

NEW HORIZONS: shaping tomorrow's libraries  
for the Victorian community

## Megatrends & Megashocks and the Challenges They Offer



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### Welcome & Introduction – why we employ foresight



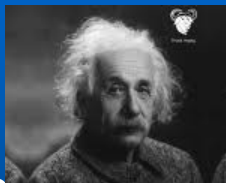
- Learn about the key issues we face
- Identify the influences changing our world
- Create alternative futures relevant to the issues and responding to the influences
- Identify the strategic implications of these futures
- Create adaptive and generative strategies for today

## New Horizons: A Framing Question



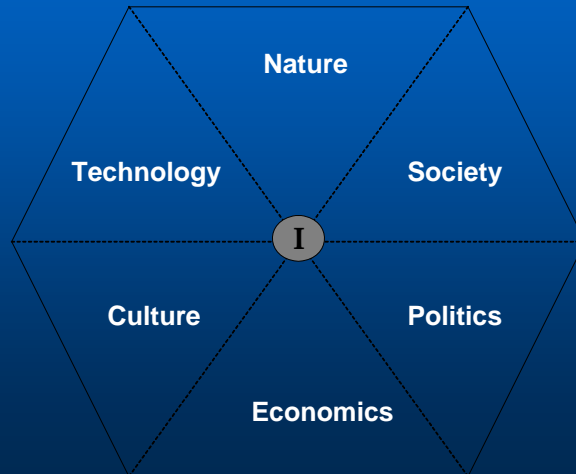
- How might we successfully shape tomorrow's libraries for the Victorian community and what should we be doing about it today?

## What We Are Going To Do Today



- Think how we got to be here
- Think where we might be going
- Think about the challenges we face

## The INSPECT PROCESS



## How Did We Get Where We Are Today?

- What are the key events which have shaped libraries in Victoria since 1980?



## Where Are We Going?

Let's imagine the future in 2040



## What Challenges Will We Face?

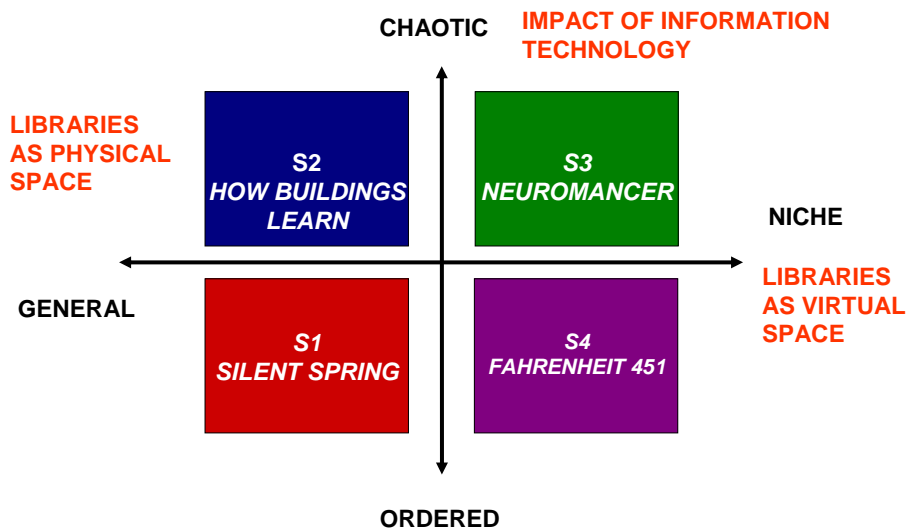


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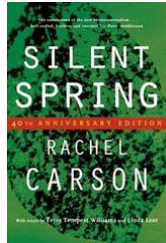
## The Six Strategic Domains



## Public Libraries Scenario Matrix



## Scenario 1 SILENT SPRING



### Overview

Mood: survivalist  
Present day link: going backwards  
Physical books: valued  
Libraries: re-discovered

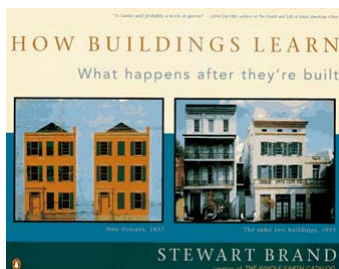
### Shock Influences

- climate change
- resource shortages
- drift away from digital
- technology rejected/restrained

### Consequent Scenario

- slower and more sustainable
- re-balancing, switching things off
- shift to local living
- renaissance of physical books
- need for safe community spaces

## Scenario 2 HOW BUILDINGS LEARN



### Overview

Mood: harmonious  
Present day link: long boom  
Physical books: declining  
Libraries: third spaces

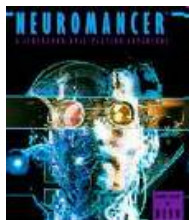
### Shock Influences

- high rate of technology change
- shift to digital living
- declining attention spans
- too much information
- underlying anxiety

### Consequent Scenario

- expansion of library services
- urban/rural divide
- format instability
- library polarisation

## Scenario 3 NEUROMANCER



### Overview

Mood: bewilderment  
Present day link: acceleration  
Physical books: leisure use  
Libraries: silver lining

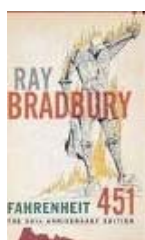
### Shock Influences

- resource shortages
- price spikes
- information overload
- generational divides

### Consequent Scenario

- shortages of everything
- internet brownouts
- anxiety & uncertainty
- media mayhem

## Scenario 4 FAHRENHEIT 451



### Overview

Mood: ambivalent  
Present day link: digitalisation  
Physical books: dying  
Libraries: low use

### Shock Influences

- digitalisation & virtualisation
- ubiquitous connectivity
- e-government

### Consequent Scenario

- fast paced
- rise of the BRICs
- GRIN technologies
- e-everything
- convenience rules!

## Seven challenges for a resilient and sustainable future

- Think locally; act locally - promote 'my local'
- Promote trust in the library brand
- Rationalise the delivery of online services
- Make your library a social networking and community hub
- Train staff as digital brokers and harness specialist skills
- Focus on needs created by generational change
- Advocacy and lobbying with 'one voice'