REPORT ON THE LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA ROADSHOWS

Background

A full report on the Libraries Australia roadshow programme is attached.

Conclusion

As a one-off exercise, the Roadshows were successfully executed and well-received. However their inherent costs make it difficult to schedule more than once every few years.

Recommendation

The Libraries Australia Advisory Committee to note the report.

Collaborative Services Branch
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September 2009
Introduction

The 2009 Libraries Australia Roadshow provided an overview of the Libraries Australia services as well as an opportunity to discuss the ways in which organisations can fully utilise the services offered. The Roadshow was intended to be informative and interactive. It was not intended to be a training session. Participants were encouraged to ask questions at any point during the presentation.

Presentations included information on:
- Libraries Australia Search
- Libraries Australia Administration
- Libraries Australia Document Delivery
- Record Import Service
- Record Export Service
- Libraries Australia Web Cataloguing
- Z39.50
- Global Changes
- Libraries Australia Cataloguing Client
- Products.

Presentations were of six hours duration. While participants were encouraged to attend for the whole day, some elected to attend for a half-day, or for the sessions in the program of most relevance to their current work. Attendance at the Roadshows was offered free of charge to Libraries Australia members.

A total of twenty-three Roadshows were conducted in every State and Territory of Australia. The Libraries Australia Roadshow facilitators travelled over 26,000 kilometres by air and road to deliver presentations to 749 staff of Libraries Australia members. (For the Libraries Australia Roadshow Schedule please see Attachment 2). This equates to an average of approximately 33 participants per venue.


The Libraries Australia Roadshow was successfully delivered on time and under budget. Total costs were $36,720.41. We are extremely grateful to our colleagues from around Australia who willingly organised and provided us with venues free of charge.
The Libraries Australia Roadshow 2009 – Facilitators

L-R behind: Mary-Louise Weight, Laurel Paton, Karen Vinoles, Julia Hickie (Collaborative Services Branch)

Front: Ian Dunn and Carol Hamilton (Database Services Branch)

Libraries Australia Helpdesk

The efforts of the Libraries Australia Helpdesk team in ensuring the successful delivery of Roadshow presentations should receive special acknowledgement. The team sent out emails to alert our members of our arrival, kept lists of participants, sent reminders to members, managed waiting lists, continued to maintain expected service levels to our members whilst covering absences of staff on the Roadshows, and dealt with an increase in queries as a direct result of the Roadshow presentations.

Customer Services Staff

L-R behind: Karen Vinoles, Laurel Paton, Leanne Sait, Sally Manning, Mary-Louise Weight, Susan Gaw

Front: Jessica Parker, Julia Hickie

Database Services Staff

L-R behind: Angela Chan, Ian Dunn, Ian Day, Belinda Diehm, Bemal Rajapatirana, Virginia James, Stuart Henderson, Debbie Hanington, Kristen Dyer

Front: Kirupaa Ragunathan, Xiaoli Li, Deborah Fuller, Melanie Satrapa, Ann Marie Boyd.
EVALUATION FORM DATA

The following is a summary of data collected from evaluation forms which were distributed to participants at each Roadshow presentation. 449 evaluation forms from a possible 749 participants were collected. This equates to a 59.95% return rate. A statistical summary is available at Attachment 1, and all comments are available on request.

Quality of Presentations

Eighty-one percent of respondents rated the quality of the Roadshow presentations as above average or excellent. No participants rated any presentations as poor.

Content

Eighty seven percent of respondents rated the meeting as above average or excellent. Thirteen percent rated the content as average, while no-one rated the content as below average or poor.
Opportunity for discussion

Ninety percent of respondents rated the opportunities for discussion as above average or excellent. The remaining ten percent rated these opportunities as average.

![Opportunity for Discussion](image)

*Figure 3: Opportunity for discussion*

Venue

Ninety-six percent of the venues were considered to be average to excellent. Only three percent were considered below average and one percent rated as poor.

![Venue](image)

*Figure 4: Venue*
ROADSHOW OVERVIEWS in CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
8 April 2009 – National Library of Australia – Canberra
Presenters were Laurel Paton, Mary-Louise Weight, Carol Hamilton, Ian Dunn
22 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Enthusiasm demonstrated in presentations – makes interesting.
• Staff knowledge and willingness to get that answer that you were after.
• Various downloading options for records.
• Informality of the meeting.

Is there anything that you would change?
• Promoting the session better, use marketing strategies like the Innovative Ideas Forum.
• Cataloguing part was very long/time consuming.
• Personally, the cataloguing/holdings material was not relevant. However, this was just because of my personal circumstances – the content seems excellent.

QUEENSLAND
Brisbane
25th May 2009 – Brisbane Square Library
Presenters were Laurel Paton and Carol Hamilton
49 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Relaxed & friendly
• The presentation covered all aspects of Libraries Australia. It was interesting to hear about the range of services
• The humour and friendliness
• Knowledge of presenters was extensive, yet they were still open to exploring gaps in their knowledge

Is there anything you would change?
• No (2)
• Maybe divide the audience a little i.e. DocDelivery is a specific facility – likewise cataloguing is of interest to a different group
• Presenters need to project voice to compensate for poor PA System
• More practical info re LADD

Any further comments
• Please provide participants with a certificate or some kind of formalised recognition
• Very useful presentation. Thank you
• Excruciatingly specific at times
• Notes linking everything together would be good

Rockhampton
26 May 2009 – Central Queensland University Library
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Carol Hamilton
18 registered attendees
What did you like most?

- The broad overview of LA and its functions.
- Tips and tricks around functionality of Admin.
- Morning tea and the session on the tabs in use.
- I liked the explanations of what features are offered through Libraries Australia. Weren’t aware of some of them.

Is there anything you would change?

- Less slides, more show less tell and add training aspect to Roadshow.
- Not really. Perhaps a chance to actually practically trying some of the features that are described.
- Maybe more practical stuff, although this was primarily not a technical session.
- No, it was great.

Any further comments

- No, other than the ladies who ran the info session were very nice and easy to approach.
- This session was very helpful for me as it explained all of the services that are available through Libraries Australia. I can now have a look at these features to see how they can be utilised in our library.
- It was great to have some training in a resource that we use often at work – as I’d never had any formal training in Lib. Aust. Before and it is rare to have professional development opportunities that come to Rockhampton – usually have to travel to Brisbane or interstate.
- I know the Help Desk number now!

Townsville
28 May 2009 – James Cook University – Daintree Room
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Carol Hamilton
14 registered attendees

What did you like most?

- Presentation style; availability of info online
- Discussion on downloading records
- Informative and friendly – opportunities for discussion
- Meet LA staff; what is around

Is there anything you would change?

- More clarity on what services are only available on subscription
- Little more time – lots of stuff to cover
- Too much cataloguing detail

Any further comments

- Thank-you for visiting Townsville
- Presentation techniques need more polish

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Alice Springs
16 June 2009 – Alice Springs Civic Centre
The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Ian Dunn
22 registered attendees
What did you like most?
- New information about LA and LADD
- Cataloguing information and answers to questions by knowledgeable speakers
- Good overview of LA Presenters answered all questions including specific technical ones
- Understanding the breadth of services offered, better big picture understanding of LA
- All of it

Is there anything you would change?
- A list of timeslots for people who cannot attend the whole session
- Microphones – difficult to hear speakers
- Not really
- Some of cataloguing modules too detailed should be included in specific training not at a general session

Any further comments
- I appreciate Alice Springs being included in the Roadshow
- I really enjoyed the day, lovely morning tea and very pleasant staff, very friendly
- Great information
- Great training, more please

Darwin
17 June 2009 – Charles Darwin University – Casuarina Campus
The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Ian Dunn
43 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- The tech talk.
- Chance to learn more of the services NLA offer, especially Customer Administration.
- Technical explanation of Cataloguing Client and importing.
- Informality of the presentation. Sense fun – little pressies for answering questions.

Is there anything you would change?
- The first part of the presentation about searches and overall overview as a bit rushed and it was hard to let information settle. The cataloguing part was very good but a bit too slow. Sorry.
- Nope.
- No, heaps to take in but a good overview.
- More time especially on searching and administration components.

Any further comments?
- I’d like to compliment the LA team for their efficient and friendly service!! Very much appreciated and very helpful.
- Excellent technical descriptions.
- Would like to see a NLA Roadshow visiting the NT once a year and what’s going on at NLA would be a great idea.
- The Roadshow should happen more regularly.
TASMANIA
Hobart
23 June 2009 – University of Tasmania – Morris Miller Library
The presenters were Laurel Paton, Karen Vinoles and Carol Hamilton
24 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Opportunity to talk to LA people.
• General overview – lots of new things for me, chance to network, informal atmosphere, ability to ask questions.
• Great presentation, liked humour and prizes, not too much detail, a good summary.
• Repeated opportunity for questions.

Is there anything that you would change?
• A short session on navigating the LA website.
• Condense the cataloguing section.
• More information on products such as ERA, GovRap, Browse – more searches and examples.

Any further comments?
• A good overview, nice, interesting presenters.
• Very pleased you conducted this Roadshow – essential. Also good to reinforce approaching the Helpdesk.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Port Augusta
21 July 2009 – Port Augusta TAFE
The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Carol Hamilton
18 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Explanations easy to understand.
• How relaxed it was! Plenty of opportunities to ask questions.
• Difficulty with presentation due to non-arrival of presenters’ luggage.
• Presenters were both warm, friendly and approachable.
• Discussion of the technical aspects of matching and uploading etc.

Is there anything you would change?
• You really need to be able to use the technology when it is being shown to you so you can ask questions.
• I need many of the acronyms explained first. I had trouble keeping up due to the jargon/library speak.
• Would have liked to see explanation of how functionality related to existing systems in SA Public libraries UC and records downloading.
• No. The session was easy to understand and well presented.

Any further comments
• A little too technical.
• I think it’s wonderful that the National Library/Libraries Australia are prepared to travel to country SA so we could all attend – THANK YOU!
• Please send out a final program for the day.
• Thanks for the opportunity to learn a bit more about Libraries Australia.
Adelaide
22 July 2009 – State Library of South Australia
The presenters were Laurel Paton, Mary-Louise Weight and Carol Hamilton
71 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• The opportunity to ask questions
• Having 3 presenters was excellent. They worked well together and with the audience interaction
• The whole presentation was informative and helpful
• The presenters are friendly and willing to answer lots of questions. Anything to do with cataloguing too – e.g. LACC I quite like also

Is there anything you would change?
• No 7
• Live demos
• Would be good to heat overviews at beginning; and for those needing the technical details in another session, especially the RES\RIS\cataloguing
• Maybe individual sessions would be better (targets more directly)

Any further comments
• The presentation was a bit too technical for me, but was very well presented
• Invite Library students through UniSA
• A very informative day!
• Thank you for an interesting and informative LA Roadshow session

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Bunbury
6 August 2009 – Bunbury City Library
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Ian Dunn
26 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• The venue and PowerPoint presentation was good
• Showing a greater depth of LA than just search and downloading
• Outline of what is available
• Approachability of LA staff – encouragement – making service accessible
• Information delivered

Is there anything you would change?
• No 4
• More interaction and some was not relevant
• I found there were many aspects of the training that didn’t apply to public libraries
• Too technical at times

Perth
7 August 2009 – State Library of Western Australia
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Ian Dunn
75 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Opportunity to meet with NLA and hear of service without hard sell
• All the information was relevant, an excellent day, thanks.
• No particular part. The presenters were very good at presenting information which could be dry and boring in an interesting and humorous way.
• Lots of opportunities to ask questions

**Is there anything you would change?**
• Live web pages would be more engaging
• It’s difficult to keep things sparkling when all the sessions are built around Powerpoint and the material, by its nature, is complex. Some live demonstrations might break it up a bit
• Perhaps divided into 2 separate sessions. 1. Overview of all LA services. 2. Details of RIS/RES process (as this was quite detailed and perhaps not relevant to all)

**Any further comments**
• The degree of involvement of individuals attending obviously determines how useful the information presented becomes. It certainly gives a good indication of the functions, etc. of LA to a novice such as myself. Thank you.
• I got a lot out of today’s session, thank you. I have looked at the site a few times and run away but I won’t run any more.
• From my point of view as a library manager, it was a useful exercise just to get a better overview of what is available and the possibility from using LA. This is pretty well what I expected. We have a close association with our council’s museum and I am hopeful that we will be encouraged to place records held about its collection on LA or PA.
• Great to meet the presenters and other attendees – had several opportunities to make new contacts/network

**VICTORIA**
Melbourne
10 August 2009 – Deakin University – Burwood Campus
The presenters were Laurel Paton, Mary-Louise Weight and Carol Hamilton.
50 registered attendees

**What did you like most?**
• Opportunities for interaction, discussion, questions
• Learning all the different aspects of LA that I had no idea about
• Total overview, friendly presenters
• Very interesting, I learned a lot I don’t use in my job

**Is there anything you would change?**
• No (4)
• Would have been better to have streams with more depth, info skimmed through and not relevant to different people
• Bigger room
• Room a little cramped

**Any further comments**
• Very happy with presentations
• I always learn new things at one of these sessions
• Thank you for the gift
• Overall an excellent overview of libraries Australia services, I now have a much better idea of how it all fits together
Geelong
11 August 2009 – Deakin University
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Carol Hamilton.
20 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- Good Overview
- GOVRAP, Deep linking, Permalinks
- Exposure to things I didn’t know
- The tag team approach, lively bunch, entertaining, prizes, tour of library

Is there anything you would change?
- Probably not much else given the time restrictions
- More discussion for LADD
- Try to stick to timeline but there were many questions/discussions so really not an issue because it was interactive and collaborative
  Ensure there is a data proj. screen visible to all at the venue at the beginning.
  Overall very enjoyable, entertaining, informative

Any further comments
- A handout might be helpful of the web site content – path to various things – to find them
  Not explaining this well
  LA Homepage > .... > .... > ....
- Would be great to organise specific information sessions, specially for LADD.
  They would be very popular
- Thank you. A worthwhile day
- Thank you!

Bendigo
12 August 2009 – La Trobe University
The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Carol Hamilton.
17 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- Information about searching records and gateways
- The 1st session was the best
- The (essential) access to PCs with WWW

Is there anything you would change?
- Perhaps more interaction or using computers
- I would have liked a section dedicated to advanced reference searching
  (making full use of functionality)
- Could the next Roadshow be organised that you only sign up for the individual sessions rather than the whole day?

Any further comments
- Stick to the program – I organised to come to the last session for VDX however it turned out to be cataloguing
- Relaxed, well paced. I was sometimes out of my depth in the second half
- Some acronyms and jargon difficult for non-cataloguers and students eg. Z39.50, OCLC, LDAP
Yallourn (Gippsland)
13 August 2009 – Gippsland TAFE – Yallourn Campus
The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Carol Hamilton.
12 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- Presenters’ approachability, knowledge and friendliness
- Handy, short cuts, tips of searching within Lib. Australia’s website
- Friendly, approachable presenters
- Excellent flow! Accessible and informative

Is there anything you would change?
- Larger screen! (will look into it)
- No 3
- Slightly slower pace
- More basic information about uploading records to LA

Any further comments
- Great day. Thanks

NEW SOUTH WALES
Wagga Wagga
19 August 2009 – Wagga Wagga City Council Meeting Room
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Carol Hamilton.
29 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- Even though some of the topics weren’t relevant to my position – I enjoyed listening to the whole presentation.
- The presenters were aware of the technical nature of their presentations and broke it up with examples and stories of real life situations (and humour!)
- So many things we did not know, fun presentation
- I wouldn’t change anything it was wonderful

Any further comments
- A very informative and entertaining day. Well done. Come back to the Riverina for an annual update session. Great presenters and great presentation.
- Enjoyed your comic approach, very informative

Orange
20 August 2009 – Charles Sturt University
The presenters were Karen Vinoles and Ian Dunn
19 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- Overview of LA services and products
- DocDel Info
- Listening to comments made by participants
- Search/LADD

Is there anything you would change?
- Check with participants about their use and then could shorten some parts of the presentation
• No
• Customise the presentation for the audience in attendance, eg. Expand when necessary and only briefly when audience doesn’t use a specific service
• Live demos of services will be very good

Any further comments
• Step through some parts was a bit tedious so knowledge of participants may help tailor this
• Thank you!
• Too much detailed work instruction given which goes in one ear and out the other
• Please try to tailor information to group (within reasonable limits)

Wollongong
24 August 2009 – University of Wollongong
The presenters were Laurel Paton, Carol Hamilton and Julia Hickie
23 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Just a good forum for asking any question that came into my mind. I like the informal atmosphere and appreciated that I could ask lay questions.
• Friendly environment, easy to ask questions.
• Presentation – was an overall view presented concisely
• No question too stupid, interactive, knowledgeable presenters.

Is there anything you would change?
• No x 8
• Not in presentation, but hope you would do a Roadshow on a regular basis.
• Accompanying documentation could be more comprehensive
• No, more informative than expected, very useful, comfortable, well organised (including preplanning)

Any further comments
• Presentation was very useful – a great idea to give libraries personal contacts and explanations of LA developments
• Roadshow great for rural communities to enable staff to attend

Sydney (1)
25 August 2009 – State Library of New South Wales
The presenters were Laurel Paton, Carol Hamilton and Julia Hickie
58 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Clear concise overview of latest developments.
• Relaxed presentation style – friendly and engaging – very informative.
• What’s behind some of the buttons I don’t usually use. Will encourage me to go and have a better look at the website.
• Opportunities for discussion and to put forward ideas for development.

Is there anything you would change?
• Nothing
• Not really.
• Have Search and Doc Del in one session and cat. in another so you can choose which is most appropriate.
• A Roadshow directed specifically at public libraries would be good. My biggest frustration is PubLibs that don’t add their holdings yet use LA for holdings info or bib records and those publibs that do not delete holdings. Can you run annual reports and see which libraries have done little or no LA deletions and get onto them? Also, it would be good to educate the new generation of pub librarian in the elements of marc records and why 005 and 008 essential – they don’t learn this stuff at library school and we are losing cataloguing skills and cataloguers. Hardly any public libraries here today and they are the ones that need to be shaken up about holdings info.

Any further comments
• LA should consider to take a leading role in co-ordinating the system vendors (major ones at least), State libraries and various library sectors to ensure the standardisation of the ILMS.
• Would like a tutorial online via Libraries Australia. Perhaps a dropdown menu of ‘where to go’ rather than a manual.
• Overall, a well presented and informative session on Libraries Australia that reminded one of the various facets of LA.
• Overall an excellent Roadshow. All presenters were very clear and easy to understand and follow. Plenty of question time.

Newcastle
26 August 2009 – University of Newcastle
The presenters were Laurel Paton, Carol Hamilton and Julia Hickie.
31 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• First session, being made aware of all information available for users
• Info on adding holdings, Doc Del
• Presentation – knowledge of presenters
• Way information was presented

Is there anything you would change?
• Demonstrations online not just slides
• No,(6)
• Perhaps a little more detail, some topics presented a little too quickly
No, maybe a session with computers to play

Any further comments
• Great presentation. Thank you for visiting your regional cousins.
• Very informative, I did learn quite a few new things

Lismore
3 September 2009 – Southern Cross University
The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Ian Dunn.
22 registered attendees

What did you like most?
• Discovering parts of LA that I didn’t realise were there
• It was friendly and professional. The 2 presenters were both excellent and the PowerPoint presentation was comprehensive and current. V. thorough. I liked the way NLA/LA staff were often pictured and named – it really personalised
LA – giving it a ‘human face’ made it seem more accessible and not ‘institutional’ or ‘monolithic’. Well done!

- It was good to learn about some of Libraries Australia services which I didn’t realise they provided
- Gaining an understanding of the big picture and how elements fit together

**Is there anything you would change?**

- More training options – self-paced modules with competency testing for those unable to attend/afford formal training
- A handout of key-points or summary would be helpful. The morning session was a lot to take in
- Not really, it was an organised talk
- No

**Any further comments**

- Pass on my thanks to the LA Helpdesk! Best Helpdesk of any organisation (Commonwealth, Government, non-profit) in Australia!
- Thank you for an enlightening presentation and for coming to our region. I learnt a great deal about the capability and services of Libraries Australia. I will probably find some of the features useful in my work esp. as a research tool
- Libraries Australia is very dynamic and forward thinking. It is responsive to change and client needs and proactive with ongoing and future enhancements. An amazing resource – I am glad I learnt more about LA’s potential and capability today
- Excellent to see the range of services on offer. Thank you for visiting regional locations

**Armidale**

1 September 2009 – University of New England

The presenters were Mary-Louise Weight and Ian Dunn.

20 registered attendees

**What did you like most?**

- The thoroughness of the presentation
- Liked being able to ask questions at any time – dialogue very helpful to highlight unknowns
- Willingness of presenters to have questions asked in sessions and undertaking to refer/respond

**Is there anything you would change?**

- Leave each slide on for slightly longer time
- A bit too detailed/slow in places
- I couldn’t read the screen
- Dynamism is engaging

**Any further comments**

- Deep linking needs to be one click from LA to local catalogue (is it on the shelves now – yes!); global update free – what a great idea
- good to see you travelling regionally – much appreciated as we usually have to travel to capital cities for any training, conferences etc – thank you

**Sydney (2)**

2 September 2009 – State Library of New South Wales
The presenters were Laurel Paton and Carol Hamilton
60 registered attendees

What did you like most?
- To be aware of all the services of LA, that I didn’t know about
- Commitment of the presenters
- Suggested scenarios made it easier to applications for the service
- The fact LA took all suggestions to improve the LA Service
- Aspects I was not aware of as they did not fall inside my area of work

Is there anything you would change?
- So much jargon
- Maintenance of our holdings on LA
- Couldn’t hear some questions, need speakers to repeat questions to audience
- Hard to hear presenters and other in room

Any further comments
- Thank you – this is a great way to research people using LA
- Presenters were interesting and had humour, makes a nice change from the usual style presentations are often presented in
- I could not hear the questions from the floor or the subsequent comments
- Took the water jugs away at lunch
Attachment 1

_Statistical analysis of evaluation forms received from all Roadshows_

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<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
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**Attachment 2**  
*Libraries Australia Roadshows 2009 Timetable*

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<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<td>8 April</td>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Canberra</td>
<td>National Library of Australia</td>
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<td>25 May</td>
<td>QLD</td>
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<td>James Cook University</td>
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<td>16 June</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td>Alice Springs</td>
<td>Alice Springs Town Council Civic Centre</td>
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<td>Port August TAFE</td>
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<td>University of Wollongong Library</td>
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<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>University of Newcastle</td>
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<td>1 September</td>
<td>Armidale</td>
<td>University of New England – Dixson Library</td>
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<td>3 September</td>
<td>Lismore</td>
<td>Southern Cross University Library</td>
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<tr>
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