

Media release

12 February 2025

Share the library love across Queensland

Queenslanders are being asked to share the sometimes-surprising benefits of their local public libraries as part of a statewide campaign launching Friday 14 February.

How do you library? encourages Queenslanders from Cape York to Cunnamulla to tell their local communities what they love about their library and to make the most of its free activities and resources, which nurture creativity, connection and lifelong learning.

State Library of Queensland will launch the *How do you library?* campaign at a Library Lovers Day celebration at Cooroy Library in Noosa Shire on Valentine's Day.

Whether you are building LEGO towers with your kids, discovering family history, joining a First 5 Forever story time session, or developing a new skill, there is something for everyone at more than 325 public libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres (IKCs) across Queensland.

State Library's enduring partnership with local government supports thriving cultural, digital and social hubs that are responsive to the changing needs of their communities.

Here are some of the great programs on offer in Queensland:

- Quilpie Library Makerspace, with workshops including jewellery making and embroidery
- Warraber IKC's women's group, passing cooking and sewing skills to the next generation
- Noosa Digital Leaders Program, training young technologists to help community members
- Cairns Libraries' First 5 Forever story walks for paediatric patients at Cairns Hospital
- Mackay Library of Things, loaning birdwatching kits at the botanical gardens
- Moreton Bay region's dementia-friendly libraries, with resources and spaces to stimulate memory
- Cunnamulla Library's iPad bingo and cuppa sessions for seniors.

Libraries north to the Torres Strait and west to Blackall are joining the *How do you library?* campaign with local events and promotions throughout 2025.

Quotes from Minister for Education and the Arts John-Paul Langbroek:

"Local libraries provide enormous value to our communities, with the *How do you Library?* campaign encouraging us all to engage with the impressive range of programs and services on offer.

"Libraries are vibrant hubs which support lifelong learning and provide essential services for Queenslanders – no matter where they live.



"In 2023 to 2024, Queenslanders made 17 million visits to their community libraries and borrowed or accessed 42 million items.

"The Crisafulli Government is investing more than \$32 million this financial year through State Library of Queensland to ensure the 325 public libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres across the state meet the needs of our local communities."

Quotes from State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald AM:

"One in 3 Queenslanders is a member of their public library or IKC, so we know how important they are to communities across the state.

"As a trusted partner and advocate for public libraries, State Library hopes this campaign will encourage library lovers to share their stories to encourage more Queenslanders to discover the often-unexpected offerings of their local library.

"Libraries are creative and welcoming social hubs where everyone can connect with other people, enjoy dedicated places for learning and play, and feel a sense of belonging."

How do you library? launch

Noosa Library Lovers Day celebration

<u>Cooroy Library</u>, 10:30 am Friday 14 February

<u>How do you library?</u> | #Howdoyoulibrary | <u>Media kit</u>

Media enquiries

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Interviews are available upon request.