

# Library Lovers' Day

Every year ALIA celebrates Library Lovers' Day with library and information professionals all around Australia and in 2019 we asked you to share your library love stories with us.

The theme for Library Lovers' Day 2019 was Library Love Stories and library users around Australia were encouraged to let their creativity flow. We held a writing competition where we asked for people's best 200-word stories that came from the writing prompt 'there was love to be found in the library'. The competition opened on 9 January 2019 and closed on 21 February 2019 and we received more than 200 entries.

Additionally, we created six sets of free downloadable Library Lovers' Day shadow puppets, so that libraries and their users could create shadow puppet plays. These sets could be used individually or as a master set and were themed as animal kingdom, daily life, fairytale, library, science fiction and spooky. Library staff were encouraged to share their creations on social media and tag their posts with #LibraryLoversDay and #LibraryLoveStories. These shadow puppets were also made available to delegates at ALIA Information Online 2019, providing conference attendees the opportunity to create their library love story to share with the other delegates and online.

ALIA also provided downloads for libraries to set up boxes where patrons could leave recommendations of books they loved and take recommendations from other



Library Lovers' Day decorations at Latrobe City Libraries

library users of books to fall in love with. This was a low-cost, easy way for librarians to share the books users loved with other library patrons. These recommendations were even turned into book displays where libraries showcased some of their patrons' favourite books. There were other free resources available on the Library Lovers' Day website ([bit.ly/1TOCRem](http://bit.ly/1TOCRem)) including bookmarks, flyers, stickers, and letterheads.

ALIA promoted additional activities for libraries to celebrate Library Lovers' Day, such as, hosting a romance themed trivia night; creating a display where users can guess the origin of a love themed quote; or hosting a movie night. You can see the full list of suggested activities on the website.

We encouraged libraries to engage their users in Library Lovers' Day conversation by having a competition for the best social media post about library love using #LibraryLoveStory. For more information about how the day went, please see the Library Lovers' Day 2019 webpage ([bit.ly/1TOCRem](http://bit.ly/1TOCRem)) or check out #LibraryLoversDay.

Thank you to all the libraries, library staff, and patrons that celebrated Library Lovers' Day 2019, we hope you all return in style for Library Lovers' Day in 2020. 🌟

