

GOOGLE MAP YOUR DREAM LIBRARY TOUR FOR NLS5

Perth is getting ready to host fellow professionals from all over Australia at the New Librarians Symposium 5. The conference crews are determined to make it a rich and enjoyable experience. If NLS5 is on your agenda, Hoi Ng reports on just one way you can make magic memories in Perth this September.

Many would agree that library tours are one of the best ways to witness firsthand all the new ideas and programs that may have practical applications at our workplace. We have many maps and Perth has over 200 libraries, a good number of which are easily accessible by public transport, so why don't we create a map of Perth libraries for conference delegates to enhance their conference experience?

Paige Wright, a library student and past employee of the Town of Claremont Library, kindly volunteered her time and illustration skills to create a map showcasing some of the Perth libraries. Recognising that mobile technologies, such as iPhone and android phones, are becoming more popular among the new librarians, we decided to match the theme of the conference by metamorphosing the traditional paper-based map of Perth libraries into a Google Map to reach an even wider audience.

Based on this thought, it was decided to create a map of libraries happy to throw open their doors to NLS5 delegates. An email call for collaboration was sent and library staff from different libraries forwarded their libraries' details, complete with directions via public transport. To date, 19 Perth libraries are listed on the NLS5 DIY Library Tour Map.

As a NLS5 delegates, you can use this map to navigate your way around Perth libraries at your own pace. If you arrive early, be adventurous, it is your chance to mash it up, and create your own personalised map of the libraries you wish to visit, along with other points of interest and events. In addition to the DIY tour, don't forget to select the two guided library tours being offered as part of the NLS5 program when registering for the symposium.

Don't just stop there, turn your Google Map into a social networking experience. You can share your map with other delegates, add your own tips to the map, talk to the locals and make new friends. Work the Google Map and the unlimited all day travel ticket, *Dayrider* to your advantage (just \$9.30) and share with us through your blog or twitterfeed how many libraries you can visit in one day.

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