

NSWPLA ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



NSW Public Libraries
Association

**The peak body for
public libraries across
NSW providing
advocacy, network
opportunities,
professional
development,
collaboration and
recognition**

NSW Public Libraries
Association

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NSWPLA Executive



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VICE PRESIDENT
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VICE PRESIDENT
Cr Les Lambert
Narromine Shire Council



SECRETARY/TREASURER
Ms Sarah Taylor
Shoalhaven City Council



LIBRARY MANAGER
Mr Philip Edney
Canada Bay City Council



LIBRARY MANAGER
Ms Susan Kane
Greater Hume Council



EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Ms Adele Casey
NSWPLA

ABOUT NSWPLA

New South Wales Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA) is the single voice for public libraries in New South Wales. NSWPLA was formed when Public Libraries New South Wales and the New South Wales Metropolitan Public Libraries Association amalgamated on 15 July 2014.

The public library network across NSW reflects the vibrant communities within which they operate. Public libraries are the heart and soul of these communities, providing a wide range of services which are deeply valued by everyone who uses them.

NSWPLA prides the relationships developed with Local Government, the providers of public libraries across NSW, and is continuously working with them to strengthen the dynamic and innovative public library network delivering services across the state.

OUR VISION

To be a strong and united voice for New South Wales Public Libraries

OUR PURPOSE

NSWPLA is the peak body for public libraries in NSW. We will:

- Advocate effectively
- Initiate partnerships
- Champion the public library cause
- Build trust and support
- Provide relevant information
- Foster cooperation and collaboration
- Strengthen the public library network

OUR VALUES

- Mutual respect and trust
- Professionalism and integrity
- Transparency and Inclusiveness
- Creativity and Imagination, and
- Participation and considered action

OUR STAKEHOLDERS

- Member library services and councils
- New South Wales public library users and the wider community
- State Library of New South Wales
- Local Government Association of New South Wales
- State Government
- Other public library and local government associations
- Australian Library and Information Association

The Network

NSWPLA is the peak body that represents the interests and development of public libraries across New South Wales. Every Council in NSW is a member of the Association, thereby providing NSWPLA with strength in numbers and the imprimatur for broad representation of its constituency. At the state level, the NSWPLA Executive represents the Association on the NSW Public Libraries Consultative Committee (PLCC) and has established a strategic partnership with Local Government NSW (LGNSW). NSWPLA is represented at the national level through its membership of the Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA), a peak representative body auspiced by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA).

NSW has a strong network of libraries across the state. These vibrant spaces respond to a variety of community needs by providing spaces where people can connect to:

- Multi format collections that are available to inform, educate and entertain library borrowers
- Information services to keep communities informed
- Technology, online information and services to help bridge the digital divide
- Programs for all ages and demographics that inspire, connect and engage communities

Our public libraries are more and more becoming the community living rooms of town, suburbs and cities across the state.

To ensure that residents in outlying suburbs and rural towns also have access to the library, there are 23 mobile libraries traversing the state delivering collections, programs and services well beyond the traditional library walls.

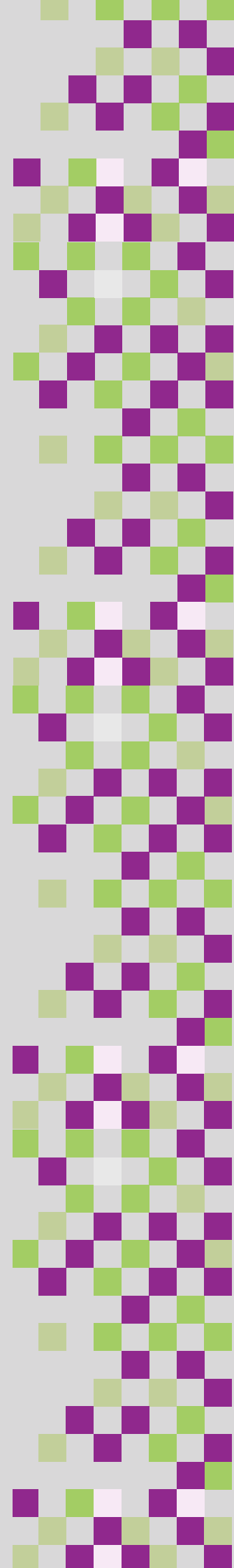
UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

NSWPLA supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals as many of the 17 goals align perfectly with the work that all libraries are undertaking.

<https://www.alia.org.au/advocacy-and-campaigns/think-global-act-local>



NSW LIBRARIES 2019-2020



NSWPLA works collaboratively with the State Library of New South Wales and other state and national library associations to represent, advocate and progress public library services and develop strategic partnerships with state and federal governments, businesses and other stakeholders.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



This time last year we reflected on the difficulties of COVID and looked forward to a more normal existence. Who would of imagined that 2021 would persist in the same vein and present us challenges every step of the way.

As a sector we have continued to show our value within the community, a fact acknowledged by the State Government in September by approving an exemption to the Public Health Orders, identifying libraries as essential to allow for click and collect and the exchange of library items during shutdown. This acknowledged libraries as playing a vital role within communities and positively contributing to the health and wellbeing of their members and wider community.

2021 has continued to highlight what an agile and flexible profession public library staff are. NSW public libraries continued to adapt, providing innovative service provision to continue meeting the needs of their communities a timely, safe and professional manner.

Renew Our Libraries Campaign

The Renew Our Libraries Campaign – Phase Two, recommenced with a Town Hall style event on the 17 June 2021. With 254 registrations it was very successful.

Highlighting how the additional funding achieved in Phase One of the renew Our Libraries Campaign has been utilised to improve libraries in NSW libraries, was enlightening and emphasises the success and reach of the campaign.

The next event will be held following the Local Government election to ensure all new and re-elected Councillors are informed of the funding formula and the Renew Our Libraries Campaign objectives.

Strategic Plan 2021-2025

Following a comprehensive review process and consultation period, the NSWPLA Strategic Plan 2021-2025 was adopted.

NSWPLA is the peak body for public libraries across NSW providing advocacy, network opportunities, professional development, collaboration and recognition. The Strategic Plan reflects this with three strategic priorities:

- Identity
- Advocacy
- Connections

The objectives and actions ensure that NSWPLA continues to work collaboratively to represent, advocate and progress public library services and develop strategic partnerships with state and federal governments, businesses, SLNSW, state and national library associations and other stakeholders.

SWITCH 2021

Once again, the SWITCH Conference has been affected by COVID. The Executive made the decision to transition to an online event in September 2021. Dismantling SWITCH 2021 and reimagining to SWITCH Online has been a huge, but successful task. Many of the existing speakers transitioned with us, and for that we are eternally grateful. This along with the support of our sponsors and exhibitors made the event a true success.

Based on the rotating nature of the SWITCH Conference, SWITCH 2022 will be held in Albury from the 8-10 November 2022.

Online Storytime Pilot Project

In response to COVID, ALIA developed a pilot scheme where publishers permitted the use of their Australian picture book titles in return for a small annual payment from public library branches. The Executive resolved to support NSW libraries to participate in the project with a staggering 222 branches signing up, resulting in over a \$33,000 commitment from NSWPLA. Due to the success of the pilot, ALIA has continued the project for another 12 months, and the NSWPLA Executive has also resolved to continue the financial support of NSW libraries.

Value Proposition to Members

This is covered in more detail in the following executive activities report but the Association has continued throughout the year to ensure that we are continuously improving the offerings to member in the areas of professional development, advocacy and strategic partnerships. This has been and will continue to be a critical factor in all discussions and decisions the Executive make. That is why we continue to maintain 100% membership of the Association by NSW Councils.

Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people and organisations involved in the work that the Association has done throughout the last 12 months. This includes library managers, councillors, individuals working in the public library system, members of the Executive, LGNSW, ALIA and many others. Without this assistance and support the Association would not be in the position it is at this point.





Give me some
space!

B

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



Following another difficult year, it is rewarding to look back on what the Association and libraries across NSW have achieved. On reflection, libraries have continued to be both physical and social focal points for their communities and make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of their members and visitors.

The Association has been in the privileged position to support these endeavours. However it should be noted without the support of the Executive and member council's, NSWPLA would not be the supportive and relevant association that it is.

NSWPLA Strategic Plan

Following a comprehensive review process and consultation period, the NSWPLA Strategic Plan 2021–2025 was presented for adoption at the recent Executive meeting.

The strategic Plan process included a highly success strategic planning day held in November 2020 via Zoom and an online survey. At the February executive meeting, a summary of responses were provided to the Executive and a draft Strategic Plan including Objectives and Actions with Desired Outcomes were developed and presented. This was based on the three strategic areas of: Identity, Advocacy and Connections.

Following an exhibition period, the NSWPLA executive adopted the new Strategic Plan in July 2021. The plan focuses on working collaboratively with SLNSW and other State and national associations to represent, advocate and progress public libraries.

NSWPLA Information Booklet

NSWPLA released an information booklet leading up to the local government elections. NSWPLA is aware that candidates for council elections are bombarded with information about numerous subjects, so the Executive wanted to focus the content on the Association with the hope of attracting the interest of councillors to nominate as NSWPLA delegates. The intention of the booklet was to make councillors aware of the association and its role for Council's and libraries within NSW.

SWITCH Conference

It was a very difficult decision for the Executive to cancel SWITCH 2020. The decision was not made lightly, but made due to the health and wellbeing of our members and partners being of paramount importance. If the conference were to proceed, prohibitive restrictions would have been required to be adhered to. This would have resulted in reduced numbers to the conference overall, but within the trade area specifically.

The SWITCH Conference has been very successful for many years. A significant contributor to that success is the continued support of our members and sponsors and exhibitors for which we are very grateful. This continued support ensures the affordability of the conference for delegates and is a key contributor to the ongoing sustainability of the annual SWITCH conference. The Executive looks forward to SWITCH 2021.

Renew Our Libraries Campaign – Phase 2

With the NSW State election due in 2023, NSWPLA is reenergising the Renew Our Libraries Campaign in an effort to cement funding in NSW.

The first event, held online, occurred on the 17 June and was very successful with 254 registrations. It highlighted how libraries have worked within the COVID restrictions and how the additional funding received in the first phase of Renew Our Libraries has been utilised to improve facilities across NSW.

The next event was due to be held shortly after the Local Government election, however with the delay in the Local Government elections, this is now scheduled for early 2022.

Online Storytime

The NSWPLA Executive moved to financially support NSW libraries that wished to be part of the Online Storytime 2021 Pilot Program run by ALIA and APLA.

Due to the success of 2020, the NSWPLA Executive wanted to provide every library in NSW with the opportunity to continue extending the reach of online storytime into communities across the state during 2021.

This initiative represented a significant contribution to NSW public libraries and the communities in which they operate. If all of the 363 libraries across the state chose to participate, the NSWPLA investment will total \$59,895. (Note: If the 23 mobile libraries are considered as branch libraries and wish to participate, that takes the number to 386 with a corresponding investment of \$63,690).

In September 2021, the Executive again confirmed the commitment for 2022.

NSW Reads

The final online author talk for 2021 was undertaken by the NSW Library Events Team in November 2021. The events team have done a wonderful job over the last 18 months and NSWPLA thanks them for their hard work and dedication in filling the void during COVID. The program was developed and managed by five committed volunteers with support from NSWPLA and have presented 26 events attracting 9225 tickets booked and 14,568 YouTube views – an amazing result!

National Backyard Cricket

National Backyard Cricket (NBYC) is a new, annual event in the charity calendar that encourages all Australians to participate in an iconic summer activity while also raising funds for country public libraries. NBC launched in 2021 and is the brainchild of the LBW (Learning for a Better World) Trust, a non-profit that has raised millions of dollars to support disadvantaged students in cricket-playing nations. NBYC is designed to continue the LBW Trust's work overseas while also supporting better educational outcomes in Australia.

In its first year, 23 NSW libraries received funds. Robert Knight and I have been working closely with the National Backyard Cricket team and look forward to furthering the partnership in 2022.

Professional Development

A number of professional development opportunities were provided during 2021 for NSWPLA members.

Membership Workshops

As a result of member feedback and conversation regarding getting our members back into our libraries following COVID, a series of four membership workshops were planned. Due to high demand, 2 additional sessions were undertaken with all sessions fully booked. Follow up information and sharing opportunities are being provided to participants via Basecamp.

Digital Health Information Sessions

Libraries are often a point of contact for our communities to access a variety of online services. Presently, public libraries are seeing unprecedented demand for support from community members to access online information, this initiative not only offers valuable staff training but also provides access to funding. NSWPLA partnered with ALIA to provide training opportunities across NSW Libraries.

Basecamp Access

Basecamp allows teams or groups of colleagues to liaise, connect and share. Zone meetings, network groups, conference and event planning – Basecamp provides a tool and communication portal which you can adapt for you.

Representing our Members

NSWPLA represents its members in various ways. NSWPLA sits on several committees including Trove Strategic Advisory Committee, Australian Libraries Copyright Council, Australian Public Libraries Alliance and the Public Libraries Consultative Committee. The Executive Office has also responded to a number of government submissions including the NSW Productivity Commission's Review of Infrastructure Contributions in New South Wales, Submission in response to the NSW Productivity Commission's recommendation 4.5 – Contributions plans use benchmark costs and IPART's review of the essential works list, nexus, efficient design and benchmark costs for local infrastructure.

Partnerships were also a focus, with NSWPLA partnering with Macular Disease Foundation Australia, and the Check My Macula campaign, CAVAL Mentoring program, Kids Alive Do The Five program, National Backyard Cricket, Professional Pathways Project, Digital health and NSW Reads.

Adele Casey
Executive Officer



Macquarie Regional Library Book Week Celebrations



NSWPLA Member Benefits

The NSWPLA Executive continues to provide a sustainable member benefits program that provides real outcomes and opportunities to collaborate, co-operate and share information, resources and ideas through a variety of forums and channels.

2020 –2021 has continued to present many challenges – mice, flood and a pandemic. However, through this adversity, NSWPLA and its member libraries have proven they are resilient, adaptable, innovative and flexible; a snapshot of which will be highlighted in this annual report.

The SWITCH Conference was cancelled in 2020 and provided in an online format in 2021, however 2022 is scheduled for Albury on 8–11 November 2022 – hopefully we can get back to our usual format and provide the opportunity for our member council's to network, learn and catch up with old (and new) friends.

The NSWPLA Executive have continued to focus on providing support to libraries during the pandemic, in addition to ensuring our Association remains connected, relevant and remains the voice of public libraries across New South Wales.

Focal areas have included:

- Maintaining the current 100% membership of the Association by NSW councils through representation of the Executive at all meetings of the eight NSWPLA Zones.
- Strengthening the strategic alliance between NSWPLA and Local Government NSW to further political capacity of the Association.
- Strengthening the working relationship with the Australian Library and Information Association and the Australian Public Libraries Alliance.
- Activating the key strategies of the NSWPLA Strategic Plan 2017–2021, Identity and Advocacy:
- Identity is a particularly important objective for the successful amalgamation of two previously separate associations into one effective peak body.
- Advocacy for NSW councils and their libraries is critical to ensure that the NSW public library network is robust, collaborative and appropriately funded.

Improving communication outlining the Association's value proposition to its membership under the key headings of Professional Development, Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships by including opportunities for our member councils and their staff:

Professional Development

NSWPLA Executive has been working towards creating and sustaining a member benefit program that truly benefits our member council's staff. Below is a list of the member benefit program, including the COVID-19 payments recently made to those libraries that claimed. If there is something you would like included, please let us know and if we can work towards achieving it we will

- Annual SWITCH Conference
- Reach Out Symposium
- Administration of the Australasian Mobile Library and Outreach Services Network
- Colin Mills Scholarship (biennial)
- Kath Knowles Emerging Leaders Award (biennial)
- Multicultural Excellence Awards (annual)
- Innovation and Outreach Services Awards (previously known as MAPL's) (annual)
- Various professional development and training opportunities
- Charles Sturt University Scholarship (Annual)
- Life Membership awards (annual)
- Recognition of retiring library managers (annual)
- The Reading Hour
- Summer Reading Club
- Provision of the Inclusion Resources Program for NSWPLA members
- Provision of the Basecamp electronic communications program to support more effective and inclusive interactions within NSWPLA Zones
- Provision of Zoom licences for professional development and zone meetings
- Provision of professional development support to staff of NSWPLA member councils to attend SLNSW offsite training opportunities

Advocacy

- Increased government financial support for public libraries with the development of the 2018 Funding Campaign
- Establishment and maintenance of a strong network of 8 geographic zones
- An Executive Committee that provides scope to include both elected and library manager representatives from across the state
- An Executive Officer who is employed to undertake a range of administrative, strategic, and support activities on behalf of the Executive Committee and broader membership
- Various campaigns as required including the Renew Our Libraries funding campaign

Strategic Partnerships

- Alliance with Local Government NSW
- State Library of NSW via representation on Public Libraries Consultative Committee
- Representation on the Australian Public Library Alliance (Sub Committee of Australian Library and Information Association)
- Membership of the Australian Libraries Copyright Council
- Member Trove Strategic Advisory Committee
- Learning for a Better World Trust (National Backyard Cricket)

National Projects

Support for participation in:

- Australia Reads
- Library & Information Week
- Library Lovers Day
- National Simultaneous Storytime
- Online Storytime Pilot Project



Awards and Scholarships



IIOS Sponsor

INNOVATION IN OUTREACH SERVICES

The Innovation in Outreach Services (IIOS) Awards provide recognition for the high quality programs and services provided by public libraries across New South Wales.

The awards are administered by NSWPLA with the generous support of Library AV and Large Print. Their sponsorship has ensured longevity of the awards with their continued commitment into the future.

The awards have the objectives:

- To recognise the diversity of outreach services provided by public libraries
- To encourage libraries to be innovative in the outreach services they provide
- To acknowledge, celebrate and share the diversity of outreach services provided across the library network
- To reward library services for providing a diverse range of outreach services

Categories for entries are based on the size of the Local Government Area Population.

POPULATION LESS THAN 10,000

WINNER

Tenterfield Shire Council—National Simultaneous Storytime in the Theatre

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Bland Shire Council— SRC REad-VAMPED



POPULATION—10,000—30,000

WINNER

Richmond Valley Council—Handicraft as a catalyst for connection and self-esteem

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Kiama Shire Council — Madames Zola & Ziegfeld Fortune Tellers



Awards and Scholarships

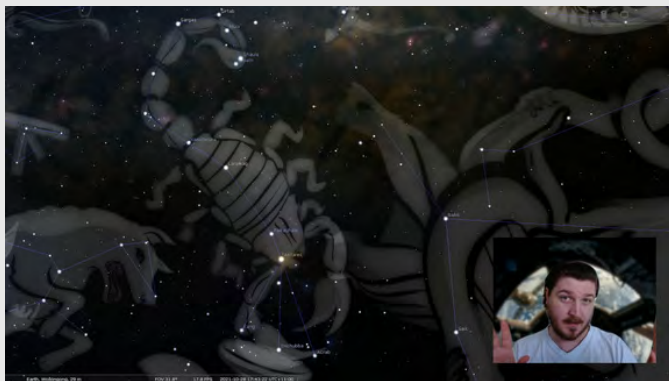
POPULATION— 30,000–100,000

WINNER

Waverly Council — Guerrilla Programming

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Willoughby City Council—Summer of Silly Reading Challenge



POPULATION—Over 100,000

WINNER

Wollongong City Libraries— Starstruck

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Northern Beaches Council - Library 2U



Welcome to our *Summer of Silly* reading challenge!

What is our 2021 theme book?

By this summer we are celebrating an author that has a huge and fun genre list of stories you can read and enjoy. You'll want to sign up and participate.

1 2 3 4

Register your details Submit your details Read 10 or more books Read your reading log

It's all in the name! For some authors of our award-winning books, the books by Sunday 31 January 2021.

How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!

Don't forget, reading is a fun thing! [Read More](#) in our story time and also explore our reading challenge. Check out the [Summer of Silly Reading Challenge](#) too!

<p>LOL read or rattle How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!</p>	<p>LOL book How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!</p>	<p>LOL games How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!</p>
<p>LOL jokes How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!</p>	<p>LOL book reviews How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!</p>	<p>The 15-Storey Treehouse How many stories have our Summer Reading Challenge authors read so far? Check out our list below!</p>

The Summer Reading Challenge is sponsored by the author's team @ [www.summerreadingchallenge.com.au](#)

If you have any questions or comments please email us at [support@summerreadingchallenge.com.au](#)

Please don't forget to check out our website and services, you can visit [www.summerreadingchallenge.com.au](#)



Willoughby Library - Summer of Silly Reading Challenge

COLIN MILLS SCHOLARSHIP

The Colin Mills Scholarship provides the opportunity for library staff to fulfill a professional development need that is outside of their library's normal staff development training resources.

The intention of the scholarship is for the successful applicant to gain skills and knowledge to benefit both the applicant and the management of their library service. It is further expected that the scholarship project will have demonstrated value for the broader NSW public library network.

WINNER

Rob Stewart

Singleton Council

Project—Supporting Adult Literacy now and into the future

Award Project Outline

The aim of the project is to gather information from relevant adult literacy support programs as well as peak bodies on adult learning and literacy throughout Australia to develop a hands-on adult literacy support package for the use of public libraries.

Literacy skills underpin digital literacy skills and if people struggle with the basics of literacy it limits their employment options, impacts their ability to engage with the world around them, and impacts on their feelings of self worth.

I believe public libraries can play a significant role in supporting and improving adult literacy levels in their community. Indeed many already are. To encourage and empower more involves more awareness around the types of support and programs that can be offered by public libraries



MULTICULTURAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Multicultural Excellence Awards are awarded annually by the Working Group on Multicultural Library Services (WGMLS), a working group of the NSW public libraries network. The awards recognise a public library service and/or an individual practitioner for demonstrated excellence in the delivery of multicultural library services.

Multicultural library services encompass a range of services provided to a culturally and linguistically diverse community (CALD) and acknowledge and celebrate Australia's rich cultural diversity.

Multicultural library services are an important aspect of public library services. This prestigious award has been established to recognise and promote this importance.

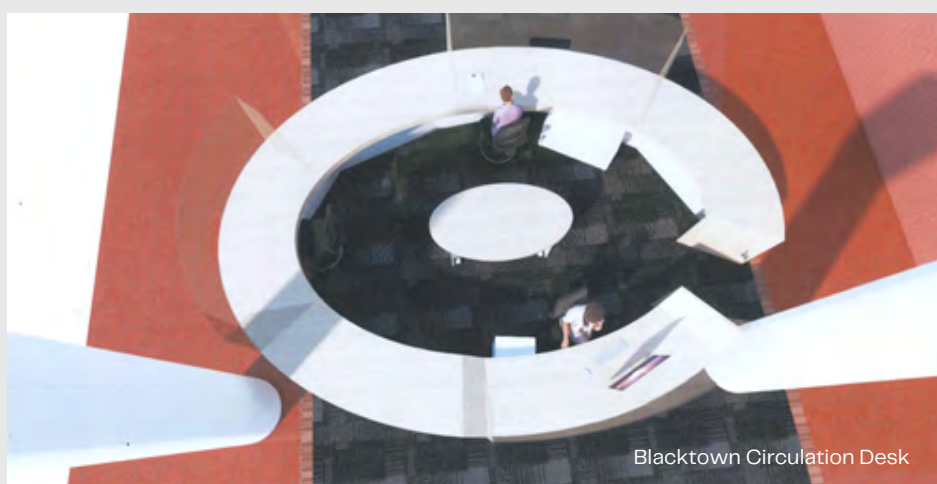
WINNER

Blacktown City Council

Project—2021 Language Ambassadors

Award Project Outline

Language Ambassador Program at Blacktown City Libraries uses multicultural influencers within the community. As social media platforms become increasingly popular we need to use these powerful platforms to stay connected with our multicultural community, using their language and using their leaders. Multicultural community leaders have a large influence and so we at Blacktown City Libraries initiated the Language Ambassador project with the aim of capitalising on the influence these community leaders and turn them into library advocates and get them to sell the library and its services to their community.



Libraries in our communities

2021 has again provided many challenges for the library sector. Despite this, NSW's innovative, adaptable and resilient public libraries have achieved an enormous amount. Below is a small selection from across the state showcasing what our libraries are achieving within their communities. Broken into five categories; Buildings and Mobile Libraries, Outreach Services, Partnerships and Collaborations, Online Activities and Programs and Services.

BUILDINGS AND MOBILE LIBRARIES

While COVID has resulted in the closure of libraries for varying periods of time, new libraries and renovated spaces have continued across the network. Forestville Library (Northern Beaches) was renovated to improve the entrance and service areas, in preparation for a 24/7 library, increasing accessibility and open space in line with community feedback.

The Warringah Mall Library refurbishment delivered an improved library layout with a customer centric design that optimised collection discovery.

The custom-built Creative Library space at Manly Library was fitted out. The space allows the community to drop in for a variety of creative endeavours and can also be rented by local artists to run classes and host exhibitions. It's the first space of its kind in a NSW public library while Mona Vale Library courtyard was upgraded to incorporate a sensory garden, new outdoor chess table, improved heating and new seating.

Glen Street Library received grant funding to deliver an improved outdoor, all-weather amphitheatre and community garden. It was completed and is ready for launch post COVID restrictions easing. The improved space can host a wide variety of programs and events and will create new volunteering opportunities to maintain the community garden.

North Ryde renewal of library spaces continues with the installation of a Parents Room at North Ryde Library and a smart new Children's area.

Lane Cove Library staff have been working with architects to design the layout for the new St Leonards Library. The Library will have a technology focus and is scheduled to open in late 2022.

MidCoast Council Libraries is trialling a new access model at Harrington Library. The library is open and fully staffed from 9 am to 1 pm on weekdays (opening an hour earlier than previously) and from 1 pm to 5 pm weekdays and 8 am to 5 pm on Saturdays and Sundays the community can access the library using swipe cards (much in the style on 24-hr gyms). This model commenced on 10th May and on every front it's been a winner. With an increase in loans, and visitor numbers.

Libraries in our Communities

Wellington Library outdoor living room has transformed the under-utilised outdoor public space into a living library lounge room and meet place. Key elements of the project included an outdoor multi-function shaded courtyard, seating spaces with outdoor furnishings, garden & plantings, and outdoor furnishings.

The Hurstville Library Media Lab has incorporated a sound booth. The new digital-creation space now includes a dedicated Sound Booth for audio rehearsal and recording. The space comes equipped with a digital piano and a selection of musical instruments and audio recording equipment.

Port Stephens engaged local artist Jordan Lucky to paint a mural of our local plants and animals to brighten the courtyard at Tomaree Library while design work is progressing well for the Warrawong Community Centre & Library.

The City of Ryde Libraries have a fresh, new and inspiring Children's area as part of the North Ryde Library. The My Community themed space features a giant scene above the shelves with houses, trees and buildings. Two bespoke houses with seating have been installed for parents and carers, providing a comfortable place to read with their children and Springwood Library undertook a refurbishment with the shelving being repurposed at Blaxland Library.

Newcastle City Libraries opened The Digital Library at Stewart Avenue early September 2020 and was awarded LG Professionals Award for Excellence for projects over \$1.5 million. The Digital Library was the first new Library to open in the City of Newcastle since 2006. Newcastle also launched the Heritage Digitisation Lab (DigiLab) in April 2021. The digitisation plan aims to provide greater accessibility for the community and the preservation of the overall collection for future generation.



Libraries in our Communities

OUTREACH SERVICES

Outreach services have again come to the fore with COVID closing our doors during 2021/2022. Northern Beaches Library2U contactless delivery provided 74,379 items and adopted 24/7 access at Forestville library.

The City of Ryde Libraries also ran a Library2U pandemic delivery service, delivering 1000's of books across the LGA. Deliveries included our very popular Kids Mystery packs which contained 10 selected items based on age. Parents appreciated these bags as a great time saver and the variety in the mystery pack provided their child with new reading options to explore.

The innovative Library to Your Door service (fully integrated online-shopping style public library experience) grew in popularity across Lane Cove especially during lockdowns. As this service was launched in October 2019 (prior to COVID arriving into Australia) Lane Cove Library was able to seamlessly transition to delivery services. Macquarie Libraries home delivery service, Book Express, commenced during COVID and was well received by the local communities. Wollongong also began a new contactless home delivery service to accommodate not only the COVID lockdown, but to further meet the needs, health and wellbeing of their customers and staff.

Recognising a shift in user expectations towards increased convenience, and personalisation, Georges River Libraries partnered with Early Learning Services to deliver library materials to families enrolled at a local Early Learning Centre. The new service titled LibraryGo, has delivered over 4,000 library items and received many letters of appreciation for the service LibraryGo effectively demonstrates the ability of the library to enhance existing council services and the role our libraries can play as strategic partners for delivering important community outcomes.

Stories at Home, Macquarie Regional Library's special virtual storytimes, were popular with more than 400 people viewing online sessions. In addition, the Dubbo Regional Council's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Lionel Wood, was a guest storytime presenter and attracted significant audience numbers.

Port Stephens continued their Call & Collect service for customers who were unable to visit their branches and created a promotional video for the Mobile Library. Wollongong also created a set of ads to promote lifelong learning and online programs for families with children.

Libraries in our Communities

National Simultaneous Storytime went beyond Library walls in May as the City of Ryde Libraries partnered with Top Ryde City Shopping Centre and presented the story Give Me More Space by Philip Bunting. The Children's services team developed prop and actions for the National Simultaneous story, entertaining an audience of 75 families as they learnt of Una's space curiosity. The in-person sessions were very welcomed in a COVID safe space and were a wonderful way to promote our Library service and Children's literacy programs.

Lake MacRover to the rescue! Library staff led a delivery program for vulnerable community members during COVID, resulting in a 15 per cent increase in patrons, servicing 409 patrons with deliveries every four weeks.

Riverina Regional Library's Children and Youth Services staff recorded many story times and made them available on YouTube and branch Facebook pages. Training was also provide to branches to create their own online story times.



Libraries in our Communities

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

During lockdown, Coffs Harbour Libraries collaborated with Midwaste and Kempsey Library to host a series of 8 Online Food Smart Workshops and Northern Beaches and Riverina Regional Libraries established sustainability programs for the responsible re-cycling of library materials.

Lane Cove Council and Hunters Hill Council signed a Library Services Agreement that results in Lane Cove Library providing a Home Library Service and making Library to You deliveries in the Hunters Hill Local Government area and commenced programming at The Yarn located in Hunters Hill. Lane Cove is also managing Hunters Hill's Local Studies Collection.

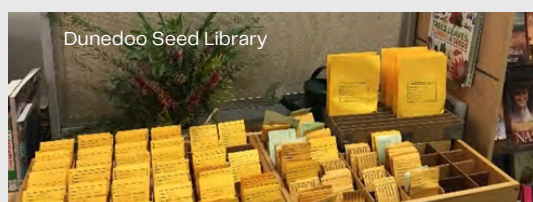
Northern Beaches were the winners of the Local Government Excellence Award for Customer Experience

while The City of Ryde Libraries staff have been busy working on transcripts for the SLNSW Amplify platform.

Wollongong Working in partnership with SCARF, a local non-profit organisation which provides services for refugees, had a group of Burmese residents attended a five-week Tech Savvy course funded by a grant from Telstra, partnered with Kiama Community College and the Personnel Group to provide a course for people with a disability or mental health condition, offering pathways into employment in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven and Warrigal Employment to deliver a series of tech savvy programs for Aboriginal Elders.

Coffs Harbour Libraries launched its Acknowledgement of Country for Children at a special Water Week 2021 Storytime. The Acknowledgement of Country provides participants at Library events and programs such as Storytime with a meaningful and interactive understanding of the concept of Acknowledgement from a young age.

A Seed Library was established at Dunedoo library in partnership with Coolah-Dunedoo Landcare. Library members select non-GM packets of vegetable and native seeds provided by the group for planting at home and are encouraged to donate similar seeds in return. In addition, the library supported the initiative by providing furniture, displays, activities for young people, and talks for the local community



Libraries in our Communities

ONLINE ACTIVITIES

Albury Libraries Write around the Murray (WAM) Festival pivot to an online festival. WAM presented 15 events over the 5 days of the festival, under the theme of Past Lives/Present Tense.

Goulburn Mulwaree Library's Mighty Playwrights Program won two awards in its first year; the 2020 Australia Day Event of the Year and a President's Creative Merit Award from Southern Tablelands Arts. The multi-award winning program is now in its second year. The Mighty Playwrights program inspires young people to discover the power of their own thoughts and voices through literacy education, story-telling, and the performing arts. Mighty Playwrights encourages and celebrates self-expression, lifelong learning, and the free exploration of ideas and the imagination. Local primary students, nominated by their schools, work with professional mentors in the Library to develop and write short play scripts. Through these mentor relationships with professional writers, illustrators, actors, and musicians, the young Mighty Playwrights create amazing stories, about issues that are important to them, in their own words and with their own individual style. The plays are then transformed into full-scale stage productions by Goulburn's Lieder Theatre Company. The program includes the mentoring sessions and group writing workshops, as well as the stage production and a published anthology of the students' scripts. In 2020 a full-length documentary was also produced, chronicling the project in its first year of operation.

The Northern Beaches Digital Library services continued to play a key role for our community throughout 2021. The eBook and eAudio collection continued to grow in popularity. In recognition of its growth, additional funds were re-directed to further enrich these increasingly popular platforms and the Library App also remained popular.

The community engagement on Ryde Library's social media has been very successful during lockdown with some of our more creative post including a build you dream library in Lego challenge and a weekly history photo challenge collection where members of the community could post a mimic of the images from our Local Studies Collection.

Macquarie Libraries online subscriptions and services increased significantly during 2020-2021. Central West Zone Libraries consortia for online services also increased access for libraries across the Central West.

Libraries in our Communities

ONLINE ACTIVITIES

Macquarie Tech Help programs ran across the region with a range of topics requested by participants included using smartphones, downloading library eresources, essential features of Windows 10, the Service NSW app, and a referral from a local NDIS provider on using text to voice software. A four-week Little Bang Discovery Club promoted scientific inquiry and discovery by engaging science-based activities and experiments for children.

The popular 'live' programs, Family Friendly Fridays and SteamPunks moved to online delivery at Wollongong. Family Friendly Fridays included a range of activities for the whole family and SteamPunks was aimed at 5–7-year-olds and included a mailout of Stem kits for kids to work on at home. A range of videos were created as part of the Get Skilled programs.

The City of Ryde Libraries have a new Library App with an updated logo to improve service, connection and brand awareness and provides a seamless interface to access the eCollections, reserve items as well as check services and events. Lake Mac Libraries App campaign resulted in 2971 new app downloads and generated a 184 per cent increase in the average number of unique monthly users. The campaign reached a total of 88,842 people on social media and the landing page generated 7433 page views.

Newcastle Libraries podcast channel REAL (created in 19/20) won the Podcast of the Year as part of the inaugural Newcastle Podcast Festival. One of the highlights of lockdown was Waverley's ability to get creative online. Programs delivered were varied including after school craft programs, HSC talks, music appreciation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Culture clubs.

Since debuting Auslan and English Storytime in bilingual format at International Day of People With a Disability in 2017, the City of Sydney delivery mode has evolved significantly through collaborating with the Deaf community and learning how the library could best support emergent literacy for children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.



Libraries in our Communities

Programs and Services

The programs delivered through Northern Beaches continue to educate, entertain and inform our community with more than 12,000 people attending one of our 400 programs during the year. COVID restrictions during the year meant many face to face programs were redesigned to digital offerings. Offerings included youth and children's programs, adult programs, cross-generational programs and passive programming.

In June 2021, Council opened the Lane Cove Literary Awards 2021. The Awards have become a biennial competition, with an entry fee and online submission process. Lane Cove Library also introduced a Preserving Memory Collection that caters for people living with dementia, their families, carers and friends. It includes information, personal stories, fiction, DVDs, CDs photobooks and memory kits. The Library added two portable assistive technology reading devices. The C-PEN ReaderPen is a portable scanning pen that reads printed text out loud using an imbedded camera, real-time optical character recognition (OCR) and natural voice text to speech (TTS). These pens are included in the Discovery Collection and are available for loan.

A range of events and promotions across Macquarie Regional Library highlighted the resources and assistance provided by the library supporting technology education and digital literacy. Narromine and Trangie Libraries delivered a host of events and classes for all ages covering STEM areas such as robotics, Lego, coding, virtual reality and one-on-one tech help sessions. Dubbo Library invited staff and students from Dubbo College South Campus to a digital library tour and parents and students to an information session highlighting eResources and online services to support students studying for the HSC. In addition, all MRL branches participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime, broadcasting a story delivered by an astronaut from the International Space Station.

More than 1,100 school holiday kits were distributed across the Macquarie Regional Library region, with promotional videos shared on social media. In addition, the branch libraries provided programs for children over the summer holidays, including the Summer Reading Club. Three hundred and ninety young people participated in the annual Summer Reading Club.

Narromine Library has received the ScanPro 2200 Microfilm Scanner and microfilm reels. The microfilm holdings of the Narromine News & Trangie Advocate purchased were from 1982-1991; 1993-June 2015. The resource is a much-welcomed addition to the collection and will enhance access to local and family history resources. The microfilm holdings of the Narromine News and Trangie Advocate were completed in June 2021, with the arrival of the newly microfilmed historical records.

Libraries in our Communities

Programs and Services

In order to facilitate greater community involvement in library collections Georges River Libraries has launched a brand new Digital Tool Library located at Hurstville Library. This collection provides all the equipment you need to create movies, podcasts, digital photography, live streaming and oral history content. Choose from the GoPro Hero 8, Canon DSLR cameras, live streaming kits and an assortment of camera lighting and microphones to bring your story to life. Also available is a selection of audio recording kits designed for amateur and intermediate users. The kits have been assembled for a range of uses including field recording, interviewing, and multitrack music or podcast production.

Mid Western Summer Reading Program was a huge success with 466 registrations in total (287 kids and 179 adults) up from 119 registrations the previous year. This was the first time we introduced an adult version of the program which proved very popular. Each person who registered was able to choose a free book to keep from beneath the Christmas Tree after receiving their reading pack. We also started a new Chess Club program. An external trainer volunteered to run fortnightly sessions for ages 6–14, and due to demand, we have since started a monthly Chess Club for adults. We receive a great turnout each fortnight and it has become one of our most popular programs.

Mid-Western Regional Council Library is participating in the ALIA Online Storytime pilot program. During the 2020/21 period we produced five videos which resulted in excellent responses and engagement from our community, as well as from the authors, illustrators and publishers. One of our videos, starring a staff member's dog, was actually shared by ALIA on their Facebook page as an innovative example of how online stories can be done.

Gunnedah In response to queries as to what we do with our discarded books, we decided to involve the public and do something other than the usual book sales trolley and sent out a paper-folding book challenge, asking people to take a book from our discards trolley and turn it into a work of art to be displayed in the library.

Port Stephens launched a Seed Library to help our community learn new skills, create sustainable processes and better understand our environment. Online events were also held including Stand Up for Poetry and Plastic Free Living

The ever-popular Queerstories at Wollongong Library were so popular they required two sessions. The Guide Dogs Australia Vision Impaired Yarners group returned to the Library, after keeping in touch online throughout the 2020 lockdown and a Library After Hours program was provided for families living with ASD.

Libraries in our Communities

Programs and Services

Corrimal Library presented a very successful Yarning Circle with local Aboriginal people and other members of the community. Feedback included “Great way to promote the conversation and understanding for everyone with First Nations people.” Thirroul Library presented a sold-out hands-on ukulele event, Tom the Pom – All Hands On Ukes. The event was engaging, fun and provided some much-needed social interaction for the community post-lockdown. The Aboriginal Artist in Residence program had local artists sharing their work and talents across the libraries. The community were encouraged to observe the creation of a piece of art and interact with the artist. Music in The Library was relaunched. Fiddledance (acoustic folk) played to a full house.

Cessnock’s Mapping Our Memorials Project was completed following a three-year strategy to locate and photograph memorials then transcribe the names of veterans on them and upload this information to the Register. 466 new local veterans are now listed. Their names and the memorials that honour them are searchable within the Register. Following the history theme, In June we held our first ever history walks.

Newcastle Libraries launched the sector leading project to create dementia friendly libraries. The program has emanated from the research undertaken by Kay Pisel who is the 2019 Colin Mills Scholarship Award recipient. The program has been successful in implementing a range of actions through staff training, the Memory Room program, free use of meeting rooms for organisations such as Dementia Australia to host information sessions, evaluating library protocols to improve access and inclusive practices and a dedicated podcast series.

Newcastle Libraries collaborated with Rainbow Crow Cultural Collective to innovate the traditional storytime model to become an aboriginal led Early Literacy program.

Waverly Much loved is our Multicultural Cooking class. A culinary extravaganza hosted fortnightly by one of our Librarians, Leyla Bhatela from her home. Each class is dedicated to one of the worlds cuisines.

Lake Mac Libraries expanded its digital engagement offering with new daisy players that enable vision impaired readers to access literature and printed information, and merge cubes (augmented reality) which allow users to ‘hold’ and explore digital objects. Further a Digital Mentor Program was introduced.

The City of Sydney Learning Fiesta involved a program of staff training. Facilitated by our tech team our Learning Fiesta came together as a fast and fabulous week of creativity and learning! City of Sydney Library has been supporting the local community with food relief by providing food hampers from its Surry Hills Library.

Libraries in our Communities Programs and Services

Popular local drag queen Timberlina took over Kurri Kurri Library for a fabulous night of Bingo, fun, song and dance as part of Seniors Fest 2021 and anime drawing workshops with Sydney manga artist, Matt Lin.



Libraries in our Communities

Berrigan Librarian, Anne Nevins penned the following poem to reflect the year of her library. Being on the border of Victoria has definitely added further challenges.

Coronavirus

2019 Coronavirus, 2020 Coronavirus, 2021 Coronavirus,
The name on everyone's lips
A yellow peril created and cursed synopsis.
Coronavirus crept across the world like a silent storm
We managed it in 2020 as best we could,
By closing shops, libraries, industry and all the good!
We 'distanced' 'sanitised' and wore masks for protection
But it crept up like a silent storm
ridiculing us all, gaining more innocents to affliction!

As vaccinations rolled out and in,
It wasn't til 2021 that we appreciated how much we needed them!
Libraries became hubs as saviours to the weary traveller and the isolated
States dominated border lines, restrictions and health tests became more regulated
Librarians managed 'border permits' for the long suffering
Who just wanted to go home and isolate from their Premiers' domineering!

Coronavirus continues still, to creep the world like a silent storm
But our clever scientists are winning the race
By making vaccinations available all over the place!
Now our libraries are helping the aged, ill and non tech savvy
To reflect all vaccinations, to gain freedoms, and to make merry!
It's a race we'll all win when mygov is completely filled in!

Anne Nevins
Berrigan Shire Library Service



TSS session at Berrigan Libraries



Zoom Author Talk
Mervyn Burgess & Ruth
Whalley present authors
Remembering the 50s

Zoom
Hugh Mackay
The Kindness Fire

Kindness

Saturday 5th

BOLD
Audiobook
Book

baby
business

POPPY
CAT

THE THANKFUL BOOK

NSWPLA STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2021-2025

IDENTITY

Strengthen the NSWPLA identity so that it projects one voice to our members, stakeholders and communities raising the profile of public libraries across New South Wales.

OBJECTIVE 1

Reinforcing NSWPLA as the peak organisation for public libraries across NSW

ACTIONS

1. Encourage Council representatives and library staff to contribute to the sector through support of NSWPLA initiatives
2. Review and refresh NSWPLA branding to reflect the relevant, progressive and professional sector we represent
3. Retain a high proportion of NSW councils as members of the Association

OBJECTIVE 2

Build a collaborative and forward-thinking association that is resilient, sustainable, and engaging.

ACTIONS

4. Ensure financial sustainability and responsible management of Association assets
5. Promote the NSWPLA brand as a recognized and trusted symbol for the promotion and support of council's and their libraries across the state
6. Engage with our members to demonstrate the value proposition of membership to the association

OUTCOMES

- NSWPLA is acknowledged as the one voice for NSW public libraries
- 100% of Councils across NSW remain members of the Association
- Our members are actively involved in the NSWPLA activities

ADVOCACY

Our public libraries offer vibrant spaces in which all community members can meet, learn and play. They provide essential community learning and social services to every community in NSW.

OBJECTIVE 1

Position public libraries as essential services to NSW communities; entitled to fair funding, skilled staff, and contemporary physical and digital infrastructure

ACTIONS

1. Develop a range of key strategies that capture the value of our public libraries and can be utilised in the ongoing campaign to elevate the value of public libraries to state government, local government, and our communities
2. In the lead up to Local and State Government elections, inform candidates of the value of public libraries

OBJECTIVE 2

Develop effective knowledge sharing and campaign ready networks and partnerships

ACTIONS

3. Re-engage council, library and community stakeholders to actively promote the value of libraries to strengthen our advocacy and funding campaign.
4. Develop a broad stakeholder engagement plan in preparation for the 2023 State Election

OUTCOMES

- Renew Our Libraries Campaign actively advocates for fair, equitable and sustainable funding for libraries
- Strengthen the strategic alliances between NSWPLA and the State Library of NSW (SLNSW), Local Government NSW (LGNSW), the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), the Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA), other state associations and relevant stakeholders
- Foster new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships to deliver positive outcomes for the sector
- Communicate the value of public libraries to our members and our stakeholders, and encourage all public library supporters to become strong advocates.

Create and facilitate opportunities for our members and stakeholders to collaborate, cooperate, and share experiences, knowledge, and ideas to ensure that NSW libraries have the capacity to meet the future needs of our members and our communities.

OBJECTIVE 1

Recognise and celebrate the achievements and innovations of NSW public libraries

ACTIONS

1. Acknowledge excellence within the NSW public library network through the continued provision of the Scholarships and Awards program
2. Promote achievements of NSW libraries through NSWPLA's website, social media and newsletters

OBJECTIVE 2

Harness technology to strategically connect and engage with our members and stakeholders to build stronger networks

ACTIONS

3. Provide increased opportunities for our members, zones and stakeholders to dynamically interact through active audience participation, both in person and virtually.
4. Investigate interactive applications and enhanced website functionality to connect and disseminate information

OUTCOMES

- Awards and Scholarship programs continue
- Increased stakeholder engagement in person and online
- Develop new platforms and initiatives to support collaboration, cooperation and sharing between NSW councils, libraries and communities

your library,
your place

your Aboriginal reflection



School of Business
Bentley Campus



Look & Listen

**NSWPLA
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
2020-2021**

New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc.
Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2021

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New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc.
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Memberships NSWPLA	172,547.55	166,014.10
Membership & Sponsorship - Aust. Mobile Lib. Network	-	400.00
Conference Fees - SWITCH		
- Conference Fees & Sponsorship 2019	-	138,137.27
- Conference Fees & Sponsorship 2020	3,410.00	57,420.00
- Conference Fees & Sponsorship 2021	<u>137,945.00</u>	-
Total Conference fees	141,355.00	195,557.27
Interest Received	5,678.43	10,631.95
Sundry Income	-	874.93
AMLOSN - Reach Out Conference	-	<u>9,750.00</u>
	<u>319,580.98</u>	<u>383,228.25</u>
Expenditure		
Accounting & Audit Fees	3,523.68	3,432.77
Awards & Scholarships (inc Marketing)	7,637.11	8,027.14
Australasian Mobile Libraries Network		
- Conference & Awards	-	1,155.08
- Website	7.62	3,738.85
- Meeting costs	-	266.26
Bank Charges	152.36	166.06
Conference Expenses - SWITCH & AMLN		
- Venue Hire & General Catering	-	13,080.12
- Catering - Dinners & Drinks	-	83,505.44
- Entertainment	-	2,983.17
- Equipment & Display Hire	-	31,438.76
- Printing & Design inc Website	2,930.00	10,561.32
- Speakers Fees (inc Travel & Accommodation)	6,650.00	42,604.08
- Insurance - Conference	-	2,692.71
- Administration Costs Exec Officer re Conference	24,816.10	9,194.38
- Sundry Expenses	<u>689.55</u>	<u>2,724.00</u>
	35,085.65	198,783.98
Consultancy Fees - Strategic Planning	3,000.00	-
COVID-19 Support to Members for eResources	-	64,039.41
E-Newsletter	-	2,550.00
Executive Officer Fees	127,698.00	119,170.73
Executive Officer - Travel & Accommodation	298.08	476.06
Filing Fees - Annual Return	254.01	196.86
Funding Campaign - Media & Meeting costs	13,600.00	48,963.97
Insurance - Public Liability & Management	2,873.37	2,501.62
Meeting costs AGM - Venue and Printing	475.47	2,500.00
Network Partnerships & Projects (ALIA)	53,401.27	7,661.25
Office Supplies and Postage	125.73	180.27
Professional Development	-	1,072.72
Sundry Expenses	100.00	434.79
Travelling Expenses - Executive	-	5,564.96
Website Maintenance & Hosting Fees	<u>5,289.79</u>	<u>5,591.04</u>
	<u>253,522.14</u>	<u>476,473.82</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<u><u>66,058.84</u></u>	<u><u>(93,245.57)</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc.
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Members' Funds		
Accumulated Surplus & Initial Funds	799,353.93	733,295.09
Total Members' Funds	799,353.93	733,295.09
Represented by:		
Current Assets		
NAB Working Account	66,822.20	35,911.24
NAB Business Credit Card	624.63	346.28
NAB Cash Management Account	215,227.40	242,199.00
NAB Term Deposit	471,859.65	466,244.62
Sundry Debtors - ATO	241.00	10,562.00
Accounts Receivable	43,213.50	9,823.00
Deposits paid - Switch 2022 and 2023	7,276.15	-
Provision for GST	-	3,656.45
	805,264.53	768,742.59
Total Assets	805,264.53	768,742.59
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	2,310.00	1,633.50
Accrued Expenses - Refunds re Sponsorship	-	33,814.00
Provision for GST	3,600.60	-
	5,910.60	35,447.50
Total Liabilities	5,910.60	35,447.50
Net Assets	799,353.93	733,295.09

New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc.

**Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year ended 30 June 2021**

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Members' Funds		
Balance at 1 July 2020	733,295.09	826,540.66
Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to Members	66,058.84	(93,245.57)
Balance at 30 June 2021	<u>799,353.93</u>	<u>733,295.09</u>

New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc.
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

The financial statements cover New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc. as an individual entity. New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc. is a not for profit Association incorporated in New South Wales under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 ('the Act').

1. Basis of Preparation

This is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared to meet the Association's accountability requirements. Specifically they have been prepared to -

- meet the reporting requirements of the Act.
- distribute to the member Councils of the Association

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the following Australian Accounting Standards -

- AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus View or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The Financial Statements are based on historic costs and do not take into account the changing value of money. The accrual and going concern basis of accounting have been adopted.

(a) Contingent Liabilities

At the date of this report the Association is unaware of any contingent liability not recorded or disclosed in the Financial Statements.

(b) Events occurring after reporting date

There have been no significant events since reporting date and the date of this report likely, in the opinion of the Committee, to affect significantly the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in subsequent financial years.

New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc.
Independent Auditor's Report
to the Members

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report being a special purpose financial report, of New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc., which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2021 and the Income and Expenditure Statement for the year then ended and Notes to the Financial Statements.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc. is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

As auditors for the audit of New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc for the financial year ended 30th June, 2021 we declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the code of conduct relating to independence in APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of New South Wales Public Libraries Association Inc. as at 30 June 2021, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

David J. Gill CA (holder of public practice certificate)
David Gill & Co
26th October, 2021

