

NSW HOME LIBRARY WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES

HOST: Blacktown Libraries

DATE: Monday 2 August 2021

TIME: 10.00 – 12.30pm L

LOCATION: Online via Zoom:

1. Welcome and acknowledgement of country – Melissa Angelo, Outreach Librarian

2. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees: Linda Albertson (Bega Valley), Melissa Angelo (Blacktown), Bess Gilmore Lim (Campbelltown), Bernadette Stephenson (Campbelltown), Kylie Streeter (Canada Bay), Sandra Bice (Canterbury-Bankstown), Marijana Miletic (Canterbury-Bankstown), Jenny Argyrous (Canterbury-Bankstown), Bec Edwards (City of Sydney), Mary Casey (City of Sydney), Peter Green (City of Sydney), Annette Schofield (Clarence Valley), Barbara Halliday (Cumberland), Dean Bastian (Georges River), Sonya Campion (Hornsby), Scott Pooke (Inner West), Louise (Kempsey), Cathy Manfredotti (Lithgow), Belinda Barlow (Macquarie), Mary Anderson (Northern Beaches), Nicki Fox (Northern Beaches), Kristen Langlois (Northern Beaches), Suzanne Spencer (North Sydney), Andrea Curr (NSW SL), Kirsty Plumridge (Penrith), Saqib Mahmood (Penrith), Magnolia Szabo (Randwick), Marita Parkin (Waverly), Cheryl Woodward (Willoughby), Eileen Smith (Wollongong).

Late apologies: Kristy Nightingale (Ryde)

3. Confirmation of Minutes from 1 February 2021 Northern Beaches Library

Accepted by Melissa Angelo

4.a) Overview of Blacktown HLS – Melissa Angelo

- * Blacktown LGA Area: 24,013 ha
- * Population: 382,831 as of 2020
- * 5 Library branches + 1 Mobile Library: Max Webber (Blacktown), Dennis Johnson (Dennis Johnson), Our Library @ The Mount Druitt Hub, Lalor Park, & Riverstone Library & Digital Hub.
- * Deliveries are made each weekday on a 2 weekly, colour coded cycle
- * We also do bulk loans and supply one nursing home with a permanent selection of items
- * Deliveries are made by our in-house courier in a custom fitted Toyota Hiace.
- * All deliveries are currently contactless due to COVID-19
- * Delivery bags are currently single use plastic bags
- * All staff required to use PPE and socially distance.
- * Selection and packaging broken up by location and nearest library branch
Max Webber - 1x F/T Library Assistant who handles the bulk of the work and oversees all administration for each branch, 1 x F/T courier and 1 x part time LT to perform as back up courier. Dennis Johnson – 1 full time

LT & 1 part time LT. Mount Druitt – 2 x part time LT. Lalor Park – 1 full time LT. Riverstone – 1 full time LT.

- * No volunteers (including pre-Covid-19)
- * Total of 217 patrons (Individuals and in Aged care)
- * Patrons usually require medical certification but this requirement has been suspended due to Covid-19 in order to add temporary HLS patrons.
- * Attracted an extra 70 + temporary patrons during the 2020 Lockdown
- * Current Sydney LGA Lockdown has 10 + Temporary members.
- * Lockdown Delivery Reservation service recommenced during the second Sydney Lockdown
- * HLS and Reservation Delivery service suspended at the direction of Council's EMC on July 23 and all staff are now working from home and making welfare calls to vulnerable patrons.

b) Overview of Penrith HLS – Kirsty Plumridge

- Penrith LGA Area: 405 Sq KM
- Population: 216282 as of 2020
- 3 Library branches: Penrith, St Marys, and St Clair
- 4 Staff working in HLS
- We provide technical support to HLS patrons at home with Navigators, iPads, and Libby training
- Monthly deliveries, prior to COVID we had fortnightly deliveries
- 132 Patrons (Individuals and in Aged Care facilities)
- Deliver to 14 Aged Care facilities
- We have five volunteers who help us with selection, due to COVID not working at the moment
- We are soon to get our own 'solar powered' electric car
- We provide Navigators to our vision impaired patrons
- We loan iPads to some patrons - we download e-books and audio material
- We update SD cards with audio books regularly – each card has around 8-10 titles
- We provided brain training packs to all our HLS patron during Senior's Week this year
- 6 Routes. Each route is allocated a colour which matches the bags and selection card
- HLS delivery is suspended at the moment
- We are doing contactless delivery due to COVID-19
- We have been taking two cars to avoid cross contamination and observe social distancing since the first wave in 2020
- Deliveries are done by the HLS team in pairs
- We use all necessary PPE, like gloves, mask, and hand sanitisers
- We take cleaning kit with us to clean the cars before and after the delivery

5. Guest Speaker - Phil Greenidge from The Stroke Foundation

- * National Stroke Week starts today 2 – 8 August and is held annually.
- * The Stroke Foundation are fundamentally involved in the areas of preventing stroke, saving lives, and encouraging recovery.
- * Presentation on what is a stroke, how to recognise the signs of a stroke, and how we can minimise and prevent the risk of stroke.
- * Stroke is one of the biggest killers in Australia and a leading cause of disability.
- * 1 in 4 people experience a strike in their lifetime. In Australia it kills more women than breast cancer and more men than prostate cancer.
- * Some of the services provided include the Stroke Line - 1800 STROKE (1800 787 653), the Stroke Ambulance - the first mobile stroke ambulance in the southern hemisphere, currently in Melbourne but there are plans to roll this out to other locations when more funds are raised and Telestroke accessed by hospitals in regional areas.
- * Explanation of the FAST Campaign and associated information resources
- * 75 to 80% of the funds acquired by The Stroke Foundation are by donation or legacy.
- * Resources can be ordered online at: <https://store.strokefoundation.org.au/>
- * To Request a speaker: <https://strokefoundation.org.au/What-we-do/Prevention-programs/StrokeSafe-Speakers>
- * For more information you can also contact Amanda Browne, Community Engagement Coordinator NSW/ACT at: abrowne@strokefoundation.org.au

6. 10 minute tea break

7. Covid Lockdown updates.

NSW is still under Covid-19 Restrictions regardless of location. Many Sydney LGAs have enacted a full shutdown of library sites, and in many cases Home Library Services also due to the lockdown of several LGAs.

Discussion on individual library service circumstances and the increase of welfare phone calls to isolated patrons, especially due to service shutdown. Melissa mentioned that Blacktown has aged care residents in some facilities swapping books with each other and suggested this could be proposed to other aged care services.

Current list of HLS and Library operations as discussed in meeting with some additional details of some other library services included.

Library Service	HLS Operational	Access to Library Building	Notes
Bega Valley	Yes	Yes	
Blacktown	No	No	
Campbelltown	No	No	

Canada Bay	No	No – Skeleton staff in 1 branch only	Tried to keep HLS running but too many staff living in Lockdown LGAs
Canterbury-Bankstown	No	No	
City of Sydney	No	No	
Clarence Valley	Yes	Yes	
Cumberland	No	No	
George's River	No	No	
Hornsby	No	No	Plans to restart HLS on Aug 9 from one small branch with 2 HLS staff and one driver. All chutes closed
Inner West	No	No	
Kempsey	Yes	Yes	
Lake Macquarie	Yes	Yes	Staff in the Outreach Team still have access to main building only
Lithgow	Yes	Yes	Issues with not all staff being able to access building due to living in Blue Mountains LGA (under restrictions)
Macquarie	Yes	Yes	Restricted to 20 patrons in the library at one time.
Northern Beaches	Yes	No – but HLS staff can access	Libraries 2U also still operational
North Sydney (Stanton)	Yes		Only deliver on Wednesdays due to small HLS
Parramatta	No	No	
Penrith	No	No	
Randwick	No	No – 2 staff empty book chute 2 days/week	
Ryde	No	No	Late shutdown – Aug 30
Strathfield	Yes	Yes	
Waverly	No	No	
Willoughby	No		
Woollahra			
Wollongong	No	Restricted access	Preparing to recommence HLS on reduced service Were posting some items out

8. Matters arising from Previous Minutes

Nothing suggested.

9. Programming

Penrith have been running an online book club and are preparing to run an online creative writing workshop encouraging people to write about their lives in lockdown.

Randwick have been running online Tai Chi sessions at a cost for both the library and a nominal cost for the patrons which has been well attended

10. General Business

* Campbelltown (Bess) asked about the availability of standard guidelines and rules for HLS and was referred to Andrea Curr who pointed to the Living learning libraries booklet published by the NSW State Library.

* Campbelltown further enquired about how other services stored their HLS items and has made a request for photographs if possible.

* Colour coding of bags for different run routes as enacted at Penrith was discussed further.

Next meeting, Monday 1 November, Wollongong with Eileen Smith.

Meeting ended: 12:28pm