George Coe, President, Baker & Taylor, Institutional presented the 2001 Awards to winners of the Baker & Taylor Best of Friends Awards at the FOLA biennial conference in Sydney in May. The 2001 Winner was the Friends of Unley Library in South Australia.

MORE ON PAGES 3, 4 & 7!
FOLA’S STRATEGIC MISSION
2002–2006

FOLA has completed the most far-reaching review of the organization since inception in 1994.

Two half day workshops were held at the Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne in June and August. Dr Angela Brigland led the FOLA committee and other key players in an exercise to evolve a new work plan for the next 5 years – a new Strategic Plan.

Dr Brigland, Associate Librarian at the University of Melbourne, a former senior lecturer in librarianship and presently ALIA Board member, proved to be a most effective facilitator. We are greatly indebted to Angela for her skill and wise counsel in developing our master plan.

The plan is in two sections – Short Term Goals for 2002-2004 and Long Term Goals for 2002-2006. Already, some actions detailed in the plan have been acted upon, namely the hosting of our web site – www.fola.org.au via the Australian Library & Information Association. This will allow FOLA to provide a greater range of online services to our members and reach a much wider audience in the library world. The support and active involvement of Ivan Trundle and Jennefer Nicholson from ALIA is much appreciated.

Already, one of the major goals for FOLA, as identified in our Strategic Plan 2002-2006, that of becoming more proactive in lobbying in support of library and information services in Australia, is being put to the test. The Federal, Victorian and New South Wales governments are undertaking reviews of services in preparation of elections in the next 6-18 months.

The collective strength of library users (friends of libraries) around Australia is in excess of 9 million. It would be a foolish government or political party who would ignore the interests of the ABC audience. Likewise, let’s not be fooled about the potential of a library audience.

Hugh Mackay, in his keynote address to the FOLA Sydney Conference, stated that Australian society is at a turning point, radical changes are occurring. He went on to speak about a ‘sense of place’ in a rapidly changing world. Those of us connected with public libraries can often feel this sense of rapid change at the local level, something beyond our comprehension and control.

The message delivered from our Conference keynote speakers was clear. Friends have a significant role to play in the human capital of our society. This is true today, more than ever before.

FOLA recognises the challenge. Our Strategic Plan must make a difference.

Daniel Ferguson
FEATU RE

F O L A salutes

OUR 2001 BAKER & TAYLOR
BEST OF FRIENDS
award winners

1ST PRIZE
Friends of Unley Library
(South Australia)

Honourable Mention
Friends of Ballina Library
(New South Wales)
Friends of Tumbarumba Library
(New South Wales)

Meritorious Awards
Friends of Thuringowa Library
(Queensland)
Friends of Kingston Library
(Tasmania)
Friends of Balmain Library
(New South Wales)
Friends of Altona Library
(Victoria)
Friends of Geraldton Library
(Western Australia)
Friends of Wingecarribee
Library (New South Wales)

The 2001 Awards were present-
ed by George Coe, President,
Baker & Taylor, Institutional in
the presence of Andrew Hocken,
Sales Manager for Baker &
Taylor, Australia, New Zealand
and South Africa, at a function
held in Sydney on Saturday
18 May 2002, in conjunction
with the 4th biennial conference
of FOLA.
TOOWOOMBA (QLD)

A social function to hand over the Access Centre equipment was held in July. Elaine Chippendale (Vice-President) was also the speaker, and a report was given on the FOLA Sydney Conference.

The Annual Library Booksale was held in August. Money raised will help provide facilities for the Young People’s Library and Access Centre for disabled users. To date, $17,000 has been provided for equipment for the Access Centre.

GLADSTONE (QLD)

A successful book sale was held in July. The library has changed to a new computer system and Friends have assisted with a number of projects during the process.

Library Manager – Peter Cramb, was most appreciative of the Friends help.

DOVETON (VIC)

The most recent two book sales raised $580 and $680. The Doveton Friends in conjunction with the City of Casey, contributed to entertainment during the recent school holidays, one being ‘Crazy Pete the Amazing Illusionist.’

The annual Children’s Writing & Poetry Competition will be held in November.

$500 was donated towards magazine shelving and a train for the children’s area.
FOCUS ON FRIENDS

ALTONA (VIC)
Two new couches for the foyer were bought by the Friends. Also some videos and DVDs for teenagers were added to the collections at Altona and Altona Meadows.

NATIONAL LIBRARY (ACT)
Lee Kirwan, EO of the Friends of the National Library of Australia recently stepped down from the position after two years, and has returned to another department in the NLA.

BRIGHTON (SA)
At the June function, guest speaker was Don Hopgood AO, former SA Minister and Deputy Premier, and was attended by a sell out audience. In September the local Brighton identity and well known author Mem Fox spoke about her 30 published books which have sold over 4 million copies. A recent booksale raised over $926, the money put aside for Children’s Book Week.

FRANKSTON (VIC)
At the Mayor’s Picnic Day in March saw the Friends well established with a stand displaying the work of the Friends, with show bags and storytime every hour. (Great ‘PR’ exercise!)

STATE LIBRARY OF SA
Coming events include: Adelaide Theological Library Visit, Spring Luncheon, Kapunda/Eudunda Excursion, ‘In Search of Tom Black’ excursion to Port Lincoln, and in November, the AGM & Annual Dinner.

FRANKSTON (VIC)
Friends are providing some funds for furniture and perhaps plants to an outdoor relaxation corner within the library building. Also $3000 is being earmarked to assist the new Carrum Downs Branch Library.

KEW (VIC)
Guest Speaker at the July meeting was Frances Awcock, CEO and State Librarian. Fran told the gathering about being responsible for the biggest redevelopment program of any Library in the nation - $190 million, due for completion in mid 2005.

WILLUNGA & ALDINGA (SA)
Friends enjoyed an outing to Amaroo Water Gardens and the new Library complex at The Hub Aberfoyle Park then onto The Woodcroft Library recently. At the AGM, Libraries’ Manager Geoff Strempel addressed the gathering and talked about proposed changes to the library service.

Geraldton (WA)
The April A’Fair at Greenough Hamlet and the booksale raised over $400. FOGL recently contributed to a new picture storage unit in the children’s section. A mini booksale was held during Australian Library & Information Week.

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BARROSA (SA)
The September meeting held a bus trip to ‘The Cedars’, home of noted Australian artist Hans Heysen. At the end of June the Friends held a two day booksale in the mall at the Barossa Regional Shopping Centre in Nuriootpa. The sale being a great success, raising $990. Some of the money raised has been spent on toys for the young children in the library.

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FOCUS ON FRIENDS

SALISBURY (SA)
Well known Adelaide media personality Judith Barr addressed the May meeting of the Friends at the Annual Literary Luncheon.
Departing Library Manager, Tania Paull, in writing to the Friends, expressed her thanks and appreciation for the support and co-operation given by the Friends during her 4 years with the library service. In particular, noting the development of the Friends Shop and the enthusiasm of committee members and President’s. (a vital partnership for Friends success!)

CLARE (SA)
During the past year over $1700 was raised from raffles and $1700 from annual booksales. A successful Port, Poetry & Prose evening, two successful literary evenings with Monica McInerney, local author of A Taste For It and Upside Down, Inside Out, and also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Clare Public Library becoming a public institution.

STIRLING (SA)
The AGM was held in June when the guest speaker, Fabienne Bayet-Charlton, author of Finding Ullagundah Island.
A recent donation of $2000 by the Friends was spent partly on Art books in the library. Cooking, gardening and science books will be bought with the remaining $1000.
Life membership was recently given to Jean Fitzgerald for her long standing work as a Friend and repairer of books.
— Well deserved Jean

MURRAY BRIDGE (SA)
The Friends of Murray Bridge are walking public relations vehicles.
The Film Night to A Beautiful Mind sold over 170 tickets. Friends have organised a raffle, to be drawn in September, with 1st prize and CD Soundzone. A big booksale is scheduled for 6-8 November.

“As a Library Friends, I assisted two ladies who were typing a special THIS IS YOUR LIFE notice for a birthday party. I was able to assist the ladies in their quest. It involved some very easy computer skills.”
— All about being a Library Friend!

WAGGA WAGGA (NSW)
Booksales took a change of pace – with the introduction of smaller and more frequent sales, commencing in August on Saturday between 9am and 12 noon. At a recent meeting of the Friends, funds were approved for the purchase of a marquee, similar to those used at the Farmers’ Market. It is expected that it will be used by the Library for many outdoor events.

WENTWORTH FALLS (NSW)
Friends organised a Literary Winter’s Lunch in June and July. It provided local people and Friends an opportunity to come together.

WOLLONGONG (NSW)
In July an all day bus trip to Old Parliament House and the National Library of Australia.
The Friends, in conjunction with Collins Booksellers held a function to launch Hugh Mackay’s latest novel, Winter Close. A discount on the book was available on the evening — no doubt signed by the author!

WINGECARRIBE (NSW)
The Friends have organised a tentative agreement with local FOL groups at Wollongong and Kiama, to co-operate in selected activities.
— Well done Peter!
Successful literary events continue at Wingecarribee with Colin McPhedran, Alan Ventress, and Gordon Hughes.

BENLEDI & GLEBE (NSW)
In celebration of the Library’s fifth birthday the Friends held two great events – a Monoster Booksale in May and Robert Billington’s Exhibition Glebe: Twentyfour seven opening at the Glebe Library with champagne.

Train over the Opera House
— Robert Billington

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