

Friends of the Library Byron Shire
Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 18 April 2018
Arakwal Room, Byron Bay Library

1. Attendance: Janene Jarvis, Geoff Meers, Mary Nelson, Margot Wright, Anne Gilmore, Anna Middleton, Barbara Barrett, Judy Lynch, Barry Pratt, Pam Hughes, Lee Rogers, Bob Levett, Wendy Levett

Apologies: Beryl Main, Trisha Bleakley, Carolyn Adams, Cathy Short, Richard Hodgson, Samantha McGrath, Sue Ash,

2. Librarian's Report: No report

3. Minutes from November Meeting:

- Moved Janene that they are a true record of the meeting, seconded by Mary

4. Business Arising from October Meeting:

- Anne reported some information re Housie at Brunswick Heads over Xmas holidays but said she would do further research

5. Presidents Report February 2018: Attached

6. Correspondence Incoming:

- Response from Byron Council re e-newsletter declining because of commercial activity. Further correspondence required re book sale:
ACTION Margo

7. Correspondence Outgoing:

- Email to Byron Council re including FOL activities in council e-newsletter

8. Treasurers Report:

- No report. Note figures read out at meeting were from the March report.

9. Membership report:

- 59 members

10. General Business:

- Mandy Nolan "Women Like Us" launch Heritage House Saturday May 12, 3.00pm. Current numbers 49, FOL members encouraged to book. Discussed catering and agreed need for additional cheese platter

ACTION Janene/Margo. Drinks to be ordered from Banaglow Cellars,
ACTION Mary

- Book Fair 13, 14, 15 July
 - Sorting Monday 23rd 2.00pm at shed
 - Agreed no more publicity asking for books at the moment
- Raffle
 - Stapled books collected
 - Noted some prizes still to be collected
 - **ACTION** Janene to coordinate Raffle Committee meeting with Anna, Sue, Judy. Hopefully Beryl will be available. Samantha to be notified of outcomes
- Byron Writers Festival
 - Discussed Ailsa Piper/Tony Doherty in conversation. **AGREED** to seek them for our pre-BWF event, **ACTION** Mary noting limit of FOL contribution to \$400 session fee.
 - See attached link for further details on Ailsa/Tony

11. Other Business:

- Margo proposed preparing short history of FOL to use in publicity, **AGREED**

Meeting closed at 10.40am

Ailsa/Tony link

<https://www.allenandunwin.com/browse/books/general-books/biography-autobiography/The-Attachment-Ailsa-Piper-and-Tony-Doherty-9781760294687>

Ailsa and Tony propose the following format for our event. They have used this successfully elsewhere:

Basically, the two of us sit at a table and we narrate and read - we CELEBRATE - various personal correspondences. Our selection has included Michael Leunig's Curly Pyjama letters, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, In Tearing Haste (Patrick Leigh Fermor and Deborah Devonshire), 84 Charing Cross Road, Letters of an Indian Judge to an English Gentlewoman, The Element of Lavishness (Sylvia Townsend Werner and William Maxwell), the play Love Letters by AR Gurney, and a letter each from The Attachment, of course. It runs to 50 minutes but material can be cut or added if needed. Basically, we have a little bit of commentary between our selections, and we read a couple of letters from each correspondence. Leunig gets a bit more of a look-in. It's charming, and for folk who are nostalgic about letter-writing, or passionate about it as I am, it's a great celebration. Also, it crosses forms and folks - cartoons, theatre, novel, anonymous, famous....

President's report

And so the hard work continues with Janene and her busy team sorting books and organising our second storage shed. As the Book Fair gets closer, there will be many more of these occasions so your offer of help is always appreciated. The old adage prevails "many hands....." you know the rest! We are now in our third year of the Book Fair and I believe that is becoming a notable local event. Our publicity team will be out there working hard, but it is also up to our members to keep up the promotion.

The collection of raffle prizes is almost completed with just a couple left to collect. Our prize list is looking most spectacular and will be presented at this month's meeting. It is always so rewarding to hear the complimentary comments made by our donors acknowledging the work that Friends of Libraries do for the community. Fine tuning the sale of tickets is always a big task. I know that Samantha will be calling for volunteers to sell tickets at designated venues. This is where every FOL member can assist, even if it is to just to help once. The big and interesting prize list should generate good revenue. We must make this so! I hope that all FOL members will be able to take a book or two of tickets to sell amongst friends.

A fun afternoon with Mandy Nolan and Ellen Briggs is on the horizon. If you have not got tickets yet, get in fast as they are selling quickly. A Saturday afternoon with humour, afternoon tea and champagne sounds like a pleasant way to spend a couple of hours at Heritage House in Bangalow. Selection of an author for our Moller Pavilion event the Writers Festival is underway with Mary liaising with the Writers Festival team. I have recently read *The Attachment* by Ailsa Piper and Tony Doherty. This most unlikely pairing of a non-believer and a catholic priest through e-pal (pen pal) correspondence is fascinating correspondence. Their love of words is delightful. I will be interested to hear whether you all think they may suit our event. Their public performance in Melbourne was well received.

I apologise for not being able to attend meetings at the moment but my thoughts and interests are strongly with Friends of Libraries and our upcoming events. All the best, Beryl.