

NSW HOME LIBRARY SERVICE WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Friday July 29, 2022

Concord Library, City of Canada Bay

Attendance

In person

Peter Green – City of Sydney
Kristen Irwin – Woollahra
Suzanne Spence – Stanton
Rhiannon Mijovic – Bathurst
Sonya Campion - Hornsby
Chirayu Thapa – Hornsby
Scott Pooke +1 – Inner West
Margaret Gibson – Blue Mountains
Lauren Boyd – Lake Macquarie
Matthew Griffiths – Fairfield
Barbara Halliday – Cumberland
Amy Georgiou – Mosman
Sandra Bice – Canterbury
Kristy Nightingale - Ryde
Melissa Angelo – Blacktown
Kylie Streeter – Canada Bay
Sarah Wild – Canada Bay
Rachel Fang – Canada Bay
Saqib Mahmood - Penrith
Kirsty Plumridge – Penrith

Via Zoom

Karen Miller – Singleton
Annette Schofield – Clarence

Michele Betts – Macquarie Regional
Nicki Fox – Northern Beaches
Johany Ali – Parramatta
Susan Bradley-Hoy – Burwood
Cathy Manfredotti – Lithgow
Stephen Peacock +2 – Sutherland
Andrea Curr – State Library
Sharon Smith – Riverina
Linda Albertson – Bega
Louise Milne – Kempsey
Kay Pisel – Newcastle
Kathy Quist – Newcastle
Carlos Jorge – Newcastle
Bronwyn Robinson – Northern Beaches
Mary Johnson – Wollongong
Laura Gomes – Wollongong
Elizabeth Eggleston- Campbelltown
Bernadette Stephenson – Campbelltown
Susan Hyde – Willoughby
Alison Clarke – Ku-ring-gai

Apologies:

Jacky Talbot – Lane Cove
Michele & Sari – Waverley
Cathie Tracey – Randwick

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Philip Edney, Library Manager

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Confirmed minutes from previous meeting at Burwood Library 2 May 2022 - Barbara Halliday, Cumberland.

Overview of Canada Bay HLS- Kylie Streeter

- Canada Bay LGA has a population of 96,000 which is increasing due to development at Rhodes
- There are three libraries in the LGA – Concord, Five Dock and Rhodes (Rhodes has no books, functions as a tech space and location for events such as story time)
- HLS membership is stable, between 80-100, with seven institutions
- Sarah is the outreach librarian, Kylie works 15 hours/week in HLS, Rachel does one day in HLS
- There are 43 members in their own homes, 7 institutions and 20 individuals served in institutions
- Volunteers are used for some deliveries – a couple and an individual – who use their own vehicles to deliver the items
- Otherwise staff use a library vehicle for deliveries
- Deliveries are every four weeks
- A tablet lending program has been implemented, where tablets loaded with library apps are loaned to HLS customers. There are four tablets which were funded through a grant from BeConnected.
- Sarah runs a Greek Friendship Group
- Italian Bingo occurs monthly
- Other programs include computer training for people with dementia, Seniors Week online bingo and a crossword competition

Guest Speaker (via Zoom) – Kay Pisel – Newcastle Library Living with Dementia Program

- Kay discussed the innovative Living With Dementia programs run by Newcastle Libraries
- Funded by a Public Library Association scholarship (the Colin Mills Project)
- Dementia is the number one cause of death among women and number two among men
- Over 470,000 people are currently living with dementia
- The stigma associated with dementia leads to loneliness and social isolation
- The programs are intended to lower barriers to social engagement for people living with dementia and to educate library staff about dementia. This included conducting an audit of physical spaces in the library
- Kay recommended the online courses provided by Dementia Australia
<https://dementialearning.org.au/courses/online-learning/>
- The Memory Room Project – small groups of people living with dementia (seven max), accompanied by a carer or family member, meet for up to two hours in the library or in the community.
- Sessions are run by an art therapist who uses visual and audio prompts to encourage conversation, which can be wide ranging
- Images come from the local history collection and are selected for emotional appeal and suitability to the age demographic
- Sometimes they do activities inspired by the prompts – e.g. playing side show alley games as a response to a photo of the Newcastle Show

- The carers enjoy the program too
- During COVID the images were put online with a short narrative to encourage reflection and discussion
- Kay is hoping to start a second session
<https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/library/experience/what-s-on/library-projects/the-memory-room/the-memory-room>
- Another part of the program is the development of themed Memory Kits
- These consist of books, music, DVDs, puzzles, tactile items etc based on a theme
- They may be borrowed
<https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/library/experience/what-s-on/library-projects/the-memory-room/memory-kits>
- As part of Dementia Action Week in 2021 the Library produced a set of podcasts on dementia called Laughter and Tears
<https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/library/experience/online-programs/library-podcasts>
- Newcastle Library has recently installed a Tovertafel – a table upon which images and games can be projected
- The Tovertafel encourages interaction and play among older people and people living with dementia
- A stand is under construction to enable the Tovertafel to be more mobile, possibly to take it into aged care

Show and Tell of HLS Bags

- Various bags and crates used by different services were demonstrated
- The sturdy bags as used by Newcastle and Northern Beaches etc are available from Claytons

HLS Marketing Plans

- Amy from Mosman Library is starting a marketing plan for the HLS there and asked if others had done one
- No other library had done a marketing plan, but a general discussion ensued on ways to promote HLS – e.g. promote to Community Transport, ACAT, community groups, RSL, Mens' Sheds, use display spaces in the library for promotion, use of library staff to promote directly to customers they see struggling in the library

Service to Aged Care Facilities

- Most HLS still are unable to enter aged care facilities
- A few are able to enter particular facilities and go room to room. Staff need to do a RAT test prior to delivery

Matters arising from previous meeting

- N/A

General Business

- Some library services are spreading selection duties around their staff, which needs good coordination. Benefits include improvements in RA skills over the staff, increased diversity of material chosen. Costs are mainly in reduced relationship building
- Andrea Curr will send out an EOI for people to join the Steering Committee for the HLSWG
- Discussion occurred about the possibility of running the Seniors in Focus Conference next year, possibly in November 2023

Guest Speaker Jane Massa, Older Persons' Mental Health Unit, NSW Health

- After lunch Jane Massa gave a very informative and interesting talk about suicide and depression prevention in older people
- Jane described the five ways to wellbeing: connect, be active, take notice, keep learning, give