



A PLACE FOR EVERYBODY

The aim of the Bendigo Library redevelopment has been to expand community use and reactivate this important community and civic space.

Some basic design principles have driven the redevelopment. It is a space that is inviting and inclusive; a place that is open and flexible and a building that is efficient and productive.

There are informal, playful spaces where people will gather and socialise and beautifully appointed serious spaces that house our precious collections. The architecture assists users to find their way. The building spaces flow, and are linked by an internal street with views that open onto areas inviting people to explore and participate.

The Library sits in within an historic civic precinct in the heart of Bendigo. A renewed building that complements its surrounds.

HOW MUCH DID THE REDEVELOPMENT COST?

The project cost was \$9.12 million. There were a number of funding sources for the project with the largest contribution being made by the City of Greater Bendigo. The State Government of Victoria provided \$750,000 from the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and \$2 million from the Local Government Infrastructure Fund. The Goldfields Library Corporation provided \$1million and the Hugh DT Williamson Foundation provided a grant of \$100,000.

WHAT'S NEW?

- Extended Library hours
- Introduction of RFID Technology including new Self Loan Stations
- New activity spaces and community access meeting rooms
- Information screens throughout the building
- Café
- Adventurous children's areas
- All new furniture and shelving
- Extended opening hours for the Goldfields Research Centre and the rest of the Library
- Sister Cities Sculpture - commemorating the Bendigo Sister Cities relationship

HOW BIG IS THE LIBRARY?

The Library is 4000 sqm. The redevelopment has added 243 sqm to the overall floor space of the facility.

WHAT IS IN THE COLLECTION?

The Library has space for approximately 100,000 items. The total collection is 133,000 items. The collection includes items in various formats such as books, magazines, DVD's, CD's, talking books, digital resources and more.

HOW MANY PUBLIC COMPUTERS DOES THE LIBRARY HAVE?

Up to 28 computers are available for community use.

WHAT TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET ACCESS WILL I FIND?

- State of the Art audio visual equipment in all meeting rooms and activity spaces
- Free WIFI throughout the building
- Short term and longer use computer access

ARE THERE MEETING ROOMS FOR HIRE?

Yes there are new activity spaces and meeting rooms for hire. Please refer to our website for more information.

AN ENERGY EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

The Library has many Environmentally Sustainable Design features. In the first instance, the original building is being reused, and the building now has double glazed windows on the western facade, air conditioning plant providing more advanced air circulation and overnight thermal cooling using the concrete slab on the ground floor ceiling.

The ceiling is an important feature of the new building. It is a state of the art acoustic plasterboard product, and the installation here is one of the biggest installations of this product to date. It also helps clean the air. It is the first building in Australia to use this advanced technology.

The environmental footprint of the facility will be reduced. While the size of the building has been increased by 10% it is predicted that the energy required will be reduced by around 14%. A new Building Management Content System has been installed which monitors and displays the electricity, gas and water use of the building.

WHERE IS THE FURNITURE FROM?

Locally manufactured Jordan furniture was selected for most areas including low benches and stools at the children's library. The 'Ned' chair was specifically picked with high arms to assist older people or those with ambulant disabilities to stand up out of the chair with the use of the arm rests. The long feature 'red' couch in the central community lounge continues Bendigo's support of community programs. Study desks and cafe tables are also by Jordan, complemented by painted timber Billini 'Doll' chairs from Italy.

WHAT ARE THE TIMBERS USED IN THE BUILDING?

The solid timber around the entrance is Spotted Gum. Bamboo laminate and kiln dried hardwood have been used for the fittings and joinery.

WHO WAS THE ARCHITECT AND BUILDER?

The architects were MGS Architects. Contract Control Services were the head contractors for the building.

TIMELINE OF THE BENDIGO LIBRARY AT HARGREAVES ST

- 1955** Bendigo Municipal Library opens on the first floor of the Civic Building in Hargreaves Street
- 1984** Two-storey Bendigo Library opens on the site
- 2010** City of Greater Bendigo releases a master plan for the redevelopment of the building
- 2011** MGS Architects appointed to design new building
- 2012 AUG** Bendigo Library relocates to temporary premises in the refurbished Bendigo Advertiser Building and demolition works begin on the façade of the old library
- 2012 SEP** Contract Control Services are appointed as head contractors
- 2013 DEC** The temporary premises close and the move back to the Hargreaves Street site begins
- 2014 JAN** The New Generation Bendigo Library opens!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bendigo Library

251-259 Hargreaves St
PO Box 887, Bendigo 3552
p: 5449 2700
e: bendigo@ncgrl.vic.gov.au
Mon - Fri 9am - 7pm
Sat 10am - 1pm

Goldfields Research Centre

251-259 Hargreaves St
p: 5449 2794
e: goldfields@ncgrl.vic.gov.au
Mon - Fri 9am - 7pm
Sat 10am - 1pm

Bendigo Regional Archives Centre

251-259 Hargreaves St
p: 5449 2700
e: brac@ncgrl.vic.gov.au
Wed, Thu 10am - 4:30pm