

ALIA WEST PRESENTS

THE VALUE OF US

A CELEBRATION OF COLLECTIVE IMPACT



A two day conference for GLAMR and beyond

17-18 September 2026
SLWA Francis St Northbridge

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ALIAWest Conference 2026

State Library of Western Australia
Perth Cultural Centre
Perth, Western Australia

Contents

Welcome.....	3
Welcome from the Convenor	3
Acknowledgement and Committee	3
Acknowledgement of Country	3
Committee.....	3
About the Conference	4
The Value of Us.....	4
Conference Information	4
Delegate Information	4
Conference Programme	5
Day One — Thursday 17 September 2026 – Morning sessions	5
Day One — Thursday 17 September 2026 – Afternoon sessions	6
Day Two — Friday 18 September 2026 – Morning Sessions.....	7
Day Two — Friday 18 September 2026 – Afternoon Sessions	8
Day Two — Friday 18 September 2026 – Closing Sessions	9
Speakers	9
Exhibitors	9
Sponsors and Partners	10
Platinum Sponsor	10
Gold Sponsors	10
Bronze Sponsors and Conference Partners	11
Venue Information	11
Perth Visitor Information	11
Networking Opportunities.....	13
Evaluation and Next Steps	13
Notes	14
Back Cover	16

Welcome

Welcome from the Convenor

Welcome to **The Value of Us**, ALIAWest's 2026 conference celebrating the people, partnerships and purpose that make our profession and community indispensable.

Across the next two days we come together to share ideas, celebrate innovation, and strengthen the relationships that connect our libraries, galleries, archives, museums and records communities and associations.

This conference has been built around the belief that our greatest value lies in our collective knowledge, generosity and willingness to learn from one another.

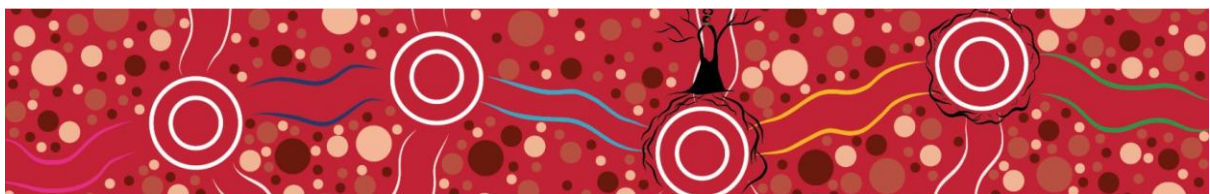
Whether you are attending your first ALIAWest event or are a long-time supporter, we hope you leave feeling inspired, connected and energised.

Thank you for being part of our community.

Acknowledgement and Committee

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters across Western Australia. Here in Perth/Boorloo, I am honoured to be standing on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar. I pay my respect to Elders past, present, and emerging, and recognize the rich cultures and continuing contributions of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the state and the country.



Committee

This conference has been organised by the ALIAWest Committee with the help of ALIA, SLWA and WALT and our sponsors. Please connect with us at any time, we will be wearing the red lanyards.

About the Conference

The Value of Us

The conference embraces the shared values and welcomes local, interstate and international delegates from:

- Public Libraries
- Academic Libraries
- School Libraries
- Special Libraries
- Health Libraries
- Government Libraries
- Archives
- Museums
- Galleries
- Records Management
- Information Management



Conference Information

Delegate Information

Venue	State Library of Western Australia, Perth Cultural Centre.
Registration	Registration Desk, located in the Ground Floor Theatre Foyer, 9.00am to 9.20am each day, please check in each day.
Accessibility	Lift access is available to the Great Southern Room. Please see ALIA West staff for any assistance.
Emergency & First aid	SLWA Staff will direct any emergency or evacuation. See ALIAWest staff for other issues.
Wi-Fi	Select WIFI-Guest in your device's settings, agree to the terms and conditions, and connect. No password is required
Photography and social media	Photos will be taken during the event, if you would like to opt-out, please inform ALIA West committee members. Social media posts by attendees are welcome #Valuealiawest

Conference Programme

Day One — Thursday 17 September 2026 – Morning sessions

Time	Theatre	Catering
9.00– 9.20am	Registration desk open Theatre Foyer	
9.20– 9.30am	Nicola Carson ALIA West Convenor <i>Opening remarks</i>	
9.30– 9.40am	TBC <i>Welcome to Country</i>	
9.40– 10.30am	Trish Ryder Community Engagement Facilitator, John Curtin Gallery <i>Keynote</i>	
10.30– 11.00am		Morning tea
11.00– 11.15am	Catherine Clark Chief Executive Officer and State Librarian, SLWA <i>Treasure Stories, Inspire Possibilities, Strengthen Communities: the State Library of Western Australia</i>	
11.15– 11.45am	Jane Cowell Jane Cowell Consulting <i>Report IFLA Public Libraries Satellite: Practical Implementations of AI in Public Libraries</i>	
11.45– 11.55am	Shrianjani De Alwis Jayasuriya Independent CPD Researcher & Facilitator, Maldives PDWLIS2026 <i>Small Platforms, Global Impact: Future-Proofing the LIS Workforce through Capacity Building</i>	
11.55am– 12.30pm	Vicki Edmunds Manager, Community & Library, Blue Mountains NSW <i>Blue Mountains Library 2U Project</i>	
12.30– 1.30pm		Lunch

Day One — Thursday 17 September 2026 – Afternoon sessions

Time	Theatre	Time	Great Southern Room	Catering
1.30–2.00pm	Margot Kopsen & Bec Young Collections & Community Engagement Senior Librarian, Town of Cambridge <i>Not just a library: How Integrated Planning and Place Based Practice Strengthen Communities</i>	1.30–2.30pm	Darby Bond Brown & Samantha Hughes City of Vincent Library <i>Becoming the Lounge Room of the Community: Getting Started in Community-Led Librarianship</i>	
2.00–2.30pm	Rebecca Marchenkov & Jill MacDonald City of Joondalup <i>From Lime Time to Prime Time: Modernising Our Library Brand</i>	2.30–2.40pm	Rae Duncan University Student <i>Adventures in imposture syndrome, unmasking, and rolling with the big nerds at ALIA National as an AuDHD undergrad LIS student</i>	
2.30–2.40pm	Fathimath Nashfa Assistant Lecturer, The Maldives National University <i>Barriers to Pursuing Library and Information Science Qualifications in the Maldives</i>	2.40–2.50pm	Amanda Smith, Nila Tanzil & Sascha Spilewski Learning Success Advisors, Curtin University <i>The Come Back Crew: Building Curtin's mature age student community</i>	
2.40–2.50pm	Andrew Kelly Digital Preservation Manager, SLWA <i>Pulling Yourself Up By Your Own Filmstrips: Leveraging large-scale digitisation projects to bootstrap digital preservation practices</i>			

2.50– 3.30pm				Afternoon tea
3.30– 4.00pm	Jonah Highman & Kate Stevens Coordinator Acquisitions, UWA <i>UWA Collected</i>	3.30– 4.00pm	Lindsay Edwards & Jamie Normington Coordinator Joondalup Libraries <i>Yes We Count That: How library data informs decisions and demonstrates value</i>	
4.00– 4.10pm	Aminath Riyaz Assistant Prof, The Maldives National University <i>What Travels When We Learn Across Borders? Insights from an Emerging LIS Profession</i>	4.00– 4.10pm	Jade White Information Proficiency/Records consultant <i>PRIS in the Library</i>	
4.10– 5.00pm	Closing and networking Theatre			

Day Two — Friday 18 September 2026 – Morning Sessions

Time	Theatre	Catering
9.00– 9.20am	Registration Theatre Foyer	
9.20– 9.30am	Opening Remarks Nicola Carson <i>ALIA West Convenor</i>	
9.30– 10.30am	Christine Harris Vice President, Family History WA <i>People of Western Australia's Ghost Towns</i>	
10.30– 11.00am		Morning tea
11.00am– 12.00pm	Karen Dennison & Georgia-Mae O'Brien Library Coordinator, Shire of Capel <i>Building the Bridge: How One Library South West Became a Connected Regional Service</i>	
12.00– 12.15pm	Catherine Belcher Director Collection Services, SLWA	

	<i>At-risk audiovisual collections: Digitising the sights and sounds of Western Australia</i>	
12.30–1.30pm		Lunch

Day Two — Friday 18 September 2026 – Afternoon Sessions

Time	Theatre	Time	Great Southern Room	Catering / Networking
1.30–2.00pm	Angela Heymans & Gwyn Williams President, Western Australian Military Digital Library Inc <i>The Western Australian Military Digital Library – Saving Our Military Stories</i>	1.30–2.00pm	Roslyn Beard & Alec Barron-Sullivan City of Cockburn Libraries <i>Switched on Seniors in public libraries</i>	
2.30–2.45pm	Louise Carson Richard III Society <i>Ham & Cheese</i>	2.00–2.30pm	Claire Hanlon Local History Specialist, City of Canning <i>We Built a Library Before We Had Books: Lessons from a Community-Led Biblioteca in Peru</i>	
2.45–3.00pm	Natalie Evans AMaGA <i>Speaking with one voice: how to advocate to politicians, funders, and your community.</i>		Camille Peters ALIA West Committee <i>Global GLAMR: A Who's Who of Professional Associations in GLAMR</i>	
3.00–3.30pm				Afternoon tea

Day Two — Friday 18 September 2026 – Closing Sessions

Time	Theatre	Catering
3.30–4.00pm	Alice Woods Wikimedia Australia <i>Wikimedia Australia: GLAM partnerships and opportunities</i>	
4.00–4.30pm	Dot Millar & Nicole Agwin Department of Education Library <i>Department of Education Corporate Information Services: More GLAMR Than You Think</i>	
4.30–5.00pm	Closing and networking	

Speakers

The Presentation Abstracts are available at: <https://aliawest.alia.org.au/the-value-of-us-conference-abstracts/>

Exhibitors

 James Bennett YOUR LOCAL SOLUTIONS PARTNER	Table Number 1 Website: https://bennett.com.au/
 ENVISIONWARE®	Table number 2 Website: https://www.envisionware.com/?lang=au
 OCLC®	Table number 3 Website: https://www.oclc.org/en/about.html?cmpid=md_ab
 AMaGA Western Australia	Table number 4 Website: https://amaga.org.au/Web/Web/About-AMaGA/Branches/WA/WA.aspx
 City of Joondalup	Table number 5 Website: https://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/community-and-spaces/libraries

Community Associations

Family History WA

Table number 6

Website: <https://www.fhwa.org.au/>

Western Australian Military Digital Library Inc.

Table number 6

Website:

<https://www.wamdl.com.au/WAMDL/index.php?title=Learn>

Richard III Society

Table number 6

Website: <https://r3wa.org.au/about/>

Sponsors and Partners

Platinum Sponsor



Since 1964, when our founder, James Bennett, personally delivered books to libraries in his old blue VW, our focus has been on building strong relationships with local librarians, and local and international publishers and distributors. Today, our powerful profiling tools and expert buyers will enhance your selection decisions. Our unmatched global resources, shelf-ready delivery and technical innovation make James Bennett your library's essential partner.

Gold Sponsors



EnvisionWare was formed almost 25 years ago with a single purpose – to create innovative, self-service and efficiency solutions that enhance library services and empower patrons. This mission continues to be the driving focus of EnvisionWare today, backed by a commitment to ensure that every library, regardless of size, receives the highest level of customer service and support.

Bronze Sponsors and Conference Partners



OCLC is a global library organization that provides shared technology services, original research, and community programs for its membership and the library community at large. We are librarians, technologists, researchers, pioneers, leaders, and learners. With thousands of library members in more than 100 countries, we come together as OCLC to make information more accessible and more useful.

Because what is known must be shared®.

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ALIA West thanks the State Library for all the support they provide for the group. They support us throughout the year for our functions and fundraising events, and in particular for this Conference

Venue Information

Map placeholder:

- [SLWA Cultural Centre](#) - please note the rejuvenation project access points
- [SLWA Ground Floorplan](#) – for Theatre Foyer, Theatre, and cafe
- [SLWA Great Southern Room](#) – for breakout session and meals

Perth Visitor Information

Getting there	The Perth Cultural Centre sits between the Perth CBD and Northbridge, close to Perth Train Station and bus services.
Walking distance	3 minute walk from Perth Railway Station 6 minute walk from Perth Underground Station Buses run along William and Beaufort Streets – See Transperth
Food and coffee	Coffee available from café in SLWA until 2pm, various cafes within walking distance

	Morning/afternoon tea and lunch provided Please bring own water bottles, refills available in SLWA
Parking	Parking available at SLWA CCP carpark entrance in Francis Street

Networking Opportunities

- During Registration
- Morning tea and afternoon tea — Great Southern Room
- Lunch — Great Southern Room
- Exhibition breaks — encourage delegates to meet exhibitors and sponsors

Evaluation and Next Steps

QR code placeholder: TBC.

Notes

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Thank you for being part of
The Value of Us, ALIAWest Conference 2026



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