



# Treasure Stories Inspire Possibilities Strengthen Communities

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023**  
OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**STATE LIBRARY**

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

State Library of Western Australia kadij Wadjak Noongar  
boodjar-ak wer kendjil Marawar boodjar kalyakool  
moondang-ak kaaradjiny.

Ngalak kadij ngala bibool kadadjiny-dandjoo kangowiny  
Indigenous yoongar dirdong Australian boodjar, ngannilak.

Ngalak boola moort noondak-marar yoongi kenya baam-ak  
kadadjiny nyidiyang-ak kaaratjiny.

Ngalak kadij Birdiya, koora wer yeyi, ngiyan Noongar  
kadadjiny moort yanginy.

The State Library of Western Australia acknowledges the  
Whadjuk Noongar people on whose land we are located.

We acknowledge the traditional lands of all the Western  
Australian Aboriginal communities and their cultural  
practices and knowledge and kinship systems.

We recognise that our collections hold traditional cultural  
knowledge belonging to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
communities around the country.

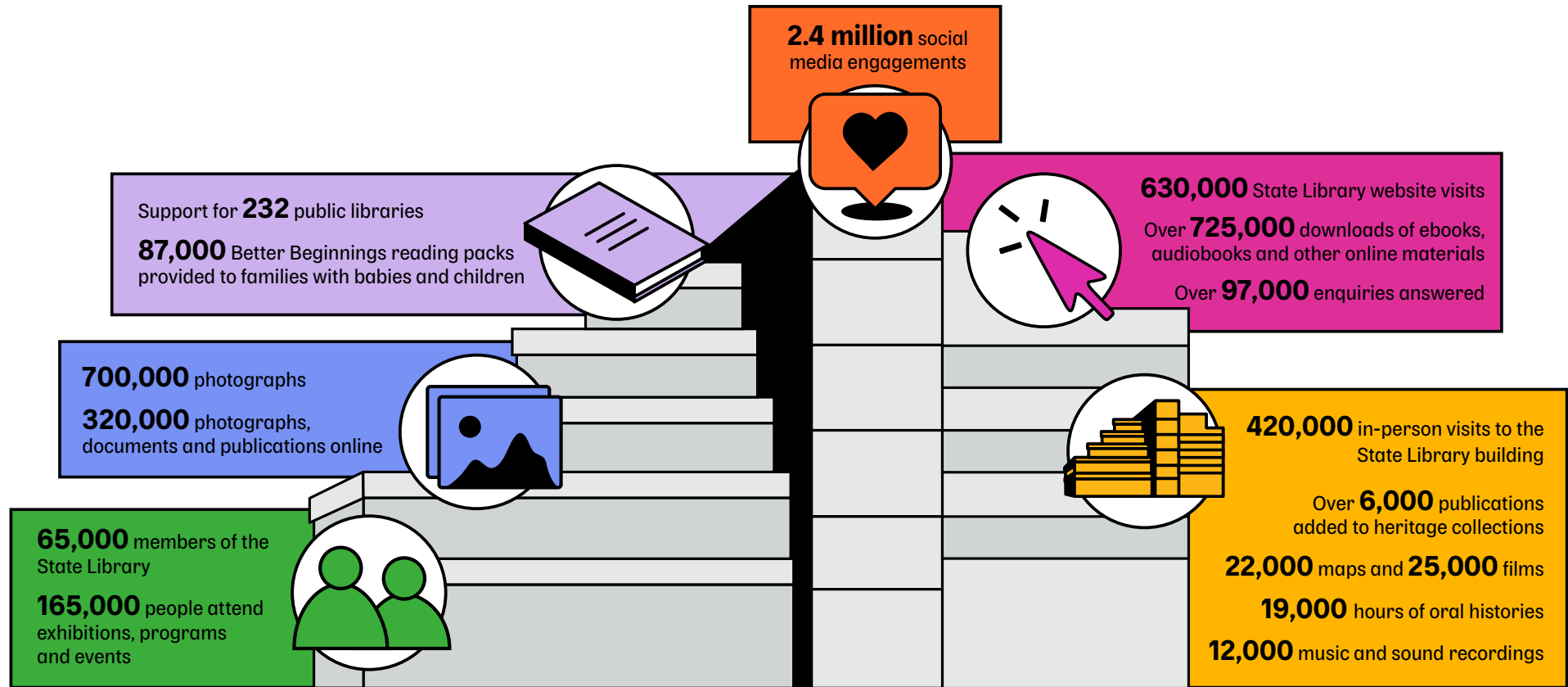
We support communities to protect the integrity of  
this information, gathered from their ancestors in the  
colonial period.

We pay our respects to Elders, past and present, who have  
handed down these systems of practice to each new  
generation for millennia.

*Image: Mowanjum Dancers, Western Australia, ca. 1975*



# State Library of Western Australia - our year in numbers 2022-2023



35 km of collections - enough to stretch from Perth to Mindarie



*Thank you for all you do. Life without libraries and books would be unbearable.*

- Anna W, State Library client's feedback, June 2023

# 71st Annual Report of the Board

## Location

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## Accessibility

This report is available in alternative formats on request.

## Cultural warning

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this document may contain images of deceased persons.



*Above: From Constellation (left hand side) original illustration by Moira Court for the book My Superhero*

*Front cover image: Dr Adam Trainer, Community Engagement Officer, shows local rocker Cal Kramer newly acquired letters by Bon Scott, 2023 | Clockwise from left: Dr Adam Trainer, Cal Kramer, Sophie Farrar, Barbara Parnaby*

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## Statement of Compliance

**Hon. David Templeman MLA**  
**Minister for Culture and the Arts**

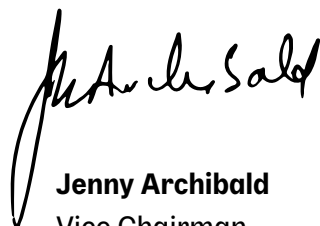
In accordance with Section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, and in fulfillment of obligations imposed on the Board by the *Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951*, we hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the 71st Annual Report of the Library Board of Western Australia for the period ended 30 June 2023.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and *Treasurer's Instructions 903*.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the report misleading or inaccurate.



**Hon. John Day**  
Chairman  
Library Board of Western Australia  
7 September 2023



**Jenny Archibald**  
Vice Chairman  
Library Board of Western Australia  
7 September 2023

*Right: Karri forest, near Bridgetown ca. 1970  
Jim Gray collection of slides*



## Chairman's Report



Hon. John Day, Chairman  
Library Board of Western Australia

**The launch of the new *Strategic Plan 2023–2027* in March 2023 was a significant moment for the State Library of Western Australia.**

It sets out the future directions and aspirations for the living collection of our State's stories: stories from the past, stories being created now and those yet to unfold. What we do in the next five years, and how we do it, will continue to inform Western Australians' understanding of our past and shape our shared future.

The State Library was established in 1886 as a free public library 'which would be open to everybody'. The spirit of this founding principle lives on at the State Library in our ongoing commitment to the Western Australian community. We recognise that equitable access is determined by many things, including the vast distances of our State, our community relationships, digital engagement, physical spaces and partnerships with a dynamic network of local public libraries.

In the next five years, we will continue to develop and foster opportunities to open up our collections for self-discovery alongside compelling curated experiences as a unique value that we bring to our community. Whilst opening up the collections is critical, so too is the question of whose voices are recorded in them, as we have a responsibility to ensure that the diverse voices of Western Australians are appropriately represented.

Along with our direct service delivery, our partnership with local governments and 232 public libraries provides us with a unique reach into communities across Western Australia's vast geographic area. In a worldwide environment where availability of information is ubiquitous and truth is contested, we are proud of our longstanding reputation as a trusted and highly respected institution. We must leverage that reputation and continue to work in partnership with public libraries to ensure that the community understands the value of libraries in a rapidly changing world. And what value do libraries offer? From birth to death, libraries offer a safe space for learning, reflection, discussion and debate which in turn promotes strong, diverse and tolerant communities.

A delightful part of my role as Chairman is the opportunity to celebrate libraries and their staff at the annual Library Board Awards. Held during Library and Information Week in July 2022, the theme of "rewrite, renew, reimagine" reflected how libraries continue to grow and diversify with changing community needs. It was heartening to see the diverse range of offerings that public libraries across Western Australia have developed to entertain, inform and inspire their local communities.

## OVERVIEW

In the Metropolitan and Large Regional category, the winner was LibraryCraft – a free Minecraft server for Western Australian children aged 7–17. Within the multiple online connected worlds of LibraryCraft, users can develop their creativity, enter competitions or play games with friends. Children from 46 local governments create, learn, play and interact in LibraryCraft. It fosters online and digital skills for both users and administrators; all of this within a safe online environment. LibraryCraft is a testament to the creativity and ingenuity of the public library staff from multiple local governments who created it for children across the State.

In the Small Regional category, the Shire of Ravensthorpe won for their Fitzy Unearthed and The Fitzy Files online video and podcasting channels which capture and share positive community stories, offering an alternative to local news services. Residents, visitors, organisations and local businesses can view and listen to content and create and share their own stories while upskilling users in digital storytelling technologies and techniques. This smart use of technology to create content has wide community engagement and appeal. I am pleased to say that this initiative was partly funded by a public library grant from the State Library.

I was also pleased to announce the appointment of Emeritus Professor Margaret Nowak AM as a Fellow of the Library Board. The award recognises those who have made a contribution and outstanding effort in furthering the cause of library services in Western Australia. Margaret was a member of the Library Board from 2002 to 2019, and Chairman of the Board from 2012 to 2019; the seventh longest serving member of the Board in its history. Margaret contributed to the strategic planning and championing of many significant State Library initiatives during her time on the Board.

I thank my fellow Board members for their commitment and expertise throughout the year. This year we welcomed Sandy Anghie, who brings a wealth of experience, and we bid farewell to Sally Morgan, who generously shared valuable insight throughout her term.

In conclusion, my thanks to the CEO and State Librarian, Catherine Clark, and the staff and volunteers of the State Library for their dedication and hard work. Thank you also to the Hon. David Templeman MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts, for his continued interest in the Library's activities.

I look forward to the State Library continuing to deliver services and projects that empower and inspire the Western Australian community.

### **Hon. John Day**

Chairman of the Library Board of Western Australia



*Right: Library Board Awards 2022  
(L-R) Emeritus Professor Margaret Nowak AM Fellow of the Library Board,  
Hon. John Day Chairman of the Library Board | 28 July 2022*



## CEO and State Librarian's Report



**As I reflect on the past year, it is evident that the Library is rapidly evolving and repositioning to achieve the ambitious outcomes we have set in our new Strategic Plan.**

Activities throughout the year have been leading towards the anticipated goals of the *Strategic Plan 2023-2027* and included a number of key positioning strategies such as the new Collection Strategy and Interpretation Strategy. Informed by community feedback, these will become our guides to ensuring that we are genuinely building and describing our collections to represent the diverse voices of Western Australians for current and future generations.

Equally important to collecting is sharing the collections with our community through enhancing visitor experiences online and in the State Library building. We do this by sharing the treasures housed within our collections, including rare books, paintings, photography, personal papers, manuscripts, maps and ephemera. During 2022-2023, over 420,000 people visited the Library, many of them enjoying our free public programming, which aims to promote Library collections and services and provide opportunities for growth, connection and empowerment. Some public programming highlights included:

*STUFF! History, Home, Family, Love, Identity ... and why we collect it* - this exhibition spotlighted the deeply personal relationships Library staff members have with treasured collection items and their passion in sharing, interpreting and conserving Western Australian stories.

*Ngaluk Waangkiny Us Talking Listen Lounge* - in partnership with the Community Arts Network, podcasts and photographs of ten respected Elders from Boorloo (Perth). Visitors could enter the Listen Lounge to hear audio accounts that were poignant, powerful and at times heart-breaking.

*El Caballo Blanco - History at your Fingertips* - a special commission from the Library, the Revelation Perth International Film Festival and XR:WA - this virtual reality experience gave access to architectural plans, photographs, information and personal documents held in the Library collection, allowing visitors to explore El Caballo Blanco and the hidden history of this beguiling part of Western Australian history.

*You Only Die Once: A Day on Death* - the Library partnered with the Centre for Stories to present three fascinating events and workshops which explored questions and taboos about death and dying and included a practical workshop on planning Advanced Care.

## OVERVIEW

*Sze Tsang - Corridors of Blissterday* - as part of WA Music Month, the Library and WA Music (WAM) presented a live performance of new works by Sze Tsang / Samarobryn created in response to the State Library's collections.

*Mr Chicken goes to the State Library* - a partnership with AWESOME and Westbooks saw the Library transformed into an explosion of yellow to celebrate Mr Chicken. Families enjoyed a sensory play space and took part in interactive drawing workshops with renowned author and illustrator, Leigh Hobbs.

We remain committed to nurturing and strengthening the public library network in Western Australia in partnership with Local Government Authorities. It was a pleasure to visit libraries in the Perth metropolitan area as well as the Midwest, Great Southern and South West regions during the year to discuss developments in local library services and changing community needs. I thank all my colleagues in Western Australian local government and at the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) for collaborating with us on a shared mission of fostering knowledge, education and community engagement through public libraries.

Beyond the borders of Western Australia, we worked hard to maintain and develop national relationships and networks. National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) brings together the knowledge and expertise of ten national, state and territory libraries across Australia and New Zealand to build, manage and provide access to library collections and services. NSLA provides a mechanism for a joint approach to collecting, service delivery, research, advocacy, skills development and library standards.

*Image: Ngaluk Waangkiny Us Talking Listen Lounge | 2023*





Significant shared projects this year included draft guidelines for descriptions of Indigenous collections and the strategy for the next five years of the National edeposit (NED) service, which is critical infrastructure to enable libraries to collect digital materials.

The Library staff are passionate about their work and are critical to the effective delivery of services, and I thank them and the dedicated volunteers who contribute to our trusted standing in the community.

I would also like to thank our colleagues at the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, led by Director General Lanie Chopping, for their commitment to working in partnership to achieve our goals.

I also extend my gratitude to the Library Board, chaired by the Hon. John Day. Their dedicated service and support continues to bolster our efforts and strengthen the Library's impact.

Thank you to the State Government for the continued support and to the Hon. David Templeman MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts, who demonstrates a deep understanding of the vital role libraries play in our community.

**Catherine Clark**  
CEO and State Librarian

*Left: Hon. Patrick Gorman MP, Member for Perth, visits the State Library, 2023*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR YEAR

### *Strategic Plan 2023-2027*

The State Library of Western Australia is a valued cultural institution, recognised for the outstanding services it provides to the people of Western Australia. During the year, the Library Board and State Library worked together to develop a new strategic plan to guide the work of the Library for the next five years.

The Library’s mission is to treasure stories, inspire possibilities and strengthen communities. The Library collects, preserves, treasures and shares knowledge and stories from the past, the present and those yet to unfold as a vibrant record of Western Australia’s shared history. Collections represent the richness and diversity of the Western Australian community and can facilitate a better understanding of the past, discovery of new ideas and shaping a stronger future.

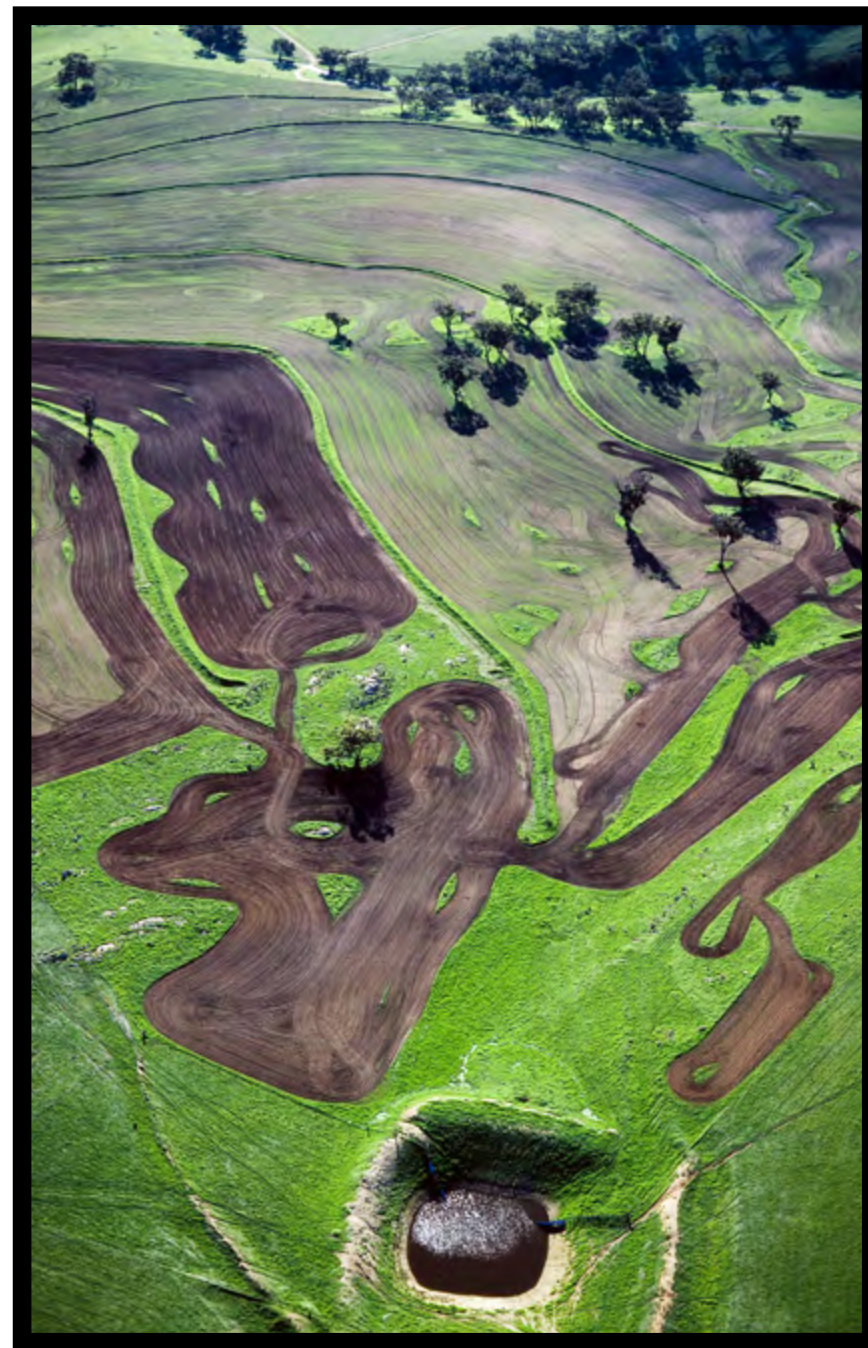
Visitors to the State Library building and online services will find vibrant and welcoming spaces for learning, recreation and enterprise. Using innovative services and technologies, we connect with all Western Australians to offer exciting and fulfilling experiences.



*You see the human behaviour through the landscape.*

– Richard Woldendorp AM (1927-2023)  
Oral history held in the State Library’s heritage collections, 2011

*Right: Aerial photograph of ploughed land and a farm dam near Northam, 1988 | Photo: Richard Woldendorp*



## Our four priority areas:

**01** Reflect the rich diversity of our community in how we collect, preserve and share our unique Western Australian stories

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**02** Deliver services that are responsive to the needs of the community and offer opportunities for growth, connection and empowerment

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**03** Champion the essential role of local public libraries in our communities in supporting innovation and providing a sense of belonging

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**04** Realise our potential through fostering a dynamic staff culture and an efficient and sustainable operating environment

## Our values:

We achieve our priorities by being community-focused, responsive, respectful, accountable and innovative

## Digitisation of At-Risk Audio Visual Collections Project

Digitisation of the State Library's at-risk audio visual collections include audio, video and film formats (cassettes, tapes, reels) that can no longer be played on devices (video and audio cassette players, projection devices) due to obsolete technologies and deterioration of physical items over the last several decades. These materials are at-risk of being lost forever if not digitised.

In 2022–2023, the State Library received \$1.402 million from the State Government's Digital Capability Fund for the first 12 months of the Digitisation of At-Risk Audio Visual Collections Project, with an additional \$3.983 million confirmed in the May 2023 State Budget. This will support the accelerated delivery of the *Digital Strategy for the Western Australian Government 2021–2025*, which drives digital transformation across the public sector.

The significant multi-year investment will ensure that Western Australia is preserving its unique and valuable history; keeping pace with the demands of increasingly engaged audiences who expect online digital access to heritage and cultural material.

The project will continue until 2026 and 'unlock' thousands of items that depict people, places and events unique to Western Australia, including the Ngaanyatjarra Traditional Owners 1982 convoy to Perth to protest land rights; dozens of personal films capturing life in regional Western Australia from 1940 to 1970; and visits to Perth of international significance including Prince Charles in 1979 and Pope John Paul II in 1986.



Above: George Lodge personal film at the Koorda Show, 1947



*As a result of this transformative project, Western Australians will see our film and sound archive collections come to life as newly digitised material is added to the Library catalogue over the coming years.*

– Catherine Clark, CEO and State Librarian

## Aboriginal Engagement and Truth-Telling

Responsibility to Aboriginal reconciliation and recognition is a foundation of the State Library's *Strategic Plan 2023-2027*. The Library will acknowledge the colonial origins of its collections and will work with Aboriginal people and communities to repair harm, identify and sustain cultural knowledge and preserve its integrity and value.

The Library will partner with Aboriginal people and communities to ensure that their distinctive voices, knowledge and perspectives are respected and celebrated in its collections. It will commit to truth-telling and healing that celebrates Aboriginal culture and knowledge.

A highlight of increased engagement has been the Library's introduction of weekly Facebook posts that share Aboriginal stories from our heritage collections. The posts have garnered substantial reach and engagement.

The photo on the following page appeared in a story that was told in the words of Leonard Jack Williams, rest in peace. He was respectfully known as a gentle and unassuming elder of the Noongar people of the Great Southern, a teacher, craftsman and a storyteller. He believed that although you can't go back and change anything, stories still need to be told. The story reached 97,000 people after it was posted on 15 March 2023.

Truth-telling about the history of colonisation and its impact on Aboriginal people and communities is a potential trigger for trauma and pain for some of the survivors of the Stolen Generations. The Library actively managed social media content where issues were raised.



*Thank you State Library of Western Australia for starting the process of truth-telling. Please continue, as it is only by the telling of lived experience that we can hear and acknowledge the injustice perpetrated on first nations people, and through that understand that the consequences of decisions made decades ago and longer still reverberate today.*

- State Library Facebook follower, 2023

*Next page: Two men with fish suspended on a stick, with children, the Kimberley, Western Australia, ca. 1965 | Photo: Ron Williams*





## Bon Scott Letters

One of Western Australia's favourite sons, the late Bon Scott, is well-loved as the original frontman of the rock band AC/DC and is known for his raw, honest lyrics. Beyond his public persona, Bon was also a prolific letter writer. Since 2019, the State Library has acquired five of Bon's letters; with two letters to his friend Colin Moore, a motorcycle shop owner in Sydney, added to the Library's collection in 2023.

In one of the letters, Bon asks, "Have you heard the new album yet? Should pay the rent for a few weeks." That new album was *Highway to Hell* by AC/DC.

To celebrate the acquisition, local musician Cal Kramer from The Southern River Band was invited into the Library's Conservation Lab to be the first member of the public to read the letters written by Bon Scott to Colin Moore in 1979.

A video of the visit and an interview with Dr Adam Trainer, Community Engagement Officer, discussing Bon's legacy is available on the [State Library website](#).



*The Western Australian stories we collect make connections between this place and the rest of the world.*

- Dr Adam Trainer, Community Engagement Officer, 2023

Left: Dr Adam Trainer, Cal Kramer, Sophie Farrar, Barbara Parnaby, 2023

## Game Changers

In the lead up to the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup being held in Australia and New Zealand, collecting the stories and experiences of Western Australian female soccer players was identified as a priority under the State Library's Collection Strategy.

Working with the Centre for Stories, the Library commissioned 10 oral histories and photographic portraits that represented a diverse range of experiences and perspectives of women in soccer since the early 1970s.

Interviewees include pioneering Matildas legends **Sandra Brentnall** and **Tracey Wheeler**, Noongar woman and longest-serving Matilda, goalkeeper **Lydia Williams**, Western Australia's first female national league referee **Marilyn Learmont**, Perth Glory women's captain **Natasha Rigby**, ParaMatildas goalkeeper **Katelyn Smith**, leading women's sports journalist and former refugee **Ann Odong**, Fremantle City Football Club player and PhD student in gender equity in soccer **Mikayla Lyons**, trans woman, soccer player and South Perth Pride FC committee member **Jaime Page**, and Junior Matilda **Ischia Brooking** and her mother **Thembi Brooking**.

These oral histories reveal how the evolution of the world game in Western Australia has opened doors, forged bonds, pushed boundaries and changed lives for this diverse group of women.



Above: Mikayla Lyons, Fremantle City Football Club Captain, one of 10 trailblazing female soccer players featured in the Game Changers exhibition, 2023 | Photo: Rebecca Mansell



To share and interpret the oral histories and photographs in an engaging way, the Library installed three permanent speakers in the building's undercroft facing into the Perth Cultural Centre, that were programmed to play the oral histories. An immersive soccer pitch installation with 12 soccer goals serving as exhibition panels created a playful, family-friendly display of photographs and heritage material collected during the project.

The donation of new images and other material related to female sportspeople and females playing soccer in Western Australia provide a much needed addition to the Library's collections.



*The Game Changers project is a great example of our new Collection Strategy in action. We are responding to the needs and expectations of the community and reflecting Western Australia's rich and diverse history in our collections.*

- Catherine Belcher, Director Collection Services

*Left: Sandra Brentnall's jersey, when she represented Australia at the inaugural World Women's Invitational Tournament in Taipei, Taiwan, 1978 | Photo: Rebecca Mansell*

## Better Beginnings Expansion in the Kimberley and Pilbara Regions

During the year, the State Library launched new literacy initiatives through its highly acclaimed Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program, with a focus on regional areas of the North West. The program supports the development of literacy in children from birth, providing them with greater potential to grow, learn, perform well at school and succeed in later life.

The Library worked with the Yawuru Language Centre in Broome to create a dual language edition of Better Beginnings' flagship book *Baby Ways* for families on Yawuru land. Yawuru Country covers 5,300 square kilometres in and around the town of Broome. The Hon. David Templeman MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts, launched *Nyamangarru Jalygurr Baby Ways* at the Language Centre in October 2022. This followed the June 2022 release of *Maawit Mart Baby Ways*, which was created for families living on Noongar lands.

During the year, the Library employed a Better Beginnings Project Officer based in the Kimberley region. This officer develops and coordinates community partnerships to support the delivery of the Better Beginnings program in the region, with a particular focus on culturally and linguistically diverse and Aboriginal communities.



*Nyamangarru Jalygurr sends a strong message that Aboriginal languages are valuable and must be kept alive to preserve cultural heritage and promote self-determination.*

- Shahna Rind, Manager Aboriginal Engagement

The Better Beginnings expansion in the Kimberley and Pilbara is funded through a 2021 State Government election commitment.



Above: *Nyamangarru Jalygurr Baby Ways* was created with the Yawuru Language Centre in Broome, 2022

1,000

copies of *Nyamangarru Jalygurr Baby Ways* have been printed for distribution to families living on Yawuru land in the Kimberley

## Award for Better Beginnings – Little Fulla Yarns

In December 2022, the Better Beginnings program received the Institute of Public Administration Australia WA Bronze Moore Australia Award for **Best Practice in Collaboration between Government and any other Organisation** for the Kimberley rollout of the *Little Fulla Yarns* Aboriginal reading pack.

The pack is based on Aboriginal ways of learning, and contains three books by Aboriginal authors and illustrators, an alphabet poster to support the learning of letters and sounds, emu and dingo finger puppets for storytelling, yarning and playing, tapping sticks for songs and rhymes and information to support families to share the stories with children aged 2 to 4 years.

Two community events were held in June 2023 to mark the launch of the *Little Fulla Yarns* packs in the West Pilbara. Collaboration is at the heart of the Better Beginnings program and the Library partners with local community organisations, public library staff, child health nurses and teachers to support the delivery of early literacy tools to families living in remote communities across the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

Little Fulla Yarns is funded through Better Beginnings, a partnership between the State Government, Western Australian local governments and Rio Tinto.



Below: Reading a story from the *Little Fulla Yarns* reading pack, 2023



# Over 630

*Little Fulla Yarns* reading packs distributed to Aboriginal families living across the Kimberley and West Pilbara, extending to Port Hedland, Karratha, Roebourne and Dampier

### The Need for a Fit-For-Purpose Building

The State Library building was designed and built at a time when libraries were essentially book repositories. The current building lacks flexible and collaborative spaces that cater to diverse needs and is unsuitable for showing unique items from the Library's heritage collections due to the lack of environmentally controlled exhibition spaces. The building's mechanical systems are reaching end of life and accessible toilets and other facilities do not meet community expectations.

The Library continues to refresh and repurpose public spaces and replace mechanical systems based on most pressing need, but much is still required to be done to ensure that the Library building remains fit-for-purpose and integral in contemporary service delivery that shapes informed, inclusive and connected communities.

### Digital Inclusion

As society moves towards more online engagement, it is important to ensure that no Western Australians are left behind and that people across this vast State have the access, affordability and skills to participate in the online delivery of services and information. In implementing actions from the State Government's *Digital Inclusion in WA Blueprint*, the State Library works with local public libraries to help bridge the digital divide, providing equitable access to technology, programs and workshops on using digital devices and accessing online services.

### Media Literacy

Societal changes in where people access information, methods of access, manipulation of digital content and the overwhelming amount of information available to individuals can impact people's ability to separate fact from fiction. As a trusted place in our communities, the State Library and local public libraries play a vital role in shaping an informed and media-literate society, fostering individuals capable of engaging with media content thoughtfully, critically and discerningly.

### Censorship and Intellectual Freedom

Increasingly, libraries are being challenged about the information they make available and the programs they offer to communities. Library collections are intended to broadly record and reflect the historical and contemporary views and perspectives of Western Australians. The Library complies with Federal and State Government decisions on banned and restricted materials, but in other areas of its collections and programs it does not promote or discourage any viewpoints and does not censor material. These principles are the foundation of libraries and are reflected in the broad coverage of titles available in libraries across Western Australia. Libraries will continue to resist censorship and support and defend intellectual freedom.

## Strategic priority 01: Reflect the rich diversity of our community in how we collect, preserve and share our unique Western Australian stories

### *Collection Strategy*

In 2022–2023, the Library Board approved a new *Collection Strategy* which outlines the intentions, priorities and key principles guiding the acquisition and development of the State Library’s physical and digital collections. The strategy aims to respond to the needs and expectations of the Western Australian community, both now and in the future to ensure the collections reflect the rich and diverse history of the State.

Collection development of the heritage and general collections is based on the following five principles:

- ▣ Everyone's story is important
- ▣ Collecting is proactive and responsive
- ▣ Collecting practices are ethical and responsible
- ▣ Collections are open and accessible
- ▣ Western Australian stories are preserved

Collections are developed to be inclusive, without censorship or bias, to represent the diversity of our community. Priorities for collecting include addressing gaps and omissions identified in stakeholder consultation, analysis of existing collections and observing the State Library’s legislative responsibilities. Importantly, the Library continues to work proactively with Aboriginal people and communities to ensure the

diversity of their creative works, histories and perspectives are reflected in the Library’s collections.

Acquisitions made during 2022–2023 reflect some of the ways in which the Library is developing collections that reflect contemporary life in Aboriginal communities, regional and remote Western Australia, women’s sport, the LGBTQIA+ community, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities and Western Australians with disabilities. The Library is committed to empowering people to speak for themselves when sharing their own stories which has resulted in the commissioning of several oral history series.

## ***Interpretation Strategy 2022-2025***

During the year, the Library Board endorsed the *Interpretation Strategy 2022-2025*. This strategy provides a framework to guide interpretation of the Library's heritage collections and works in conjunction with the *Collection Strategy*. The aim is to engage with all Western Australians through our collections, foster a sense of belonging, and strengthen and sustain the relationship between the community and the State Library.

Interpretation supports and strengthens the significance of our collections, brings to life stories held within the collections and creates opportunities for public engagement. The strategy is being implemented through public programs, exhibitions and other formats, helping to create a unique identity for the Library.

A thematic approach to interpretation is guiding new collections research. The Library is working with Aboriginal communities to interpret collections in an ethical and culturally appropriate way.

The Library's vision for interpretation is to strengthen and sustain the relationship between the community and the Library's heritage collections and to enhance the public value of our collections.

## **More About the Digitisation of At-Risk Audio Visual Collections Project**

In July 2022, a State Library-wide team began identifying and retrieving thousands of items to prepare and send to an external specialist digitisation contractor. Some of the more complex work involved retrieving film reels from 10 degrees cold storage and placing them in another location at 20 degrees for 48 hours to acclimatise before they could be processed.

The first tranche of film chosen for digitisation were composite prints, where both the picture and sound have been printed alongside each other on the film. These were hand-wound by the team and securely packed to enable the fragile material to make the journey in climate-controlled transport.

While the physical work on the collection was underway, staff were also updating catalogue records, adding newly discovered information about some of the audio visual collections which will further improve discoverability of the items.

Between December 2022 and April 2023, approximately 6,000 items across a range of formats including VHS, Betacam, MiniDV, DV Cam and Umatic tape; 1/4 inch audio reels, DATs, micro, mini and standard cassettes; and film reels in 8mm, 16mm and 35mm, including colour, black and white, silent, magnetic and optical soundtracks were sent for digitisation.



## AGENCY PERFORMANCE

Digitised files are returned to the Library via hard disk drives or secure cloud transfer. Once received, a series of quality control checks are performed, including validating the digital files and visually checking the video for issues and errors. Once complete, the files are loaded into the Library's digital preservation system.

The Library is working closely with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Digital and Technology Services team to ensure fit-for-purpose digital storage and preservation is in place to support the initiative.

# At-Risk Audio Visual Digitisation

## 1,841

video tapes in VHS, Betacam, MiniDV,  
DV Cam and Umatic tape formats

## 3,340

audio items including 1/4 inch audio reels,  
DATs, micro, mini and standard cassettes

## 916

film reels in 8mm, 16mm and 35mm,  
including colour, black and white, silent,  
magnetic and optical soundtracks

Almost **150,000**

metres of film

## Acquisition Highlights

The following significant items were added to the State Library's collections during the year.

### **Barbara York Main OAM Collection**

Barbara York Main OAM left an accomplished scientific and literary legacy generated by her passion for the natural environment, in particular documenting the spiders and other invertebrates of Australia. Known as the 'Lady of Spiders', the large and comprehensive collection includes manuscript notes, correspondence, field notebooks, research files, prints and negatives.

### **Eckebrecht map of the world**

*Noua Orbis Terrarum Delineatio Singulari Ratione Accommodata Meridiano Tabb, Rudolphi Astronomicarum*

This map was designed and engraved by the Nuremberg cartographer Philip Eckebrecht at the request of his friend Johann Kepler and shows early cartographic references to Australia. The dating of the map as circa 1658 is derived from the dedication to Leopold I, who became Holy Roman Emperor in that year. This significant chart includes an incomplete reference to Australia and illustrates the partial - but growing - understanding about the world from the view of European exploration.



*The State Library's map collection enables us to chart the mapping of the coast of Western Australia over time as European trade networks and maritime exploration expanded in the Indian Ocean.*

- Dr Kate Gregory, Battye Historian

*Next page: Noua Orbis Terrarum Delineatio Singulari Ratione Accommodata Meridiano Tabb, Rudolphi Astronomicarum | Philippus Eckebrecht, 1658*





**E. L. Mitchell photograph album, circa 1909–1912**

This rare and significant album was compiled and captioned by photographer, E. L. Mitchell who photographed a vast range of Western Australian topics. The album, containing 137 photos, includes early 20th century photographs of towns in the North West including Broome, Port Hedland, Marble Bar, Carnarvon, Roebourne, Cossack and Whim Creek. The images depict Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people and industries of the time including port activities, pearling and diving, fishing and shearing.

**James Anfuso Music Poster Collection**

This collection of 114 Western Australian original music posters encompasses the history and evolution of contemporary rock music in the State from 1969 to 2014. It highlights the careers of numerous popular, successful and creatively significant musical acts, including but not limited to Bon Scott in his bands The Valentines, Fraternity and AC/DC, Bakery, Dave Hole, Dave Warner, punk bands such as The Victims, The Scientists and the Manikins, indie rock acts such as The Triffids, The Stems, The Neptunes, The Bamboos, The Rosemary Beads and nationally recognised bands featuring Western Australians such as the Hoodoo Gurus. The collection speaks to the aesthetic of music poster art across six decades, with sub-genres of music including psychedelic rock, blues rock, punk rock and indie rock.

*Left: Poster promoting the band, The Stems, for their Botanical T.V. tour 1986 from the Library's James Anfuso Music Collection*

## AGENCY PERFORMANCE

### **Kenji Fujita's sketchbook: memories of Cossack, Western Australia, 1925-1938**

Fujita was born in Kozagawa, Wakayama Prefecture, Japan in 1903 and left for Australia in 1925 to work for Jiro Muramatsu who ran businesses in pearling and commerce in Cossack, Western Australia. Fujita worked in various roles on pearling luggers; boat crew, tender and diver. In his 80s, he drew sketches of memorable scenes from his recollections of Australia.

### **Moira Court original artwork - *Lion Is That You?***

Moira Court is a Western Australian author and illustrator, working mainly in printmaking and collaging. Inspired by nature, conservation and folklore, this collection of images is from her book *Lion Is That You?* and is based on the long-lived rumours of big cats roaming the Perth hills.

### **Oceanfast collection of videos, photos and papers, 1985-2000**

Oceanfast was a Western Australian super yacht builder based in Henderson, south of Fremantle. Between 1985 and 1999, owner Don Johnston built a total of 15 luxury yachts, gaining an international reputation for high-speed luxury motor yachts and ferries. Oceanfast also built seven luxury ferries before being taken over by Austal in 1999. This collection consists of photographs, films, videos and archival material relating to the super-yachts and ferries, as well as the Oceanfast premises in Henderson.

### **Roy Millar Collection**

Photographs by photographer Roy Millar & Sons capturing some of the earliest scenes of daily life on the Western Australian Goldfields, from around 1894. Photos include gold mining scenes, Afghan camel drivers and other images depicting the transportation of goods, landscapes and family portraits.



Above: Receiving original artwork for *Lion Is That You?* storybook by Moira Court, 2023

## Oral Histories Collection

### Death and Dying: A collection of stories exploring the most inevitable part of life

A series of 13 interviews commissioned from the Centre for Stories that explore complex issues such as end-of-life care, the eternal journey of grief and voluntary assisted dying. Interviewees include Karijarri and Yawuru woman Judy Anne Edgar and her daughter, Japanese Yawuru woman Maya Shioji, who discuss their multicultural upbringings in Broome and the rituals and customs that occur during their traditional Indigenous funerals and Japanese funerals. Amber Dennis, who was born with spina bifida and hydrocephalus, has been in a wheelchair for most of her life. She was inspired to set up Wheelie Good Perth, an accessibility auditing business, after the passing of her father and grandmother. Amber discusses why, despite being close to death herself many times, she embraces life with a passion and has used her experiences with death and grief to become a stronger person.

### FIFO Oral History Project Series

A continuing series of interviews commissioned from Julie Kay Wallis and Elaine Rabbit that explore the diverse experiences of people working in the resources industry. Interviewees include Amanda Healy from the Wonnarua Nation in the Hunter Valley area of New South Wales. Amanda has more than 35 years' experience in the male-dominated mining industry, both in Australia and overseas. In 2004 she founded her own engineering business in the Pilbara, and in 2014 developed Kirrikin, a social enterprise sharing profits with Aboriginal artists.

### Community and Connections: LGBTQIA+ stories in Western Australia

A continuing series of video interviews by Helena Cohen-Robertson, commissioned from Know Your Nation that reflect the diversity of LGBTQIA+ Western Australians. Interviewees include:

- ▣ Louise Pratt, Senator for Western Australia, serving from 2008-2014 and 2016 onwards, who identifies as queer and lesbian.
- ▣ Esther Montgomery is a lesbian Martuthunira woman and LGBTQIA+ activist. She talks about growing up as a ward of the state; her childhood, including her experience with being an out lesbian in high school and the support of the Aboriginal community in Western Australia towards LGBTQIA+ people.

## Film Collection

### Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

*Banjima Native Title determination: March 2014.* A short film marking the significant milestone in a 15 year native title claim.

## Web Archive

### 2023 Indigenous Voice to Parliament Referendum

Snapshots of Western Australian webpages and content about the referendum, collected via PANDORA web archiving and contributing to the national collection of Referendum 23. Twitter feeds collected included Senator Dorinda Cox.

## Pictorial Collections

### Kerry Faulkner collection of photographs

A selection of photographs purchased from photographer Kerry Faulkner depicting events and celebrations in Perth in late December 2022 and early 2023, including:

#### Brazilian Beach Carnival, Scarborough, 18 February 2023

This vibrant and colourful South American festival attracted over 10,000 people. Photographs include samba dancers and other energetic performers in vivid costumes; the SambOzzy Samba band leading a parade along the beachfront and spectators of all ages joining in the fun.



Above: Two dancers performed their energetic dance solo, 2023 | Photo: Kerry Faulkner

Below: Ella Coombes, first time participant catches a wave to shore surrounded by volunteers who create a safe corridor, 2023 | Photo: Kerry Faulkner



#### Mogumber New Year's Eve Rodeo, 2022

Mogumber is a very small rural community where thousands of visitors congregate each year for the Full Points Rodeo event to experience 12 hours of action-packed entertainment and live music. This year's rodeo was the first one run at the Mogumber Rodeo Arena, North of the town, by volunteers of the Mogumber Outback Club as a community fund-raising event.

#### Disability surfing event at Leighton Beach, 18 February 2023

Disabled Surfers Association of Western Australia and Disabled Surfers Association South West - a series of photos at Leighton Beach where the Disabled Surfers Association of Western Australia hold their events.

#### Perth Chinese New Year celebrations, 29 January 2023

Western Australia's Chinese New Year celebrations for the Year of the Rabbit, organised by the Chung Wah Association with performances by the Dragon Dance Troupe, Lion Troupe, Little Apple Happy Dance Troupe, and the Western Australian Chinese National Dance Group.





## Collection Digitisation

This year saw one of the largest years of digitisation across multiple formats in the State Library's history, with a number of large-scale projects and collaborations in place.

Digitisation undertaken over the last year will result in a number of benefits and ongoing improvements including preservation of at-risk collections, wide access to regularly requested materials such as newspapers and maps, and an increase in the number of formats able to be explored and enjoyed by the public.

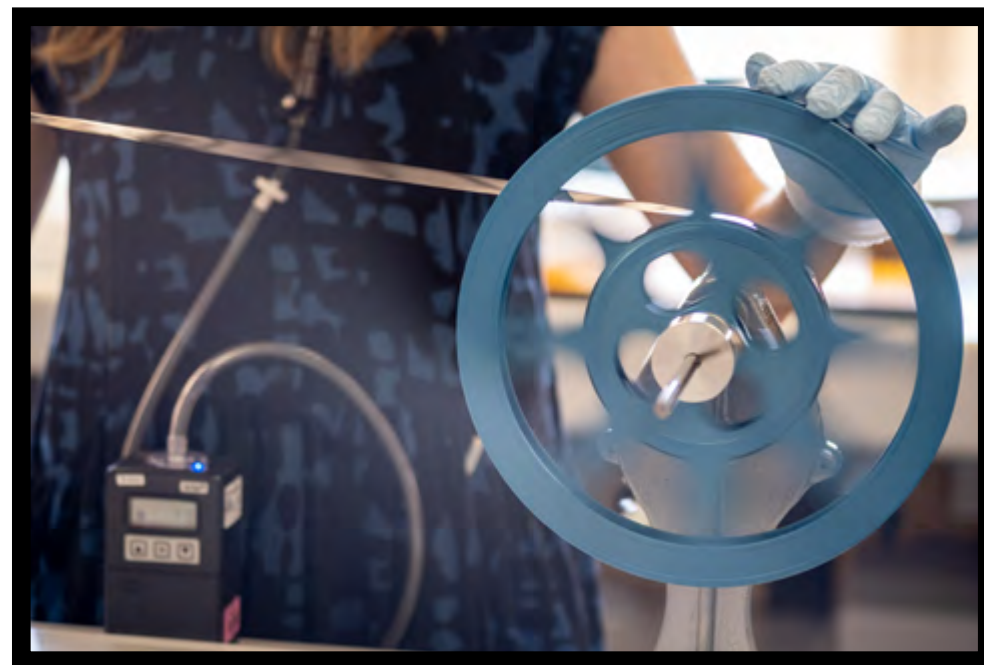
### Digitisation of 2D Materials

The Library's Conservation Lab is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment for digitising a range of 2D material to the highest technical and preservation standards, including newspapers, bound volumes, manuscripts, maps, photographs and several other formats.

Material is selected for digitisation according to criteria such as significance, value and user-demand. This year, the Library digitised 53,478 pages or items in-house.

### Highlights:

- A total of 25,621 pre-1955 newspaper pages were digitised and made available on the National Library of Australia's Trove platform, adding to the State Library's existing contribution of digitised pages from 382 Western Australian newspaper titles.
- The highly popular 40 and 80 chain cadastral map series produced by Western Australia's Lands and Surveys Department, c1910 to the 1960s. Known as the 'chain' series (Bonnes projection), the maps are based upon the imperial measurement - the chain. Eighty chains



Above: Hand winding film for the Digitisation of At-Risk Audio Visual Collections Project, 2023

equals 1 mile or 1.6 kilometres. The 80 chain series has the greatest coverage across Western Australia and the 40 chain maps cover the Perth metropolitan area.

- *The Blenden Hall Shipwreck Manuscript*, 1821 (part of the Thomas Lyell Seymour-Symers papers). An eye-witness account of the shipwreck at Inaccessible Island in the South Atlantic Ocean.
- *Scrapbook of Original Australind Settlers* by Mary Annette Bleechmore (part of the Clifton Family papers). A compilation of letters, poems, illustrations, postcards, plant specimens and sketches by Louisa Clifton. Dated 1824-1842.

Previous page: The bull riding marshalling yard where competitors are getting ready to mount the bulls, 2022 | Photo: Kerry Faulkner

## AGENCY PERFORMANCE

An additional 148,390 pages, including several early Western Australian serial titles such as the *Colonial Goldfields Gazette* – 1901–1904, the *Kalgoorlie Digger* – 1932–1939 and the *Westralian Farmers Gazette* – 1926–1931 were digitised.

## Digitisation Centre of Western Australia

The State Library is a founding partner of the Digitisation Centre of Western Australia which is co-located at the University of Western Australia and the State Library.

In 2022–2023, the Digitisation Centre of Western Australia used the Library’s audio studio for 775.7 hours of digitisation time for its partners and clients. This included the digitisation of long play (LP) records from the Library’s collection of Western Australian music.

## Preserving and Managing Collections

Care of collections and digital preservation activities are key to ensuring the State’s heritage is preserved for current and future generations. Conservation activities, appropriate storage of physical collections, and responsible and sustainable management of born-digital or digitised collection data files are central to our preservation responsibilities.

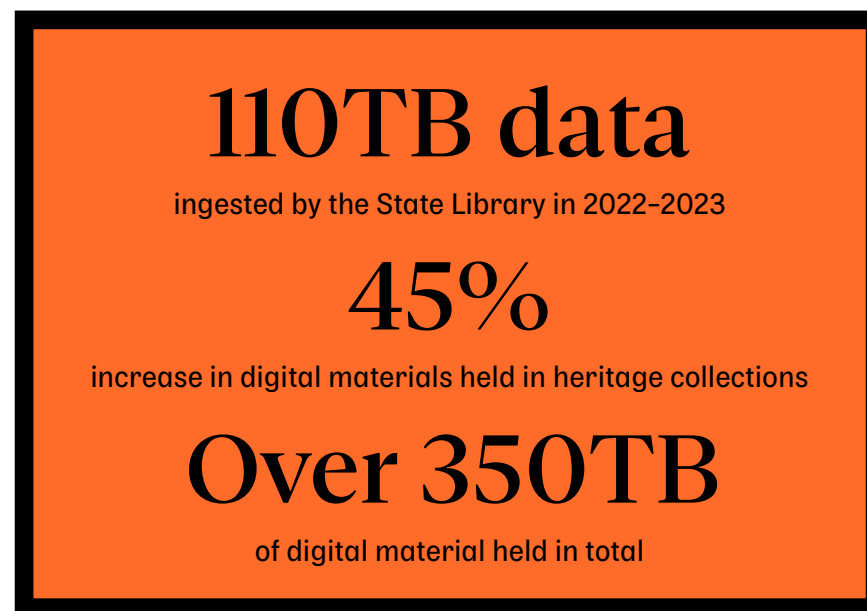
## Collection Conservation

During 2022–2023, State Library conservators treated over 2,000 items from our Western Australian heritage collections for reasons including acquisition, cataloguing, rehousing and storage, exhibitions and digitisation.

Over 50 percent of the materials conserved were cadastral maps as a precursor to the digitisation of this heavily requested collection. Digital files will progressively be added to the catalogue for online access. Conservation and digitisation of the collection also provided the opportunity to rationalise and improve the physical storage of the maps.

## Digital Preservation

In 2022–2023, the Library committed to developing its digital preservation maturity to grow our skills and knowledge in line with best practice. The Library is an active member of national and international digital preservation communities of practice, learning from, and contributing to, this growing field of work. This year, the Library Board approved the Library’s first *Digital Preservation Policy and Framework*, an important milestone in aligning with best practice and setting of priorities to achieve short-to-medium term digital preservation goals.



## AGENCY PERFORMANCE

As digitisation and born-digital collecting continues to grow, the size of the preservation data actively managed by the Library also increases. During 2022–2023, the Library ingested over 110TB of data, which represents a 45 percent increase in digital materials held in the collection. With a total of over 350TB of digital material held, the Library’s digital preservation work will continue to improve, ensuring the long-term preservation and continued access of Western Australia’s cultural heritage.

### Australian Web Archive (PANDORA)

PANDORA (Preserving and Accessing Networked Documentary Resources of Australia) is a growing collection of Australian online publications and selection of the web-culture of Australian individuals, organisations and events. Initially established in 1996 by the National Library of Australia, the collaboration includes all Australian state libraries who are responsible for collecting and contributing online publications from their own state.

The State Library identifies and archives significant Western Australian internet content. As new websites are created constantly and their content is always changing, archiving is selective in accordance with the State Library’s collecting priorities and PANDORA guidelines.

From time to time, all libraries will collaborate on a single collecting focus to ensure broad Australian representation of online material such as the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament](#) or [Homelessness in Australia](#).

During 2022–2023, the Library archived over 173 Western Australian websites representing more than 43.8 gigabytes of data including:

- ▣ [Uluru Statement from the Heart - Reconciliation WA](#)
- ▣ [VOYAGER \(@Voyagerau\) | nitter](#)
- ▣ [WA Opposition Alliance \(@OppositionWA\) | nitter](#)
- ▣ Sam Kerr [@samkerr1](#) [Twitter]
- ▣ [High Voltage](#)

PANDORA content is searchable via Trove [trove.net.gov.au](https://trove.net.gov.au)

### National eDeposit (NED)

In 2022–2023, the State Library reaffirmed its commitment to the national collaborative service for collecting, preserving and accessing Australian online publications by signing up to a new deed of agreement in December 2022. The new agreement is in effect until 2027 and includes a new management structure and employment of a NED Program Manager to support the partnership. Library staff from the Collection Services Directorate are members of the NED Steering Group and NED Operations Group, contributing to the NED strategic and operational plans.

The Library regularly contacts Western Australian publishers, including self-publishers, to request NED and print deposit using quarterly lists generated from the National Library of Australia’s prepublication data service.

## AGENCY PERFORMANCE

NED legal deposit for Western Australia over the last three years:

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
WA monographs received under Legal Deposit	475	955	635
WA serial issues received under Legal Deposit	3,047	4,553	5,567

For more information visit the [NED website](#)

In August 2022, the Library signed an agreement with Seven West Media (WA) for the automated deposit of 21 newspaper titles. It is the first time the Library has developed a NED agreement for the voluntary deposit of regular material that is collected by automated transfer from the publisher, significantly improving efficiency for both the publisher and the Library. The newspapers cover metropolitan and regional Western Australia, with titles including *Albany Advertiser*, *Augusta Margaret River Times*, *Broome Advertiser*, *Kimberley Echo*, *Narrogin Observer*, *Kalgoorlie Miner*, *The Sunday Times* and *The West Australian*.

## Supporting Exhibitions

The Library's exhibition program is supported by Collection Care teams through retrieval, conservation, preparation, digitisation, mounting and framing of material for display. Exhibition support through collection loans and digitisation services was also provided to the following external organisations:

- John Curtin Gallery – Kalyagool Karni-Wangkiny [Telling Truth Always] A Decade of Carrolup, 12 May to 9 July 2023
- State Library of New South Wales – Imagine ... the Wonder of Picture Books, 9 July 2022 to 9 July 2023
- Western Australian Museum – Fremantle Then & Now Historical Panoramas, WA Maritime Museum, 23 September 2022 to 19 February 2023.

## Friends of Battye Inc.

During the year, The Friends of Battye Library Inc. continued their support of the State Library and the State Records Office in the collection, preservation and making access available to Western Australian materials. The Library acknowledges the work of past and present Friends who have supported our community since their inception in 1981.

## Media and Social Media Engagement

Social media at the State Library, especially Facebook, continues to be a key engagement tool for sharing the Library's unique Western Australian collections and stories. The number of Facebook followers has grown to 64,207, with posts reaching over 18 million people this year.

The Library's social media not only serves as a valuable resource for people interested in delving deeper into our State's rich history but provides a platform for the public to share their own stories and an opportunity to join a vibrant online community. The number of engagements on the Library's Facebook page in 2022-2023 reached over 2.4 million.

Social media lets us share stories highlighting all facets of Western Australian history. Posts include the experiences of Aboriginal people, migrants, group settlers, soldiers, farmers, prospectors and personal insights into significant events in the State.

In addition, our social media stories are a source of inspiration for traditional media outlets including *The West Australian*, Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Post Newspapers. One example was a four-page feature in *The West Australian* newspaper of Library collection materials, including Olympic legend Herb Elliot's archived letters which revealed why he did not become a professional athlete.

The Library sends out a regular eNewsletter highlighting new acquisitions, sharing website stories and promoting events. The subscriber base has grown to 48,000 people.

## Exhibitions and Events

Free exhibitions and events remained at the core of the State Library's public programming, with most taking inspiration from the Library's vast collections.

This year, the State Library provided a broad public program offering with highlights including the Ngaluk Waangkiny Us Talking Listen Lounge, the highly popular *Old Tom: Man of Mystery* by Leigh Hobbs and Stuff! History, Home, Family, Love, Identity ... and why we collect it, an exhibition which shone a light on the State Library staff's deep connection with specific collection items.

### **Goologoolup NAIDOC Screenings - *The Dreaming* [3 July - 10 July]**

Throughout NAIDOC week 2022, the award-winning animated series *The Dreaming* was screened in collaboration with Screenarts. The animated stories share Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge about Country, society, lore and respect for cultural diversity.

**Burdiyas Yarns: In conversation with Elders from Boorloo (Perth)**

**[8 July - 9 July]**

Noongar presenter Phil Walleystack facilitated two events where he invited visitors to sit down for a yarn with the Elders to discover the stories and experiences that have inspired their fight for change. These events were presented in partnership with Community Arts Network.

***The Boy from Birdum***

**[4 July]**

As part of Family History Month, the State Library welcomed Bill Dempsey, newly inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame, to talk about his Aboriginal, Irish, German and Russian ancestry as well as his amazing football career in Western Australia. Bill was interviewed by Steve Hawke, his collaborator on his autobiography *The Boy from Birdum*.

**Geraldine Brooks in conversation with Gillian O'Shaughnessy**

**[29 July]**

In partnership with Boffin Books, the State Library hosted author and journalist Geraldine Brooks for an 'in-conversation' event to promote her new novel, *Horse*, with radio presenter Gillian O'Shaughnessy.

**At the Beach I See ...**

**[10 August - 29 August]**

Kamsani Bin Salleh's illustrations from the board book *At the Beach I See* were brought together with sounds of the ocean in a celebration of underwater Country. This exhibition was curated especially for children and was held in conjunction with Children's Book Week and the theme, 'Dreaming with eyes open'.

**World Press Photo Exhibition**

**[12 August - 4 September]**

The World Press Photo Exhibition showcases the best and most important photojournalism and documentary photography from around the world. For its 65th edition, the contest saw 4,066 photographers from 130 countries enter 64,823 photographs with the winning works being presented in this exhibition.

**Storytelling Through Art: Behind the Scenes Tours of the Picture Book Illustration Collection**

**[23 August - 26 August]**

In celebration of Children's Book Week, the public were invited to a series of behind-the-scenes tours of the State Library's Peter Williams Collection of exemplary children's picture book art. Participants explored the inner workings of picture books through examination of artists' roughs, storyboards and published illustrations.

### **Old Tom: Man of Mystery by Leigh Hobbs**

**[3 September - 4 December]**

A showcase of original pen and gouache illustrations from the children's book *Old Tom: Man of Mystery* (Allen & Unwin) by beloved children's book author and illustrator Leigh Hobbs. This exhibition, curated for children and families, included never-before-seen sketches and cartoons among the illustrative works.

### **Mr Chicken Goes to the State Library: An Hour with Leigh Hobbs**

**[10 September]**

In partnership with Westbooks, renowned author and illustrator Leigh Hobbs facilitated two interactive drawing workshops for families in the Story Place. Participants were introduced to Leigh's characters such as Old Tom, Horrible Harriet and Mr Chicken and were encouraged to create their own unforgettable characters.

### **Mr Chicken Sensory Play Space**

**[10 September - 3 December]**

In partnership with the AWESOME Festival, the State Library's gallery was transformed into an explosion of yellow to celebrate Leigh Hobbs' character, Mr Chicken. This sensory play space allowed families to read a story, explore texture, colour and spatial concepts. Visitors were invited to draw and decorate their own Mr Chicken and photograph themselves with Mr Chicken against a backdrop of Library photographs of tourist attractions in Western Australia.

*Above: Children visiting the exhibition centred around illustrations from the children's book Old Tom: Man of Mystery, September 2022*

*Next page: Families explore the Mr Chicken Sensory Play Space, October 2022*







### **Heart of the Community**

**[8 September – 13 September]**

A project coordinated by Regional Arts WA, this exhibition highlighted stories of belonging, ingenuity and heart from the Western Australian regional sector. This collection of stories, centred around 15 prominent Western Australian arts organisations, provided insight into the regional arts sector and paid homage to those heroes who live in every regional community.

### ***Runt!* Craig Silvey Book Launch**

**[7 October]**

In partnership with Westbooks, author Craig Silvey launched his new children's book, *Runt*, at the State Library. In conversation with CEO and State Librarian, Catherine Clark, Craig discussed his writing process, shared excerpts from *Runt* and gave the audience an opportunity to ask questions.

### ***Land of Legends***

**[8 October]**

In partnership with St John WA, this workshop for children highlighted Western Australians who do legendary things every day. St John shared 20 captivating true stories of adventure, love, loss, friendship, laughter and heartbreak experienced by St John paramedics, staff and volunteers. Local author Deb Fitzgerald facilitated a workshop on conducting an interview and gave visitors the chance to interview a real paramedic.

### **Wallal: The 1922 Solar Eclipse Expedition**

**[26 October]**

Battye Fellow Chloe Bartram's lecture outlined her research of the Wallal Solar Expedition where a delegation of scientists from Australia, the United States, England, India and New Zealand travelled to Wallal Downs on Nyangumarda Country to witness the solar eclipse on 21 September 1922.



*Right: Donkey teams hauling supplies for the Wallal 1922 Solar Eclipse Expedition, Alexander Ross*

**In conversation with Diana Reid on *Seeing Other People***

**[27 October]**

Boffins Books and the State Library partnered on this ‘in conversation’ event with ABIA prize-winner Diana Reid and award-winning journalist and novelist Emma Young on her novel, *Seeing Other People*.

**Snap Shot: WA Music Photography from the Archives**

**[31 October - 11 December]**

Compiled from the State Library’s archives and presented in conjunction with WA Music and the Perth Jazz Festival, Snap Shot was a compilation of the work of dozens of the State’s hardest working music photographers, set to an all-local soundtrack. Visitors viewed hundreds of images that capture the vibrancy and vitality of live music performance, as well as candid shots of some of the State’s biggest musical exports.

**Sze Tsang - *Corridors of Blissterday***

**[5 November]**

As part of WA Music Month, the State Library and WA Music presented a live performance of new works by Sze Tsang / Samarobryn created in response to the State Library’s collections. Using software, Sze transformed State Library maps into interactive virtual instruments.

***Digging Up Dad* with Morris Gleitzman**

**[5 November]**

Acclaimed children’s book author, Morris Gleitzman, visited the State Library to discuss his work, share the ideas he uses to bring more fun to his writing and showcase his new collection of stories, *Digging Up Dad*. This one-hour interactive workshop, in collaboration with Westbooks, inspired readers young and old.

**2022 Backyard Book Fair**

**[27 November]**

This half day interactive family event, in partnership with the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI Australia West), showcased new and emerging talent in children’s literature such as: James Foley, Steve Heron, H.M Waugh, Sean E Avery, Jeanette Stampone, Kylie Howarth and Briony Stewart.

**Reframed: What’s Old is New Again**

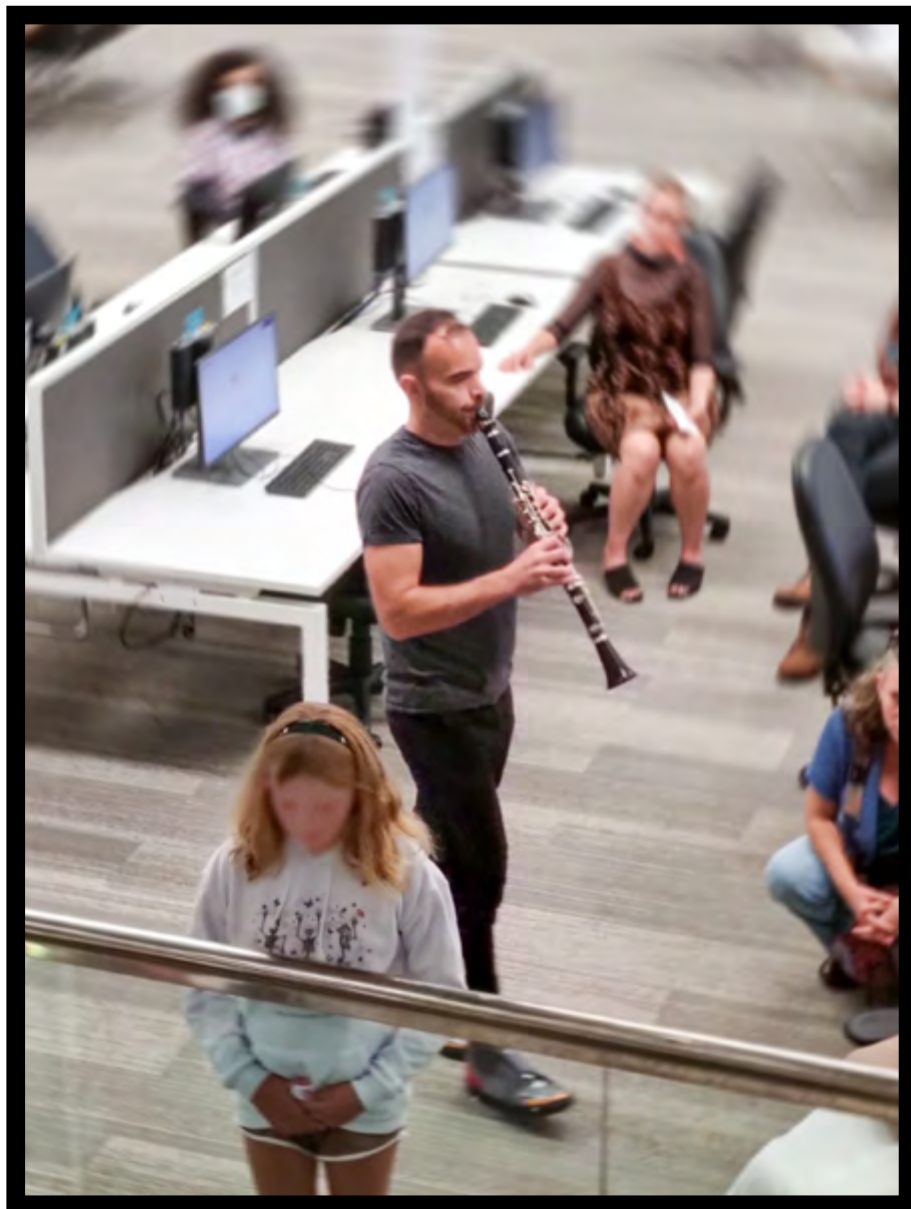
**[8 December - 27 March]**

Reframed: What’s Old is New Again presented a digital showcase of recent acquisitions and unearthed treasures from the State Library’s heritage film and video collection. It featured contemporary interpretations of the Library’s heritage collections alongside older works such as classic government films and restored archival footage.

**Perth Modulated - A City in Flux**

**[13 December - 22 December]**

In collaboration with XR:WA, this commission was an immersive Virtual Reality timelapse history of built Perth. With a key focus on buildings of significance or interest, Perth Modulated shows the changing architectural landscape up to the latest construction at Elizabeth Quay. This stunning architectural virtual reality story took the viewer on a journey from the ground up to a bird’s eye view, utilising elements from State Library collections and material supplied by architects and the Perth community.



Above: *Hidden Centres' performer, March 2023*

### **Nocturnal**

**[27 January - 26 March]**

Featuring original picture book art from the State Library's Peter Williams Collection that explores light and dark, *Nocturnal* took visitors on a journey to explore the sights and sounds of the night. This exhibition was curated for children and families to see extraordinary paintings, take in the nocturnal world, play with light and shadow, read a book by torchlight and gaze at the night sky projection.

### **Fremantle Press Emerging Writers**

**[11 March]**

In partnership with Fremantle Press and in collaboration with writer, Amanda Curtin and the State Records Office's Senior Archivist, Damian Hassan, the State Library provided a venue, tour and presentation for 25 participants selected for the 2023 Fremantle Press Emerging Writers Program.

### **Hidden Centres**

**[12 March]**

To celebrate the launch of the newly updated Western Australian New Music Archive (WANMA), the State Library hosted an afterhours music performance, curated by Tone List. Cutting-edge musicians from across the genre spectrum collaborated to create interconnected sound works that flowed throughout the floors, capitalising on the building's natural acoustics.

### Recovered: Tales from the Wreckage of the Georgette

[1 April - 23 June]

This exhibition for children and families explored the story of the sinking of the SS Georgette on 1 December 1876. It featured Sonia Martinez's artwork and draft materials from Michelle Gillespie's award-winning picture book *Sam, Grace and the Shipwreck*, along with items from the State Library's heritage collections to piece together various accounts of this Western Australian event.

### Exhibition: Stuff! History, Home, Family, Love, Identity ... and why we collect it

[3 April - 23 June]

This exhibition spotlighted the deeply personal relationships that State Library staff members have with treasured collection items. From librarians, behind the scenes administrators or seasoned historians, staff and their own stories took equal billing with the interpretation of the items themselves. Some 28 collection items were featured alongside a nine-minute film revealing how staff share, interpret, conserve and share Western Australian stories. The [online exhibition](#) can be viewed on the State Library's website.

### Sketchbook Project

[14 April - 30 April]

In partnership with Propel Youth Arts WA, this travelling exhibition featured the work of young people aged 12 to 25 from across Western Australia. The Sketchbook Project invites young people to share their personal stories, thoughts, artistry and passions, by filling in a small sketchbook.



Above: Recovered: Tales from the Wreckage of the Georgette exhibition, April 2023

Next page: Betty Foster stands beside one of her photographs she took in the 1960s as an airhostess at MMA, 2023



**TOP**  
Betty Foster shooting on the tidal flat on Derby  
1962  
Betty Foster  
Photographic print from original slide  
146126PD



**BOTTOM**  
Windssock and MMA DC3 VH-MMM  
'MMA Murchison' on the airstrip at Roy Hill Station.  
1962  
Betty Foster  
Photographic print from original slide  
146176PD

**WALL DECAL**  
Aerial photograph  
of patterns on the earth  
in Northwestern Australia  
1961  
Betty Foster  
Photographic print from original slide  
8A2321

Betty Foster would have been the envy of many young women in the early 1960s. Not only was she an air hostess at MacRobertson Miller Airlines, but she was a talented photographer. Betty's sense of self and adventure just ahead of the second feminist wave is what resonates with me in these images.

**Elizabeth Holmsen**  
Community Awareness Coordinator



**Boorloo Heritage Festival: Old Perth: Navigating Perth's History Through the State Library's Photograph Collection**  
**[29 April]**

Presented as part of the Boorloo Heritage Festival in two locations, the State Library and City of Perth Public Library, visitors were invited to experience three recently commissioned works that transformed the State Library heritage collections into unique immersive experiences: Reflections of Iwanoff, El Caballo Blanco and Perth Modulated: City in Flux.

**Boorloo Heritage Festival: Migration Stories Walking Trail**  
**[29 April]**

As part of the City of Perth's Boorloo Festival, State Library staff led the public through their range of online resources and walking trails, featuring an exploration of the city's migrant heritage.

**Matters of Life and Death: Let's Get it Right**  
**[24 May]**

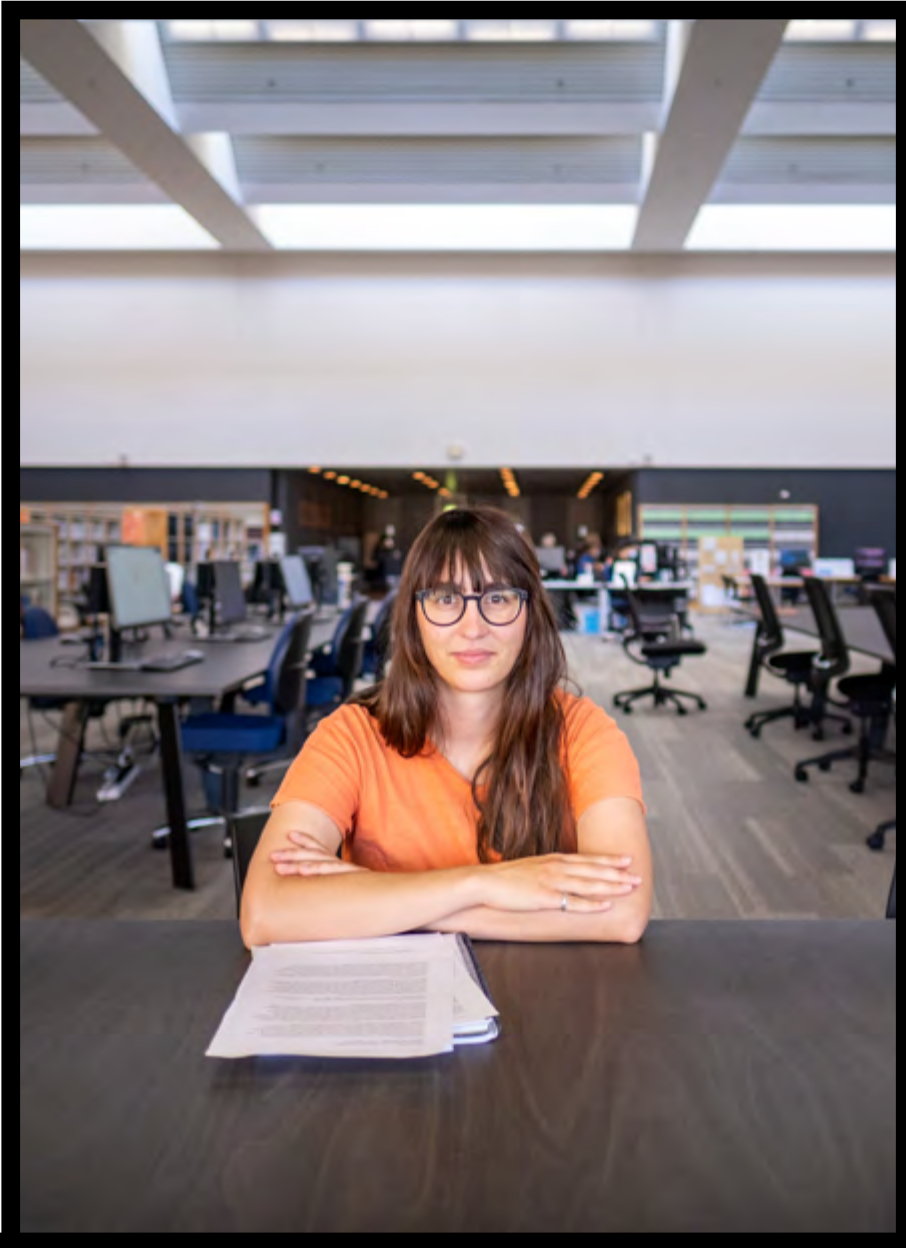
Presented in partnership with Perron Institute, University of Western Australia and the Public Policy Institute, this live streamed panel discussion centred on explaining the role that palliative care can play when a terminal or life-limiting condition has been diagnosed. Panel members included 2023 WA Australian of the Year Professor Samar Aoun, Roselyn Scolaro and Dr Fiona Findlay.

**Sydney Writers Festival: Live and Local**  
**[25 May - 28 May]**

The State Library live streamed a selection of headline events from the Sydney Writers' Festival 2023. The audience was engaged by conversations, debates and discussions featuring some of the world's finest writers and thinkers and were able to participate in live Q&A sessions.

**PCAF Academy: Perth Comic Arts Festival**  
**[4 June - 1 October]**

Each month, members of the Perth comics art scene met with aspiring comic book creators and professionals to talk about current projects. This presents an opportunity to share skills and knowledge and strengthens the already vibrant local comic-making community. This program is presented in partnership with the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.



## Fellowships

The James Sykes Battye Memorial Fellowship was established in 2006 with support from the Leah Jane Cohen Bequest to enhance the understanding of Western Australia through research based on the collections of the J.S. Battye Library of West Australian History.

Chloe Bartram was awarded the Fellowship for 2022 for *Flies and Skies: a Desert Discovery of Starlight, Wallal, the 1922 Solar Eclipse Expedition*. Her Fellowship explored the global ramifications of the 1922 Wallal expedition to witness a solar eclipse. In August 1922, a local and international astronomical delegation left Fremantle aboard the SS Charon. With much fanfare, and telescopes in tow, the astronomers made the journey up the coast and inland to the remote Wallal Downs. Their goal was to witness the solar eclipse, photograph starlight and further prove Albert Einstein's Theory of General Relativity.

Chloe Bartram investigated the five Alexander Ross photographic albums held by the State Library and brought into focus the role of women who made significant contributions to the expedition and its scientific outcomes. Bartram's archival research also inspired her creative practice and informed the development of a new body of photographic work exhibited in early 2023.

*Left: Chloe Bartram, Battye Fellow 2022*

## Research Collaborations

During 2022–2023, Library staff contributed to a range of Australian Research Council funded projects.

### Collecting the West

Collecting the West: How Collections Create Western Australia, an Australian Research Council linkage project (2016–2023), is led by The University of Western Australia and Deakin University, with the State Library, Western Australian Museum, Art Gallery of Western Australia and the British Museum as partners. The project is researching the interconnected histories of the State’s cultural organisations and collections as well as Western Australian material collected globally. Research is culminating in a significant book publication by UWA Publishing to be released in 2023. Library collections are being explored by Collecting the West investigators and two PhD students are researching the Library’s photographic collections. A substantial focus for the Library will be a major piece of research by the Collecting the West team into the history of how the Library has collected and managed collections relating to Aboriginal history and culture.

### Nyingarn

Nyingarn, funded by the Australian Research Council’s Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) scheme, is a collaboration between the State Library, the State Library of New South Wales, the National Library of Australia, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies and the Barr Smith Library (University of Adelaide). This project aims to build Nyingarn, an online platform of digital text versions of early Australian Indigenous language manuscripts with images of the original documents. There are over a thousand such documents that are foundational to understanding Australia’s languages, and Nyingarn makes textual versions, accessions, and navigates such documents, with a means for adding more in future. Expected outcomes of this project are accessible sources useful for educational materials, and for understanding the local language, its history, and its relationship to other languages. Nyingarn will provide cutting-edge methods for ingesting, analysing, and presenting these historical materials, both for research and for the general public.



## 2023 Western Australian Premier's Book Awards

The Premier's Book Awards support, develop and recognise excellence in Western Australian writing. The ceremony is the State's peak writing awards and literary event.

This year the awards were announced on 23 June 2023. The awards were live streamed and AUSLAN interpreted. Video of the awards is available on the [Library's YouTube channel](#).

The night's major winner was Tracy Ryan who won the Western Australian Writer's Fellowship. Ryan is a well-respected novelist and poet who has worked as a teacher, journalist and book seller.

### **Western Australian Writer's Fellowship (\$60,000)**

Tracy Ryan

### **Premier's Prize for Book of the Year Sponsored by Writing WA (\$15,000)**

*The Red Witch: A Biography of Katherine Susannah Pritchard* by Nathan Hobby (Melbourne University Publishing)

### **Premier's Prize for an Emerging Writer (\$15,000)**

*Banjawarn* by Josh Kemp (UWA Publishing)

### **Premier's Prize for Children's Book of the Year (\$15,000)**

*Wild Australian Life* by Leonard Cronin illustrated by Chris Nixon (Allen & Unwin)

### **The Daisy Utemorra Award for Unpublished Indigenous Junior and YA Fiction (\$15,000 and a publishing contract)**

*Uncle Xbox (Book 2) Getting Dusty* by Jared Thomas

Sponsored by Magabala Books, with support from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries



Above: 2023 Western Australian Premier's Book Awards (left to right) the Hon. David Templeman MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts, Nathan Hobby, Josh Kemp, Jared Thomas, Chris Nixon, Catherine Clark, CEO and State Librarian

## Strategic priority 02: Deliver services that are responsive to the needs of the community and offer opportunities for growth, connection and empowerment

### Education Program

The State Library education program has continued to engage the education sector in the collections and services of the State Library with a focus on critical information literacy skills and Western Australian



Above: A student engaging in an Education Program Guided Workshop

stories. In 2022–2023, nearly 8,000 school students from across the State attended online and face-to-face workshops.

A highlight of the year’s educational programming was the online workshop for regional schools with past Australian Children’s Laureate, Leigh Hobbs, that resulted in the participation of 35 regional schools and attendance of 1,560 students.

Additionally, the education program delivered specialised tours for students at South Metropolitan, North Metropolitan and Central TAFE and professional development for Western Australian teachers.



*If you want your students to understand Western Australia’s migrant past, the State Library is a great place to take them.*

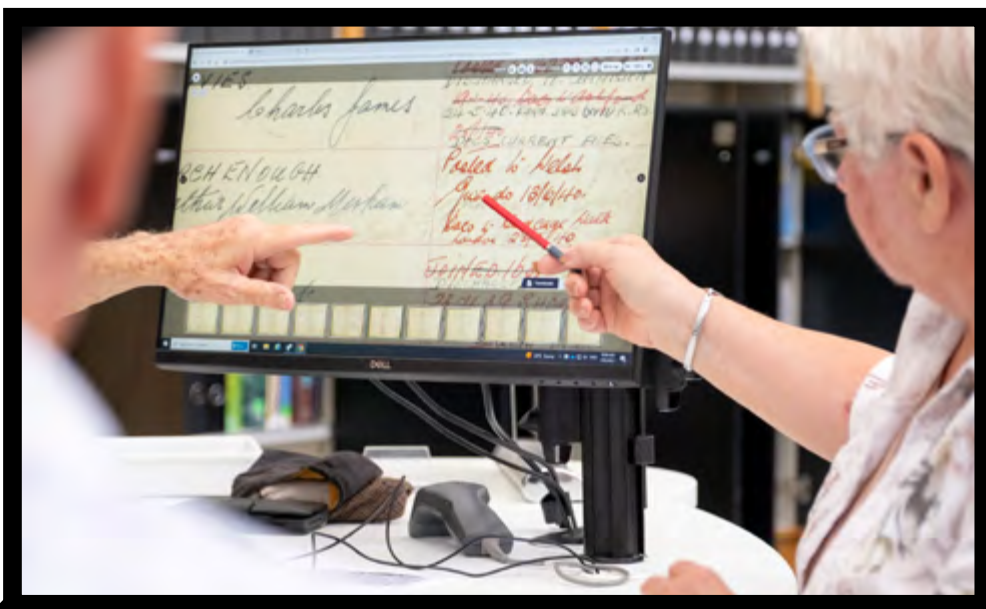
– Amanda G. teacher, Floreat Park Primary School

## Family History

Providing assistance to family history researchers continued to be a valued State Library service this year. Online resources including Ancestry Library Edition, Find My Past and Trove remained extremely useful and popular amongst the research community. Access to these online resources remains available by visiting the Library or one of many public libraries throughout the State.

There were 983,171 searches on Ancestry Library Edition by Library and public library members during the year, a decrease of 11 percent from the previous year. The decrease in searches was an expected response to Ancestry's removal of remote (home-based) access that was put in place during the COVID19 pandemic.

FamilyHistoryWA volunteers, based in the Library, answered 1,553 enquiries this year. Library staff also delivered popular monthly family history talks and tours.



Left: Family history research assistance, 2023

## Storylines Online Archive and Aboriginal History

Since its inception in 2013, the State Library's [Storylines Online Archive](#) has played a pivotal role in providing a safe and responsive keeping place for Aboriginal people in accessing the Library's heritage collections. Material identified as sensitive, secret, or sacred can be restricted or removed in a flexible and responsive way allowing for Aboriginal knowledge and terminology to be added to the Library's collections.

Throughout the year, the Storylines team has been focused on growing community participation and use of the archive. The team has facilitated training sessions for the Waalitj Foundation, John Tonkin Senior High School, Polly Farmer Foundation, Geraldton Senior High School and Casuarina Prison. These sessions were held in partnership with Aboriginal History WA from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

Storylines is also working to digitally repatriate collection material back to traditional owners with a total of 442 collection items provided to Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa for family history and educational outcomes. The team has also facilitated access to collection material for the exhibition, Kalyagool Karni-Wangkiny [Telling Truth Always] A Decade of Carrolup at the John Curtin Gallery. Each month, Aboriginal Family History workshops are conducted in the State Library in partnership with Aboriginal History WA.

## Client Feedback

The State Library conducted two client surveys this year to understand how users engage with and assess the value of Library collections, resources and facilities. There were 651 survey responses – a 33 percent increase in participation from last year, partly due to making the survey available online. Overall satisfaction with the Library’s services and facilities remained very high at 95 percent. Clients seeking staff assistance also reached a 95 percent satisfaction level, an increase of 12 percent from last year. Satisfaction levels for both the Library catalogue and website saw small rises, with 81 percent and 83 percent respectively. Only 28 percent of respondents used physical or digital collection materials, but of those the vast majority stated that the items they accessed were useful.

Consistent with previous years, the most common reason for people visiting the Library building was to study (33 percent), use a public computer (32 percent) or access the physical collection (26 percent). The largest number of respondents were 25–34 years old (18 percent), followed closely by 65–74 years (15 percent).

In addition to the client survey, the Library encourages clients to provide feedback on an ongoing basis, including through printed and online forms, email, letters and in person. In 2022–2023, 356 clients submitted feedback, a significant increase of 112 percent from the previous year.

## eConnect service

The State Library’s eConnect service helps bridge the digital divide and supports community members to build their digital literacy skills so they can access online government information and services and build proficiency and confidence using digital tools.

The number of eConnect enquiries in 2022–2023 was comparable with last year, at 1,384. The most common digital tasks clients needed help with were navigating basic computer or device functions, accessing government websites such as Services Australia, and finding information on the internet.

## National Redress Scheme

The National Redress Scheme is a Commonwealth Government program focused on providing redress to victims of child sexual abuse. In 2022–2023, the State Library responded to 617 requests for information from the National Redress Scheme, which was the same demand as the previous year. The Library facilitates access to records in its collections to assist redress processes in accordance with the *National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Act 2018*.

## Story Time, Rhyme Time and Play Time in The Story Place

The Story Place is the State Library's learning and activity space for children and their families and carers. It aims to build early literacy skills by encouraging families to share stories and to learn and play with their children every day.

During the year, The Story Place welcomed 7,588 visitors who enjoyed singing songs, sharing stories, craft sessions, early literacy activities and Learning English Through Story Time sessions.

Collaborations with the Perth Cultural Centre and Western Australian Museum Boola Bardip saw a treasure hunt ending with *Mermaid Tales* in The Story Place during the January 2023 school holidays. Children learned about and drawing endangered animals as part of the *Wild About Babies* project during the April 2023 school holidays.

Harmony Week in March 2023 featured a special guest for Story Time who shared a book in Farsi and Rhyme Time featured a special guest who shared songs, rhymes and books in Cantonese.



*Above: Harmony Week featured special Rhyme Time activities which celebrated different languages, March 2023*



*Above: Celebrating VisAbility's 20,000th audiobook titles, March 2023  
Photo: Image supplied by VisAbility*

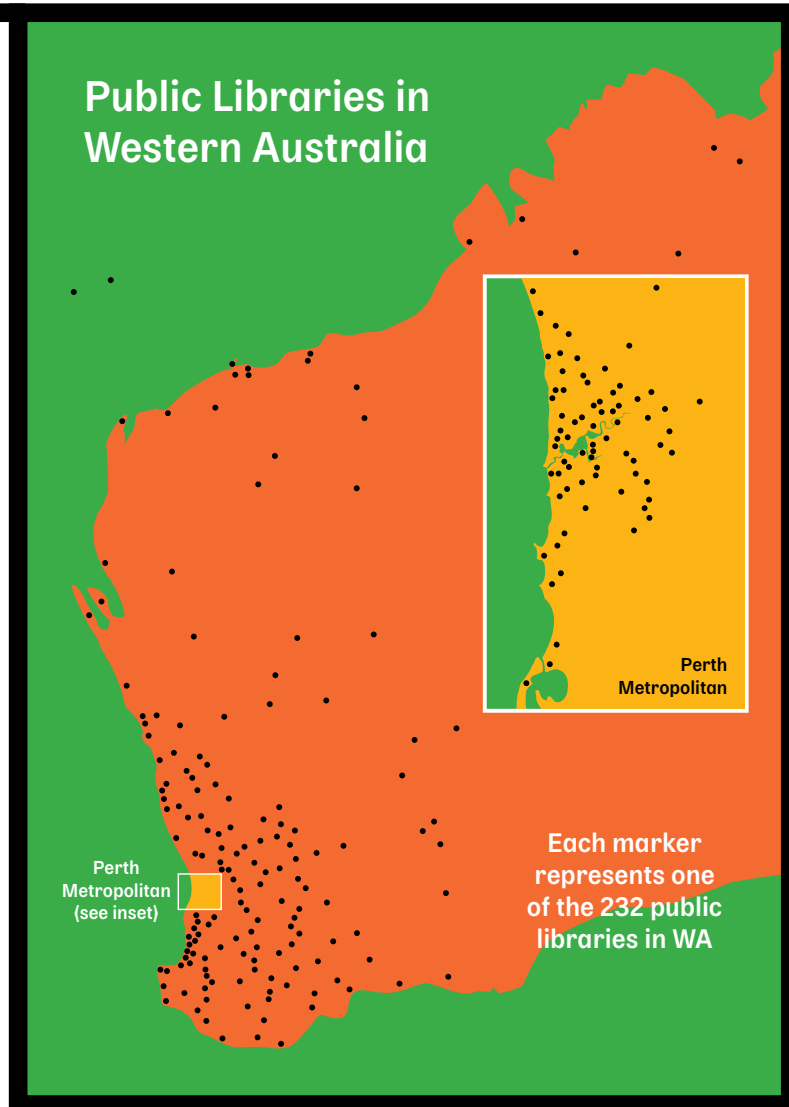
## VisAbility

The State Library provides funding for VisAbility to provide library services for people who are blind, vision impaired or who have a print disability, making books and other print materials accessible to individuals in their preferred format, such as talking books, braille or large print. VisAbility also has a large digital audiobook library for people with a print disability that is available directly from VisAbility or via any Western Australian local public library.

VisAbility provides their library services directly to more than 4,200 people with a print disability across the State. In 2022–2023, the VisAbility Library loaned more than 50,000 items to their members via postal and download services. Workshops were held with the Bassendean public library which provided information to local government staff and members of the community about the services and support available from VisAbility.

In March 2023, VisAbility celebrated the milestone of producing their 20,000th audiobook title.

## Strategic priority 03: Champion the essential role of local public libraries in our communities in supporting innovation and providing a sense of belonging



### Our relationship with public libraries

The State Library works in partnership with local governments for the provision of free public library services across Western Australia's vast geographic expanse. The Library provides collection materials, grant funding, services and professional development for library staff. A critical role is in consortia purchasing of print and electronic content that is distributed and accessible to public library members throughout the State.

This year, 232 public libraries across Western Australia and the Indian Ocean Territories welcomed more than 11.6 million visitors who sought access to library services onsite, online or elsewhere in their community. Over 630,000 people are active members of their local public library, borrowing more than 10.9 million physical items and 3.4 million online items.

Public libraries welcome people of all ages, educational attainment, economic circumstances, cultures and beliefs. They offer a safe place and are trusted by our community. Library services are tailored to the needs of individual communities and address the challenges of digital and social inclusion.

Western Australian public libraries are proud to provide:

- ▣ free access to books, audiobooks, DVDs, eresources (like ebooks and eaudiobooks) and other content for education, enterprise and recreation

- free access to computers, Wi-Fi and printing facilities as well as friendly and knowledgeable staff who can provide assistance
- a place for people to come together, connect with one another and with what it is happening in their community
- opportunities for people of all ages and interests to pursue formal and informal study and lifelong learning
- comfortable public spaces where people can study, work, read and relax, with no expectation of buying anything or being sold anything
- foster community health and wellbeing, especially for vulnerable people or in times of significant stress through opportunities to connect and engage
- support for the local economy by enabling job seekers, entrepreneurs and micro businesses to access information, Wi-Fi services and meeting rooms.



*Libraries are still one of our most egalitarian of public institutions. Everyone is welcome, free to explore, discover and connect.*

– Catherine Clark, CEO and State Librarian

## ***WA Public Libraries Strategy 2022-2026***

Following extensive community and stakeholder consultation, the *WA Public Libraries Strategy 2022-2026* was endorsed by the Hon. David Templeman MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts, in August 2022. Partners, stakeholders and community supported the following three pillars as the focus for outcomes under the strategy:

1. Libraries strengthening communities.
2. Digitally inclusive libraries.
3. Public libraries valued as an essential community asset.

These pillars focus on providing a responsive service to community need for information, learning and recreation opportunities, helping to bridge the digital divide for all Western Australians and demonstrating the unique value public libraries bring to the State.

A new implementation plan is released for each year of the strategy. The implementation plan for 2023 will see the library network:

- deliver outcomes in support of socially inclusive initiatives, including digital inclusion, access to computers, equipment and skills through public libraries
- develop a community led pilot program to create a knowledge centre to preserve local knowledge and language in partnership with a remote Aboriginal community
- enable communities to have more input into service development and delivery in their public libraries.



## Trends in public library usage

The State Library coordinates the collection of statistical data from all Western Australian local public libraries, however data for 2022–2023 will not be available until late 2023.

What people use at their local public library continues to change. There has been an increase in the loan of online resources, such as ebooks and eaudiobooks, and a decrease in the number of loans of physical items. The number of visitors to public libraries, both in person and online, increased. With the availability of online resources at home and via mobile devices, many public library clients chose to visit their public library online rather than in person.

Many clients visit or use their library for purposes other than borrowing library materials, such as attending library programs and events for children and adults, studying and accessing the internet. There has been a significant increase in the number of public programs offered by public libraries with a corresponding increase in the number of people attending.

	2020–2021	2021–2022
Loans of physical items	11,288,505	10,934,026
Loans of online resources	3,055,577	3,394,262
Visitors in person and online	11,211,173	11,656,197
Enquiries	1,438,615	1,741,093
Members	692,900	637,207
Number of library programs offered to clients	43,533	60,321
Number of clients attending programs	491,320	558,342

Public library statistics are reported nationally via [National and State Libraries Australasia](#) (NSLA).

## Public Library Online Resources

Western Australian public library members have free access to a wide range of online resources. Platforms currently available Statewide to any member of a public library with a suitable device are BorrowBox, OverDrive (Libby), Kanopy and Hoopla. Over 1.3 million unique titles were provided across ebooks, eaudiobooks, emagazines, ecomics, streaming video and music – an increase of nearly 300,000.

Online resource usage increased by over 20 percent in 2022–23 to over 3.2 million loans (downloads). For the first time eaudiobook loans surpassed those of ebooks, 1.44 million eaudiobooks were loaned compared to 1.43 million ebooks. Emagazines, streaming video, streaming music and ecomics all saw a slight rise. There were over 1.4 million checkouts each on the two main platforms, BorrowBox and OverDrive.

Hoopla, a new platform licensed in March 2022, has now been implemented in 63 library services across Western Australia. Over 2,500 active users have loaned 65,000 titles in all formats.

Subscription to Online Book Club was discontinued and replaced with OverDrive’s Libby Book Club for Western Australia which has Australian titles and includes an online author talk facilitated by Western Australian writer David Allan-Petale. Take up has been strong with the latest title, Echo Lake by Australian author Joan Sauers, achieving 1,400 loans.

## Professional Development for Public Library Staff

The State Library provides professional development for public library staff via an online learning platform. During 2022-23, 16 online courses were available for library officers with 140 local government staff completing courses during this period. An online help desk handled 1,800 enquiries from local public library staff during the year.

The Library also hosted online training sessions addressing topics of interest to local public libraries including New materials changes for public libraries, BorrowBox, Attracting Volunteers, Managing Challenging Clients, Library Board Awards information, Kindy Pack chat and Hoopla training. Twenty-four sessions were attended online by 660 public library staff.

## Grants Showcase

A Grants Showcase was hosted by the State Library in March 2023 to highlight initiatives delivered by public libraries over the previous three years through State Government grants funding administered by the Library, and to inspire future applications from a wider range of local governments.

There are two grant streams managed by the State Library:

- ▣ Grants to support public library initiatives and public programs, including the provision of technology.
- ▣ Grants for the equitable delivery of the Better Beginnings program across Western Australia. This program is the result of an election commitment by the State Government in March 2021.

The Grants Showcase featured sixteen presentations representing each of the public library and Better Beginnings grants available. There was representation from both metropolitan and regional Western Australia, with three of the presenters joining from their home libraries of Boyup Brook, Bridgetown and Hopetoun.

Attendees received a booklet featuring a range of projects that have been funded in recent years through the various grant programs.

Public libraries showed great support for the Grants Showcase. Over 90 people attended the showcase in person, with a further 35 people joining online. To further encourage regional staff to attend, Better Beginnings training, a networking dinner and Grants Writing training was delivered on the days before and following the Grants Showcase.

## Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program

Since 2004, the State Library has delivered the award-winning Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program with its important messages of reading stories, playing, talking, and singing to children from birth.

Election commitment funding to support further development of the Better Beginnings program in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions enabled the development of stronger relationships with communities. The increased engagement has created more equitable access to the program for Aboriginal families in these regions.

In September 2022, separate election commitment funding supported a second round of grants for community-led early literacy initiatives. Twenty-eight applications were received from community organisations and local public libraries, and fifteen applications were approved to a total of \$200,861.

Better Beginnings is funded by the State Library, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian local governments, and Rio Tinto. The program is delivered in partnership with local governments through public libraries, Child and Adolescent Community Health, WA Country Health Service and the Department of Education.

29,244

reading packs distributed for families with a newborn baby

19,608

Sing With Me! packs distributed for families with a 2 year old

39,006

reading packs distributed for families with a kindergarten aged child

98%

participation rate for schools and childcare centres with a kindergarten

Over 300

public library staff attended training to support early literacy development in WA families

Next page: State Library staff member, 2023



## National And State Libraries Australasia (NSLA)

Ten member libraries representing the National, State and Territory libraries of Australia and the National Library of New Zealand are committed to achieving more by working together. Member libraries share strategic thinking, expertise and specialist solutions to increase productivity and achieve better outcomes.

The State Library of Western Australia continues to allocate staff resources to participate in all [NSLA](#) projects, working groups and communities of practice.

Most significantly during the year:

- ▣ A First Nations Advisory Group, comprising First Nations staff from across NSLA libraries, met for the first time during the year. The group provides advice and guidance to NSLA libraries and other NSLA groups and communities of practice.
- ▣ The eResources Consortium secured access to commercial online databases for NSLA libraries, aiming to simplify and improve licensing arrangements, maximise efficiency, innovation and sustainability and look at making databases more widely available to all Australians.
- ▣ NSLA is a partner organisation in the Emulation as a Service Infrastructure project, which has received funding from the Australian Research Council for 2022-24. The State Library of Western Australia is supporting the establishment of an Australian Emulation Network to preserve born-digital artefacts that require legacy computer environments, so they are widely accessible.
- ▣ A six-part discussion series regarding the privacy, ethical, cultural, and access and use considerations of collecting social media commenced in June 2023. A potential outcome will see NSLA libraries come together to find a shared approach to social media collecting policies and platforms.

## Strategic priority 04: Realise our potential through fostering a dynamic staff culture and efficient and sustainable operating environment

The State Library's diverse range of services and programs are made possible by a combination of staff and volunteers. It is important that the Library is welcoming, inclusive and safe space for everyone.

### Workforce Diversity

According to Equal Employment Opportunity data provided by staff, 15.7 percent of the Library's workforce identify as having a culturally and linguistically diverse background. Although the *Workforce Diversification and Inclusion Strategy for WA Public Sector Employment 2020–2025* originally set a CaLD target of 15.5 percent, the Library aspires to reach beyond this target with a workforce reflecting the community we serve. People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds work at a variety of levels throughout the Library, including senior management roles.

### Induction and Training

The Library has a comprehensive induction program for new staff which includes a combination of face-to-face and online training. Staff complete training modules on the Code of Conduct, Accountable and Ethical Decision Making, WA Public Sector Induction, Emergency Response Procedures, Disability Awareness and Financial Management Awareness.

### Learning and Development

The State Library remains committed to staff development and provided a range of training and professional development opportunities during the year, including Dealing with Difficult Clients, Psychosocial Hazards in the Workplace and Diverse WA training.

### Training Opportunities for Community Members

The State Library is committed to providing opportunities for people to gain skills and work opportunities. In 2022–2023, the Library hosted one school-based trainee, provided project-based placements for two university and five TAFE students and hosted three university students who completed internships.

## Volunteers

Volunteers play an important role in the State Library, working alongside staff and assisting with day-to-day activities, projects and events.

In 2022–2023, volunteers assisted with:

- ▣ helping families engage with sensory play at the Mr Chicken and Old Tom exhibition
- ▣ rehousing and listings of private archives
- ▣ transcriptions and indexing of oral histories
- ▣ assisting clients to use virtual reality technology to view Library collections
- ▣ assessment and sorting of the Swan Valley Nyungah Collection
- ▣ staffing the Family History Centre in the J.S. Battye Library of West Australian History.

Volunteers generously donated 6,049 hours of their time to the Western Australia community. The volunteer replacement cost is estimated to be \$290,412, based on the volunteering benefits calculator methodology used by Volunteering WA.



*The Library Board and State Library thanks all volunteers for their support.*

– Catherine Clark, CEO and State Librarian

*Right: Pat de Haer, May 2012*

*Next page: State Library staff member, 2023*

### Vale Pat de Haer

It was with great sadness that the State Library community heard of volunteer Pat de Haer’s passing on 22 August 2022. Pat first volunteered with the Library in 1992 with the then Western Australian Genealogical Society helping people with their family history research. Over the years Pat was a theatre usher, tour guide and helped with book sales but her main contribution was in maintaining the Library’s extensive microfiche collection. Pat was always strong, with a positive approach and made the most of her life, helping many others along the way. Vale Pat de Haer.







### Agency Operational Structure

The State Library is responsible to the Library Board of Western Australia through the CEO and State Librarian who is the Executive Officer of the Board. The Library is a portfolio agency within the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

### Enabling Legislation

The Library Board of Western Australia is constituted under the authority of the *Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951*, listed as a Statutory Authority in Schedule 1 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and is subject to the provisions of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

### Responsible Minister

The Hon. David Templeman MLA, Minister for Culture and the Arts, is responsible for the Library Board of Western Australia which has oversight of the management of the State Library of Western Australia.

### Library Board of Western Australia

The *Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951* states that the Board shall consist of 13 members. Eleven are appointed by the Governor for four years and are eligible for renomination at the end of their term of appointment. Two Board members are Ex Officio with representatives from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the Department of Education.

One new member was appointed to the Board since 1 July 2022, Sandy Anghie (July 2022). Sally Morgan resigned from the Board in July 2022.

In 2022-2023, the Board met on six occasions and carried out its responsibilities in line with relevant legislation, the *Library Board Charter* and *Code of Conduct*.

**GOVERNANCE**

<b>Position title</b>	<b>Member name</b>	<b>Type of appointment</b>	<b>Term of appointment</b>	<b>Period of membership in 2022-2023</b>	<b>Gross / actual remuneration for financial year</b>
Chairman	Hon. John Day	Ministerial appointment under Section 5(3)(a) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2019 Term ends 2027	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Vice Chairman	Councillor Jenny Archibald	City of Fremantle, representative under Section 5(4)(c) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2018 Term ends 2026	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Michelle Brennand	WALGA representative under Section 5(4)(d) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2021 Term ends 2025	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Lanie Chopping	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries under Section 5(3) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2021 Ex Officio	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Dene Cranwell	Department of Education under Section 5(3) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2022 Ex Officio	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Matthew Gilfellow	WALGA representative under Section 5(4)(f) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2020 Term ends 2024	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Colleen Hayward AM	Ministerial appointment under Section 5(3)(a) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2021 Term ends 2025	01/07/2022-30/06/2025	N/A
Member	Sally Morgan	Ministerial appointment under Section 5(3)(a) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2021 Term ends 2025	01/07/2022-26/07/2022	N/A
Member	Anna Moulton	Ministerial appointment under Section 5(3)(a) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2021 Term ends 2025	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Paul Nielsen	WALGA representative under Section 5(4)(e) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2020 Term ends 2024	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Wayne Scheggia	Ministerial appointment under Section 5(3)(a) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2020 Term ends 2024	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	\$4,747
Member	Constance Wiebrands	ALIA representative under Section 5(4)(a) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2021 Term ends 2025	01/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A
Member	Councillor Sandy Anghie	City of Perth representative under Section 5(4)(b) of the Library Board Act	Appointed in 2022 Term ends 2026	03/07/2022-30/06/2023	N/A

## Board Committees

The Library Board has three committees to assist in the performance of its functions.

Membership of Committees at 30 June 2023:

Committee	Purpose	Chair	Member Name	Executive Officer	Observers
<b>Finance</b> Met four times during the year	Assists in the effective discharge of the Board's statutory financial responsibilities and provides strategic advice on key performance measures and financial matters associated with the strategic objectives and operations of the Library	Constance Wiebrands	Jenny Archibald Dene Cranwell	CEO and State Librarian	Director Strategic and Corporate Services Chief Finance Officer
<b>Audit and Risk</b> Met four times during the year	Oversees the audit and risk management functions of the Library	Matthew Gilfellon	Wayne Scheggia John Day Reny Varkey (external)	CEO and State Librarian	Office of the Auditor General Director Strategic and Corporate Services Internal Auditor
<b>Policy and Legislation</b> Met four times during the year	Advises on matters effecting Board legislation and Library policy	Michelle Brennand	Paul Nielsen Colleen Hayward	CEO and State Librarian	Manager Policy and Research

# Organisational Structure



## Executive Management at 30 June 2022

**Catherine Clark**

**CEO and State Librarian**

Executive Services manages internal audit, strategic governance support and support services to the CEO and State Librarian and the Library Board. This includes providing policy advice and research support on issues and trends relevant to the State Library and Library Board. The Executive Services area is responsible for providing advice to the Minister for Culture and the Arts.

**Catherine Belcher**

**Director Collection Services**

Collection Services leads the development and management of the physical and digital collections and associated data, through collection activities and systems encompassing acquisition, processing, storage, preservation, digitisation, distribution and access. The Directorate also manages the acquisition of materials for 232 public libraries across the State (including the Indian Ocean Territories). Rural and remote local governments are further supported with the selection and management of materials for their public libraries.

**Chris Penwald**

**Director Strategic and Corporate Services**

Strategic and Corporate Services is responsible for financial management and budget planning, human resource services, library management systems and building management. Some information and communication technology services and human resources services, building maintenance services, payroll and financial processing are provided in collaboration with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

**Susan McEwan**

**Director Library Services**

Library Services delivers services to the community which inspire creativity and curiosity and play a vital role in literacy and learning at every stage of life. The Directorate is responsible for the interpretation of and community engagement with Western Australian collections and supports clients, whether online or visiting the building, with specialist library and research services and educational programs based on the Library's extensive and rich collections. Early literacy development is supported by the Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program and Western Australian public libraries are supported with advice, training and professional development opportunities. Communications and marketing support for the agency is also provided by the Directorate.

## Administered Legislation

### Administered legislation and other key legislation

Legislation and Regulations administered by the Library Board:

*Legal Deposit Act 2012*

*Legal Deposit Regulations 2013*

Administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries:

*Library Board of Western Australia Act 1951*

*Library Board (Conduct of Proceedings) Regulations 1955*

*Library Board (Registered Public Libraries) Regulations 1985*

*Library Board (State Library) Regulations 1956*

Other key legislation impacting on the Library:

*Auditor General Act 2006*

*Disability Services Act 1993*

*Equal Opportunity Act 1984*

*Emergency Management Act 2005*

*Financial Management Act 2006*

*Freedom of Information Act 1992*

*Industrial Relations Act 1979*

*Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993*

*Procurement Act 2020*

*Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*

*Public Sector Management Act 1994*

*Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*

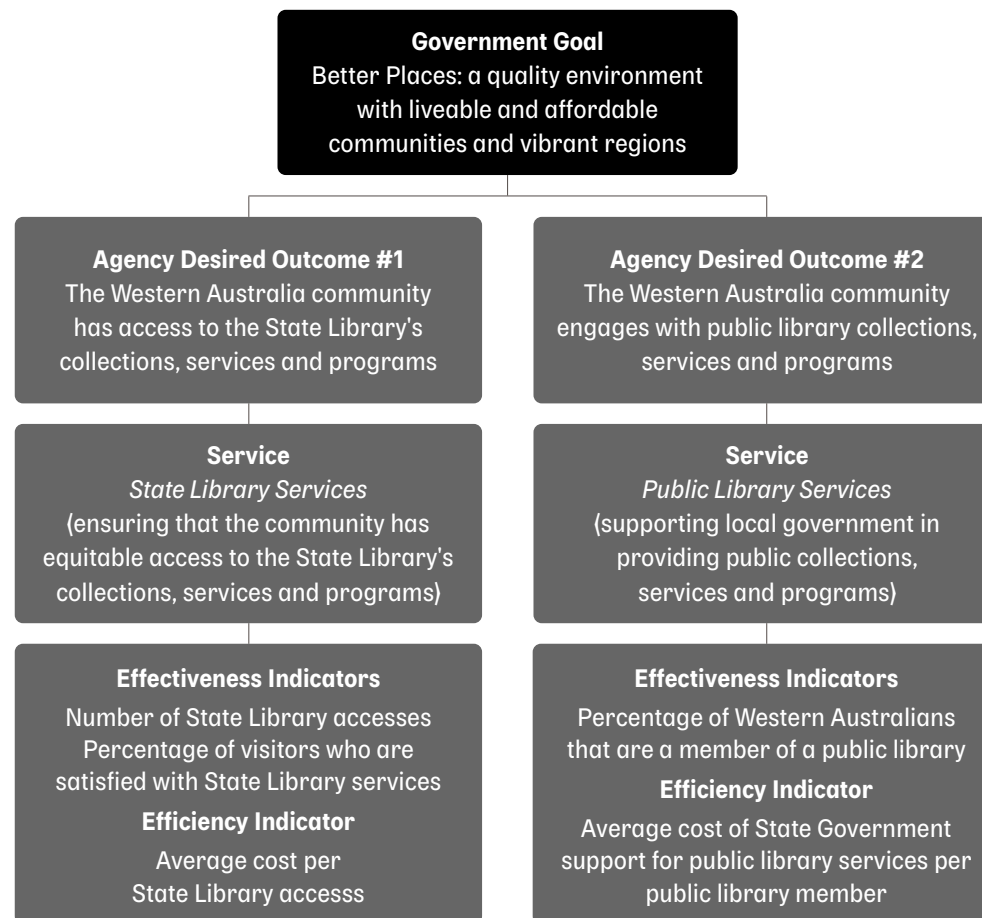
*State Records Act 2000*

*State Superannuation Act 2000*

*Work Health and Safety Act 2020*

*Workers Compensation of Injury Management Act 1981*

## Performance Management Framework



The State Library's outcome-based management framework was not changed for 2022-2023.

## Ministerial Directions

No Ministerial directives were received during the year.

## Other Financial Disclosures

### Pricing of policies of services provided

All fees and charges are reviewed annually according to approved methodologies and adjusted in line with Department of Treasury advice. Fees and charges for services provided and for venue and equipment hire and copying of collection items are available on the Library’s [website](#).

[Printing, copying & scanning](#) [Order a copy](#) [Venue hire](#)

### Capital works expenditure summary

Capital expenditure in 2022–2023 totalled \$1.023 million against a total revised budget of \$1.225 million. Capital funds were predominantly spent on acquiring general reference and heritage materials.

### Employment and industrial relations

The full-time equivalent (FTE) staffing as at 30 June 2023 was 134.2 compared to 134.4 for the previous financial year.

The table below shows the total number of staff (headcount) by employment status.

Headcount	Women			Men			Xe		Total		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Permanent Full-time	56	60	62	32	32	31	1	0	88	93	93
Permanent, Part-Time	39	31	34	6	8	9	0	1	45	39	44
Fixed Term, Full-time	4	8	6	1	1	1	0	0	5	9	7
Fixed Term, Part-Time	5	5	3	1	3	0	0	0	6	8	3
Casual	0	4	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	4
Other	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	1
<b>Total Headcount</b>	105	109	109	40	46	42	1	1	145	156	152

# Shared responsibilities with other agencies

The State Library shares responsibilities/cross agency initiatives as follows:

- ▣ Works with Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries as a portfolio agency and offers space in the State Library building to Department staff including Aboriginal History WA and the State Records Office of Western Australia.
- ▣ Provides workplace training and support to school-based Public Sector Commission traineeship participants.
- ▣ Shares a library management system with the Department of Health libraries.
- ▣ Partners with Western Australian local governments and Australia's Indian Ocean Territories to deliver public library services and family literacy programs.
- ▣ Delivers the Better Beginnings family literacy program through public libraries, in partnership with local governments, Child and Adolescent Community Health, WA Country Health Service, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Department of Education (through Child and Parent Centres); and in collaboration with the Department of Justice and the Adult Migrant English Program delivered by North Metropolitan TAFE.
- ▣ Worked with the Department of Justice visiting a number of prisons to showcase and engage Aboriginal people within the prison system with the State Library's Storylines Online Archive, providing both digital literacy outcomes and connection to family history.

- ▣ Partners with the Office of Digital Government and a range of State Government agencies in the development of the Digital Inclusion Blueprint and initiatives to support digital inclusion and skills in Western Australia through public libraries.
- ▣ Partners with State and Commonwealth Government agencies and not-for-profit organisations to assist clients to access government services online and develop digital skills through the eConnect service. Agencies include Department of Immigration, Human Services, Legal Aid, Consumer Protection, Uniting WA and Australian Red Cross.
- ▣ Delivers information and reference services to officers of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Department of Treasury, Department of Finance and the Public Sector Commission.

The State Library partners and collaborates with other Perth Cultural Centre institutions as follows:

- ▣ Shares internal audit resources with the Art Gallery of Western Australia and the Western Australian Museum.
- ▣ Provides collocated information services with the State Records Office and Aboriginal History WA meaning clients of all three organisations can access published materials and private archives from the J.S. Battye Library of West Australian History and Government records from the State Records Office. Access and research services for Aboriginal historical records is also available.
- ▣ Partners with the Western Australian Museum, The University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Murdoch University, Edith Cowan University and The University of Notre Dame Australia to deliver the services of the Digitisation Centre of Western Australia.
- ▣ Provides storage for Perth Theatre Trust's Museum of Performing Arts collection.



### Workers' compensation

There were two claims for workers' compensation recorded in 2022-2023 with no lost time. Two claims recorded in 2021-2022 were re-recorded this year with an adjustment to lost days reported as 27 days. These were reported last year as no lost time.

### Occupational safety, health and injury management

The State Library operates under the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' *Work Health and Safety Policy* and the State Library's *Management Commitment Statement*.

The Library's Executive Management are committed to ensuring that all employees, clients, volunteers and contractors are safe from injuries and risks to health while they are at work or visiting the Library building; accepting that employee and client health and safety is primarily a responsibility of management. Specific policies, work practices and procedures compliant with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* have

been developed to address hazards and hazardous work processes in the workplace.

During the year, 50 staff, including all managers and directors, completed Work Health and Safety training. Twenty-five staff attended training on identifying and managing psychosocial hazards in the workplace.

Online training courses are available to all staff on the following topics related to occupational safety and health:

- ▣ Emergency Procedures (mandatory for new staff)
- ▣ Ergonomics
- ▣ Hand Hygiene
- ▣ Manual Tasks
- ▣ Situational Awareness
- ▣ Workplace Health and Safety (mandatory for new staff).

Measures	Results, targets and commentary for State Library of Western Australia 2022-2023			
	Results 2021-2022	Results 2022-2023	Targets	Comments towards targets
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	Target achieved
Lost time injury and/or disease (LTI/D) incidence rate	1.5	0	0 or 10% reduction in incidence rate	Target achieved
Lost time injury and/or disease (LTI/D) severity rate	0	0	0 or 10% reduction in severity rate	Target achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within (i) 13 weeks and (ii) 26 weeks	(i) 100%	(i) 100%	Greater than or equal to 80% return to work within 26 weeks	Target achieved
Percentage of managers trained in work health and safety injury management responsibilities, including refresher training within three years	N/A	100%	Greater than or equal to 80%	Target achieved

### Board and committee remuneration

In accordance with *Premier's Circular 2022/02*, Board members are eligible for remuneration under certain circumstances. Library Board members received total remuneration of \$4,747 in 2022-23. The Library Board was listed on the register of Government Boards and Committees published by the Department of Premier and Cabinet for the first time in 2022-2023.

## Governance Disclosures

### Insurance

Insurance premiums were paid to indemnify any director against a liability incurred under Sections 13 and 14 of the *Statutory Corporations (Liability of Directors) Act 1996*. The amount paid for Directors and Officers liability insurance for the period 11 November 2022 to 11 November 2023 was \$6,836.50.

## Other Legal Requirements

### Act of Grace payments

The State Library made no Act of Grace payments under Section 80 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* in 2022-2023.

### Unauthorised use of credit cards

State Library staff hold corporate credit cards where their functions warrant usage of this facility. Cardholders are reminded of their obligations under the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' *Purchasing Card Policy*. During the year, there were three instances in which a corporate credit card was used for a personal purpose. The instances were investigated and determined to be minor,

inadvertent use of a corporate credit card. Matters were not referred for disciplinary action as the personal use amounts were quickly notified and settled in full, and the nature of the expenditure was immaterial and characteristic of an honest mistake.

### Advertising

In accordance with Section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the State Library incurred the following expenditure in media and recruitment advertising. Total expenditure for 2022-2023 was \$6,294.

Expenditure was incurred in the following areas:

Advertising agencies	-
Market research organisations	-
Polling organisations	-
Direct mail organisations	-
<b>Media advertising organisations</b>	<b>\$1,799</b>
State Law Publisher	\$47
Facebook	\$1,752
<b>Recruitment advertising</b>	<b>\$4,495</b>
Australian Library and Information Association	\$2,140
Initiative Media	\$2,060
Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials Inc	\$295

### Recordkeeping Plan

During 2022–2023, the Corporate Information Coordinator provided staff support with recordkeeping requirements and guidance in complying with the *State Records Act 2000*.

### Freedom of Information

Under Schedule 2 of the *Freedom of Information Regulations 1993*, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries manages all applications for access to State Library and Library Board of Western Australia corporate documents. The Department received no applications for access to State Library or Library Board corporate documents during the reporting period.

## Government Policy Requirements

### Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes

The State Library worked in partnership with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to ensure that legislative and public sector compliance was achieved.

Library staff are provided access to the human resources policies, procedures and guidelines that govern their employment. The Library continued to promote accountable and ethical business practice by:

- ▣ providing induction programs for all new staff
- ▣ providing managers with ethical and accountable decision-making training
- ▣ including sessions at all staff meetings on the agency's *Code of Conduct* and other related topics such as how to report a suspected breach of the *Code*.

In 2022–2023, the State Library recorded:

- ▣ zero breaches of the Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management
- ▣ zero breaches of the Library's *Code of Conduct*
- ▣ zero formal grievances
- ▣ zero Public Interest Disclosures.

### Integrity Strategy

Following the release of the Public Sector Commission's (PSC) *Integrity Strategy for WA Public Authorities 2020–2023* in 2019, the State Library initiated a comprehensive Integrity Review Project that was completed in 2021. The project increased awareness of integrity, strengthened policy and process and staff, volunteers and Library Board members understanding of their responsibilities to prevent misconduct.

As part of the project, an Integrity Leadership Group (ILG) was established to sustain the achievements of the project, ensuring that ethical standards are reinforced and regularly assessed and implementing strategies to address areas where further improvement is required. Key achievements for the group in 2022–2023:

- ▣ A staff communications plan was finalised and implementation commenced. The plan includes regular awareness sessions at staff meetings. Sessions on the following topics were presented by ILG members during the year:
  - *Code of Ethics* and *Code of Conduct* – values
  - *Code of Conduct* – examples of breaches
  - *Code of Conduct* – reporting breaches
  - Use of public resources

## DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

- Gifts, benefits and hospitality
- Integrity in recruitment processes
- ▣ Integrity risks identified in the Library's *Operational Risk Register* were managed.
- ▣ A procedure for Reporting Suspected Misconduct to the PSC or CCC was finalised and made available to all staff.
- ▣ A reviewed Integrity Governance Framework and *Fraud and Corruption Control Policy and Plan* was approved and made available to all staff.
- ▣ An integrity portal on the staff intranet was maintained containing information relevant to all staff including policies, plans, integrity information and how to report breaches. Access is also available to forms to be completed to notify conflicts of interest, offers of gifts and hospitality and secondary employment.

The following declarations were approved and collected:

- ▣ Conflict of Interest declarations (2 made in 2022-2023). Conflicts of interest are also separately recorded in recruitment reports and minutes to Library Board and Library Board Committee meetings
- ▣ Gifts and Hospitality declarations (13)
- ▣ Secondary employment declarations (3).

During the year, Human Resources recorded zero reports of integrity breaches.

### Risk management

The Library Board has oversight of risk management at the Library through the Board's Audit and Risk Committee.

The *Operational Risk Register* is reviewed regularly by Directorates with treatment action plans developed and implemented as required. The *Operational Risk Register* is reviewed regularly at the Risk Management

Committee and Executive Risk Management Committee meetings.

A review of the *Strategic Risk Register* has also commenced to ensure it aligns with our *Strategic Plan 2023-2027*.

### Audit

In compliance with Section 53(1)(d) of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and *Treasurers' Instruction 1201*, the Library Board has established maintains an effective Internal Audit function to improve governance, integrity, risk management and internal controls within the organisation. The role of the Internal Audit is contained in the internal audit charter as endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee and approved by the Library Board. To fully comply with revised *Treasurers' Instruction 1201(3)*, the Audit and Risk Committee is independently chaired by a suitably qualified person who is not employed within the State Library.

The Internal Audit function, in conjunction with the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries Internal Audit function, has completed varied planned and ad hoc audit assignments. Audits completed and reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee were a combination of audits as per the approved risk-based strategic audit plan and audits initiated by Executive Management. Meaningful and practical internal audit recommendations were made in several areas including the effective management of staff onboarding/exiting, controls in respect of leave management, Board and committee compliance with charters and the ongoing compliance with State Supply Policies. Management has adopted all, and since implemented most of the audit recommendations.

The Library's Executive Management regularly compares its own internal controls against the findings highlighted by the Office of the Auditor General and the Crime and Corruption Commission in their reports in respect of other Western Australian Government agencies. This exercise informs the ongoing review of internal controls at the Library.

### Substantive equality

The State Library is committed to the elimination of systemic discrimination from all its policies, practices and services. As one of the State's most visited cultural institutions, clients come from diverse backgrounds, and strategies are in place to ensure that anyone can understand and access the Library's services.

Some examples of initiatives include the Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program for Aboriginal families and participation as a host agency in the Public Sector Commission's school-based youth programs.

### Priority Start Policy

No contracts subject to this policy were awarded during the year.

### Procurement reform

The Library made significant progress in implementing the foundation of Procurement Functions. Building on this achievement, the Library focused on further improving these functions through a range of initiatives, including an Internal Training Program aimed at fostering proactive engagement with contract owners and end-users.

As a result of these efforts, the Library has demonstrated competence in the following areas:

- ▣ Strategic Forward Procurement Plan: The Library successfully fulfilled the 2022-23 Strategic Forward Procurement Plan, laying the groundwork for future procurement activities.
- ▣ Aboriginal Business Contracts: In 2022-23, the Library achieved the target set for Aboriginal business contracts (11 percent Aboriginal business contracts with a target of 3.5 percent).

- ▣ Procurement Training: The development of a comprehensive Procurement Training Guide has equipped staff with the knowledge and skills necessary for efficient and effective procurement practices. Staff have undertaken training and refresher courses in procurement, ensuring they stay abreast of the latest procurement protocols and guidelines.
- ▣ The Senior Procurement Officer completed the Diploma of Procurement and Contracting in February 2023.

By continually reviewing and enhancing procurement functions, the Library maintains a high standard of operational excellence while upholding its commitment to diversity, inclusion and responsible procurement practices. The Library remains dedicated to further advancement and improvement of its procurement operations.

### Multicultural Plan reporting

The *Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework* translates the principles and objectives of the Western Australian Charter of Multiculturalism into three main policy priorities areas:

1. Harmonious and inclusive communities
2. Culturally responsive policies, programs and services
3. Economic, social, cultural, civic and political participation.

The most significant achievement during the year was the development of a new State Library plan for 2023 to 2027. The plan will be released in the new financial year.

During the year, other achievements were reported against the policy priorities.

**Policy priority – Harmonious and inclusive communities**

*Deliverable – Collaboration with CaLD communities, businesses and organisations to collect materials that are published in Western Australia in languages other than English and reflect diverse cultural perspectives and stories.*

The State Library engaged with local organisations to collect and preserve for future generations Western Australian materials that reflect diverse cultural stories.

Publications collected under legal deposit legislation this year included:

- *Ucria Perth : Italia-Western Australia : Viaggio Nella Memoria = Journey into Memory* / assembled and edited by Enzo Astone. Historical account of Ucriese emigrants and their families in Western Australia.
- *Living in Exile : From the Roof of the World to the Land Down Under* / Fiona Birt. Western Australia is home to a small but growing Tibetan community, the majority of whom are former political prisoners and their family members. The book focuses on inspirational individuals who have risen above the extreme challenges and difficulties they have faced embarking on a new life in Perth.

Oral histories collected included:

- Game Changers series of interviews with Western Australian women in soccer featured CaLD voices, Thembi and Ischia Brooking. Thembi Brooking talks about growing up in Zimbabwe, her early interest in soccer, moving to Perth and finding the local soccer community.
- On Death and Dying series of interviews incorporated Maori, Muslim, Filipino Catholic voices and represented diverse refugee and migrant perspectives.

Pictorial collections included:

- Chinese New Year celebrations for the Year of the Rabbit 2023, organised by the Chung Wah Association with performances by the Dragon Dance Troupe, Lion Troupe, Little Apple Happy Dance Troupe, and the WA Chinese National Dance Group.
- Brazilian Beach Carnaval. The vibrant and colourful South American festival attracted over 10,000 participants to Scarborough in 2023. Photographs include samba dancers and other energetic performers in vivid costumes, a beachfront parade and spectators of all ages joining in the fun.

*Deliverable – Collections preserved and made accessible for the long-term future.*

The following collections were digitised for preservation and where the State Library has the right, made available online:

Photographic collections including:

- Chung Wah Association collection of photographs
- Nonja Peters collection of photographs relating to Dutch migration to Western Australia

Maps including:

- *Die Eigentliche und Warhafftige Gestalt der Erden und des Meers. Cosmographia Univeralis* / Heinrich Bunting, 1581
- *La Nuova Olanda e la Nuova Guinea Delineato Sulle Ultime Osservazioni* / Gio Cassini, 1798
- *Tabula India Orientalis et Regnorum Adjacentium* / J. van Braam, 1726

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Transcripts of migrant oral histories including:

- ▣ Kasimierz Siemiginowski, who emigrated from Poland in 1951
- ▣ Marica (Mary) Blagaich, Nellie Srdarov and Rosie Milos who all emigrated from Croatia
- ▣ Rene Verios whose oral history interview was conducted as research for the book *Vlase Zanalis : Greek-Australian Artist*

*Deliverable - Stories from our collections published via social media and other media channels that acknowledge the contributions of people from culturally diverse backgrounds to life in Western Australia.*

During the year, 23 State Library Facebook posts had multicultural themes or content relating to the experiences of people who have made Western Australia their home. Examples of popular posts included:

- ▣ The story of Carmela Cicerello whose father “went to Western Australia in 1915 because somebody say, More better, make a little bit of money, fourteen pounds in the year. He worked fishing in Rockingham”.
- ▣ The story of Alpha Pilpel , who arrived in Western Australia in 1939, just as war broke out in Europe. “Coming into Fremantle was exciting but as we drove out of it there seemed to be roads and roads of absolute nothingness. Tiny homes made of brick and no garden but tall grass in between them for miles.”

Both stories were based on oral histories in the Library’s collections.

*Deliverable - Monitor staff reports of breaches of the Code of Conduct based on racism.*

There were no staff reports of breaches of the Library’s *Code of Conduct* based on racism during the year.

*Deliverable - Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct training provided to all staff at induction.*

*Code of Conduct* training includes information on racial discrimination, harassment or victimisation. Of the 18 new staff who commenced with the State Library during the year, all of them completed this training.

Public Sector online induction training contains information about the importance of strengthening diversity and inclusion across all agencies. Of the new staff, 28 percent completed this training during the year.

*Deliverable - Accountable and Ethical Decision-Making training made available to staff.*

Fourteen staff completed the Accountable and Ethical Decision Making (AEDM) training, representing nine percent of all staff.

*Deliverable - Teaching aids and resources suitable for Community Language School teachers freely made available.*

There are 3,340 items available in the State Library’s Community Languages Collection to support community-based teaching of over 40 languages. The collection comprises a range of hardcopy, digital, audio and visual resources that can be used by community language teachers and the wider community. The languages with the highest loans activity are Chinese, Japanese, Russian, German, French, Korean and Hindi.

The Library has licences to make the language learning online resources, uTalk and Rosetta Stone freely available to members and language use mirrors that of the print items.

*Deliverable - Community engagement program of free exhibitions, events and programs delivered that celebrate the achievements of all West Australian including those from different migrant groups.*

Stuff! History, Home, Family, Love, Identity...and Why We Collect It was an exhibition whereby Library staff were asked to select collection items that resonate strongly with them. Some of the items selected pertaining to migrant stories:

In response to photographs of the Gurdwara Sahib of Western Australia:

“These images capture the heart of the Australian story for me. They speak to the strength of character of generations of migrant communities who continue, to make WA their home. I was touched by the need to recreate the elements that most contribute to a feeling of home and belonging... As the child of first-generation migrants myself, this element of forging an identity tied to a particular community and practice is hugely powerful.” – Rita Alfred-Saggarr, Creative Programs Officer

In response to a photograph and memoir of former State Librarian, F.A. Sharr:

“This book, a biographical memoir, and portrait resonate with me as it is only because of the author, Dr Francis Aubie “Ali” Sharr, OBE, State Librarian of Western Australia (1956-76), that my parents met at all and that I am here... Kurt and my grandmother Bianka were Holocaust survivors who emigrated from Germany to Perth in 1951. The significance of meeting my mother at the State Library was never far from any conversation. Kurt was no stranger to loss and grief. The library represented the rebuilding of his life, both literally and symbolically.” – Anne Sotzik, Library Officer

*Deliverable – Free education program delivered to school groups based on our unique Western Australian collections to increase understanding of the role migrants have played in the development of the State.*

The State Library provided free education programs contributed to increasing primary and secondary student understanding of the role migrants have played in the development of the State including:

- Suitcases – school students opened a suitcase to use items from the Library’s collections to piece together migration stories (337 participants).
- Northbridge migration walking trail – students explored the City of Perth’s migrant heritage on this self-guided walking trail (213 participants).
- New Places, New Lives – self-guided workshops that compared and contrasted migration stories as told in picture books (96 participants).

Library staff provided tours for TAFE students enrolled in the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP), highlighting services available to them and online resources that can support their learning (58 student participants).

### **Policy priority – Culturally responsive policies, programs and services**

*Deliverable – Consult with diverse stakeholders and develop a report for the preparation for the new Collection Strategy.*

The Library’s new *Collection Strategy* identifies the collection of materials from CaLD communities as a collecting priority for the strategy. Implementation of the strategy commenced in 2022–2023.

*Deliverable – In partnership with local governments across Western Australia, physical and online public library resources in languages other than English freely made available to communities.*

The Library manages the purchase of public library materials in Languages Other than English that are available via the Statewide public library network. More than 70,000 print items in 101 different languages are available to any member of a public library Statewide.



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The Library also manages licenses for members of public libraries and the State Library to access online resources available in Languages Other than English including:

- ▣ Libby (Overdrive) including ebooks, eaudiobooks and emagazines in 18 languages.
- ▣ BorrowBox including ebooks (3,896 titles in 20 languages) and eaudiobooks (857 titles in 15 languages).
- ▣ Hoopla including 193,251 ebooks, eaudiobooks, motion pictures and music in 102 languages.
- ▣ PressReader offers access to 7,258 newspapers and emagazines in 65 languages from 175 countries.

*Deliverable - State Library's Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program delivered to all Western Australian families with new-born and kindergarten aged children, offering culturally diverse resources where required.*

The Library's Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program offers universal early literacy resources to all Western Australian families with children aged zero to five. The program is supported by public library collections Statewide. Of the 70,294 items in public libraries that are in Languages Other than English 14,781 are suitable for children.

*Deliverable - State Library clients from CaLD backgrounds provided with the means to make complaints.*

The Library is undertaking a review of how feedback is received and managed, ensuring that the feedback process is responsive and accessible to clients from CaLD backgrounds will be part of this review.

*Deliverable - Provide interpreter services to clients where appropriate.*

Staff can engage professional interpreter or translation services if required. During the year, there were no requests for interpreter or translation services from clients.

*Deliverable - Collect data on the number of State Library clients that identify having English as a second language.*

The twice-yearly survey of Library clients includes a question where clients can indicate what language they speak at home. Where English is not the main language spoken at home (28 percent of respondents), they indicate what language is. The most frequently reported first languages were Chinese (five percent), Spanish (five percent) and French (three percent).

*Deliverable - Free service delivered to assist State Library clients with access to technology, support in using technology and engaging with government and essential business services only available online. This service assists clients from diverse backgrounds and abilities.*

The Library offers eConnect which is a free service where people are supported to access technology, build digital skills and engage with government and essential business services online. This service aims to bridge the digital divide experienced by people from marginalised and vulnerable communities, some of whom may come from CaLD backgrounds. To preserve privacy, eConnect clients are not asked about their cultural background.

*Deliverable – All job advertisements include a statement encouraging people from diverse backgrounds to apply.*

All Library jobs advertised contained a statement strongly encouraging people from diverse backgrounds to apply and as a measure to achieve equality these applicants may be given preference during the recruitment process.

### **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan reporting**

The following is a report for the year against the outcomes of the State Library's *Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2019-2023*.

**Outcome 1: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, the State Library and the State Records Office.**

### **Public library materials**

The Library manages the purchase of public library materials Statewide, including materials suitable for people with disabilities. Local governments receive grant funding to select public library materials to meet the needs of their communities. Across the State's 232 public libraries the following materials suitable for people with disabilities were available at 30 June 2023: 154,041 large print books, 169,452 DVDs and 120,471 audio books in a variety of formats.

All Western Australian public library and State Library members can access for free licensed online resources such as ebooks, eaudiobooks, e-newspapers, streaming motion pictures and emagazine titles using a variety of online databases such as Libby (Overdrive), BorrowBox, Hoopla and PressReader. These resources have a range of accessibility features that enable audiences to customise their access, including screen readers, voice control compatibility, keyboard shortcuts, full

screen menus, tab navigation, closed captions or subtitles and contrast adjustment. Online resources available at 30 June 2023 included: 747,830 ebooks, 155,485 eaudiobooks, 29,433 issues of emagazines and ecomics, 31,509 streaming motion pictures and 392,178 music titles.

The Library provides a grant of \$185,000 to VisAbility for the provision of library services to people who are blind, vision impaired or who have a print disability. The VisAbility library service makes books and other print materials accessible to individuals in their preferred format, such as talking books, Braille or large print.

### **State Library collections**

The Library collects materials that tell the stories of people with the lived experience of disabilities. Examples of materials collected during the year include:

*Death and Dying: A collection of stories exploring the most inevitable part of life*

A series of 13 interviews commissioned from the Centre for Stories that explore complex issues such as end-of-life care, the eternal journey of grief and voluntary assisted dying.

*Kerry Faulkner collection of photographs*

A selection of photographs purchased from photographer Kerry Faulkner depicting events and celebrations in Perth including a disability surfing event at Leighton Beach in February 2023.

The Library continues to digitise content held in its collections which improves accessibility for people who engage online with Library content. In 2022-2023, the State Library received \$1.402 million from the State Government's Digital Capability Fund with an additional \$3.983 million confirmed in the May 2023 State Budget. This multi-year funding will

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support digitisation of the Library's at-risk audio-visual collections includes audio, video and film formats (cassettes, tapes, reels).

### Events

Library events are accessible and inclusive. The 2023 Premier's Book Awards were live streamed and made available for later viewing via the Library's YouTube channel. The Awards included Auslan interpreters and YouTube content can display closed captions.

### Programs

A Better Beginnings Family Literacy Program reading pack is available for families where either a parent or child has a vision impairment containing a braille edition of the Baby Ways board book, an accompanying audio CD, and inclusive early literacy guidance for parents, produced in collaboration with disability service provider VisAbility.

**Outcome 2: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of the State Library and the State Records Office.**

Up-to-date accessibility information for the Library building is available on the Library's website including: transport options and routes for getting to the Library, moving around the building and accessing its different spaces and venues, access to toilets, interpreter services, assistive technology and access to online resources.

**Outcome 3: People with disabilities receive information in a format that will enable them to access that information as readily as other people are able to access it.**

The State Library website conforms with accessibility standards to ensure its content is available to the widest possible audience, including readers

using assistive technology or accessibility features. The website also offers a free online Ask a Librarian service for people who cannot visit the Library in person or who have trouble with verbal communication or hearing. During the year, Library staff responded to 3,545 Ask a Librarian enquiries.

The Library's two web developers attended the Perth Web Accessibility Camp 2023, held in partnership between the Centre for Accessibility Australia and the W3C Australian Western Region Chapter.

The Library's public documents and signage are written in plain English and corporate documents are made available in alternative formats on request. During the year, no requests were received for documents to be made in an alternative format.

**Outcome 4: People with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of the State Library and the State Records Office as other people receive from the staff of the State Library and State Records Office.**

The Library has developed an online disability awareness training program for all staff. Upon completion of the program, participants can demonstrate an awareness of the barriers, both environmental and attitudinal, experienced by people with disability and identify ways in which these barriers may be overcome. Participants also develop an understanding of inclusive language and communication principles. In total, 34 percent of staff have completed this training.

In response to the requirement of new Work Health and Safety legislation that all organisations actively identify, manage and address psychosocial hazards 28 State Library managers and other relevant staff took part in a full day training session that explored the nature of mental health hazards and psychological injury in the workplace and how they are best managed.

The Library's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan is made available on the staff intranet along with notes from Disability Access and Inclusion Committee meetings that are held on a quarterly basis.

All Library staff also complete emergency evacuation training which includes evacuation procedures for assisting clients and staff with disability. Building Wardens understand their role and responsibilities in providing direction and supporting the safe evacuation of people with disability.

To celebrate International Day of People with Disability, the Library held a morning tea for all staff and volunteers. Staff listened to guest speaker Zel Iscel, a woman who was born blind who migrated to Australia when a child. She is a director for Rights International Australia, Chair of Blind Citizens WA and is on the Board of DADAA WA. Zel was very well received by all who attended.

**Outcome 5: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the State Library or the State Records Office.**

People with disabilities can submit feedback via hard copy feedback forms, letter, telephone, email, social media and in person. Staff are available to support clients who wish to provide feedback. Staff can engage an Auslan interpreter to assist a client to provide feedback.

The Library conducts twice-yearly client surveys collecting information about clients and feedback on barriers to accessing facilities, collections or services. In 2022–2023, seven percent of clients identified as having a disability. Of those who identified as having a disability, 22 percent said they experienced a barrier. The most frequently reported barrier was access to accessible toilets.

**Outcome 6: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by the State Library or the State Records Office.**

In 2022–2023, the Library commenced work on a new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan for 2024 to 2029. To inform the review of the current plan and development of the new plan, the Library engaged external consultants to audit the physical accessibility of the Library building and its public spaces. A second audit was completed on access issues and impacts on people using the building who are neurodiverse. The consultant also provided recommendations in how these issues could be overcome or minimised from a user perspective.

**Outcome 7: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with the State Library or the State Records Office.**

All Library job advertisements included a statement encouraging people with disabilities to apply. Advertisements also provided information about reasonable adjustments to allow people with disabilities to participate in the recruitment process effectively.

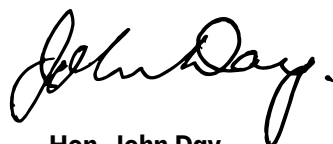
The Library has a contract with Westcare to prepare Better Beginnings packs for distribution to families across the State and a contract with Alinea for the disposal of library materials that are no longer required.

The accompanying financial statements of the Library Board of Western Australia have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the Financial Management Act 2006 from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the reporting period ended 30 June 2023 and the financial position as at 30 June 2023.

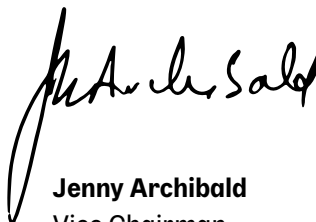
At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included within the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



**Ahmed Abumarzouq**  
Chief Finance Officer  
7 September 2023



**Hon. John Day**  
Chairman Library Board of  
Western Australia  
7 September 2023



**Jenny Archibald**  
Vice Chairman  
Library Board of Western  
Australia  
7 September 2023



## Auditor General

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

2023

The Library Board of Western Australia

To the Parliament of Western Australia

## Report on the audit of the financial statements

### Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the The Library Board of Western Australia which comprise:

- the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2023, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended
- Administered schedules comprising the Administered assets and liabilities at 30 June 2023 and the Administered income and expenses by service for the year then ended
- Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Responsibilities of the Board for the financial statements

The Board is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounts
- preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (applicable to Tier 2 Entities), the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions
- such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board is responsible for:

- assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Board.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at [https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf).

## Report on the audit of controls

### Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the The Library Board of Western Australia. The controls exercised by the Board are those policies and procedures established to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with the State's financial reporting framework (the overall control objectives).

In my opinion, in all material respects, the controls exercised by the The Library Board of Western Australia are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with the State's financial reporting framework during the year ended 30 June 2023.

### The Board's responsibilities

The Board is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

### Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagement ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the controls design to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including an assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

## Report on the audit of the key performance indicators

### Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the The Library Board of Western Australia for the year ended 30 June 2023. The key performance indicators are the Under Treasurer-approved key effectiveness indicators and key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators of the The Library Board of Western Australia are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Board's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2023.

### The Board's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal controls as the Board determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Board is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instructions 904 *Key Performance Indicators*.

### Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the entity's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 904 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments, I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### My independence and quality management relating to the report on financial statements, controls and key performance indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQM 1 *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality management including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

### Other information

The Board is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023, but not the financial statements, key performance indicators and my auditor's report.

My opinions on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators do not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and key performance indicators or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

### **Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators**

The auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the The Library Board of Western Australia for the year ended 30 June 2023 included in the annual report on the Board's website. The Board's management is responsible for the integrity of the Board's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Board's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the entity to confirm the information contained in the website version.



Patrick Arulsingham  
Senior Director  
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia  
Perth, Western Australia  
7 September 2023



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
**THE LIBRARY BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
**Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits expense	2.1(a)	14,223	12,422
Supplies and services	2.3	5,345	4,854
Depreciation and amortisation expense	4.1, 4.2	1,285	1,273
Accommodation expenses	2.3	2,806	2,603
Grants and subsidies	2.2	9,066	9,015
Other expenses	2.3	87	791
<b>Total cost of services</b>		<b>32,812</b>	<b>30,958</b>
<b>Income</b>			
User charges and fees	3.2	244	241
Commonwealth grants	3.3	218	209
Interest revenue	3.4	40	8
Bequest contributions	3.5	2	38
Impairment losses reversed	4.1.1	639	1,496
Other revenue	3.6	794	758
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,937</b>	<b>2,750</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>		<b>30,875</b>	<b>28,208</b>
<b>Income from State Government</b>			
Service appropriation	3.1	29,171	28,323
Liabilities assumed	3.1	-	27
Resources received	3.1	1,057	1,095
Royalties for Regions Fund	3.1	196	220
Grants from other state government agencies	3.1	-	100
<b>Total income from State Government</b>		<b>30,424</b>	<b>29,765</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>(451)</b>	<b>1,557</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
<b>Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</b>			
Changes in asset revaluation reserve	8.7	2,391	(2,793)
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<b>2,391</b>	<b>(2,793)</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>1,940</b>	<b>(1,236)</b>

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**THE LIBRARY BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 30 June 2023**

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.2	594	1,390
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6.2	1,160	1,229
Receivables	5.1	431	241
Amounts receivable for services	5.2	1,225	1,225
Other current assets	5.3	793	511
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>4,203</b>	<b>4,596</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6.2	1,765	1,725
Amounts receivable for services	5.2	33,008	32,682
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	717	661
Right-of-use assets	4.2	37,860	37,815
Library collections	4.1	102,168	99,229
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>175,518</b>	<b>172,112</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>179,721</b>	<b>176,708</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	5.4	877	1,388
Lease liabilities	6.1	26	31
Employee related provisions	2.1(b)	2,388	2,328
Other current liabilities	5.5	18	18
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,309</b>	<b>3,765</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Employee related provisions	2.1(b)	408	281
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>408</b>	<b>281</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>3,717</b>	<b>4,046</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>176,004</b>	<b>172,662</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity	8.7	58,707	57,305
Reserves		71,080	68,689
Accumulated surplus		46,217	46,668
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>176,004</b>	<b>172,662</b>

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### THE LIBRARY BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA Statement of Changes in Equity For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	Contributed equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) \$'000	Total equity \$'000
<b>Balance at 1 July 2021</b>		57,305	71,482	45,111	173,898
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	1,557	1,557
Other comprehensive income		-	(2,793)	-	(2,793)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the period</b>		-	(2,793)	1,557	(1,236)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>		<b>57,305</b>	<b>68,689</b>	<b>46,668</b>	<b>172,662</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2022</b>		57,305	68,689	46,668	172,662
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(451)	(451)
Other comprehensive income		-	2,391	-	2,391
<b>Total comprehensive income for the period</b>		-	<b>2,391</b>	<b>(451)</b>	<b>1,940</b>
<b>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:</b>					
Other contribution by owners					
Capital contributions	8.7	1,402	-	-	1,402
<b>Total transactions with owners in their capacity as owners</b>		<b>1,402</b>	-	-	<b>1,402</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>		<b>58,707</b>	<b>71,080</b>	<b>46,217</b>	<b>176,004</b>

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

### THE LIBRARY BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENT</b>			
Service appropriation		27,620	26,772
Holding account drawdowns		1,225	1,225
Capital appropriation		1,402	-
Funds from other public sector entities		-	125
Royalties for Regions Fund		196	220
<b>Net cash provided by the State Government</b>		<b>30,443</b>	<b>28,342</b>
Utilised as follows:			
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Employee benefits		(13,975)	(12,623)
Supplies and services		(5,363)	(3,966)
Accommodation		(2,300)	(1,468)
Grants and subsidies		(9,366)	(9,722)
GST payments on purchases		(1,541)	(1,403)
Other payments		(74)	(640)
<b>Receipts</b>			
User charges and fees		253	227
Commonwealth grants		218	209
Interest received		32	5
GST receipts on sales		77	117
GST receipts from taxation authority		1,448	1,316
Other receipts		585	951
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>		<b>(30,006)</b>	<b>(26,997)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(1,255)	(1,219)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(1,255)</b>	<b>(1,219)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Principal elements of lease payments		(7)	(8)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>(7)</b>	<b>(8)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<b>4,344</b>	4,226
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		(825)	118
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	6.2	<b>3,519</b>	<b>4,344</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 1 Basis of preparation

The Library Board of Western Australia (herein after referred to as 'the Library Board') is a WA Government entity and is controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The Library Board is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principal objective).

A description of the nature of its operations and its principal activities have been included in the 'Overview' which does not form part of these financial statements.

These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Accountable Authority of the Library Board on 7 September 2023.

#### Statement of compliance

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with:

- 1) The *Financial Management Act 2006* (FMA)
- 2) The Treasurer's Instructions (TIs)
- 3) Australian Accounting Standards– Simplified Disclosures
- 4) Where appropriate, those Australian Accounting Standards paragraphs applicable for not-for-profit entities have been applied.

The FMA and TIs take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards. Several Australian Accounting Standards are modified by TIs to vary application, disclosure format and wording. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

#### Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case the different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

#### Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical evidence and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Significant judgements and estimates have been made to meet the requirements of standards AASB 13, AASB 15, AASB 16 and AASB 116.

#### AASB 13:

Key judgements include determining the valuation technique that maximises the use of relevant observable inputs and minimises the use of unobservable inputs when identical asset or liability is not observable.

The valuation of the Library Collection is subject to a high level of estimation uncertainty, this uncertainty arises from the fact that the Library Collection comprises many items and the valuation process therefore depends on sampling which gives rise to the risks inherent in sampling.

#### AASB 15:

Key judgements include determining the timing of revenue from contracts with customers in terms of timing of satisfaction of performance obligations and determining the transaction price and the amounts allocated to performance obligations.

Estimation uncertainty include determining the transaction prices (estimating variable consideration, adjusting the consideration for the time value of money and measuring non-cash considerations), allocating the transaction price, including estimating stand-alone selling prices and allocating discounts and variable consideration.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### AASB 16:

Key judgements to be made for AASB 16 include identifying leases within contracts, determination of whether there is reasonable certainty around exercising extension and termination options, identifying whether payments are variable or fixed in substance and determining the stand-alone selling prices for lease and non-lease components.

Estimation uncertainty that may arise is the estimation of the lease term, determination of the appropriate discount rate to discount the lease payments and assessing whether the right-of-use asset needs to be impaired.

#### Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except that the:

- a) amount of GST incurred by the Agency as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is recognised as part of an asset's cost of acquisition or as part of an item of expense; and
- b) receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

#### Contributed equity

Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, as designated as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior, to transfer) be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* and have been credited directly to Contributed equity.

#### Comparative information

Except when an Australian Accounting Standard permits or requires otherwise, comparative information is presented in respect of the previous period for all amounts reported in the financial statements. AASB 1060 provides relief from presenting comparatives for:

- Property, plant and equipment reconciliations;
- Intangible asset reconciliations; and
- Right-of-use asset reconciliations.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 2 Use of our funding

##### Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Library Board's funding is applied and the accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements. The primary expenses incurred by the Library Board in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Employee benefits expenses	2.1(a)	14,223	12,422
Employee related provisions	2.1(b)	2,796	2,609
Grants and subsidies	2.2	9,066	9,015
Other expenditure	2.3	8,238	8,248

##### 2.1(a) Employee benefits expenses

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Employee benefits	12,869	11,227
Superannuation - defined contributions plans	1,354	1,195
<b>Total employee benefits expense</b>	<b>14,223</b>	<b>12,422</b>

**Employee benefits** include wages, salaries and social contributions, accrued and paid leave entitlements and paid sick leave, profit-sharing and bonuses; and non-monetary benefits (such as medical care, housing, cars and free or subsidised goods or services) for employees.

**Superannuation** is the amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of Comprehensive Income and comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, other GESB schemes, or other superannuation funds.

##### 2.1(b) Employee related provisions

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
<i>Employee benefits provisions</i>		
Annual leave	900	895
Long service leave	1,259	1,218
Provision for Purchased Leave	(5)	-
	2,154	2,113
<i>Other provisions</i>		
Employment on-costs	234	215
<b>Total current employee related provisions</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>2,328</b>
<b>Non-Current</b>		
<i>Employee benefits provisions</i>		
Long service leave	363	237
<i>Other provisions</i>		
Employment on-costs	45	44
<b>Total non-current employee related provisions</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>281</b>
<b>Total employee related provisions</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>2,609</b>

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of annual leave and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

**Annual leave liabilities** are classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

**Long service leave liabilities** Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Library Board does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Library Board has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

The provision for long service leave is calculated at present value as the Library Board does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

**Employment on-costs** involve the settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities which gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance premiums, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses, note 2.3 (apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost))' and are not included as part of the Agency's 'employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Employment on-cost provision</b>		
Carrying amount at start of period	259	268
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised	20	(9)
<b>Carrying amount at end of period</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>259</b>

##### Key sources of estimation uncertainty – long service leave

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Several estimates and assumptions are used in calculating the Library Board's long service leave provision. These include:

- Expected future salary rates;
- Discount rates;
- Employee retention rates; and
- Expected future payments.

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision. Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of long service leave liabilities is recognised as employee benefits expense.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 2.2 Grants and subsidies

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Recurrent</b>		
Public library materials (Local Governments)	8,394	8,403
Regional subsidies	487	427
Visibility Inc (formerly the Association for the Blind)	185	185
<b>Total grants and subsidies</b>	<b>9,066</b>	<b>9,015</b>

Transactions in which the Library Board provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another party without receiving approximately equal value in return are categorised as 'Grant or subsidy expenses'. These payments or transfers are recognised at fair value at the time of the transaction and are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid. They include transactions such as: grants, subsidies, personal benefit payments made in cash to individuals, other transfer payments made to public sector agencies, local government, non-government schools, and community groups.

#### 2.3 Other expenditure

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Supplies and services</b>		
Communications	45	52
Consultants and contractors	127	234
Consumables	1,163	1,075
Corporate membership fees	-	77
Repairs & maintenance - software	357	258
Travel	89	30
Insurance premiums	81	70
Lease/hire	(19)	22
Online Information access fees	974	1,389
Freight and cartage	389	292
Professional Services	221	340
Printing	66	155
Licences	309	114
Digitisation services	714	347
Website development	-	15
Other	829	384
<b>Total supplies and services expenses</b>	<b>5,345</b>	<b>4,854</b>
<b>Accommodation expenses</b>		
Repairs and maintenance - building	1,089	936
Cleaning	351	291
Security services	660	587
Utilities	682	765
Other	24	24
<b>Total accommodation expenses</b>	<b>2,806</b>	<b>2,603</b>

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 2.3 Other expenditure (continued)

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Other expenses</b>		
Bad and doubtful debts <sup>(a)</sup>	12	16
Workers' compensation insurance	(108)	386
Prizes paid	110	180
Audit fees <sup>(b)</sup>	58	110
Refund of prior receipts	-	(1)
Other	15	100
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>791</b>
<b>Total other expenditure</b>	<b>8,238</b>	<b>8,248</b>

a) See also Note 8.9 'Supplementary financial information'.

b) See also Note 8.6 'Remuneration of auditor'.

**Supplies and services** are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The carrying amounts of any materials held for distribution are expensed when the materials are distributed.

**Accommodation expenses** are recognised as expenses as incurred.

**Other operating expenses** generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

**Building maintenance and equipment repairs and maintenance** costs are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

**Employee on-cost** includes workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liabilities is included at Note 2.1(b) Employee related provisions. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 3 Our funding sources

##### How we obtain our funding

This section provides additional information about how the Library Board obtains its funding and the relevant accounting policy notes that govern the recognition and measurement of this funding. The primary income received by the Library Board and the relevant notes are:

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Income from State Government	3.1	30,424	29,765
User charges and fees	3.2	244	241
Commonwealth grants	3.3	218	209
Interest revenue	3.4	40	8
Bequest contributions	3.5	2	38
Other revenue	3.6	794	758

#### 3.1 Income from State Government

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Appropriation received for the period:</b>		
- Service appropriation	29,171	28,323
<b>Total Service Appropriation</b>	<b>29,171</b>	<b>28,323</b>
- Assets transferred from/(to) other State government agencies during the period	-	27
<b>Total assets transferred</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Resources received free of charge from other Public Sector Entities during the period:</b>		
-Services received free of charge	1057	1095
<b>Total resources received</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>1,095</b>
<b>Royalties for Regions Fund:</b>		
-Regional Community Services Account	196	220
<b>Total Royalties for Regions Fund</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Grants from State Government:</b>		
- Global maintenance specific purpose funding	-	100
<b>Total grants from State Government</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Total income from State Government</b>	<b>30,424</b>	<b>29,765</b>

**Service appropriations** are recognised as income at the fair value of consideration received in the period in which the Library Board gains control of the appropriated funds. The Library Board gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the holding account held at Treasury.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 3.1 Income from State Government (continued)

**Resources received from other public sector entities** is recognised as income equivalent to the fair value of the assets, or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

**Regional Community Services Account** is a sub-fund within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas and are recognised as income when the Library Board receives the funds. The Library Board has assessed Royalties for Regions agreements and concludes that they are not within the scope of AASB 15 as they do not meet the 'sufficiently specific' criterion.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### Summary of consolidated account appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 Budget Estimate \$'000	2023 Supplementary Funding \$'000	Revised Budget \$'000	2023 Actual \$'000	2023 Variance \$'000
<b>Delivery of Services</b>					
Item 74 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	27,937	957	28,894	28,894	-
Amount Authorised by Other Statutes - <i>Salaries and Allowances Act 1975</i>	277	-	277	277	-
<b>Total appropriations provided to deliver services</b>	<b>28,214</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>29,171</b>	<b>29,171</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>28,214</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>29,171</b>	<b>29,171</b>	<b>-</b>

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 3.2 User charges and fees

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Tenancy revenue	-	9
User fees	70	55
Service charges	177	170
Recoveries lost and damaged books	(3)	7
<b>Total user charges and fees</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>241</b>

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Library Board transfers control of the services to customers.

Revenue is recognised at a point-in-time for user fees as these mainly relate to interlibrary loans, photocopying fees and sales of photographs. The Library Board typically satisfies its performance obligations for these user fees and charges when services have been provided and payments are received.

#### 3.3 Commonwealth grants

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Department of Territories - Indian Ocean Territories Grant	218	209
<b>Total Commonwealth grants</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>209</b>

The Library Board and the Commonwealth Government have a Service Delivery Agreement for the provision of library services to the Indian Ocean Territories (Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands). The Commonwealth Government contributes to the Library Board the costs associated with these services, as detailed below.

Opening balance of funds	8	5
Contributions received	218	209
Cost of providing received	(216)	(206)
<b>Balance on hand</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>

Grants are recognised as income when the grants are received.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 3.4 Interest revenue

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Interest	40	8
<b>Total interest revenue</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>8</b>

Interest revenue is recognised as the interest accrues.

#### 3.5 Bequest contributions

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Other	2	38
<b>Total bequest contributions</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>38</b>

**Bequests** income is recognised at fair value when the Library Board obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined, and the services would be purchased if not donated. An assessment of the performance obligation is undertaken for funds received and then assessed for recognition over time or at a point in time as or when the Library Board satisfies obligations under the transfer.

#### 3.6 Other income

	2023	2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Recoup of prior year expense	42	64
Recoup of internal audit services provided	88	54
Subsidies	456	566
Recoup of costs	41	-
Other	167	74
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>758</b>

**Subsidies** are recognised as revenue in the reporting period in which they are received. The Library Board receives subsidies from Rio Tinto and Local Governments. Rio Tinto funding is received to support the delivery of online, community and Aboriginal engagement outcomes. Local Government Authorities pay an annual subsidy to supplement the production and delivery costs of Better Beginnings packs.

**Other income** is recognised in the accounting period in which the relevant performance obligations have been satisfied.



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 4 Key assets

This section includes information regarding the key assets the Library Board utilises to gain economic benefits or provide service potential. The section sets out both the key accounting policies and financial information about the performance of these assets:

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Property, plant, equipment & library collections	4.1	102,885	99,890
Right-of-use assets	4.2	37,860	37,815
<b>Total key assets</b>		<b>140,745</b>	<b>137,705</b>

### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 4.1 Property, plant, equipment & library collections

	Buildings and leasehold improvements at cost	Furniture & equip, Office equip & Motor vehicles at cost	State Library collections (non WA) at cost	WA Heritage collections at fair value	Works of art at fair value	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>1 July 2022</b>						
Gross carrying amount	4,281	4,053	25,152	92,386	5,062	130,934
Accumulated depreciation	(4,281)	(3,392)	(23,371)	-	-	(31,044)
<b>Carrying amount at start of period</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>1,781</b>	<b>92,386</b>	<b>5,062</b>	<b>99,890</b>
Additions	-	254	370	547	124	1,295
Cost Adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	-	-	-	2,438	(48)	2,390
Depreciation	-	(198)	(492)	-	-	(690)
<b>Carrying amount at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>95,371</b>	<b>5,138</b>	<b>102,885</b>
Gross carrying amount	4,281	4,307	25,522	95,371	5,138	134,619
Accumulated depreciation	(4,281)	(3,590)	(23,863)	-	-	(31,734)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 4.1 Property, plant, equipment & library collections (continued)

##### Property, plant and equipment

##### Initial recognition

Items of property, plant and equipment, costing \$5,000 or more are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no cost or significantly less than fair value, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed directly to the statement of comprehensive income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

##### Subsequent measurement

All items of property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

##### Library Collections

##### Capitalisation/expensing of assets

Three classes of Library Collections held by the Library Board have been identified for financial accounting purposes - State Library Collections, Heritage Collections and Works of Art. All items added to the State Library Collections are capitalised at cost. Heritage Collections include monographs, newspapers, microfilm, cartographic items, pictorial and film collections, printed music, sound recordings and oral history which may be acquired by purchase or donation. Private archives, ephemera and serials collections are not recognised as assets of the Library Board unless their values can be reliably estimated.

##### Revaluation of Library Collections

In accordance with AASB 116 (Para 34), the frequency of revaluation depends upon the changes in fair values of the items of property, plant and equipment being revalued. Library Collections items do not experience significant and volatile changes in fair value; hence it may be necessary to revalue the collections only every three to five years. Items of the Library Collections worth less than State Library's approved high value which is \$5,000 will be revalued at the end of five years using sampling techniques as per the Library's approved Valuations of Collections Guidelines.

Valuation is based on a five-year cycle, a full valuation is conducted every five years except for Rare Books (individually valued items - IVI items), Private Archives (IVI items) and Works of Art which are valued annually. In the intervening years the value of the total collections is adjusted for new additions, donations, purchases, any disposals, written off items and/or impairments.

An independent valuation of the Library Board Heritage Collections and Works of Art is performed every 5 years. 2022-2023 was an interim year and the Library engaged experienced valuers to carry out a desktop valuation.

The net fair value of Western Australian Heritage Collections and Works of Art increased in 2022-2023 by \$2.39 million. Although there were no tangible market variations, there were small population increases across most collections due to a combination of new acquisitions and ongoing review of our data which impacts the counting of collections according to format. Newly identified high value items within the collection also contributed \$2.29 Million to the increase.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 4.1.1 Depreciation and impairment

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Depreciation</b>			
Plant, equipment and vehicles	4.1	198	162
Library collections (State Library)	4.1	492	532
<b>Total depreciation for the period</b>		<b>690</b>	<b>694</b>
<b>Impairment</b>			
Right-of-use concessionary lease at cost -building - Reversed <sup>(a)</sup>	4.2	(639)	(1,496)
<b>Total impairment losses for the period</b>		<b>(639)</b>	<b>(1,496)</b>

- a) The building asset is classified as a right-of-use concessionary lease (building) asset at cost. Subsequent measurement of the right-of-use asset under AASB 16.33 requires right-of-use assets to be assessed for impairment and to account for any impairment loss identified. The building recoverable amount was determined as at 1 July 2022 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics). The replacement cost of the building was determined to be higher than the carrying amount. According to AASB 136.117 a reversal of impairment losses of \$638,510 was recognised.

##### Useful lives

All property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight-line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

Asset	Useful life:
Leasehold Improvements	10 years
Furniture and fittings	3 to 10 years
Office equipment	3 to 15 years
Motor vehicles	3 to 10 years

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments should be made where appropriate.

Heritage Collections and Works of Art controlled by the Library Board are anticipated to have very long and indeterminate useful lives. Their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period. As such, no amount for depreciation has been recognised in respect of these assets.

The State Library Collections are depreciated by expensing the value of the tenth oldest year's acquisitions.

##### Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of plant and equipment, are tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit or loss.

Where a previously revalued asset is written down to its recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement through other comprehensive income to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset.

As the Library Board is a not-for-profit agency, the recoverable amount of regularly revalued specialised assets is anticipated to be materially the same as fair value.

If there is an indication that there has been a reversal in impairment, the carrying amount shall be increased to its recoverable amount. However, this reversal should not increase the asset's carrying amount above what would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised in prior years.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 4.2 Right-of-use assets

	Concessionary Leases \$000	Motor vehicles \$000	Total \$000
Carrying amount at beginning of period	37,784	31	37,815
Impairment losses reversed	639	-	639
Depreciation	(588)	(6)	594
<b>Net carrying amount at end of period</b>	<b>37,835</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>37,860</b>

There were no additions to right-of-use assets during the 2023 financial year (2022: \$31,000).

#### Initial recognition

At the commencement date of the lease, the Library Board recognises right-of-use assets and a corresponding lease liability for most leases. The right-of-use assets are measured at cost including the following:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received;
- any initial direct costs; and
- restoration costs, including dismantling and removing the underlying asset.

The Library Board has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases (with a lease term of 12 months or less) and low value leases (with an underlying value of \$5,000 or less). Lease payments associated with these leases are expensed over a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of right-of-use assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses and adjusted for any re-measurement of lease liability. The Library Board engages the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate) to establish the recoverable value of the building.

#### Depreciation and impairment of right-of-use assets

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the underlying assets.

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Library Board at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

Right-of-use assets are tested for impairment when an indication of impairment is identified. The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in note 4.1.

The following amounts relating to leases have been recognised in the statement of comprehensive income:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Depreciation expenses of right-of-use assets:</b>		
Concessionary leases - buildings	587	572
Motor vehicles	8	7
<b>Total right-of-use asset depreciation</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>579</b>
Lease interest expense	2	-

The total cash outflow for leases in 2023 was \$7,457 (2022: \$7,592).

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 4.2 Right-of-use assets (continued)

#### The Library Board's leasing activities and how these are accounted for:

The Library Board has a lease for a single motor vehicle which is used by the State Library of Western Australia as a pool vehicle.

The Library Board also has a lease for the Alexander Library Building (ALB). The building lease is classified as a concessionary lease (peppercorn) as the arrangement contains significantly below market terms and conditions principally to enable the Library Board to further its objectives (yearly rental of one peppercorn is payable if and when demanded). The lease is for an initial 50 year period with an extension option for a further 50 years. The ALB is a specific purpose building. Government has not indicated any appetite or intention to relocate state library services to a new or alternate specific purpose location. Therefore, at present, there is no reason why the Library Board would not exercise the extension option. Accordingly, the remaining lease term as at 1 July 2022 is 65.5 years.

The corresponding lease liability in relation to the motor vehicle right-of-use asset has been disclosed in note 6.1. There is no corresponding lease liability for the Alexander Library Building as the value of the peppercorn payment is not defined and therefore a liability cannot be reliably measured.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 5 Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Library Board's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Receivables	5.1	431	241
Amounts receivable for services	5.2	34,233	33,907
Other current assets	5.3	793	511
Payables	5.4	877	1,388
Other liabilities	5.5	18	18

#### 5.1 Receivables

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Trade receivables	210	52
Allowance for impairment of trade receivables	(13)	(13)
Interest receivable	12	4
GST receivable	222	198
<b>Total receivables at end of period</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>241</b>

Trade receivables are initially recognised at their transaction price less any allowances for expected credit losses (i.e., impairment). The carrying amount of net trade receivables is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days.

#### 5.2 Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Current	1,225	1,225
Non-current	33,008	32,682
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>34,233</b>	<b>33,907</b>

Amounts receivable for services represent the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

Amounts receivable for services are financial assets at amortised cost, and are not considered impaired (i.e., there is no expected credit loss of the Holding Account).

#### 5.3 Other assets

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Prepayments	793	511
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>511</b>

Other non-financial assets include prepayments which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods or services or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period covering a term extending beyond that period.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 5.4 Payables

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Trade payables	64	5
Other payables	169	1,029
Accrued expenses	358	126
Accrued salaries	286	228
<b>Total payables at end of period</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>1,388</b>

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Library Board becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as settlement is generally within 20 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight after the reporting period. The Library Board considers the carrying number of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

Accrued salaries suspense account (See Note 6.2.2 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents reconciliation' 27th pay) consists of amounts paid annually, from Library Board appropriations for salaries expense, into a Treasury suspense account to meet the additional cash outflow for employee salary payments in reporting periods with 27 pay days instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

#### 5.5 Other current liabilities

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Unclaimed monies	18	18
<b>Total current</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>

Other financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 6 Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cashflows of the Library Board.

	Notes
Lease liabilities	6.1
Cash and cash equivalents	6.2
Reconciliation of cash	6.2.1
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6.2.2

#### 6.1 Lease liabilities

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Lease liabilities</b>		
Current	26	31
<b>Total lease liabilities</b>	<u>26</u>	<u>31</u>

There is no lease liability for the right-of-use concessionary lease – building (note 4.2). The lease terms state that yearly rental of one peppercorn is payable if and when demanded. As the lease agreement does not assign a value to the peppercorn, a lease liability cannot be reliably measured.

At the commencement date of the lease, the Library Board recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of the lease payments to be paid over the lease term. The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Library Board uses the incremental borrowing rate provided by Western Australian Treasury Corporation.

Lease payments included by the Library Board as part of the present value calculation of lease liability include:

- Fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- The exercise price of purchase options (where these are reasonably certain to be exercised);
- Payments for penalties for terminating a lease, where the lease term reflects the Library Board exercising an option to terminate the lease, and
- Periods covered by extension or termination options are only included in the lease term by the Library Board if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated).

The interest on the lease liability is recognised in profit or loss over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Lease liabilities do not include any future changes in variable lease payments (that depend on an index or rate) until they take effect, in which case the lease liability is reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset.

Variable lease payments, not included in the measurement of lease liability, that are dependent on sales, an index or a rate are recognised by the Library Board in profit or loss in the period in which the condition that triggers those payments occurs.

This section should be read in conjunction with note 4.2.

#### Subsequent measurement

Lease liabilities are measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liabilities; reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made; and remeasuring the carrying amount at amortised cost, subject to adjustments to reflect any reassessment or lease modifications.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 6.2 Cash and cash equivalents

##### 6.2.1 Reconciliation of cash

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	594	1,390
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	2,925	2,954
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>3,519</u>	<u>4,344</u>

##### 6.2.2 Restricted cash and cash equivalents reconciliation

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Royalties for Regions Fund <sup>(a)</sup>	29	85
Leah Jane Cohen Bequest <sup>(b)</sup>	53	27
Kay Poustie Scholarship	70	68
Heritage Film Digitisation Fundraising Appeal	2	2
Mining & Energy WA	13	15
Other funds with restricted application <sup>(c)</sup>	993	1,032
<b>Total current</b>	<u>1,160</u>	<u>1,229</u>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Accrued salaries suspense account <sup>(d)</sup>	307	267
Leah Jane Cohen Bequest <sup>(b)</sup>	1,458	1,458
<b>Total non-current</b>	<u>1,765</u>	<u>1,725</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>2,925</u>	<u>2,954</u>

- Unspent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas.
- Principal to be held in perpetuity in accordance with conditions of bequest.
- Other funds with restricted application comprise Sholl bequest, Indian Oceans Territories, Rio Tinto in-kind support, Ideas Box, collection projects and general-purpose donation funds.
- Funds held in the suspense account for the purpose of meeting the 27<sup>th</sup> pay in a reporting period that occurs every 11<sup>th</sup> year. This account is classified as non-current for 10 out of 11 years.

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent asset comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash, and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 30 June 2023

6.2.2 Restricted cash and cash equivalents reconciliation (continued)

	Royalties for Regions Fund	Leah Jane Cohen Bequest	Kay Poustie Scholarship	Heritage Film Digitisation Fundraising Appeal	Mining & Energy WA	Accrued Salaries Suspense Account (27th Pay)	Other Funds With Restricted Application	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance at 1 July 2022	85	1,485	68	2	15	267	1,032	2,954
Restricted cash inflows	196	31	2	-	-	40	535	804
Restricted cash outflows	(252)	(5)	-	-	(2)	-	(574)	(833)
<b>Closing balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1,511</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>2,925</b>

	Royalties for Regions Fund	Leah Jane Cohen Bequest	Kay Poustie Scholarship	Heritage Film Digitisation Fundraising Appeal	Mining & Energy WA	Accrued Salaries Suspense Account (27th Pay)	Other Funds With Restricted Application	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance at 1 July 2021	41	1,490	68	2	17	233	552	2,403
Restricted cash inflows	220	5	-	-	-	34	857	1,116
Restricted cash outflows	(176)	(10)	-	-	(2)	-	(377)	(565)
<b>Closing balance at 30 June 2022</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1,485</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>2,954</b>

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 7 Financial instruments and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Library Board.

	Notes
Financial instruments	7.1
Contingent assets & liabilities	7.2
Contingent assets	7.2.1
Contingent liabilities	7.2.2

#### 7.1 Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	594	1,390
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	2,925	2,954
Financial assets at amortised cost <sup>(a)</sup>	34,664	34,148
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>38,183</b>	<b>38,492</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	895	1,406
<b>Total financial liability</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>1,406</b>

- a) The amount of financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

#### 7.2 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at best estimate.

Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

##### 7.2.1 Contingent assets

The Library Board is not aware of any contingent assets existing as at 30 June 2023 or 30 June 2022.

##### 7.2.2 Contingent liabilities

The Library Board is not aware of any contingent liabilities existing as at 30 June 2023 or 30 June 2022.

#### Contaminated sites

Under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003, the Library Board is required to report known and suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). In accordance with the Act, DWER classifies these sites on the basis of the risk to human health, the environment and environmental values. Where sites are classified as contaminated – remediation required or possibly contaminated – investigation required, the Library Board may have a liability in respect of investigation or remediation expenses.

The Library Board did not report any contaminated sites to DWER during the reporting period.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 8 Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements, for the understanding of this financial report.

	Notes
Events occurring after the end of the reporting period	8.1
Key management personnel	8.2
Related party transactions	8.3
Related bodies	8.4
Affiliated bodies	8.5
Remuneration of auditors	8.6
Equity	8.7
Services provided free of charge	8.8
Supplementary financial information	8.9

#### 8.1 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

There were no events occurring after the end of the reporting period that warrant disclosure.

#### 8.2 Key management personnel

The Library Board has determined key management personnel to include cabinet ministers, board members and senior officers. The Library Board does not incur expenditures to compensate Ministers and those disclosures may be found in the *Annual Report on State Finances*.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for members of the accountable authority of the Library Board for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

#### Compensation band of members of the accountable authority

	2023	2022
<b>Compensation band (\$)</b>		
0 – 10,000	13	14

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for senior officers of the Library Board for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

#### Compensation band of senior officers

	2023	2022
<b>Compensation band (\$)</b>		
50,001 – 100,000	-	2
100,001 – 150,000	-	1
150,001 – 200,000	3	2
300,001 - 350,000	1	1

	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	769	795
Post-employment benefits	88	86
Other long-term benefits	54	-
Termination benefits	-	114
<b>Total compensation of senior officers</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>995</b>

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Library Board in respect of senior officers.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 8.3 Related party disclosures

The Library Board is a wholly owned and controlled public sector entity of the State of Western Australia.

Related parties of the Library Board include:

- all cabinet ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- all senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- other agencies and statutory authorities, including related bodies, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements (i.e., wholly owned public sector entities);
- associates and joint ventures, of a wholly owned public sector entity; and
- the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

All related party transactions have been entered into on an arm's length basis. The Library does not have any Key Management Personnel who are member of the Pension Scheme.

#### Related party transactions

In FY 2021-22 a Registered Aboriginal Business controlled by a related party of a Board Member, was awarded contract SLWA/21456/LS/002 under the Direct Sourcing procurement method. The contract value is \$511,611 (incl. GST) for a four year term starting from 04 January 2022 and three one-year extension options with final expiry date of 3 January 2026 exercisable at the absolute discretion of the Library Board. The contract imposes no further commitments. The Library Board exercised the first extension option to extend contract until 03 January 2024. In FY 2022-2023 the Library Board procured printed books in the value of \$133,208 (incl. GST)

All other transactions that have occurred with key management personnel and other related parties have been trivial or domestic in nature.

#### 8.4 Related bodies

The Library Board does not have any related bodies.

#### 8.5 Affiliated bodies

The Library Board does not have any affiliated bodies.

#### 8.6 Remuneration of auditors

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current financial year is as follows:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Auditing the accounts, controls, financial statements and key performance indicators	37	36
Fee for the Royalties for Regions-Better Beginnings Program Certification	-	6
	<u>37</u>	<u>42</u>

#### 8.7 Equity

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Contributed equity</b>		
Balance at start of period	57,305	57,305
<b>Contribution by owners</b>		
Capital contribution	1,402	-
<b>Total contribution by owners</b>	<u>1,402</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>58,707</u>	<u>57,305</u>

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 8.7 Equity (continued)

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Reserves</b>		
<b>Asset revaluation surplus</b>		
<i>Collections</i>		
Balance at the start of period	68,689	71,482
Net revaluation increments/(decrements):		
Collections <sup>(a)</sup>	2,391	(2,793)
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>71,080</u>	<u>68,689</u>
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<u>71,080</u>	<u>68,689</u>
<b>Accumulated surplus</b>		
Balance at start of period	46,668	45,111
Result for the period	(451)	1,557
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>46,217</u>	<u>46,668</u>
<b>Total equity at end of period</b>	<u>176,004</u>	<u>172,662</u>

- a) The net revaluation increased in 2022–2023 by \$2.39 million, mainly due to a combination of new acquisitions and newly identified high value items within the collection.

#### 8.8 Services provided free of charge

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<u>State Records Office</u>		
Employee costs	95	82
Accommodation costs	135	134
Supplies & services	6	8
	<u>236</u>	<u>224</u>
<u>Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries <sup>(a)</sup></u>		
Accommodation costs	30	29
Supplies & services	2	2
	<u>32</u>	<u>31</u>

- a) The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries occupied 172 m<sup>2</sup> of space within the Alexander Library Building from 28 August 2017 and an additional 215 m<sup>2</sup> of space from 12 April 2018.



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 8.9 Supplementary financial information

##### a) Write-offs

During the financial year, \$22,010 (2022: \$9,922) was written off the Library Board's receivables ledger under the authority of:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
The accountable authority	22	10
	<u>22</u>	<u>10</u>

##### b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes

There were no losses of public moneys through theft, default or other causes during the financial year.

##### c) Gifts of public property

There were no gifts of public property during the financial year.

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9 Explanatory statement

This section explains variations in the financial performance of the Library Board

Explanatory statement for controlled operations

**Notes**  
9.1

##### 9.1 Explanatory statement for controlled operations

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Library Board undertaking transactions under its own control, as represented by the primary financial statements.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual result for 2023, and between the actual results for 2023 and 2022 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances, which vary more than 10% from their comparative and that the variance is more than 1% of the:

1. Estimate and actual results for the current year
  - Total Cost of Services of the estimate for the Statement of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (i.e. 1% of \$31.750 Million), and
  - Total Assets of the estimate for the Statement of financial position (i.e. 1% of \$172.157 Million).
2. Actual results for the current year and the prior year actual:
  - Total Cost of Services for the previous year for the Statements of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (i.e. 1% of \$30.958 Million); and
  - Total Assets for the previous year for the Statement of financial position (i.e. 1% of \$176.708 Million).

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2023 and 2022 \$'000
<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income (Controlled Operations)</b>						
<b>Expenses</b>						
Employee benefits expense	A	13,261	14,223	12,422	962	1,801
Supplies and services	B	5,443	5,345	4,854	(98)	491
Depreciation and amortisation expense		1,551	1,285	1,273	(266)	12
Accommodation expenses		2,470	2,806	2,603	336	203
Grants and subsidies		8,897	9,066	9,015	169	51
Other expenses	C	128	87	791	(41)	(704)
<b>Total cost of services</b>		<b>31,750</b>	<b>32,812</b>	<b>30,958</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>1,854</b>
<b>Income</b>						
User charges and fees		304	244	241	(60)	3
Commonwealth grants		224	218	209	(6)	9
Interest revenue		32	40	8	8	32
Bequest contributions		-	2	38	2	(36)
Impairment losses reversed	D	-	639	1,496	639	(857)
Other revenue	1	454	794	758	340	36
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,014</b>	<b>1,937</b>	<b>2,750</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>(813)</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>		<b>30,736</b>	<b>30,875</b>	<b>28,208</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>2,667</b>
<b>INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>						
Service appropriation		28,214	29,171	28,323	957	848
Asset/liabilities assumed/(transferred)		-	-	27	-	(27)
Services received free of charge		830	1,057	1,095	227	(38)
Royalties for Regions Fund		250	196	220	(54)	(24)
Grants from other state government agencies	2	1,010	-	100	(1,010)	(100)
<b>Total income from State Government</b>		<b>30,304</b>	<b>30,424</b>	<b>29,765</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>659</b>
<b>DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>(432)</b>	<b>(451)</b>	<b>1,557</b>	<b>(19)</b>	<b>(2,008)</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</b>						
Changes in asset revaluation reserve	E	-	2,391	(2,793)	2,391	5,184
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>2,391</b>	<b>(2,793)</b>	<b>2,391</b>	<b>5,184</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>(432)</b>	<b>1,940</b>	<b>(1,236)</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>3,176</b>

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances (continued)

##### Major estimate and actual (2023) variance narratives

- Other revenue exceeded estimates by \$0.340 million largely due to recoup of prior year expenses and refund of unspent grant fund not included in the formulation of the 2022-23 estimates.
- \$1.010 million initially included as grants from other state government agencies in the formulation of the 2022-23 estimates was in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 955 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities, and was recognised as equity contributions during the FY.

##### Major actual (2023) and comparative (2022) variance narratives

- Employee benefits expense increased by \$1.801 million due to the cost-of-living payment and salary increase by 3%.
- Supplies and service increased by \$0.491 million due to the commencing of the At-Risk media project.
- Other expenses decreased by \$0.704 million mainly due to prior year performance adjustment for workers compensation insurance.
- Impairment losses reversed was \$1.496 million for FY 2021-22 and \$0.639 million in 2022/23, resulting in a variance of \$0.857 million. As the building is classified as a right-of-use concessionary lease (building) asset at cost, the subsequent measurement of the right-of-use asset under AASB 16.33 requires right-of-use assets to be assessed for impairment and to account for any impairment loss identified. The building was revalued as at 1 July 2022 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics). The depreciated replacement cost (recoverable amount) of the building as at the previous year was higher than the carrying amount of the right-of-use concessionary lease (building) asset at cost.
- The library collection value decreased by \$2.793 million in 2021-2022 and increased by \$2.391 million in 2022-23, resulting in variance of \$5.184 million.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9.1.2 Statement of financial position variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2023 and 2022 \$'000
<b>Statement of Financial Position (Controlled Operations)</b>						
<b>ASSETS</b>						
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents		891	594	1,390	(297)	(796)
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		712	1,160	1,229	448	(69)
Receivables		427	431	241	4	190
Amounts receivable for services		1,225	1,225	1,225	-	-
Other current assets		393	793	511	400	282
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>3,648</b>	<b>4,203</b>	<b>4,596</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>(393)</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>						
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		1,691	1,765	1,725	74	40
Amounts receivable for services		32,682	33,008	32,682	326	326
Property, plant and equipment		346	717	661	371	56
Right-of-use assets		36,307	37,860	37,815	1,553	45
Library collections	3, F	97,483	102,168	99,229	4,685	2,939
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>168,509</b>	<b>175,518</b>	<b>172,112</b>	<b>7,009</b>	<b>3,406</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>172,157</b>	<b>179,721</b>	<b>176,708</b>	<b>7,564</b>	<b>3,013</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Payables		295	877	1,388	582	(511)
Lease liabilities		-	26	31	26	(5)
Employee related provisions		2,457	2,388	2,328	(69)	60
Other current liabilities		60	18	18	(42)	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,812</b>	<b>3,309</b>	<b>3,765</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>(456)</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>						
Employee related provisions		424	408	281	(16)	127
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>424</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>(16)</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>3,236</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>4,046</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>(329)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>168,921</b>	<b>176,004</b>	<b>172,662</b>	<b>7,083</b>	<b>3,342</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Contributed equity		57,697	58,707	57,305	1,010	1,402
Reserves		71,482	71,080	68,689	(402)	2,391
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		44,679	46,217	46,668	1,538	(451)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>173,858</b>	<b>176,004</b>	<b>172,662</b>	<b>2,146</b>	<b>3,342</b>

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9.1.2 Statement of financial position variances (continued)

##### Major estimate and actual (2023) variance narratives

- The 2023 estimate for Library Collections didn't include additions or revaluation increments which led to a variance of \$4.685 million, primarily due to the revaluation increment of \$2.39 million and additions of \$1.041 million.

##### Major actual (2023) and comparative (2022) variance narratives

- The Library Collections value increased by \$2.939 million in 2022-23, primarily due to a revaluation of the collection (\$2.39 million) with the balance being the net difference between additions and depreciation.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances

Variance Notes	Estimate 2023 \$'000	Actual 2023 \$'000	Actual 2022 \$'000	Variance between estimate and actual \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2023 and 2022 \$'000
<b>Statement of Cash Flows (Controlled Operations)</b>					
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>					
Service appropriation	26,663	27,620	26,772	957	848
Holding account drawdowns	1,225	1,225	1,225	-	-
Capital appropriation	392	1,402	-	1,402	1,402
State Government grants	1,010	-	125	(1,010)	(125)
Royalties for Regions Fund	250	196	220	(54)	(24)
<b>Net cash provided by State Government</b>	<b>29,540</b>	<b>30,443</b>	<b>28,342</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>2,101</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Payments</b>					
Employee benefits	G (13,261)	(13,975)	(12,623)	(714)	(1,352)
Supplies and services	H (5,353)	(5,363)	(3,966)	(10)	(1,397)
Accommodation	I (2,223)	(2,300)	(1,468)	(77)	(832)
Grants and subsidies	(8,897)	(9,366)	(9,722)	(469)	356
GST payments on purchases	(1,570)	(1,541)	(1,403)	29	(138)
Other payments	J -	(74)	(640)	(74)	566
<b>Receipts</b>					
User charges and fees	304	253	227	(51)	26
Commonwealth grants and contributions	224	218	209	(6)	9
Interest received	32	32	5	-	27
GST receipts on sales	101	77	117	(24)	(40)
GST receipts from taxation authority	1,334	1,448	1,316	114	132
Other receipts	K 454	585	951	131	(366)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(28,855)</b>	<b>(30,006)</b>	<b>(26,997)</b>	<b>(1,151)</b>	<b>(3,009)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>					
Purchase of non-current physical assets	4 (1,617)	(1,255)	(1,219)	362	(36)
<b>Net cash (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(1,617)</b>	<b>(1,255)</b>	<b>(1,219)</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>(36)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>					
Principal elements of lease payments	-	(7)	(8)	(7)	1
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(932)</b>	<b>(825)</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>(943)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>	<b>4,226</b>	<b>4,344</b>	<b>4,226</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>(118)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>3,294</b>	<b>3,519</b>	<b>4,344</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>(1,061)</b>

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2023

#### 9.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

##### Major estimate and actual (2023) variance narratives

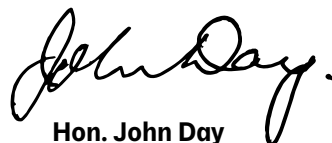
4. Purchase of non-current physical assets decreased by \$0.362 million largely due to \$0.392 being classified as capital funding in the formulation of the 2022-23 estimates. In accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 955, Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities, this was recognised as equity contributions during the FY.

##### Major actual (2023) and comparative (2022) variance narratives

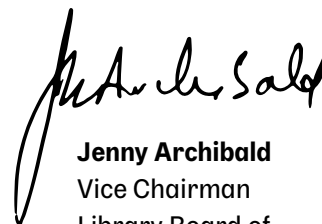
- G. Employee benefits increased by \$1.352 million due to the cost-of-living payment and salary increase by 3%.
- H. Supplies and services increased by \$1.397 million due to lower spending in 2021-22. The main reason for reduced spending in 2021-22 was due to reduced spending on the purchase of online resources to be used statewide.
- I. Accommodation increased by \$0.832 million, mainly due to expenses being accrued but not paid before the end of 2022-23.
- J. Other payments decreased by \$0.566 million mainly due to prior year performance adjustments for workers compensation insurance.
- K. Other receipts decreased by \$0.366 million mainly due to higher than actual receipts in comparative (2022).

CERTIFICATION OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Library Board of Western Australia's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Library Board of Western Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.



**Hon. John Day**  
Chairman Library Board of  
Western Australia  
7 September 2023



**Jenny Archibald**  
Vice Chairman  
Library Board of  
Western Australia  
7 September 2023

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Government Goal: Better Places: A quality environment with liveable and affordable communities and vibrant regions

Outcome 1: The Western Australian community has access to the State Library's collections, services and programs.				
<p><b>Key Effectiveness Indicator:</b> Number of State Library accesses.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> The State Library provides a wide range of information and services to the community directly from the State Library Building and online through its website and with community partners through various programs. This indicator measures the extent to which the community utilises the State Library's collections, services and programs in person and online.</p>				
<b>2022-2023 target</b>	<b>2022-2023 actual</b>	<b>Outcome against target</b>	<b>2021-2022 actual</b>	<p><b>Commentary:</b> Number of accesses to collections, services and programs was 2% below target. Main factors impacting this result include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ In person visitors to the State Library building increased 21% from the previous year. The Library experienced strong growth in visitor numbers in the second half of the year (January to June) with visitors increasing 98% over the previous year. Despite this strong year-on-year increase, the result was 30% below target.</li> <li>▣ Use of online resources continued to be strong; 61% above target with 725,000 downloads of State Library's licensed resources including the popular family history online resource, Ancestry Library Edition. Other online access saw website visitors 17% below target and social media engagements 4% below target. Overall there were 5,323,601 online accesses, 2% below the target for online accesses.</li> <li>▣ Contributing to the significant decrease in accesses compared to the previous year (2021-2022 actual compared to 2022-2023 actual) was the removal of reporting of the number of pageviews of Western Australian newspaper content via Trove. The count was not included in the 2022-2023 target and actual due to the unreliability of the count in the previous two years. If the count recorded in 2021-2022 was removed from the total for that year, then the decrease in total accesses from the previous year changes from 23% to 12%.</li> </ul>
6,215,150	6,097,974	-2%	7,958,954	
<p><b>Key Effectiveness Indicator:</b> Percentage of visitors who are satisfied with State Library services.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> This measures the extent to which the Library's collections, services and programs meet the needs of the community.</p>				
<b>2022-2023 target</b>	<b>2022-2023 actual</b>	<b>Outcome against target</b>	<b>2021-2022 actual</b>	<p><b>Commentary:</b> General satisfaction with State Library collections, facilities and services remains high.</p>
95.00%	95.24%	0.24%	94.93%	
<p><b>Key Efficiency Measure Average:</b> Cost per State Library access.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Total cost of services attributed to State Library Services divided by the number of accesses.</p>				
<b>2022-2023 target</b>	<b>2022-2023 actual</b>	<b>Outcome against target</b>	<b>2021-2022 actual</b>	<p><b>Commentary:</b> The average cost of an engagement is above target due to the number of accesses being 2% below target and the total cost of services attributed to State Library Services is 7% above target. The main factors impacting the total cost of services is a staff pay rise and cost of living payment not included in the budget.</p> <p>See commentary for the Number of State Library accesses indicator above.</p>
\$2.37	\$2.59	9%	\$1.82	

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

**Outcome 2: The Western Australian community engages with public library collections, services and programs.**

**Key Effectiveness Indicator:** Percentage of Western Australians that are a member of a public library.

**Description:** The State Library works in partnership with local governments to support community engagement with public library collections, services and programs. This measures the extent to which the community engages with the Western Australian public library network.

2022-2023 target	2022-2023 actual	Outcome against target	2021-2022 actual	<p><b>Commentary:</b> Membership data is collected from public libraries between July and September each year meaning the data is not available for reporting in the current financial year. Therefore, the indicator is calculated from averaging the previous two years library members (for example, the actual reported for 2022-2023 is calculated by dividing the membership reported for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 by two).</p> <p>Data collected by the State Library conforms with reporting requirements for the annual National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) <i>Australian Public Library Statistics</i> publication. For 2021-2022, NSLA revised their reporting requirements, and in line with this, State Library changed the wording of the definition from registered members to active members that had borrowed something (including online resources like ebooks) in the last two years. State Library collected data under the new definition for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022; this data is presented as the 2022-2023 actual. The number of public library members reported for the 2021-2022 actual and the 2022-2023 target were calculated using data collected under the old definition and as such cannot be compared to the number reported in the 2022-2023 actual as they are not based on the same definition.</p> <p>For the 2022-2023 actual reported, the number of active public library members has been calculated using the new definition. Under this new definition, the number of members reported for 2020-2021 was 692,900 and the number reported for 2021-2022 was 637,207.</p>
37.9%	23.9%	Not comparable	37.9%	

**Key Efficiency Measure:** Average cost of State Government support for public library services per public library member.

**Description:** Total cost of services attributed to Public Library Services divided by the number of library members. This cost does not include local government costs for providing public library services to their communities.

2022-2023 target	2022-2023 actual	Outcome against target	2021-2022 actual	<p><b>Commentary:</b> The indicator is above the target meaning the per capita expenditure on public library services is higher than expected, mainly due different definitions being used for the calculation of the target and the actual. See commentary for the Percentage of Western Australians that are a member of a public library indicator above.</p> <p>The total cost of services attributed to Public Library Services is 5% below target mainly due to an underspend in programs and services for public libraries and the allocation of the cost of two staff (FTE) to State Library Services.</p>
\$17.45	\$25.34	45%	\$16.20	