



**Greg Aplin MP**  
Member for Albury

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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10 August 2018

### **ALBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY SET TO SHARE FROM REGIONAL ARTS DIGITISATION STRATEGY**

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin today announced that the Albury & District Historical Society will receive a share in the NSW Government Regional Arts Digitisation program to digitise microfilmed local newspapers.

Mr Aplin said the Albury & District Historical Society will receive \$68,877 through the NSW Government's new Regional Cultural Fund (RCF), which is aimed at making it easier for museum, art and other culturally important collections to be explored and enjoyed by the public across Australia and the world.

With the funding, Albury & District Historical Society will digitise two sets of microfilmed local newspapers (editions of the Albury Banner from 1881-1896 and the Border Morning Mail 1938-1942) onto the National Library of Australia's search engine Trove, to help fill some significant historical gaps in Albury's recorded history.

"This is a huge win for our local Historical Society which will allow even more people to enjoy its unique collection," Mr Aplin said.

This electorate has a rich history, and this investment will not only help us preserve that, but will also allow us share our stories with a wider, global audience."

NSW Deputy Premier, John Barilaro said the statewide program will allow people to more easily access, learn from, and in turn appreciate regional NSW's cultural assets.

"Important historically-significant collections can be found all through the state," Mr Barilaro said.

"I congratulate Albury & District Historical Society and the 10 other recipients of this funding, who will no doubt make great use of the support," he said.

Minister for the Arts, Don Harwin said that in addition to the 11 projects supported, further funding has been provided to determine a regional strategy for ongoing digitisation as a priority for the NSW Government.

"I am delighted to say that we are committed to developing a prototype model and a business case for a single sustainable, regional digitisation strategy that will bring state-wide benefits," Mr Harwin said.

"By preserving the past we are enabling opportunities for future generations to explore and enjoy NSW's rich cultural wealth," he said.

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