

Friends of the Library Byron Shire  
Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting  
Wednesday 16 October 2018  
Pandanas Room, Byron Services Club

1. Attendance: Beryl Main (Chair), Lee Rogers, Sue Ash, Barbara Barrett, Trisha Bleakley, Anne Gilmore, Richard Hodgson, Samantha McGrath, Anna Middleton, Mary Nelson, Barry Pratt, Fred Schack, Val Audran, Betty Sternberg, Linda Lawrence, Cathy Short  
Apologies: Carolyn Adams, Geoff Meers, Janene Jarvis, Margaret Wills, Margot Wright, Brenda Anderson, Pam Hughes, Trish Wall, Sally Hall, Michael Brown, Bett Beresford.
2. Librarian's Report:
  - A representative from the Library could not be present today as it is a training day for all Library staff.
3. Minutes from September Meeting:
  - Moved Anne that they are a true record of the meeting, seconded by Anna.
4. Business Arising from September Meeting:
  - **ACTION:** Geoff to arrange cloud storage for FOL documents
5. Presidents Report October 2018:
  - See Beryl's report attached below.
6. Correspondence Incoming:
  - Laurie Lynch sent a thank you to FOL members who attended Judy's memorial service.
7. Correspondence Outgoing: Nil
8. Treasurers Report:
  - There was no activity last month except for interest earned. Accumulated balance as of 14 October \$40,921.
  - The strategy regarding donations to the Library was discussed. Beryl reported that since the opening of the new Byron Bay Library 6 years previously, FOL has provided \$100,000 in additional funding. The strategy is to provide the Library with top up funding so that they continue to have access to the same funding level they received prior to recent funding cuts. FOL responds to requests for funding made by Brenda Anderson.
  - **ACTION:** Richard to provide financial statements to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).
  - Richard moved that the report be accepted, seconded Mary.
9. Membership report:
  - Trisha reported that FOL now has 69 members and new 3 life members.
10. General Business:
  - **ACTION:** Geoff to follow up our membership of the national body FOLA.
  - Thanks to Barbara for organising the guest speaker Michelle Dawson for the AGM.
  - Beryl reported on Wendy Levett's condition. The meeting expressed best wishes to Wendy for a speedy recovery. Beryl will deliver some flowers from FOL.
  - Where History Happened Event
    - The 'TO Do's list that was provided by Janene to Anne at the September meeting was discussed. Anne reported all actions are now in place. **ACTION:** As Trisha will no longer be able to attend and provide support with the Nibbles Cathy agreed to take on this task with Anna.

- **ACTION:** Anne to include in the TO DO list the requirements that Richard bring two cash boxes to the event one for drinks the other for ticket sales. **ACTION:** Anne to obtain an electronic version of this list from Janene to send to Trish for circulation so that members know what is required.
- Anne circulated a run sheet she had prepared for the day of the event to be held at the Ewingsdale Hall on 1 November at 5.30pm. **ACTION:** Anne to include the additional information in the run sheet to ensure glasses are being washed and so available at the end of the event for further sale of drinks.
- **ACTION:** Richard to purchase bubbly, white and red wine for the event.
- **ACTION:** Anne to provide Mary with an appropriate photo and text on the book launch event for Mary to send to the Byron News.
- **ACTION:** Mary to contact Altonsville and Ballina historical societies regarding the promotion of the event to their members.
- Book Fair
  - We do not have a large number of books in storage for the 2019 book fair and so are looking for donations. Once more books start coming in times will be set for book sorting.
- Christmas Party
  - Arakwal room is confirmed for the Christmas Lunch on 12 December.
  - **ACTION:** Trish to send a reminder to all members to let them know they are welcome to attend and bring a plate to share. Beryl will prepare an invitation for Trish.
- Assistant Membership Officer
  - Motion: That the executive committee include the position of Assistant Membership Officer and that in addition to the Membership Officer they will be given access to the list and contacts of members for the purpose of correspondence. Sue Ash has offered to take on this role. Moved Beryl Seconded Barbara.
  - Future of Libraries focus group event to be held at the Cavanbah Centre. **ACTION:** Trish will send out a reminder to members about this activity so that those interested can attend.

Meeting closed 12.10pm

## President's Report 16 October, 2018

The library staff is not able to be present today as there is a Richmond Tweed Regional Library training day. They have been very busy over the school holidays and have had lots of HSC students using the Young Adult room for study. Kim Vanderhope is the newest recruit in the Byron Shire RTRL and commenced permanent, part time work of 25 hrs per week. She is a qualified speech pathologist and has experience in Social Welfare work. She will mostly work at Brunswick Heads library.

As of Monday 22 October, Brunswick heads library will be closed until Tuesday 30 October for repair work on the floor.

Kate Crisp, at the Byron Library, is overwhelmed by the success of the Quick Reads programme at the Byron Library. This was funded by Friends of Libraries which allows readers to have a popular or recently released book for one week only. The titles in this programme cannot be reserved and have a higher penalty if not returned on time. Kate is already looking at increasing the number of titles. This has been a great idea with a great outcome.

Please spread the word about our evening with Peter Spearritt and Donald Maughan at Ewingsdale Hall on Thursday November 1. This is our last book event for the year, so let's make it a great success. Anne Gilmore may be in need of extra help for this evening, so look out for any requests.

I spoke with Wendy Levett on Monday who is now making good progress at home having had three weeks in hospital following a stroke. She is being cared for by husband Bob and their daughters.

Please keep the date for our Christmas lunch listed on your calendar. The Arakwal Room, December 12. Bring a plate of festive food to share.

I have just read *The Birdman's Wife* by Melissa Ashley. It is a fascinating and well researched insight into the life of artist Elizabeth Gould, the wife of ornithologist John Gould. Melissa has done a remarkable job of portraying an extraordinary person overlooked by history, a strong and talented woman, a devoted wife and loving mother.

Happy reading

*"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."*

– Cicero