



ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2011

Parkes Place

Parkes ACT 26000

Australia

T: +61 (0)2 6262 1111

F: +61 (0)2 6257 1703

W: <http://www.nla.gov.au/>

E: <http://enquiries.nla.gov.au/reft100.aspx?key=Enquiry&ref=120>

Chief Executive (Director-General): Anne-Marie Schwirtlich

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW of RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The National Library of Australia plays a major role nationally in supporting education, innovation, scholarship and creativity by providing access to a comprehensive and diverse collection of Australian and overseas documentary resources.

The Library issues a strategic directions statement every three years outlining its vision and desired outcomes for the period ahead. The most recent is for 2009-2011 (<http://www.nla.gov.au/library/directions.html>). The Library is in the process of updating the directions statement which will be completed in the second half of 2011.

Digital Library Infrastructure Replacement Project

The Library has decided to undertake a software replacement project to achieve its essential minimum digital library requirements. Software and technical systems the Library uses to collect, store and manage digital content need to be updated to deal with projected growth of those collections and to meet demand for delivery of digital content. The Library is in the initial stages of the project which is expected to take four years.

Extension of Legal Deposit

The Library is progressing the extension of Australia's legal deposit provisions to cover digital publications. Currently publishers of print publications are required to deposit a copy with the National Library. To acquire and provide access to digital publications the Library, therefore, is required to negotiate with publishers on an individual basis.

TROVE

Trove is Australia's newest discovery service. Trove gathers data from more than 1000 Australian libraries and other cultural heritage institutions and organisations, giving the public free access to over 240 million items. In May 2011 the number of information resources in Trove almost doubled, following the addition of many

millions of journal articles contained in electronic databases to which Australian libraries subscribe. (<http://trove.nla.gov.au>)

Other achievements

Other important achievements are outlined in the Library's current Year in Review statement: (<http://www.nla.gov.au/pub/yearinreview/>)

2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

The Library fulfils its role by carrying out the functions defined in the *National Library Act 1960*. The Library is a statutory authority within the Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio of the Australian Government. The Library operates within a reporting and accountability framework as set out in the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. The Library measures its activities through the Balanced Scorecard performance management system and reports to government annually through its *Annual Report* (<http://www.nla.gov.au/policy/annual.html>).

3. KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

The National Library's Fact Sheet sets out key facts and figures: (<http://www.nla.gov.au/library/factsheet.html>). The Fact Sheet will be updated by 31 July 2011 with information on the year ending 30 June 2011.

4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATING AND BUILDING COLLECTIONS

Forgotten Australians

In 2009 the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs provided a significant grant for a multi-year project to record oral history interviews with Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants — those who experienced out of home care as children — and to enable a selection of oral history interviews recorded for the 'Bringing them Home (Stolen Generations)' project to be made available online. It is expected that around 150 interviews will be conducted over the life of the project. (<http://www.nla.gov.au/oh/fafcm/>)

Federal election related material

During 2010 the Library undertook a campaign to collect material relating to the 2010 federal election. The Library has been collecting federal election ephemera comprehensively since the 1980s and has holdings dating back to 1901. (<http://www.nla.gov.au/collect/elections.html>)

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MANAGING COLLECTIONS

Resource Description and Access (RDA)

The Library has participated in the international collaborative initiative to develop RDA. The Library, in association with the Australian Committee on Cataloguing, is now developing a strategy to prepare, train and support the Australian library community for national implementation of RDA in 2011.

Collection Storage Arrangement

The Library's Collection Storage Plan aims to provide a minimum of five years growth for the collection and over the next five years annual expenditure on acquisition of storage equipment assets is expected to average \$900,000. Based on current projections, and the implementation of storage management strategies outlined in the Collection Storage Plan, the Library will require additional offsite storage by January 2015.

Digital preservation

The Library continues to develop its digital preservation program within available resources. A number of tools that support digital library management have now been developed, including an online register of information on digital carriers, a training package on the digitisation of heritage materials and a series of knowledgebases documenting what is needed to provide access to content in the Library's digital collections.

6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

Treasures Gallery

The Library is currently building two new exhibition galleries. The Treasures Gallery, opening 6 October 2011, will display many of the Library's greatest collection items including James Cook's *Endeavour* journal, in state-of-the art surroundings. The Exhibition Gallery, opening 25 November 2011, will be programmed with collection-based exhibitions and occasional Library 'blockbuster' exhibitions, and will open with *Handwritten: Ten Centuries of Manuscript Treasures from the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin*.

Digitisation

The Library's collections digitisation program continues to improve access to the collections. The Newspapers digitisation program has digitised 5 million pages of major Australian newspapers that are out of copyright, exceeding the target of 4.4 million pages by June 2011. Over the past eighteen months the Library has been working to digitise *The Australian Women's Weekly*, from 10 June 1933 to 15 December 1982, which incorporates the first 50 years of the magazine. Issues from across all 50 years became available online via Trove in November 2010.

7. COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

During 2011-2012 the Library will continue to work with partner libraries in the National and State Libraries Australasia consortium on ten projects which form a major initiative, 'Re-imagining Libraries' (<http://www.nsla.org.au/projects/rls/>).

The projects aim to better meet the needs of Australians for access to library services in the digital age. This is a major commitment for the Library which has input into all projects and is especially active in relation to *Project 1: Do it now*, *Project 3: Virtual reference*, *Project 4: Delivery*, *Project 7: Collaborative collections*, *Project 8: Description and cataloguing* and the merged *Projects 2 and 10 Open Borders Initiative*.