or on the Libraryact75th blog.

- 01 STATE LIBRARIAN ALEX BYRNE AND MEMBERS OF THE LIBRARY COUNCIL MAXINE BRENNER, BANKSTOWN DEPUTY MAYOR CLR ALLAN WINTERBOTTOM AND JOHN VALLANCE CUT THE ANNIVERSARY CAKE ON 3 NOVEMBER AT BANKSTOWN LIBRARY
- 02 BELLINGEN LIBRARY'S CELEBRATION CAKE
- 03 IN THE WORDS OF ONE LIBRARIAN, CAKE OVERLOAD!



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Libraries for the People

The State Library hosted the 11th Australian Library History Forum on 18 and 19 November. The theme for this year's Forum, Libraries for the People, was inspired by the anniversary of the Library Act, and the growth public of libraries not just in NSW, but across Australia, following the passage of the Act.

There was a diverse range of speakers – from current and former State Librarians, students, librarians, historians and barristers – who spoke on a range of topics from the early development of Australian libraries to library architecture to political wrangling and personalities.

A highlight of the Forum was the opening and close-up inspection of the decorated southern doors of the Mitchell Reading Room, which have remained closed for many years.

The papers presented at the Forum are available at www.sl.nsw.gov.au/libraryact75th

Thank you to Forum co-conveners David Jones and Anne Doherty.

Gala event

The State Library hosted a special event on 17 November to celebrate the 75th anniversary and the partnership between State and local government in delivering a state-wide network of public libraries.

State Librarian Alex Byrne announced the roll-out of an innovative initiative allowing public library clients to access the State Library's eresource collection with their own library cards.

PLCC Chair Jan Richards spoke on behalf of NSW public libraries and Geoff Provest, MP and Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier, spoke on behalf of the State Government.

Oral history

To celebrate 75 years of public libraries in NSW, libraries carried out oral history interviews with former library managers and staff to record their memories of NSW public libraries.

We held a training day in September and produced a handbook for libraries, providing inspiration and best practice guidelines for carrying out oral history interviews (the handbook is available to download at www.sl.nsw.gov.au/libraryact75th).

The oral histories will become part of a special commemorative 75th anniversary of the Library Act oral history collection at the State Library. We will also feature clips on our Libraryact75th blog.

We look forward to sharing the oral histories with the public library network in early 2015.

Digitisation

As part of the 75th anniversary program we have digitised a range of images and documents relating to the Library Act from the State Library's collection.

We found some great photos of libraries from the 1940s-80s in the State Library's corporate records, which had been published in Library Board annual reports from the 1940s-80s.

We digitised over 100 images, and shared them via our Celebrating 75 Years Pinterest board <http://www.pinterest.com/slswpl/celebrating-75-years/>

We asked libraries to share their own photos, and had a great response. Our Pinterest board now has 171 followers, and more than 15 libraries have shared 130 of their own photos.

We also digitised the some keys documents related to the passage of the Library Act, which are available to view online via the State Library's catalogue:

- The Munn-Pitt report of 1935
- The Libraries Advisory Committee report and the draft Library Bill of 1939
- The Library Act 1939

- 01 DAVID JONES OPENS THE AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY HISTORY FORUM
- 02 EDWINA DUFFY CUTS THE CAKE AT THE STATE LIBRARY WITH STATE LIBRARIAN ALEX BYRNE
- 03 MAITLAND CITY LIBRARY RUTHERFORD BRANCH, TEAM LEADER MAGGIE LEAYR AND ADDRARNA COOPER CUT THE CAKE
- 04 MONARO CELEBRATES WITH CUPCAKES
- 05 VISITORS TO CLARENCE REGIONAL LIBRARY SHARE WHAT THEY LOVE ABOUT THEIR LIBRARY
- 06 THE CANTERBURY COMMUNITY TELLS THEIR BEST LIBRARY MEMORIES



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State Library volunteer Gay Windeyer volunteer has been helping us to find, tag, list and correct text of newspaper articles relating to the Free Library Movement and the Library Act on Trove. You can search for the “75th anniversary of the NSW Library Act 1939” list on Trove to find articles from newspapers across NSW.

Building on the Bookends

As well as celebrating the past, we look towards the future of NSW public libraries.

In 2009 the State Library carried out a research project called the Bookends Scenarios, which developed a set of scenarios, or possible futures, for the NSW public library network over the next 20 years.

This year we wanted to build on the work done in 2009, to explore which scenarios might be emerging and what libraries should be doing in response to these scenarios.

The project has involved carrying out desk based research, interviews with key library stakeholders, and workshops with over 50 participants from the public library network.

A report will be published in 2015 that will summarise which scenarios are emerging, factors that might impact public libraries and possible strategies to address them.

The 75th anniversary program has been a great success, and it was fantastic to see so many libraries taking part in activities. We look forward to more opportunities for the network to work together in 2015.

Don't forget, you can follow all the activity on our Libraryact75th blog <http://libraryact75th.tumblr.com> or on social media using #libraryact75th

EDWINA DUFFY

Project Officer, State Library of NSW



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Double celebrations at Bogan Shire

The Bogan Shire Library celebrated the launch of our “New people space library” refurbishment, funded through State Library Grant funding, and the 75th Anniversary of the Library Act on Thursday 23 October with a morning tea.

The Bogan Shire Council adopted the NSW Library Act 1939 on 26 January 1972 which provided a free library service to the community. Provision of free public library services had long been acknowledged as an appropriate function of local government and the Nyngan Municipal library was opened in August 1971, becoming the Bogan Shire Library in January 1972 with council amalgamation.

The first librarian under the NSW Library Act was Mrs Sue Harvey who was there to help us celebrate our new look library and the 75th Anniversary of the NSW Library Act. When Sue was given her position as Bogan Shire Librarian the library books were still in boxes, there was no desk or phone and there were some old grey shelves placed around the room. She was instructed to set up the library. A far cry from what it looks like today. Sue assisted with cutting the Anniversary Cake.

It seemed appropriate to celebrate these two events together to take our Library service into the future with a fantastic library that will provide our community with all its many needs for years to come.

—
MARIA KINSEY
Bogan Shire Library

75th anniversary celebrations at Canterbury

The Canterbury community celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Library Act with a number of activities across our branches. The monster book sale at Campsie Library was very popular as was the sausage sizzle and celebratory cake (our community loves food!). We asked members of the public to tell us what they liked about the library and we had a wonderful response.

Here are some of the responses:

“Thank you to all the staff. Love coming to Campsie Library. Helps get me out of the house, helped me with my depression. Love reading, DVDs, Cook Books. Thanks heaps.”

“The most wonderful place in the community where my kids grew up and enjoyed cultural programs, book clubs and wonderful staff.”

The celebrations gave us the opportunity of engaging with our community in a different way whilst at the same time having fun. We look forward to our 70th birthday celebrations in December 2015.

—
PAULA PFOEFFER
City of Canterbury Library

Such lovely words, we're blushing! CYA tell us what they really think!

On the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Library Act we decided to ask our young people what THEY loved about the library. We had 45 eager responders who were willing to exchange their words of love for a piece of delicious cake.

We were surprised at how insightful some of the responses were and how our children notice and appreciate our efforts to be more than a place that loans books and computer use.

Responses were in the main unprompted. One little girl told us she came to the library every day with her mother but didn't like it and hated EVERY book her mother borrowed for her. Fortunately she had attended one of our Book Week performances and did like it. WHEW!

This is a selection of those unprompted responses: "I love the library because it's a free facility and every one can be a part of it."

"I love the library because it brings people together and make new friends too. Whether its game or a place to get away from homework its lovely."

While we're always happy to do what we do... Having proof that what we do is meaningful and appreciated is really wonderful.

CHERYL DODSON
City of Canterbury Library

Celebrating 75 Years at Central West Libraries

On 3 November the seven Central West Libraries branches joined with public libraries across the state in a cake inspired, sugar frenzy to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the passing of the Library Act. Well that's not strictly true, as Canowindra Library isn't open on Mondays they held an afternoon tea the next day which to coincided with the running of the Melbourne Cup.

In Orange we were also fortunate to have the ABC Central West broadcast from our information desk with morning show presenter Angela Owens interviewing a range of people about the history and relevance of the Library. This included an interview with Library Council member and Orange resident, Michael Caulfield.

One interviewee who captured the audience's imagination was library supporter, Jenny King. As Jennifer Caro she joined Orange City Library on the day it opened in November 1956. What's more she can still remember the first book she borrowed from the Library (*The Valley of Adventure* by Enid Blyton). We were delighted to be able to surprise Jenny with an article from the *Central Western Daily* 24 August 1957 where she is photographed borrowing books at the beginning of the school holidays – goes to prove that the Library indeed has all the answers!

JAN RICHARDS
Central West Libraries



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- 01 MARIA KINSEY, BOGAN SHIRE LIBRARY MANAGER, AND SUE HARVEY, THE FIRST BOGAN SHIRE LIBRARY LIBRARIAN, CUT THE CAKE
- 02 CANTERBURY CELEBRATES WITH A SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND CAKE
- 03 YOUNG PEOPLE SHARE WHY THEY LOVE CANTERBURY LIBRARY
- 04 ANGELA OWENS FROM ABC CENTRAL WEST INTERVIEWS LONG-TIME LIBRARY SUPPORTER JENNY KING
- 05 ONE OF CENTRAL WEST LIBRARIES' FIRST EMPLOYEES, JUDY NICHOLAS, PREPARING BOOKS

Recounting the Past

In conjunction with the celebrations around 75 years of the Library Act Central West Libraries staff have embarked on an ambitious program to research and record the Library's history since its inception in 1956. A key component of this has been a series of oral history recordings with key people who have been involved with the Library over this period.

Armed with the confidence afforded by the State Library's Oral History workshop our first interview was with Judy Dervin (nee Nicholas). Judy was one of the Library's initial employees who, together with Joan Barry, was sent to Sydney and trained at the State Library of New South Wales before returning to Orange to work with City Librarian Frank Millington in developing and opening the Library.

Buoyed by the success of our visit to Judy our next foray into the world of reminiscing necessitated a trip to the Central Coast to catch up with long-time bookmobile driver, Terry Perks. Terry (or Mr P as he is affectionately known) looms large in Library memory and our interview with him did not disappoint as we were regaled with tales of the personalities and landscapes of the Central West Libraries footprint in the 60s and 70s. This included stories of how the nuns at one school would bake scones in anticipation of the mobile's visit and



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- 01 CAKE AT THE SIR EARLE PAGE LIBRARY AND EDUCATION CENTRE GRAFTON
- 02 THE BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED AND TASTY CAKE AT BELLINGEN LIBRARY HURSTVILLE
- 03 LIBRARY, MUSEUM & GALLERY CELEBRATES THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY WITH #BOOKFACE
- 04 LAKE MAC'S ANNIVERSARY CAKE
- 05 LIVERPOOL CELEBRATES THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY WITH A PICTORIAL RETROSPECTIVE OF THE LIBRARY

the use of the service as an exchange service for freshly plucked chickens. While we no longer have a bookmobile service it was an essential part of this Library's early service ethos and this is reflected in our conversation with Mr P.

Both Judy and Terry were delighted to share their stories and it was a real privilege for us to spend time with them. Their words have really personalised the Library's history and given us an appreciation of the input that has gone into nearly 60 years of library provision in the Central West. Our interviews will be sent to the State Library for inclusion in their archive.

VICTORIA PRESTWIDGE AND PETER DOUGLASS
Central West Libraries

Clarence Regional Library celebrates 75 years

Morning tea was celebrated at the Sir Earle Page Library and Education Centre in Grafton on Monday 3 November to kick off the month of activities. At the morning tea local Historian Nola Mackey delivered a presentation of the history of the library service in Grafton. Grafton adopted the Act on 17/1/1944 and the Library service began 12/2/1945. However there were various subscription and circulating libraries from as far back as 1858 when the Grafton School of Arts elected James Page to the honorary position of Librarian, at this stage several men were loaning their own private books to the membership of the School of Arts (Nola Mackey 3 November 2014). Representatives from the local historical societies, local Anglican College staff and student reps, staff, volunteers and community members all enjoyed the red velvet cake and the heart shaped orange chocolates presented at the morning tea.

Bellingen Library celebrated with a Morning Tea on Tuesday 4 November. The Mayor, local councillors, council staff and members of the community, joined in the 75th Anniversary of the Library Act with the cutting of a cake. Beautifully decorated and even better to taste, the cake did not last long. The Mayor and members of the community spoke about what the Bellingen Library

means to them and its importance for the Bellingen community.

All libraries in the Clarence Regional Library launched the "what do you love about your library?" activity where post-it notes were provided for members of the community to write down what they love about their library and post-it to the display board surrounding the poster through the month of November.

Each day in November the library's Facebook will be posted with posts highlighting the various services and activities available in our libraries. The Facebook cover image and profile picture are themed with the 75 anniversary logo images to link the Library Facebook page to the wider celebrations from the State Library.

KATHRYN BREWARD
Clarence Regional Library

Grenfell celebrates

Grenfell Public Library celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Library Act with a display of newspaper clippings and Council documents relating to the history of the library and a slice of birthday cake for all library members visiting the library on the day. It was interesting – and rather challenging! – to see how much greater stock circulation there was forty to fifty years ago when population density was higher and there were fewer entertainment options available to residents ...

ANNE GAULT
Grenfell Public Library

#Bookface at Hurstville

As a part of the 75th anniversary of the Library Act, Hurstville Library, Museum & Gallery held a #Bookface campaign! What is a Bookface you ask? Put very simply, it involves you finding a cover of a book that in some alternate universe, could replace your face. The more creative, the better!

Hurstville Library, Museum & Gallery staff and volunteers had such a brilliant time taking these



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photos and posting them on our social media. So many people became involved and found many opportunities to review their favourite books.

The aim of the game was for staff members, volunteers, and members of the public to take a creative Bookface photo, post it to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #Bookface and tag @hurstvilleimg to get involved.

This is an ongoing campaign but was brought into action on the 75th anniversary of the Library Act. We are having too much fun. Feel free to join us!

HOLLY REES
Hurstville Library, Museum & Gallery

Lake Mac celebrates

Lake Mac Libraries celebrated the 75th Anniversary with morning tea events and special displays at our eleven branches.

Mayor of Lake Macquarie, Councillor Jodie Harrison, joined in the celebrations and interacted with borrowers at our Belmont branch.

Photo montages and library memorabilia were displayed at all branches. Borrowers and staff were invited to record oral histories, reflecting on their memories and experiences with Lake Mac Libraries.

GILLIAN WILSON
Lake Mac Libraries

75th anniversary at Liverpool

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Library Act, here at Liverpool Library, we decided to offer a pictorial retrospective of the Library over the years. We delved deep into our picture collection to find images that displayed the character of the library and the proud progress we've made. Many hours were spent reminiscing about the Library and narrowing the search to find the pictures we wanted to use wasn't easy!

Liverpool Council adopted the Library Act in November of 1949. Starting with images of the very first public library in Liverpool, a children's library set up in the School of Arts building in 1956, we then



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followed the progress of the Library over the years since. From the first Council library in the old Town Hall building, complete with images of the card catalogue and old check out procedures, through to the building of the new purpose built library in 1986 and the renovations that followed in 1997, we highlighted technology in the library and pointed out some of the achievements of both the Central library and its branches.

Liverpool's branches at Casula, Green Valley, Miller and Moorebank were not forgotten as we displayed photographs of these buildings under construction and changes made to the branches over the years. We also celebrated the services offered by these libraries, including the home library service and the Liverpool Regional Museum.

It has been gratifying to see both our customers and staff enjoy the pictures and the trip down memory lane as they have followed the changes our libraries have undergone since the 1950s.

DONNA EDGAR
Liverpool City Library

Celebrating 75 years at Maitland

For the 75th celebrations Maitland City Library joined public libraries across the Hunter and Central Coast in a simultaneous cake cutting at 10.30am on Monday 3 November. Each of our four branches at East Maitland, Maitland, Rutherford and Thornton hosted a morning tea, the star of which was a delicious jaffa cake featuring the Celebrating 75 Years banner on top, because after all, there is no more apt way to celebrate a library milestone than with a lot of cake!

The event was well supported by local paper Maitland Mercury. The morning teas were enjoyed by young and old, including storytime participants, pre-schoolers and members of the U3A courses. Councillor Robert Aitchison cut the cake at our East Maitland branch.

Maitland City Council adopted the Act on 4 May 1945 and commenced a library service 17 December



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1946. We were the 30th Council to adopt the Act and the 35th Council to begin a library service. The 75th celebrations prompted Maitland City Library to create a timeline of important milestones in the history of our library service. This can be viewed on our website at <http://www.maitland.nsw.gov.au/Library/YourLibrary/libraryhistory>

A big thank you to Ann Waldeback and Kelly Shankley-Price for their tireless and enthusiastic work on the timeline project.

REBECCA COWIE
Maitland City Library

Monaro Regional Libraries enlist local living treasure for 75th celebrations

A large crowd gathered at Cooma Library on 26 November to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the NSW Library Act. Library patrons and special guests from across the community joined Monaro Regional Library staff for morning tea. The amazing cupcakes were a fabulous addition to the morning, but the highlight was special guest, local retired Cooma-Monaro Shire Councillor Mrs Betty Mattner.

Betty was one of the instigators in establishing the Country Public Libraries Association. She enthralled us with her tales, which included the inaugural meeting of the CPLA, held in Parkes in 1989.

Cooma Council adopted the NSW Library Act in 1943 and opened a small branch. In 1963 the Monaro Regional Library agreement between Cooma, Snowy River and Bombala Councils was signed. This saw the first Mobile Library Service in the region, and Betty has been a member ever since. She joined the library in 1963, with her family who had moved to the Snowy Mountains for work on the Snowy Hydro Scheme.

Betty recounted how the Mobile Library Service meant so much to small communities of workers and their families living in tough and isolated conditions during the construction of the Snowy Hydro Electro Scheme throughout the Snowy Mountains region.

MRL Manager Pam Veiss told the guests that whilst the current Mobile Service has a different route, isolated, small and outlying townships across the Monaro and Snowy Mountains continue to utilise the Service. "Over the last two years we have seen an increase of over 2000 loans for the Mobile Service in these communities as well as a greater usage of computers and eresources, and a steady increase in membership".

KATH FREIHAUT
Monaro Regional Libraries



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Celebrating 75 years at Parramatta

Parramatta City Library celebrated 75 years of NSW Public Libraries by running a 'Design a Bookmark Competition'. Entries were received in three categories: 8-12 years, 13-17 years and 18 & over.

Five prizes were awarded and the winning designs were printed and distributed throughout Parramatta City Library Service. On Monday 3 November 2014 the lucky winners attended a presentation where they were presented with certificates and prizes including movie tickets, iTunes cards and Parramatta City Library's colourful recycled library bags filled with some great reads.

The same evening Parramatta Library held a Zumba class, another fun thing to do in the library!

Parramatta Library also highlighted changes in public libraries through a wonderful display where bookmarks designed by winners are on show.

Guildford Branch also ran a series of programs to celebrate with refreshments, a book chat and poetry competition. A poetry reading day presented a wide range of interests of local 'poets', kids with their parents, who really enjoyed the pleasure of poetry.

YAN ZHANG
Parramatta City Library

Randwick celebrates

The 75th anniversary of the NSW Library Act 1939 provided a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the history and growth of public libraries over the last 75 years, especially that of Randwick City Library.

To mark the occasion, a delicious morning tea was held simultaneously across Randwick City Library's three branches: Margaret Martin Library in Randwick, Bowen Library in Maroubra and the Malabar Community Library in Matraville. Library patrons shared personal stories of their connection to the Library as they indulged in cupcakes decorated with the Randwick City Library and 75th

Anniversary logos. Patrons were encouraged to make a gold coin donation, with a total of \$97 raised for The Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation.

Additional activity included a message board at Bowen Library where patrons were asked to write a message answering the question of "Why did you come to the Library today?" and stick it on the wall. The completed wall formed a collection of stories to showcase the role libraries play in our community and was shared on the Randwick City Library website.

The Library's local history librarians also compiled a detailed history of Randwick City Library tracking Council's first commitment to establish a municipal library in Kingsford in 1945 through to 2014, where the Library is truly 'the third space' for many generations of the local community, from babies to seniors.

ERIC WORT
Randwick City Library

Why the Wagga community loves their library

To celebrate the introduction of free libraries in NSW the Wagga community were invited to join library staff for a special 75th Anniversary of the Library Act Morning Tea on Monday 3 November. A feature of the event was the opportunity for members to talk to staff about why they love their library and also to write comments on sticky notes.

Sample comments:

"Wagga Library is FANTASTIC! It supports so many aspects of community life - here's to MORE funding - not cuts!"

"We just returned from a trip to China when we sailed down the Yangtze River practising our Mandarin which we learned by listening to Chinese language cds that we borrowed from the library."

"Libraries are the most important cultural institution in any town or city."

- 01 STAFF FROM THORNTON LIBRARY, A BRANCH OF MAITLAND CITY LIBRARY SERVICE, TAKE PART IN THE SIMULTANEOUS CAKE CUTTING
- 02 BETTY MATTNER SPEAKS AT COOMA LIBRARY
- 03 RANDWICK CELEBRATES THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBRARY ACT WITH A MESSAGE WALL
- 04 ONE OF THE WINNING BOOKMARKS FROM PARRAMATTA'S BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION



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01 A VISITOR ENJOYS THE TASTY TREATS ON OFFER AT WAGGA WAGGA CITY LIBRARY

02 WOLLONDILLY CELEBRATES THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBRARY ACT WITH CAKE AND A MORNING TEA

“The Staff are so helpful and hardworking. Great place – inclusive and friendly.”

You can see a blog post for 75th Anniversary at <http://memoriesofwagga.blogspot.com.au/>

—
CLAIRE CAMPBELL AND SARAH HOFSTEEDE
 Wagga Wagga City Library

Willoughby celebrates 75 years of NSW public libraries

Did you know that iconic films *The Wizard of Oz* and *Gone with the Wind* both premiered in 1939? Famous Australians Germaine Greer, Murray Rose, Phillip Adams, Brett Whiteley and Clive James were all born in 1939? Or that Frank Sinatra made his recording debut in 1939?

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Library Act, Chatswood Library created displays to highlight not only the significance of the *Library Act*, but other world events and well known Australians that also celebrate 75 years in 2014.

The Wizard of Oz display was a fun assembly of film memorabilia – such as figurines, posters and costumes (on loan from the private collections of staff), displayed alongside books, cds, dvds, music scores and graphic novels from the library collection.

Celebrating 75 years was a great opportunity to showcase the diverse collection of items public libraries have available for free lending, and the dynamic services and programs that we all continue to offer our communities.

—
LIZ PARKER
 Willoughby Library

75th anniversary at Wollondilly

Wollondilly Library Service hosted a morning tea to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Library Act, the landmark legislation that led to the provision of free public library services. A crowd of enthusiastic and library loving members of the Wollondilly community came to Picton Library to mark this historic occasion, enjoying cake and conversation.

—
GEORGINA KONSTANTA
 Wollondilly Library Service

New state-wide initiative

The State Library of NSW has partnered with public libraries across the state to roll out an exciting new initiative to give public library members 24/7 access to a wide range of online resources.

This program will enable anyone in NSW with a public library card to register as a State Library member and access the Library's purchased eresources free of charge. On offer is a wide range of eresources that complement those already held by NSW public libraries, including full text perpetual historical monograph and newspaper collections, business information, international newspapers and much more.

Access to the State library's eresources will be rolled out to participating public libraries from 3 December 2014.

To gain immediate access to the State Library's eresources, public library clients need simply go to the eresources web page on the State Library website to register with the State Library using their local library card. Following registration with their public library membership card, your client will only need to enter in their membership card number at the beginning of subsequent sessions to gain access to the eresources.

Pull-up banners promoting this initiative have been sent to participating public libraries along with a selection of web graphics, a jpeg image, to post onto your Council/Library website linking clients to the State Library's eresources access web page.

An online change request form and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on this topic are available on the NSW.net website.

If your Library isn't yet participating in this initiative and would like to, please contact the NSW.net team.

JOYCE AZZOPARDI
Manager, NSW.net Services



PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE DEPUTY PREMIER, GEOFF PROVEST MP, AND STATE LIBRARIAN ALEX BYRNE AT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ERESOURCES INITIATIVE ON 17 NOVEMBER

Albury LibraryMuseum wins award

Congratulations to Albury LibraryMuseum, the deserving winner of the 2014 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. Carina Clement and Michelle Head from the LibraryMuseum were presented with their Award trophy at the NSW Law and Justice Foundation's Justice Awards dinner at Parliament House on Wednesday 29 October.

Their winning program was the *Crime Scene at the LibraryMuseum*, a fun, family Law Week activity that had its serious side as well. Albury LibraryMuseum team members worked with a local actor and secondary school forensic science students to develop a crime scene scenario at the LibraryMuseum. A murder in the museum was staged, with the students and actor all playing various characters – including dead bodies, museum workers, visitors to the museum and detectives. Various clues (and red herrings) were laid out throughout the LibraryMuseum with a visit to the Find Legal Answers collection an essential step in “solving” the murder.

This event was part of a larger program of Law Week Events held in cooperation with the local Law Society and Legal Centre. Other events included free legal health checks at the Albury LibraryMuseum by local solicitors, free legal clinics at the Hume Riverina Community Legal Service, and education and advice sessions from the Disability Discrimination Legal Service (Victoria).

These events increased community awareness and use of the Find Legal Answers service, promoted legal information to a new audience, and built partnerships between the Library and local legal service providers.

CATHERINE BRYANT
LIAC



THE AWARDS NIGHT (ABOVE) AND CARINA CLEMENT AND MICHELLE HEAD WITH THEIR AWARD AT THE JUSTICE AWARDS DINNER (LEFT)

In the Libraries

Albury

IT'S EASY TO LOAN ILLUSTRATIONS

Over the past couple of months AlburyCity has provided a feast of programs and exhibitions linked to illustrations by a range of fabulous authors and illustrators. Mandy Ord's one eyed girl, David Miller's Rufus and Banjora Children's Centre's wiggly worms have all visited the Albury LibraryMuseum and Lavington Library recently. How easy was it to loan the works off these authors and illustrators you may be asking.

A phone call was made directly to author and illustrator David Miller and he suggested that we loan the original 3D paper sculptures from *Rufus the Numbat*. The sculptures were 'housed' in display boxes by David and fixed sequentially to the wall at eye height for children to view. David visited Albury and launched Book Week 2014 by reading *Rufus the Numbat* and guiding an enthralled group of children and their parents through his exhibition. David also ran a workshop for adults. Booked Out Speakers Agency prepared the contract for David's programs whilst we provided the contract for the loan of his illustrations.

The LibraryMuseum's Learning and Outreach Team's annual children's exhibition, It's Easy to be Green, was themed around supporting Halve Waste. In conjunction with this exhibition we commissioned artist Kathy Holowko and Kids' Own Publishing to workshop with children from a local child care centre, AlburyCity's Banjora Children's Centre and *The Wiggly Worms* book was created. Kids' Own Publishing is a pioneering social purpose arts organisation that empowers children, families and communities from diverse cultural, social and linguistic backgrounds to share their stories through artist-led processes and community publishing. The beautiful illustrations created for the book were displayed in the exhibition along with the main characters, 'live worms'. This project received financial support from Halve Waste which covered Kids Own Publishing costs to engage Kathy Holowko and the printing of 500 books.

The LibraryMuseum was after a Youth focused exhibition and contacted Mandy Ord, Graphic Novelist, directly. Once Mandy agreed to have her illustrations from *Sensitive Creatures* exhibited we contacted the publisher, Allen and Unwin, to



WIGGLY WORMS - KIDS PUBLISH THEIR OWN AT ALBURY LIBRARYMUSEUM

gain permission to enlarge her original illustrations. Allen and Unwin provided high resolution images that were reproduced to A1 and these were displayed sequentially on the exhibition walls. The wonderful Mandy joined us in the September school holidays to run a workshop on illustrating and the young people who attended the workshop had their illustrations added to the exhibition as well as projected in the exterior Laneway for the public to view after hours.

With all of these exhibitions loan fees were negotiated and our Cultural Services van transported the illustrations (external transport could have been used). The extent of the exhibitions loaned were determined by the size of the exhibition space with Books Illustrated selecting to double hang their illustrations, Mandy Ord's original art work was reproduced to fit the length of the walls, Wiggly Worms illustrations had a very large wall dedicated to them. We were careful to include in all our promotions the logos of the authors and illustrators publishers as well as keeping them up to date.

So, it's easy to loan illustrations and exhibit them in your Library, just pick up the phone ...

MICHELLE HEAD
AlburyCity

WRITE AROUND THE MURRAY 2014

Albury LibraryMuseum's WAM Festival is in its 8th year and this year's festival was possibly the best ever. More than 30 guest presenters and 60 events were held over 5 days, including the 3 day schools program which reached more than 1600 students. All up 4300 people participated in WAM 2014.

WAM2014, themed Everybody Has a Story to Tell, was full of highlights, contrasts and beautiful examples of the diverse reach and interest of the festival. The art of puppetry as story-telling featured in the festival opening with touching home-grown stories told through shadow puppetry. Punch and Judy puppet show, transported an old tradition of raucous slapstick puppetry from Italy, which had kids laughing uncontrollably 400 years later here in Albury.

The Out of Print Book Club on opening night heard more peals of laughter, this time from adults, as comedians Damian Callinan, Fiona O'Loughlin, Rusty Berther and Andrea Powell riffed on genres and book titles made up by audience members, who also joined hands across the aisles and rows to help the actors channel dead authors who never existed in the first place! An utterly hilarious crowd pleaser.

Radio National's Now Hear This was also a huge crowd pleaser. Host Melanie Tait was a cracker bag of fun as she wove together a night of brilliant stories about 'the first time' from festival guests Nick Earls, Michael Robotham, Meme McDonald and four first time local story-tellers.

Experienced and developing writers were treated to brilliant advice, knowledge and crafting exercises in workshops with Kirsty Murray and Michael Robotham on the weekend.

A new addition this year was the inaugural HotHouse-La Trobe monologue writing competition, Solo. This will hopefully become a fixture on the WAM program, alongside the Nano and Short Story Awards which always unearth a swell of local writing talent.

There were a great many stories shared and unfolded during WAM2014.

—
MICHELLE HEAD
AlburyCity

Bankstown

GREENACRE LIBRARY REOPENS

The Greenacre Library has reopened after fire damage suffered in early February. Staff took the opportunity to rethink the space in the library and how best to use it for the library patrons for reopening on 22 August.



PUNCH AND JUDY SHOW AT ALBURY LIBRARYMUSEUM'S WAM FESTIVAL

The staff made the most of the opportunity of evaluating fire affected collections and purchasing up to date titles for collections that had been largely read out by locals.

The Library does enjoy a separate Reference area with Reference Collection, HSC and Literacy all included and ensuring study tables remained available for student use. Of the many customers very glad of the library reopening were the local HSC students as they had been waiting for a local community space to study that is both close to their school and their homes.

For the official reopening of Greenacre library, changes were made to maximise space more effectively.

Shelves have been reorganised to make more room for study and reading areas. Extra tables have been placed into the middle of the library, to encourage group work, collaborative learning and research. Staff were able to recycle furniture from the old Bankstown Library to provide additional seating and larger tables. The new spaces have been more attractive and encourage customers to come into a peaceful and welcoming library.

Another change that has been made after the fire is creating wider corridor spaces between shelves wherever possible to help improve wheelchair and walker access. This has changed the atmosphere of Greenacre library, by creating an inviting and relaxing atmosphere without feeling enclosed that had been the experience previously in this small branch library. Staff have noticed that many customers are now spending more time browsing between the shelves, rather than rushing through the selection process.



GREENACRE LIBRARY REOPENS WITH NEW FURNITURE AND SHELVING

Greenacre library staff have noticed that the numbers of students bringing their own laptops and electronic devices has increased since creating the larger open area. Staff at Greenacre have increased local community interest in the library in creating a lounge area for relaxed newspaper and magazine reading and an extended community information display area. The Junior Library has been extended to include informal seating for parents and children with the addition of bean bags and the area has been more clearly defined by Youth Collection shelving.

The next challenge was to promote the reopening of the Greenacre Library and staff saw the ideal opportunity in the annual Greenacre Area Community Festival on Sunday 19 October. This festival was organised by the Greenacre Neighbourhood Centre with the Bankstown City Council as an opportunity for local groups and organisations to come together and celebrate as a community.

The library staff planned to promote the library and literacy in a number of ways, including handing out library information and promotional materials, offering a reading corner and a story time, having a staff member do balloon modelling for children, handing out the Library's Bongo literacy books to younger children and running a colouring competition.

The celebration was held from 11am to 5pm with many stalls from all local organisations including Bankstown City Council, local eateries, SES, Family Day care, and Greenacre Neighbourhood Centre. The Library's colouring competition was popular with 56 entries over 3 age groups as was the giveaway promotional materials such as Bongo books. The presence of library staff at the event was successful

in promoting the reopening of the Greenacre Library to the local community. Throughout the day locals visited the children's tent, with many parents wanting to book into library activities and signing up for library membership.

Staff were very pleased with the positive response and comments from the local community at the Festival. We saw in the following days that people who attended the Greenacre Festival came into the library to have a look and to join in Library events and activities.

DAVID BOTROS

Greenacre Library and Knowledge Centre

Bega Valley

FAMILY HISTORY EXPO SUCCESS

The doors opened at 10am and the people streamed into the inaugural Sapphire Coast Family History Expo on 9 August, during Family History Month. The free Expo was a huge success with about 250 people attending throughout the day.

The aim of the Expo was to bring together the region's heritage organisations and highlight their expertise and resources to the wider community. All of our historical and genealogical societies had stalls at the Expo as well as organisations from further afield, including NSW State Records, the Australian War Memorial and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS).

Two speakers provided some structure for the day. Jennie Norberry from the Australian War Memorial talked about The Memorial's resources useful for family history research and Ray Thorburn entertained the audience with his talk on demystifying family history research.

A highlight for many people was the moving performances by Leith Arundel, who performed two monologues about 'Women in War'.

The Expo was supported by grant funding from the Mumbulla Foundation. I had thought of organising an expo-style event for some time and the grant funding and a partnership with South East Arts provided the means to make it happen. A small working group of 4 volunteers from local historical/genealogical groups provided guidance and practical help on the day.

Feedback from evaluation forms was very positive and with this early success to build on and the



LEITH ARUNDEL PERFORMING RADIO SILENCE AT THE SAPPHIRE COAST FAMILY HISTORY EXPO

community now asking for a regular family and local history event we look forward to the second Sapphire Coast Family (and Local!) History Expo.

LINDA ALBERTSON
Bega Valley Shire Library

Blacktown

LIBRARIANS & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS “GO TOGETHER LIKE A HORSE AND CARRIAGE”

On 19 June 2014 Blacktown City Council held the second Librarians and Environmental Educators forum, bringing together 55 librarians and environmental educators to explore ways to save the world through one library at a time! The forum was held at the Max Webber Library, Blacktown and financed through Blacktown City Council’s Waste and Sustainability Program.

The purpose of this forum is reflected in Frank Sinatra’s song where librarians and environmental educators go together “like a horse and carriage” as the environmental educators have the message and

libraries have the venue, the audience and the means of disseminating the information.

Three case studies were presented, showing how Librarians and Environmental Educators can work together to spread the environmental message.

Emma Hayes, an Environmental Educator from Willoughby City Council, shared her project: “Willoughby Local Wildlife Story Book Competition”. It is a great example of success through multiple partnerships; Council, teachers, students, parents and the local libraries. Emma took us through the entire process from gathering stories written by the local children demonstrating their knowledge of environmental issues, to printing a high quality book and running a book launch.

Karen Chazan and Catherine Guy, Librarians, and Cathy Horan, Manager Environmental Sustainability from Northern Institute of TAFE, presented how they have been working together to create “A better environment”, on projects such as; vertical herb gardens, water tank project, Say No to Bottled Water and Plugwise energy efficient lighting system. These initiatives have not only changed the mindsets of students and the teachers, but have reduced Greenhouse emissions, saved electricity and saved money for the Institute.

Paula Pfoeffler, Librarian, and Jordon Moy, Environmental Educator from the City of Canterbury, talked about the programs they have been running in the library environment; “Sustainability is not a dirty word.”

We had two keynote speakers, Michael Mobbs and Diego Bonetto. Both of these keynote speakers set the scene for the forum, challenging the traditional mindsets, encouraging new ways of solving problems and while not everyone agreed with them, it was the sharing of ideas that enriched us all.

In conclusion, it was a highly satisfying event: participants rated the speakers and the whole event highly. There are hopes for another forum in a number of years so we can continue to share the success stories and inspire more joint events. So next time you see the request to present about an event, be proud and show off your success.

MARGARET REDRUP-MAY
Blacktown City Libraries

Blue Mountains

READING HOUR AT THE CARRINGTON HOTEL LIBRARY

On 19 August, Blue Mountains City Library celebrated Reading Hour at the Carrington Hotel Library. The old Library is panelled and beamed in Edwardian taste, complete with lead glazed bookshelves, and is the perfect setting for an hour of reading, sharing finger food, and chatting about your favourite books. An intimate crowd braved the cold to join in, and were rewarded by the cosy log fire and friendly company. Small groups read quietly, while others chatted about their current or favourite reads.

A highlight of the evening was the launch of the Library's brand new Book Club Kits. Library Manager, Vicki Edmunds, launched the kits, and a sample kit was on display to show off the contents. Book Club Kits include 8 copies of a title, plus suggested questions and conversation starters, a brief biography of the author, and reviews of the book. The kits are available for a 6 week loan period to Book Club Kit members. New memberships are available either by donating a set of books, or by paying a small fee. Memberships will be valid for 2 years.

Blue Mountains City Library has over 25 titles available in these kits, with more to come as new groups take up the opportunity to make use of this service.

WRITERS SHOW THEIR PASSION TO BE PART OF A CREATIVE COMMUNITY

During a recent Author Talk held at Blue Mountains City Library, local author Storm Kavanagh spoke of the value she had received from being part of a writers group. This generated a lot of interest from the audience, and as a response Library staff met together with Storm to discuss the possibility of forming a Writers Group at the Library. An Information Session was held to register people's interest in being involved in a Writers Group and to allow a forum for the community to share their ideas about this group could work. The response was overwhelming, with over 50 people registering to be involved.

At the Information Session, staff shared their experiences of belonging to other writers groups, talked about the ways in which the group might work, and emphasised the importance of creating



BOOK CLUB KITS AT READING HOUR AT BLUE MOUNTAINS CITY LIBRARY

a safe environment where positive critiquing provides impetus for improvement, rather than discouragement. Attendees shared lots of their own ideas and passions about different opportunities for the group in terms of structure and subject.

Although the initial idea was to form one or two writers groups, the volume of interest has meant the Library is now looking to form several groups. This has the added bonus of allowing groups to be structured differently, in order to accommodate the variety of interests. So, for example, a group dedicated to poetry can meet together to focus on the art of writing poetry, or a group interested in children's literature can focus their group on this genre. It is exciting for the Library to be developing this program which is so clearly meeting a keen interest of members of the Blue Mountains community.

ADRIANNA DEMMOCKS
Blue Mountains City Library

Camden

JULIA GILLARD VISITS CAMDEN

On 1 October 2014 Camden Council Library Service was incredibly privileged to host an event with former Australian Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, as part of our Visiting Writers Program. During the event Julia Gillard spoke about her memoir, *My Story*, to a sell out crowd of over 500 people.



01 JULIA GILLARD AND CAMDEN LIBRARY STAFF
 02 IDEAS GENERATED AT CAMDEN'S MAKERCAMP UNCONFERENCE
 03 STUDENTS FROM FIVE DOCK PUBLIC WITH AWARDS FOR COMPLETING THE MORE THAN JUST A NAME PROJECT

During her talk Julia Gillard was exceptionally eloquent, personable and warm. During question time Julia Gillard answered all the questions asked of her with great dignity and respect. Every question was given her full attention and consideration.

To conclude the event Julia Gillard conducted a book signing for those who attended the talk. Although the line was long there were a lot of happy and excited people who were eager to have the chance to meet Julia Gillard and have her sign their book. Overall, it was a very successful Visiting Writer's event.

The Library Service has been offering the Visiting Writers Program for more than five years. Over the years the Library has developed a partnership and great working relationship with various publishers, particularly Random House, and has hosted events with such authors as Ray Martin, Dick Johnson, Kathy Reichs, Andy Griffiths, Di Morrissey, Karin Slaughter and many others.

MICHELLE BIRCH
 Camden Council Library Service

MAKERCAMP

What do you get if you take over 50 librarians, add highlighters, sticky butchers paper, some Ipads and add coffee? Makercamp!!

Makercamp NSW: an unconference in Makerspaces was held on 24 October 2014 at Narellan Library. PLVN had held a similar event a couple of months before at Hume Libraries. Rather than reinvent the wheel we approached the Victorian facilitator Tania Barry to come up and help us.

We decided to continue with the unconference format to encourage participation from attendees. It was our belief that if you give people a chance to participate in the discussion the outcomes would be more accountable and tangible.

After a short introduction by Tania as to Makerspaces in general and more specifically the Hume experience, it was time for participants to set their own agenda. After an inspiring brainstorm

breakout sessions were formed on the following topics:

- User needs
- Programming
- Pop-up spaces
- Physical spaces
- Equipment management
- Managing change
- Skill development
- Local talent
- Management buy-in

The format was short and sweet, 20 minute sessions where issues were raised, problems were solved and more issues were raised.

We explored the difference in spaces, how they can be as little as a table with craft pieces through to a dedicated space staffed by many with the most hi tech gadgets and that this difference is dictated by the community that uses it and the facilities available. Community engagement strategies were suggested, discussions on programs proposed and the differences and similarities of our communities highlighted.

Feedback from the day is that the collaboration with other services was "invigorating" and that the discussions were "inspiring" and most participants communicated excitement at the prospect of trying new ideas in their libraries or repackaging old ones.

For us at Camden, we gladly accepted ideas on how our spaces could be better used and celebrated the facilities and achievements we have made thus far. As a Team we are looking forward to introducing some changes to our "makerspace" including more drop in / open sessions for the public, some low tech options as well as exploring further options of growing the concept while maintaining other library programs and collections.

From here a team from NSW and Victoria is working on a wiki solution to share ideas and encourage further collaboration, stay tuned.

STACEY WALES
 Camden Council Library Service



/03

City of Canada Bay

MORE THAN JUST A NAME: WWI MULTIMEDIA VIDEO PROJECT ENGAGES LOCAL SCHOOLS

Over the past two terms City of Canada Bay Libraries have engaged local students to research and create a short video about a service person connected to the City of Canada Bay area.

This project, known as More than Just a Name has provided youth access and increased skills in producing digital videos, using iMovie and the libraries' portable multimedia lab while acknowledging the service and sacrifice of these soldiers.

Both primary and high schools were involved in the project with over 160 students from Year 5, 6 and 9, researching WWI soldiers who worked or lived in the City of Canada Bay.

The project has been a huge success in enforcing the importance of remembering the sacrifice these soldiers took for our country. The education of local youth in sharing soldier's stories is one way to ensure their memory lives on.

The students involved have found the project educational and inspirational.

"This project has really encouraged me to think about the history of my country. It has been really exciting and fun," said Benjamin, a Year 5 student.

The first screening and award ceremony involving City of Canada Bay's Mayor Angelo Tsirekas has taken place for Five Dock Public where students were presented with certificates and a DVD of their 26 videos.

The final screening of the 58 videos created by the students from both Five Dock Public School, Concord Public School and Concord High will be launched next year during the Centenary of ANZAC 2015.

The videos are available to view on our Project Y City of Canada Bay YouTube channel. You can also see photos on our Facebook page and read the City of Canada Bay Connections blog. This has been a very rewarding project and the experience of the project is something we hope students will remember for years to come.

TARA KLEIN
City of Canada Bay Libraries

Canterbury

THE MEMORY MAN — FAMILY HISTORY MONTH AT CAMPSIE LIBRARY

Bob Mitchell, aka "The Memory Man", visited Campsie Library on 26th August to celebrate Family History Month. Bob shared tips for capturing our own personal stories or those of our older family members. We discovered tips on how to trigger memories using props and use of questioning techniques. Bob's "Box of Tricks" certainly triggered many memories for audience members! We listened to excerpts and highlights from his previous interviews. It was a very stimulating session with lots of audience participation. It definitely left the attendees wanting more!

CATHERINE HARDIE
City of Canterbury Library

HISTORY WEEK: WWI BUS TOUR

As part of this year's History Week theme, "The Great War", Community History staff at the City of Canterbury ran a WWI Bus Tour. Attendees were taken on a tour around our local area, exploring sites significant to Australia's role in World War One. Such sites included the War Service Homes Precinct in Belfield, local war memorials, and "The Towers" in Belmore.

The tour also visited streets that were named or renamed after themes associated with WWI.

Participants enjoyed seeing the beautiful Federation architecture of houses in the local area, particularly the rising sun motifs on gables. The Library looks forward to continuing to run these bus tours over the WWI commemoration period as they are always popular and book out early. The Library's partnership with the Canterbury & District Historical Society made this tour possible.

KIRSTIN COX
City of Canterbury Library



/01

Cessnock

DEVELOPING BENEFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Over the last nine years Cessnock City Library has developed an amazing partnership with the Casscar Creative Arts Studio. The Principal Artist and owner of the art school is Cassandra Caramanico and she provides the inspiration for the community based arts studio for children.

The relationship between the Library and the art school was first established when Cassandra was looking for a space for the studio's first exhibition and she contacted the Library. Since then Cassandra has maintained a long and multi-faceted partnership with Cessnock Library in her capacity as an art teacher. For the last eight years Cassandra has worked with the students in her studio to annually produce artistic works that support that year's Children's Book Week theme, as well as periodically running one off art classes as part of our holiday activities or the occasional adult class.

As part of her teaching, Cassandra regularly organises Saturday morning 'Library visits' for her students where she reinforces the practical side of art with the theory. To support this strategy she sets the students tasks that they need to research.

Each student chooses three books that they believe will inspire them to create a clay, fibre and canvas artwork. The students use the illustrations in the books to inspire them in moulding their clay into their creations and also to paint ideas on canvas.

Every year Cassandra brings the library foyer to life with works of exceptional quality, which results in a great deal of appreciation and positive feedback from the public. This sense of value is clearly conveyed to the art students and it is so encouraging to them. Cassandra believes that the Library demonstrates tangible support for the arts from the community and that this is an essential factor for the ongoing interest and development of the students.

ROSE-MARIE WALTERS
Cessnock City Library



/02

Clarence Regional Library

80TH JACARANDA FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

This year Grafton celebrated the 80th Jacaranda Festival – the longest continuously running floral festival in Australia. As part of the celebrations the Sir Earle Page Library and Education Centre hosted a series of lunchtime talks led by special guest speakers. The talks revolved around different aspects of the Jacaranda Festival – the Town Criers, Children's participation and the JACA Thursday celebrations. These recollections of the past Jacaranda festivities were recorded to become a part of the library's oral history collection.

Staff from Grafton Library continued the tradition of dressing up for the JACA Thursday celebrations with the theme for them this year, being retro children's story book characters. In the hour before the library opened the staff took giveaway promotional material (bookmarks, stickers, tattoos, hand bands, flyers on the services and activities of the library etc) and wandered the main street delivering library cheer to the community celebrating and sharing in the day's activities.

The library also held displays of past programs of the Festival, memorabilia of the Festival queens and princesses and the town crier.

KATHRYN BREWARD
Clarence Regional Library

- 01 CESSNOCK LIBRARY'S FOYER COMES ALIVE WITH ARTWORKS BY STUDENTS AS A RESULT OF A PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL ARTIST KASSANDRA CARAMANICO
- 02 GRAFTON LIBRARY STAFF OUT ON THE STREETS HANDING OUT GOODIES FOR JACARANDA THURSDAY
- 03 AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGALIA HORSE AND SOLDIER ON DISPLAY AT COFFS HARBOUR CITY LIBRARY
- 04 ARTISTS SHOWCASE THEIR WORK IN EUROBOBALLA LIBRARIES AS PART OF SPUR



/03

Coffs Harbour

HISTORY WEEK AT COFFS HARBOUR LIBRARY

In September 2014 Dr Nathan Wise from the University of New England spoke to a large crowd about the daily life of the Australian Light Horsemen during the First World War. It was an illuminating talk which touched on the daily life of the Light Horsemen including the special connection between man and mount, with personal letters outlining the men's thoughts and feelings towards their animals.

In keeping with the History Week theme 'The Great War' Coffs Harbour Library also installed an exhibition which brought to life the tragic war story of Roy Stanford, the Great Uncle of local resident Scott Stanford. This story was told through an exhibition of extraordinary memorabilia (loaned by Scott) which included an authentic Australian Light Horsemen uniform, saddlery and associated equipment, as well as medals, letters and photographs.

The weaponry that was on display, including a bayonet and sword, also created a lot of interest, not just with adults, but also small children – especially the bloodthirsty kind!

The exhibition was a very visual reminder of the Centenary of World War I, with people finding it difficult to ignore the horse and soldier decked out in the Australian Light Horse regalia as soon as they walked in the front doors. The exhibition opened up the conversation doorway with our customers as many not only wanted to know the history behind the display but also wanted to share their own families' World War I stories.

Due to the high level of interest from both the community as well as local media we ended up leaving the display up for longer than first planned.

LIZ THOMAS
Coffs Harbour City Library



/04

Eurobodalla Libraries

EUROBODALLA LIBRARIES SHOWCASE THE BEST!!

Eurobodalla Shire Council proudly presents SPUR "Springboard Promote Unveil Reveal", a free monthly public program of exhibitions and floor talks from the region's artists in Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma Libraries.

Each month three individual artists, photographers and other creative producers across the region showcase their works in our libraries. Floor talks are provided by each artist, usually in the evenings, where people are invited to come along to gather an insight into what makes each artist tick! Their works are all for sale and the library receives a percentage of all sales.

It's been a highly successful partnership with arts, culture and libraries, now in its second year and still going gangbusters!

High interest in the program has meant attendance at all three libraries for the floor talks has been fantastic with up to 50 people at many events each month. Wine and cheese tempts the taste buds as well as having a taste of the creative talent in the region makes for quite a feast!

JANICE TAYLOR
Eurobodalla Libraries



/01

Fairfield City Library Service

GET JOB READY COURSES AT FAIRFIELD

Fairfield City Libraries and Student Employment Options (SEO) have formed a partnership to provide a resume writing and interview skills course, “Get Job Ready” (GJR). This practical course is designed to teach participants skills and techniques in resume writing and to present their skills, knowledge and experience effectively to potential employers.

The pilot session held at the Bonnyrigg Branch Library received an overwhelmingly positive response with requests for more of this type of training. Only ten places were available and these were quickly filled within the first week. Students had to commit to two hours of training per week over a period of three weeks. All the registered participants completed the full course duration of training and each received a Certificate of Completion at the end of the course.

Due to the success of this pilot, Bonnyrigg Library ran a second course with SEO to cater for those customers who had previously missed out. Again the interest in this course was very high and many were placed on the waiting list. At the end of the course, each participant was surveyed and their responses helped to create a course that covered each topic in depth, and is longer in duration. The course is now eight hours of training over two consecutive days.

The results of these courses have been excellent - three weeks after the completion of the first course, three of the graduates had found employment and many of the other participants have formed a network to help encourage each other when applying for positions as well as meeting for a coffee to discuss future directions. A blog has also been set up where students who have completed the course can receive

ongoing support from the trainer. This course is of considerable benefit to the community and aligns with Council’s strategic theme for “Local Economy and Employment”.

After the success of these two GJR sessions, Fairfield City Libraries has expanded this course to other branches in the service.

DIANNE THAI
Fairfield City Library Service

Great Lakes

BETTER READING BETTER COMMUNITIES

Since the last edition of *Public Library News* plenty has happened regarding our literacy program. Our pool of volunteer literacy tutors, which lies at the core of what we are doing, continues to operate successfully, with many positive literacy outcomes in the community.

In conjunction with this we had intended to gauge interest in the community for the establishment of a network that would advocate for literacy. This took place in March, and we now have a community-based network, which named itself Better Reading Better Communities, up and running.

Already there’s been plenty of good outcomes, with the centrepiece being the creation of a brand which is now being used in conjunction with relevant events and promotional material. We are currently working on brochures to go with this as well as an online presence. The group has also generated a storytelling in the garden program and other projects are being investigated. Another spin-off from the group has been the increased promotion of the volunteer literacy tutors.

We are now looking at running a volunteer literacy tutors course specifically for the indigenous



/02

community. This is planned for early 2015 and will involve training local aboriginal elders in become literacy tutors. Following on from that we're considering a further course for the broader community. It's been wonderful to see this program grow from strength to strength.

CHRIS JONES
Great Lakes Library Service

Manning Valley Libraries

POP-UP HOME LIBRARY VISITS

We have undertaken a number of very successful home library visits to local nursing homes utilising our wonderful 'Uni pop-up library' which arrived all the way from New York late last year. We have big plans for our Uni and these first forays out into the community have proven it to be a winner. The Uni has given these visits a whole new dimension by changing the way we can display our material – we can bring the library to the people, and elderly residents are able to browse the 'library' shelves without leaving home. Many residents are excited by the range of material on display, and are thrilled with the opportunity to be able to borrow items that take their fancy.

These visits are a great way for us to provide information about the home library service with lots of residents joining the library on the day of the visit, and many existing home library members changing some of their choices after seeing other items they prefer!

The 'Uni pop-up library' has provided another way to reach out to the community – to promote home library services and to build relationships with community members and other service providers.

TANYA MCLEAN
Manning Valley Libraries



/03

LIBRARY STARS 2014

Manning Valley Libraries were the winners of two national awards in the Library Stars 2014: The Best of the Best forum showcasing innovation in public libraries.

The library awards featured three categories: Content, Capability and Collaboration with Greater Taree City Council taking out two of the three awards.

The winner of the Content Category was Our Words Our Stories - a community-based literacy program which is providing the opportunity for local Aboriginal people to become authors, creating stories that help young Aboriginal children to connect the past with the present. A total of eighteen titles have been published. This program is part of the Australian Government's Communities for Children initiative.

The Valley Coffee Spot cafe in Taree Library was the winner of the Collaboration category. The project is a joint venture with local service provider, Valley Industries, providing a training facility for people with disability to learn hospitality skills within the Taree Library cafe setting.

These library programs are all about social inclusion. We have some wonderful community connections happening in our libraries in the Manning Valley, and these successes could not be achieved without strong community partnerships – with Valley Industries for The Valley Coffee Spot and with Childcare Services Taree & District, North Coast Institute of TAFE and Mission Australia as partners in the Our Words Our Stories Program.

DEBBIE HORGAN
Manning Valley Libraries



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- 01 PARTICIPANTS IN FAIRFIELD'S GET JOB READY COURSE
- 02 BETTER READING AT GREAT LAKES
- 03 MANNING VALLEY'S POP-UP HOME LIBRARY
- 04 MANNING VALLEY LIBRARIES WERE WINNERS AT THE LIBRARY STARS 2014 AWARDS



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Gunnedah

AUTISM SYNDROME RESOURCES GRANT

In August Gunnedah Shire Library won a \$6,000 New England Early Childhood Inclusion Grant to purchase materials for Autism Syndrome Resources.

The library consulted with the special needs education school GSKids and the Gunnedah Carers' Group, an association of parents and carers for children with special needs, requesting information about resources that they would like to see in the library. Gunnedah Library also received a list of purchased resources from Inverell Library, one of the first libraries in the area to be offered the grant. So far \$1,500 of the grant money has been committed. Materials purchased include adult nonfiction titles, easy junior nonfiction for the use of the children and carers, and relevant picture books.

GSKids already takes part in weekly visits to the library where the children exchange books and collect materials for their own interests or school work.

The Gunnedah Carers' Group are making the library their 'resource' centre, and will meet at the library once a month to connect, familiarise themselves with the new resources and exchange books. They met at the library for the first time in September, where we welcomed them with tea and snacks, and a display of relevant books that were available for loan.

SHOP BOUND LIBRARY SERVICE

Gunnedah Shire Library's Shop Bound Service, which commenced at the beginning of 2014 to bring the library services and materials to shop owners and employees, grows from strength to strength.

It was recently commended by the judges in the Best of the Best Library Stars 2014, in the Capability section.

At the end of October the Shop Bound service had 27 members, pulled from the businesses in the CBD of Gunnedah. While we were envisioning only adults would participate, we have found that parents are joining their children and grandchildren, or younger shop owners are requesting materials for their elderly parent/s. One bag has a talking book for a 93 year old woman, the shop owner herself, and junior fiction for her nine year old son – truly a multigenerational book bag!

We will continue to approach shops and business of the CBD, because by initiating this service, we have begun to access a substantial proportion of the population who otherwise would not use the library. Council staff members are also enthusiastic members of the service, and their book bags are delivered in the usual mail run.

CHRISTIANE BIRKETT
Gunnedah Shire Library

Hawkesbury

HAWKESBURY CELEBRATES HISTORY WEEK

During History Week, Hawkesbury Library took several groups of local history enthusiasts on a Walking Tour around the historic town centre of Richmond.

The first walking tour was enjoyed on a clear, sunny spring day and highlighted the various architectural works on the buildings preserved in the town centre. Potential rain on the second tour did not stop our staff and participants from enjoying a lovely stroll that captured areas and buildings of Richmond that were hidden to the untrained eye.

Author and researcher Susan Boyer spoke about *True Stories of Life at Sydney Cove* at the Library during September. Susan took attendees on a journey into the hearts and minds of those who experienced life in Australia's first colony through a presentation and quotations from her novel. The audience, including 50 local school children, were completely enthralled and thoroughly enjoyed Susan's talk.

The Hawkesbury Family History Group, which is coordinated by the Library, celebrated History Week with a session focused on Researching World War 1 soldiers for both family and local historians. The talk was presented by Jonathan Auld and concentrated on many of the new online resources as well as material held in the Local Studies Collection.



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Historical Hawkesbury photographs were placed on display during September. A selection of thirty images from around the district were scanned from two collections of glass negatives held in our Local Studies Collections. Many of the images had not been displayed before and a great deal of interest was shown by visitors to the library, and for that reason, the display was extended for two weeks. Additional details were provided by visitors for several of the photographs which was a nice surprise.

LAURA SAUNDERS
Hawkesbury Library Service

The Hills

TOUCHING HISTORY PROJECT

Alex Byrne, NSW State Librarian & Chief Executive joined us to launch the Touching History project, which was made possible by a \$50,000 grant from the State Government and Library Council of NSW. History enthusiasts will be able to feel their way through the Sydney Hills' past when they visit Castle Hill and Vinegar Hill Memorial Libraries with the library's extensive collection of historical maps, aerial photographs and documents from as far back as 1890 loaded onto touch tables for library visitors to enjoy. Hills Shire Mayor Clr Andrew Jefferies said it was a great example of the Hills Shire Library Service embracing new technology and moving with the times.

CASTLE HILL TURNS 10

7 September 2014 marked 10 years since the official opening of the new Castle Hill Library and we sure knew how to celebrate. Deputy Mayor of the Hills Shire, Clr Dr Michelle Byrne officially launched the month long celebrations by cutting the amazing book character cake donated by a local cake decorator. Castle Hill Library has become a landmark within



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the community and customers still comment on how great it looks. Determined not to let age take its toll, the central section of the library has been renovated to make way for new seating and space for customers to use their laptops and devices.

In addition to this the first Mind Body Soul day was held as part of the birthday program. The day featured speakers discussing topics such as meditation, relationships, feng shui and nutrition. A great day that inspired many and promoted the health and wellbeing collections right across the service making it an event we are looking forward to running again next year.

Another highlight of the birthday program was Hills History Day which included talks by local historians and showcased the resources available on the touch tables. This was the first time for an event like this and it demonstrated the community's high level of interest in local history, the success of this event will mean it is sure to become a regular fixture on the library event calendar.

POP-UP LIBRARY

Another initiative for 2014 was the partnership between the Library service and The Hills Shire Council Resource Recovery Department to bring a Pop-up Library to the Orange Blossom Festival Main Street celebrations. The Library has made several appearances at previous Council events, however we wanted to take it a step further and increase the visibility of the Library.

After looking for ways to sustainably build an easily transportable and lightweight library, staff decided to use cardboard furniture made from recycled paper as it was environmentally friendly and easily flat-packed. The remarkable furniture was exactly as described and came with easy-to-follow instructions making it quick and simple to put together.

- 01 A SAMPLE OF AUTISM SYNDROME RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE AT GUNNEDAH SHIRE LIBRARY
- 02 THE HILLS TOUCHING HISTORY LAUNCH
- 03 CASTLE HILL CELEBRATES 10 YEARS WITH A CAKE



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- 01 THE HILLS STAFF
ERICA WORT AT THE
POP-UP LIBRARY
- 02 HORNSBY
REMEMBERS WORLD
WAR ONE DISPLAY
- 03 DR RICHARD REID
GIVES A TALK ON
WW1 THROUGH THE
EYES OF KIAMA
DISTRICT SOLDIERS
AT KIAMA LIBRARY
- 04 KU-RING-GAI
LIBRARY STAFF AT
THE MEDIEVAL FAIRE
- 05 THE LOCAL BUSH
FIRE BRIGADE JOINS
KU-RING-GAI
LIBRARY AT ST IVES

Pop-up Library customers were encouraged to take a book then recycle it by passing it on to someone else once they had finished with it. Children and parents took the chance to relax in the shade as they listened to storytimes that went throughout the day and loved naming the Pop-up Library cat.

Comments received on the day were extremely positive; everyone loved the opportunity to recycle and praised the initiative.

ERICA WORT
The Hills Shire Library Service

Hornsby

HORNSBY REMEMBERS

To commemorate the beginning of World War One, Hornsby Library put together an exhibition of wartime memorabilia. The aim of the exhibition was to highlight Hornsby Shire's contribution to the war and honour the 376 local men who enlisted in the war, 60 of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Epping soldier, Percy Williamson's war time photographs featured in the display under the title 'One Soldier's War'. Percy had captured not only the destruction of war in his photographs but also moving scenes of civilians as they tried to get on with their everyday lives.

Another feature of the display was the intriguing story of the local soldier who had enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force, was reported 'absent without leave' in Egypt, then turned up a year later in the British Army. Local Studies Librarian Neil Chippendale uncovered the story after researching the documentation which was bought into the library by the soldier's relative.

Other features of the exhibition included a colourful display of recruitment posters from

Australia, Canada, Britain and the US, uniforms, medals, tools, silk and regimental postcards as well as local newspaper clippings of the time.

The exhibition was held from August 4 – 22 and proved to be very popular with the many visitors who viewed the exhibit and commented in the guest book. One visitor wrote "A wonderful display. A needed reminder of the sacrifice of many".

KAREN RICHARDSON
Hornsby Shire Library

Kiama

FROM KIAMA TO GALLIPOLI AND THE WESTERN FRONT

Acclaimed historian Dr Richard Reid took the library to the battlefields of WW1 through the eyes of Kiama District soldiers.

Recently, Richard visited Gallipoli as part of a team of archeologists and historians who, for the past five years, have been surveying and mapping the old ANZAC battlefield.

The crowd of forty were enthralled as the rich history of Kiama during the Great War was graphically conveyed by Dr Reid. Kiama, being an enlistment station, as well as the host of two army camps, had much written about it in the newspapers of the time. Therefore, much history is out there ready to be discovered in Trove.

Richard has produced two government websites which deal with the Australian experience at Gallipoli and the Western Front: www.anzacsite.gov.au and www.wwlwesternfront.gov.au

The presentation was recorded as is available on the Library's YouTube Channel.

KEN DONNELLAN
Kiama Library



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Ku-ring-gai

HEAR YE, HEAR YE! KU-RING-GAI LIBRARY GOES MEDIEVAL

On the weekend of 20 & 21 September 15,000 people came from all over Sydney to St Ives Showground which was transformed into a medieval encampment full of knights and ladies, villagers, Vikings and a jester on stilts.

Entertainment included trebuchet firing, jousting, birds of prey, medieval crafts and cooking demonstrations and of course stories from the library staff set to the thunder of hooves and the roar of mighty dragons.

Over the weekend, six library staff (Michelle Cairns, Rebecca Shoesmith, Michael Senior, Tara Ross, Lauren Phillips and Douglas Pine) engaged in medieval themed storytelling, children's craft and library promotion.

The Library was allocated a 5x5m open fronted tent which was transformed into a welcoming library space using books, cushions and colourful props. It was great to get outside of the four walls of the library and share reading, relaxing and of course sharing stories with our community and activities that spilled out and joined the passing parade of themed activities.

A great weekend was had by all and the feedback about the Library's participation from visitors was overwhelmingly positive and enthusiastic.

Dates have been locked in for another Medieval Faire in 2015 and we are already excited about taking part once again and expanding our medieval repertoire.

MICHELLE CAIRNS
Acting Children's & Young Adults Librarian

BUSH FIRE SURVIVAL

On the afternoon of Sunday 2 November Ku-ring-gai Library at St Ives held a session for the public to discuss bush fire survival plans with our local Bush Fire Brigade. Members of the Brigade attended with one of their tankers which was parked outside the Library entrance and drew a lot of interest, not just from children!

We displayed relevant Library material for a variety of age groups about bush fires (including junior DVDs on Fireman Sam!) as well as the Brigade's literature and that of Ku-ring-gai Council. There is a lot of bush around Ku-ring-gai LGA so this is a big concern for us, especially with summer approaching.

Visitors were appreciative of the chance to discuss their concerns and we were grateful that the Brigade, many of whom are volunteers, were very enthusiastic about it all. Some of them had spent the early morning putting out fires that had been lit on a local bush track and had the dirty clothes to prove it!

PENNY XAVIER
Ku-ring-gai Library

Lake Mac

NEED AN ALIBI? CRIME AT LAKE MAC LIBRARIES

Swansea Library has been hosting a monthly forum for lovers of crime literature, both fiction and true crime. Crime Club brings like-minded readers together who share a passion for the genre and membership has grown significantly.

Topics include Australian Crime, Top Female Crime Writers, Cold Climate Crime (Scandinavian fiction), Twosomes (Partners in Crime) and Deep South, USA Crime. Upcoming topics will include Italian and Japanese crime writers.



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Well-known local author, Jaye Ford, visited October's meeting and spoke about her journey into writing crime novels, her determination to use local settings and her decision not to use a hard-nosed detective, choosing instead an everyday character thrown into a world of violence. Jaye was gracious in answering a wide range of questions and signing copies of her four bestselling books.

TRENT ALTERATOR
Lake Mac Libraries

DOBELL BOOK LAUNCH

Well respected author, journalist and TV presenter Scott Bevan visited Wangi Wangi Library in November to discuss his latest biographical work about the suburb's famous local artist, Sir William Dobell.

The standing room only event was organised within a two week timeframe, after an unexpected phone call from the author. Scott expressed an interest in coming into the library for a catch up and launch *Bill: The Life of William Dobell*.

The audience were entertained by the "local" author with interesting tales of Sir Bill's life and time in the local community. An afternoon tea and book buying/signing facility was provided for an estimated crowd of eighty.

TRACEY BANCROFT
Lake Mac Libraries

Lane Cove

LANE COVE LAUNCHES INAUGURAL LITERARY AWARD

Lane Cove has a well developed cultural program that includes numerous events and celebrations throughout the year. While there is a longstanding annual Lane Cove Art Award, up until this year there has been no similar recognition of writing excellence.

The Lane Cove Literary Award was suggested by Councillor David Karpin and approved by Council in December 2013. Council wanted to concentrate on unpublished works and felt that the Library's experience in facilitating writing groups and publishing non-fiction reflected expertise in the short story, memoir and poetry categories. The Award also included a prize for local residents and another for younger writers to encourage the written art-form.

Council then sought sponsorship for the prizes and was very pleased that a number of local businesses were willing to become involved.

After several months of planning the Lane Cove Literary Award was launched on 30 May 2014 and closed on 27 August 2014. The Library staff promoted the Award via the public library network, Australian writing associations, writing groups and a number of educational institutions. It was wonderful that these varied entities were willing to circulate information about the Award.

Council was thrilled with the response from Australian writers. The Library received more than 560 entries with submissions coming from all of Australia's states and territories. Library staff spent many hours listing and copying entries but the hardest part of the process was judging the many excellent entries.

It was fantastic that two local published authors, Jeni Mawter and Simon Kennedy agreed to judge the Award.

The Lane Cove Literary Award Ceremony took place on 29 October 2014 at Lane Cove Library. More than 130 people attended the event. Congratulations to the winners of the Lane Cove Literary Award 2014:

- Short Story Prize – Marjorie Lewis-Jones
- Memoir Prize - Elisabeth Hanscombe
- Waterbrook Poetry Prize - Patrick Clinen
- Conveyancing Headquarters Lane Cove Resident Prize - Elaine Fung
- Lane Cove Market Square Prize - Feiya Zhang

Library staff are now compiling an anthology of winning and some shortlisted entries that will be published as part of the Library's self-funded publication program. The book will be launched at the launch event for the Lane Cove Literary Award 2015 in May 2015.

JENNIFER BICE
Lane Cove Library



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GREENWICH LIBRARY'S 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

In November 2014 Greenwich Library celebrated 50 years of service to the Greenwich community.

The need for a branch Library at Greenwich was first identified in a report by Lane Cove's Chief Librarian in 1957. An analysis of school enrolment figures and transport patterns suggested that Greenwich residents were least able to make use of the Lane Cove Library.

Construction of a Library was proposed in April 1963 and the then Mayor of Lane Cove, Alderman Marjorie Propsting, officially opened the new library on 7 November 1964. Over the intervening years, the Library has played an important recreational and educational role for the Greenwich community. The Library was renamed the Marjorie Propsting Memorial Library in 1972 in recognition of Marjorie's contribution to the Municipality of Lane Cove and, in particular, her efforts to establish a Library at Greenwich.

Not only was Alderman Marjorie Propsting the North Shore's first female Mayor, she served as an alderman on Lane Cove Council for twenty-two years. In this time, she also became a founding member of the Local Government Women's Association of NSW.

In the early 1980s the Marjorie Propsting Memorial Library Working Party was established to ensure the Library at Greenwich remained a vibrant and responsive community asset. Representatives from the Greenwich Community Association, Greenwich Seniors Centre and the Greenwich Community Preschool continue to serve on the Working Party today.

Always a special place for the children of Greenwich, a survey carried out in 1983 identified the important recreational and educational role the Library played for preschool and school-age children. The Library initiated regular school visits in 1985, which continued until the Greenwich Infants School



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received its own Library. Preschoolers from the KU Greenwich Community Preschool continue to visit today.

Lane Cove Library celebrated Greenwich Library's anniversary with two special events.

On 6 November the Manager – Local Studies & Archives gave a public talk, *120 Years in the life of Greenwich* at the Greenwich Community Hall. Library staff were excited when 57 people arrived to hear this fascinating talk about local identities, landmarks and residential, industrial and recreational growth. The presentation included a number of photographs from the Lane Cove Library Local Studies Collection.

On 8 November the Library hosted a Family Fun Day event with the participation of the Greenwich Community Association and the KU Greenwich Community Preschool. As 2014 also marked the 70th anniversary of the Greenwich Community Association Denis Smith OAM led a Heritage Walk which started and finished at the Library.

The day's events took place both inside the Library and in the park behind the Library. The Heritage Walk finished in the park in time for Councillor David Brooks-Horn, Mayor of Lane Cove's speech and cutting of the birthday cake.

The birthday party was a great success that allowed the Greenwich Community to celebrate the Greenwich Library's 50th anniversary.

JENNIFER BICE
Lane Cove Library

Leichhardt

CIRCUS SLAM AT THE ITALIAN FORUM

The Italian Forum at Leichhardt came alive with all the colour and fun of the circus on Saturday 20th September when Leichhardt Library promoted its circus themed school holiday program with

- 01 LANE COVE LITERARY AWARD 2014
- 02 GREENWICH LIBRARY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS
- 03 LEICHARDT LIBRARY SERVICE BRINGS THE ITALIAN FORUM ALIVE WITH THE CIRCUS



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- 01 DIGITAL NATIVES HELP THE TECHNOLOGY DINOSAURS AT LITHGOW LIBRARY
- 02 LIVERPOOL CITY LIBRARY POPS UP AT THE LIVERPOOL NIGHT MARKETS
- 03 LIVERPOOL CELEBRATES HISTORY WEEK WITH THE LIVERPOOL BRASS BAND

a special performance from the Aerialize Youth Performance Troupe.

Roving stiltwalkers mingled amongst the crowd, and there was lots of laughter and fun as both children and adults tried their hand at juggling, hula hooping, spinning plates and the diablos.

Later in the evening, the Aerialize Youth Performance Troupe, young acrobats aged between 12-20, wowed onlookers with their energetic and fun acrobalance routine of tumbling, slapstick and gymnastics.

The afternoon was a great success with many in the crowd wanting to run away and join the circus!

JUDY HARDY
Leichhardt Library Service

Lithgow

LITHGOW LIBRARY LEARNING CENTRE PRESENTS: TECHNOLOGY DINOSAUR

The premise of Lithgow Library Learning Centre's Technology Dinosaur program is this: Pair a Technology Dinosaur with a Digital Native, so that the Native can teach/help the Dinosaur with any issues they might have with their mobile technologies.

Technology Dinosaurs are *anyone* (age has nothing to do with it) who is experiencing difficulty with mobile technologies; loosely defined these include any mobile device, tablets, cameras, ipods, smartphones, laptops etc.

Digital Natives are those born into these technologies and able to reprogram the family TV from their crib; in other words, teenagers.

The idea for the program was written into a proposal, which was submitted to the Team Leader who then contacted the Technology teacher at one of the local high schools. This teacher saw the program as an ideal way for three of his students to gain work experience and also as a way to give back to the community. The result was the launch of the Technology Dinosaur on 21 July, 2014.

Bookings were almost immediately full with a lot of demand initially which meant that people had to book well in advance.

The feedback on the students providing the service and the service itself has been positive.

All three students were polite and patient and very knowledgeable for their age. One difference between these digital natives and the dinosaurs is that if the students did not know how to do something they used the technology to search for the answer. "Why didn't I think to Google it?" was a common response from the dinosaurs as they were leaving.

The students themselves have enjoyed the experience, with interest shown, by at least one, in continuing as a volunteer in the next scholastic year. As funds and staff numbers are limited, this program has provided a much-needed service for the Lithgow LGA whilst not overly burdening the library's resources.

The success has been such that discussions have taken place in regards to repeating the program on a regular basis. One possible scenario is to encourage local students to volunteer after school and run the program one day a week, providing both work experience opportunities for the young people and a regular source of information for the community.

MIRIAM SCOTT AND SHARON LEWIS
Lithgow Library Learning Centre

Liverpool

LIVERPOOL'S POP-UP LIBRARY

Amongst food and market stalls on the first Saturday of every month at the Liverpool Night Markets you will find a Library! Jestin, I kid you not! As an outreach project Liverpool City Library has developed a pop-up library at the Liverpool Night Markets. Beginning with a tent, some AstroTurf, some cushions, bean bags, a table, some chairs and a tub of books, the Pop-up Library was set up with the primary aim to provide hourly storytimes and information about the library to the local community.



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At the first market we noted what was popular and also what market goers were asking for. We discovered that board games like Chess and Guess Who were very popular and people would come and sit in the Pop-up Library to have a break and play these games. Storytimes were also a hit though delivering them on the hour was not always the best idea. We quickly learned it was better to do them whenever there were a lot of children around. Parents would also take a break from the market to sit and read to their children and entertain them.

We have found that the Pop-up Library at the Night Markets has been a great opportunity to promote the Library's upcoming events and staff have joined in the atmosphere by dressing up as characters to help with the promotion. This worked wonders for our Book Week activities with people at the event commenting that they saw staff at the Night Markets.

The Pop-up Library is a hit with market goers and we have now added pre-loved library books for people to take home to continue their journeys, and will be trialling iPads to demonstrate databases and for educational games at the next market on 6 December. We have found this to be a wonderful and successful experience on a minimum budget with the library being able to reach parts of the community that otherwise would not visit a library branch. So Libraries can pop-up in the strangest places!

KELLIE HUSBAND
Liverpool City Library



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HISTORY WEEK 2014

We had the fabulous Brad Manera, director of the Anzac Memorial, historian, military tour guide, author and curator; present a wonderful comprehensive and totally accessible talk on the Causes of the First World War. Brilliantly illustrated with great maps and photos, Brad is a very popular speaker among audiences for good reason.

To share the music of the war years, we had Liverpool's wonderful Evergreen Singers lead a sing along for our seniors (including those who came in from nursing homes). The heartfelt emotion of these old meaningful songs and the joy of singing them was a very special morning indeed.

At our museum, we held a Liverpool Remembers Commemoration day on a Saturday, with approximately 500 people attending. The event included WW1 re-enactment groups, antiques and collectables valuations, a display of military vehicles, a display of Liverpool photographs and other WW1 items and the Liverpool Brass Band playing marching tunes and war songs.

It was a wonderful day with something for everyone, very educational and entertaining.

JO MORRIS
Liverpool City Library



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- 01 PETER FITZSIMONS AT MARRICKVILLE LIBRARY
- 02 JOBSEEKER WORKSHOPS AT MARRICKVILLE LIBRARY
- 03 READ, REVIEW & WIN AT MOSMAN LIBRARY
- 04 WINNER NEWCASTLE REGION LIBRARY
- 05 INDIGENOUS LITERACY WEEK
- 06 LIBRARY LINKS AT NEWCASTLE REGION LIBRARY

Maitland

HVORFOR GIK ZOMBIERNE PÅ BIBLIOTEKET?

Hvorfor gik zombieerne på biblioteket? – Det er der de bedste hjerner er!

That was Maitland City Library's library zombie joke translated into Danish and retweeted by Hørsholm Bibliotek, Guldborgsund-bibliotek and Greve Bibliotek during #followalibrary day on 1 October.

#followalibrary day was an excellent example of libraries across Australia and the world supporting, following and retweeting each other. Our zombie joke tweet was ranked the 17th most engaging tweet from Australian Government Twitter accounts on 1 October 2014, according to data from Great Oz Gov Tweets. Maitland City Library also gained extra followers and followed new libraries themselves.

For those of you who may have missed it or who don't speak Danish: Why did the zombies go to the library? It's where the best brains are!

See you next #followalibrary day for more classic library humour.

REBECCA COWIE
Maitland City Library

Marrickville

PETER FITZSIMONS AT MARRICKVILLE LIBRARY

Peter Fitzsimons presented an author talk at Marrickville Library to launch his new book, *Gallipoli*. Over 100 guests were engaged by Fitzsimon's trademark vibrancy (and red bandana) in his re-telling of this significant chapter in Australia's

military history. For Marrickville Library and History Services, this event formed the first in a series of presentations titled *Marrickville Remembers*, examining the history of World War I as we approach the Centenary of Gallipoli.

JOB SEEKER WORKSHOPS

In partnership with MTC Australia, Marrickville Library held a series of job seeker workshops to help people in our local community to better compete in the ever evolving job market. Weekly workshops ran over seven weeks and included key topics such as Understanding Job Ads, Writing Resumes and Cover Letters and the all-important Job Interview Skills.

JOSIE CAVALLARO
Marrickville Library

Mosman

READ, REVIEW & WIN

Over a period of two months in winter, Mosman Library invited borrowers to write a short review of a recently read book. The reviews didn't need to be favourable. In fact a few of those received were downright scathing. These reviews were posted on a bulletin board for all to read. Alternatively, reviews could be posted online directly to the catalogue.

The incentive for people to take part in this Program was a weekly prize, the winner being chosen randomly. A literature inspired carry bag was filled with several gifts, including a book-journal and a voucher to spend at a local book-shop. At the end of the Program, all reviews went in to the draw for the major prize of an iPod.

The Program was promoted through the local newspaper, posters throughout Council and social media.



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Read, Review & Win has been in progress for the past few years at the Library, firstly on a weekly basis, however it has been more successful being run in two blocks, one in the summer holidays, and one in the winter. People are now becoming familiar with the idea of picking up a review card when they borrow, also online reviews have increased, and this is where we see the Program headed.

All winners were, of course, very pleased with their prizes. We are anticipating a good response to the Program when it is held over the summer holidays in conjunction with “Treasure Trove” for the children, and “Reading Rave” for the teens.

JANE ROUGHLEY
Mosman Library

Newcastle

CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY

Newcastle Region Library celebrated Indigenous Literacy DAY with a WEEK of activities aimed at schools. A series of Indigenous storytimes and workshops were presented at our libraries by the local Miromaa Aboriginal Language and Technology Centre. Each session included a Dreamtime story, learning local Awabakal language and an introduction to Indigenous tools and weapons. The program was very well received by schools, with over 750 students attending.

The students raised over \$600 to support the work of The Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

CAROL EDMONDS
Newcastle Region Library

NEWCASTLE REGION LIBRARY LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Newcastle Region Library in partnership with Ability Links has launched an exciting new program of activities and events for our community. Linkers work with local communities to help them become more welcoming and inclusive of people with disability. At the library we want all members of our community to use the facilities, resources and services of the library and to seek out the library as a centre for community activity.

The program, which has cleverly been named “Library Links” takes place each Thursday morning and involves four different activity themes: craft, literature, games and life.

We are trialling the program for three months and hope to continue into 2015. The feedback has been extremely positive from all concerned; this truly is a way to place the library at the centre of the community.

PAT ANNETTS
Newcastle Region Library

MEN’S HEALTH WEEK AT NEWCASTLE LIBRARY

During Men’s Health Week from June 10 to 14, Newcastle City Library held a Mini Men’s Health Expo. This included information, displays and presentations from The Heart Foundation, The Cancer Council, The Stroke Foundation, Beyond Blue, Ability Links, Alzheimer’s Australia, Diabetes Australia, Procure and Men’s Shed. There was also a special presentation from Greg Milan from Men’s Health Services who revealed “the 10 things men need to know”.

The popular library program Bookchat with Peter Trist was included in the program. The focus was



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- 01 PETER TRIST AT MEN'S HEALTH WEEK AT NEWCASTLE LIBRARY
- 02 READEMBER AT PARKES SHIRE LIBRARY
- 03 STUDENT MENTOR MEIHUA GONG PRESENTS A SEMINAR AT GUILDFORD LIBRARY

on migrant stories, in particular those of men who have travelled to new countries and the challenges they face. There was a special guest from the Ethnic Community Centre at this event who spoke about the work of this group and also about the exciting Men's Shed project which is being developed with the Centre.

PATRICIA ANNETTS AND CAROL EDMONDS
Newcastle Region Library

Parkes

“OUR TOWN” READEMBER 2014

When John Cleese announced “And now for something completely different” it was to mark the beginning of each television episode of Monty Python's Flying Circus. However he could also have been meaning the month of September in Parkes library! Or REAdtember as library staff called the month preceding October. Officially opened by former Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Marie Bashir, REAdtember was a flurry of activity, fun and doing things differently.

Every Saturday in September saw families heading to the library to learn about “Our Town”. Through songs, stories and craft, participants learnt about many of the people in their neighbourhood. Craft activities helped contribute to the giant mural in the children's section of the library - a year-long reminder of four fabulous, fun-filled family days' entertainment!

Prior to the first Saturday in September, staff were busy building removable sets to help create a town within the library. Children were able to play hairdressers, bakers (using play dough), and deliver mail to specially made red postboxes which were scattered throughout the non-fiction section.

In the spirit of doing things differently, the staff made a pop-up library in the Metro Plaza just outside



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Woolworths. From Tuesday 16th to Friday 19th staff ran two Storytime sessions and two Rhyme Time sessions; while also explaining the services available in the library and conducting surveys about Parkes Shire Library. Many people were unaware of all the services that their local library could offer them, and it was interesting to interact with people and listen to what they wanted in their library. Members of the public were pleasantly surprised to find the space, normally reserved for spruikers, occupied by people who were not trying to sell anything.

The last two weeks of September were the school holidays. Activities provided for school-aged children ranged from craft, music, painting and three days of being a supervillain!

The last week of the holidays was dedicated to making Louise Stowell's book *The School for Supervillains* come alive in a new and creative way. Aply assisted by Dr Matt Finch, the children made a variety of their own activities in keeping with the theme of superheroes clashing with supervillains. Cardboard boxes, disowned and broken toys plus other odds and ends became grand interactive game boards full of killer robots, mutant mazes and nightmares!

These activities then became the foundational games for the long weekend's spectacular event “Fun Palaces”! The Fun Palaces idea originated in England with the motto “Everyone an artist, everyone a scientist”. The emphasis was on everyone is able to interact, explore and be creative. In another groundbreaking moment for Parkes Library, we were the first organisation in Australia to host a Fun Palace event - with record numbers joyfully entering the library on both Saturday and Sunday of the Labour Day weekend. It's certainly been a super busy month in the library, but a month where we pioneered new activities and again provided quality services to the community of Parkes Shire.

DAN FREDERICKS
Parkes Shire Library



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Parramatta

PEER MENTORING AT PARRAMATTA CITY LIBRARY

When Meihua Gong immigrated to Australia from China 10 years ago, she could neither read nor write in English and she found herself in a classroom in suburban Sydney. Her teacher asked the class to choose a friend and write something nice about that child. Meihua recalls that she had made a friend, but didn't have the words to express herself. She describes the feeling of frustration and she vowed that she would study hard to find those precious words. Ten years later she graduated Dux of her High school, scoring an ATAR of 99.20.

When I met Meihua in 2013 she struck me as just a typical young HSC student with a lovely smile and an unassuming manner. The significant part of this story is that Meihua Gong is not an ordinary student at all, what makes Meihua stand out is that she cares about other students and has a passion to give back to the community.

After Meihua completed her HSC in 2013, she wrote to express her gratitude and thanks to the Library for the support she had received. Consequently Meihua offered to participate in a peer mentoring and motivational series of seminars I had been experimenting with at Parramatta Library.

Throughout 2014 Meihua prepared and presented English Belonging and Chemistry seminars and trial exams, an enormously ambitious task which required hours of preparation and hours spent marking the exams for students.

Most importantly Meihua is perceived as a mentor and motivator by the students who attend these seminars and because of her example I think they feel supported and less alone.

In a recent Motivational study skills seminar at the Guildford Branch Library, Meihua emphasised that although the HSC is a competitive exam, adopting a

collegiate and sharing ethos with peers is rewarding equally important. I was impressed by her heartfelt motivational stories which really resonated with students many of whom are also of immigrant or refugee background.

Meihua recently wrote to me saying "I truly thank you for the opportunities you have given me this year. It has extensively developed my public speaking skills and helped one of my mini dreams come true. I had always wanted to be a seminar presenter who inspires students to do their best, and I think I have managed to achieve this goal for at least some students. It has truly allowed me to be challenged and develop in ways I could never have imagined at the start of the year. I am grateful for the faith and trust you have placed in me and I hope I have not disappointed your expectations this year." On the contrary, Meihua's contribution has reinvigorated the concept of the HSC lectures, putting a different focus onto some of our student programs, where the emphasis is placed not entirely on content or study skills techniques, but peer mentoring and motivation.

Bear in mind that throughout 2014 Meihua has been studying for her Law/Science degree at UNSW, as well as presenting an HSC Motivational Study skills seminar, an English Belonging seminar and writing and facilitating Chemistry and English HSC Trial exam papers. Young Meihua Gong has courage "in spades" imagine how hard it is stand up in front of 60 of your peers and grab their attention and keep it for two hours. Meihua Gong is always out there pushing the envelope and seeking to inspire High school students to "GO FOR IT".

KATHERINE MITCHELL
Parramatta City Library

Port Macquarie-Hastings

UKULELES FOR LOAN

Thanks to a \$4000 Creative Ageing Local Government grant, Port Macquarie-Hastings Council has recently purchased 10 ukulele kits available to borrow from the library. As part of the grant, our council has offered free 'learn to play the uke' courses for seniors.

The response to this project has been overwhelmingly positive, with extra courses having to be added (plus a pretty hefty waiting list), with the project culminating in a public performance or 'uke mob' of some kind, possibly in the library.



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- 01 PORT MAC LIBRARY MANAGER JIM AND HIS UKE
- 02 THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT LIBRARY AGREEMENT FOR GLADESVILLE LIBRARY
- 03 GIANT CHESS AT WEST RYDE LIBRARY
- 04 NOWRA'S POP-UP LIBRARY

Uke kits are initially available only to those seniors registered for the course, but at the end of the project we will have 10 kits in the collection available for loan to anyone.

As far as we know we're the first library in the country to offer ukuleles for loan. We're yet to find out if that's because we're really brave and pioneering, or simply because our library manager can't say no. The uke kits consist of a uke, tuner, and chord chart in a sturdy padded carry bag.

Love them or hate them, ukulele's are an ideal 'beginner' instrument and, we believe, a perfect addition to our library collection.

BRENDAN McDONALD
Port Macquarie-Hastings Library

Port Stephens

EBOOK DROP-IN SESSIONS

After increasing demand for assistance in accessing and downloading library resources to tablets, e-readers, smartphones, and laptops, Port Stephens Library staff were looking for a means of meeting this demand in dedicated space and time, rather than at the busy information counter.

Newcastle Region Library's Kieran O'Donoghue's expertise and vision had resulted in her developing an excellent program, in conjunction with Jobquest and Newcastle high schools. After Kieran kindly shared her program details with us, Port Stephens Library decided to offer it to our Tomaree Library customers.

Jobquest, Tomaree High School and Port Stephens Library collaborated on the project, with library staff training two Year 10 Tomaree High School students in supporting resources customers. Over a period of five weeks, the two students plus two library staff were available for ninety minute sessions to assist customers who brought their own devices along with them. These people all owned different devices and were at varying stages of knowledge and experience with downloading ebooks. The one-on-one assistance given by students and staff opened a world of resources previously inaccessible for many of these customers.



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The "ebooks drop-in" sessions were highly successful with 40 people attending over the five weeks. The Tomaree High School students did a magnificent job in terms of their commitment and enthusiasm, their understanding of the technology, keenness and ability to share their knowledge, and willingness to ask when they were unsure.

The partnership facilitated strong connections between students, library staff and the community. The mutual respect and rapport between the customers and the students resulted in wonderful connections that spanned several generations.

From November, two additional students have joined the original two and the program re-commences with four students and two staff this month.

SUE HEENAN
Tomaree Library and Community Centre, Port Stephens Library

Ryde

CITY OF RYDE AND HUNTERS HILL JOINT LIBRARY AGREEMENT

Thursday, 9 October 2014 marked the signing of a new joint library agreement between City of Ryde and Hunters Hill Councils regarding the operation of Gladesville Library. Both Mayors and General Managers were present for the signing of the agreement, alongside staff from both Councils and Friends of Gladesville Library. The new agreement will carry the joint library service at Gladesville to its 60th anniversary in 2017 and provides a secure vision for our joint library service for the immediate future.

Gladesville Library opened on Saturday 26 May 1956, however soon became a joint library service. By Council resolution it was decided that from January 1957, 'Gladesville Branch Library would henceforth be known as Ryde Hunters Hill Municipal Library and that the two councils would share expenses and residents of both municipalities would be eligible to be borrowers'. Both councils have since worked together to provide a service that meets the needs of the community in Gladesville, Hunters Hill and surrounding areas.



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Both Mayors were keen to emphasise the importance of libraries as community places, recognising the pivotal role of libraries in bringing people together. They also spoke of the wonderful space provided by libraries for great collections of books, lifelong learning opportunities and essential support for children's literacy.

KIM O'GRADY
Ryde Library Service

GIANT CHESS A WINNER AT WEST RYDE LIBRARY

Community members of West Ryde have been enjoying a fun new version of an old favourite game.

We have a giant chess board that is positioned in the middle of the library and is free for the whole community to play.

The game has been very well used by many different library patrons from children to senior members. We have enjoyed watching parents and grandparents teaching their children to play, and we have also noticed students studying for their HSC take a break from study to refresh their minds by playing a good natured game with their friends.

One of our keen players is recruiting in the community for interested players to start a chess club to meet in the library.

The giant chess game has been a great success at West Ryde promoting social connections within the community and encouraging people to spend recreation time in the library having fun at this vibrant community hub.

RAECHELL HIGGON
Ryde Library Service

Shoalhaven Libraries

POP-UP LIBRARY NOWRA

Nowra Library has been running a pop-up library once a month for 2 hours in our main council building lunch room since April 2014.

The idea to start a pop-up in the council building was to bridge the "physical gap" between the two



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buildings. We knew council staff were busy in their lunch break, so if we could take the library to the staff browsing and borrowing would become a lot easier.

The first month was really a trial run. A selection of library stock was picked out as well as new member cards, bookmarks, information brochures and promotional material. I pads with wifi access were also needed to connect to the library management system, catalogue and databases.

Over the next few months stock was chosen, based on suggestions and what staff were borrowing.

Since April 9 new members have joined the library, 112 items have been issued averaging 16 items per visit through the pop-up library.

Since starting this pop-up library, Nowra staff have had requests to have pop-ups in other areas of council.

The pop-up library has been a very valuable experience for all council staff. It is a great way to connect with colleagues, promote library services and increase membership.

ROBIN SHARPE
Shoalhaven Libraries

Stanton Library

'A DRAWING A DAY' EXHIBITION

Leading up to White Ribbon Day this year, Stanton Library and the Community Development Team at North Sydney Council wanted to raise awareness of domestic violence issues in the North Sydney LGA. They approached the artist Meg Minkley to show her A Drawing a Day exhibition in November.

Meg Minkley's A Drawing a Day artworks are the result of a creative healing process. Finding it difficult to source adequate support on her return to Australia after surviving a sexual assault while travelling, and surprised by social taboos around the topic of rape, Meg started to draw a picture a day – for a period of 365 days.

The exhibition, which will run for a month, was opened on Thursday 6th November by Tania Smith,



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- 01 GENEALOGY GROUP MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS AT STANTON LIBRARY
- 02 OUTREACH LIBRARY SERVICE AT WAGGA
- 03 MARILYN THE POP-UP LIBRARY CARAVAN (PHOTO ERIC IMBS)
- 04 WILLOUGHBY AND THE GREAT WAR DISPLAY AT CHATSWOOD LIBRARY FOR HISTORY WEEK 2014

a local Domestic Violence Specialist, and the artist Meg Minkley. Both women spoke about the need to end the taboos around speaking about sexual assault and domestic violence.

JASMIN GOSER & CISKA WHITE
Stanton Library

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

2014 saw the launch of a new service at Stanton Library – Family History Research. This service consists of a group of 6 volunteers passionate about helping people research their own family trees.

Stanton offers free access to subscription programs like Ancestry.com and FindMyPast through the North Sydney Heritage Centre, which is located inside the Library. It is a one-on-one service designed to help people find their way through the mass of data that's now available and help point them in the right direction. Beginners are interviewed by a tutor to get a 'feel' for what a customer is looking for. Also, many of the volunteers have certain expertise on a particular geographic area and know where to research. Beginners are given a starter pack which is a guide to searching and related genealogy links.

The Family History service currently runs the first three Fridays of each month from 10am-12 pm.

LIZ AGNEW
Stanton Library

Wagga

LIBRARY COUNCIL VISITS WAGGA

During a very successful visit from Library Council members and the State Librarian Dr Alex Bryne on 29 October a framed historic photo was presented to the Mayor as a gift from the State Library's Holtermann Collection: a streetscape of Fitzmaurice Street c1870-1875. The photo has been installed in the window of the Rose Novak Room, where the Local Studies Collection is housed in the library, so that it can be enjoyed by the whole community.



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'FOOTPATH LIBRARY' WAGGA STYLE

Many metropolitan libraries now offer a Footpath Library Service to homeless people who are unable to become members of their local library because they have no permanent address. The Footpath Library aims to enrich the quality of life for homeless people, encourage literacy and promote a society that is well informed about homelessness. To assist this client group in Wagga Wagga, the library has created the Outreach Library Service (OWL) - a free service available to residents with no permanent address and who are currently living in hostels and shelters. This collection of high quality books across all age groups is being delivered to the following centres: Wagga Wagga Women's Refuge; Micah House; Edel Quinn Men's Shelter; The Peppers Rehabilitation Centre; Topaz Youth Shelter; and the Wagga Wagga Health Service - Mental Health Sub-acute ward.

CLAIRE CAMPBELL
Wagga Wagga City Library

Warringah

WARRINGAH LOVES 'MARILYN' THE POP-UP LIBRARY CARAVAN

Warringah Council Library is proud to introduce 'Marilyn', a vintage caravan, refurbished as a pop-up library. Library staff wanted to have a presence at community and council events, but past experience showed that traditional tents and market stalls were not inviting. The library needed a marketing hook to make people stop and engage with staff. Because Warringah Council has a long history as a holiday and caravanning destination for Sydneysiders, staff suggested renovating a vintage caravan and the idea for Marilyn was born.

Being librarians, the research gene kicked in and we proceeded to learn all we could about retro and vintage caravans in Australia. Our budget was \$10,000 for everything including the purchase and refit of the caravan. The classic 50s caravans are Bondwood, but



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they typically need a huge amount of work if they are in bad condition or are hugely expensive if they are in good condition. Making a new retro style caravan from scratch was also beyond the budget.

After a lengthy search, a 10ft caravan dating from 1977 was purchased from Ebay for \$4,000 and collected from Victoria. Library and council staff chipped in to rejuvenate it as a pop-up library while retaining as much of the original character and features as possible.

Our initial plan was to keep the interior intact, but close inspection showed that the floor was rotted out, resulting in some serious modifications. This proved to be for the best, because it allowed us to refit the interior with additional storage and face-out book shelves. We filled the shelves with donated books to give away. We also installed high quality wi-fi – essential to making sure Marilyn could travel to all locations.

To make our pop-up space look as inviting and retro as possible, we purchased an artificial grass rug, garden gnomes and plastic flamingos to decorate our 'yard'. Our vintage caravan needed a suitable name, and we decided she had transformed from a Norma Jean Baker into a Marilyn Monroe.

At her debut Marilyn was a huge star. We launched her at Warringah Council's Brookvale Show on 26 October 2014. People stopped to admire her, peek inside and ask questions. One man stayed for over an hour and read a magazine on the sofa. Marilyn proved to be the hook that started the conversations between library staff and the public. We joined up new members and promoted our virtual collections with iPads and wi-fi.

Over summer, Marilyn will be travelling around Warringah to deliver pop-up storytime sessions and to promote our library and its services.

**GAYNOR COTTER, MELANIE MUTCH
AND SARAH THOMPSON**
Warringah Council Library



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Willoughby

TALKS@WILLOUGHBY HOSTS FORMER PRIME MINISTER

Former Prime Minister John Howard was a special guest of the Talks@Willoughby program at Chatswood Library in October. The talk received a lot of interest in the local media and, as expected, booked out very quickly.

Mr Howard spoke on the topic of his new book, *The Menzies Era*, offering unique insights and thoughtful analysis into Menzies the man, the politician, and his legacy.

The audience of over 120 people, engaged in a very stimulating Q&A session at the conclusion of the talk, before queuing to have copies of the book signed.

WILLOUGHBY AND THE GREAT WAR

As part of History Week celebrations this year, Willoughby Library's Local Studies team put together a fascinating exhibition "Willoughby and the Great War" to honour the young men of Willoughby who enlisted for service during the course of World War I.

The exhibition featured the service records of many of those men together with images of the various honour boards and war memorials in the area.

Several generous donations were also received from families who had relatives living in the local area at the time, which included photographs and memorabilia from their ancestor's service during the War.

To complement the exhibition, local historian Tony Cunneen gave an interesting talk about what life would have been like on the home front in Willoughby during the Great War, speaking about the impact on people's everyday lives, the contribution they made at home to the war effort and how they supported their troops overseas.



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- 01 eSKILLS BAR POSTER AT WILLOUGHBY LIBRARY
- 02 GAMBLING ON LIBRARY BOOKS IS A SURE BET! MELBOURNE CUP WINNER VINCE FROM BUNDANOON
- 03 WOLLONDILLY CELEBRATES NATIONAL FAMILY HISTORY MONTH WITH A WALKING TOUR
- 04 STRUMMING AND HUMMING AWAY AT TUGGERAH LIBRARY'S UKULELE WORKSHOP
- 05 WINNERS OF THE WYONG SHORT STORY COMPETITION

eSKILLS BAR AT CHATSWOOD LIBRARY

A pop-up *eSkills* Bar has started at Chatswood Library, offering “tech” support to customers in accessing the Library’s online collections.

Available every Monday for an hour from 11am, customers can drop-in with their tablet, smart-phone or eReader, and get free one-on-one help.

This free, weekly drop-in session is proving to be a useful addition to the Library’s program. With the recent introduction of BorrowBox to the Library’s eCollections, there has been a renewed interest in ebooks and eAudiobooks.

The eSkills Bar is managed by the Service Delivery and Online Services Librarians, with assistance from a dedicated team of tech savvy volunteers.

LIZ PARKER
Willoughby City Libraries

Wingecarribee

MELBOURNE CUP BOOK SWEEP

Some might say that library patrons take a gamble every time they borrow a library staff member’s reading “suggestion”. On that premise, and for the second year, we have asked our patrons to take chance and borrow one of our Melbourne Cup Book Sweep bags. Items are appropriately selected and lovingly wrapped. Each bag is numbered, and on race day, the appropriate horse assigned. Then it’s really up to the gee-gees to do their thing.

We give prizes for first, second, third and last. Most patrons say yay not neigh, no money changes hands, we are able to boost our circulation figures just a little bit more and our patrons have a laugh.

After all, gambling on library books is a sure bet!

HELEN COWEN
Bowral library

YOLANDE ISEDALE
Wingecarribee Rural Outreach Delivery Service

Wollondilly

NATIONAL FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

To celebrate National Family History Month, Wollondilly Library Service ran a series of events to assist and encourage its community to begin their family history journey. Participants learnt how to digitise their old family photographs and memorabilia in free Preserving Memories workshops at Picton Library. Patrick Dodd presented A Closer Look at Your Library session providing insights into the State Library of NSW’s fascinating history and extensive collections, exhibitions, programs and events. Wollondilly Library partnered with Picton District Historical Society to host Picton’s People and Places Walking Tour guided by local historian Kate Holmes. We also ran a Using the Library Edition of Ancestry.com to assist participants with discovering their roots with an interactive workshop and demonstration.

HISTORY WEEK 2014

Wollondilly Library Service in partnership with the Speaker Connect program presented by the History Council of NSW hosted a lecture on Menzies, Curtin and Conscriptio during History Week 2014 - The Great War. Attendees were fascinated by author and historian Andrew Tink’s lecture and enthusiastically participated in the Q & A session that followed. Conversations, memories and camaraderie continued to be shared at morning tea and the library’s relevant resources and collections were viewed and borrowed with interest.



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DOWNLOADING EBOOKS AND SMARTPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

In addition to our Tech Savvy Seniors courses, and in response to a growing need, Wollondilly Library Service is now running a series of technology based workshops including Smartphone Photography and Downloading ebooks. Participants may bring their own devices and they enjoy the small class sizes that target their specific skill development needs. Feedback has been very encouraging with participants gaining greater skills and confidence with using their devices and the library has seen an increase in the number of resources being borrowed from related collections.

GEORGINA KONSTANTA
Wollondilly Library Service

Wyong

STATE RECORDS VISITS TUGGERAH

We were very fortunate to have State Records visit Tuggerah twice recently. Gail Davis came during Family History Month to present a talk called 'Convicts in your tree - using State Records to build a story about your convict'. This provided us with lots of great tips into how to set the scene for a great convict story, all evidence based, of course!

We also asked State Records to talk about the records they hold that outline the history and development of the Wyong area. John Cann presented an amazing talk, outlining the Wyong story as seen through their records. The audience was spell bound as John spoke about the early land grants, troubles in the local school between a teacher and a family, the development of the township and much more.



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SPOOKY TIMES AT TUGGERAH

Garry Bellenger from Central Coast Paranormal visited Tuggerah to talk about all things spooky. Garry spoke about paranormal activity on the Central Coast - apparently the most active spot is Noraville Cemetery! This was a very popular topic that booked out very quickly and had attendees swapping tales about their own ghostly visitors!

We also had Suzie Price, 'Australia's Ghost Whisperer' in to discuss her life and experiences. This also proved to be a very popular event.

UKULELE WORKSHOP

Liz Kitney from the 'Central Coast Ukelele Club' held a ukulele workshop at Tuggerah. The library was filled with the sounds of people strumming and humming away. Ukuleles are very popular at the moment for people of all ages and this was evident by the mix of people in the audience.

WYONG SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Wyong Library Service was proud to run the third Short Story Competition in 2014. This was advertised heavily in the local press, on our web page and around the schools. This year over 100 entries were received. Stories had to be up to 1500 words and residents could enter one of three divisions - adult, youth or children. Winners were announced at a special morning tea held at the main Council building on Saturday 11 October with over 120 people in attendance including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. This was a great event for promoting local literary talent as well as the library service. The stories are available to read on our web page www.wyong.nsw.gov.au/library

MICHELLE GOLDSMITH
Wyong Shire Library Service

Children's News

MONTH-LONG BOOK WEEK AT BANKSTOWN

Book Week is a month-long excuse for lots of fun at Bankstown libraries with our local primary schools. During our Book Week Month celebration library staff promoted the shortlisted books, arranged for author and illustrator talks at local schools and fun and prizes for kids of all ages. Library staff visited local schools and promoted books, reading and the library service to more than 1600 children from 20 Primary schools. The Bankstown Library staff organised well-known Australian children's authors and illustrators, Deborah Abela, David Legge, Lesley Vamos, and Oliver Phommavanh, to visit the library branches and local schools.

This year's Book Week theme "Connect to Reading, Reading to Connect" was a great platform for Bankstown's Primary School kids to show us how they connect to their families. As part of the Book Week competitions, this year students were asked "How they were connected to 3 members of their family". We received over 340 entries from 20 different schools, which is the highest number of entries ever received for a Book Week competition.

SCIENCE SEEKERS CLUB A HUGE SUCCESS

The children's team at Bankstown Library wanted to trial a program for our children interested in science and developed a proposal to trial a monthly science club and host the Planetarium during the October School Holidays.

Saturday afternoons became Science Seekers time with the monthly science club designed for children aged between 8 and 12 years. The club attracted 20 families who wanted the program to be weekly as it was so engaging.

The program was run by the Children's Discovery Museum supervised by library staff on Saturday afternoons from 1.30-3pm and subsidised by the Library.

The program included chemical capers in July with supervised experiments of mixing acids and bases



BANKSTOWN CELEBRATES A WHOLE MONTH OF BOOK WEEK

with explosive results and children making their own sherbet! In August the children learned how to safely use soldering iron in making their own electronic gadgets. At the September session children did some amazing things with air pressure including levitating a balloon and making a Cartesian diver; in October they turned to learning more about the human body and in November they had a huge science fair where they tried out some more new experiments.

TARA CORDINA
Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre

STORYTIME MAKES A SPLASH AT BLUE MOUNTAINS

A new Civic Centre is currently under construction in the Springwood area, which will connect via a Galleria to the Springwood Branch of Blue Mountains City Library. This is an exciting development for the Library, however it necessitated a temporary closure of the Springwood Library throughout August and September. The Children's Services team run a regular weekly Preschool Storytime program at the Branch, and wanted to continue to provide for the needs of their regular attendees throughout the period of closure.

Library staff collaborated with the Council Leisure Centre staff and developed an innovative program of Preschool Storytime at the Springwood Aquatic Centre.

The program was a successful collaboration, combining the creative talent from the Children's team and the organisational skills of the Leisure Centre's Creche staff. The combination of a Public Library and a Leisure Centre is a powerful partnership in education, socialisation, and literacy for families with preschool children. It is the first time that a Library and Leisure Centre in the Blue Mountains have come together for such a venture. The program was designed to create an environment filled with fun, laughter and creativity, structured to promote learning, and that was free to the community.

The use of the Aquatic Centre as a venue also provided an added benefit of creating a new awareness for members of the public who are not Library orientated, as well as making Library clients aware of programs available at the Aquatic and Fitness Centre. It also spreads social awareness of the importance of Early Literacy in the Blue Mountains.

Due to the great success of this initiative, a joint partnership has been established to continue a Preschool Storytime during school holidays at the Springwood Aquatic and Fitness Centre. The program has also expanded to include a combined Pop-up Library and Storytime session at Katoomba Aquatic and Fitness Centre.

ANIKO KORO AND ADRIANNA DEMMOCKS
Blue Mountains City Library

BABY BOUNCE - DOUBLE THE FUN - AT BROKEN HILL

On 15 October 2013 the Broken Hill City Library launched its Baby Bounce program. After months of research and a trip to the Mildura Library to check out their program, we designed our program and were ready to go.

After a fairly slow start our numbers began to grow. The word was spreading fast. Mums, dads and grandparents all starting coming to join in the Baby Bounce fun at the Library. For a while there we even had three sets of twins and we needed to call on more staff to help because we had more babies than parents. When Baby Bounce is over, the parents stay and chat while the babies play.

We all look forward to Tuesday morning when our library is full of laughing babies and happy parents.



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The babies are just mesmerised by the books we read. We love seeing the babies become more and more familiar with the songs and the actions. We all have fun at Baby Bounce: babies, carers and library staff.

MARTINA SCHINDLER
Broken Hill City Library

CHILDREN'S SCIENCE WEEK EVENT AT BROKEN HILL

On Saturday 16 August, the Broken Hill City Library hosted Broken Hill High School teacher Miss Leiona Hough and several of her year 10 students for a morning of hands on science fun to kick start National Science Week.

The younger children were fascinated with the specimens that were brought to the library to view, which included various sea life and spiders captured in glass, and were also shown microscopic cells under the microscope.

- 01 STORYTIME MAKES A SPLASH - SPRINGWOOD LIBRARY TEAMS UP WITH SPRINGWOOD AQUATIC CENTRE
- 02 BABY BOUNCE AT BROKEN HILL CITY LIBRARY

- 01 CHILDREN'S SCIENCE WEEK AT BROKEN HILL CITY LIBRARY
- 02 COOLAMON LIBRARY STORYTIME HITS THE ROAD FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK
- 03 RECREATED SQUEAK STREET AT NAROOMA LIBRARY
- 04 BYRON AND CAITLIN RELF WITH PIRATE ANDY AT FORSTER LIBRARY



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The students excelled in their enthusiasm whilst helping the young children learn about science with activities including the classic tornado, tin can telephone, stress test and many others in a fun and educational morning for all involved!

FALLON LAWN
Broken Hill City Library

STORYTIME ON THE ROAD AT COOLAMON LIBRARY

Local Government Week was held in early August 2014 and as part of the celebration, the Coolamon Library offered 'Storytime on the Road'. It was a great opportunity for the library staff to visit preschools and primary schools to deliver Storytime sessions.

The staff and children were all very excited to welcome us into their classrooms. The theme for this year was 'Gardens' and included stories and fun craft activities provided for the students.

Our local Council donated several shrubs and punnets of flowers for the children to plant in their school grounds, which was assisted by family and other community members who also participated in the Storytime sessions.

It is a great way to celebrate Local Government Week!

HELEN McLOUGHLIN
Coolamon Library

STORYTIME FUN AT NAROOMA LIBRARY

We thought you might enjoy reading about one of our recent storytime sessions for pre-schoolers at Narooma Library. After enjoying Emily Rodda's wonderful story *Squeak Street* and the illustrations by Andrew McLean, we had a lot of fun making plasticine models of the mice from the story. As you can see, the children then enjoyed playing with our wooden replica of Squeak Street and their little mice!"

JANICE TAYLOR
Eurobodalla Libraries

PIRATE PARTY WITH SEADOG SCARFACE AT FORSTER LIBRARY

33 children enjoyed dressing as pirates and hearing Seadog Scarface's pirate stories of the Great Lakes. Most of them were really surprised to learn that pirate ships were in the area. If they wanted to join the pirate ranks they had to find out where they had

to be, at what time and to know the secret chant. Craft followed which finished off a lot of the costumes nicely and helped the unprepared kids get in the mood. We headed outside to gorgeous weather and enjoyed some pirate grub. An ensuing treasure hunt everyone enjoyed the spoils of the sea and was a great way to finish.

MEREDITH CAMPBELL
Great Lakes Library Service

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC WEEK AT GUNNEDAH

This year Gunnedah Shire Library partnered with the Salvation Army, whose staff lent the library twenty dressed teddy bears for a library display. The Salvation Army also donated a life sized giant teddy to the library. GT – Giant Teddy – quickly became a firm favourite with the younger readers, who enjoyed sitting on him, and reading to him, and generally cuddling up to his giant furry presence!

The staff asked the children to bring their teddy bears to Toddler Time on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, and also lent our giant picture books to PRAMS/REaD for their Teddy Bears' Picnic in the park event.

The library had two preschool bookings for the week, as well as our usual visit to Curlewis branch library, and a total of 103 youngsters and their carers enjoyed the teddy bear stories, handicrafts and the morning teas of teddy shaped biscuits and sweets that were served.

CHRISTIANE BIRKETT
Gunnedah Shire Library

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK AT MAITLAND

The Maitland City Library Book Week Roadshow hit the road again this year, performing 22 shows for over 2600 children in the Maitland LGA. The Roadshow brought CBCA short listed titles to life, allowing children to experience quality literature in a fun and engaging way. Whether it was a preschool, day care or primary school, King Pig and his demanding antics were the clear favourite with all the children.

Book Week remains one of the most powerful ways the Library has to reach children in the local community and promote a love of books, reading and of course, our libraries. Huge thanks to the Book Week team for their passion, commitment and talent. Well done Emma Callaghan, Jess Field, Laurelle Griffiths, Maree Gurr, Michelle Pala, Kelly Shankley-Price and Heather Shellsell.

REBECCA COWIE
Maitland City Library



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- 01 GIANT TEDDY A FAVOURITE WITH YOUNG GUNNEDAH READERS
- 02 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK AT MAITLAND CITY LIBRARY
- 03 NEWCASTLE REGION LIBRARY JOINS WITH OTHER LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN'S WEEK



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- 01 COMBINED SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION AT MOSMAN LIBRARY
- 02 PAINT PARRA READ STORY TIME AT DUNDAS LIBRARY
- 03 LYNETTE SEBBENS READS TO ONE OF THE LOCAL CLASSES DURING BOOK WEEK AT QUEANBEYAN

MOSMAN LIBRARY'S COMBINED SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION

This year the Combined Schools Art Exhibition at Mosman Library celebrated its 40th year with the launch on 20 October in the Children's Library. We enjoy hosting this annual event as a showcase for the talent and creativity of our local students.

There were over 200 works on display, created by Mosman school students and from Kindergarten through to Year Twelve. The annual exhibition is not a competition and all participating schools received \$120 worth of books for their school libraries.

The majority of the artworks from local primary schools decorated the Children's Library while the artwork from the high schools was featured in adult areas of the Library. The artworks were on display for 3 weeks attracting lots of viewers from the community including family and friends of the students.

SIMIN REYHANIAN
Mosman Library

COME AND BE LOUD AT BLACKBUTT

To celebrate Children's Week, Newcastle Region Library joined with seven local service providers to coordinate an outdoor preschool event with a focus upon early literacy. Run at popular Blackbutt Reserve, the morning included art activities, ongoing storytelling on the grass, an author, a clown, Blackbutt rangers showcasing reptiles, parachute games and a free sausage sizzle. Each family was also given a *Ten Minutes a Day* library bag containing child services brochures and art activities. The morning was an outstanding success with over 400 attending.

CAROL EDMONDS
Newcastle Region Library

READ TO YOUR CHILD FROM BIRTH! AT PARRAMATTA

Despite wet weather fears, the clouds cleared on Wednesday September 10th for the 2014 Paint Parra REaD Reading Day. Hundreds of children arrived at Church Street Mall, Parramatta, to be greeted by Redsee the Readasaurus and his special guests. Lord Mayor of Parramatta, Councillor John Chedid, along with Councillor Scott Lloyd and local MPs Jeff Lee, Julie Owens and many wonderful volunteers entertained the children with songs, stories and rhymes. Staff from Parramatta City Council, the Community Migrant Resource Centre and many volunteers from our community joined in to encourage parents to read to their children from birth.

Paint Parra REaD is a community literacy strategy aimed at promoting the importance of reading, singing, talking and rhyming with children from birth. Developing a language-rich environment, and encouraging parents and carers to read to their children from birth, will assist to develop brain connections and help equip children with the skills needed to engage with reading and writing at school.

The Community Migrant Resource Centre is the lead community organisation in partnership with Parramatta City Council.

AMANDA GITZEL
Parramatta City Library



/03

PAINT PARRA READ STORY TIME AT DUNDAS

While conveying the idea of Paint Parra Read and the importance of reading, at Dundas Library we decided to get the kids in their pj's with their cuddly stuffed animals and enjoy an evening story time before going to bed. Those parents and children who could not come to our regular story time happily joined in with all the others.

Sitting on red carpets and cushions with dimmed lights the children listened to the stories we read. The parents and children joined in with the singing and rhyming to the strumming of the guitar. Our Paint Parra Read mascot, Readsee the Readasaurus who loves to read, was a part of the evening's fun. We sang *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* and some of the other lovely rhymes. The day's reading started with a rhyming picture book about a naughty little dinosaur who loves getting dirty, *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur*, from the award winning author Janeen Brian. Children of all age groups enjoyed relating to it while Readsee gave knowing nods. Next we read *Banjo and the Ruby Red* followed by *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. By the time we finished with the singing 'Wheels on the Bus,' the children were hungry for milk and cookies which we handed out quickly. And soon they were ready for a good night's sleep as they walked out of the library sleepily waving to Readsee.

AMBAR, DINA, LOU AND NEHAL
Dundas Library

LEGO MINDSTORMS ROBOTICS EV3 AT CONSTITUTION HILL

On Thursday 3rd July 2014, Fizzics Education came to Constitution Hill Branch Library for an engaging and interactive science show called Lego Mindstorms Robotics Workshop.

It was an interactive hands on workshop. Using laptops and brand new EV3 Lego Mindstorms Robots, the 30 children who attended this event were able to find out how a robot really works.

The children are asked to complete a variety tasks whilst learning about basic programming. The programming itself is based on Lego's EV3 computer program. The students, who worked in groups, were shown step by step on how to program their robot to perform different movements as well as how to operate environmental sensors such as light and sound.

As well as being educational, the workshop was enormous fun for all.

JO, MAGDA, ZHORIK, ELIZABETH AND BARBARA
The Constitution Hill Branch Team

QUEANBEYAN CELEBRATES BOOK WEEK

Queanbeyan City Library staff adapted one of the display ideas from the wonderful Ipswich District Network Book Week resource book as their backdrop for all their Book Week sessions. We suspended a black curtain from the ceiling, attached several painted trees and "connected" covers of the short-listed books to tree branches by winding coloured raffia around them. Staff enjoyed ripping pages from discarded books to create leaves for the trees. The CBC banner with the "Connect to Reading" was attached to the top of the curtain. All the local schools were invited to create banners depicting the "Connect to Reading" theme which were attached to display boards.

More than 40 classes from local primary schools and pre-schools travelled by bus or walked to enjoy an hourly program of stories and games.

All children enjoyed playing a "Connect the Dots" game which required them to answer fun questions and complete challenges all based on connecting and reading. To complete each session we selected one of the teachers to be "Mr Squiggle" and connect some shapes on a large piece of paper so the children could predict what they had drawn. These pictures were also presented to each class to take back to their



WOLLONDILLY CELEBRATES BOOK WEEK

classrooms. What amazing and imaginative teachers we found! Each child received an original activity magazine and bookmark designed by library staff and jelly baby lollies to enjoy on their return to school.

LYNETTE SEBBENS
Queanbeyan

TODDLER TIME TAKES OFF AT CHATSWOOD

Toddler Time has finally arrived at Willoughby City Library and has had an overwhelmingly positive response from the community.

The sessions are currently being held once a week on Wednesdays at Chatswood Library. The program was introduced for those children who were too old for Baby Bounce, but too young and restless for Story Time.

Over 75 toddlers were in attendance for the first session and unfortunately many had to be turned away as they just would not fit. This has resulted in a ticketing system now being used, with tickets being handed out 30 minutes before the session begins. This has been successful and tickets are quickly snatched up. It is a great program for parents, guardians, children, and even staff. Although, with all the singing, dancing and general movement it can be quite the workout.

BOOK WEEK AT WOLLONDILLY - PUBLISHING OUR YOUNG POETS

The Wollondilly Library Service again took their show on the road visiting 13 schools within Wollondilly Shire and performing presentations to over 2500 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 award winning title *My Life as an Alphabet* by Barry Jonsberg, students from years 3-6 were asked to create an acrostic poem describing their schools. These poems are published on Wollondilly Library Services website and help create links between the school and library communities.

GEORGINA KONSTANTA
Wollondilly Library Service

BOOK WEEK AT WOOLLAHRA

Guided by 2013 Book Week evaluation comments received, local schools were contacted to participate in a Book Month (rather than a singular week), which provided more opportunities to fit with school scheduling. The "Reading to Connect: Connect to Reading" sessions included visits from authors Will Kostakis and Gus Gordan. These Writers and Readers for Young People sessions were held at Rose Bay Secondary College, Double Bay Public School, and Moriah College, reaching a total of 783 school students. During the nominated Book Week, celebrations were held at Storytime for the preschool age group at all library locations.

BE YOUNIQUE! AT LAKE HAVEN LIBRARY

During Mental Health Month, a team member from Mental Health Association of NSW presented an informative seminar on Anxiety Disorder to parents of primary school children.

This hour long seminar was modelled on the 'Small Steps' program presented to parents and teachers in primary schools. Small Steps is a program that aims to raise awareness and improve the recognition of anxiety disorders in children.

After the main event the presenter stayed and chatted to concerned parents on an individual basis, which was a great result.

This event complimented the seminars run by the Black Dog Institute around the branches covering depression and anxiety in adults. These were very well attended and we will be running more later in the year.

MICHELLE GOLDSMITH
Wyong Shire Library Service

Young Adults Update

2014 HSC LECTURES AT BLACKTOWN CITY LIBRARIES

Blacktown City Libraries have been offering HSC lectures for local high school students, parents and teachers for over 15 years. These lectures aim to provide students access to lecturers that may have authored a HSC text or are a HSC marker who can provide insight into exam techniques and enhance student knowledge of course content.

This year Blacktown City Libraries offered HSC lectures on the subjects of English and English Essay Writing, General Mathematics, Biology, Ancient and Modern History as well as Legal and Business Studies. The subjects are chosen based on student feedback forms, surveys and liaising with local high schools.

Evaluation has been crucial to the success of the HSC lectures and the feedback received has been very positive. This year's buzz word was "Awesome". Changes implemented have included increase in subjects offered, longer lecture times and a change to when lectures are conducted throughout the year.

Blacktown City Libraries used a mix of print and social media to promote the HSC lectures. Details of the lectures and lecturers were also made available on the library's website.

TRACEY CALDWELL
Blacktown City Libraries

HSC ENGLISH MARKER TALK AT COFFS HARBOUR

In August 2014, we had our first guest speaker to talk to HSC students at Coffs Harbour Library. In previous years, we held information sessions to introduce students to some of the online databases to help them with the research. This year, we speculated between a mock exam idea and the guest speaker talk to help HSC students to perform better in exams.

It can be challenging for libraries in regional areas to find experienced speakers at low cost. Contacting Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) was extremely helpful as they were able to quickly provide contact details of a couple of markers from our area.

We took advice from the English marker and held the event on week seven of term three, just after the



HSC BUSINESS STUDIES LECTURER LEN NIXON AT BLACKTOWN CITY LIBRARIES

trials and assessments had finished. It was a bonus for students to know a marker's perspective. It was interesting to note that the markers are looking for a point of difference to give that extra mark to someone and that each paper is marked twice by two different markers and any discrepancy is resolved by the senior marker.

Despite the fact that we had to postpone the event by one week due to extreme weather, the event was a success with over 45 students in attendance.

SURINDER KAUR
Coffs Harbour City Library

FORSTER LIBRARY HSC NIGHTS

Forster Library again opened its doors exclusively for HSC students, three nights prior to the trials and another three nights prior to the actual HSC. Students were extremely grateful for the free food, printing and internet. These evenings are a great opportunity for group study, social interaction and discussions. A few students said they were good therapy.

Forster Library's role at this time was just to provide a comfortable, safe space away from home where the students could stretch out and take advantage of all freebies that come with the package. This was a very simple effective way we could help support students. With up to 40 students turning up (and almost always at least 30) we've seen the idea gaining strength every year. 2014 was the fourth time we've held these HSC nights.

MEREDITH CAMPBELL
Great Lakes Library Service



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HSC NEWS FROM KU-RING-GAI LIBRARY

In the past month, Ku-ring-gai Library has presented 2 events to support HSC students. On 9th October we held an HSC Lock-in after normal library hours – it was highly successful and we received very positive feedback. Students enthused about the event and enjoyed having the new space of the refurbished library for their exclusive use for a few hours.

On Tuesday 21st October we presented a talk by Rowan Kunz founder of Art of Smart. Rowan has been a popular speaker to HSC students at Ku-ring-gai over the past year or so. This talk, entitled *Max Your Marks*, focused on teaching students study techniques used by Australia's top students, allowing them to study more effectively, reduce stress and increase their marks. 25 students – and a few enthusiastic parents – were absorbed by Rowan's talk and appeared keen to put into practice his recommendations.

**MICHELLE CAIRNS, SHARON DRENTH
AND REBECCA SHOESMITH**
Ku-ring-gai Library

SHELLHARBOUR MANGA ANIME COMICS EXHIBITION

Now in its third year, our Manga + Anime Group (MAG) is all about filling the library with 12-19 year olds, noise and creativity. This positive energy filled a local exhibition space when MAG created their second annual *Manga Anime Comics Exhibition* (MACE). The show was a great credit to the group who worked very hard to create their exhibition. Artists exhibited photos, digital manipulations, and pencil and ink drawings. Their artistic skills and in particular the close friendships developed at MAG were evident at the Official Opening performed by our Mayor. Families and friends of group members attended the opening and general community visited MACE over the two-day exhibition. A community member commented on Facebook: "Great work guys and for the library for giving the kids this space to pursue their interests". Comments from the visitor's book at the exhibition included: "Great! Good to see the space taken over by young people," and, "such a cool exhibition with so much talent". As their librarian, the best moment was watching the young people's faces when they enter the exhibition space and see their art hung on a gallery wall. Please see photos here <http://goo.gl/aKsw7m> and <http://goo.gl/FeMfuc>.

DAVID GREEN
Shellharbour City Libraries

TEA GARDENS HSC HELP NIGHT

Pizzas, Coca-Cola and teenagers meditating; what more could a library want? That was the scene at the recent HSC Help Night held at Tea Gardens Library.

We had fantastic volunteers from the community, teaching staff and the management team from Bulahdelah Central School help us encourage these young people. We ran a number of short sessions on a range of topics such as HSC Marking, Questioning Skills and Essay Writing, Top 10 Maths Tips and Speedy Relaxation Tips. Perhaps the most important session was the final one run by a local Reiki Master which helped students "take time out to revive", as one student said in their evaluation sheet. The parents in attendance seemed to benefit as much as the students when it came time to learn to relax!

Speakers provided helpful advice in an informal and relaxed setting for both Year 12 students and those about to begin Year 12 work in Term IV of Year 11. Students were able to ask questions and reflect on the advice of experienced speakers to get help putting their exam nerves in perspective.

From the feedback given, students clearly want more sessions on more subjects and truly valued the insights into relaxation as much as HSC marking tips.

CAROL JOHNSON & CHRIS SHELLY
Tea Gardens Branch Library
Great Lakes Library Services



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HSC PROGRAMS AT WOLLONGONG

Wollongong City Libraries have been running a HSC Database Program to promote Library database usage to Year 12 students. This program has been taken up by local high schools particularly by students doing HSIE Personal Interest Projects and by PDHPE students doing independent research.

The current program introduces students to Library Databases and our new federated search option "Discover More". Each session consists of a 30 minute presentation that shows students how to effectively search databases by refining their topics using keywords, alternative terms and how to effectively use Boolean Operators. We also talk about referencing and citing and the difference in levels of information and how to obtain this information online from home. After the presentation the students have an hour to research their topics with help from Library staff.

Each student receives a Database Information sheet, a Keyword Search sheet and a Boolean Operator Help sheet to assist with refining their searches.

This program has been running for the last 3 years and has been enthusiastically received by Teachers, Teacher Librarians and Students. We have also run tailored sessions for Art, History, Geography, Legal Studies, English and Extension English for a variety of schools in the Illawarra with great success and the usage of our databases has increased significantly since introducing the program. We also promote the State Library databases, LIAC and TROVE in these sessions.

JANELLE SMITH
Wollongong City Libraries

HSC AT WOOLLAHRA

Woollahra Library & Information Service is a member of the Sydney Eastern Suburbs public libraries *Ride the HSC Wave* cooperative, which provides a series of presentations to support students in their HSC preparation. This year Woollahra Library & Information Service hosted *English Advanced Module A: Comparative Study of Texts and Context - Elective 2: Texts in Time - 'Frankenstein' and 'Blade Runner'*, with experienced teacher Glenda McIntosh providing an outline of the topic, and engaging in discussion with attendees.

At a second session, Rowan Knuz, who achieved outstanding results in his own HSC, presented *Acing the HSC: Effective Exam Preparation* with numerous insights and techniques for effectively managing study commitments while maintaining a balanced lifestyle.

Both speakers positively encouraged students, outlined practical ways to progress studies, and hopefully allayed some anxieties towards completing the HSC.

PAT MOORE
Woollahra Library & Information Service

GAMING AT WYONG

Due to the success of our last Gaming event we held it again at both Tuggerah and Lake Haven Libraries. This time a wizards tournament was the game of choice. Both sessions were well attended and everyone had a wonderful time. It was fascinating watching the young people gather before the event to strategise! Our long term aim is to have a battle of the libraries, that is, north end of the Shire versus the south end of the Shire. Let the games begin!

We also run an open gaming session each month at Lake Haven which is proving to be a great cross generational success.

MICHELLE GOLDSMITH
Wyong Shire Library Service

- 01 HSC STUDENTS AT FORSTER LIBRARY
- 02 HSC NIGHT AT TEA GARDENS LIBRARY
- 03 & 04 MANGA ANIME COMICS EXHIBITION AT SHELLHARBOUR
- 05 WYONG WIZARDS GAMING TOURNAMENT

In touch with the State Library

STATE LIBRARY WINS PREMIER'S PUBLIC SECTOR AWARD

The State Library has taken out the top prize in the 2014 Premier's Public Sector Award in the Revitalising Regional NSW category, which was announced at an awards ceremony on 12 November 2014.

The Revitalising Regional Libraries initiative, led by NSW.net, has delivered WiFi hotspots in public libraries throughout regional NSW, significantly enhancing online access to cultural and educational resources in those libraries. The 117 WiFi hotspots have benefited students, small business people, researchers and the general community across regional and rural areas. This project was identified as a critical infrastructure priority under the NSW Economic Development Framework.

Congratulations to Joyce Azzopardi and the NSW.net team!

STATE REFERENCE LIBRARY RENAMED

The State Library of NSW has paid tribute to Professor the Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO following her recent retirement by renaming its major reference library in her honour.

The State Reference Library will now be known as the Governor Marie Bashir Reading Room.

"Dame Marie Bashir is one of the Library's greatest advocates and we wanted to publicly recognise her much valued and continuing support and affection for this great Library and her passion for reading and libraries," said NSW State Librarian & Chief Executive, Alex Byrne.

Dame Marie said she felt greatly honoured to have her name applied to the Reading Room in the Macquarie Street wing of one of the world's great libraries.

"The State Library of New South Wales has been for me a source of inspiration, as well as a treasury of enlightenment since my years of adolescence," said Dame Marie.

This public tribute recognises her valuable and continuing support and affection for our Library, as well as her substantial and widely applauded

commitment and extraordinary contributions to the state of New South Wales.

The Governor Marie Bashir Reading Room provides access to an extensive collection of Australian and international research material, including materials in 42 languages and an increasing number of electronic reference resources. Every year more than 600,000 people - local and family historians, researchers, students and the general public - visit the recently refurbished Reading Room and use its resources.

THE MITCHELL LIBRARY READING ROOM

Thanks to the generosity of our passionate supporters, close to \$1 million was raised to restore the heritage features of the Mitchell Library Reading Room.

We have:

- extended the Special Collections area creating more room to work with the Library's collections
- installed a glass partition to separate the Special Collections and general reading areas providing a secure space to work with the Library's rare and original materials
- replaced the glazed screen near the entrance to the Reading Room with a low frameless glass balustrade allowing access through the original entrance doors
- affixed new bronze gates to the staircases leading up to the Galleries and to the underground stacks to improve collection security
- cleaned the stained glass windows and upgraded the lighting
- replaced the marmoleum floor covering with carpet tiles in response to feedback from visitors regarding noise and glare
- refurbished and cleaned more than 150 heritage pieces of heritage furniture.

The iconic Mitchell Library Reading Room is much loved by the people of NSW and beyond. Its recent restoration will ensure that future generations of researchers and readers continue to work with our rich collections in this magnificent space.



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LAUNCH OF THE REDISCOVERING INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES WEBSITE

The State Library launched the new *Rediscovering Indigenous Languages* project website on 24 November 2014. The Rediscovering Indigenous Languages project aims to make accessible the rich archival collections of the Library relating to Indigenous Australian languages.

The website is making the rich content from the Library's historic collections easily accessible to Indigenous communities. Access to the site is through the following link:

<http://indigenous.sl.nsw.gov.au>

The website features artwork by Lucy Simpson, a Yuwaalaraay woman from Northwest NSW.

To follow updates on the project on the Indigenous Services Tumblr page, visit <http://indigenous-services-slnsw.tumblr.com/>

KIRSTEN THORPE

Manager, Indigenous Services, State Library of NSW

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION TRAINING

41 public library staff attended the Intercultural Communication & Collaboration training held at the State Library in June. The participants brought their interest, experience and enthusiasm to support the diverse communities in NSW

In October Intercultural Competence training was attended by 19 public library staff from Wollongong, Newcastle, Burwood, Granville, Ku-ring-gai, Richmond Tweed, Randwick, Manly, Fairfield, Pittwater, Ermington and Lane Cove.

The trainer was Joost Thissen, who specialises in organisational behaviour, corporate cultures and cross-cultural management. Joost has lectured in cross-cultural management for MBA students in Australia and overseas.

<http://www.cultureresourcecentre.com.au/>

ORIANA ACEVEDO

Consultant, State Library of NSW

USING HASHTAGS

It is almost a year since Public Library Services staff started to use and encourage you to use the hashtag #nswpubliclibraries. We launched it with a blog post and were very interested to see what would happen.

On Flickr the tag has been used over 400 times. The libraries using it include Kiama, Canterbury, Coffs Harbour, Shoalhaven, Mosman and Riverina Regional. You can see examples of their photographs in the #nswpubliclibraries group <https://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/nswpubliclibraries/>

They add the hashtag to their photographs, often with other tags. This means a search on Flickr for #nswpubliclibraries will bring together all these images.

Public Library Services joined Instagram on 10 February 2014. We use it differently to our Flickr account. You can often tell which libraries Public Library Services staff have been visiting by a quick look at our Instagram account <http://instagram.com/publiclibrariesnsw>

Different libraries are active on Instagram including Canada Bay, Campbelltown, Inverell, and Mona Vale.

Other libraries have been using the hashtag on Twitter, see <http://tiny.cc/3vemqx>.

We are very pleased to see public libraries using their own hashtags – and we did a Storify of the examples we have found https://storify.com/pls_sl/nsw-public-libraries-using-their-own-hashtags Let us know any more examples we should add to it.

We look forward to seeing which libraries develop their own hashtags in 2015, and who else starts using #nswpubliclibraries.

ELLEN FORSYTH

Consultant, State Library of NSW

- 01 THE CAXTON STAINED GLASS WINDOW GETTING A PROFESSIONAL CLEAN
- 02 THE MITCHELL LIBRARY READING ROOM FOLLOWING RECENT RESTORATIONS



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- 01 MESSAGE STICKS (DETAIL) LUCY SIMPSON
02 PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF AT THE INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION TRAINING DAY HELD AT THE STATE LIBRARY IN JUNE

MULTICULTURAL BULK LOAN HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013/14

The last year of bulk loan requests was another successful one, with over 101,000 items issued and sent out to public libraries. The most popular language borrowed was once again French, followed by Spanish, Italian, German, Russian, Chinese and Greek. We have also seen a steady increase in the use of Tamil and Japanese. Our least popular languages are Slovenian, Bulgarian, Slovak and Ukrainian, all communities who are ageing into the 70s and 80s, with 2nd and 3rd generations now English speakers.

Our most prolific borrower was the Richmond-Tweed Regional Library, with 434 requests placed, closely followed by Hornsby Shire Library & Information Service with 433. Other significant metropolitan library borrowers were Manly, Lane Cove, and Canterbury. With the resettlement of refugees in regional areas and the recruitment of migrants for particular types of industry, the number of requests from country libraries has been steadily increasing over the past couple of years. Queanbeyan, Wollongong and Bateman's Bay libraries all regularly use the service, as well as many more far and wide across the state.

If any libraries are interested in the breakdown of how many requests they placed and across what languages, please contact me on abby.dawson@sl.nsw.gov.au

ABBY DAWSON
Coordinator, Bulk Loans Service, State Library of NSW

AUDIOBOOKS IN COMMUNITY LANGUAGES

The State Library's collection of community languages also includes audio books. These are available for bulk loan or individual interlibrary loan. The number of titles varies depending on the language, but we try to purchase more where they are available to support our older and disabled multicultural clients. Keep an eye out for notification of new titles and new languages on this list.

Audio books are available in the following languages:

Chinese
Czech
Dutch
Finnish
French
German
Greek
Hungarian
Italian
Polish
Rumanian
Russian
Spanish
Swedish
Vietnamese

For more information please contact Abby Dawson abby.dawson@sl.nsw.gov.au

ABBY DAWSON
Coordinator, Bulk Loans Service, State Library of NSW

Seniors News

BLACKTOWN CELEBRATES 'INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS'

The International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) celebrations held on Tuesday, 30 September were a major success for Blacktown City Libraries with over twenty stall holders participating in the event held at the Max Webber Library Function Centre.

In an 'Expo' like environment, stall holders had diverse displays including community languages, local history and assistive technology. Government and private organisations promoted their services with Optus, Meals on Wheels, U3A, Computer Pals, the Country Women's Association, Australian Hearing, Wrap With Love and Heavenly Celebrations at hand to talk to the public and offer advice.

The poetry readings, tai-chi demonstrations and the active pro-exercise display by 'Heart Moves' were very popular as was the morning tea.

Over 200 visitors of all ages attended this free event including many older persons and their carers. Some attended to find out information for their parents while others attended to increase their personal knowledge about 'what's out there' for the older generations.

DHARSHINI PERERA
Blacktown City Libraries

A TALK TO THE WAR WIDOWS OF GUNNEDAH

One of the library staff attended a meeting of the Gunnedah War Widows in September. She gave a talk about the library services such as House Bound, Toddler Time (for entertaining grandchildren!), and nonfiction materials. Examples of materials, such as different magazine titles, talking books, newspapers, and Large Print books were presented for perusal.

Several of the ladies joined the library at once, and one joined the House Bound Service on the spot. There was great interest in the magazine titles, as these were voted firm favourites, and also quite expensive for individuals to buy.

Next year the War Widows are going to hold their monthly gathering in the library so members can exchange their library materials before or after their meeting.

CHRISTIANE BIRKETT
Gunnedah Shire Library



BIGGEST MORNING TEA WITH WOOLLAHRA HOME LIBRARY SERVICE MEMBERS

TECH SAVVY SENIORS AT LIVERPOOL LIBRARY

Tech Savvy Seniors is a joint initiative of the NSW Government and Telstra. The aim of this program is to provide free training to older people on the use of technology such as computers, tablets and smart phones.

Last year, Liverpool City Library was successful in getting grant money from this initiative and used these funds to engage two tutors from Macarthur Community College to provide classroom weekly lessons from July 2013 to June 2014. Liverpool Library also involved volunteers who provided either one-to-one tuition or small group (2 to 3 seniors) lessons.

The number of participants was 72 for the structured training sessions and 50 for the one-to-one/small group, bringing the total to 122 participants. Their ages ranged between 50 to 80 years old. Some were absolute beginners, some knew little and others were intermediate learners. Those in the small group class could not be accommodated in the structured ones, however Liverpool City Library just could not turn them away. But the grant money was not enough to provide more classes using the Macarthur Community College tutors, hence the use of volunteer tutors. Those in the small group class were encouraged to bring their own laptops, iPADS, tablets and smart phones. But even if they did not have any of these, Liverpool Library has dedicated computers for their use.

Liverpool City Library used two approaches in providing training sessions. One approach was formal, structured classes where all students (9 in a class) were taught the same material so that all students progressed through the course together.

The other approach used was one-to-one tutoring. These students had specific computer learning needs that were addressed by the tutors. Also they learned at their own pace.

Following are the lessons taught to the students in the formal setting:

- Computer basics
- Introduction to the internet
- Introduction to email
- Introduction to cyber safety
- Introduction to social media

Students in the small group were able to tailor the lessons to suit their own needs. Some wanted lessons on Publisher, Windows 8, downloading of Apps, installing anti-virus software and many more. They were also able to use their own laptops, tablets or iPad.

Some of the feedback received from the participants was:

- The training resources were clear and easy to understand
- Really informative and definitely an eye opener
- An excellent initiative for seniors. At last something is being done for us to keep us up-to-date with technology.

Overall, the students rated the Tech Savvy Seniors Program as excellent. Satisfaction rate was 100%.

Tech Savvy Seniors at Liverpool City Library was a successful program, very popular and very much in demand by the older people in the community. Although the grant ran out in June 2014, Liverpool City Library continues to provide digital literacy to the senior population with the help of volunteer tutors.

Liverpool City Library would like to thank the NSW Government, Telstra and the State Library of New South Wales for giving us the opportunity to deliver this program.

CARMEL MARTIN
Liverpool City Library

CONSTITUTION HILL HOSTS AGE PENSION AND YOUR CHOICES TALK IN CANTONESE

On Thursday 24th July 2014, Constitution Hill Branch Library held an Age Pension and Your Choices Talk in Cantonese, jointly organised with Centrelink.

Retiring from paid work is a major life change. Our Centrelink Talk helped the people who attended to understand the options of your choice, plan for retirement or make a decision to work past age pension age.

The talk covered the topics of pension age, income and assets, concessions, rights and obligations. The people who attended had the opportunity to ask questions.

JO, MAGDA, ZHORIK, ELIZABETH AND BARBARA
The Constitution Hill Branch Team

WOOLLAHRA

Every year Woollahra Library & Information Service hosts three social events for Home Library Service members, family and carers. Buses from Holdsworth Community Centre and local care centres transport attendees to Council Chambers where the events are held, and some independent members visit with family or friends.

In May a Biggest Morning Tea was hosted at Council Chambers, with musical entertainment provided by noted jazz pianist and vocalist Maree Steinway, who is herself a member of the Home Library Service. Guests contributed to the Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea appeal, raising \$171.35 for the cause.

In October a *Celebrate Spring!* Morning tea was attended by a crowd of 41 who enjoyed a 'high tea' of sandwiches, cakes and tarts, and fruit platters. In a repeat performance, Maree Steinway entertained with well-known jazz standards and specially selected songs to suit the theme.

Home Library volunteers assisted with hospitality service at both morning teas, and continue to support special clients service with various tasks such as selection, delivery, technology assistance, reading to members, and social visits.

PAT MOORE
Woollahra Library & Information Service

Multicultural News



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PARRAMATTA CELEBRATES DIWALI

Parramatta City Library promotes Diwali every year in celebration of our diverse community.

Diwali is a word derived from the Sanskrit word Deepaavali, meaning row of lights.

According to the Hindu lunar calendar this day marks the beginning of a “New Year”. After killing the demon-king Ravana, Lord Rama returned to his kingdom after fourteen years of exile and in joyous celebration of the return of their king, the people of Ayodhya illuminated the kingdom with earthen diyas.

Diwali is also celebrated to herald the coming of the Goddess Lakshmi and prayers are offered to her asking for her blessings in the form of wealth and good fortune. As such Rangoli designs are created at the entrance of homes, not only to welcome guests but also the Goddess herself.

AMANDA GITZEL AND SARAH MORGAN
Parramatta City Library

HAPPY DIWALI!

Epping Library held a bilingual story time in English and Hindi on 27th October, to celebrate Diwali, the Indian Festival of Light. Hornsby/Epping Library staff Kailash and Stella were dressed in colourful Indian finery celebrating this cultural event. The children’s area in the library was decorated with lots of colourful Diyas and an awesome Rangoli was drawn at the entrance to the library for this world-

wide festival. Forty five children plus their many parents and grandparents enjoyed singing, dancing, and speaking in Hindi and English. Everyone had fun counting ek, do, teen (1, 2, 3) in Hindi before singing each song. The highlight was singing the Hindi children’s rhyme “mera totu mithu ram” and Hindi dancing. Positive feedback was huge. Everyone enjoyed this fun cultural event!!

STELLA TAY
Epping Library

STANTON CELEBRATES DIWALI

Stanton Library celebrated Diwali on the evening of 17th October 2014. The celebration was attended by over 120 library patrons and local residents, many of whom came in colourful saris and traditional Indian festival attire. The fun-filled evening opened with a poetry recitation followed by several traditional Indian song and dance numbers prepared by the students from the nearby primary schools. In the same way as the festival is traditionally observed in India and in Indian communities all over the world, the evening culminated with the guests partaking in delicious samosas, an assortment of Diwali sweets and cups of hot chai provided by the library.

Diwali was one of the library’s most popular community activities in 2014.

ANDREW CHUA
Stanton Library

- 01 DIWALI DISPLAY AT PARRAMATTA LIBRARY
- 02 EPPING LIBRARY CELEBRATES DIWALI



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- 01 STANTON LIBRARY CELEBRATES DIWALI VISITORS TAKE PHOTOS WITH JAPANESE STANDEES AT PADSTOW LIBRARY'S EXPERIENCE JAPAN EVENT
- 02

EXPERIENCE JAPAN DAY AT BANKSTOWN

For 25 years the City of Bankstown has enjoyed Sister City arrangement with Suita in Japan.

Experience Japan day at Panania Library was held on 21 October to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Sister City partnership. There was a variety of activities offered on the day, including a Preschool Storytime with Japanese themed stories and crafts, a Japanese BBQ and Origami craft sessions for local school children.

Children and adults could have fun trying on kimonos which were set up in the library with large mirrors for everyone to see how they looked all dressed up. Japanese standees were set up in the library for everyone to have their photo taken whether they wanted to be a Geisha, a Samurai, or a Sumo wrestler.

Padstow Library held an After Dark Adventures event on 17 October with the theme of Experience Japan. The night included a game of Japanese-themed memory, reading *The Boy Who Liked to Draw Cats* and watching a film about Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes. A craft lesson was conducted by staff in making origami paper cranes, using special origami paper with Japanese style patterns.

Following the craft children had the opportunity to dress up in the kimonos and take photos using the Japanese standees so that everyone had a picture to take home with them. The farewell gift was a lolly bag, with a variety of Japanese sweets. Overall, it was an event that was enjoyed by everyone, children and parents/guardians alike.

ROBYN OWENS
Bankstown City Libraries

CANTERBURY LAUNCHES FIRST CHINESE EBOOKS

The City of Canterbury has a large Chinese community and there has been increased usage by this group over the past number of years. The City of Canterbury Library is the first library to make available popular Chinese ebooks and we hope to follow with other community languages.

These eresources are available for download in the library, as well as at home for anyone with a library card number.

JEREMY MACPHERSON
City of Canterbury Library

CHINESE CLASSICAL POETRY CLASSES AT CANTERBURY

The City of Canterbury Library's Chinese Classical Poetry Class was established in early 2013. Since then, more than a dozen of enthusiastic "poets" attend every Tuesday (and some Saturdays), taught by the dedicated teachers from the Sydney Chinese Classical Poetry Association. Lessons have mainly focused on the art of Chinese language, poem structure allowing participants to scrutinize and appreciate the unique lyrical style of Chinese poetry.

Many participants recited their own works at last year's Mid-Autumn celebration. A collection of poems has been compiled into a book, reflecting the achievements of these participants in 2014

BILLY ZHANG
City of Canterbury Library



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CELEBRATING CULTURES AT CANTERBURY

Celebrating Cultures is one of the many programs we are proud to continue to celebrate with our community. This year we have celebrated Korean culture and Diwali, the festival of the lights. The Korean celebration was held at Campsie Library on 25th September and brought our diverse community together to enjoy vibrant performances of singing, dancing, drumming, traditional costume display and Tai Kwan Do. Of course the celebration could not be completed without enjoying the tasting of the Korean rich and delicious food that we were complemented on by everyone.

Our Diwali Festival was held at Riverwood Library and included traditional performances of music, dance and singing, as well as the beautiful colourful Sari and Salwaar Kamiz costume display. The event finished with traditional Indian spicy and sweet food tasting.

Our health seminars continue to be popular. Our Indonesian community attended one on Hypertension/High Blood Pressure presented by a Doctor. Indonesian is a growing community in Canterbury and our partnership with the IWA Care made this talk possible.

WENDY GINDI
City of Canterbury Library

GUNNEDAH

Gunnedah's multicultural community continues to grow and to use the library! Last year we had our fly in/fly out Chinese workers using the wifi to keep in touch with their families each afternoon, and to brush up on their English by reading the picture books. This year we are borrowing boxes of books from the State Library in Swedish, Dutch, Indian, Korean, and Chinese. The most recent language to



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be requested was Japanese. As many of these CALD people are young, we are encouraging them to join their children to our early literacy program, 1,000 Books Before School, and also making them aware that they can request picture books and children's books in their own language, so their children can grow up multilingual.

CHRISTIANE BIRKETT
Gunnedah Shire Library

EPPING HOLDS JAPANESE-ENGLISH BILINGUAL STORY TIME

Epping Library held a bilingual story time in English and Japanese on 14 July, to celebrate Japanese Tanabata, the Star Festival. Staff were dressed in Japanese Yukata while the children's area in the library was decorated with a Bamboo tree adorned with colourful paper with wishes. Some children were dressed in Japanese Yukata for this special event. They learnt the love story of Tanabata Festival and some traditional Japanese children's rhymes. 50 children plus their parents and carers enjoyed singing, dancing, and making Tanabata craft together. Children were excited to try on Yukata for the first time in life. A very rewarding cultural experience for our Epping community!

KAYO MAGILL AND STELLA TAY
Epping Library

MAITLAND CELEBRATES RIVERLIGHTS FESTIVAL

The Riverlights Festival is an annual celebration of Maitland's multicultural community. Held on Saturday 11 October, the festival was a vibrant blend of colour and community as local cultural groups showcased aspects of their art, culture and language.

This year Maitland City Library was proudly involved in the Language Lounge and Lantern

- 03 CANTERBURY LIBRARY CELEBRATES DIWALI
- 04 BILINGUAL STORY TIME CELEBRATING JAPANESE TANABATA AT EPPING LIBRARY



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- 01 LANTERNS ON THE HUNTER RIVER AS PART OF MAITLAND'S RIVERLIGHTS FESTIVAL
- 02 CLR MOORE, CLR GARCIA, CLR STAVRINOS, TAFE PARTNER
- ANTHONY MCGANN AND LIBRARY MANAGER
- BARBARA TODAS AT THE LAUNCH OF A MIGRANT STORY AT RANDWICK LIBRARY
- 03 MURAL AT EASTWOOD LIBRARY

Making Workshops. The Language Lounge was an outdoor space set up to replicate a lounge room (with lounges generously donated by the local Lifeline store) where festival goers learnt key phrases in over 14 languages, including Tamil, Congolese, Mandarin, Polish, Swedish and French.

Lantern making workshops were hosted during the Library's September Holiday Fun program and again on the day of the festival. The workshops were a huge success, with over 550 lanterns being launched on the Hunter River at the culmination of celebrations.

Feedback from workshops indicated participants enjoyed being able to directly contribute to such a wonderful community event. Thanks for our fantastic library volunteers who worked tirelessly during the day – Jennifer Blume, Emma Callaghan, Jenni Mudd, Michelle Pala, Elaine Saccasan and Kelly Shankley-Price.

REBECCA COWIE
Maitland City Library

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS AT DUNDAS

Dundas Library is running free Beginners English Conversation classes for the second year in a row for customers from non- English speaking background. They were people mainly from Chinese, Arabic, African backgrounds. During the class we help them to improve their English conversation skills, pronunciation and reading. The classes are run once a month. These classes also help customers to meet with new people and talk in English language in a friendly and relaxed environment while having their morning tea.

AMBAR, DINA, LOU AND NEHAL
Dundas Library

A MIGRANT STORY: MEMENTOS AT RANDWICK

The award-winning project, A Migrant Story, commenced in 2003 and has developed into a wonderful vehicle for bringing awareness of the migrant experience to the Randwick community. With 35.8% of Randwick City residents born overseas, migrants enrich our community through integrating their unique culture with the Australian spirit.

The latest incarnation, A Migrant Story: Mementos 2014, provides a platform for local migrants to share their powerful stories with the rest of the community. Over 130 migrants have participated in this project since its inception and a total of 6 books, 2 DVDs and an exhibition have been produced.

Randwick City Library continued to work in partnership with Randwick TAFE this year to deliver another DVD documentary, this time recounting the stories of some of the migrants through treasured mementos they brought with them to Australia. We were also ambitious enough to produce both a book and an accompanying exhibition.

Over 90 people attended the launch in September, including 18 of the participating migrants and their families, our partners from Randwick TAFE, representatives of various local groups and organisations as well as three Randwick councillors. Cr Stavrinis launched the event and spoke of his own personal recollections as the son of migrants.

Those attending were treated to a roller coaster of emotions, with tears shed by many, as the audience viewed the latest DVD and exhibition. The audience was particularly touched by participating migrant, Helene Grover's speech as she talked generally about the migrant experience and what this project meant for them as a way to share their experiences with the community.

The A Migrant Story: Mementos 2014 film and launch photos can be viewed on our website at www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/library

JANE MOFFAT
Randwick City Library



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MURAL AT EASTWOOD LIBRARY

Recently the City of Ryde accepted a proposal from the Ryde-Eastwood Business Forum to commission a mural to be painted as part of the community celebration of the Moon Festival in Eastwood on Saturday 6th September.

Both parties were keen to acknowledge the multicultural nature of the area and Council's commitment to creating a city of harmony and culture.

Eastwood Library is situated in a very prominent location next to a major transport node, facing the railway line and close to the local shopping precinct. It also had a space that seemed tailor made for a large colourful artwork. Where once was a nondescript front wall in muted green now stands a mural that proudly celebrates Eastwood's multiculturalism.

The mural is of significant size. It is highly visible to passing commuters and is already becoming a local landmark. It features four young faces each with a Granny Smith apple. Eastwood is proud to be the home of the original Granny Smith apple grown by Maria Ann Smith in 1868. Eastwood Library is honoured to serve this vibrant multicultural community who use and support the library so well.

RICHARD BONSER
Ryde Library Service

WAGGA CELEBRATES FUSION14 MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

October brought the annual Wagga Wagga Multicultural Festival: FUSION14 to the Civic Precinct with sights sounds, tastes and scents from round the world. To help celebrate FUSION14, Wagga Wagga City Library hosted a number of events highlighting its multicultural collections and services in the weeks leading up to the festival.

Aude Gourieroux from Alliance Francaise de Wagga Wagga presented a French Storytime session on 8 October where children and parents enjoyed stories, rhymes, craft and chocolate croissants. Children were encouraged to borrow bilingual French and English picture books - *Les extra-terrestres adorent les slips (Aliens Love Underpants)* was a much sort after for loan.

On 15 and 17 October FUSION Storytime was presented by library staff with children encouraged to participate by wearing national dress to help celebrate stories and songs from around the world.

The Colourfest Film Festival was screened on 16 October. It comprised six short films that reflect our diverse cultures, languages and traditions. All films were classified PG and the local community took the opportunity to come along to celebrate Australia as a nation of diverse faces.

CHRISTINE BOLTON
Wagga Wagga City Library

WYONG

Wyong Information Services visited Wyong TAFE to talk to the English as a second language classes about the wonders of joining the library. We spoke to three different classes ranging from those just beginning to learn English to more advanced students. Demonstrations were given of our webpage and Learn English Online, an AMES program. We took our collection of AMES written resources as well and the students were very impressed with these. Seventeen new members were signed up on the day which was amazing. We have invited the classes to the library so they can see us in action and use their new library cards!

MICHELLE GOLDSMITH
Wyong Shire Library Service



LEICHHARDT LIBRARY LIVENS UP THE ITALIAN FORUM WITH CIRCUS-THEMED SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS

IN THE STATE LIBRARY GALLERIES

Lynley Dodd: A Retrospective

Until 15 March

This exhibition showcases a collection of 59 original drawings from Lynley Dodd's popular children's books, including the Hairy Maclary series, the Schnitzel Von Krumm series, Slinky Malinki, and Scarface Claw. A celebration of Dame Lynley's work to date, this exhibition also includes drawings from her first work dating back to school days, through to the most recent publication, Shoo.

Dame Lynley is a universally popular artist, over five million copies of Hairy Maclary alone have been printed, sold and translated into several languages. This little dog is an international character, but it is creator, Lynley Dodd, who is the magic behind these stories and this exhibition.

A touring exhibition from Tauranga Art Gallery in New Zealand.

Shopkeepers of Newtown: Photographs by Nic Bezzina

Until 10 May

From 2009 to 2013 photographer Nic Bezzina documented the independent shopkeepers of Newtown, a suburb well known for its diversity and alternative culture. The body of work is a photographic documentary of some of the most iconic characters of Newtown and represents a snapshot of a vital commercial community at a pivotal time in history.

Pulp Confidential: Quick and dirty publishing from the 40s and 50s

Until 10 May

Pulp Confidential: Quick & dirty publishing from the 40s & 50s presents a rich and lurid collection of vintage Australian "pulp" cover art, crime story illustrations, gags and original comic book panels, drawn from the papers of Sydney publishing house, Frank Johnson Publications. At the same time the papers provide a fascinating behind-the-scenes glimpse of the everyday workings of a small but resilient player at the hard scrabble end of the Australian publishing industry.

STATE LIBRARY OF NSW DISABILITY INFORMATION

Wheelchair access via Macquarie Street, toilets and courtesy wheelchair, hearing loop, parking on the corner of Shakespeare Place and Macquarie Street. Companion card provides fair ticketing at events and venues for people with a disability who require a companion to accompany them.

www.companioncard.org.au

DEADLINES FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

April 2015	27 February 2015
August 2015	19 June 2015
December 2015	16 October 2015