MINUTES for the GENERAL MEETING of FRIENDS OF THE BENALLA LIBRARY INC. (FOBL) held at 9:45am at the Benalla Library on Thursday 4th July 2024

- **1. Apologies:** Priscilla Shanks, Anne Nelson, Claire Rudolph, Lynn Gibson, Amber Gold, Phyllis Doxey, Bev Thornell, Betty Lindsay
- 2. Present: Corrie Witlox, Kay Blore, Ashley Merbach, Deb Saunders, Geraldine McCorkell, Kay Johnson, Robyn McLean, Heather Rogers, Andi Stevenson, Shirley Robertson and Christine Glynn
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 4th 2024

Received: Geraldine Seconded: Corrie Passed

Business Arising: Nil

4. Correspondence:

In: Invitation for two members to attend the Benalla Imagination Library launch on July Thursday 25 July at 5.15 – 6pm at the Benalla Library.

Out: Nil

Moved that correspondence be accepted:

Accepted: Deb Saunders Seconded: Kay Blore Passed

REPORTS:

♣ Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance 1/6/24

Opening balance 1/6/24		φιο,σοι.ιο	
Income:			
Books		\$ 1,834.35	
Membership		286.00	
Donations		58.65	
Interest		<u> </u>	2,179.15
Expenditure:			
Shop			
Hide's bakery – rent	\$600.00		
Hide's bakery – electricity	35.96		
Membership postage	30.00	655.96	
Library Support			
Benalla Newsagency – papers	106.70		
Water Filter	88.00	<u>194.70</u>	<u>860.66</u>
Closing balance 30/6/24 Term Deposit due 11/4/25 @ 4.75%			\$ 16,999.62 \$ 11,067.91
Total funds 30/6/24			\$ 28, 067.53

\$15 681 13

Moved: Corrie Witlox Seconded: Shirley Robertson Passed

Membership Report:

General Members 57 **Life Members** 38

Total Members 95 at this stage

Library Coordinator's Report:

HIGHLIGHTS SINCE LAST MEETING (May):

- Ramey completed training in Youth Mental Health to help diversify the library staff's skills.
- Three author talks have been held Kylie Orr, Amanda Hampson, and Vikki Petraitis. Thank you for your support, enthusiasm, and attendance to these events. Vikki Petraitis was an absolute hit – we still have people talking about how good the event was, as her books become available or are returned (more of her books will be available soon after cataloguing).
- Ashley attended PLV training focusing on the new library software coming out in the near future.
- In the start of June, Benalla Library's early years programs welcomed Tomorrow Today's PEEP in everyday to help familiarize new parents and young families with the library.
- Three volunteer positions have opened up at the library Home Library Assistance, Ending Loneliness Together Team, and Program and Events Admin/Craft. We are still working out how this process will work with our Volunteer Development Coordinator, but we are happy to be able to offer volunteering opportunities again. More information can be found in July's What's On.
- Biggest Morning Tea was a great success. Thanks for the help catering. Over \$500 was raised.

REGULAR WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

- Mondays: Mahjong Mondays, 10:00am
- 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, (TBC)
- 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 WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ACTIVITIES:

- Spintronics, Friday 5 and 12 July, 10am and 11:30am
- Turing Tumbles, Friday 5 and 12 July, 10am and 11:30am- Spintronics, Monday 8 July, 10am and 11:30am
- Turing Tumbles, Monday 8 July, 10am and 11:30am
- International Teddy Bears Picnic Special Story-Time, Wednesday 10 July, 2pm
- Dungeons and Dragons One-Shot, Wednesday 10 July, 2pm
- NAIDOC Craft. Thursday 11 July. 10:30am
- Sir Weary Dunlop's Birthday Special Story-Time, Friday 12 July, 3pm

UPCOMING FILM SCREENINGS:

- Space Pups (G) Thursday 4 July, 2:30pm
- Wonka (PG) Tuesday 9 July, 10am
- Sonic The Hedgehog 2 (PG) Thursday 11 July, 2:30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- AUTHOR TALK: Leonie Kelsall, Wednesday 10 July, 5:30pm
- Official Opening: Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Benalla, 25 July, 5pm (by invite)
- AUTHOR TALK: Joe Matera, Friday 2 August, 2pm
- AUTHOR TALK: Fiona McArthur, Wednesday 11 September, 5:30pm Other author talks to keep an eye out for when confirmed – Grantlee Kieza, Rob Smith and CJ Duggin.

ITEMS THAT WOULD ASSIST STAFF/PATRONS

Black backing wood for DVD shelves - Cost TBC (quess approx. \$200)

More of the wood backings, to prevent DVD's being pushed the whole way back, would be greatly helpful. Shelley will reach out to the Men's Shed to get a quote for this project. It was agreed to pay for these.

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.

Bookshop Report:

Roof is still leaking and is coming through the lights and in the corner near the sink. Mary from Hides is following this up with the plumber.

Pricing of books – keep them reasonable

Bookshop going well.

Google has the incorrect times listed for opening hours. Andi will follow up with the correct times.

Window displays work really well.

RECYCLING BOOKS:

Kay Blore followed up the recycling of books with the manager of waste and confirmed that books can be recycled with their covers unless they have plastic/contact on them. Salvos and Red Cross will take books. Vinnies have enough books at the moment. Another option is Lifeline in Albury.

Heather has offered to make bags for the bookshop with material that Kay Blore has had donated from Brucks.

Including a ring pull donation box at the Bookshop – these can be used for prosthetics. Plastic bread tags are collected by Rotary to fund wheelchairs for children in Africa.

Reports accepted:

Moved: Christine Glynn Seconded: Kay Johnson

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Changes to Tax requirements self review to our status to be completed by 31 October. Geraldine, Deb and Corrie will work through this.
- 2. Draft letter to Council re RedB4 Bookshop opening 11 years ago was read and approved. This will be given to Danny Claridge as a good news story
- 3. Positions of Responsibility Constitution
 Three consecutive years in a position is the limit. President and treasuer
- 4. How should we celebrate the eleven-year anniversary of the opening of RedB4? We will organize lunch at the Golf Club for all volunteers around late October.

Next Meeting: Thursday 5th September at 9.45am