A selective chronology of the State Library of South Australia and its forerunners
Initially compiled by Carolyn Spooner and Margaret Bell. (Updated annually by various staff.)

Further information on the complex history of the State Library of South Australia and its forerunners can be found in a variety of sources, especially:

- The Annual reports which document the life of the Library

1834 South Australian Literary Association founded in London on 29 August, including prospective colonists like Gouger, Gilles Wright Hanson Kingston Gilbert, and changed its name to the South Australian Literary and Scientific Association on 16 November. It organised a series of conversaziones and Robert Gouger donated a collection of books which were to form the basis of the library in the colony.

1836 Box of books, including the Gouger Collection, arrived on the Tam O’Shanter in December, but were left in Mr Surflen’s store in Adelaide for two years.

1838 The books were retrieved in August when a Mechanics’ Institute was formed. The library charged a shilling admission, operating out of a small wooden shanty housing the South Australian School Society, situated near the site of the present day Morphett Street railway bridge on North Terrace. The library was then transferred to ‘Professor’ Platt’s music shop in Gilles Arcade. Mechanics’ Institute amalgamated with the South Australian Literary and Scientific Association to form the Adelaide Literary and Scientific Association and Mechanics’ Institute.

1842 The earliest attempt at a public library in a country district was at Balhannah as a subscription library

1843 In a climate of financial difficulties the Mechanics’ Institute collapsed and its books were deposited with the moneylender Mr Da Costa to cover a debt of 20 pounds.

1844 South Australian Subscription Library founded with a fee of two guineas per year. Its first rooms were in the Club house, predecessor the Adelaide Club on North Terrace. The books were retrieved from Mr Da Costa for twenty pounds.

1847 The Mechanics’ Institute reformed and rented rooms in Peacock’s buildings, Hindley Street, with a grand opening conversazione in October.

1848 Amalgamation of the Mechanics’ Institute and South Australian Subscription Library to become the South Australian Library and Mechanics’ Institute, housed in the Exchange Buildings, corner of King William Street and Gresham Place. First printed catalogue and regulations published.

1853 Adelaide Philosophical Society formed 10 January, forerunner of the Royal Society of South Australia

1856 Government enquiry into the Mechanics’ Institute in January

1859 South Australian Institute building designed by Colonial Architect E. A Hamilton was completed in July on the corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue.

1861 South Australian Institute building officially opened by the Chief Justice, Sir Charles Cooper, on 29 January.

1874 Government funds established a free reference library within the Institute Library.
1878  The Copyright Act number 95 of 1878 stated that a copy of every book, pamphlet and other item published in South Australia was to be deposited in the S.A. Institute.

1879  Foundation stone of a new building for the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery was laid by Governor Sir William F.D. Jervois on 7 November. The building became known as the Jervois Wing and is now called the Mortlock Wing.
Queen Adelaide Collection presented by Bishop Augustus Short.

1884  South Australian Institute dissolved. Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery Act of February provided for a single Board for the three departments, replacing the South Australian Institute. The Board of Governors first met on 15 August 1884. New Public Library, Art Gallery and Museum building was opened by the Governor Sir W.C.P. Robinson on 18 December at a cost of £40,000. The Art Gallery moved out in 1889 and the Museum in 1895.

1898  Free Libraries Act no. 700 of 1898 was an Act to allow councils to establish free libraries after a poll of rate payers. (None did).

1899  Institutes Association of South Australia was founded in January.
Library staff packed 18 boxes of books for the South Australian contingent to take to the Boer War on SS Medic in October.

1900  The Library closed its doors for the celebrations for the relief of Mafeking on 21 May, the first time such a closure occurred, and again in December to welcome the contingent home

1903  Dr Morgan Thomas left a bequest of £65,000 to the Board, which was divided so that half went to the Library, a quarter to the Museum and a quarter to the Art Gallery.

1906  The Public Library does its own binding.

1907  Institute Building northern additions opened at a cost of £6,200, housing the Royal Society of South Australia, the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (SA Branch), South Australian Society of Arts and providing a lecture theatre and basement storage. The Institutes' Association of South Australia took over all duties relating to the 200 affiliated Institutes which the Board had directed previously.

1909  Public library, Museum and Art Gallery and Institutes Act was passed as 986 of 1909

1910/11  Over 3000 volumes ‘The bulk of the Medical Section of the Public Library were presented to the University of Adelaide’.

1913  Rearrangement of the main library by Dewey Decimal Classification.

1914  Staff member Miss Harwood organised from the Library, then from her house, a drive to put a pudding in each tent occupied by troops bound for the Front in World War One. This led to the formation of the Cheer-Up Society.
The First Library Assistant, Sylvester Sydney Day was the first Library staff member to join up at the age of 30. He was killed at Gallipoli on 2 May 1915.
Electric light installed in the Public Library replacing gas.
52 iron rolling stacks installed in the crypt.

1915  A Children’s Library opened on the ground floor in the Jervois building in the room overlooking North Terrace on 16 February with 775 books. It was the first public children’s library in Australia. Story hours were held weekly with paid storytellers.
Lending from the Children’s Library did not begin until 1941.
Staff of the Library, Museum and Art Gallery formed a social club called Limusart, which was active in the war effort.

1916  Appointment of the first female Board member, Miss Jeannie Forster Young, Catherine Helen Spence’s fellow political campaigner and biographer

1919  Appointment of an Archivist on 1 February and an Archives Department.

1920  The Archives opened in October, housed in the renovated former Ordnance Store at the rear of the Art Gallery of South Australia.

1921  The Board closed the Library for the first picnic of the Limusart social club on 22 October at Morialta. Such closures occurred for several years. The social club arranged for a staff ‘swimming pool’ to be installed using an old macerating tank from the Museum.
1925  *Archives Act* 1683 of 1925 made it compulsory for government departments to inform and get permission from the Archives Department before destroying records, and also enabled the recovery of public documents from unauthorised persons. This was Australia's first archives act.

1927  Children's Library moved from the Jervois building into the former Police Barracks behind the Library.

1928  Periodicals Room relocated into the ground floor front room vacated by the Children’s Library.

1932  In response to the Library's funding cuts during the Great Depression, a Friends of the Public Library of South Australia was launched at a public meeting in Adelaide Town Hall on 25 July, the first such Friends group in Australia. Their purpose was to raise money to buy books and to publicise the needs of the Library.

1934  Sir Josiah Symon Library of 7,500 books plus shelving, pictures and furniture from his library at Manoah, Upper Sturt, left to the Libraries Board.

1935  Under the aegis of the Carnegie Corporation, the Munn-Pitt report was published as *Australian libraries: a survey of conditions and suggestions for their improvement* which argued for the establishment of free rate-assisted lending libraries.

1936  *Public library, Museum and Art Gallery and Institutes Act* was passed as 2314 of 1936

1938  Sir Josiah Symon Library of 7,500 books plus shelving, pictures and furniture from his library at Manoah, Upper Sturt, left to the Libraries Board.

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1936  *Public library, Museum and Art Gallery and Institutes Act* was passed as 2314 of 1936

1937  Dr Archibald Grenfell Price report published in April as *Libraries in South Australia*.

1938  Brenda Kekwick Memorial opened and presented to the Board by Mr Colin Ballantyne on behalf of the subscribers.

1939  A Research Service was planned to assist in providing technical information for business as part of the industrialisation plans for the state, however, it became the information centre for the munitions factories and shipyards started during the war.

1938  Country Lending Service established on 1 October, with the Institutes Association of South Australia presenting its reference library of nearly 1,700 volumes as a nucleus.

1939  *Libraries and Institutes Act* dissolved the former board and established the Libraries Board of South Australia on 1 February.

1940  The Library in collaboration with the Fighting Forces Comfort Fund gathered in a public appeal 9,000 books and 12,000 periodicals for a Camp Library Service, however, the material went with the units elsewhere in Australia or overseas.

1941  First meeting of the Libraries Board of South Australia.

1940  Three Departments of the Public Service created. The Libraries Department, Museum Department and Art Gallery Department were created as separate entities.

1941  Introduction of a school box service, where boxes were sent to public and private schools and kindergartens.

1942  Lending commenced from the Children’s Library.

1942  Library service for the Navy, Army and Air Forces was provided through the Country Lending Services.

1942  Research Service established in March to provide specialist information for industry, meeting the demand for post-war reconstruction.

1942  Records in the Archives were dispersed to distant locations around Adelaide as a precaution against possible air raids during Word War Two, returning in 1945. The Archives were closed from 1942 to 45.

1946  An Adelaide Lending Service was opened, including some books transferred from the Reference Library, to meet the demands for a free lending library in the city, which opened on 19 March. Lending of certain material from the Reference Library began, ceasing in 1982.

1946  Government department libraries were staffed from the Public Library staff.

1947  Documentary films began to be shown in the Lecture Theatre from 12 August until the 1960s.

1951  All items received under legal deposit were gathered together, marking the start of the South Australian collection as an entity. Over time the collection was housed in the
Symon Library, the Periodicals Room, the old caretakers cottage, the ex Aborigines Department building, the Periodicals Hut, two cottages in the Municipal Tramways Trust property at Hackney, before moving into the Bastyan Wing in 1967 [ALJ 12/1965]

1954
Lending introduced from the Children's Library to meet the needs of bedridden children during the polio epidemic.
The Playford Government drafted limited legislation for state assistance to local authorities for free libraries. MP for Norwood Don Dunstan called for free libraries in a speech in the estimates debates in Parliament in November.

1955
*Libraries (Subsidies) Act* empowered the Treasurer to subsidise the running costs, and in 1958 the establishment costs, of a library established by local government up to an amount not exceeding the amount contributed by the council in any financial year.

1957
Youth Lending Service established in southern end of the Newspaper Reading Room.
First free rate-supported public library was opened in the Elizabeth South Shopping Centre by the Premier Sir Thomas Playford on 11 December. The land and building were provided by the South Australian Housing Trust not the local council.

1959
Children's Literature Research Collection started.

1960
Griffin Press presented a copy of most of the books it printed to the Library

1960/1
W.J. Hocking Collection of literature and history presented.

1961
Limited Editions Club of New York collection commenced.

1962
First South Australian facsimile was produced to coincide with the second Adelaide Festival of Arts.
Mr Harry A. Godson donated photographs and other materials relating to the River Murray to the Library as the Godson Collection.
Edwardes Collection of Shipping photographs donated.
*South Australiana* first published. It ceased in 1985.

1963

1964
Hassell Press Collection presented by Mr. C.T. Whiting

1965
*Index to Australian book reviews* first published. It ceased in 1981.
Foundation stone for a new wing laid by the Governor HE Sir Edric Bastyan on 27 August.

1967
Public Library of South Australia was renamed State Library of South Australia and the Principal Librarian became the State Librarian. Act number 13 of 1967 was assented to on 6 April.
The Bastyan Wing was opened by the Premier, Hon. Frank H. Walsh MP on 25 May at a cost over $3 million, named after the Governor.
Libraries Board member Dr J. J. Bray QC was appointed Chief Justice of South Australia Sir Donald Bradman Collection of Cricketing Memorabilia donated.
R.R. Le Maistre Shipping Collection donated.
Gilbert Family collection of nineteenth century children's books and games donated to the Children's Literature Research Collection.
Map Collection moved into its own area.

1968
Inauguration of the Thomas Hardy Wine Library.
William V. Holyoak Collection of jazz material presented by his widow.

1969
Teachers' Colleges External Students' Collection established as a result of an agreement between the Board and the Education Department. Later transferred to SACAE Underdale in 1984.

1970
Indenture constituted the Mountford Sheard Collection to the Board.
Subsidised Libraries Section established.
Mander-Jones Report *The future role of the Institutes Association and Institutes Libraries in South Australia* was published. The Dunstan Government rejected the report in favour of a new integrated subsidised free library system for the state.
Koshnitsky Collection on chess donated.

1972
Reference Library and Research Services amalgamated into the Reference Library.
1973  Country Lending Service split from Subsidised Libraries Branch and amalgamated with Adelaide Lending Service to become the Adult Lending Services. Children's Library, Country Children's Book Service and Youth Lending Service amalgamated to become Juvenile Services Branch after the CCBS had split from the Subsidised Libraries Branch. Paperback books for loan from the Adult Lending Services.

1974  Jean P. Whyte reported to the state government on the institutes, recommending their dissolution over a set period. CROW - Concerned Residents of the West action group led by Arthur Mortimer campaigned for libraries in the western suburbs. Adult Lending Services service to prisons throughout the state commenced.

1975  Libraries and Institutes Act no. 20 of 1975. An act to amend the Libraries and Institutes Act, 1939-1974 to allow Institutes to dissolve on condition that a public library was established. The Institute could continue to provide service until the public library was in place. The Federal Government appointed Allan Horton to chair a Committee of Enquiry into Public Libraries and the role of the federal government in meeting library needs. It reported in February 1976 but its recommendations were not implemented. Adult Lending Service to Aboriginal communities throughout the State. Paperback packs introduced into public libraries by Subsidised Library Services. Subsidised Libraries Branch changed name to Public Libraries Branch. Adelaide Circulating Library dissolved, and its collection of about 40,000 volumes was kept as a research collection by the State Library. Cassette lending service from Adult Lending Services and the Youth Lending Service inaugurated.

1976  John Morley Collection of 100,000 children's drawings donated. A.L. Arbon Collection on shipping donated. Adult Lending Services commenced extension services to homes, hospitals throughout the state in areas not served by public libraries and to homes, hospitals and housebound individuals in the Adelaide City Council area. CMV Foundation donated a Home Services van to the Adult Lending Services.

1977  The Premier Hon. Don Dunstan announced in August an increased appropriation to the Board of $1 million to provide for the establishment of public library services in the Western suburbs of Adelaide, and set up a committee to enquire into library services, chaired by Board Chairman Jim Crawford. Purches Collection of 20,000 78 rpm jazz recordings donated. First school/community library opened at Pinnaroo. Introduction of a cassette book service in the Adult Lending Services. Inauguration of the State Library's demonstration mobile library.

1978  Crawford report published in August as *Library development in South Australia* and its key funding recommendations for local government libraries received bipartisan support. Women's Information Switchboard established in the Institute Building as a joint venture of the Libraries Board and the Premier's Department. Jack Laver Collection of photographs of Alice Springs 1921-1926 donated. Adult Lending Services commenced lunch hour film shows in the Lecture Theatre using S.A. Film Corporation films. Libraries Department abolished and the State Library became a division of the Department of Community Development.

1979  State Library Division transferred to the Department of Local Government. Public Libraries Division moved from North Terrace to Norwood. Charlotte Hantken Memorial Library founded. Lucy Collection was donated to the Children's Literature Research Collection. Douglas A. Dunstan Collection presented.

1980  Bequest of $1.8 million from the estate of John Andrew Tennant Mortlock to the Board.
Paul McGuire Maritime Library founded with a donation from Mrs Margaret McGuire. Public Libraries Division split from State Library Division, both Divisions of the Department of Local Government. Institutes' Association moved from the Institute Building to Public Libraries Division premises at Norwood.

1981
Friends of the Paul McGuire Maritime Library established to support the Paul McGuire Maritime Library. Periodicals and serials made not for loan.

1982


1983
Management of Institutes transferred from the Council of the Institutes Association of South Australia to the Libraries Board. Joint-Use Library Advisory Committee (JULAC) established.

1984
James Garbutt Lighthouse Collection donated. Arbon-Le Maistre Collection of Shipping Photographs formed. A South Australiana bookshop was established (later closed).

1985
Public Record Office of South Australia established. Restoration of the Jervois building as a Jubilee 150 project by Danvers Architects, consultant architect to the South Australian Department of Housing and Construction. The $1.5 million project was jointly funded by the government and the community.

1986
Mortlock Library of South Australiana formally opened on 12 February in the restored Jervois Wing, formed from an amalgamation of the South Australian Collection of printed materials and non-government records from the former South Australian Archives. Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (SA Branch) Inc relocated from the Jervois Wing to the Bastyan Wing.

Report of the Committee to review library services in South Australia, chaired by Jim Crawford published as *South Australian Libraries - moving towards 2000*: Report of the Committee to review library services in South Australia. An official history of the State Library by Carl Bridge was published as *A trunk full of books: history of the State Library of South Australia and its forerunners*.

1987
State/Commonwealth Government Records Repository at Gepps Cross opened. Bray Reference Library officially opened in a new location at the front of the building, named after Dr. J.J. Bray former Chief Justice and long serving member of the Libraries Board.

J.D. Somerville Oral History Collection opened. Rare Books and Special Collections reading room opened.

1988
PLAIN (Public Libraries Automated Information Network) provided access to materials throughout the state-wide public library system. Institutes Association of South Australia disbanded. Community Information Services came under the aegis of the Libraries Board.

1989
Public Libraries Branch moved from Norwood to Hindmarsh. State Library of South Australia Foundation established. General Motors Holden's Automotive Ltd. presented GMHA's historic records to the Mortlock Library plus $50,000 to support a part time archivist. Presentation of The Cellarmaster Collection of rare wine books. Ridley Vitophilia Collection accepted. Coffee shop opened, trading as 'Food for thought' then in 1992 as 'Cafe Shhhh'.
1990
Business Information Service established in partnership with Techsearch, South Australian Institute of Technology and the South Australian College of Advanced Education libraries.
Memorandum of understanding signed by the Premier and the President of the Local Government Association of South Australia giving responsibility for public library support services to the Local Government Services Bureau.
Touchscreen Information Service launched.
The Edward Joyner Collection of photographs was launched by the Minister for the Arts, Hon Anne Levy
Inaugural Institutes dinner and lecture by Dr. Timothy Healy S.J. on ‘Freedom’.
Unitarian Church Children’s Library of 700 books donated to the Children’s Literature Research Collection.
The Institute Building began a restoration process

1991
Agreement between the Board and the City of Adelaide for the provision of a City of Adelaide Lending Library from the Kintore Avenue premises of the State Library.
State Library Lending Services closed and the City of Adelaide Lending Library opened.
The Department of Local Government was dissolved and the Libraries Division was transferred to the new Department for the Arts and Cultural Heritage.
Launch of Colonial residents of South Australia microfiche, Mortlock Library of South Australia Genealogy Database
Aboriginal Services Team established with four staff.

1992
Implementation of SALINET (South Australian Library and Information Network) to provide access to the Library’s catalogue, the Australian Bibliographic Network and other national and international databases.
Agreement between the Minister of Education, the Minister for the Arts and Cultural Heritage and the Chair of the Libraries Board, guaranteeing the Education Department's commitment to school community libraries for the life of the current public libraries funding agreement between State and Local Government.
PLAIN Central Services named and became the responsibility of the Libraries Board.
An official history of the Institutes movement by Michael Talbot published as A chance to read: a history of the Institutes movement in South Australia
Videodisk pictorial collection of Mortlock Library of South Australiana launched

1993
Re-opening by the Premier, Hon. Lynn Arnold of the refurbished ground floor of the Institute Building on 2 July. The refurbishment won the SACKON Heritage Unit an Award of Merit- Conservation in the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, SA Chapter’s 1993 Architecture.
SALINET. Introduction of the Library’s on-line catalogue on 12 OPACs and the PLAIN/SALINET link.
Inaugural Bloomsday in the State Library, a program of readings from James Joyce's Ulysses.
The Library’s promotional magazine Library Liaison began, renamed ExtraExtra in 1997.
‘A seat in history’ campaign was launched by the State Library Foundation
State Library won a Government Technology Productivity Silver Award for the implementation of SALINET.

1994
Introduction of an online catalogue.
Institute Building re-opened
Business Information Service (started 1990) was renamed BIZLINE.
English Language Learning and Improvement Service (ELLIS) was established.
Transfer of the City of Adelaide Lending Library from joint to sole ownership by the City of Adelaide on 20 December 1994
A richness of gifts: an illustrated checklist of items presented to the Library was published by the Friends of the State Library

1995
The Library won a Government Technology Productivity Gold Award for its Rostering and Human Resource Management System.
Family history resource Kith and kin published.
First external market research conducted, finding that 98.4% of customers were satisfied or very satisfied with the services provided by the State Library.

Publication of the Library’s first *collection development policy*.

A World Wide Web server was established in the State Library providing public access to the Internet.

A pilot project was begun to provide free internet access in public libraries through PLAIN Central Services

1996  
Launch of the Bradman Appeal for a Bradman exhibition in the restored Institute Building.

1997  
Cabinet approved a project to re-develop the Library with a budget of $36 million, later increased to $41 million.  
*State Records Act 1997* brought State Records under the control of a State Records Council, no longer responsible to the Libraries Board for the disposal of state government records

First issue of coloured promotional magazine *Extra Extra* published in July.

1998  
Opening of the Bradman Collection exhibition in the Institute Building by the Prime Minister Hon. John Howard on 29 January

1999  
State Library Foundation raised $500 000 to establish a Wine Literature of the World exhibition and website.

2000  
Jervois Wing closed from December 2000 to July 2001 for earthquake remediation  
State Library Foundation campaign pledged to raise $3.5 million to fund exhibitions for the new Library.

State Library joined the National Library’s PANDORA program to preserve significant local websites.

2001  
Construction on the Building Redevelopment project began in April. Bastyan Wing closed for public use in August and temporary services provided from the Institute and Jervois buildings.

2002  
Building Redevelopment project continued.  
State Library became part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.  
A second five-year agreement between the Local Government Association and the State Government for the funding of public libraries was signed.  
Publication of *Viva volunteer: celebrating the International Year of Volunteers 2001*

2003  
The doors of the Spence Wing (renamed from the Bastyan Wing) re-opened on 14 July and the formal opening ceremony was on 15 October by Hon Mike Rann the Premier of South Australia and Rupert Murdoch, CEO of News Corp.  
The Library purchased the *Deed of settlement* of the South Australian Company, one of the foundation documents of the state.

2004  
The Mortlock Wing was re-opened by Hon. Mike Rann, Premier of South Australia on 12 August, completing the State Library Building Redevelopment program.  
The Library provided a managed library service on a fee-for-service basis for the state government’s Environment and Conservation portfolio.

2005  
Dr Andy Thomas took one of the Library’s copies of the 1851 Tallis map *Part of South Australia* into space on the NASA space flight of *Discovery* in July.

2006  
Partnership with Uni SA, State Records and Fuji Xerox to provide a new Chair of Business Information Management at Uni SA, with a BIM Project Officer and some 30 Library staff supporting the development, delivery and assessment of four courses.  
The State Library began providing library services to the staff of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The Arthur Collection of some 7000 photographs created by a local Mount Gambier photographic studio was donated to the Library.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to 52 staff who had worked at the Library on North Terrace or in Public Library Services for 20 years or more.

ELLIS volunteers won the Joy Noble Medal for outstanding volunteer service in the South Australian Government in the education category.
Memorandum of Agreement 2006-10 between the Minister for the Arts and the President of the Local Government Association for the provision of public library services was signed on 14 December.

2007

National treasures from Australia’s great libraries exhibition was launched by Hon. Alexander Downer and attracted 44,514 visitors during its hosting from 25 January to 25 March.

SA Memory website was launched on 30 May by the Minister assisting the Premier in the Arts, Hon John Hill.

The William Light Collection PRG 1, the Joseph Stanislaus Ostoja-Kotkowski Collection PRG 919 and the Mountford-Sheard Collection PRG 1218 were included on the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register.

2008

The Innovative Interfaces Millennium library management was modified to integrate the three databases (Library catalogue, South Australiana Database and the Archival Database) into an integrated online catalogue in September.

A significant proportion of the Bradman Collection was moved in July to Adelaide Oval on long term loan to the South Australian Cricket Association.

The State Library began to employ Web 2.0 social networking sites to enhance its interaction with its South Australian and international users. A Flickr presence was established in November to acquire new photographic content.

2009

The Library celebrated its 175th birthday on 29 August, celebrating the first meeting of the South Australian Literary Society on 29 August 1834.

In July, Public Library Services re-located to the North Terrace building after a 30 year absence at Hindmarsh and Norwood.

A Bequest of $460,000 was received from Lillemor Andersen to support the South Australiana collections.

A gift of $30,000 from the James & Diana Ramsay Foundation in June was used for digital sound preservation.

The Library joined the social networking site Facebook. The Library joined YouTube on 17 July uploading its first film ‘Biscuit making at the Menz Factory’ on 21 July. The first tweet ‘providing public reference services to the world’ was sent out on the Library’s Twitter account on 28 April.

The first holdings of South Australian newspapers were added to the National Library’s Australian Newspaper Digitisation Program website Trove in June.

The Library ceased providing traditional print photographic products offered since the 1940s in favour of digital images.

‘Epicure Catering at the State Library’ was awarded the 2009 Wedding Caterer of the Year Award for Excellence.

2010

The Library received a gift of $140,000 from the James and Diana Ramsay Foundation to fund the first year of a three year project to microfilm broadsheet newspapers.

On 18 June the Library went live with the publishing of the South Australian Company Deed of Settlement onto the World Digital Library, a joint initiative of the Library of Congress and UNESCO.

The Library hosted a travelling exhibition of nine Victoria Crosses from the Australian War Memorial complemented by an exhibition in the Treasures Wall of 100 items from its own collections relating to World War One and a program of events.

2011

175th anniversary of South Australia was celebrated in a number of ways, including a Gala Banquet on 15 April, which was an interpretation of the oldest South Australian menu in the Library’s collection.

The Library received a significant addition of 700 titles from Working Title Press to the Children’s Literature Research Collection under the Cultural Gifts Program.

The Library acquired software to create walking tours for handheld devices to broaden access platforms to its collections. Lost Adelaide was the first such walking tour produced.

The Library closed on public holidays from Christmas.
The Minister for the Arts and the President of the Local Government Association signed a Memorandum of Agreement about the governance and funding of public libraries from 2010-11 to 2020-21.

2012

The State Library implemented the Encore Discovery Service that provides a modern interface to the catalogue and improves access to the collections and eResources including journal articles. It also enables users to participate in tagging and reviewing items, which adds a social dimension to the catalogue.

The Symon Library opened for public use in February staffed by volunteers 12.00-2.00 pm weekdays. Prior to its opening, this ‘gentleman’s library’, which was bequeathed to the State Library by Sir Josiah Symon in 1933, was fully catalogued.

During History Month in May, the Library added a Creative Commons–Public Domain CC logo to more than 120,000 photographs available online from its collections and out of copyright under Australian copyright law, meaning that they can be freely used for any purpose without requiring permission from the Library.

The Alexander Street Press funded the digitisation of 190 of the Library’s archival diaries and letters accessible on its database *Early experiences in Australasia: primary sources and personal narratives, 1788-1901*.

A statewide Library Management System project called One Card, co-funded by local and state government and managed by Public Library Services, provides access to a single customer database and a shared catalogue of all library materials. In May the first six metropolitan councils and one regional council (21 libraries) joined the network, and the project will be rolled out over approximately three years.

2012 was the National Year of Reading for which Public Library Services led a number of projects and initiatives

2013

In the lead up to the Centenary of ANZAC commemorations the Library created a South Australians of World War 1: Share their story Flickr group in April. This joint project with State Records allows people to upload their own photographs of those who served in World War 1 or add details to the images loaded by the State Library and State Records.

The Chamberlain Collection of 555 glass plate negatives of World War 1 soldiers from South Australia was conserved and digitised.

Public Library Services worked with SA’s public libraries to launch an OverDrive eBook and eAudiobook service for public library customers in January 2013

2014

An automated PC booking system was introduced in February to allow registered customers to make their own bookings.

With the relocation of the Adelaide City Council Library in the State Library building to Rundle Mall, the vacated space was re-developed and opened in March as Your Hub @ the State Library, providing access to Wi-Fi, daily newspapers and magazines, and creating a vibrant civic space and a new way for customers to engage with the State Library.

State Records of South Australia and National Archives of Australia each opened service points in the Spence Wing of the State Library. National Archives of Australia took up a tenancy in the Crawford Room of the Mortlock Wing.

Public Library Services partnered with Channel 7 for the “Dads Read” initiative which promoted the value of fathers reading to their children.

2015

The Library launched the South Australian Red Cross Information Bureau website containing the digitised records of the Bureau related to missing personnel during World War I.

The State Library of South Australia and Shandong Provincial Library sign a memorandum of understanding in May, laying the groundwork to establish a friendly and cooperative relationship.

The Story Wall is launched 2 November, a permanent architectural exhibition bringing to life stories, characters, history and hidden gems from the State Library’s collection every night of the year, from sunset to midnight in the State Library Forecourt.

State Records of South Australia closed its service point at the State Library at the year’s close.
Public Library Services worked with SA public libraries to launch two additional digital content platforms to public library customers, Zinio Digital Magazines and LyndaLibrary online training videos.

Public Library Services assisted public libraries to implement RFID (Radio Frequency IDentification) tagging of library items to provide a faster and more effective means of issuing and returning items than traditional barcode reading technology.

The Tomorrow’s Libraries: Future directions of the South Australian public library network report was released, outlining a clear vision and broad future strategies for the State’s Library Network and its component libraries.

Between February and May the State Library hosted Miss Zhang (Mei) Xiaomei and Mr Chai (Charles) Yun from the Shandong Provincial Library. During their ten week internship the two spent time learning about the State Library, the University of South Australia’s Library and Information Management and Archives and Records Management program, and the One Card System.

A new procurement system, BLUEcloud Acquisitions, was launched in December 2016 to provide SA public libraries with a more robust method of selecting and purchasing library materials and maintaining library collections.

State Library staff members, Andrew Piper and Sharon Morris, spent three weeks with the Shandong Provincial Library in Jinan, China in April and May.

The State Library contributed to the Right Wrongs website, commemorating fifty years since the historic referendum of 27 May, 1967. A partnership project between the ABC, National and State Libraries Australasia and AIATSIS the site highlights stories related to the history of Aboriginal civil rights.

The Centre of Democracy (COD) was launched in May 2017 in the State Library’s Institute Building. A collaboration between the History Trust and the State Library, the COD highlights the evolution of democracy in South Australia through exhibitions, programs and events. State Library collections are part of the exhibitions.

The Library’s ‘Digital collections’ site, using the Recollect content management system went live in May 2017, providing a curated collection of Library treasures as well as enabling the online presentation of.

The State Library saw a marked increase in educational visitor numbers (82% higher than the previous financial year) thanks to a renewed focus in that space.

Writers SA (formerly the SA Writer’s Centre) took up a tenancy in the State Library’s Institute Building in October.

Public Library Services coordinated People Places audits with various public libraries to help to benchmark physical space to meet local community needs.

A local history project managed by Public Library Services commenced to help ensure a consistent standard in the collection and management of local history material by public libraries.

A set of ‘Basic Digital Citizenship’ training resources were developed to help public libraries improve the digital literacy of their local communities.

Public Library Services developed a number of ‘Mini-Maker’ kits, which help the community to develop skills and interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) for sharing between regional libraries.

Public Library Services and SA’s public libraries partnered with the following organisations to accelerate digital literacy and skills within the community: Telstra (Tech Savvy Seniors program), Good Things Foundation and Australian Federal Government’s Department of Social Services (Be Connected program), and THINK Digital (THINK Digital workshops).

One mountain, one river, one sage: Treasures from the Shandong Library opened at the State Library of South Australia on Friday 7 September 2018 telling the stories of Shandong Province through rare pieces from the Shandong Library. The State Library of South Australia worked with the Shandong Library to bring this significant exhibition of treasures, never shown outside of China, to Adelaide.

In early August 2018 the Libraries SA App was launched to give customers access to many library services from the convenience of their smart phone or tablet.
Public Library Services and SA’s public libraries partnered with the following organisations to accelerate digital literacy and skills within the community: Infoxchange and Google (Digital Springboard program), Microsoft (Microsoft Office Bootcamp program).

Public Library Services facilitated and coordinated a program to upgrade computers and printers in school community libraries across South Australia to enable regional communities to have the same access as Metropolitan library members.

A pilot project for a community book swap program was initiated by Public Library Services in the Fregon/Kaltjiti community (APY Lands).

From 1 January 2019, new terms of copyright protection were applied to unpublished works, giving them a standard term of protection (life plus 70 years) a change from the previous law which saw such works in perpetual copyright.

In January Australia Post commenced sortation and delivery of items between libraries, having been awarded the statewide contract to provide these services.

Exhibition *Phil Cummings: stories behind the book* ran from April to September. The exhibition and associated education program were co-developed with students from Peterborough Primary School.

Launched in May, NED, the online service for the deposit, archiving, discovery and delivery of published electronic material across Australia, revolutionised legal deposit.

In June Hanlie Erasmus was appointed as the Associate Director of Public Library Services, previously manager of Unley Library Service.

Public Library Services published the *Tomorrow’s Libraries Future Directions of the South Australian Public Library Network* report, updating the original 2015 report.

In November Public Library Services staff member Sharmayne Coso won a Department of the Premier and Cabinet Employee Recognition Award for her work in coordinating and delivering the Tech Savvy Seniors program in South Australian public libraries to support the digital literacy of South Australian seniors.

*Heroes of the skies* took off in November, an exhibition telling the story of airmen Ross and Keith Smith the first Australians to fly from England to Australia. To accompany the exhibition their personal papers were fully digitised and published online.