

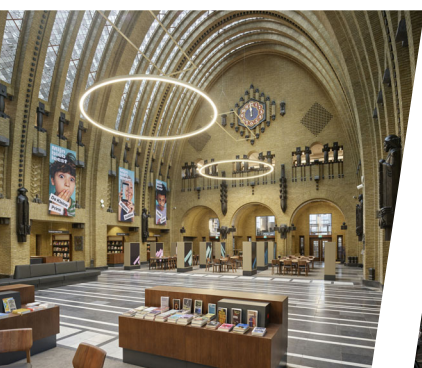
SPRING/SUMMER 2022

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De Bibliotheek Neude – Utrecht Library



100 year old Dutch post office transformed into public library...



The national voice for 15 million Public Library Members

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Message from the **PRESIDENT**



SUMMER – THE SEASON OF READING AND BACKYARD CRICKET

The start of a new year brings to mind many things, and the arrival of 2023 has brought with it welcome feelings of hope and optimism. For the first time in three years, Australia experienced a holiday season largely uninterrupted by pandemic restrictions. We no longer take for granted being free to travel, to gather in groups, and to celebrate milestones and holidays. Instead, we celebrate every chance we have to meet in person.

For public libraries this has meant a return to the face to face interactions that mean so much to their communities and to Friends groups. FOLA is particularly conscious of the value these experiences hold for people who live in smaller townships in rural, regional and remote locations. In these places, the public library provides an essential service as one of the only places for people to gather away from the

heat, cold and wet, without having to purchase a drink, with free materials to read, watch and learn from, and no time limit on attendance.

For these reasons, and many more, FOLA has renewed its purpose in support of maintaining and augmenting the value of Australia's country libraries. In an ever-changing world, libraries are perhaps more valuable in the country than anywhere else in Australia. At FOLA we are highly conscious that if a community loses its library, it's like losing the local bank branch. People can get quite distraught, and with good reason.

One of the ways FOLA is drawing attention to country libraries is via our partnership with the LBW Trust, a highly regarded education charity that is the brains behind National Backyard Cricket. While most of the Trust's activities focus on raising funds to support the learning needs

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“Part of its mission is to raise funds in support of educational programs and equipment for rural, regional, and remote libraries across Australia.”

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of disadvantaged students in cricket-playing nations, National Backyard Cricket is different. Part of its mission is to raise funds in support of educational programs and equipment for rural, regional, and remote libraries across Australia.

In the first two years of National Backyard Cricket the LBW Trust has raised — and FOLA has helped to distribute — more than \$100,000 of grants to nearly 100 country libraries.

One of those libraries is Hilltops Library in the central west of New South Wales, a small rural council centred around the township of Young. Hilltops is fortunate to have as one of its assistant librarians Beth Rothe, who applied — and received — funding to augment a small summer reading program across the council. Her efforts, along with funding from the National Backyard Cricket campaign, have resulted in



Beth Rothe, Hilltop Library Services.



a nearly four-fold increase in the number of children participating in Summer Reading — from fewer than 20 to nearly 80!

On the Third of March, the Governor-General of Australia, in his role as patron of the LBW-Trust, hosted a National Backyard Cricket event at Yarralumla in Canberra. At the event, it was FOLA's pleasure to introduce His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley to Beth Rothe and to share some of the powerful impacts the country library grants have for rural communities across Australia.

The Governor-General, David Hurley, LBW-Trust Chairman, David Vaux, and Hilltops Librarian, Beth Rothe, at Government House in Canberra, 3 March 2023.



“Governor-General of Australia, in his role as patron of the LBW-Trust, hosted a National Backyard Cricket event at Yarralumla in Canberra.”



LBW 2023

“with the support of the LBW Trust and patrons like the Governor-General and Mrs Hurley, we should be able to achieve much, much more in 2023 and beyond.”

These are the types of impacts FOLA seeks to foster. And it would seem that with the support of the LBW Trust and patrons like the Governor-General and Mrs Hurley, we should be able to achieve much, much more in 2023 and beyond.

At the same time, FOLA will also continue to advocate at the state and federal levels for more

support for rural, regional and remote libraries. And we will remain vigilant regarding any local funding issues and are happy to provide our voice to support better-funded libraries everywhere in Australia.

Jack Goodman
President, FOLA



“FOLA will also continue to advocate at the state and federal levels for more support for rural, regional and remote libraries.”

Last weekend FOLA president Jack Goodman and a group of friends hit the local cricket pitch for their annual game of #nationalbackyardcricket. It was a perfect afternoon for a bit of fun (and some exceptional bowling by young guns Flora and Amelie!).

Afterward, while enjoying drinks and pizza, we shared stories about the impact of last year's fundraiser for 54 country libraries that received grants.



Friends Around Australia



INVERLOCH (VIC)

Author event with ABC journalist, Lisa Millar. Her memoir *Daring to Fly*, has just been released and was highlighted in the talk to the Friends on February 24.



MURRAY BRIDGE (SA)

Author Talk with Cheryl Adnams

At Murray Bridge Library
Monday 27 March
2pm

To book, contact the Library on 8539 1175 or speak to staff

For readers of Victoria Purman, Kate Quinn and Alii Sinclair comes a poignant story of love, loss, ambition and family set against the dramatic backdrop of the second world war.



Murray Bridge Library

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA (ACT)



“Where would we be without our Friends members? Thank you for your continuing support of the Library through your Friends membership.”

BYRON BAY (NSW)



Byron Shire



“Author event with ABC journalist, Lisa Millar. Her memoir *Daring to Fly*, has just been released and was highlighted in the talk to the Friends on February 24.”

BALMAIN (NSW)

The Ernie Awards — Recording and Publicising Thirty Years of Misogyny — Dr Meredith Burgmann on 10 March 2023.

CASTLEMAINE (VIC)



Successful Booksale held on the 12 November 2022. Thousands of books at bargain price!

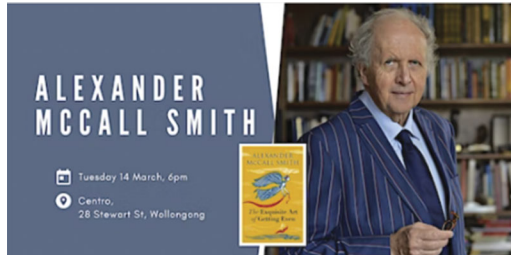
Friends Around Australia



WOLLONGONG (NSW)

A Literary Dinner with **Alexander McCall Smith** on 14 March 2023.

"One of the world's most prolific and best-loved authors will be in Wollongong next weekend, to speak at a dinner hosted by the Friends of Wollongong City Library."



"One of the world's most prolific and best-loved authors will be in Wollongong next weekend, to speak at a dinner hosted by the Friends of Wollongong City Library."

WOLLONGONG (NSW)



Sue Williams: *Elizabeth & Elizabeth*

Saturday 4 March, 2pm,
Kiama Library Auditorium

\$8 FOKL members / \$10 guests (includes afternoon tea)

Join us for a special author talk with award-winning author Sue Williams discussing her historical fiction novel *Elizabeth & Elizabeth*.

Sue Williams is a bestselling author and award-winning journalist, working in newspapers, magazines and TV in Australia, the UK and New Zealand. After 26 non-fiction books, *Elizabeth & Elizabeth* was her first novel, borne out of an overriding admiration for women of that early colonial era making their own way in life, with both Elizabeth Macquarie and Elizabeth Macarthur having a huge impact on the fledgling nation.

"By becoming a member of Friends of the Shepparton Library, you will meet great people, make new friends, have some fun and most importantly, support your local library.."

PAYNESVILLE (VIC)

Booksale held on 26, 27, 28 and 29 January 2023 from 10 am to 3 pm.



GOULBURN VALLEY LIBRARIES (VIC)

Friends of the Euroa Library

The Friends of the Euroa Library have donated books, furniture, equipment, etc. as well as being involved in the renovations and building improvements that makes the Euroa Library the great facility it is today.

Friends of the Mooroopna Library

The aim of the Friends of the Mooroopna Library is to promote, enhance and support the Mooroopna Library and its facilities.

Numurkah Friends of the Library

Meetings are held in the Library on the first Wednesday of each month at 5.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

Friends of the Shepparton Library

By becoming a member of Friends of the Shepparton Library, you will meet great people, make new friends, have some fun and most importantly, support your local library.

Friends of the Yarrawonga Library

Become a member of the Friends of the Yarrawonga Library. You will meet new people, make friends and enjoy a range of interesting events.

Friends Around Australia



STATE LIBRARY (NSW)

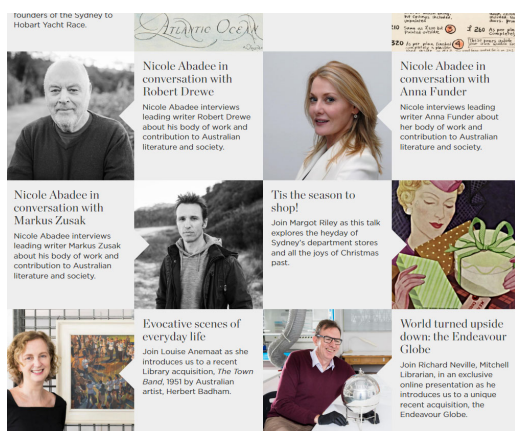


The Friends Room is on the ground floor of the historic Mitchell Library building.

The recently refurbished Friends Room started its life as the original Mitchell Reading Room and was opened to the public in 1910. It now resembles an intimate club with a historic ambience nestled in the heart of the CBD, complete with bespoke furniture and soft furnishings. It's a haven in the city to relax, read, and catch up with friends.

Dr Haneman's extraordinary, quirky collection of 1,100 editions of Miguel de Cervantes' Don Quixote still lines the walls in its splendid lead-lined cabinetry. The exquisite hand-knotted rugs from Cadry's Carpets are from a selection of iconic art deco designs by Florence Broadhurst.

Please note, you need to be a Friend of the Library in order to use this room.



STATE LIBRARY (SA)

Books in my Life - Tuesday Talk

Next Speaker: Gillian Hicks, AM MBE

Gillian Hicks is the founder of the London-based not-for-profit M.A.D for Peace.

She is a motivational speaker, author, curator and trustee for several cultural organisations.

Gillian began her career as a speaker in the wake of the 7 July 2005 London bombings and is the last living victim rescued.

When: Tuesday February 7, 2023 11am

The Original Book Club

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month, 10am to 12pm
Original and different.

We have fun discussing a wide range of books on a chosen topic.
There is no pressure and we all just love talking about books.

Get in touch for further information.



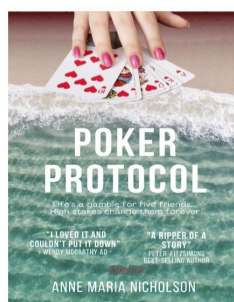
Books in my Life — Tuesday Talks (continues in 2023) at 11 am recently held on 7 February with Gillian Hicks, AM MBE.

WAGGA WAGGA (NSW)

The 2022 AGM of the Friends of the Wagga Wagga City Library was held in September when the president, Dr Annemaree Lloyd reported on a very successful year of operation, noting the 30th year of the Friends, and thanked Library Manager Clare Campbell for her 17 years of service. As noted by FOLA, at this event, Life Membership was awarded to Gretchen Sleeman who had been involved with the group for 30 years.

WINGECARRIBEE (NSW)

February Author Event with journalist Anne Maria Nicholson and her latest book *Poker Protocol*.



"The recently refurbished Friends Room started its life as the original Mitchell Reading Room and was opened to the public in 1910."

Answers to 10 KEY QUESTIONS...



1. What is a Friend
2. Why do people volunteer
3. How might the Library benefit from a Friends Group
4. How do we start a Friends Group
5. How do we re-energize our existing Friends Group
6. What are some strategies to attract members
7. What are common pitfalls and how do we avoid them
8. What are some interesting and innovative activities
9. What are some Friends Groups in the area doing
10. What resources are available to help us

While some of the answers for FOLA members can be found on the FOLA website: www.fola.org.au, along with information in the FOLA Resource Book (order form rear page of *NewsUpdate*), the information in this article was prepared by Miriam Pollack for the North Texas Regional Library System in 2008. Much of the information remains relevant to an Australian Friends audience. See the complete article at: https://cpladvocates.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FOL_answers_to_key_questions.pdf

“Desire to help others, meet new people, socialise with friends, be part of the community, dedicated to the cause or organisation’s mission.”

What is a Friend

- A person you know well and regard with affection and trust
- An ally: an associate who provided assistance
- A person with whom one is allied in a struggle or cause; a comrade
- One who supports, sympathises with, or patronises a group, cause or movement

Why do people volunteer

- Desire to help others, meet new people, socialise with friends, be part of the community, dedicated to the cause or organisation’s mission, share skills and expertise, available free time, know someone who volunteers and compatibility with beliefs or ideals.

“Consider the following aspects of your Friends groups and its operations when exploring options for revitalising the group: Membership, Operational structure, Activities, Communication.”

“With over 28 years experience in public libraries, library education and systems, Miriam Pollack is a force in the library world. She served a successful 17-year turn as Assistant Director for North Suburban Library System (IL), where she offered consulting and high-level staffing solutions to public libraries.”

How might the Library benefit from a Friends Group

- Increased appreciation of the library, a better understanding of the function and operation of the library, expanded services and programs with the assistance of volunteers, more active campaigns to raise money to purchase items for the library, strong support for library issues and challenges and enhanced community involvement.

How do we start a Friends Group

- Core group of committed community members
- Administrative support
- Start up funding
- A plan, policy and procedures

How do we re-energize our existing Friends Group

- Consider the following aspects of your Friends groups and its operations when exploring options for revitalising the group: Membership, Operational structure, Activities, Communication.

Answers to 10 KEY QUESTIONS...

What are some strategies to attract members

- Warm body recruitment — with this approach you are hoping to attract the interest of a large group of individuals.
- Targeted recruitment — when specialised skills or membership characteristics are needed, a targeted recruitment method should be used. Basic information about skills, interests, and preferences that is recorded when a new member joins the Friends.
- Concentric circles recruitment — you start with groups of individuals who are already in contact with the library and encourage their involvement.

What are common pitfalls and how do we avoid them

- Lack of training
- Forgetting to say “Thank You”
- Same old same old
- Conflict

What are some interesting and innovative activities

- Book Sales
- Library programs
- Contests
- More ideas

What are some Friends Groups in the area doing

- Keller Public Library serves 37,000 people. The Friends of the Keller Library (<http://www.kellerfriends.org/index.html>) manage a bookstore in the former library building.

What resources are available

- United for Libraries <https://www.ala.org/united/friends> offers much information for American Libraries, some of which is useful in the Australian context. Some is not, due to the differences in political and cultural variations. In the Australian context, our source is FOLA (www.fola.org.au).

“when specialised skills or membership characteristics are needed, a targeted recruitment method should be used.”

“The Friends of the Keller Library (<http://www.kellerfriends.org/index.html>) manage a bookstore in the former library building.”

“Are you thinking of starting a Friends group, reorganizing or revitalizing the one you have, or a seasoned group looking for some fresh ideas? Look no further! United for Libraries offers a wealth of ideas and resources for Friends groups of all types, sizes, and level of activity. Explore the links in the menu to the left under “Friends Groups” and throughout the rest of the United for Libraries website.”



Message from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It all started in 1892 with “the man with the bakkenbaarden (sideburns).”

Hendrik Adriaan van Beuningen. As a wealthy private individual, he founded the first public library in the Netherlands: the Openbare Leeszaal (Public Reading Room) located at Loeff Berchmakerstraat in Utrecht.

“FoLL, the first Friends group in Tasmania, was formed at a public meeting in March 1992.”



Hendrik Adriaan van Beuningen

“FoLL ignored the rules, but the message was clear: the most productive course was going to be through fundraising and volunteer work.”

The lending of books only started in 1909. In 1912, the public reading room moved to a specially-designed building on Voetiusstraat in Utrecht.

Later, in 1982, the Library became a municipal institution and is now located at the Neude in Utrecht. The place where the library is housed now was the former building of the Utrecht Main Post Office. After the close of the post office, an investigation was carried out in 2014 to see whether the Central Library could be located in the building.

The Neude Library opened its doors on 13 March 2020. And so, 125 years from a reading room where nothing was lent, to a public library for everyone.

The Netherlands has contributed to the worldwide movement of Friends, having established a number of groups in the 1960s. Our Honorary Life Member, Jellie Wychelsma first told me the story of Friends development in the Netherlands. Jellie went on to play an important role in the early development of Friends in this country. In fact, Jellie joined me in 1987 when I established the Friends sub-committee of the Library Promotion Committee of Victoria and went on to play an integral role in the formation of FOLA, along with establishing a Friends group at the Doveton Public Library in Victoria.

We need to value this journey for Friends of Library groups, and the part they play in building our communities, along with remembering to preserve and record this history.



Utrecht Central Library & Post Office: “The national monument is best known for its reception hall. The rhythm of the parabolic ceiling, the glazed yellow stones, and robust ornaments.”

Membership Application

CATEGORIES

Membership fee incorporating
News Update

Individual	\$15	<input type="radio"/>
FOL Group — 0-25 Members	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/>
FOL Group — 25+ Members	\$50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Libraries	\$105	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institutions incl. Libraries with multiple Friends groups	\$105	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporations	\$105	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extra copies of News Update	\$10 per annum	<input type="checkbox"/>

RETURN ADDRESS

FOLA Inc.

FOLA Treasurer,
Dr David Parker, PO Box 32
Burnside SA 5068
Phone: (03) 9338 0666
Fax: (03) 9335 1903

PAYMENT DETAILS

My cheque/money order
is made payable to:
Friends of Libraries Australia Inc.
FOLA Treasurer,
Dr David Parker, PO Box 32
Burnside SA 5068

Amount enclosed \$

ADDRESS DETAILS

Name:

Address:

.....

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Friends Resource Book | Daniel Ferguson

- Establishing a successful Friends group
- Keeping your Friends active
- Incorporation
- Public liability
- Library management issues
- How to
- Latest and best ideas and much more...

*The authoritative guide and source
book for Friends of Library groups in
Australasia*

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Please send me a copy of Friends of Libraries Resource Book (2005)

Enclosed is my cheque for \$59.95 plus \$10 postage & handling
(cheque payable to — Friends of Libraries Australia Inc.)

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www.fola.org.au

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