## **ALIA NEWS**



he F A Sharr Medal was established in 1976 to honour Francis Aubie (Ali) Sharr, State Librarian of Western Australia from 1953 to 1976. It's presented to a Western Australian librarian or library technician within three years of graduation who exhibits the most potential to make a significant contribution to the library profession in WA. In 2015 it was renamed the F A Sharr Award when the prize was changed from a medal to a \$500 bursary to be spent on professional development.

Left: Sophie Farrar and Chloe Czerwiec, the first Sharr Award winners.

ALIAWest administers the Sharr Award, with assistance from the WA Library Technicians Group and the State Library of Western Australia. We are thrilled that our award has become one of the 80 Treasures of ALIA, and we are proud of Chloe Czerwiec and Sophie Farrar, respectively the 2015 and 2016 winners of the Sharr Award, and of past winners of the Sharr Medal.

We hope to see the Sharr Award continue to be one of ALIA's treasures and that recipients continue to realise their potential throughout their careers. Sharr Medal or Award winners give back to the library community in many ways, but we need the library community's help in identifying candidates. If you know a recent graduate who has that potential, consider becoming a referee or encouraging them to nominate. We will open nominations for the 2017 Sharr Award early next year and would like to see a strong field of candidates. Further details about the nomination process are available at bit.ly/2uqkery.

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