



PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

ASIA-PACIFIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONFERENCE

Libraries are home to millions of stories, whether they are derived from our wildest imaginations or from our most uncomfortable and confronting truths. They define our sense of who we are and how we see the world.

As librarians and information professionals, you are custodians of many of our stories. You strive to make them available to the public, embracing new technology and methods of delivery to ensure equitable access to information and knowledge.

The different forms of those stories are almost as diverse as the tales they tell, from a 4000 year old clay tablet held at the NSW State Library to the ever-expanding digital collections at libraries across the world. Collections include maps, architectural plans, manuscripts, photographs, immigration records, court judgements, police records and countless other artefacts. And, of course, our beloved books.

Libraries are places of discovery, where you can study with friends using free wifi, or glance through ship records to gain clues about your ancestors.

It gives me great pleasure to send you all my best wishes on this occasion of the first joint conference between the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA), and the Library Association of Singapore (LAS).

I hope the days ahead are filled with fruitful and interesting discussions on the challenges and opportunities facing contemporary libraries.

Our stories are in good hands. Your dedication speaks volumes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mal Turnbull'.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister of Australia

31 July 2018