



Media Release

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Chookas for Mayor's virtual National Simultaneous Storytime reading on 27 May

The mysterious night activities of two fluffy, silky chooks will come to life as Cockburn's Mayor reads *Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas* for the 2020 National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) on 27 May.

Mayor Logan Howlett's virtual story time reading will be available on the Cockburn Libraries website from 10.30am on the day, to coincide with the Australian Library and Information Association's annual celebration of reading and literacy which this year celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Mayor Howlett usually reads the NSS picture books to children at one of Cockburn's three libraries but due to COVID-19 restrictions, will pre-record the telling of this year's book, by Australian children's author Lucinda Gifford.

"With the Mayor's cooperation, we decided to video the reading, without an audience, and post it to the libraries website so people in Cockburn can enjoy it as a virtual program online," Jessica Donald, Cockburn Libraries Young People's Services Coordinator, said.

"We have been doing this for the last few weeks for families while we have been closed and will continue until we return to regular programming.

"It's been really popular with viewers and we know local families are already looking forward to this year's NSS, especially because the book is a very popular one."

Mayor Howlett said he had always enjoyed reading to his own children, and now his grandchildren, and looked forward to National Simultaneous Storytime each May.

"The occasion is a celebration of Australian authors and illustrators, and the importance of reading and books to children as they grow, to help them foster a love of reading, and all it can help them discover about the world," Mayor Howlett said.

See the Mayor's story time at cockburnlibraries.com.au



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