

DIRECTLINE

Disruption is the reality we all wake up to every day, and it is terrific to see the many ways that library and information professionals are embracing the government's challenge for Australia to be agile and innovative in this rapidly changing environment.

On 7 November, ALIA, its Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA) and the National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) co-hosted a dinner in the Mural Hall at Parliament House, in Canberra, to celebrate the role of our public libraries (see page 10). It was an opportunity to talk about innovation and achievement in relation to public, school, academic and government libraries with VIP guests from the government departments and agencies, the book industry, GLAM sector, early literacy organisations and those involved with digital inclusion and digital transformation.

Special guests were the Hon Craig Laundy MP (Assistant Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science) and Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Shadow Attorney-General. Both spoke of the value of libraries, not only as sources of quality information and providers of digital access but also as community hubs.

For this event, we produced a document titled '10 ways that libraries power Smart Cities'. It was a simple summary of the role of libraries in reading, learning, digital technologies, economic prosperity, equality, supporting the creative industries and providing a focal point to help create a strong sense of community. Both politicians expressed their understanding and appreciation of the contribution that libraries can make in many different settings – school, public and parliamentary libraries, together with the National Library of Australia and the Trove platform, came in for specific mentions.

Library colleagues from across Australia travelled to Canberra to be part of the Parliament House dinner and to help create a memorable advocacy event on a grand scale. It was evidence, once again, of our mantra that 'together we are stronger'.

In 2017, ALIA will be celebrating its 80th anniversary, and our theme isn't '80 years old', it's '80 years strong', because working together, as ALIA, APLA and NSLA have shown, we can achieve so much more than we can on our own. 🇦🇺

SUE MCKERRACHER

ALIA CEO

sue.mckerracher@alia.org.au



Education for 21st century libraries



Diploma of Library and Information Services
BSB52115



Certificate IV in Library and Information Services
BSB42115



Certificate III in Library and Information Services
BSB31215



Certificate II in Library and Information Services
CUA20515

Already qualified? Develop your skills by undertaking individual units from any of our courses.
Experienced with no qualification? Talk to us about Recognition of Prior Learning

Download our free guide to attracting, upskilling and retaining 21st century library staff.

go to <http://learn.ltsa.edu.au/alia17>



www.ltsa.edu.au
1300 17 15 60



RT0 ID: 32275