

**MINUTES for the GENERAL MEETING of
FRIENDS OF THE BENALLA LIBRARY INC. (FOBL)
held at 9:30am at the Benalla Library
on Tuesday 15th July 2025**

1. Apologies: Kay Johnson, Dawn Stephens, Rina Caddy, Margaret Richards, Claire Rudolph, Shirley Robertson, Robyn Maclean

2. Present: Geraldine McCorkell, Corrie Witlox, Christine Glynn, Andi Stephenson, Deb Saunders, Bev Thornell, Heather Rogers, Kay Blore, Joan Brown, Phyllis Doxey, Lynn Gibson, Marilyn Bourke

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th May 2025

* Date for today's meeting was corrected at the end of the Minutes.

Received: Bev Thornell **Seconded:** Andi Stephenson

Passed

Business Arising:

* Ashley to present ideas for future spending at this meeting

* Writing Competition to be explored for 2026 with a focus on adult entries.

4. Correspondence:

In: Email from Alana Johnson

It is the 50th Anniversary of the Art Gallery and she is keen to speak to groups.

Follow up: Geraldine will invite Alana to speak at our AGM on Tuesday November 18

Email from CAV re new licensing and registration system

We're excited to announce that incorporated associations can start using our upgraded version of [myCAV](#).

myCAV provides 24-hour access to licensing and registration information and a quick and easy way to:

- manage your incorporated association's details*
- pay fees securely*
- lodge transactions*
- send and receive important communications.*

You can no longer use the old portal to manage your incorporated association's details. Please create a new account by using our [step-by-step guide](#).

*A reminder that **we are no longer accepting cheques**. Instead, please pay using BPAY, Visa or MasterCard (credit and debit cards) for annual statements and other transactions.*

Follow up: Deb will set up the new account.

Out: No emails out

Moved that correspondence be accepted:

Accepted: Phyllis Doxey

Seconded:

Corrie Witlox

Passed

REPORTS:

5. Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance 1/5/25 **\$11,918.88**

INCOME

Books	\$3,782.20	
Membership	332.00	
Donations	<u>38.55</u>	4,152.75

EXPENDITURE

Shop

Hide's Bakery – rent	1,200.00	
Hide's Bakery – electricity	59.83	
Printing membership forms	41.00	
Fire Extinguisher	17.00	
Consumables	147.55	
BRCC – rates	331.00	
Vacuum Cleaner	<u>249.00</u>	2,045.38

Library Support

Water Filter	132.00	
Newspapers	186.90	
Vogue Magazine	65.00	
Petty Cash	<u>186.70</u>	<u>570.60</u>
		<u>2,615.98</u>

Closing Balance **\$13,455.65**

Term deposit maturing 8/1/26 @4.5%	\$14,000.00	
Term deposit maturing 11/4/26 @ 4.0%.	<u>11,592.59</u>	<u>25,592.59</u>

TOTAL FUNDS 30/6/25 **\$39,048.24**

Corrie reported that the online payments for books are working well.

Moved: Corrie Witlox **Seconded:** Marilyn Bourke **Passed**

6. Membership Report:

GENERAL MEMBERS 51

LIFE MEMBERS 39

TOTAL MEMBERS 90

Robyn reported that the online Membership Process is working well.

7. Library Coordinator's Report:

HIGHLIGHTS SINCE LAST MEETING (May):

- James attended PLV training in Myrtleford.
- Authors Kylie Ladd and Robyn Howarth received fantastic feedback from patrons who attended.
- Reconciliation Week's information talk with Levi Power attracted good numbers and a thoughtful discussion.
- Commbank's Scam Awareness session was very popular (and not just for the goodie bags they handed out)
- School holidays is underway and off with a bang! Our first film sessions attracted over 30 patrons!

REGULAR WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

Morning Mah-jong, Monday, 9:45-11:45am

Crafternoons, Monday and Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:00pm

Walking Talking-Book Club, Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-10:00am

Chatty Café Communi-tea, Tuesday, 10:00 – 12:00pm

Digital-Library Help, Wednesday, 4:00 – 4:30pm

Super Seniors PS5 Sessions, Thursday, 10:30 – 12:00pm

Scrabble, Thursday, 10:00 – 12:00pm

Extra Mah-jong, Thursday, 10:00 – 12:00pm

Card Game Club, Thursday, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Creative Cuppa, Friday, 10:00 – 11:00am

PS5 Open Sessions, Saturday, 09:05 – 09:50am, 10:05 – 10:50am, 11:05 – 11:50am

REGULAR MONTHLY PROGRAMS:

Spintronics for Adults, First Tuesday, 3:00 – 4:00pm

Library Lovers Social, Second Wednesday, 5:00 – 6:00pm

One-on-One Resume Basics, Third Thursday, 10:00am, 10:30am, 11:00am, 11:30am

Family History Research Support, Second Friday, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Basic Digital Help, Last Friday, 2:00pm, 2:20pm, 2:40pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SCIENCE WEEK: Mon 11 – Sat 16 August, multiple events coming

AUTHOR TALK: Gabriel Bergmosser, 29 August

INFO TALK: Kylie Ladd on Dementia, 4 September

AUTHOR TALK: Jade Miles, 13 September

Other author talks to keep an eye out for when confirmed – CJ Duggin.

ITEMS THAT WOULD ASSIST STAFF/PATRONS

Upholstery Spot Cleaner – In process of purchasing

Junior and Teen Educational Magazines – In process of purchasing

AdventureBox, AdventureBox, Bluey, DiscoveryBox, HorseWyse The IN Mag, NationalGeographic Little Kids, National Geographic Kids, OYLA Australia, OYLA Junior, Storytime

Adult Literacy Learning 'Easy Read' Readers – In process of purchasing

Yoto Players, accessories, and books – Approx \$3,500

Following Wangaratta Library's lead, we are looking at purchasing loanable Yoto Players.

Yoto Players offer a screen-free option for audiobooks for parents limiting their child's screentime.

Yoto Players encourage independent listening and play and help solidify literacy skills, in the same way audiobooks do.



A Yoto Player

Program including Speech Pathologist for young families – unknown

We are aware that many families are struggling to find Speech Therapists in the local region.

We are hoping to run a series, over a few sessions, with a local "Speechie" to assist parents understand the foundational tools to help develop speech and vocabulary skills.

LONGTERM GOALS

External Chute Upgrade – Smart Bin and secure 24/7 chute for returns. Updated FE Tech price received (July 2023 – approx. \$23,000), but waiting on builder for quote and feasibility. Electrician guesses \$700 would cover powering the secure chute, but would need to confirm requirements with FE Tech.

Move to purchase YOTO starter pack for the library approx. \$3500

Moved: Geraldine McCorkell

Seconded: Christine Glynn

Passed

8. Bookshop Report:

New vacuum has been installed.

There are some gaps in the roster. Kay Blore, Phyllis Doxey and Heather Rogers offered to do extra shifts.

Paying for books with an online bank transfer:

Bank transfer is now available for the payment of books at RedB4.

Following the instructions on the card pinned to the noticeboard the transaction is to be made on customer's phone while they are in the shop. The Reference needs to be Books. Once the transfer has been made the customer shows the volunteer worker the transfer reference number on their phone and this is recorded against the sale in the Sales Book.

An offer was made by Rina and Dawn to attend training for using Square for credit card payments. It was agreed that the online bank transfer that has just been introduced is the preferred method for our volunteers at present.

Heater needs servicing and filters cleaned. Corrie will follow this up with Chris Hammond.

The roof leak is fixed.

Request - don't overfill the boxes that are put outside.

Reports accepted: Moved: Corrie Witlox **Seconded:** Bev Thornell **Passed**

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of suggested purchases took place at the end of the Library Coordinator's Report and a recommendation was made to purchase the Yoto Players Kit for \$3500.
2. The starting time for future meetings will be 9.45am.

Meeting closed: 10.45am

Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th September – General Meeting at 9.45pm