ACTION PLAN 2022-2023

GLENELG LIBRARIES
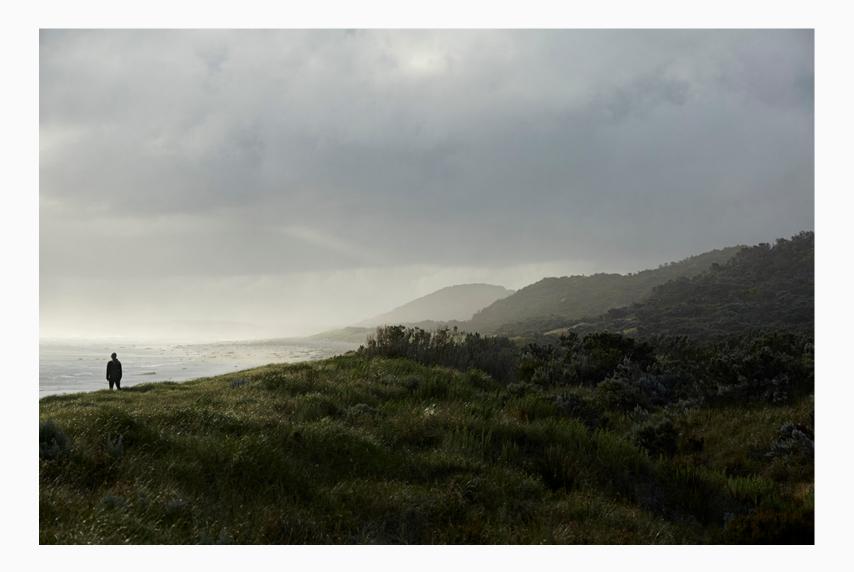
GLENELG LIBRARIES RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE TRADITIONAL LANDS AND WATERS OF THE GUNDITJMARA PEOPLE, BUNGANDITJ PEOPLE, JARDWADJALI PEOPLE AND THEIR RESPECTIVE CULTURAL HERITAGES. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO AUSTRALIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE AND IDENTITY. WE RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY LIVING THROUGHOUT THE GLENELG SHIRE AND THE CONTRIBUTION THEY MAKE TO GLENELG SHIRE'S PROSPERITY AND WELLBEING.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

OUR VISION

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY
Our collection is our core service, but a modern library is so much more than books and DVDs. We have ebooks and eaudio, children's activities, programs for young people and adults, workspaces, relaxing spaces, community spaces, computers, printers and free wifi. Get connected at your library.

OUR COMMITMENT

At Glenelg Libraries we are committed to providing user-friendly accessible library services that connect library users to information and resources, technology and online services, one another, the community and Glenelg Shire's cultural and Aboriginal heritage.

We care about our community and strive to ensure that every person's library experience – in our libraries, online or at community events – is the best it can be

OUR PRIORITIES

Through consultation with library users, stakeholders and the community, Glenelg Libraries has identified four strategic priorities for the next five years.

Through *welcoming and vibrant places and spaces*

Through *literacy and lifelong learning*

Connecting our Community

Through facilitating *access to technology and online services*

Through engagement with our *network of community partners*

PRIORITY PROJECTS

- Seek funding/partnerships for the redevelopment of the Heywood and Casterton Libraries.
- Upgrade of the Library Website.
- Develop and implement a community engagement plan for Library services.
- Expand the range and reach of programming across the Shire.

WELCOMING AND VIBRANT PLACES AND SPACES

KEY OBJECTIVES

Over the next 5 years we will:

1.1. Plan and re-develop engaging, culturally inclusive and contemporary library branches across the Shire.
1.2. Upgrade the library website to make it more appealing, functional and user-friendly.
1.3. Explore opportunities to enhance community access to library services through expanded use of the Library
Outreach van, outreach and express library service models.
1.4. Explore and implement revisions to library opening hours across the Shire to optimise community access to library services.

Action	Outcome
Continuous improvement of all library branches, by changing displays and moving zones to ensure contemporary, vibrant and welcoming spaces	
Commence community engagement with Heywood and Casterton community members, community groups and organisations - what does a new library facility look like, what partnership opportunities are there?	
Explore opportunities for expanding study spaces and temporary work/meeting areas within our branches	
Include Indigenous artwork and acknowledgement signage within our spaces	
Upgrade the library website to improve accessiblity and function	
Utilise the Outreach van for specific events around the Shire - curated collection onboard	
Take the Outreach van to local Community Festivals and outreach locations to promote Glenelg Libraries programs and resources	
Introduce online booking system for programs and events	
Expansion of Seed Library to Casterton Library	

LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING

KEY OBJECTIVES

Over the next 5 years we will:

2.1. Expand the range and reach of library programming across the Shire to increase community engagement to benchmark levels.

2.2. Focus library programming on:
- early years' and childhood literacy
- lifelong learning and lifestyle programs
- digital inclusion
- social connections and community health and wellbeing.

2.3. Develop and implement a community engagement plan which uses a variety of media and communication channels to increase awareness and understanding of available library services.

2.4. Undertake deliberative engagement with library users and partners in the identification, planning, design, development, promotion, delivery, location and evaluation of library programs.

Action	Outcome
Hold regular early literacy Storytime and Rhymetime sessions across all library branches	
Explore opportunities to run supported reading programs (adults and children)	
Development of a regular reading club for junior readers	
Continuation of Libraries After Dark program - including weekly activities promoting art, health, lifestyle and connection	
Update of Collection Management Plan to ensure we maintain a current inclusive collection that represents our community	
Continue to provide staff and reader recommendations	
Development Community Engagement Plan outlining media and communication strategies to increase awareness and understanding of available library services	
Continue school holiday programs for primary school aged children and youth across the Shire	
Hold adult programs and events across all branches - including author events, art programs, information sessions, how-to sessions and lifestyle programs	
Continue monthly Bookchat adult reading group	
Continue Saturday art/craft sessions and consider expanding to Casterton	

ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY AND ONLINE SERVICES

KEY OBJECTIVES

Over the next 5 years we will:

3.1. Continue to provide access to computers, portable devices, wifi, printing, copying and scanning equipment which enable people across the Shire to connect to online information, resources, applications and services.

3.2. Continue to provide technology support and skill development opportunities at the library to reduce the impact of digital isolation.

3.3 Continue to expand the quality, range and ease of access to ebooks, eaudiobooks and other digital resources

Action	Outcome
Hold digital literacy short workshops across all branches - topics may include using apps, library resources, social media, borrowbox, email, Canva, Kanopy, Facetime, online safety and storing files and photos	
Explore opportunities for gaming based programs/events - ie: virtual reality, borrowing video games, accessibility, inclusivity, consoles in the library, gaming nights/events, coding	
Explore opportunities for Adult gaming introduction - memory, reflex cognitive games, suduko/minecraft	
Provide tech help outreach and promote online digital resources with the Outreach van	
Research and provide online safety resources to take part in online safety week	
Continue to seek out new technologies/digital programs available and keep technology up to date for users	
Continue to provide access to computers, portable devices, wifi and printing/photocopying across our branches	
Continue to provide 1 on 1 tech help for community members	
Include expansion of e-book, e-audio books and digital resources within our Collection Management Plan	

NETWORK OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS

KEY OBJECTIVES

Over the next 5 years we will:

4.1. Engage, consult and collaborate with community partners to align, where relevant, service delivery in relation to community wellbeing, family and children services, youth development, aged and disability services, and arts and culture.

4.2. Strengthen our connections with local education providers (from kindergartens to the U3A) and welfare organisations.

4.3. Strengthen connections with local community groups across the Shire.

4.4. Strengthen relationships with Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation, Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation and Dhauwurd Wurrung Elderly and Community Health Service (DWECH) to improve opportunities for cultural inclusion within the Library services.

Action	Outcome
Hold community partner/group functions to tour our branches and share ideas to explore opportunities for new partnerships and networks	
Strengthen connections with local community organisations across the Shire for outreach early literacy storytimes and programs (ie: DWECH, Windamara, Kindergartens, Playgroups)	
Continue Magic of Storytime in partnership with United Way in Portland, Heywood and expand to Casterton	
Continue to partner with Jobs Victoria to provide regular services across our branches	
Continue to partner with Justice of the Peace service to provide weekly services in Portland	
Strengthen connections with other local community organisations across the Shire for outreach education and art programs (ie: U3A, Probus, Womens Services Club, schools, craft groups, aged care)	
Connect with community organisations, schools and community members for input into collection planning	
Continue to work alongside Council's Youth department to deliver a suite of youth programming across our branches	
Continue to partner with local community members, community organisations and local businesses to deliver contemporary and relevant programs across our branches	
Explore possibility of hosting welcome tour/event for new residents to our Shire at our library branches	