



Australian Library and
Information Association

Outstanding Achievement Award 2016

John Murrell

As Chief Executive Officer of West Gippsland Regional Library Corporation for nearly 20 years, John Murrell made a significant impact on libraries in his region; as President of Public Libraries Victoria Network from 2009, he showed extraordinary leadership at the state level; and as one of the founder members of the ALIA Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA) in 2009, he elevated that leadership to the national level.

When there was a need for energy and expertise, John was always willing to contribute.

- He played an important role in the working party which consulted on the first ALIA APLA National Standards and Guidelines for Public Libraries, published in 2010.
- It was in no small part due to John's commitment that the National Year of Reading took place in 2012, and was such a success in Victoria, engaging with many thousands of individuals and families.
- He supported the return on investment of public libraries investigation, using Victorian methodology and findings to create a national picture, which has proved invaluable for advocacy.

John's professionalism and warmth was greatly valued by his APLA colleagues and his presence will be sadly missed.

John is a very worthy recipient of this special ALIA Australian Public Library Alliance Outstanding Achievement Award.