

**MINUTES for the GENERAL MEETING of
FRIENDS OF THE BENALLA LIBRARY INC. (FOBL)
Held at 9:45am at the Benalla Library
on Thursday 2nd May 2024**

- 1. Apologies:** Robyn Maclean, Andi Stevenson, Noelle McCracken, Kay Blore, Maree Hanlon, Phyllis Doxey, Dawn Stephens, Beth Bergman
- 2. Present:** Geraldine McCorkell, Corrie Witlox, Deb Saunders, Chris Glynn, Bev Thornell, Kay Johnson, Joan Brown, Ashley Merbach, Erna Howell, Heather Rogers, Amanda Edgar, Betty Lindsay, Shirley Robertson

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on March 7th 2024

Received: Bev Thornell **Seconded:** Christine Glynn **Passed**

Business Arising:

Price change for wall display will be discussed with the Library Report.

4. Correspondence:

In: Consumer Affairs Guidelines

Out: Roster and Minutes

Moved that correspondence be accepted:

Accepted: Joan Brown **Seconded:** Shirley Robertson **Passed**

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report 1/3/24 to 30/4/24

1/3/24 Opening Balance			\$16,043.96
Income			
Books	\$4,795.55		
Interest	0.26		\$ 4,795.81
 Expenditure			
<u>Shop Expenses</u>			
Hide's Bakery – rent	\$1,200.00		
Hide's Bakery – elect.	81.22		
Printing – M'ship forms	105.00		
Coffee Vouchers	15.30	\$1,401.52	
 <u>Library Support</u>			
Author visit	\$ 362.50		
Benalla Newsagency	162.17		
BRCC – library equipment	1,244.00	\$1,768.67	\$ 3,170.19
 Closing Balance 30/4/24			\$ 17, 669.58
 Term deposit due 11/4/24 (rolled over)			\$ 10,667.10
 Total funds			\$ 28, 336.68
Moved: Corrie Witlox	Seconded: Betty Lindsay		Passed

Membership Report :

General Members	101
Life Members	38
Total	139

Library Coordinator's Report:**HIGHLIGHTS SINCE LAST MEETING (March):**

Thank you so much for the donation of the advertising TV and stapler. The stapler is an absolute godsend, and the TV is fantastic for our events/services advertising.

Ashley attended SLV's Managing Self, Managing Others Leadership Course in March. Out of sixty + applicants from Victorian libraries, 18 participants were selected for this five-day intensive. We learned new strategies, refreshed on old, toured new libraries, and developed some invaluable networking links.

We welcomed multiple authors – Andrew Skeoch, Fiona Lowe, Glenna Thomson, and Lee Lehner. Thank you for your support of these events.

Held some well patronized school holidays programs, including the ever-popular Easter Egg Hunt.

We officially welcome Ingrid into our permanent ranks! Robyn decided not to return after her year away and Ingrid successfully applied for the permanent position. Congratulations to Ingrid, she is an asset to our team and a delightful team member.

REGULAR WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

- Mondays: Mahjong Mondays, 10:30am
- Mondays: Casual Spanish Class, Coming Soon
- Tuesdays: Walking Talking-Book Club, 9:00am
- Tuesdays: Chatty Café Communi-tea Cuppa's and Chat's, 10:00am
- Wednesday: Crafternoons, 2:00pm
- Wednesdays: Online Library Help Sessions, 4:00pm
- Thursdays: Walking Talking-Book Club, 9:00am
- Thursdays: Scrabble, 10:00am
- Thursdays: Card Game Club, 2:00pm
- Fridays: Silent Reading Sprints, 10:00am
- Saturdays (fortnightly): Benalla Permaculture Book Club

REGULAR MONTHLY PROGRAMS:

- First Tuesday: Chess Club, 2:00pm
- Second Wednesday: Library Lovers Social, 5:00pm
- Third Thursday: Family History Research Support, 10:00am
- Second Friday: Spintronics for Adults, 2:00pm
- Last Friday: Basic Digital Help 20min One-On-One Sessions, 2:00pm, 2:20pm, 2:40pm

Staff are only able to help with basic assistance e.g. help downloading apps or resetting passwords

UPCOMING FILM SCREENINGS:

- Lego Star Wars, Saturday 4 May, 10:30am
- Steven Universe, Friday 17 May, 3:30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- AUTHOR TALK: Kylie Orr, Friday 3 May, 10:30am
- AUTHOR TALK: Amanda Hampson, Thursday 9 May, 2:30pm- AUTHOR TALK: Vikki Petrakis, Wednesday 12 June, 5:30pm

Other author talks to keep an eye out for when confirmed – Joe Matera, Fiona McArthur, Grantlee Kieza, Rob Smith, CJ Duggin.

ITEMS THAT WOULD ASSIST STAFF/PATRONS

- **Patron Recommendations Wall Display (2 X Set) - approx. \$1900 including GST & Freight**

These wall displays would allow patrons to take a display into their own hands, and place books they have loved on display for others to borrow. We have many people say to us, while returning books, that they loved this book and they recommend it to others.

These displays would give patrons an avenue to show their love and connect with displays.

Sent an updated quote 08/03/24, as Raeco advised that the rights to the sale of this product is now with Merchandising Libraries. **New quote is \$1142.90** for a pack of 20 and I wanted to wait for approval before purchase.

New quote accepted by all those present.



New shelving for Non-fiction DVDs – \$2076.50 including freight

Three bay, single sided shelving for the wall that Non-fiction DVDs are currently on, in spinners. Shelving here would be more convenient of patrons searching for items and staff when shelving, while also “future-proofing” the area if sections are rearranged in the future.

- Bay = \$671
- Bay Ends x2 = \$440
- Shelves = 665.50
- Freight = approx. \$300

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.

That we purchase the new shelving for non-fiction dvds for \$2076.50

Moved: Geraldine

Seconded: Christine

Passed

Bookshop Report:

We have received many compliments about the bookshop. The window always looks inviting.

David and Kay Blore can't take any more books. They have someone in Melbourne who can accept them. We will follow this up when Kay returns from her holiday.

The dollar box or free box is one option for books that may not sell otherwise.

Could people put a note on the books left on the table to identify what stage of sorting they are up to? eg Have they been cleaned, sorted or are you not sure what to do with them?

If changing the price of a book take the original sticker off first.

Kay is doing a great job with the roster. Thank you also to Bev who opens the shop on public holidays.

Reports accepted: Moved: Bev

Seconded: Betty

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Geraldine has spoken with Maree Hanlon re archiving our FOBL resources at the Benalla Historical Society Research Room.
2. How can we celebrate 10 years of the Bookshop? We will discuss this at our July Meeting. One suggestion is to create a PowerPoint that could be on display in different settings.
3. Donated book from Lee Lehner one of the recent authors visits is sitting on the desk in the bookshop for our volunteers to borrow if they are interested.

Next Meeting: Thursday 4th July at 9.45am