

Craig  
**ONDARCHIE MP**

Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship  
Liberal Member for **Northern Metropolitan Region**

REAL  
SOLUTIONS  
for all  
Victorians.

Wednesday 26 October 2022

## **Protecting Victoria's Sri Lankan Community Library**

Ancient Sri Lankan historical documents will be protected under a Liberal Nationals government.

A Matt-Guy led Government will ensure that one of kind historical documents are protected for future generations by providing \$200,000 to ensure that the 'Victor Melder Community Library' can be co-located in a protected Municipal Library.

Mr Melder has collected over 7000 individual pieces of literature and historical information on Sri Lanka including extremely rare publications. He has been collecting these pieces since migrating to Australia over 50 years ago. His library has been enjoyed by many Victorians and travelling dignitaries.

While Mr Melder has managed this library from his home in Broadmeadows until now, but the volume of publications requires more space and additional assistance to care for these historical documents.

This funding will go towards ensuring that Victor Melder's incredible collection is transferred and Co-Located at a local Municipal Library so that it can live on for generations to come.

The Liberal and Nationals' commitment will allow for all Victorians and community groups to share in Sri Lankan Heritage and enjoy ancient literature for years to come.

**Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Craig Ondarchie MP**, said: "The Victorian Liberal Nationals are ensuring that our valued Sri Lankan communities' history is preserved."

"Only a Liberal Nationals Government will ensure that community organisations and multicultural groups can expand and continue to preserve their history right across Victoria."

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