



South Coast Cooperative Libraries



Annual Report 2022-23



Shoalhaven
City Council

KIAMA
MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this country and their continuing connection to the land through culture and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

“I love Shoalhaven library. My entire family loves reading and so we are often there. The staff are really friendly and super helpful, whether it’s tracking down the location of a book, recommending a book to try or holding a requested book. I always enjoy my visits to the library.”

Ruth

Cooperative Manager’s Report

Libraries are a smart investment, transforming lives and communities and passionately advocating for lifelong learning. In 2022-23 Australians made more than 56 million physical visits to libraries, enjoyed nearly 5 million hours of internet and Wi-Fi access and booked over half a million hours in meeting spaces in public libraries. They also ran more than 259,000 programs and made available over 42 million collection items.

Our public libraries are for everyone in the community. They run programs aimed at people in all stages of life and cover topics ranging from early literacy to aged care reform. They play a key role in bridging the digital divide by providing access to computers and Wi-Fi, and through their professional staff who can work with people to build digital ability. Libraries and information services are welcoming, inclusive and safe places where all Australians have the freedom to choose what they read. Libraries are essential for providing people in the community with accurate information and skills so they can learn, consider and make decisions about the future. Where else can you learn about the past, read or watch the latest book or movie, or participate in a community event?

South Coast Cooperative Libraries continue to provide a wide and contemporary range of resources both in physical and digital formats. In this financial year over 15,000 new physical items were added to the collection, offering customers a total physical collection of over 163,000 items. In addition to this, there were 156,000 eBook and eAudiobook titles to be borrowed and over 128,000 eMagazines that could be accessed. This split of physical and digital titles is reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure we are providing the appropriate resources for all members of our community.

As always, a big thank you to partner Library Manager Michelle Hudson and her team for their ongoing collaboration and support.

Please take the time to read this Annual Report, which highlights the myriad services, resources and programs that are provided free to the community through their public library service.

Sarah Taylor
Manager
South Coast Cooperative Libraries

Shoalhaven Libraries Annual Report 2022-23



Shoalhaven Libraries' branches are welcoming, safe and vibrant places that enable our community to thrive and grow. They are highly valued community facilities that provide spaces, services and programs that are community driven.

Shoalhaven Libraries continue to offer a wide range of activities, events, programs and services across all branches, responding to evolving community needs through both physical and digital initiatives to promote literacy, engagement, and accessibility for all our library patrons.

A notable addition to our suite of programs and services this year has been the launch of The Book Bar. This new service ensures that popular and new book releases are readily available to customers, which reduces waiting times, and makes it convenient for readers to access in-demand titles, with new titles being regularly added.

We have also been working on updating the Shoalhaven Libraries Strategic Plan. This new plan has selected five key priorities of *People, Collection, Spaces, Technology, and Programs* and developed actions to achieve desired outcomes for the community in these focus areas. To inform this plan, consultation and engagement has been undertaken via a Customer Survey, staff workshops, analysis of industry trends and strategic alignment with Shoalhaven City Council's Community Strategic Plan. This feedback helps ensure that the library's strategic direction meets the community's needs and expectations. It is a roadmap that provides clear direction on the future priorities of the library service over the next three years and articulates the objectives and actions that will be required to achieve the desired outcomes. It incorporates the values that library staff have chosen to embody in their work, with a strong focus on customer service, inclusion, collaboration and ensuring our services and programs are community driven.

Design work for the new Sanctuary Point Library continues to progress. This development will be a transformational project for the broader Bay and Basin community and forms a significant role in placemaking in the Sanctuary Point CBD, that will contribute to greater activation of this space. The library and associated community facilities will create a focal point and hub providing an accessible and inclusive range of services and activities, many of which are free, and therefore fee will not be a barrier to participation. The project will provide a range of economic and social benefits and will respond to high levels of socio-economic and health disadvantage in the region. In addition to Council funding, we were fortunate to receive a Public Libraries Infrastructure Grant for \$450,000, which will be used for the fit out of the new library.

Events & Programs

Throughout this year we have held over 565 events both in our libraries and out in our communities, engaging with over 9,100 people.

During NAIDOC Week, we hosted local group Gadhungul Murring who ran creative, interactive workshops for children at all our branches, sharing stories and assisting children in designing and decorating boomerangs to take home. This was a fun and hands-on way to teach the significance of boomerangs in Indigenous Australian culture.

In July we also celebrated Library and Information Week. This year's theme was *'Rewrite, Renew, Reimagine'*, and Nowra Library created an engaging display of modern retellings of classic novels, which was a fantastic way to connect literature across generations.

Children's Book Week was bigger and better than ever. This year's theme was *'Dreaming with eyes open'* and there were special storytimes, competitions for children of all ages, beautiful displays at all our libraries and our famous reader's theatre performances for local schools - both in the library and on the road. The Book Week Roadshow is highly anticipated by local schools and this year the library took the roadshow to ten locations around the Shoalhaven and performed to over 1,300 local students and their teachers.

Regular events held at our libraries include craft sessions for adults and weekly knit-ins, Coding Club, LEGO Clubs and robot workshops, as well as Rhymetimes and Storytimes, and during the school holidays we run many fun and creative sessions. The library embraces online platforms by producing and hosting storytimes on Facebook. The inclusion of Auslan interpretation demonstrates our commitment to accessibility and inclusivity, thanks to the support of ALIA and Deaf Connect.



We love collaborating with our communities and over the past year have joined forces with South Coast Writers Centre to facilitate writing workshops, with well-known authors such as Alison Tait and Gabby Stroud for young adults, and with GRIT to run resilience workshops for children. We held a special Speechie Library Talk Storytime with a guest storyteller, local speech pathologist Christopher Bogg, who read some stories and discussed how caregivers can support their child's language and literacy development. Nowra and Ulladulla Libraries invited artist Glenn Kilby to lead portrait sketching workshops, and we also held a 'Plant Your Feet' session in Ulladulla where the community could sgraffito (scratch), add to, stamp, draw, paint or write on a terracotta tile, reflecting on their connection to the Shoalhaven. Glenn Barkley and Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Artist Educators, Penny Craig and Nicole Ison were there to introduce the participants to making with clay and all decorated tiles were exhibited in Plant Your Feet, curated by Glenn Barkley at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in Nowra. In conjunction with Salt Care, a homelessness session was held at Nowra Library. Stories were shared by people of the Shoalhaven experiencing homelessness, with information provided on local assistance available. And finally, Ulladulla Library held a free workshop with guest presenters from Repower Shoalhaven sharing their advice on some simple ways to save money, make your home more efficient and ditch fossil fuels, covering everything from electric heating and cooling systems to electric bikes, cars and home solar.

Winter was celebrated at all our libraries with a range of programs for young and old. Our winter school holiday program included Winter Art, Kaleidoscopes and Whizz Bang Fizz sessions, and a Winter Solstice Storytime was held at Sanctuary Point Library. Our annual Winter Warmers competition was held across all our libraries with some amazing knitters and crocheters entering their creations. 123 items were received for the competition, along with approximately 40 additional pieces donated without an entry. Following the competition, items were donated to local charities, including the Ulladulla Resource Centre and Milton Hospital Renal Ward, for distribution to those in need across the local area.

During June the world celebrated LGBTQ+ Pride Month, honouring the journeys of LGBTQ+ individuals and embracing a larger movement for love, acceptance, and equality for all. We held our first Queer & A evening at Nowra Library in October. It was a great evening where we were able to listen to a panel of queer local community members answer questions and enjoy a drag performance.

Libraries play an important role in providing access to accurate, contemporary, and practical information and to this end various community talks were held throughout the year on a wide variety of topics. These included information sessions on chronic pain; drugs, alcohol, and wellbeing; online scams; vaping; and dementia information sessions including the topics 'What is dementia?', 'Reduce your risk' and 'Building dementia friendly communities'.

Author Talks

The library continues to promote local authors and foster a love of books and literacy in the community by hosting talks and book launches from a wide range of authors, who this year included Kaye Johnston, Adam



Courtenay, Kate Forsyth, poet Peter Bakowski, Julie Bennett, Bill 'Swampy' Marsh, Jackie Bailey, Gillian Wells, Scott Newman, Irene Wilkie, and Tori Haschka, just to name a few.

One of our biggest events was 'Bookfest', which was a fantastic morning held at Nowra Library. This was a showcase of local authors and illustrators in a panel discussion allowing attendees to hear a little about each author and their book(s). The audience were given a chance to ask questions throughout and support the authors by buying their books. Shoalhaven Libraries also purchased copies of the books for the collection so our community can 'Borrow Local'.

In September we hosted a storytelling event for the recently published book 'Our Common Threads', in which 38 South Coast women shared stories of connection through their textile art. These personal and often generational stories of meaning foregrounded the unique expression of women's histories and how their handmade creations can communicate love and relationships. This was a powerful and emotional session for all who attended.

Our Local Heritage Librarian, Megan Crook, launched local historian Alan Clark's latest book 'Delivering the News' at the Nowra Museum with more than 40 people in attendance, including descendants of people featured in the book. This book explores the fascinating history of the Shoalhaven press and its community minded people.

These are all wonderful ways to promote reading and support local talent.

Technology

Shoalhaven Libraries offer various initiatives and programs to support digital technology and create lifelong learning for their patrons. Shoalhaven Libraries places a strong emphasis on digital assistance and training, addressing the high demand for these services as we continue to receive requests for help and support. Libraries are viewed as accessible and trusted community institutions and play a vital role in helping individuals become proficient digital citizens.

Tech Savvy Seniors classes were held during February and March, offering a range of classes for our senior community. Sessions ranged from an *'Introduction to Social Media'*, *'Introduction to Online Shopping'*, *'Introduction to Cyber Safety'* to *'Managing your Digital Assets'*. These sessions were made available following the receipt of grant funding from the NSW Government and Telstra, managed by the State Library of NSW.

Our Tech Help sessions have been extended to include Ulladulla and Sanctuary Point Libraries, where community members can receive 15 minutes of free assistance from library staff for their digital needs, and this year we celebrate 10 years of offering this service to our patrons at Nowra Library.

Get Online Week, Safer Internet Day and National eSmart Week were all celebrated with lots of fantastic activities on offer, which included free morning teas with online games to try, and free webinars on eSafety and related topics that enhance the online safety of the community, such as *'eSafety 101'*, *'Setting your child up for success online'*, *'Getting the most out of Gaming'* and *'Navigating online Friendships'*.

Utilising grant funding received from the Good Things Foundation, Be Connected classes were held at our Sanctuary Point and Ulladulla Libraries. Classes were free and assisted patrons navigating the online world, which can be tricky at first, but this series of classes helped teach the essential skills to get started online.

Local Heritage

The oral history project *'Multicultural Shoalhaven'*, created with help from the State Library of New South Wales, is now complete and available on our catalogue to listen to and be fascinated by the stories of Shoalhaven immigrants. These stories capture the diverse cultural heritage of our area. Our oral history collection continues to grow with voices from the local community.

In August we celebrated National Family History Month and promoted free online events and family history resources available at the library. Then in September we were extremely excited to launch a Community Cookbook created as a part of History Week, now available as an eBook on our digital platform BorrowBox.

Our local heritage room featured various displays, courtesy of a local collector and the Shoalhaven Historical Society, and our weekly Flashback Friday posts shared snapshots of life in the Shoalhaven in years gone by.

Collection

Our BorrowBox platform has been expanded to include eMagazines. BorrowBox is now our go-to destination for ALL our eMagazines, giving borrowers the best digital library experience possible.

Our collections have also had some new items added to them. We have new energy kits available to borrow, with each kit containing a 10 Amp Powermate to help measure power consumption, a thermometer to help assess surfaces and appliances, a water flow measuring cup to assess water usage, and a guide to assist in calculating your energy and water use.



In November we were lucky enough to receive a National Backyard Cricket grant. The funds were spent on 5 envoy players, which are devices for the vision impaired allowing them to download eAudiobooks, 5 CD players to loan out to housebound borrowers so they can play Audiobooks, as well as a television for Nowra Library to promote our upcoming programs and events. National Backyard Cricket aims to level the global playing field of education in cricket playing countries, promoting education and inclusivity.

We also asked our community for feedback about the types of events they would like to see at their local library branch in 2023. Community members could pick up a survey at their local branch, download a hard copy from our website or complete the survey online. One survey respondent won a fantastic book pack and the information collated has helped inform our future events program for 2023.

Staff

As always, a big thank you to everyone involved in the work that Shoalhaven Libraries do. Our libraries provide a valuable service to the community, playing a crucial role in fostering a love for learning, providing access to information, and creating a sense of community. We all love our library service and look forward to our future opportunities and projects.

It's also truly wonderful to have many dedicated and talented volunteers who generously offer their time to support the library. Volunteers play a vital role in enhancing library services. The contributions of these volunteers not only benefit the library but also create a stronger sense of community involvement and connection.

It's been another fantastic year for Shoalhaven Libraries and I look forward to engaging with our community in new and exciting ways in the future.

Sarah Taylor

Manager
Shoalhaven Libraries

Kiama Library Annual Report 2022-23



Once again our libraries continue to be safe and welcoming places for our community to gather, learn and create. Newborn infants are welcomed to our community by receiving a library bag and brochures as well as a board book distributed by the Early Childhood nurse on their first visit. 60 of our Home Library members receive a fortnightly visit with a personalised selection of over 11,000 items library materials. Library programs are certainly not confined to our physical buildings!

212 community programs have been held across our libraries during the last year with over 7,660 people attending. Our programs range from author talks, Book Club groups, writing workshops, exhibitions and so much more. 127 Early Literacy programs were provided and enjoyed by more than 2900 attendees. Our very popular School Holidays activities featured a range of programs including family Lego nights, robotic workshops and 3D printing activities that were enjoyed by 812 children. Our Escape Room programs are becoming somewhat of a school holiday tradition with this year's Marvel theme being very popular as 27 family groups set about finding clues and solving puzzles in order to complete the challenge.

The Makers and Creators programs attracts an audience of non-traditional library users who have enjoyed creative journaling, making clay ornaments, using Canva and creating mandalas amongst many other activities. One of our most recent innovative and successful programs has been the Death Café. This program is run in partnership with Illawarra-Shoalhaven Compassionate Community and provides a welcoming safe and relaxed space where participants enjoy open, light and relaxed conversation on death, dying and end of life. People can share a story if they wish, or just listen and observe. This has been a great collaboration between our libraries and community groups to foster open conversations and an exchange of ideas in a safe environment.

Our Friends of Kiama Library audiences have enjoyed a series of author talks including local author and former Council Director our Mario Vallejos, Sue Williams author of historical fiction Elizabeth & Elizabeth, Meredith Jaffe and Ryan Butta. It's been great to see our communities returning to enjoy author presentations and catching up over delicious afternoon teas. Our libraries were also involved in a number of book launches including Holly Throsby and Tori Hashka along with Gerringong locals Lyn Beehan and Jim Eames.

“It is a treat for me to visit the library- the staff are always cheerful & helpful! Exploring the aisles and looking for another adventure hidden in the pages of the books lifts my days.”

Mary

Our libraries have also participated in the Great Book Swap as a way of celebrating reading locally and raising much-needed funds to provide culturally relevant books to children in remote communities. People were encouraged to swap one of their favourite books in exchange for a gold coin donation while also selecting their next great read.

The library has produced the second series of the podcast Good Librations. Over the 12 episodes library staff discuss all things book, reading and libraries related and have achieved an amazing 500 downloads to date.

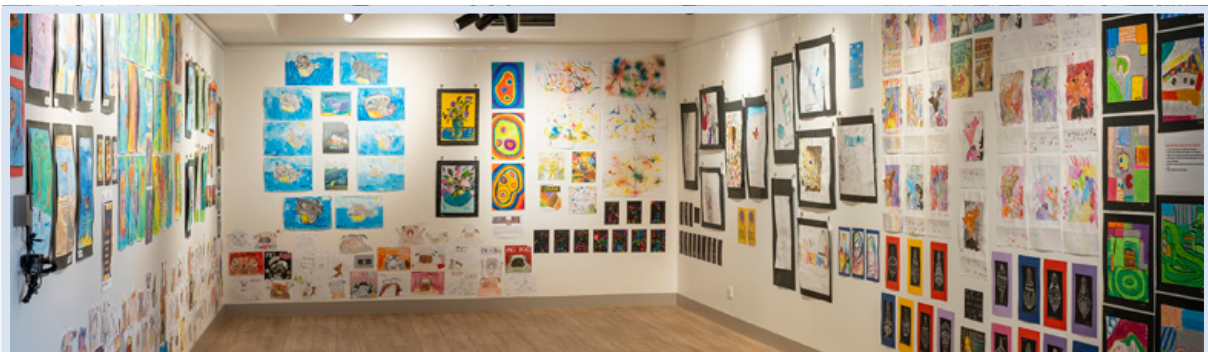
Receiving over 28,700 visitors, issuing 21,154 items, hosting 58 events and 11 exhibitions the local community has truly embraced the new Gerringong Library and museum facility. The Gerringong community now enjoy weekly preschool Story Time sessions and fortnightly Toddler Tales sessions which reflect the needs for the local area.

Our second annual Diagon Alley Twilight Magic Market at Gerringong Library was held on Friday the 14th of July. Over 1000 witches and warlocks and mages and magic-seekers came to a transformed Gerringong Library to purchase mystical wares, have their fortunes told and be delighted and beguiled by musicians and magicians and spooky dancers. With over 20 market stalls – many stocked and run by local young people – atmospheric live music and free henna tattoos care of the magnificent team at SENTRAL, food trucks, airbrush tattoos, a photobooth, fortune tellers, a magician, a dance troupe, cryptic games and fantastical prizes, the local community had an abundance of bewitching entertainment to enchant and delight!



700 people attended the 1st Birthday celebrations on Saturday 3 December 2022. With a full day of scheduled activities, hundreds of people stayed for several hours to enjoy circus performers, a magician, musicians, author, competitions, an exhibition, craft and party boxes, face painting and balloon animals, photos and food.

The partnership between Gerringong Library and the museum continues to offer great opportunities to provide interesting and engaging experiences to our community. The Gerringong & District Historical Society has launched their Night at the Museum program which opens the doors to our facility for an evening's entertainment exploring exhibitions and listening to speakers offering insights into historical events both local and further afield.



“The escape room was so fun! Very creative set up and clues are challenging without being discouraging. We had a fun time! Thank you for all your efforts (and hints).”

Customer feedback

Our libraries participated in National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) program which is an annual challenge to writers to write 50,000 words of a novel in thirty days. Hundreds of thousands of people across the world kick off on November the 1st in this attempt, with many popular published novels being the result of an author's NaNoWriMo challenge including: The Night Circus by Erin Morganstern, Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen among many more recognisable titles. This year, our libraries wanted to support our local emerging writers' community with a series of workshops aimed at scaffolding their writing practice and providing practical support from published authors. We were able to secure the services of an amazing array of authors including Clayton Zane Comber, Kate Forsyth, author/scientist Jonica Newby and Meredith Jaffe.

These lauded and impressive authors presented on varied aspects of writing; from getting started, story-plotting, research and writing creative non-fiction from a personal perspective. Their workshops were interactive and interesting and gave the attendees the ability to ask questions in-house and have the scope to learn in a kinaesthetic way from recognisable and high-calibre presenters. As a result of this program, we have built strong professional relationships with local and aspiring authors and we look forward to seeing many more local authors published works on our library shelves!

In recognition of our innovative and unique programs, a number of library staff have been invited to present at professional development seminars hosted by the State Library NSW. Staff have shared their expertise in adapting popular activities such as gaming, podcasting and escape rooms into engaging library programs. Staff have also participated in several professional development activities including the SWITCH conference, Local Studies meetings, Readers Advisory seminars and the Sydney International Storytelling conference.

The past 12 months have seen the number of library programs we offer grow along with our membership. A library restructure has provided us with the opportunity to ensure our organisation reflects the program and services needs of our community. I truly appreciate and admire the dedication staff demonstrate by providing amazing programs and library services that are appreciated by so many members of our community.

Michelle Hudson
Manager Library Services
Kiama Library



“Please accept my thanks to you and Council for the Ukulele Group that you organised at the Gerringong Library.

The course was beneficial for all participants as skill levels obviously improved over the four weeks of the Group.

Further I noted that the Group bought a number of residents from right across the municipality to participate, learn and enjoy this wonderful musical instrument.”

Greg

Statistical Analysis – South Coast Cooperative Libraries - July 2022 - July 2023

Note: NSW Av figures taken from the Public Library Statistics 2021/2022

Expenditure & Subsidy 2022-2023

	Shoalhaven	Kiama
Total Expenditure voted	\$2,932,162.00	\$896,863.00
Total Expenditure per capita	\$26.93	\$39.12
Subsidy	340,862.00	\$124,629.00
Local Priority Grant	\$30,000.00	\$16,863.00

“The HSC lock-in was a great experience, as it allowed me to study in a quiet space with my friends, and have fun while doing it.”

Vanessa

Item Purchases - South Coast Cooperative July 2022 - June 2023

*Donation & Grant material only includes those catalogued and processed by Shoalhaven Libraries

Book

Category	Number	Cost	Average Price	Donation / Grant*
Reference	6	\$464.86	\$77.48	7
Adult Non-Fiction	1,989	\$54,528.93	\$27.42	67
Literacy	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Local Studies	3	\$137.27	\$45.76	207
Adult Fiction	6,202	\$140,477.36	\$22.65	37
Adult Paperback	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Large Print	1,408	\$67,992.02	\$48.29	0
Youth Non-Fiction	68	\$1,831.33	\$26.93	22
Youth Fiction	583	\$9,513.61	\$16.32	15
Youth Large Print	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Youth Graphic	112	\$1,673.41	\$14.94	28
Junior Non-Fiction	508	\$9,167.64	\$18.05	8
Junior Fiction	1,439	\$16,105.97	\$11.19	18
Junior Graphic	323	\$5,272.80	\$16.32	2
Junior Reader	68	\$408.63	\$6.01	0
Picture Books	1,446	\$20,489.66	\$14.17	0
Home Education	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Total Book	14,155	\$328,063.49	\$23.18	411

Non Book

Category	Number	Cost	Average Price	Donation / Grant*
CDs	355	\$7,090.71	\$19.97	1
AudioBook (Junior/Youth)	64	\$2,338.56	\$36.54	4
AudioBook (Adult)	501	\$23,733.21	\$47.37	1
DVD (Adult)	648	\$17,920.56	\$27.66	54
DVD (Junior)	63	\$1,341.58	\$21.29	29
Games/Puzzles	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	1
Junior Kit	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Adult)	88	\$11,883.20	\$135.04	1
Playaways (Junior)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Youth)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Total Non-Book	1,719	\$64,307.82	\$37.41	91
Grand Total	15,874	\$392,371.31	\$24.72	502

“It was lovely to do craft at the library and meet other people. A wonderful morning. Thank you, library, for putting this event on for free.”

Lesley

Item Purchases – Shoalhaven

July 2022 - June 2023

Book

Category	Number	Cost	Average Price	Donation / Grant
Reference	6	\$464.86	\$77.48	7
Adult Non-Fiction	1,614	\$44,528.84	\$27.59	67
Literacy	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Local Studies	3	\$137.27	\$45.76	207
Adult Fiction	5,025	\$114,477.42	\$22.78	37
Adult Paperback	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Large Print	1,217	\$57,991.99	\$47.65	0
Youth Non-Fiction	52	\$1,508.53	\$29.01	22
Youth Fiction	478	\$7,962.03	\$16.66	15
Youth Large Print	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Youth Graphic	61	\$547.79	\$8.98	28
Junior Non-Fiction	395	\$7,167.64	\$18.15	8
Junior Fiction	1,154	\$13,011.05	\$11.27	18
Junior Graphic	266	\$4,539.10	\$17.06	2
Junior Reader	41	\$237.18	\$5.78	0
Picture Books	1,160	\$16,489.86	\$14.22	0
Home Education	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Total Books	11,472	\$269,063.56	\$23.45	411

Non Book

Category	Number	Cost	Average Price	Donation / Grant
CDs	355	\$7,090.71	\$19.97	1
AudioBook (Junior/Youth)	64	\$2,338.56	\$36.54	4
AudioBook (Adult)	417	\$19,838.34	\$47.57	1
DVD (Adult)	648	\$17,920.56	\$27.66	54
DVD (Junior)	63	\$1,341.58	\$21.29	29
Games/Puzzles	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Junior Kit	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Adult)	88	\$11,883.20	\$135.04	1
Playaways (Junior)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Youth)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Total Non Book	1,635	\$60,412.95	\$36.95	90
Grand Total	13,107	\$329,476.51	\$25.14	501

Item Purchases – Kiama - July 2022 - June 2023

*Donation & Grant material only includes those catalogued and processed by Shoalhaven Libraries

Book

Category	Number	Cost	Average Price	Donation / Grant*
Reference	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Adult Non-Fiction	375	\$10,000.09	\$26.67	0
Literacy	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Local Studies	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Adult Fiction	1,177	\$25,999.94	\$22.09	0
Adult Paperback	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Large Print	191	\$10,000.03	\$52.36	0
Youth Non-Fiction	16	\$322.80	\$20.18	0
Youth Fiction	105	\$1,551.58	\$14.78	0
Youth Large Print	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Youth Graphic	51	\$1,125.62	\$22.07	0
Junior Non-Fiction	113	\$2,000.00	\$17.70	0
Junior Fiction	285	\$3,094.92	\$10.86	0
Junior Graphics	57	\$733.70	\$12.87	0
Junior Reader	27	\$171.45	\$6.35	0
Picture Books	286	\$3,999.80	\$13.99	0
Home Education	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Total Books	2,683	\$58,999.93	\$21.99	0

Non Book

Category	Number	Cost	Average Price	Donation / Grant*
CDs	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
AudioBook (Junior/Youth)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
AudioBook (Adult)	84	\$3,894.87	\$46.37	0
DVD (Adult)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
DVD (Junior)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Games/Puzzles	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Junior Kit	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Adult)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Junior)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Playaways (Youth)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Total Non Book	84	\$3,894.87	\$46.37	0
Grand Total	2,767	\$62,894.80	\$22.73	0

“I really enjoy going to the library. the atmosphere is warm and positive without being overwhelming.”

Darren

Total Items Purchased

*Kiama purchase the majority of items for their DVD and CD collection

	No of Items purchased 21/22	No of Items purchased 22/23**	Average Cost per item 21/22*	Average Cost per item 22/23	Purchases per capita 22/23
Shoalhaven	13,954	13,107	\$30.19	\$25.14	0.12
Kiama	3,110	2,767	\$21.93	\$22.73	0.12
Total	17,064	15,874	\$24.26	\$24.72	0.12
NSW Av	14,345	-	\$29.08	-	-

*Includes expenditure on periodicals and donations counted as acquisitions

**Purchased as part of the Cooperative only

Total Loans – all formats – 2022-2023

	Loans	Population*	Per Capita
Shoalhaven	422,025	109,418	3.86
Kiama	125,018	22,925	5.45
Total	547,043	132,343	4.13
NSW Av	318,131	90,954	3.50

*Population figures used are taken from .id community (Shoalhaven) and REPLAN (Kiama). NSW Av taken from the Public Library Statistics 2021/2022

Loans by Format

Book Stock

	Adult Non Fiction	Youth Non Fiction	Junior Non Fiction	Adult Fiction	Youth Fiction	Junior Fiction	Picture Books	eBooks	Total
Shoalhaven	36,218	666	9,275	125,407	6,507	24,994	42,317	41,193	286,577
Kiama	11,333	169	2,763	43,982	1,864	10,668	16,816	9,670	97,265
Total	47,551	835	12,038	169,389	8,371	35,662	59,133	50,863	383,842
NSW Av	28,506	650	10,836	68,336	6,699	37,870	41,723	29,835	224,456

Non Book Stock

	Adult Audio Book	Youth Audio Book	Junior Audio Book	eAudio	Adult CD	Youth CD	Junior CD	CD ROM	Toys / Games	Total
Shoalhaven	11,150	108	1,116	59,744	5,221	0	401	0	236	77,976
Kiama	2,796	18	248	7,660	673	0	115	0	1,734	13,244
Total	13,946	126	1,364	67,404	5,894	0	516	0	1,970	91,220
NSW Av		4,322		27,171		2,324		1	777	64,926

	Adult DVD	Youth DVD	Junior DVD	Adult Serial	Youth Serial	Junior Serial	eSerial	Other*	Total
Shoalhaven	25,299	0	5,977	12,414	13	795	12,937	37	57,472
Kiama	4,501	0	1,532	3,275	4	276	4,907	14	14,509
Total	29,800	0	7,509	15,689	17	1,071	17,844	51	71,981
NSW Av		26,835			28,754			620	64,926

* Other includes devices, kits etc.

Total Physical Stock* - 2022-2023

	Lending	Non Lending	Total
Shoalhaven	111,815	6,251	118,066
Kiama	43,244	1,946	45,190
Total	154,999	8,197	163,256
NSW Av	120,272	19,959	140,231

*Total stock does not include digital stock

Book Stock

	Adult Non Fiction	Youth Non Fiction	Junior Non Fiction	Adult Fiction	Youth Fiction	Junior Fiction	Picture Books	Total
Shoalhaven	28,904	729	5,919	37,269	4,766	9,707	7,441	94,735
Kiama	10,068	273	1,963	16,608	2,005	4,021	3,572	38,510
Total	38,972	1,002	7,882	53,877	6,771	13,728	11,013	133,245
NSW Av	27,929	640	6,011	28,219	3,734	11,469	9,510	87,512

Non Book Stock

	Adult Audio Book	Youth Audio Book	Junior Audio Book	Adult CD	Junior CD	CD-ROM	Toys / Games	Total
Shoalhaven	5,897	163	616	4,503	220	0	138	11,537
Kiama	1,226	57	190	868	86	1	341	2,769
Total	7,123	220	806	5,371	306	1	479	14,306
NSW Av		3,011		2,121	40		191	32,709

*eAudio is a shared collection.

	Adult DVD	Youth DVD	Junior DVD	Adult Serial	Youth Serial	Junior Serial	Other	Total
Shoalhaven	6,747	0	1,210	2,326	3	205	1,303	11,794
Kiama	1,898	3	570	1,340	13	67	20	3,911
Total	8,645	3	1,780	3,666	16	272	1,323	15,705
Kiama		11,446		154	2	6	844	32,709

* Other includes devices, kits, images etc.

Separate Collections

	Reference	Literacy	Large Print	Local Studies	Home Library Service	Graphic Novels	Other	Total
Shoalhaven	776	0	10,747	4,256	1,453	2,277	1,219	20,728
Kiama	644	0	4,503	1,302	14	851	0	7,314
Total	1,420	0	15,250	5,558	1,467	3,128	1,219	28,042
NSW Av	2,745	831	5,668	6,287	491	2,238	9,580	18,694

*Separate collections already counted in Book and Non Book stock.

Total Digital Stock - 2022-2023

	eBooks	eAudiobooks	eMagazines	Total
Shoalhaven	60,897	95,281	128,116	284,294
Kiama	60,897	95,281	128,116	284,294
Total	60,897	95,281	128,116	284,294
NSW Av	8,268	4,917	7,363	20,548

*Digital stock is currently shared cooperatively.

Donations and Discards - 2022-2023

	Donations*	Purchases**	Discards	Discards as a % of Acquisitions*	Discards as % of Total Stock*
Shoalhaven	636	13,107	22,656	172.85	19.19
Kiama	627	2,767	7,166	258.98	15.86
Total	1,263	15,874	29,822	187.87	18.27
NSW Av	583	14,345	14,908	119.54	9.87

*Includes serials and excludes digital stock

**Cooperative purchases only

“Nowra Library is one of my favourite places and I am happy to promote it any chance I get! It is a calm, peaceful place where time slows. There is a wide range of books and materials (reference, fact and fiction) to inform, entertain and excite me. No- one hurries me or hassles me there and staff have only ever been polite, helpful, and supportive. I know there are many other activities that take place for all age groups both in the Library and online and that I can use their technology to browse, print, scan and so on, when I need to. It is a great resource.”

Trish

Library Membership - Active Members - 2022-2023

Please note - Inactive members are deleted from the database if they have not borrowed over the past 3 years.

	Adult	Junior	Digital*	Institutions	Other	Non Residents	Total	% of Pop
Shoalhaven	26,601	3,392	3,214	153	44	828	34,232	30.53
Kiama	8,471	2,232	815	7	161	44	11,730	50.97
Total	35,072	5,624	4,029	160	205	872	45,962	34.73
NSW Av	28,580	2,814	-	99	322	5,434	31,815	28.77

*Digital members include both adult and junior digital members

**Figure excludes Non Residents

Summary of Comparative Statistics

	Library Materials per capita	Adult Fiction as a % of total book stock	Turnover of Stock
Shoalhaven	3.68	39.34	1.07
Kiama	14.37	43.13	0.38
NSW Av	2.36	34.81	2.22

Document Delivery

	Inter Library Loans request sent to other libraries	Inter Library Loan requests received from other libraries
Shoalhaven	236	182
Kiama	17	19
NSW Av	434	451

Visits, Access and Information Requests

	Library Visits	Internet Access	Information Requests
Shoalhaven	301,000	66,694	40,956
Kiama	88,176	21,493	15,262
NSW Av	142,116	51,343	22,581

Members of Staff as at June 2023

Nowra

Name		Position
Sarah Taylor	BA (Hons) International Business Master InfStudies	Library Manager, Shoalhaven Libraries
Denise De Strang		Library Administration
Collections & Resources Team		
Carissa Close	BA;Dip (Lib & Info Services)	Librarian – Collection Services (Acting Collections & Resources Manager from 17/4/2023)
Cher Murphy		Library Assistant – Acquisitions
Debra Nettle		Library Assistant – Branch Support
Megan Crook	GradDipLocFamAppHist MHist, MInfoStud	Local Heritage Librarian
Naomi Willis		Library Assistant – Aboriginal (from 22/7/2022 to 23/5/2023)
Susan Jones	B.Ed.	Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Ursula Rentz		Library Assistant (PPT)
Customer & Community Resources Team		
Alison Reeve	BA (Creative Arts) Master of Teaching (Primary Education)	Library Technician - Children & Youth
Bronwyn Gollan	DipLibTech (Info Services)	Library Assistant (PPT)
Charmaine Bodini		Customer Service Assistant (Casual) (from 10/6/2023)
Damien Bottle	DipLibTech (Info Services)	Library Technician – Systems
Kerry Johnston	B.HSc	Library Assistant (Casual)
Gemma Luxford	BA (Honours) Grad Dip InfStudies	Customer and Community Resources Manager (Resigned 22/2/2023) Customer Service Assistant (Casual) (from 11/3/2023)
Melanie Harris		Customer Service Assistant (Casual) (from 24/12/2022)
Michelle Chapman		Library Assistant (PPT)
Michelle Marshall	Dip (Community Services)	Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Nicole Lonesborough	AssDipAppSci (Tech)	Collections & Resources Manager (Acting Customer and Community Resources Manager from 17/4/2023)
Outreach & Digital Resources Team		
Jennifer Lyttle	Diploma of Library & Information Studies	Library Assistant – Outreach Services
Jim Hines		Mobile Library Officer
Kelly Woods	BA (Eng.Lit & Creative Writing) Grad Dip Inf Studies	Information Access Librarian (Resigned 24/11/2022) Customer Service Assistant (Casual) (from 3/12/2022)
Laura Sultana	Grad. Dip Information and Library Studies Bachelor of Arts	Library Assistant – Outreach Services (Resigned 30/9/2022)
Lisa Beverstock	BA;Dip (Lib & Info Services) DipLibTech (Info Services)	Information Access Librarian
Nicole Jackson	Master of Education (Teacher Librarian) Bachelor of Education (Distinction) Bachelor of Teaching (Distinction)	Library Assistant – Outreach Services (fixed term from 26/4/2022 to 10/7/2023, full time from 11/7/2023)
Robin Sharpe	AssDipArts (LibPrac) BApp Sci Lib & Inf Mgt	Outreach & Digital Resources Manager

Bay & Basin (Sanctuary Point)

Name		Position
Anne Lee	Bachelor of Information Studies	Customer & Community Resources Manager
Daniel Paterson	BA (Philosophy), Cert IV Library Information & Cultural Services	Library Assistant
Natasha Hammond	BS (Environmental Studies)	Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Ruby Price	Bachelor of Commerce	Library Assistant (Resigned 9/6/2023)

Ulladulla Library and Visitors Centre & Milton Library

Name		Position
Cathryn Burns	Master of Education, Teacher Librarianship	Customer & Community Resources Manager
Alan Arnold	BA; GradDipApp Sci (Lib & Inf Studies)	Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Amy Robson		Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Andrea Smith		Customer Service Assistant
Kate Asmussen	Bachelor of Communication (Journalism)	Customer Service Assistant (PPT)
Kim Richards		Customer Service Assistant (PPT)
Lara Donohue	BA of Visual Arts BSc Environmental Science	Customer Service Assistant (PPT)
Lynne Fricke	BA (LibSc)	Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Michelle Haigh	Bachelor of General Studies/ Bachelor of Teaching	Customer Service Assistant (Casual)
Michelle Richards	BAppSc Occupational Therapy	Customer Service Assistant
Tracey Myers	BArch St, Grad Dip App Sc (Lib & Inf Mgmt)	Library Technician (PPT)

“I use the Sanctuary Point Library at least once a week and have done so for many years, I am a keen reader and also like to borrow DVDs. I enjoy going to the library as the librarians are so friendly and helpful. It has a very welcoming atmosphere. I also browse the newspapers. I just wish it was bigger.”

Joanne

Kiama Library Service

Librarians – Full Time


Name		Position
Michelle Hudson	BAppSc(Lib)	Manager Library and Cultural Hubs
Erin Tierney	AssocDegInfoStud	Kiama Branch Supervisor (October 2022) Local Studies Librarian (March 2023)
Catherine Taylor	Graduate Certificate in Information Studies	IT Librarian (part time)

Library Officers

Carla James	DipLibInfServices	Outreach Services Library Officer
Elizabeth Skorulis	DipLibInfServices	Children's Services Officer (PPT)
Jane Thompson	DipLibInfServices	Home Library (PPT)
Lauren Watkins	GDip Arts (Lib)	Gerringong Branch Supervisor (PPT)
Lauran Mills	M.Ed. (Teacher Librarianship)	Gerringong Library Officer (PPT)
Wolf Villalta	BA, GDip (Lib)	Library Officer (PPT)
Angela Braham	DipLibInfServices	Library Officer (Casual)
Rebecca Cook	BSc, GDip Arts (Lib)	Library Officer (Casual) (January 2023)
Carmen Jacobs	BA , DipEd, MAppSc(Lib)	Library Officer (Casual)
Niamh Kearney	BA (Hons), Graduate Certificate in Information Studies (till April)	Library Officer (Casual)
Arthur McConnachie	BA, Dip Ed, Grad Dip Cont Ed, M Ed, Grad Dip Lib	Library Officer (Casual)
Liz Thornton	BA, Grad Dip ED, M ED (Teacher Librarianship)	Library Officer (Casual)
Mandy Thorpe	DipLibInfServices	Library Officer (Casual)

Family History Officers

Carolyn Morrow	BA (History)	Family History Officer (Limited Term)
Russell Halverson		Family History Officer (Casual)


389,176
Library Visits

45,962
Members




South Coast
Cooperative
Libraries

15,874
New Items




14,155 **1,719**
Books Non Book

447,550 Total Stock – all formats

547,043 Total Loans – all formats

88,187
Internet
Sessions



56,218
Information
Requests



**Highlights of
2022 - 23**

- **Bookfest Event**
- **Gerringong Library
1st Birthday
Celebrations**
- **Digitised Map
Collection**

“Great place to look for books and great place to have meetings, plus very informative sessions presented often.”

Paul

“The staff were very friendly and accommodating so very appreciative, it means so much to all of us that you guys care.”

Jen

“What a wonderful idea to celebrate Library Lover’s Day, hiding books around the suburbs of Kiama. I found the book “The house at Pooh Corner” hidden at the Minnamurra Community Garden. Classic book, I used to love reading this to the children. Keep up the great work you are doing, I loved the experience!”

Customer feedback

“The Sydney Writers’ Festival livestream in an excellent opportunity to participate in the Festival without the expense and inconvenience of travel to Sydney! Local staff were outstanding!”

Customer feedback

