

# 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



## Acknowledgement of Country

Macquarie Regional Library acknowledges the traditional owners of Country in our region, and their continuing connection to land, culture, and community.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

## Member Councils



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# Our Staff

## Management

Kathryn McAlister, Manager

## Administration

Celeste Williams, Administration Officer (to February 2024)

Nadia Lowe, Administration Officer (from June 2024)

## Resources and Technology

Anne Barwick, Resources and Technology Coordinator

Helen Thompson, Resources Librarian

David MacBeth, Library Technology Officer

## Regional Library Services

Ken Klippel, Library Services and Collections Coordinator (to September 2023)

Helen Thompson, Acting Regional Library Services Coordinator (from January 2024)

Sarah Tilbrook, Regional Library Services Officer

Jade Siemsen, Marketing and Promotions Officer

Mohammed Ahmed, Marketing and Promotions Officer (Temporary Contract)

## Dubbo

Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy, Acting Dubbo Libraries Coordinator (from May 2024)

Melissa Tong, Dubbo Libraries Coordinator (to December 2023)

Samantha Starr, Dubbo Library Team Leader (from May 2024)

Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy, Acting Dubbo Library Team Leader (November 2023 - April 2024)

Vickey Foggin, Community Engagement Librarian (to July 2023)

Suzanne Samson, Children & Young People's Officer

Erin Barwick, Library Assistant

Michelle Betts, Library Assistant

Janelle Shipp, Library Assistant

Samantha Starr, Library Assistant (to October 2023)

Toni Scott, Library Assistant (from May 2024)

Nicole Meredith, Library Assistant (Part-time) (to January 2024)

Aimee Burgess-Stride, Library Assistant (Part-time) (to April 2024)

Yao Yang, Library Assistant (Part-time) (from April 2024)

Sarah Ferguson, Library Assistant (Part-time) (from May 2024)

## Wellington

Margot Drake, Branch Librarian

Anne Pope, Library Assistant (Part-time)

## Narromine

Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy, Narromine Libraries Coordinator

Erin Barwick, Acting Narromine Libraries Coordinator (from April 2024)

Samantha Starr, Acting Narromine Libraries Coordinator (November 2023 - April 2024)

Belinda Barlow, Library Assistant (Part-time)

## Trangie

Allison Nash, Library Officer (Part-time)

Vacant, Library Assistant (Part-time)

**Coonabarabran**

Leonie Heslop, Warrumbungle Libraries  
Coordinator  
Liz Cutts, Library Assistant (Part-time)

**Coolah**

Radha Theresa, Library Officer (Part-time)  
Celia Piper, Library Assistant (Part-time)

**Dunedoo**

Melissa Farrow, Library Officer (Part-time)

**Baradine**

Liz Cutts, Library Assistant (Part-time)

**Binnaway**

Dina Tommasi, Library Assistant (Part-time)

**Mendooran**

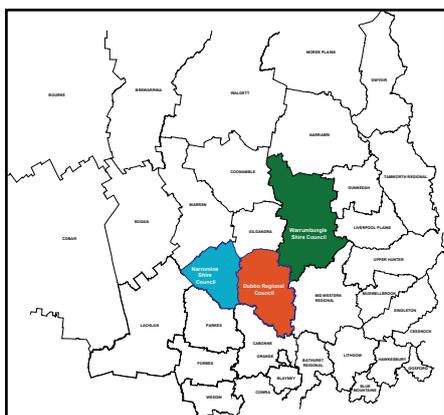
Cheryl Heslin, Library Assistant (Part-time)

**Casual Staff**

Catherine Atkinson  
Ferdous Ara Begum  
Heather Crosby  
Stacey Ferguson  
Elouise Fountain  
Nikole Green  
Erin Hall  
Jennifer Hill  
Anne Kable  
Anna Lidden  
Marie Knight  
Kathleen McCallum  
Rhiannon Malouf  
Peta Martinez  
Emma Mitchell  
Tina Pech  
Helen Shepherd



# Our Libraries



## Regional Demographics

Dubbo ABS ERP August 2023	55,894
Narromine ABS ERP August 2023	6,430
Warrumbungle ABS ERP August 2023	9,246



LIBRARY  
STAFF

Michelle  
Library Assistant

from the bestselling author of  
"Shortlisted for the Stella"  
**HURDY  
GURDY**  
AND

# The Year In Numbers

**185,037**



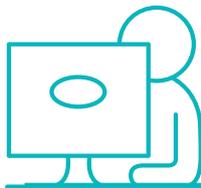
PHYSICAL  
LIBRARY VISITS

**316,290**



**LOANS**  
INCLUDING eCOLLECTION

**20,596**  
HOURS OF PUBLIC  
INTERNET USE



**93,957**



EBOOKS, EAUDIO,  
EMAGAZINES,  
ENEWSPAPERS,  
EFILMS BORROWED

**2,155**



NEW BORROWERS  
INCLUDING eMEMBERSHIPS

**16,961**



INFORMATION  
REQUESTS

**96,105**  
ONLINE DATABASE  
SEARCHES



**26,966**



**WiFi**  
LOGINS

**15,110**

PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED

**1,128** PROGRAMS  
AND EVENTS



**11,356**



ITEMS ADDED TO  
THE COLLECTION

**53,619**



WEBSITE  
SESSIONS

**7,956**



ITEMS  
PURCHASED

**29,754**



WEBSITE UNIQUE  
VISITORS

**181** ITEMS  
DONATED



**18,864**



ITEMS  
DISCARDED

**530**  
POSTS

**2,892**  
FOLLOWERS



**21,693** POST  
ENGAGEMENTS

**515**  
POSTS

**1,135**  
FOLLOWERS



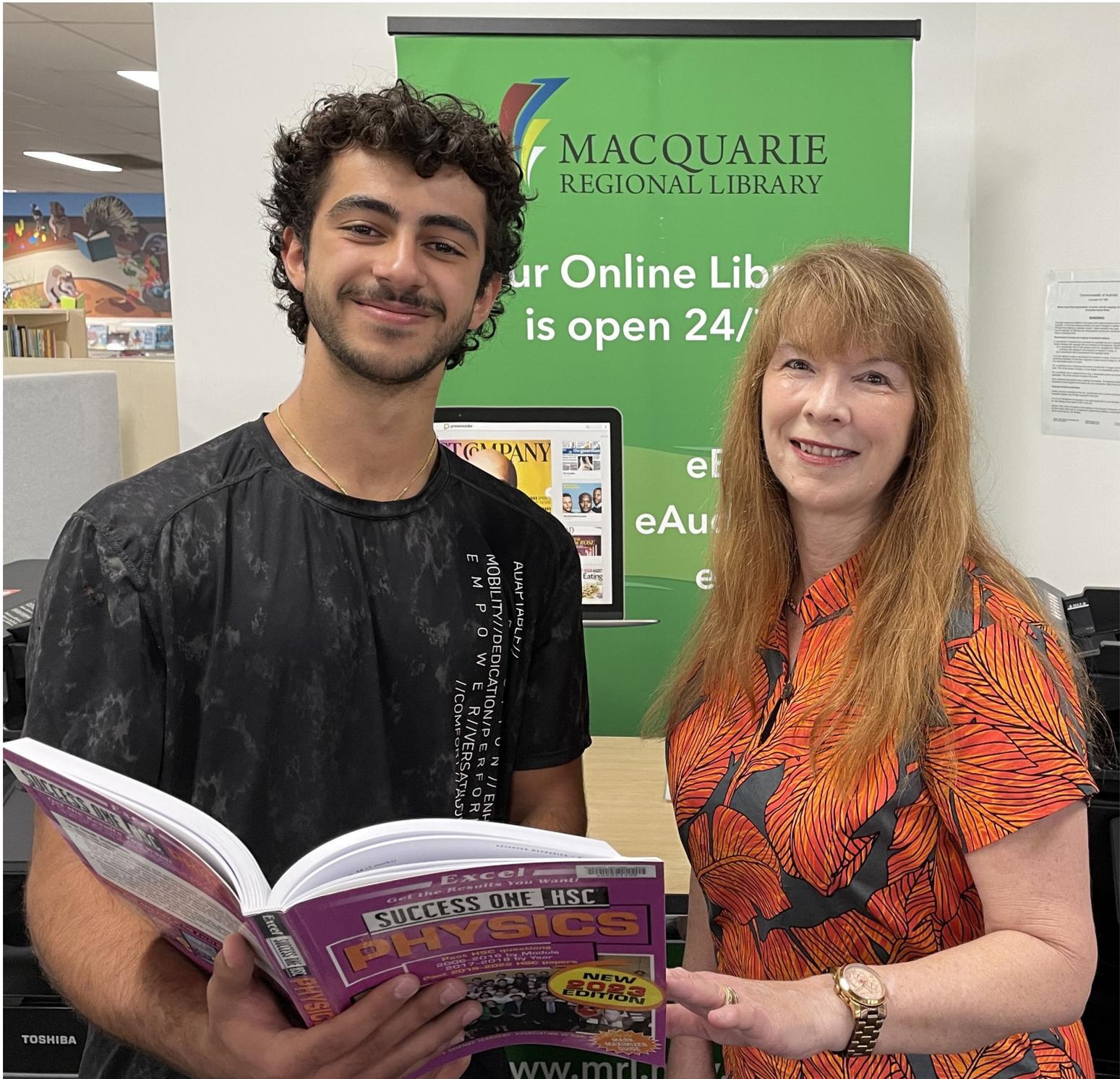
**2,317** POST  
ENGAGEMENTS

**178**  
TWEETS



**992**  
FOLLOWERS

**7,022** IMPRESSIONS



**“Engaging, Empowering, Innovating: Building a Sustainable Future for Our Communities”**

# Manager's Report

**Kathryn McAlister**

Manager  
Macquarie Regional Library

As we embraced the final year of our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan, Macquarie Regional Library (MRL) remained dedicated to our core library services and to providing our communities with engaging, informative, and quality collections, services, and programs. Our focus on community engagement was a testament to our commitment to serving and empowering our patrons.

This annual report for 2023-2024 highlights our collective achievements and the unwavering commitment of our member council libraries to our key strategic goals of engaging, empowering, and innovating. It is a celebration of our shared success and a reflection of the impact we have had on our communities.

A Library Improvement Plan was developed from the Macquarie Regional Library Service Review by the Dubbo Regional Council in 2023. The Plan outlines the timeframes for implementing a range of continuous improvement actions. A continuous improvement culture underpins the actions, providing cost efficiencies while defining and balancing library services and programs to support community needs. The Plan is priority-based, focusing on governance, planning, reporting and evaluation, people management, information technology, cyber security, and marketing. These improvement actions will ensure MRL is an innovative and sustainable library service for the future.

The ongoing 1000 Books Before School program for children from birth to 6 years, with their parents, encourages a love of reading and literature from a young age and builds early literacy skills. Regular library Storytime and Rhyme Time sessions held at branch libraries further engage children and develop literacy.

Several other reading incentive programs ran throughout the year, with the Winter Reading Program standing out as a successful all-ages program that emphasises literacy and engaged our community with reading.

The Summer Reading Club, designed to help maintain literacy levels during the summer holiday period, was a significant success. Held from December 2023 to February 2024, it provided a fun, free reading rewards program for children and young people aged 5 to 15. An Early Literacy Bingo competition for children under five was also held.

A highlight of the year was hosting celebrated author Chris Hammer at four branches as he reflected on his political journalism career and the writing of his latest novel, *The Seven*. Hosting high-calibre author talks aligns with MRL's renewed focus on providing high-quality programs in line with core library services to ensure our regional communities have access to events comparable to metropolitan library offerings.

As we continue to adapt and respond to our customers' needs, Macquarie Regional Library remains a vital, responsive part of our community. We look forward to continued success in 2024-2025.

# Engage

## PROVIDE WELCOMING AND INVITING SPACES

A number of branches made internal and external improvements to their spaces, including Dubbo Library, which has new colourful window signage and re-tiled the front entrance to increase street appeal.

Wellington Library relocated its young adult collection to a quieter area to provide youth with comfortable seating and space to relax and study.

Dubbo Library has enhanced young adult collection displays by adding colourful hero discs to highlight new and popular titles. New furniture, including reading armchairs and a breast-feeding-friendly chair for the children's area, adds to our welcoming spaces.

New flag banners are displayed outside branch libraries to promote the library, drawing awareness of its location and opening hours.





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## FORM PARTNERSHIPS WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

Our libraries have formed and maintained essential partnerships with local groups and organisations within their communities, including Coolah Historical Society, Dunedoo Historical Society and Museum, Dunedoo and Coolah Landcare group, local Inter-agency groups, Seniors Rights Service Narromine, Maranatha Aged Care Facility Wellington, Challenge Community Services Trangie, Outback Writer's Centre Dubbo, and Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre.

These partnerships have enabled involvement in joint programs, including the Dunedoo Seed Library and Dubbo Writer's Festival, and regular visits to the library by school and facility groups.

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## ENSURE OUR CUSTOMERS HAVE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

High-quality programs were held at our branches throughout the year, utilising external presenters to ensure customers had access to programs comparable with metropolitan library offerings. Highlights included author talks by leading Australian crime fiction writer Chris Hammer and author Ruth E. Wilson, cultural weaving workshops with Wiradjuri artist Ronda Sharpe, and interactive school holiday workshops presented by Reptiles on the Go and Jacqui Love Travel Bugs.

Community groups, high schools and tertiary students have heavily used our libraries' meeting rooms and library spaces.



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## EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

MRL reaches out to the community by identifying and visiting groups to raise awareness of and promote library services and programs. Outreach activities throughout the year included visits to local schools and groups and participation in community events, including the Trangie Truck and Tractor Show, Dubbo Seniors Week Festival, Narromine Dolly Parton Festival, Warrumbungle Shire Council Community Expo, International Women's Day at Wellington Library and the Dubbo New Resident's Night.

The Dubbo Children's and Young People's Officer conducted outreach sessions at local schools and community centres, including Apollo House, Dubbo Senior College, Kidscape Early Learning Centre, Insight Early Learning Centre and Dubbo Public School.

## ACKNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT THE CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES

Wiradjuri artist Ronda Sharpe presented a series of traditional weaving workshops for teens and adults at Dubbo, Narromine and Wellington libraries. Participants learnt traditional and contemporary weaving techniques using a variety of natural fibres and reclaimed materials to create baskets and bracelets. This event provided opportunities to engage with the local indigenous community.

Wellington Library staff attended the First Families family history workshop at the Maliyan Cultural Centre. This was an opportunity to network with Cultural Centre staff, Wellington Museum representatives, and DRC's Local History Officer and share information on the community's relevant local and family history resources.

The multicultural bulk loan service was coordinated and delivered to the region in conjunction with the State Library of NSW. 26 boxes were distributed throughout the year, and German, Sinhalese, and Punjabi were the most requested languages.

Celebrating NAIDOC Week, Coonabarabran locals of all ages enjoyed a bilingual storytelling session in Gamilaraay and English performed by talented local children's author, educator, and Gamilaraay woman Aunty Suellyn Tighe. At Baradine Library, NAIDOC storytime special guest Gamilaraay woman Jill Norton read a dreamtime story on the Emu in the Sky constellation, followed by an emu-making mask activity.

Harmony Week events were held across the region. Highlights included Dr My Tien giving an insight into her birth country, Vietnam, at Baradine and Teshika Samarasinghe sharing her favourite children's book in Sinhalese at a special storytime in Dubbo. The Trangie community was invited to participate in creating a Harmony banner. Forty-nine community members added their handprints to the banner, which was then displayed in the library.

The Wellington Branch Librarian engaged with Made With Marrumbang, a safe, Wellington-based Aboriginal cultural weaving and artistic workshop space for women. Topics discussed included library outreach visits to inform workshop participants about the library services and resources, including our cultural collections and literacy needs within the Aboriginal community, and welcoming workshop participants to the library for a tour.



# Empower

## DELIVER PROGRAMS THAT DEVELOP AND SUPPORT LITERACIES

The 1000 Books Before School Program continued to be a success this year. This program was supplemented by the Early Literacy Bingo Competition in conjunction with the December 2023-February 2024 Summer Reading Challenge, with high engagement and positive feedback from customers and staff. The 1000 Books Before School program provides support and incentives for parents and children to incorporate regular reading activities into their lives. Launched in November 2022, the Library had registered 878 children for the program by June 30, 2024, including 314 children who registered during this reporting period (23-24 financial year.) This program is ongoing.

Tech Help sessions remain popular with community members. They allow patrons to book a free consultative session with a staff member to assist them with their own technology, usually phones, tablets, or laptops, and increase their digital literacy, including scam awareness.

Several author talks were held at Dubbo, including Dinuka McKenzie in July, Christine Sykes in October, Joanne Austen Brown in February, Stuart Lloyd in March, Poli Sansey in May and Andrew Skeoch in June.

Additionally, author Chris Hammer visited Dubbo, Narromine, Coonabarabran, and Wellington Libraries in May. He was very well received at his talk and in-conversation events on his latest novel, *The Seven*. Funded by the State Library of NSW Local Special Priority Grant funding, this was a fantastic success, with the many attendees appreciating the opportunity to hear a high-profile author talk.





## SUPPORT LIFELONG LEARNING AND DISCOVERY

MRL provides lifelong learning events and programs for all ages, from Brain Training for seniors at Dubbo to HSC sessions for students and storytime and rhyme time for babies and preschool aged children.

At Dubbo, low-sensitivity story time sessions attended weekly by Yarwarr Community School students prior to opening hours continued to increase student confidence, comfort level in the library spaces, and interactions with staff. Buninyong Support Class also visited to familiarise themselves with the library.

Local history events are popular, and Trangie Library, in conjunction with the Trangie History Group, hosted a talk by Local History Volunteer Norma Meadley about Trangie in the 1970s. The attendees enjoyed viewing photographs and reminiscing about the period.

Coonabarabran Library held a six-week Mindfulness and Meditation program with instructor Margaret Butler funded by a National Backyard Cricket Grant. This program attracted a diverse group of regular and new library users, with over 105 attendees over the duration of the program. The sessions aimed to bring participants to the present moment, helping them manage stress, worry, uncertainty, and life's challenges and appreciate everyday life's joyful and peaceful moments.

The program was complemented by purchasing new books to guide and enhance the understanding of relaxation techniques for practising mindfulness. These titles are now available for all library users to explore. In addition, Coonabarabran Library's April school holiday activities also featured Margaret Butler, who read mindful children's books and shared mindful activities for children in the library. These activities required concentration and relaxation, including weaving and other hand-focused activities for children aged 6-12. At Dubbo, local disability support providers regularly visit the library with their clients to borrow and use the public-access PCs and Wi-Fi. Breakthru attends the library weekly to listen to audiobooks as a group. Library staff facilitate this using the e-audiobook platform Borrowbox on the library's Connect Room public computer.

Narromine Library hosted Narromine High School's Year 11 English class to investigate the library's e-resources, including the HSC Collection and the State Library of NSW HSC Resources. The students gained valuable knowledge on how to use library resources for their studies. This visit resulted in increased library memberships.

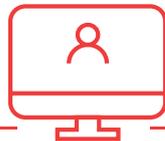
Students from St Augustine's Parish School Stage 2 and 3 Advanced Readers visited Narromine Library to allow the students the opportunity to borrow from a more extensive range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, than items available at the school library.

# SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIES AND EMPLOYMENT

The library purchased resources for the general collections and incentives for programs, including 1000 Books Before School from local book stores.

Accessing our public computers has greatly supported many local job seekers needing to create or refresh their resumes. Users can use Microsoft Word templates to help with resume creation, and library staff are available to assist users. This access is essential in smaller communities where no other computer facilities are available.

INTERNET USERS  
AT A GLANCE



**27,629**

PC/INTERNET USERS

**26,966**

HOTSPOT LOGINS





# Innovate

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## NURTURE A CULTURE OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Early Literacy story kits are being developed to provide additional resources for families to support the development of early literacy skills. These themed kits will include books, puppets, and toys designed to appeal to young children.

The MRL Staff Development Day was held in February, and all staff undertook DiSC Assessment Training. This training focuses on teamwork, group dynamics, and communication, helping staff understand their behaviour, communication, and work style. Staff have also completed Continuous Improvement workshops.

Several staff have had the opportunity to undertake temporary roles at different branches within the organisation. This has provided unparalleled staff development opportunities and increased skills across the organisation. Staff have also completed external tertiary studies, including Dubbo Team Leader, who finished the Library and Information Services Diploma, and the Resources Librarian, who completed a Master of History.

High-contrast board books are now linked with the subject heading “High-contrast books” to assist staff and customers in catalogue searching. These books generally feature black-and-white imagery or bold contrasting colours and are great for babies.

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## PROACTIVELY RESPOND TO TRENDS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Public library spaces are increasingly crucial for a variety of community uses. Coonabarabran Library now includes a small meeting room with a large smart screen, which the public can use for online meetings and library programs.

Overdrive introduced auto reservation of e-magazine issues into the Libby e-resource platform in October 2023. Usage statistics show a 50% increase in e-magazine loans since implementation, indicating a large adoption of this feature by MRL users.

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## OPTIMISE EXISTING AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

The introduction of Princh mobile printing software in May significantly increased printing efficiency from the community's mobile devices, including direct printing from smartphones and laptops. Increasing numbers of community members are visiting the library to print from phones. The Princh technology is user-friendly and has greatly improved the speed of documents being queued and made available for release to print.

Throughout the year, changes have been made to implement technology to improve customer services and experiences, including updated public access PCs, new chrome books for public use at Coonabarabran and Baradine, wi-fi printing enabled at Baradine, and the introduction of Humanitix event booking software to promote and manage bookings for library events.



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## PROVIDE NEW AND INSPIRING USER EXPERIENCES

Summer Reading Club was held over the summer school holidays from December 2023 to February 2024 using the online Beanstack reading log. Excellent results were achieved, with 502 Registrations and 5,050 virtual badges (Prize entries) earned.

For the first time, a Winter Reading Program was successfully held for both adults and young people from July to August 2023. 168 registered participants, 2,881 virtual badges, and 61,374 minutes of reading logs were completed.

**61,374**  
MINUTES OF READING  
LOGGED

Dunedoo Branch held a Tech Savvy Festival with four programs in one day. Participants learned how to develop searching skills to find their ancestors using TROVE and Ancestry Library Edition. Other topics covered included how to use smartphones and an introduction to robotics.

In April, Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum Committee launched the book *Wildflower Gems from Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum* at the Wellington Library. An enthusiastic group enjoyed meeting authors John and Alice Newton and guest speaker Karen Wilson, Botanist and Research Scientist (retired) from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

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## BUILD STAFF CAPACITY TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT AND EVALUATE NEW IDEAS AND SERVICES

The TAFE NSW Early Childhood Literacy Program Report (August 2023) was reviewed, and staff visited the TAFE Early Childhood Dubbo Campus to view their literacy program space and document ideas for improvement to MRL spaces. A recommendations report detailing improvements to branch children's library spaces in accordance with TAFE Early Literacy Consultation recommendations was prepared, and preferred items for purchase were included.

Acting Narromine Libraries Coordinator Samantha Starr participated in the Rural Management Challenge State Finals in February 2024 as part of the Dubbo Regional Council Team.

Staff continued to seek training and professional development opportunities, including the NSW State Library's Reference Excellence course, the NSW Public Libraries Switch conference, and the SPYDUS Library Management System user conference.



# OUR PERFORMANCE

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# STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

## Statistical Profile

	2023-2024
Population served	71,570
Area (square kilometres)	25,180
Staff Positions	23.88 (FTE)
Registered borrowers	35,527
Visitations to the Branch Libraries	185,037
Loans	316,290
Information requests	16,961
Items catalogued	11,527
Items discarded	18,864
Total items held	174,303
Web (e-Resources)	26,158

## eResources Loans

eAudio	30,402
eBooks	18,917
eMagazines	9,180
eFilms	4,635
eNewspapers	30,823
Total:	93,957

## Resources and Collections

Total items ordered	7,956
Total purchased items catalogued	11,356
Total donated items catalogued	181
Total items discarded	18,864

# DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Population served: 55,849  
(ABS Regional population, 2021-22 - Released 31 August 2023)

DUBBO	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	23,734
Visitations	103,101
Loans	140,704
Information requests	8,415
Items held	68,298
PC/internet users	15,051
Hotspot logins	13,858
Events/Activities/programs	446
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	7,839

WELLINGTON	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	3,056
Visitations	20,342
Loans	15,505
Information requests	2,288
Items held	17,954
PC/internet users	4,073
Hotspot logins	2,653
Events/Activities/programs	91
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	898

# NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL

Population served: 6,430  
(ABS Regional population, 2021-22 - Released 31 August 2023)

NARROMINE	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	2,793
Visitations	25,129
Loans	13,841
Information requests	2,006
Items held	15,533
PC/internet users	3,708
Hotspot logins	2,428
Events/Activities/programs	206
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	3,374

TRANGIE	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	743
Visitations	2,867
Loans	3,612
Information requests	387
Items held	7,677
PC/internet users	801
Hotspot logins	1,461
Events/Activities/programs	70
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	410

# WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Population served: 9,246

(ABS Regional population, 2021-22 - Released 31 August 2023)

COONABARABRAN	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	2,745
Visitations	24,074
Loans	15,737
Information requests	1,979
Items held	14,231
PC/internet users	2,976
Hotspot logins	2,350
Events/Activities/programs	210
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	2,046

COOLAH	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	1,058
Visitations	4,263
Loans	4,892
Information requests	1,114
Items held	9,199
PC/internet users	1,533
Hotspot logins	1,038
Events/Activities/programs	81
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	381

DUNEDOO	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	671
Visitations	3,843
Loans	4,614
Information requests	624
Items held	7,506
PC/internet users	1,374
Hotspot logins	610
Events/Activities/programs	58
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	475

BARADINE	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	419
Visitations	1,082
Loans	1,324
Information requests	112
Items held	4,035
PC/internet users	N/A
Hotspot logins	1,909
Events/Activities/programs	30
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	326

BINNAWAY	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	135
Visitations	119
Loans	238
Information requests	4
Items held	1,560
PC/internet users	N/A
Hotspot logins	N/A
Events/Activities/programs	0
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	0

MENDOORAN	
	2023 - 2024
Registered borrowers	173
Visitations	217
Loans	835
Information requests	44
Items held	2,152
PC/internet users	N/A
Hotspot logins	659
Events/Activities/programs	1
Attendees at Events/ Activities/Programs	1

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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**MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY**

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**MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY**  
**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
User charges and fees	48,891	41,062
Interest	122,306	85,645
Grants and contributions	3,537,214	3,505,060
Other revenue	25,252	25,190
<b>TOTAL REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>3,733,663</b>	<b>3,656,957</b>
<b>EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
Employee costs	2,452,556	2,492,979
Materials and contracts	494,822	546,490
Depreciation and amortisation	376,781	339,953
Other expenses	172,490	174,658
Loss / (gain) from the sale of assets	(181)	1,234
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>3,496,468</b>	<b>3,555,314</b>
<b>SURPLUS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$237,195</b>	<b>\$101,643</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash assets	2	2,629,796	2,306,143
Receivables	3	8,618	23,587
Inventories	4	1,668	5,697
Other assets	5	38,966	35,974
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>2,679,048</u>	<u>2,371,401</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	6	1,109,125	1,180,899
Other assets	5	40,456	40,456
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,149,581</u>	<u>1,221,355</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>3,828,629</u>	<u>3,592,756</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	7	189,659	183,348
Provisions	8	641,611	641,436
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>831,270</u>	<u>824,784</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	8	26,494	34,302
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>26,494</u>	<u>34,302</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>857,764</u>	<u>859,086</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>\$2,970,865</u>	<u>\$2,733,670</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		<u>2,970,865</u>	<u>2,733,670</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>\$2,970,865</u>	<u>\$2,733,670</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1. SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The significant policies that have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are:

1.1 Basis of Preparation

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

These special purpose financial statements have been prepared for distribution to the member Councils.

The Library is deemed to be a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing these financial statements.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for:

- certain financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss and available for sale financial assets, which are all valued at fair value.
- the write down of any assets on the basis of impairment (if warranted), and
- certain classes of non-current assets that are accounted for at fair value.

1.2 Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. Accordingly, this requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Library's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have an impact on the Library and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

1.3 Goods and service tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST) except where the GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item as applicable. Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

1.4 Revenue

*User charges and fees*

User charges and fees are recognised as revenue when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

*Other revenue*

Other revenue is recognised as revenue when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

*Grants*

When grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied.

## MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024  
(Continued)**

**1. SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (Continued)****1.4 Revenue (Continued)**

The performance obligations are varied based on the agreement. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received up front for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others

*Contributions*

Control over contributions is normally obtained upon their receipt and revenue is recognised at this time and is valued at the fair value of the granted or contributed asset at the date of transfer.

*Interest*

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

**1.5 Receivables**

Receivables are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting date which are classified as non-current assets.

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

**1.6 Property, plant and equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are held at fair value.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight line basis. Major depreciation periods are:

Motor vehicles	5 years
Office furniture	10 years
Office equipment	5 years
Library books	5 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These are included in the Income Statement.

**1.7 Payables**

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Library prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid. These amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

**1.8 Provisions***Short-term benefits*

Provision is made for the Library's obligations for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries, annual leave and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

## MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024  
(Continued)

## 1. SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (Continued)

## 1.8 Provisions (Continued)

*Other long-term employee benefits*

The Library classifies employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements as other long-term benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Provision is made for the Library's obligation for other long-term employee benefits, which are measured at the present value of the future expected payments to be made to the employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, duration of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Library's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current in its statement of financial position, except where the Library does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current liabilities.

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>2. CASH ASSETS</b>		
Cash on hand and at bank	\$2,629,796	\$2,306,143
<b>3. RECEIVABLES</b>		
Trade and other receivables	\$8,618	\$23,587
<b>4. INVENTORIES</b>		
Inventories	\$1,668	\$5,697
<b>5. OTHER ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Prepayments	\$38,966	\$35,974
<b>Non-current</b>		
Shares in unlisted companies – State Cover	\$40,456	\$40,456

## MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024  
(Continued)

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Plant and equipment	37,356	37,356
Less accumulated depreciation	(10,206)	(5,748)
	<u>27,150</u>	<u>31,608</u>
Office equipment	360,981	370,252
Less accumulated depreciation	(281,057)	(259,017)
	<u>79,924</u>	<u>111,235</u>
Office furniture	74,241	54,577
Less accumulated depreciation	(22,449)	(17,589)
	<u>51,792</u>	<u>36,988</u>
Library books	3,277,113	3,245,880
Less accumulated depreciation	(2,326,854)	(2,244,812)
	<u>950,259</u>	<u>1,001,068</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>\$1,109,125</u>	<u>\$1,180,899</u>
<b>7. PAYABLES</b>		
Trade and other payables	<u>\$189,659</u>	<u>\$183,348</u>
<b>8. PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Employee leave entitlements	<u>\$641,611</u>	<u>\$641,436</u>
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Employee leave entitlements	<u>\$26,494</u>	<u>\$34,302</u>

*End of the Audited Financial Statements*

# Luka Group

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL ADVISERS

*...making it easy!*

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY

### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements, being special purpose financial statements of Macquarie Regional Library, which comprise the balance sheet as at 30 June 2024 and the income statement, a summary of material accounting policy information and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, the financial statements of Macquarie Regional Library present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Macquarie Regional Library as of 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

### Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of Macquarie Regional Library in accordance with the auditor independence requirements and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describe the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial statements have been prepared for distribution to the members of Macquarie Regional Library. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the members of Macquarie Regional Library or for any purpose other than for which the statements were prepared.

### Management Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The management committee of Macquarie Regional Library are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and have determined that the basis of preparation as described in Note 1 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The management committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the management committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that gives it a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the management committee are responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management committee either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY  
(Continued)**

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our objectives 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 our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. 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.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during the audit.

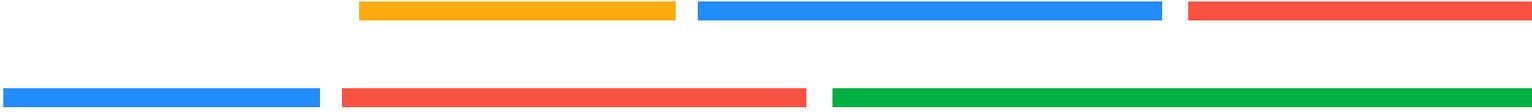


**LUKA GROUP**

7/30 Blueridge Drive  
Dubbo  
Dated: 13 December 2024



**JM SHANKS  
PARTNER**



# Macquarie Regional Library

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Cnr Macquarie and Talbragar Streets, Dubbo

02 6801 4501  
info@mrl.nsw.gov.au

mrl.nsw.gov.au

Dubbo  
Cnr Macquarie and  
Talbragar Streets  
02 6801 4510

Wellington  
Cnr Percy & Maughan  
Streets  
02 6840 1780

Narromine  
31 Dandaloo Street  
02 6889 1088

Coolah  
59 Binnia Street  
02 6377 1910

Dunedoo  
42 Bolaro Street  
02 6375 1468

Mendooran  
57 Bandulla Street  
02 6886 1657

Baradine  
13-15 Wellington Street  
02 6843 1947

Coonabarabran  
50 John Street  
02 6842 1093

Binnaway  
3 Renshaw Street  
02 6844 1733

Trangie  
Dandaloo Street  
02 6888 7501

