



Thank You

2020 Report to Donors

The National Library of Australia acknowledges Australia's First Nations Peoples – the First Australians – as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and gives respect to the Elders – past and present – and through them to all Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Thank You

Dear Friends

It is my great pleasure to thank all of you for your generous support of the National Library during what has been a year of extraordinary challenges for us all.

I am delighted that, following our reopening in June, the Library has been gradually returning to normal. Ordinarily, at this time of year, we would welcome you into the Library's marbled foyer for a celebration of your support. In this most challenging of times that is, sadly, not possible. While we cannot yet celebrate in person, I am glad to share a selection of the wonderful projects that have been made possible through your generous and much-appreciated support.

This year, 2020, has necessarily focussed on all things digital, and the Library's long investment in digital meant we were uniquely well placed to continue to serve Australians in their homes and home offices. As we reluctantly closed the doors of our beautiful building in March, Library colleagues behind the scenes were working harder than ever on bringing collection content online. In June, we were able to hold an inspiring virtual launch for our new Trove website. And as you will see from the stories that follow, philanthropy is playing a major role in helping us to bring the stories of our collection to life for new audiences online.

We are grateful, too, for the enduring support we have received for our fellowships and scholarships, our lectures and events. Much disrupted during this unusual year, we are grateful to donors, fellowship and scholarship recipients, audience members and visitors

for their patience and understanding. We have welcomed the return of fellows and scholars to the Library in the last few weeks, and look forward to the return of our lecture and event programs in the near future. It is also a particular pleasure to acknowledge the generosity of a great friend of the Library, the late Ann Moyal AM, whose bequest will fund a new lecture series in her memory on science in society.

The challenges the Library and Australians have faced in 2020 have also resulted in some inspiring innovation. One new initiative we were delighted to partner in was Australia's first NAIDOC Minecraft Education Challenge, which saw the world's oldest continuous culture, the cutting edge of contemporary technology and the enthusiasm of Indigenous schoolchildren from across Australia come together to extraordinary effect.

My thanks again to all of you for your enduring support for the National Library. This support makes such a difference to the lives, minds and hearts of Australians everywhere.

Thank you!
Marie Louise



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COVER: Ellis Rowan (1848–1922);
OPPOSITE: Department of Civil Aviation,
Air Route Strip Maps of Australia (Canberra:
Department of the Interior, between 1925
and 1942), Byrne Goodrick Collection,
nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn421524; **FOLLOWING**
PAGE: National Library of Australia, 2019.



Your Support at a Glance



Philanthropic support for the Library since 1 July 2018 now totals **\$4.583 million**, including **\$1.339 million** raised to date in 2020.



60,000
ONSITE AND ONLINE
VOLUNTEERS



368,175
VISITORS TO
THE BUILDING



33.73 million
VISITORS ONLINE

1,809

FRIENDS OF THE
NATIONAL LIBRARY
MEMBERSHIPS



560
GIFTS

10 million

PAGES DIGITISED IN 2020



DONORS
530

First-time donors: **101**
Returning donors: **429**



471
PATRONS

- 32%** supported our digitisation programs
- 32%** supported fellowships, scholarships and study grants
- 36%** supported a wide range of other priorities

Gifts

Thank you to the generous donors who have enabled the following collections to be digitised, making them accessible to people in Australia and beyond.

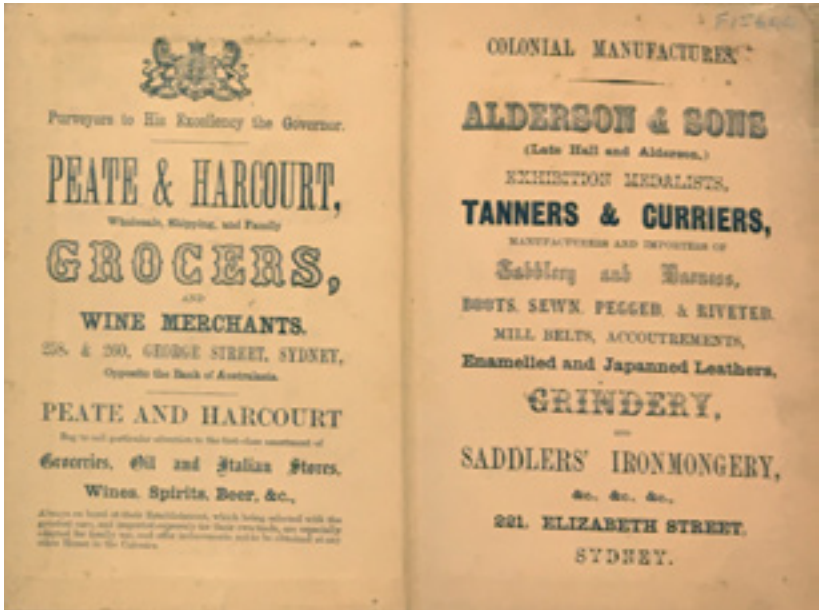
Giving Small Books a Mighty Stage

Small yet mighty books, almanacs were the trusted source for weather forecasts, agricultural tips, sunrise and sunset times, and of more information to help rural and regional residents make the most the land. In between the practical advice, almanacs captured the mood and spirit, habits and trends that illuminate life in rural Australia in times past.

Thanks to generous support by Jane Hemstrich, our librarians can preserve, classify, describe and digitise our extensive collection of over 100,000 pages of almanacs, making them readily available for all Australians.



OPPOSITE: Casey's Victorian Alamanac for 1867 (Sandhurst, Vic.: William Casey, 1866), nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn2199877;
RIGHT: Peate & Harcourt and Alderson & Sons advertisements, *The Australian Almanac* (Sydney: Sheriff & Downing, 1865), nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn1464067.





*Australier Leben (Australian Life),
13 January 1933, nla.gov.au/
nla.cat-vn14323.*

Good News for Old Newspapers

The Library has collaborated with the National Library of Israel and the Australian Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) to digitise 180 years of Australian Jewish newspapers. The material will include all out-of-copyright Australian Jewish newspapers and, with the kind permission of the publisher Polaris Media, present-day copies of The Australian Jewish News. AJHS President Peter Philippsohn OAM states that the value of digitising these materials is ‘not just about uncovering genealogical information and family history either, but revealing the arcane and the attitudes of society at a particular moment in time’.

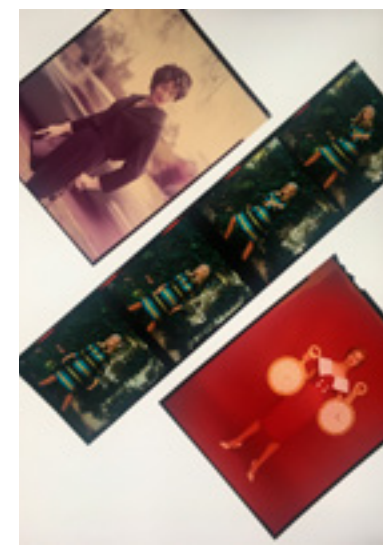
The digital copies will be made freely available on Trove and the Historical Jewish Press Project (JPress), providing a window to the past for Australians and Jewish communities around the world.

Thank you to our partner organisations, as well as the David Lesnie Foundation, the Embassy of Israel in Australia, the Besen Family Foundation, Eitan Neishlos and Lee Levi, and one anonymous donor. Their philanthropic investments have made this project possible.

A View from the Top: Byrne Goodrick Map Collection

While we were all grounded this year, one collection was able to take flight. Byrne Goodrick was an aviator and prolific cartographer who had an extensive career from the 1940s to the 1980s. His keen aeronautical brain is closely associated with the development of Australia’s civil and defence aviation before, during, and after the Second World War. His collection of aeronautical maps, airfield data cards and artefacts reveal further details about this period.

Thanks to Dick and Pip Smith’s generous donations, the Byrne Goodrick Collection will be digitised for all aviation enthusiasts to see. The Smiths’ support of this collection compliments their previous support of the Crome Collection, and their status as record-breaking aviators themselves.



Supporting a Model Collection

The intimate collections of two significant and creative figures in Australian history will soon be available to explore online. The first relates to botanical artist Ellis Rowan, and includes a scrapbook of cuttings; her childhood journal, given to her by her mother; sketches; and inspirational poems.

The second relates to the fashion photographer Athol Shmith, and includes a large collection of prints and negatives of fashion photographs, showing stunning Australian fashion design. Some of the fashion icons featured include Prue Acton, Ann Hamilton, Janice Wakely, Baroness Thyssen and Georgia Gold.

These collections will become wonderful additions to our online content, giving all Australians a glimpse into the lives of these two creative figures. Our thanks to Nicky and Simone Zimmerman for their support of these two important collections. The Australian fashion label will also bring to life the botanical prints of Ellis Rowan in their 2021 spring collection.

OPPOSITE: Ellis Rowan (1848–1922);
TOP: Vandyck Studios, *Portrait of Ellis Rowan*, 1890s, Papers of Maie Casey, nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn2997181;
BOTTOM: Athol Shmith (1914–1990), *Collection of Fashion Photographs*, between 1948 and 1975, nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn600345.



Bringing New Life to a National Treasure

Thank you to the 445 supporters who collectively donated over \$150,000 to fund the preservation and digitisation of papers belonging to legendary bush poet A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson.

The material acquired from the Paterson family in 2019 was the last remaining collection of Banjo Paterson material not held in a public institution. These treasured items join the Library's existing Paterson collection, and include handwritten diaries and notebooks, as well as another early version of *Waltzing Matilda*. The papers provide a rare insight into the life and times of one of Australia's most celebrated figures.

Following a period of restoration by skilled conservators in the Library's preservation lab, these fragile treasures have been moved out of their darkened stores and will soon be available for viewing around the world through Trove.

*Yours truly
A.B. Paterson.*

Photograph of A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson with signature in *The Man from Snowy River and Other Verses* by A.B. Paterson (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1895), limited-edition copy 17 of 25, signed by Paterson, Papers of Andrew Barton 'Banjo' Paterson, 1807–1950, nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn8047102.

The Enduring Power of Collecting



The Library's collections have developed over time through generous donations and bequests. The Collection of Jamie and Michael Kassler, generously donated to the Library, currently comprises more than 1,400 books, manuscripts, printed music scores and other items. A focus of the collection has been British writings on music, described in Jamie Kassler's 1979 book *The Science of Music in Britain, 1714–1830*, now available to view online at nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2590219873. Notable items in the collection include the first Welsh-language grammar of music by John Mills, published in 1841, the 1883 book by Charles Darwin's cousin Mrs F.J. Hughes, *Harmonies of Tones and Colours Developed by Evolution*, and the magnificent 1793 edition of the treatise on music *Peri Mousikē (On Music)* by the Epicurean philosopher Philodemus (c.110–40 BC), which was the first papyrus to be unrolled at Herculaneum.

A Legend and a Legacy



The National Library of Australia received a very special bequest from a beloved member and friend of the Library community.

Dr Ann Moyal AM FAHA (1926–2019) was a Petherick reader, a Harold White Fellow and an established historian of science and technology. As a champion of independence in research and scholarly pursuits, she established the Independent Scholars Association of Australia in 1995 during the 'Against the Grain' conference, held at the Library.

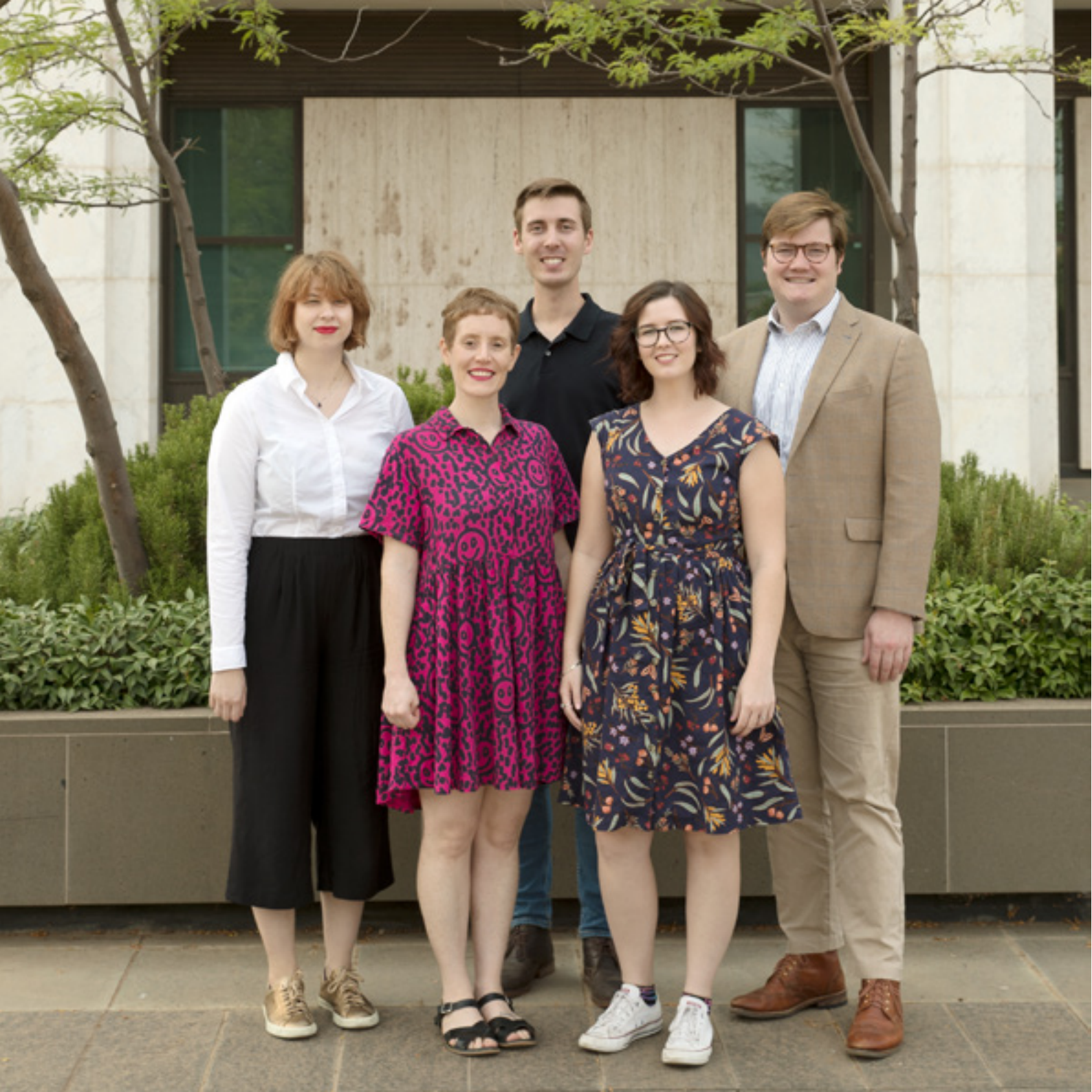
A prolific academic, Ann was a regular fixture in the Library's reading rooms, and read through thousands of books, journals and manuscripts in the collection – embodying the curious and knowledge-driven spirit of the Library itself.

The Library would like to thank Dr Moyal and her estate for her generous bequest, contributions to science and literature, and long association with the Library. Her bequest will provide an enduring legacy of her passion for history and science through the Ann Moyal Lecture, on the theme of science in society, to be delivered by distinguished speakers from such fields as environment, ecology, history, anthropology, art and technological change.

It is our honour to be associated with her memory, and we are humbled to be custodians of her papers, her intellectual legacy and the space she held in the heart of the Library.

If you are interested in leaving a gift in your will to the National Library of Australia, please contact the Philanthropy team at philanthropy@nla.gov.au.

OPPOSITE: Jamie and Michael Kassler embossed monogram in *A Select Collection of Songs, Duets, Airs, Marches, Minuets, Waltz's & Dances: Book 4, Properly Arranged for the Lyre and Harp Guitar* by F. Chabran (London: printed for R. Wornum, c.1802), Collection of Jamie and Michael Kassler, nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn7833633; **(inset)** Rob Bennet, *A Collection of the Choicest and Best Psalm Tunes, with a Necessary Introduction to Singing*, (Nottingham: J. Collyer, 1714), Collection of Jamie and Michael Kassler, nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn8540561; **ABOVE:** Dr Ann Moyal AM, FAHA, 2016.



Curiosity: The Key to the Collection



Philanthropy is the key to giving researchers access to the National Library through our suite of fellowships and scholarships. The program has been disrupted in 2020, with many intensives put on hold. Fortunately, fellows began to visit again in October. While some residencies are still uncertain due to international border closures, we look forward to sharing more research insights in the future.

The National Library of Australia's 2020 Fellowships, open to applicants around the world, were funded through the generous support of the Stokes Family, the Harold S. Williams Trust, the Ray Mathew and Eva Kollsman Trust, past and present members of the National Library Council, Patrons, a generous gift in memory of much-loved former staff member Averill Edwards, and the Minerals Council of Australia.

The Kenneth Binns Staff Travelling Fellowship was made possible by Associate Professor David Turner and Associate Professor Linnett Sanchez. A further two staff travelling fellowships were supported by the kind gift in memory of Averill Edwards and the Friends of the National Library.

The Creative Arts Fellowship is generously supported by the Friends of the National Library of Australia Inc., and the National Library of Australia Creative Arts Fellowship for Australian Writing is generously supported by the Ray Mathew and Eva Kollsman Trust.

The Asia Study Grants are supported by the Harold S. Williams Trust, sponsors and private donors.

The Library's Summer Scholarships are made possible thanks to a legacy gift in the memory of Mr Norman McCann, as well as generous support from Dr John Seymour and Mrs Heather Seymour AO, Ms Carol Moya Mills and an anonymous donor.

Thank you to the donors who have supported these programs, which give researchers the time and space to explore our collections and to create new knowledge.

OPPOSITE: 2020 Summer Scholars Katerina Bryant, Rosa Campbell, Joseph Steinberg, Tianna Killoran and Daniel McKay; **ABOVE:** Associate Professor Sharon Crozier-De Rosa, 2020 National Library Fellow supported by the Stokes family.

Events

As was the case for many programs, most of the Library’s flagship events were postponed in 2020. This includes the annual event at which we celebrate our donors. We look forward to inviting you back to the Library in 2021, as well as hosting other key functions.

Combining New Technology with Timeless Knowledge

The Library was honoured to partner in Australia’s first NAIDOC Minecraft Education Challenge which provided an exciting opportunity to combine the world’s oldest living cultures with the latest in twenty-first-century technology.

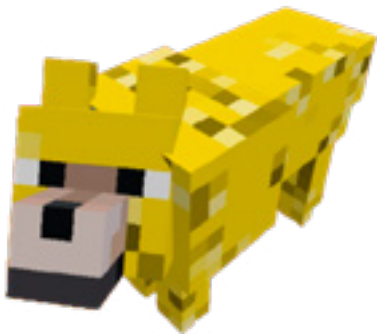
During NAIDOC Week (8–15 November 2020) edu-tech company Indigital worked with children at the National Library to take inspiration from books – including *Young Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe, *Welcome to Country* by Marcia Langton, *Birrarung Wilam* by Aunty Joy Murphy and *Pippa and Dronie* by Paul Mead – to create characters in augmented reality.

The challenge was delivered in partnership with Indigital and Indigenous Digital Excellence, an initiative co-founded by the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, and the Telstra Foundation, and backed by the Telstra Foundation, Microsoft and the National NAIDOC Committee.

Anchored in this year’s national NAIDOC theme, ‘Always Was, Always Will Be’, participating children used the Minecraft platform to explore the question of how we might build sustainable schools, cities, towns or communities in 2030 using Indigenous science, technology, engineering, arts and maths.

The participants learnt how to create aspects of the reference stories in Minecraft Education Edition to shape culturally grounded games, guided by some of Australia’s foremost Indigenous technologists, Mikaela Jade and Matthew Heffernan.

The challenge winners are from Eidsvold State School and Kalkie State School in Queensland, and Bruny Island District School in Tasmania.



OPPOSITE: The Library’s Indigenous Engagement team with Indigital staff and students who participated in the Minecraft Education Challenge at the National Library; **ABOVE:** Indigital, NAIDOC Minecraft Education Challenge Papa Inuru (dingo), 2020.



A Little Less Conversation...

The Ray Mathew, Eric Rolls, Kenneth Myer and Seymour lectures have been staples on the Library calendar for many years and see some of Australia's most distinguished thinkers and writers come to the podium. Each of these lectures has been supported by donors who are passionate about the Library and excited by big-picture thinking, and wish to share this enthusiasm with the rest of the Library community.

We are grateful to The Myer Foundation, and Dr John Seymour and Mrs Heather Seymour AO for their renewed commitments this year.

While there were no visitors in the Library building, thousands of passionate audience members viewed these esteemed talks from years past online.

We wish to thank the donors who support these lectures, as well as those who have watched them online – it shows that despite a long winter of COVID-19, the passion for knowledge and literary excellence still burns bright. We look forward to hosting the lectures, in person and online, in 2021.

Our flagship lectures reach Australians in their thousands:

		Views
Kenneth Myer Lecture 2018	Delivered by Laura Tingle	35,258
Eric Rolls Lecture 2018	Delivered by Bruce Pascoe	17,341
Kenneth Myer Lecture 2019	Delivered by Peter Greste	14,091
Ray Mathew Lecture 2019	Delivered by Morris Gleitzman	26,981
Seymour Biography Lecture 2019	Delivered by Judith Brett	2,521

How you can continue to support the Library in 2021



- Give
nla.gov.au/support-us
- Volunteer
nla.gov.au/content/become-a-volunteer
- Visit
nla.gov.au/visit
- Explore
nla.gov.au/collections
- Share
[Facebook icon] [Twitter icon] [Instagram icon] [YouTube icon] [LinkedIn icon]
- nla.gov.au/support-us

For further information, and to discuss supporting the Library, please contact:

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