

celebrating **7** **seven**  
**DECADES** with **FRIENDS**  
*with* **EBIEND?**

*In its long history, the Friends' gifts to the State Library of South Australia have ranged from manuscripts through six centuries of printed books down to fine productions of modern private presses. And now, a bay in the historic Mortlock Wing – will pay tribute to seven decades of cultural philanthropy by the Friends.*



**STATE LIBRARY**  
 South Australia  
 Friends



*"Friends of the State Library of South Australia is the oldest Library Friends group in the country."*

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# PARTNERING BRINGS SUCCESS

### Workshops, Conferences and Achievements by Friends...

A very successful Workshop was held in South Australia in April at Unley Library. The benefits of partnering were extolled by Library Manager, Sarah Philpott and Friends President, Patricia Chigwidden. Gerrit Stafford (Vice President of the SLSA) and FOLA's liaison in the State, also gave an update on networking of Friends in South Australia. I was asked to provide an outline on *What Makes for Successful Friends*. Dr Alan Bundy acted as chairperson and the half-day provided a very useful forum for SA Friends. The Friends of Unley Library must be congratulated.



group in the Melbourne suburb of Altona for our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 27 August at 7 pm. Altona has been one of the most successful groups in the country over the past 16 years. Again, the group has been well supported by Council, Library Management and the Community – a successful partnership.

It is always good to report to Friends on what Friends have achieved. It is particularly encouraging to report on the people that help Friends groups achieve so much around Australia, and in this issue of *NewsUpdate* we celebrate such a person: Moria Maclachlan, who retires as Chief Librarian at Cooloola Shire in Queensland. Again, much can be achieved when library management and Friends work together.

DANIEL FERGUSON

**“Altona has been one of the most successful groups in the country over the past 16 years.”**

The July Country Public Libraries Conference in New South Wales with participation from FOLA, thanks particularly to Martin Field, Library Manager at Richmond-Tweed and Conference organiser, who has for a long time been a firm supporter of FOLA and Friends. This is a must event for Friends groups in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland.

FOLA will be making a change to our regular Melbourne format of the AGM of FOLA. This year we will be visiting a local Friends

FEATURE

*an*  
**OUTSTANDING  
PARTNERSHIP**

*Moria departs  
from Cooloola*



*Photograph: courtesy of the Sunshine Coast Newspaper*

**A**fter 12 years as Chief Librarian for Cooloola Shire (Qld), Moria Maclachlan is leaving Gympie. Moria has seen the library premises move from what is now the Cooloola Shire Public Gallery to a new building in Mellor Street in 1995 to become the third busiest library in Queensland per head of population.

Moria stated, "I feel that the library is very much a community library and we listen to what the community wants. I feel I can leave the running well with a good collection, excellent staff and lots of support from the community and Friends of the Library."

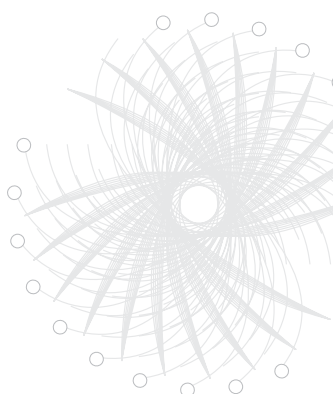
**"I feel that the library is very much a community library and we listen to what the community wants."**

Cooloola Shire Library displays the hallmark of an outstanding partnership between the Friends of the Library and the Chief Librarian. A partnership that has established high standards and achieved some outstanding goals in Library-Friends co-operation. Great things can be achieved for the community when library management and the

community have respect for each other. FOLA salutes Moria's outstanding contribution in the development of Friends of Library groups.



## FOLA IN ACTION – AROUND AUSTRALIA



# FRIENDS GROUPS IN > SOUTH AUSTRALIA STRENGTHENING THE FOLA NETWORK

**Tony Brooks of the Friends of Willunga Library**

He said that the group was founded in 1986 and gains income by selling second hand books and book bags. It supports and sponsors community activities and has recently given \$3000 to their

library. Informal gatherings rather than meetings are held, but they find that there is a struggle with apathy among people.

**Paddy Carter of the Friends of the Barossa Library**

She told us that their group was founded in 1988 when the library was threatened with closure. They ran a successful "Save our Library" campaign and currently have 180 members, who receive a quarterly newsletter. They raise money through book sales and raffles, also they regularly hold a "meet the Writer Night." With their funds they have bought photocopiers and equipment and have purchased all the facsimiles produced by the Friends of the State Library.

**Joan Lewin of the Friends of Playford Libraries**

Although they have only eighteen members we were told they were very active. A new library is to be build at Elizabeth and money raised will go to providing equipment for the Childrens library. So far \$5000 has been raised. They provide a book bag for all those who join the mobile library service and are supporters of the summer reading programme for children.

**O**n the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2003, the first meeting of FOLA groups in South Australia took place in the Circulating Library at the State Library of South Australia, with Gerrit Stafford in the chair. Gerrit is Vice President of the Friends of the State Library of South Australia and FOLA liaison representative in that State.

Representatives came from the following library groups: Barossa, Brighton, Campbelltown, Charles Sturt, Clare, Gumeracha, The Hub, Marion, Murray Bridge, Noarlunga, Norwood, Playford, Salisbury, Stirling, Unley, Willunga/Aldinga, Woodside.

Addresses of welcome were given by Bronwyn Halliday, Director of the State Library of South Australia and Tony Shinkfield, President of the Friends of the State Library.

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE SPOKE FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE GROUPS:-

**Patricia Chidwidden from Friends of Unley Library**

The first speaker was Patricia Chigwidden from the Friends of Unley Library (FOLA's 2001 Best of Friends Award winner). She said that their group raised funds through two book sales a year, this being their core fund raiser. Twice a year a book voucher for \$40 was raffled. Currently their library is being refurbished and the Friends have been successful in advocating various improvements to their Council. The

Friends have provided the library with print-books on tape and large print books. They enjoy a good relationship with the library staff. To encourage new members to their group they provide free reservations to people on joining the Library.

**Kay Gallyer from the Friends of Campbelltown Library**

She informed us that they were founded in 2000, and that year they had a book sale to provide income. Each year four newsletters were produced and coffee and conversation nights are organised to which a guest speaker is invited. They have provided \$3000 to buy DVDs and CDs for the library.

**Olive Snugg of the Friends of Salisbury Library**

She told us that the Friends were founded in 1988 and for the past two years she has been President. The group's purpose is the promotion of the Library's services, there are currently sixty-five members who each receive a regular newsletter. They have a Friends's shop where various items are sold, including ex-library stock. All funds raised go to the Library. \$25,000 has been raised for a new room to be built, and \$4,400 was raised for equipment for the Helen Barnes Room. They have a monthly meeting at which there is a guest speaker, and once a year they have a literary luncheon.

**Laurie McCann, Friends of Charles Sturt Libraries.**

We were told that there were three libraries in this local government area, Woodville, Hindmarsh and Henley and Grange where the Friends membership combines with the home library volunteers. They have discontinued charging a fee for membership and their main method of raising funds is through book sales, which take place at each branch. These have raised \$10,000. Their current backlog of books is being given to charity. Funds are also raised through the sale of library bags, chocolate and meetings at which a visiting author speaks. A reference group decides how the money raised should be spent. They are careful that the choice of equipment that they buy is not an item for which the Council should pay. They are taking part in the [2003@your Library](mailto:2003@your Library) campaign.

**Val Tilbrook of the Friends of Clare Library**

This group was founded in 1982 and has eighteen members. A two dollar fee is paid when one becomes a friend. Funds are raised through having three raffles a year and an annual book sale, the latter generates \$700 to \$800. Meetings are also held at which a visiting author as a guest to talk to them. They have a good relationship with the library staff and provide the library with equipment and large print books.

**Dan Webster of the Friends of the Hub Library**

This library is a joint use library, providing services for both the Council and schools. It raises funds by conducting computer classes, having a quiz night once a year, book sales twice a year and an annual dinner in November. All money raised goes back to the library, they

have provided PCs for the library and a glass enclosure for Solomon the python, who was given to the library. Members receive a regular newsletter.

**Lorraine Kuchel of the Friends of Woodside Library**

As theirs is a small and close knit rural community they are struggling with only eight members. They gained \$1500 for a computer for children with dyslexia together with a large screen monitor. They provide \$10 a year for the games and puzzles collection.

**“The money has been spent on buying computers and adding to the book collection in the areas of art, cookery and gardening. There is a good relationship with the library staff.”**

**Christel Markivic of the Friends of Stirling Library**

This group was formed in 1980 and now has 150 members. It holds four meetings a year to which guest speakers are invited. Two book sales are held each year and over twenty years they have raised more than \$100,000. The money has been spent on buying computers and adding to the book collection in the areas of art, cookery and gardening. There is a good relationship with the library staff. The present library is used by 87% of the population and there are plans for a larger library.

**Elaine Beales of the Friends of Marion Library**

Their main fund raising is by raffles and selling chocolate. They provided the funds for the shelving in the local history collection. They support and take part in the library's childrens activities.

**Ellise Knight of the Friends of Brighton Library**

This group has 150 members who pay an annual fee of ten dollars with a concession rate of five dollars. A new books talk is organised once a month and a quarterly newsletter also provides book reviews. Twice a year a coffee morning is held and there are four raffles a year, these plus the sale of chocolate and book sales supply their funds. Over the past two years \$13,000 have been raised. This money has been used to purchase books and to update the barcoded cards.

**Brian Travers of the Friends of Norwood Library**

The membership of this group stood at sixty but has now fallen to thirty. Each member is provided with a free library bag. Raffles are the means of raising money, and produce \$3000 to \$5000 a year. This money is spent on things to benefit the community. Currently they are taking part in consultations regarding a new library.

**Shirley Hamilton-Smith of the Friends of Noarlunga Library**

This group was established in 1984 and now has thirty members. Fund raising consists of having book sales and selling book bags. Quiz evenings are held and once a month there is a book discussion. Once a year there is a meeting at which an author speaks. The money goes to the library for the purchase of material and equipment.

At the end of the presentations everyone agreed that the meeting had been worthwhile and thought that they should meet again. It was agreed that another meeting take place in 2004.

*(Report prepared by Gerrit Stafford, Vice President, Friends of the State Library SA)*

## FOCUS ON FRIENDS

# FOCUS ON FRIENDS

**Following the activities and achievements of Friends of Library groups across Australia.**

### STATE LIBRARY (NSW)

The Library Society changed its name to "Friends of the State Library of New South Wales" on 12 November 2002. The new name includes the words "State Library" to convey the message more clearly that the Friends support the institution known as "State Library of New South Wales". This change brings it in line with the Friends of the State Library of South Australia, the oldest group in the country.

### WAGGA WAGGA (NSW)

Due to the substantial cost of magazine titles in libraries, Friends at Wagga will be discussing how they can assist the library continue to subscribe to a wide variety of titles. Friends will be discussing at the April meeting if they can fund a list of titles for the year.

Friends have three representatives appointed to the inaugural Wagga Wagga City Library Advisory Committee, they were John Mills, Vera Swan and Gretchen Sleeman. The bargain book sale in March raised exactly \$600.

### WOLLONGONG (NSW)

At the AGM in March a farewell supper was arranged for Graeme Deutscher, who recently retired as Manager of the Library Service. Graeme had always been helpful and supportive of the Friends and has appreciated the contribution of the Friends to the success of the library.

Friends were reminded to take advantage of their discount at two local bookshops – support the people who support us!

Joan Phillips, President, stated in her annual report, that the Friends have 141 members, an increase from the previous year (which was 92). The report also mentioned items indicating a very busy FOL group – successful grant, bus tour, book launches, Michael Kent Golden Page Award, Literary Dinner: – *well done Wollongong*

### WINGECARRIBEE (NSW)

23 members attended the AGM in March, when Margaret Holmes was elected President.

The group also reported on the death of one of the founding members, Yvonne Thiessen, founding Treasurer, who assisted Helena Kirkwood and Jessie Anderson in the early years of forming, what is today a very successful FOL group in the country.



*Greg Denning, eminent Australian historian*

### ALTONA (VIC)

'Each day is a memory. Make it a good one'. This is one side of the bookmark that promotes the dates and times of all book sales for 2003 at Altona. Prior to the next Big Book Sale, the members of the Friends will have the opportunity to select books before the general public – *one of the benefits of being a Friend!*

The Friends latest newsletter announces a new Council complex costing \$3.5 million will be built in Altona Meadows, one part of the complex being a new branch library, to which the State government gave a grant of \$400,000.

### KEW (VIC)

In memory of founding President (Eric Flynn), Kew held the first Eric Flynn Oration on Tuesday 15 April in the Kew Library. The speaker was Professor Greg Denning, his subject – *Inspiring the Land: The Deep Time in Australian History*. At present Prof. Denning is Adjunct Professor at the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research at the Australian National University.

Kew have publicised a list of monthly speakers for 2003 meetings – interesting topics with some notable names – *another highlight of Kew activities.*



*Each day  
is a memory.  
Make it  
a good one.*

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