

FEATURE

SYDNEY
CONFERENCE
highlights

FOLA's 4th biennial conference was held in Sydney from 17-19 May 2002. The location, Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts building in Pitt Street, proved to be an excellent location, along with some fine food.

Our keynote speakers – Eva Cox, Peter Woods, Dr Alan Bundy, Hugh Mackay, Mark Latham MP and Penelope Toltz provided delegates a memorable experience. Our other speakers – Helen Colman, Prue McCausland, Marlene Smith,

Judith Sheargold, Denise Jepson and Rae Webb, put a significant practical note on the proceedings.

Perhaps two highlights, both social, were the presentations of the Baker & Taylor Awards for 2001 on Saturday afternoon, by George Coe, President, Baker & Taylor, Institutional, who arrived in the country from the United States, only a few hours prior.

On Friday evening at the Colin S. Watson Oration reception, it was our delight to have the pleasure of our Patron, Justice Michael Kirby.

Friends enjoying the conference!



Dr Norman Curry (FOLA) congratulating Hugh Mackay (Keynote Speaker)



Peter McInnes (FOLA President), Margaret Broeks (FOLA Treasurer), Daniel Ferguson (FOLA Executive Director) – all smiles after a successful conference.



Gerry Harant, Justice Michael Kirby (FOLA Patron), Andrea Stretton and Sarah Walte — conference reception.



Mark Latham MP (Assistant Federal Shadow Treasurer) addressing FOLA conference.

ACTIVE FRIENDS

LOBBYING SUCCESS AT UNLEY (SA)

Unley Friends have been actively campaigning for the upgrade of their library building. Friends collected nearly 600 signatures to overturn a motion of a single Unley councillor who had placed a rescission motion on the Council agenda in June.

Friends initiated a media campaign in both print and electronic media. Friends filled the gallery of the council meeting with supporters holding placards. They entered the meeting without any assurance of the numbers, but left with a vote of 9-2. Several of the councillors spoke against the motion citing the lobbying of the Friends of the Unley



(Photo courtesy 'The Adelaide Advertiser' and Toby Zerna)

Libraries as a key reason for reverting to support the refurbishment. One councillor even thanked us for being courteous! Apparently not all lobby groups are as cultured as the Friends of the Unley Libraries.

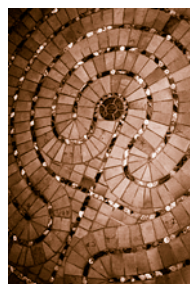
SOMETHING SPECIAL AT HASTINGS LIBRARY SERVICE (NSW)

The Friends of Hastings Library run booksales on a regular basis on behalf of the library. They usually use the money raised to purchase videos or a special collection of CDs for example. Whilst every dollar helps, the Library Manager, Robyn Hardman felt they could generate more publicity and goodwill this year by doing something different.

After negotiating a special discount with the local Dymocks bookstore, the friends wrote to every primary school in the district (all 21 of them) and offered a book prize worth \$20 to be awarded to children who have made good progress with their reading or library use.

Some schools preferred to take up the offer and put a book in the school library, others schools awarded prizes individually. Many Friends made themselves available to attend the awards ceremony and so were able to create a presence which will hopefully lead to new members in the school holidays. The small schools in particular made the visitors very welcome.

Robyn Hardman said it had been an excellent exercise in community interaction that we will be following up in 2002.



Maze mosaic designed for floor of new Port Macquarie Library

\$15,000 GRANT TO CASTLEMAINE LIBRARY



Castlemaine Library and visit from Minister for Local Government (Courtesy Castlemaine Mail)

calling
WWW
friends...

FOLA is compiling a list of Friends groups who have a web site or have a link to their Friends group or are mentioned on the library's web address. Send us details (URL and name of FOL Group).

**FOLA Locked Bag 1315
Tullamarine VIC 3043**

NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS



FOLUSA NEWS

- ★ Jane Rutledge, editor of *News Update*, former Board member, secretary, vice-president of FOLUSA steps down. Jane and former Executive Director of FOLUSA, Sandy Dolnick, have given a lifetime work to Friends in the US.
- ★ 2002 Baker & Taylor Awards were awarded to: Friends of Mazomanie Free Library, Friends of the Pickerington Public Library, Friends of the St Paul Public Library and friends of the University of Arizona Library. Among the many great ideas – publication of a cookbook, selling books on-line, direct mail to residents and a Poetry Party on the Prairie, which include the development of a Poet Laureate program.
- ★ Madison Friends established a “Please Save Our Libraries” postcard campaign. Among the many messages sent to the Governor, asking him not to cut library funding were the following:
 - Our Library is our community
 - In these difficult times, libraries become even more valuable.
 - I am writing this for my sister. She is just learning to read, so the library is very important to our family.
- ★ Park Forest Friends have sent a questionnaire out asking how they could improve booksales.

Some of the questions asked are relevant to most groups:

- How frequently would you like the Friends to hold a sale.
- What are your best days for attending.
- When would you like Friends to hold “Preview Sales” for members.
- Do you want special books to be specially priced.
- How do you compare our sale with others you have attended.
- Would you like to volunteer.
- What are your suggestions for making the booksales easier for browsing and buying.

SOUTH AFRICA

- ★ One of the oldest groups in South Africa is the Friends of the Somerset West and Helderzicht Public Library formed in 1988. Its aims are: to foster closer relations between the Libraries and the citizens of Somerset West; to promote knowledge of the functions, resources, services and needs of the libraries; to serve as a medium through which Friends of the libraries could share enthusiasm for books; to promote cultural activities and encourage gifts to the libraries.
- Although fundraising is not mentioned in the aims, it is however, an important aspect of its activities. On the first Saturday of the month, a booksale is held for the purpose of raising funds.



Western Cape News
 Newsletter of the Western Cape Branch of the
 Library and Information Association of South Africa
 JULY 2001



UK NEWS

- ★ The Library Campaign is presently repositioning its agenda with a view to broaden the membership base and become more attractive to Friends groups. A new leaflet will be sent to public libraries, with the endorsement of the Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, formerly the Library Association.
- ★ The Library Campaign recently had a meeting with the Friends of the British Library, to discuss matters of mutual interest. FBL membership now stands at 3,000 and is growing at the rate of 50-60 per month. One reason for the growth in membership has been the volunteers desk in the entrance foyer.
- ★ For the last four years, volunteers recruited from the Friends of the British Library have manned a desk in the entrance



- ★ Friends of Richmond Upon Thames were awarded fund to produce its newsletter by the local Council for Voluntary Service... ‘As you know, CVS considers the provision of public library services as being crucial to the general quality of life in our borough...’

FEATURE

Friends of the ABC

One of the keynote speakers at our 4th biennial conference in Sydney was Penelope Toltz, President of the Friends of the ABC in New South Wales. In the Friends latest newsletter, Hugh Mackay, another FOLA keynote speaker, writes... 'What sort of place would Australia be without the ABC?' Clearly, FOLA and the Friends of the ABC have many goals in common. Libraries and our national broadcaster play a significant place in the growth our nation and the well being our communities.

Friends of the ABC

Began in 1976 when the first cuts to the ABC took place. Today, they are a group of concerned people who want to make sure the ABC remains a viable, independent organization and a quality, national public broadcaster.



Aims of the Friends

- ❑ To defend, promote and work with the ABC in support of its vital role as Australia's only independent national broadcaster.
- ❑ To oppose all efforts to censor the ABC.
- ❑ To oppose all efforts to introduce advertising and corporate sponsorship into the ABC.



- ❑ To ensure that the ABC's crucial role in providing services to rural and remote Australia is recognised and supported.
- ❑ To achieve these aims
- ❑ Make submissions to government
- ❑ Lobby individual members of parliament
- ❑ Provide informed comment about the ABC to the media
- ❑ Talk with the ABC Managing Director and Chairman of the Board
- ❑ Speak to community groups
- ❑ Organise activities in support of the ABC
- ❑ Provide opportunities to socialise with like-minded people
- ❑ Encourage members to make their views about the ABC known to their Federal Member of Parliament



HOW TO REVITALISE YOUR FRIENDS GROUP

- ★ Define problem areas for the group. Confidential phone calls to lapsed membership will help.
- ★ Discuss with library manager
- ★ Give a party for members and past members only
- ★ Send out pre event and post event publicity with names and photos. Make the Friends look a fund and meaningful group.
- ★ Re evaluate your goals and objectives
- ★ Review the committee, question the responsibilities of members of the committee, making certain that individuals do not have too great a burden.
- ★ Review benefits of membership, are they in line with community and library expectations.
- ★ Review communication with members; are they being kept informed? Are you taking advantage of and receiving FOLA material i.e. *NewsUpdate*.
- ★ Consider enrolment of new members as a year-round effort, establish a target, and celebrate when it is achieved.
- ★ Be sure to appreciate and recognise efforts of every kind. Recognition is a key aspect of survival.
- ★ **For further information, join FOLA by writing to: Locked Bag 1315 Tullamarine, Victoria, 3043 Australia**

FEATURE

INQUIRY INTO THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES

(Courtesy *inCite* August 2002)

The Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and Arts References Committee has announced an Inquiry into the Role of Libraries in the Online Environment. Submissions closed on 16 August 2002. The committee will report to parliament by the last sitting day in March 2003.

SENATE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS REFERENCES COMMITTEE

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE:

The role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment, having particular regard to:

- (a) the current community patterns of demand for public information online;
- (b) the response by libraries (public, university, research) to the changing information needs of Australians, including through the provision of online resources;
- (c) possible strategies which would enhance the wider use and distribution of information resources held by libraries, including the establishment of library networks, improved online access in libraries, online libraries, and greater public knowledge and skill in using library resources;
- (d) the use of libraries to deliver information and services over the internet to more effectively meet community demands for public information in the online environment; and
- (e) the roles of various levels of government, the corporate sector and libraries themselves in ensuring the most effective use of libraries as a primary public information resource in the online environment.



See: http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ecita_ctte/online_libraries/index.htm

The Australian Library & Information Association has prepared a submission (a copy of the draft was forwarded to FOLA).

FOLA, along with Friends groups can perform a lobbying role during this process.

MORE FRIENDS...



Friends of the National Library about to set out on 'In the Footsteps of Burke and Wills', in June 2002

The Library Society

Make friends
with the State Library of NSW and enjoy an association with one of the world's premier libraries.

Join us for a variety of stimulating events throughout the year. You'll discover our treasures and gain a deeper understanding of our magnificent collections.

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The State Library of South Australia

FOLA PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

	\$	Qty
Friends of Libraries Resource Book		
Ed Daniel Ferguson ISBN 0 646 34486 2	69.95	<input type="text"/>
2nd biennial Conference Proceedings		
Adelaide 1998 ISBN 0 9577697 0 9	16.95	<input type="text"/>
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Canberra 2000 ISBN 0 9577697 1 7	14.95	<input type="text"/>
FOLA Facts Sheets (free to FOLA members) (includes GST, postage & handling)	4.50	<input type="text"/>

Send payment to: FOLA Inc.
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Name

Address

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Tullamarine, Vic. 3043

FOLA Committee meetings for 2002:

9 October, 11 December.



Committee meetings are held at the Baillieu Library,
University of Melbourne, Parkville.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



CATEGORIES

Membership fee (includes GST)
incorporating News Update

Individual	\$18	<input type="checkbox"/>
FOL Group – 0-25 Members	\$30	<input type="checkbox"/>
FOL Group – 25+ Members	\$60	<input type="checkbox"/>
Libraries	\$120	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Corporations	\$120	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extra copies of News Update	\$10 per annum	<input type="checkbox"/>

RETURN ADDRESS

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