

Friends of the Library Byron Shire
Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting
Heritage House Bangalow 16 October 2019, 10.00am

1. Welcome by President: Beryl welcomed attendees, particularly new members

2. Present and apologies, proxies:

Present: Beryl Main, Geoff Meers, Mary Nelson, Richard Hodgson, Samantha McGrath. Catherine Short, Sue Ash; Fred Schack, Barbara Barrett, Sally Bunyan, Lee Rogers, Bette Beresford, Caroline Adams, Margot Wright, Margaret Wills. Gerda Roche, Veronica Beckwith

Apologies: Anna Middleton, Brenda Anderson, Janene Jarvis, Anne Gilmore,

Guest: Jesse Blackadder

Proxies: Nil

Guest speaker: Jesse Blackadder

- Jesse discussed her experience in Antarctica as a joint recipient of an Antarctic Arts Fellowship in 2018. This involved a 3-month stay at Mawson Base during the summer of 2018/19 and the joint preparation of a book and TV series outline.
- Jesse's slide presentation of scenes from the base and the Antarctic landscape were beautiful

Mary thanked Jesse for a fascinating presentation on life in Antarctica and presented her with a bunch of native flowers.

3. Minutes AGM 2017

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

4. Business arising from the minutes: Nil

5. Presidents annual report: attached

6. Treasurers 2017/18 financial statement

- Working account balance: 1 July 2018 \$22,443, balance 30 June 2019 \$19,015
 - Cash reserve account: balance: 1 July 2018 \$14,262, balance 30 June 2019 \$14,411
 - Term deposit: balance: 1 July 2018 \$18,578, balance 30 June 2019 \$18,770
 - Petty cash: balance: 1 July 2018 \$183, balance 30 June 2019 \$204
 - Noted Richard will complete the reports to Fair Trading and Charities Commission
- Moved Richard: that the report be accepted, seconded Sue

7. Election of Office Bearers: all positions were declared vacant and nominations were sought.

- President: Beryl Main accepted the nomination for president by Margo Wright. Beryl Main was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.
- Vice President: Janene Jarvis accepted the nomination for vice president by Beryl Main. Janene Jarvis was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.
- Treasurer: Richard Hodgson accepted the nomination for treasurer by Beryl Main. Richard Hodgson was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.
- Secretary: Anne Gilmore accepted the nomination for secretary by Geoff Meers, Anne Gilmore was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.

- Assistant Secretary: Geoff Meers accepted the nomination for assistant secretary by Barbara Barrett, Geoff Meers was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20
- Membership Officer: Sue Ash accepted the nomination for membership secretary by Beryl Main, Sue Ash was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.
- Events Coordinator: Mary Nelson accepted the nomination for web coordinator by Beryl Main, Mary Nelson was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20
- Publicity Coordinator: Margot Wright accepted the nomination for publicity coordinator by Beryl Main. Margot Wright was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.
- Web Coordinator: Samantha McGrath accepted the nomination for web coordinator by Beryl Main, Samantha McGrath was elected unopposed for the year 2019/20.

8. General business

- Westpac signatories, ACTION: Richard to arrange removal of Geoff and addition of Anne.

Meeting closed 11.15am

President's Report for Annual General Meeting 2019

Our mission remains our focus as our libraries continue to be places that provide a comfortable space for our large and varied demographic, some of whom seek refuge in these beautiful spaces. Along with providing opportunities to host book events, we pursue our objectives of raising funds to enhance existing library services, supporting and assisting in the promotion and development of library services in our region and assisting in strengthening the role of the library as a community hub, connecting people with people and with information, collections, programs and resources.

This past year has seen continued successful performance by Friends of Libraries Byron Shire with author events, fundraising, supporting library events, surveys and the allocation of money to our libraries being the highlights.

Financially we have made significant contribution to our libraries with over \$16,000 being distributed to the Area Librarian to increase her resources budget, purchase furniture and book storage facilities and implement the 'Quick Reads' programme in Byron Bay library. I am grateful for the support offered to us by the staff of all three libraries in our Shire. Such cooperation and collaboration is the secret to our success.

Our major fundraiser, The Book Fair and raffle, reached new heights, and left all those concerned feeling a great sense of satisfaction. This does not happen without much effort from the strong leadership of the Book Fair Convenor, FOL committee and members alike. It is always impressive to see friends of our members come along to help. The rewards are huge. Our sponsors have readily continued their support with generous donations for our raffle. Holding our Book Fair on the same weekend as the Beachside Markets has drawn unexpected crowds and we plan to continue this relationship with the Byron Community Centre, already set in motion for 2020.

Our special event with Di Morrissy in conjunction with the Writers Festival was also a great success, attracting a large crowd of 110 guests to a most enjoyable afternoon. The Bangalow CWA generously provided and served their usual sumptuous afternoon tea and everyone enjoyed a chat with Di. Our continuing relationship with the Writers Festival is becoming an important part of our identity.

Being the President of this enthusiastic group is such a pleasure and I find that each year I fall back on my usual words of gratitude to those who have taken on committee positions over the past year. I say 'thank you' to this dedicated executive and committee and also to the many FOL members who assist with our fundraising activities and events. To our members I say that none of our achievements would be possible without you. I urge everyone to consider standing for a position on the committee at some stage as it is a most rewarding group of volunteers with which to work. Our membership currently stands at around 60. The committee is always dependent on those members to assist with our events and fundraisers. I ask all members to continue giving generously of their time when called upon. Your support is vital to the efficiencies of our projects.

Once again, I feel privileged to lead this enthusiastic, dedicated and high performing group of volunteers.

Beryl Main, President Friends of Libraries Byron Shire.