

## Media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Libraries - our cultural centres

PUBLIC libraries inspire people through books and literature, music, film and theatre.

According to Clarence Regional Librarian, Kathryn Breward, libraries are spaces in which people can be creative, where groups can meet to pursue a shared interest in arts and crafts, (our local Knit Wits knitting groups) or where they can explore new ways of communicating, using new technology, music or other art forms.

"They can be venues for concerts, exhibitions or performances, attracting new audiences. They support self-expression in places where there are no other options," she said.

"Our libraries promote literature through author talks and book groups, provide access to local and family history information.

"Library local history collections are at the heart of communities defining themselves. Our libraries have conducted learning sessions on preservation of your precious documents and photos and have provided hands on help with your historical research needs. We provide access to the popular www.ancestry.com and FindMyPast family history databases and have volunteers to help in their use available through Grafton Library.

"Our libraries provide exhibition space for local groups of artists and arts and crafts and enable travelling exhibitions to be accessible to rural and regional communities."

Release ends.





Caption: Libraries have become a hub for a wide range of cultural activities.

For media inquiries contact Clarence Valley Council communications coordinator, David Bancroft, on 6643 0230 or 0429 104 118.