

Friends of the Library Byron Shire
Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting
Marvell Hall 10 am Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Attendance:

Beryl Main, Richard Hodgson, Janene Jarvis, Anne Gilmore, Mary Nelson, Barbara Barrett, Geoff Meers, Lee Rogers, Sandy Allan, Margot Wright, Samantha McGrath, Gerda Roche, Sandy Allan, Cathy Short, Gulcin Cribb, Phillipa Davern, James Davern, Carl Cleves, Natalia Standfield, Rob Goodwill

Apologies:

Caroline Adams, Sue Hart, Jed Hart, Sally Bunyan, Brenda Anderson, Kathy Pickles, Lesley Jenkins, Phoebe Havyatt, Gay Bilson

1. Welcome by President

Beryl welcomed attendees, particularly new members and gave her report (see attached below).

2. Election of Office Bearers

All positions were declared vacant, and nominations were sought. Sandy Allan chaired and asked for the nominations. The following positions were filled:

- **President:** Beryl Main accepted the nomination for President by Richard Hodgson and seconded by Lee Rogers. Beryl was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22 and then Chaired the remainder of the meeting.
- **Vice President:** Janene Jarvis accepted the nomination for Vice President by Richard Hodgson and seconded Samantha McGrath. Janene was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22.
- **Treasurer:** Richard Hodgson accepted the nomination for Treasurer by Anne Gilmore and seconded by Margot Wright. Richard was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22.
- **Secretary:** Anne Gilmore accepted the nomination for Secretary by Mary Nelson and seconded by Gulcin Cribb. Anne was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22.
- **Assistant Secretary:** Catherine Short accepted the nomination for Assistant Secretary by Beryl Main and seconded by Richard Hodgson. Cathy was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22.
- **Membership Officer:** Samantha McGrath accepted the nomination for Membership Secretary by Richard Hodgson and seconded Janene Jarvis. Samantha was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22
- **Events Coordinator:** Gerda Roche accepted the nomination for Events Coordinator by Janene Jarvis and Barbara Barrett. Gerda was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22
- **Publicity Coordinator:** Margot Wright accepted the nomination for Publicity Coordinator by Beryl Main and seconded by Janene Jarvis. Margot was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22.
- **Web & Social Media Coordinator:** Samantha McGrath accepted the nomination for Web Coordinator by Richard Hodgson and seconded by Janene Jarvis. Samantha was elected unopposed for the year 2021/22. Samantha will take on the social media aspects of the Events Co-Ordinator role.

Beryl thanked Gerda and Cathy for taking on roles in the executive committee. Beryl went on to thank Geoff for his support and hard work as both the Secretary for some years and more recently as the Assistant Secretary and Mary for her wonderful work as the Events Co-Ordinator over the years and the many enjoyable events she organized while in this role.

3. Minutes AGM 2020

Moved Anne that they are a true record of the meeting, seconded by Lee.

4. Business arising from the minutes: No items

5. Presidents annual report: As at the 19th October 2021 FOL Byron Shire has 69 members which is very positive see attached Presidents report below.

6. Treasurers 2020/2021 Financial Statement

Working account balance: 1 July 2020 \$9,932, balance 30 June 2021 \$19,382

Cash reserve account: balance: 1 July 2019 \$14,411, balance 30 June 2020 \$14,471

Term deposit: balance: 1 July 2020 \$19,211, balance 30 June 2021 \$19,442

Petty cash: balance: 1 July 2020 \$191, balance 30 June 2021 \$200.

End the Year with a balance year end 2020-21 \$53,506

7. General Business

Signatories: Richard confirmed that all current signatories on the Westpac accounts were valid for the coming year.

8. Other Business

Guest Speaker – Gulcin Cribb

Gulcin has been involved in the library profession since 1976. She has worked with nine different academic libraries in four countries. Australia, UK, Turkey and Singapore, recently retiring from the Singapore Management University. She will share her passion for libraries and librarians. We are fortunate to have her as a member of Friends of Libraries Byron Shire.

Meeting to closed 10.45am, was followed by morning tea before the October 2021 General Meeting.

President's Report for the Annual General Meeting October 2021

Last year I opened my address with the comment that 'in our wildest of dreams' we would never have imagined our destiny and fate enmeshed in a pandemic. As this blemish continued to unfold and absorbing the complexities of this dilemma, I can proudly share that Friends of Libraries Byron Shire managed to keep afloat and spirits continually refueled. In preparing for today, I read through all the minutes for the 2020/2021 year and was most encouraged by what we had achieved in these adverse times and just how many events to which we had managed to commit despite limitations or lock downs. Of course, we had to face the disappointment of cancellations, especially the Book Fair. But it is the spirit, comradeship and togetherness of this group that has made it possible to confront and find alternatives for changed plans. I thank all those active members who help to make our events successful and invite any members who are thinking about it, to step up and volunteer.

We hosted 4 author events, including the inspirational Alice Achan from Uganda at Moller Pavilion with our wonderful partners The Bangalow CWA providing afternoon tea; participated in Zoom author interviews; managed a Palace Cinema event with The Bookseller; acquired an empty shop to run an eminently successful Pop Up Booksale and raised substantial funds from our raffle. As always, I am most appreciative of the generous support FOL receives from the local community with prizes. Purchasing the Square eftpos readers helped with the evolving methods of making payments and facilitated transactions.

Our publicity continues to reach out through The Echo, The Bangalow Herald, The Northern Rivers Times, FOL Facebook, and Instagram. Please continue to share our events through your personal social media platforms, especially digital community noticeboards. Zoom meetings allowed us to keep connected. Library support programs continue with funding the Quick Reads program, reupholstering furniture for Mullumbimby and Byron Bay. Refurbishment of the Brunswick Heads Library circulation desk is still in negotiation. Council is considering whether past refurbishment plans are still appropriate and what the best way to spend money would be. The e-resources program which involved all FOL groups in RTRL has been postponed as other groups were not in the financial position to contribute. Alternative for funding e-resources is being explored by RTRL.

FOL supported the recommendation on the use of Lone Goat Gallery that the Gallery reopen under the 'direct delivery partnership model'. At the end of the financial year, it appeared that the cost for FOL to use the facility would be prohibitive. Once the gallery is permanently opened, negotiations for possible exemptions can continue.

As some members leave the community and new members arrive, FOL manages to keep membership at 66. Through our correspondence this is a good way to keep up with events.

I thank the library staff for the assistance they provide in helping us to implement our projects.

As in the past, I feel privileged to lead this enthusiastic, and dedicated and high performing group of volunteers who give much time to help make our libraries the best places they can be. Of course, along with this come the many benefits and rewards of interesting and successful events and much friendship. I thank all members for your generous support over the past year, knowing that it will continue. Your support is vital to the efficiencies of our programs.

Best wishes,

Beryl Main, President of Friends of Libraries Byron Shire.

'Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are'. Mason Cooley