

Media Release



Don't throw out your 'How to vote' cards!

The State Library of NSW wants your election material

13/3/2015

With the 2015 State election fast approaching, the State Library of NSW is calling on the NSW community to help build its collection of election material.

The State Library is interested in obtaining 'How to vote' cards, posters, flyers, badges, stickers, t-shirts, magnets, mail or any other material associated with the election and local candidates.

"As we head to the polls, it's important for the State Library to capture a comprehensive record of the State election - the main players, the key issues and community concerns - for the people of NSW, now and in the future," says State Library Senior Curator Louise Denoon.

The Library's extensive election archive dates back to the 1840s and 50s and shows how our approaches to political campaigns and the act of running for candidacy and voting has changed over the decades.

"Electoral candidates relied on newspapers and public meetings to get their messages across over 100 years ago, and printed material continued to be the main channel for campaigning until 1999 when candidates first started to create their own websites," said Ms Denoon.

The State Library is not only collecting printed material and objects, but a range of websites and Twitter discussions generated by the parties, candidates and interest groups.

"Digital collecting and archiving has been an interesting challenge for all libraries, especially with the instant and often fleeting nature of social media so it's important we are across all key hashtags," said Ms Denoon.

"We want community members to suggest websites and Twitter discussions we should be collecting."

How to get involved:

Email us at collections.library@sl.nsw.gov.au to suggest a website or hashtag

Follow us on Twitter @statelibrarynsw at #electcollectnsw to keep up-to-date with the Library's collecting efforts

Post us your collection material: Election Ephemera, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney 2000

For more information about this campaign go to:

<http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about/news/index.html?HomeLink=News#news-215549>

Louise Denoon is available for interviews.

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