

Cooroy Library opens



On a clear winter's day Cooroy Library was officially opened at Mill Place. More than 1500 people gathered to celebrate the June 6 opening, enjoying a range of free family fun activities.

The Cooroy Library is a state of the art facility; bringing Sunshine Coast's fastest broadband free to the community via wireless technology and the Global Connect Computer Training facility. Along with public meeting rooms, a heritage study room, and a children's play area, this library provides a remarkable community hub. The library is scheduled to hold about 20000–25000 items for loan, with access to all materials held by any public library on the Sunshine Coast.

The construction costs for the library were approximately \$9.7 million dollars, \$3.5 million of which was secured from the Queensland State Government through the Q150 program.

On an environmental note, the building has been cut into the ground, and part of the roof itself is covered with soil and grass. These elements help control the variation of internal temperatures between day and night, reducing the amount of heat the building 'soaks up' during the day. There is the added benefit of the grass roof providing an excellent community space, where people meet, picnic, and read at any time.

Throughout the building, there are high levels of diffused natural lighting, provided through glass walls and elevated windows in the middle lantern section and eastern façade. With this high level of natural day lighting, the building requires less artificial lighting during the day time for the normal functioning of the library, translating in reduced energy consumption.

Photo voltaic cells have been mounted on the roof that are capable of generating 5kW of green power, equivalent to approximately 40% of the buildings internal lighting needs.

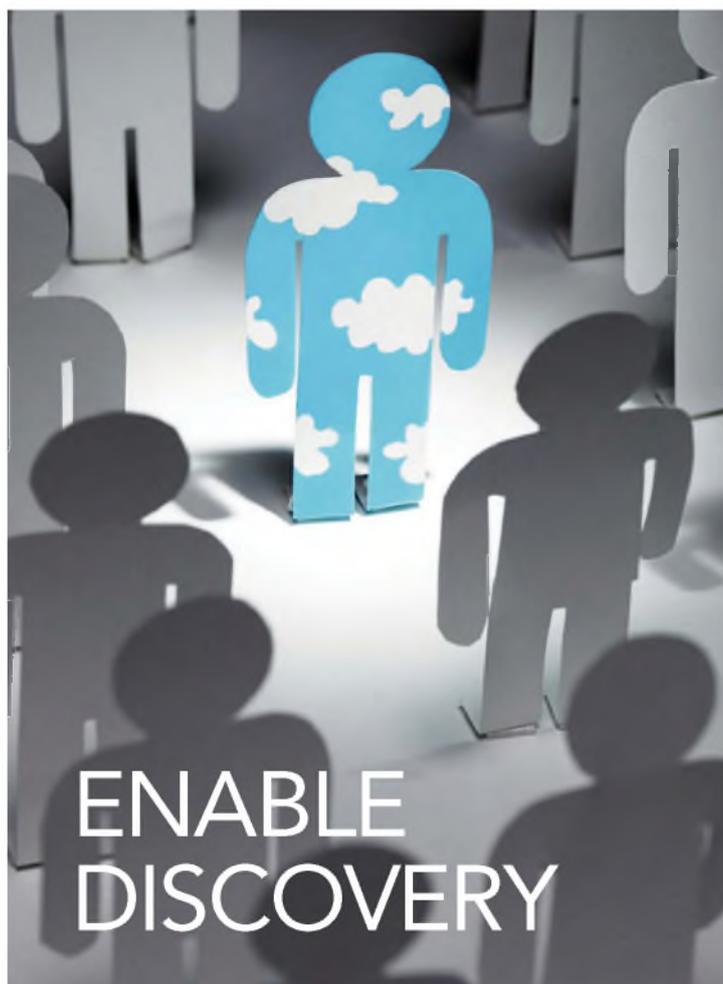
An exciting addition to the Sunshine Coast's library services, the Cooroy Library is already proving to be the community centre that it strived for. The local community and greater Sunshine Coast community are already benefiting from the new facility, with everyone looking forward to the growing success of the library.

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Images courtesy of Phill Jackson Photography



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