



## Friends Make a Difference



### Supporting our community

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## AGM Presentations

The 19th Annual General Meeting of FOLA was held in the new Flinders Lane building of Melbourne Library Service. We are most grateful to Paula Kelly, Library Manager for providing an excellent facility for a very appreciative and large audience who attended both the AGM and the Seminar: *Tale of Two Cities*.



At the meeting, new committee member Jack Goodman — CEO of Tutoring Australasia was elected to the national committee. Jack will bring a valuable depth of business and marketing experience to our operations.

His passion for libraries and the work of FOLA is already in evidence, and you are invited to read his co-authored article in the latest issue of *The Conversation* 6 September 2013, titled: *Forget Mines: Rudd and Abbott should look to libraries to drive our next boom*.

<http://theconversation.com/forget-mines-rudd-and-abbott-should-look-to-libraries-to-drive-our-next-boom-17822>

In the coming 12 months FOLA looks towards an historic and significant occasion: our 20th anniversary as only the 2nd worldwide Friends of Library body. It was back in December 1994 that the then Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC, CMG launched onto the world and Australian stage our organisation, a body which had as its mission, to grow, strengthen and develop Friends of Library groups and in particular the public library scene in Australia.

FOLA is planning to hold an occasion to celebrate this significant event in December 2014 in Melbourne. More news on that later.

20 years ago, FOLUSA – Friends of Libraries USA was the only national 'Friends of Library' body worldwide. FOLA followed, and incorporated a logo of similar design. Recently the American body amalgamated to form – ALTAFF (Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations).

FOLA has taken a new step forward and rebranded. We are grateful to our foundation sponsor – *Bolinda Publishing*, who continue to provide support and encouragement for our work and the development of Friends and better libraries for all.

Finally, we hope you enjoy our expanded new look *NewsUpdate*.



Daniel Ferguson  
**Executive Director FOLA**

**Front cover photographs:**

*Balmain Friends Writing Competition 2013*

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## HANDS OFF OUR LIBRARY!



*Angry words: Marg Scott, secretary of the Friends of Alexandra Library, and other members stage their protest. Photo: Jason South, courtesy The Age Newspaper.*

Residents in a small town in Victoria's north fear council cost cutting will hit at the heart of the community with three positions at the local library made redundant. (reported the *Age* newspaper on 18 September). Community members have remained united in their stance against last year's cut to library staff. A special meeting of the Friends of Alexandra Library discussed cuts which saw well respected library member and founder of the Junior Friends – Libby Kotschet, along with Annice Walse and Kylie Towers, dismissed from their roles.

For some 20 years, Libby Kotschet (Chidrens Librarian) has been the driving force behind children and youth involvement in the Junior Friends, the group she established. It has become a role model for younger activism within the Friends movement as a whole and has been well supported during this time by the adult members of the Friends of the Library group at Alexandra.

FOLA president, Dr Alan Bundy wrote to the Premier of Victoria, condemning the actions of Murrindindi Council, and pointing to the overwhelming benefits such a library service delivers to the rural community.

Murrindindi Shire Council mayor John Walsh, CEO Margaret Abbey and Cr Margaret Rae stated that council would be making "considered responses" to the motions passed by meetings held by the community.





## Cultivating Budding Writers



Friday 13 September 7pm, the Meeting Room of Balmain Town Hall is brightly lit, its doors are wide open and the sound flowing out of it reminds that of a buzzing beehive. The room looks full to capacity: the audience is a mixture of children and adults happily chatting under the high ceiling of the handsome timber lined historical venue, while from the their portraits along the walls austere former Balmain Councilors look imperturbably, no doubt they would smile... if they could.

It is Award night for the Friends of Balmain Library School Writing Competition 2013, and the excitement among the young ones is palpable.

The FOBL contest, sponsored since its launch by the Balmain-Rozelle Community Bank, and open to all local Primary Schools, is in its 4th edition and the number of participants has nearly doubled when compared to 2010.

The competitors are pupils in Year 5 and Year 6; this year each category of students was required to enter an original short story (800 words) and include in it two key words: *writing* and *story*. In alternative they could write a poem about an object, which was special to them or their families. First prize in each category? A \$100 book voucher from the local Hill of Content Bookshop plus a Balmain Rozelle Community Bank account to the value of \$100. Highly commended students, of which there were fourteen this time, receive a \$50 book voucher. Competing schools collect a \$250 book voucher for their Libraries.

After the traditional warm welcome by Mariella Totaro-Genevois, Chair of FOBL, and a brief friendly address by Ian Ferguson, Director of the Bank, Vivienne Nicoll-Hatton from the competition judging panel, offers an insightful overview and informative perspective of the students' entries.

Skillfully using a power point presentation Vivienne (Nicoll-Hatton) illustrates for the public the criteria followed by the judges, and the way they link-up with the methods used by NSW schools in their teaching of writing skills to young people. She illustrates her presentation with excerpts from the children's stories and poems, so that the young competitors and their parents can actually see and read them on the screen, clearly understanding how and why they have been selected as valuable examples of their creative writing.

The success of this phase of the School Awards night is truly rewarding for all the hard-working FOBL Committee members involved; it is by now clear to us that parents approve of the aims of our contest, sincerely appreciate the transparency of the judging process and thoroughly enjoy seeing their children's work publicly acknowledged and rewarded.

Roughly quoting a wonderful Australian writer for young adults, Nadia Wheatley, 'the relationship between reading and writing can be illustrated as the process of breathing-in and breathing-out'...

It seems to me that if the Friends of Balmain Library can contribute to such vital functions in the life of our local young people then they can be proud of their efforts and look forward to many future nights as the one just described.

**Mariella Totaro Genevois**

*"The scholarship included a study tour of libraries in the US that run library programs for children with special needs."*

*"The room looks full to capacity: the audience is a mixture of children and adults happily chatting under the high ceiling of the handsome timber lined historical venue."*

*"The success of this phase of the School Awards night is truly rewarding for all the hard-working FOBL Committee members involved."*

## Catherine Helen Spence Memorial Scholarship for 2013

improving library access for children with special needs and their families

Youth Program Officer at Adelaide Hills Council, Jo Kaeding has won the historic Catherine Helen Spence Memorial Scholarship for 2013. This state scholarship, awarded every four years, is intended 'to provide for a woman to undertake in Australia or overseas, the investigation of social problems and/or a study in the field of social sciences. The investigation or study should be relevant to social conditions in South Australia and be capable of being applied for the benefit of the state. Value of the Scholarship in 2013: \$25,000.'

Jo developed the Library Lions program and, in setting it up, discovered how little has been done in Australia in regard to providing access to library programs for children with special needs. This lack provided the basis for Jo's application.

Jo now has a very interesting, and demanding, eighteen months of research and investigation and travel ahead.



Jo Kaeding,  
Youth Program Officer,  
Adelaide Hills Council

The scholarship included a study tour of libraries in the US that run library programs for children with special needs and that also have in place strategies for improving access for children with special needs and their families. Two such libraries are Brooklyn Public Library and New Jersey Public Library. Jo will also be attending the national biannual conference in California.

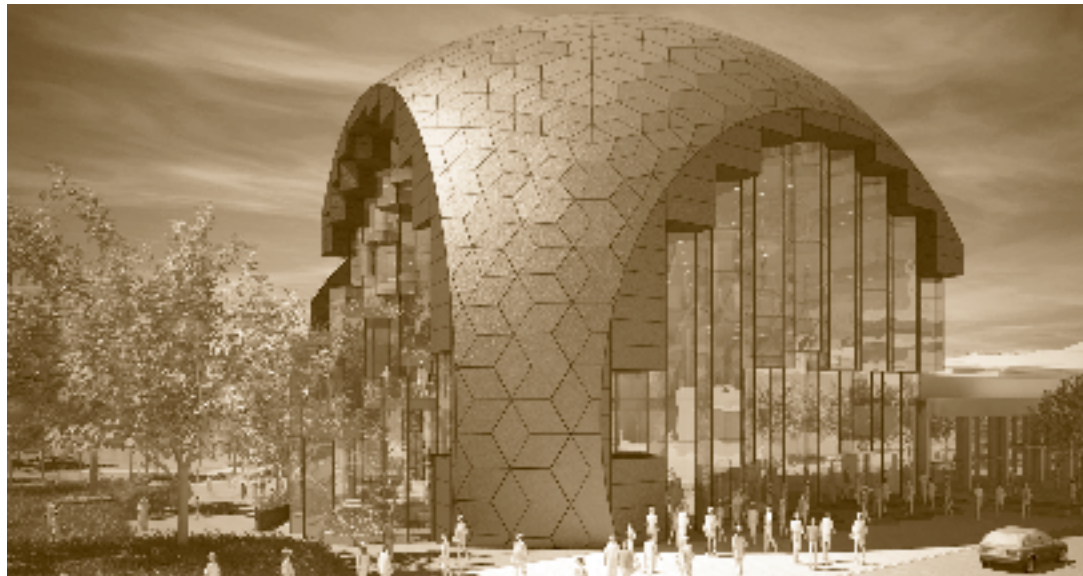
'Library Lions' – storytime for children with special needs won the FOLA Peter McInnes Award for Children and Youth in 2012. The Friends at Stirling, who supported Jo, are naturally very pleased with her latest award.



<http://libriessa.blogspot.com.au/2013/07/sa-winner-of-catherine-helen-spence.html>



## FOLA AGM



Geelong Library and Heritage Centre (visualisation)

The 19th Annual Meeting of Friends of Libraries Australia Inc was held at the new Melbourne City Library, Flinders Lane, Melbourne on 29 August 2013. In conjunction with the AGM, FOLA held a seminar – “Tale of Two Cities: Exciting Public Library Futures for Geelong and the City of Melbourne”, sponsored by Caval.

Dr Alan Bundy AM welcomed a large gathering of friends, library managers, librarians and library trade representatives to the event. After the AGM was conducted, Paula Kelly, Library Manager at the City of Melbourne and Patti Manolis, CEO, Geelong Regional Library Corporation along with Jenny Mustey, Library Manager Campaspe Regional Library addressed the gathering on Public Library Futures.

Patti Manolis, Chief Executive Officer, Geelong Regional Library Corporation presented a powerpoint display outlining the history of the library service, the reasons for a new library and the architects intentions.

Current plan / concept ARM ARCHITECTURE. Previous work includes National Museum of Australia, Melbourne Recital Centre, Melbourne Theatre Company, Hamer Hall. Corio Bay setting and views.

### The vision in terms of broader outcomes:

- Significant cultural and learning institution in heart of city and cbd
- Iconic architecturally designed landmark

that will make a statement / represent where Geelong is headed and what it values — learning and culture.

- Contribute to placemaking and urban socio-cultural regeneration eg central component of cbd revitalisation strategy.
- Anchor for cultural precinct in recognition that public libraries are the exemplar anchor institutions, generating by far the most activity and being the most socially inclusive of all cultural institutions.
- Major destination and attractor of visitors from within and outside the region (eg Seattle)
- A centre for discovery about Geelong and the Geelong Region — taking Geelong to the world and bringing the world to Geelong.
- Central library for a large network of smaller regional and neighbourhood libraries
- Last but not least for CBD resident and workers, this will be their local Library / Community centre / community living room / Third space, the term penned by Ray Oldenburg in his book *the great good place*.



Docklands Library and Community Centre (visualisation)

*“FOLA remains one of the few national associations for Friends of Libraries, although threats to public libraries in countries such as the UK have stimulated forms of regional or national association.”*

*“Public libraries are the exemplar anchor institutions, generating by far the most activity and being the most socially inclusive of all cultural institutions.”*

*“Australia itself has a public library system which in terms of access, use, buildings, resources and innovation now ranks among the top ten nations worldwide.”*

## FOLA President’s Report 2013

Friends of Libraries Australia was launched, as only the second such association in the world, by its foundation patron, the Hon Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG at the State Library of Victoria. In this, my eighth report as FOLA president, I acknowledge its great fortune that in 2012 another great Australian, Tom Keneally AO succeeded Michael Kirby to become FOLA’s second national patron.

FOLA remains one of the few national associations for Friends of Libraries, although threats to public libraries in countries such as the UK have stimulated forms of regional or national association. As an indicator of recognition of FOLA’s existence and achievement for nearly two decades, its executive director and founder Daniel Ferguson has been invited to speak at the 2014 national library conference of the Korean Library Association, South Korea now having about 100 friends of libraries groups.

Australia itself has a public library system which in terms of access, use, buildings, resources and innovation now ranks among the top ten nations worldwide. However there are no grounds for self satisfaction or complacency. Inequities and exclusion abound, and there is still very much work to be done to ensure that everyone in Australia - young and old, citizens, migrants, refugees, the homeless, those with disabilities, and visitors to the country are well served by proactive public libraries which several recent research reports have shown are the best possible investment in community connection and wellbeing by all levels of Australian government.

Thus FOLA in 2013 continued its endeavours towards its vision of *Better, more accessible, libraries for all in Australia*, and its focus, at the national and local levels, on public library advocacy. In 2103 one example of this was FOLA’s Peter McInness Award for Library Services to Children and Young People. This went to the Stirling Public Library in South Australia for an innovative program to meet the needs of children with disabilities. One outcome of this FOLA award was its contribution to the achievement by the program’s initiator, Joanne Kaeding, of a Catherine Helen Spence scholarship to investigate similar initiatives in the USA.

Given the very positive outcomes of that award it is, however, disappointing, that FOLA’s two other widely advertised national awards, for elders and adults and for public advocacy did not receive sufficient nominations to enable the awarding of either.

During the year FOLA continued to hear about, and report on its website and in its quarterly newsletter, the outcomes from effective partnerships between council, their library managers, and Friends. As was noted in my 2012 report, just how to promote those partnerships, and particularly how to encourage library managers to initiate and support them, has challenged FOLA since its establishment as the volunteer based and very lean organisation it remains to day.

FOLA does not have a federal structure or state or regional branches, but it has always encouraged and helped where possible,





## FOLA President's Report 2013

(continued from previous page)



Images of Coventry Library Stirling, South Australia

state or regional groups of Library Friends to come together to share their experiences and knowledge, and to help spread word about their value to councils and library managers. There is a statement to this effect on the FOLA website [www.fola.org.au](http://www.fola.org.au).

The only state which has done this consistently is South Australia, which has the highest numbers of Friends groups per capita in Australia, and perhaps not coincidentally the largest membership (over 600) public library Friends group in Australia at Stirling — and overall probably the best supported public library system in the country. On 1 July 2013, for example, the SA Forum for Friends of Libraries which I had the pleasure of attending, was a reinforcing success. This was in large measure due to its exemplary organisation by the Friends of Holdfast Bay Libraries, to be succeeded in 2014 by the SA State Forum organised by the Friends of Salisbury Libraries.

These annual forums could well be emulated at the state and regional level throughout Australia, and FOLA stands ready to advise on their organisation and contribute the attendance of the president or executive director to them.

FOLA also stands ready to respond to often short sighted threats to library services and their funding at the local and state level, particularly in rural areas. In 2013 it unfortunately, as in previous years, had occasion to do so.

The funding of FOLA remains constraining of its advocacy for better libraries for all — numerous individual Friends groups have larger

funds than does it. Nonetheless, this serves to reinforce the value of the relatively few Australian library suppliers who do sponsor its endeavours and awards. Those few are recognised on FOLA's website and newsletter. Among them, it is again not invidious to highlight the generous support of Bolinda Publishing since FOLA's inception in 1994.

My appreciation of the contribution of FOLA's national committee during the year is also expressed, and particularly that of treasurer Kristina Barnett who also served as vice president. Murray Drinnan continued as its valued webmaster.

The Friends of Barossa Libraries in South Australia, with the generous support of its library manager and local authority, hosted the 2012 FOLA AGM at Nuriootpa. It is one of those regional Friends of Libraries which attests to what can be achieved by an effective partnership between a library manager, a council and a well led Friends group as the library voice of its community.

Daniel Ferguson continued in 2013 to devote inordinate time over and above full time employment to the wellbeing of FOLA - the organisation which he initiated, and of which he will have been the mainstay for 20 years, in 2014.

There will be very good cause for celebration in 2014 of that initiative and achievement.

There will also be cause for reflection on where FOLA will, and can, be in 2034 — for the need for such an organisation will surely remain.

Rather like democracy itself, the price of better libraries for all, will still require eternal vigilance.

**Dr Alan Bundy AM**

*"FOLA also stands ready to respond to often short sighted threats to library services and their funding at the local and state level, particularly in rural areas."*

*"My appreciation of the contribution of FOLA's national committee during the year is also expressed, and particularly that of treasurer Kristina Barnett who also served as vice president.."*

*"We provide the community with opportunities to invest in the success of the Library"*

## Advocate on YouTube

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library

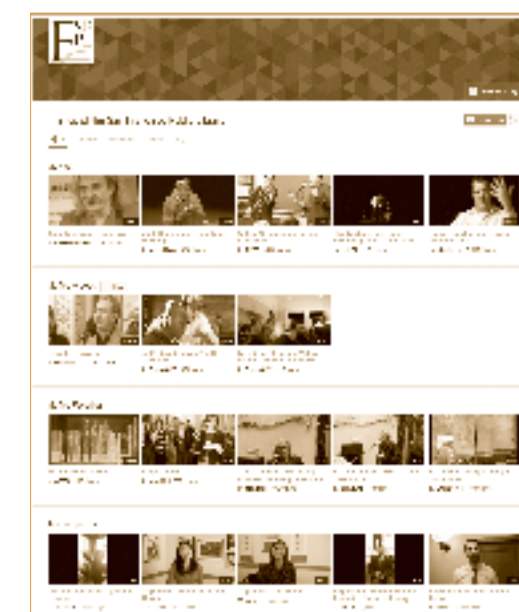


Friends of the San Francisco Public Library is a member-supported, non-profit organization that fundraises, advocates, and provides financial support for the San Francisco Public Library.

From their website: [friendssfpl.org](http://friendssfpl.org)

*Friends of the San Francisco Public Library is a member-supported nonprofit organization that advocates, fundraises, and provides critical support for the San Francisco Public Library and related literary and educational programs. We provide the community with opportunities to invest in the success of the Library as well as literary and education communities by donating funds or by donating time through volunteering. We raise money and we raise our voices to ensure a first-class public library for San Francisco.*

*From our dedicated staff to our committed Board of Directors, from our enthusiastic members to our extraordinary volunteers, from our generous donor base to the thousands of people who benefit from the programs we provide and support, we are what our name implies: a collection of committed, caring individuals who share a common vision of a superior free public library accessible by all.*



Friends of the San Francisco Public Library YouTube channel



# Friends Around Australia



## National Gallery Victoria (Vic)

Curator Alisa Bunbury introduced an exhibition of the work of Bea Maddock at an evening at the NGV in May. Bea Maddock is one of Australia's most acclaimed artists, recognised for her innovative and evocative prints.

## Altona (Vic)

AGM was held in July, when long-term president (and former FOLA committee member) Margaret Broeks was re-elected president for another term. An active group of 12 members were re-elected to the committee. FOAL are one of the few groups in the country who have an active and ongoing booksale program conducted through the Friends Bookroom, located adjacent to the main library building.

## Toowoomba (Qld)

Despite rainy weather, 35 keen readers came to the Toowoomba City Library on 22 May to meet author Jane Grieve. Her first book was *Slippin on the Lino*, her second in *Stockman's Footsteps* published in March. The May booksale raised a total of \$2,291.50. A fact sheet discussing the proposed new Toowoomba City Library was recently released by Regional Council. The Friends are following with interest.

Over the 2012 National year of reading, the Friends funded promotions/programs to the value of \$9,000. This was in addition to other funding requests from the library – money well spent. Warren Tracey was elected president of the Friends at the recent AGM. Long time editor of the Friends newsletter and Vice president, Elaine Chippendale has resigned from the committee. Elaine had also been a member of the FOLA committee.

## Port Macquarie (NSW)

Another successful author visit took place in March when, Tony Park entertained readers at the library. Toney spent six months of the year in South Africa, where his books are set, and his knowledge of the history, problems, present and future of this region was impressive. In April, Friends visited Vanderley Nursery and Abundance Cafe at Sancrox. AGM was held on 27 September and discussions regarding suggested changes to the running of FOPML in the future were discussed, meaning fewer meetings, more social activities and a proposed larger working committee. Author visits are one of the keys to the Friends success: authors such as Greg Barron, Barry Maitland, Simon French and illustrator Donna Rawlins have been recent speakers.

## Auburn (NSW)

Auburn Friends have a 'sister' Friends relationship with the Friends at Oberon (NSW). This city-country mix has many benefits which other Friends groups may wish to consider.

A membership drive is being conducted this year with the help of library staff.

## Wingecarribee (NSW)

A Heritage bus Trip to Parramatta was a great success. They were joined by historian Judith Dunn. Leo Berkelouw was speaker for May and he described the world of books as "it allows one to follow their passion whatever that might be". He was able to tell stories of his many years in the world of books and of the famous dynasty established by his family.

Speakers for June and July were Anne Carney on Fine Miniatures and Dr Gavin McDonell and academic and expert on China. August saw Jane Lemann talk on the Mt Gib quarries and the Sydney buildings built from Bowral Trachyte stone.

*"Author visits are one of the keys to the Friends success: authors such as Greg Barron, Barry Maitland, Simon French and illustrator Donna Rawlins have been recent speakers."*

..

*"Leo Berkelouw was speaker for May and he described the world of books as 'it allows one to follow their passion whatever that might be'."*

*"Friends continued their sponsorship of the Children's Illustration Competition and support for the Biggest Morning Tea for Cancer research."*

..

*"For the 20th anniversary FOWL had as speaker, the Hon Michael Kirby (foundation patron of FOLA)."*

## Balmain (NSW)

An extensive annual report was published in the 'Balmain Bookworm' in July, by Friends Chair, Dr Mariella Totaro-Genevois. Some of the projects have been: Annual School Writing Competitions, both for primary and secondary students, and sponsored by the Balmain Rozelle Community Bank, Booksales, Monthly Speakers, updating the web site, documenting the past 15 years of FOBL's history, The Open Book Group, the monthly radio segment with Radio Balmain, publication of *Bookworm*, and the Nobel Laureates Collection.

## Wagga Wagga (NSW)

Peter Gissing was guest speaker in July. A long time resident of Wagga Wagga and member of the District Historical Society. The society is involved with the digitization of the *Daily Advertiser* and the first part of the project is 1868 to 1905. The Friends are considering what they can contribute to the cost of the project, likely to be \$3,000-\$6,000.

The New Friends of the Library Book bags are soon to be available with the Friends logo.



## Waverley (NSW)

For the 20th anniversary FOWL had as speaker, the Hon Michael Kirby (foundation patron of FOLA). *FOWL Deeds* reported on the successful event and described in some detail Michael's career. An overflowing auditorium was captivated by his address from early childhood to the High Court and present day activities with the United Nations.



## Willunga and Aldinga (SA)

The Friends are putting in place a book to celebrate the efforts and achievements of the Friends of Willunga and Aldinga Libraries, entitled "We Did it". The book will be an A-Z of FOWAL by Members.

Unfortunately, the Friends have advised members that they are no longer in a position to publish a newsletter.

## Salisbury (SA)

A well attended AGM took place in August. The Friends Bookshop Manager – Derrick Verringer gave a report and thanked volunteers who worked in the shop. President Rosslyn Whitcher also thanked Mary Verringer who prepares the monthly newsletter.

## Prospect (SA)

The Friends are seeking goods, gift vouchers that can be used in the Christmas Raffle. All donations are acknowledged in "Books", the Friends newsletter and are acknowledged at the raffle itself. The Friends have in recent times helped with funding of large print books, upgrading computer equipment and sponsoring an annual Children's Writing competition.

## Barossa (SA)

The 2013 Annual Report mentioned some of the achievements in the past year — A profit of over \$2200 at the annual raffle, book sales in Lyndoch, Mount Pleasant and Tanunda raising \$2000 and generous donations from a number of sponsors. In the role of advocacy the Friends presented submissions to council for upgrades to Lyndoch and Mount Pleasant libraries and arranged a variety of speakers and other events during the year.

It is noted that Jill Stevens is retiring after 10 years as president and a job extremely well done, and thanked library manager Tania Paull for her support to the Friends.

## State Library (SA)

Friends will hold the 2013 AGM and Dinner at the Adelaide Club, North Terrace in November, when Rob Linn, a professional historian will speak on the history of the Club, now in its 150th year.



# It's not all about books Birmingham (UK)

“We have moved away from a transactional service to a transformational one”



In September the new Birmingham(UK) Library was opened with an impassioned speech by Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani teenager shot by the Taliban.

The Library of Birmingham is one of a new breed of “super-libraries” that are springing up while many smaller branches fight for survival. “We have moved away from a transactional service to a transformational one,” explained Brian Gamble, the library’s director, in a statement to *The Economist* 6 September 2013.



“The Library of Birmingham is one of a new breed of “super-libraries.”



Images of the Library of Birmingham

# The Launceston Family Album



L-R Prue McCausland, Marion Sargent, the Mayor of Launceston, Alderman Albert van Zetten and Rosemary Mattingley, great granddaughter of Samuel Sutton, Executive Commissioner and Mayor of Launceston at the time of the Exhibition

Friends of the Library Launceston has recently published a 320 page hardcover book called *The Tasmanian Exhibition 1891-92 with over 1000 biographies from the Launceston Family Album*. The book has been compiled by Prue McCausland and Marion Sargent.

The Launceston Family Album has been an ongoing project since 2004 when the Friends received a grant from the Tasmanian Community Fund to digitise 1186 passport-sized photographs in an album donated to Launceston Library in the 1950s. The photos, of people who had season tickets to the Tasmanian Exhibition of 1891-92, represent a sizable proportion of the population of about 17,000 at that time.

The project involved publishing the photos onto a website, [www.launcestonfamilyalbum.org.au](http://www.launcestonfamilyalbum.org.au) and inviting members of the community to help

identify the people in the photos and discover details about their lives. Over 200 contributors were involved and only 90 people remain unidentified – many of them with the name Smith! The website is no longer interactive, but information about the portraits can still be sent in for future revision of the biographies on the website.

This book is the culmination of that project and, as well as the biographies, includes information about the Exhibition itself: how it came about, what it involved, the building of Launceston’s iconic Albert Hall and the effect of such a major undertaking on the city itself.

The book is available from Friends of the Library Launceston at a cost of \$60 plus \$14 postage and packing. Contact details: PO Box 607, Launceston, email [Launceston.friends@gmail.com](mailto:Launceston.friends@gmail.com)

“Over 200 contributors were involved and only 90 people remain unidentified – many of them with the name Smith!”





## Ask the candidates if they support the Greerton Library 900

Friends of the Tauranga City Library in New Zealand have developed a campaign on Facebook called – *Greerton Library 900*.

The Friends are in a fight with the local council, for better library facilities. Greerton's present library is too small for the needs of the 45,000 population. They believe they need at least 900sq meters.

Candidates at the forthcoming October election are being asked whether they support a bigger library in Greerton, or not.

If not, why not? If they say:

### Bricks and mortar? Overtaken by the internet!

→ Not everyone has access. Libraries offer them cheap and easy WWW connectivity, and advice on how to get the best out of it.

### Just hop on a bus – the central library has everything for anyone.

→ Public transport's not always an easy option for the mobility-impaired or a young parent with more than one kid. How do they get on the information highway?



### Libraries are for losers – people wanting a warm place to spend the day...

→ Would you prefer people should be out on the cold streets?

→ When did you last visit a library?

### We just can't afford it: the city's in debt to the limit.

→ Welcome Bay gave up its library so that Greerton could extend.

→ Library users can cope with information: explain why a library is less important than sports fields and swimming pools.

→ The land and the money are already secured. What's changed?

*"Library users can cope with information: explain why a library is less important than sports fields and swimming pools."*

*"As a result of Friends' fundraising and volunteer efforts in the past, the library has been able to purchase collection items, programs, equipment, and services."*



## Library Aware Community Award Winner 2013

### Canton Public Library, Michigan: Connecting a community of friends

The library's work in enhancing services for the population of 90,173 and forging strong local partnerships stem from a three year strategic plan that was completed in 2011. Laurie Golden, department head of community relations says "The Canton Public Library connects your community" because of the new library's mission. The strategic plan encouraged library staff to tap into the local expertise and further tailor collections, programming and services to the community needs with user profiles and feedback from focus groups and comment cards.

The inaugural library Aware Community Award is co-sponsored by *Library Journal* and *LibraryAware*, a product of EBSCO Publishing's NoveList Division. The Canton Public Library will receive \$10,000 and the township will receive a plaque. The award was created to honour a library for "getting out to the community and demonstrating its value". Canton, with a strong and supportive Friends group have assisted greatly in the result.

### The Friends of the Canton Public Library

The Friends of the Canton Public Library is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1964 and incorporated in 1979. The goals of the Friends are:

- To build a membership of citizens who support the library
- To encourage the use of library services
- To spotlight the value of the library in the life of our community
- To expand the resources of the library through fundraising



As a result of Friends' fundraising and volunteer efforts in the past, the library has been able to purchase collection items, programs, equipment, and services not provided through its town-funded operating budget. Some recent examples:

- Books, audiobooks, DVDs, Blu-ray discs, compact discs, Wii games, computer software, and puppets
- The Overdrive Downloadable Audiobooks/E-Books collection
- Admission passes to Connecticut and Massachusetts museums and cultural sites
- Online information databases, such as *Ancestry.com*, *Learning Express Library*, the *Historical Hartford Courant*, *A to Z World Travel*, & *Mango Languages*
- Children's programs (storytellers, magic shows, science demonstrations, singers, craft workshops, etc.)
- Adult programs (author visits; programs on food, gardening, and personal organization; musical concerts, crossword puzzle tournaments; etc.)
- Public performance copyright license to show movies
- Library information brochure for patrons
- Furniture and equipment (a compact disc/DVD buffer, printers, a fax machine, shelving, etc.)
- The Library/Friends table at Sam Collins Day



## 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"/>
Institutions	\$120	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporations	\$120	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extra copies of News Update	\$10 per annum	<input type="checkbox"/>

### RETURN ADDRESS

#### FOLA Inc.

Locked Bag 1315,  
Tullamarine, Vic. 3043  
Phone: (03) 9338 0666  
Fax: (03) 9335 1903

### PAYMENT DETAILS

My cheque/money order  
is made payable to:  
Friends of Libraries Australia Inc.  
Locked Bag 1315,  
Tullamarine, Vic. 3043

**Amount enclosed \$**

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