

## **NSW HOME LIBRARY SERVICE WORKING GROUP**

**MINUTES OF MEETING: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**HOST: Hornsby Library**

**Attendees:** Sonya Champion (Hornsby); Bernadette Rudd (Hornsby); Susan Bradley-Hoy (Burwood); Suzanne Spencer (Stanton – North Sydney); Keenan Hewes (Northern Beaches); Ray Thapa (Willoughby); Stephen Peacock (Sutherland); Kristen Johnson (Sutherland); Michele Golding (Sutherland); Helena Castelletti (Blacktown); Theresa Locke (Blue Mountains); Susan Ambler (Blue Mountains); Alison Clark (Ku-ring-gai); Saqib Mahmood (Penrith); Rachel Krippner (Lifeline – guest speaker)

**Attendance via Zoom:** Andrea Curr (State Library NSW); Sandra Bice (Canterbury-Bankstown); Kirsty Plumridge (Penrith); Kristen Irwin (Woollahra); Matthew Griffiths (Fairfield); Kelly Shankley-Price (Maitland); Kay Pisel (Newcastle); Sharon Smith (Wagga Wagga); Lillian Berry (Camden); Kahlua Charlton (Grafton); Karen Miller (Singleton); Michelle Betts (Dubbo); Johany Ali (Parramatta); Kylie Streeter (Canada Bay); Kay Pisel (Newcastle); Louise Milne (Kempsey); Magnolia Szabo (Randwick); Beth Rothe (Hilltops); Bernadette Stephenson (Campbelltown); Ellen Matheson (Mid Coast); Nathan Jeffs (Mid Coast); Melinda Short (Bathurst)

**Apologies:** Cathy Manfredotti (Lithgow); Lauren Boyd (Lake Macquarie); Louise Milne (Kempsey)

**Welcome:** Cheryl Etheridge (Manager Hornsby Library and Community Services)

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Canterbury-Bankstown, 6 March 2023):**

Confirmed – Susan Bradley-Hoy (Burwood); Seconded – Suzanne Spencer (Stanton- North Sydney)

**Overview of Hornsby Home Library Service – Sonya Champion and Bernadette Rudd**

- Home library service at Hornsby has a full-time librarian (Sonya) and a part-time library officer (Bernadette). Vacancy for part-time library assistant.
- 230 HLS patrons.
- The staff do selection and delivery.
- 12 delivery runs – 3-4 deliveries a week. Dedicated HLS van.
- Cover area from North Epping to Brooklyn.
- Navigators and Envoys are used. 14 Envoys purchased from Vision Australia.
- Monthly newsletter put together by Sonya, with contributions from HLS patrons.
- Service has been going since 1983.

**Guest Speaker: Rachel Krippner, Community Engagement & Education Manager, Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury Sydney**

Acknowledgement of Suicide

Lifeline's vision – Australia free of suicide

Lifeline's mission – to support Australians in times of crisis, and to reach out and equip individuals and communities to be resilient and suicide-safe.

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury covers 7 local government areas and takes 10% of the national calls to 13 11 14

Telephone crisis support is 24/7

Community services – financial services; emergency relief; community aid

Clinical services – counselling; bulk bill psychologist appointments; psych-education support groups  
Education and awareness

Lifeline is self-funded. Funds come from book fairs, book sales, Lifeline stores and donations.

Education services are on offer via the Lifeline website

Volunteer link on the website

Connect project – starting September 2023 in conjunction with Lane Cove art gallery

Rachel agreed that she would send through book depot addresses (these are not listed on website)

## **Kay Pisel (Newcastle) – Memory Room Project**

2 sessions per fortnight (Tues & Wed); 90 minute sessions; themed; numbers limited to 12 (6 living with dementia and 6 carers); facilitated by art therapist, Alice Ropata; music therapist, Susan Ashley-Brown, attends every 2<sup>nd</sup> session; most participants have been coming for a long time (program has been running for 2 years)

Alice is paid - \$250 per session

Planned art activity for each session (sometimes doesn't eventuate because too much chat!)

Morning tea is provided

Sessions held at various venues – gallery, museum, beach, etc

Images from local history collection

Story Wall – large interactive touchscreen at Newcastle Library

Memory Kits – 12 kits – often borrowed by activity officers in aged care homes – themed

<https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/library/experience/library-projects/the-memory-room/memory-kits>

Kay Pisel and Alice Ropata putting together Memory Room toolkit as part of the grant – hopefully ready by end of 2023.

Work closely with Dementia Australia, Hunter office (Kay highly recommends working with Dementia Australia)

Most of the participants who are living with dementia are male, arrive with a female family member/carer. Kay trying to figure out how to reach the women living with dementia.

Kay has a conversation with participant/carer prior to joining the project.

Initial grant was \$26,000. Program started prior to grant – one session per fortnight. Initially cost \$6500/year. Grant was via Dept Justice and Families NSW. Grant money goes towards - Employ host, employ music therapist, creation of toolkit, run two sessions per fortnight rather than one.

Magic Table at Wallsend Library – 36 games on projector for people with dementia. Want to purchase more subscriptions for various other games for the Magic Table.

### **Other dementia programs –**

- Suzanne from Stanton Library (North Sydney) spoke about Healthy Brain Ageing session held at Stanton Library on 11 May. Professor Sharon Naismith and Dr Philip Eames. Contact Zoe Schrire to book in presenters – [zoe.schrire@sydney.edu.au](mailto:zoe.schrire@sydney.edu.au)
- Brain training – Dubbo Library (Michelle Betts) – every week of school term. Has been going for about 5 years.
- Samantha Geatches ([Samantha.geatches@mpsc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Samantha.geatches@mpsc.nsw.gov.au)) at Moree Plains Shire Council library – Brain training started 2018; 1 hour per week during school term; puzzles; group riddle or wordle; morning tea
- Kahlua Charlton, Grafton – monthly gathering for people with dementia; puzzles and games
- Magnolia Szabo, Randwick (via email after meeting as Magnolia was called away during the meeting) – tech connect one on one sessions; mahjong club; bridge club; chess club; Scrabble club; seaside singer group; table tennis; tai chi classes; Next chapter art group; recipe club; cryptic crossword; knitting group; ukulele club. Suggestions from community for future – dancing classes; Salsa; Zumba; ballroom; walking group; card playing club; dominoes

### **Seminar at State Library NSW – 6 November 2023**

Susan Bradley-Hoy spoke about the upcoming Seminar to be held at SLNSW – Seniors in Focus  
Susan asked Andrea Curr to book room at SLNSW – Monday 6 November 2023. Probably Dixon Room at SLNSW. Andrea to check with Venue hire at SLNSW. Catering provided by SLNSW. Zoom capability. Eventbrite tickets online – Andrea

Zoom registration for seminar – Andrea

Working group – Susan Bradley-Hoy, Suzanne Spencer, Nicki Fox (Northern Beaches), Bess Gilmore (Campbelltown)

Ideas for seminar:

- Dementia – possibly Professor Naismith (Suzanne)
- Elder abuse
- E-safety
- Technology
- Accessing aged care services
- Breaking the stigma in ageing
- Advanced care planning
- Financial services
- Dr Anne Ring – has written a book, 'Engaging with Ageing' – Theresa from Blue Mountains has details
- Social workers in library
- 4 libraries provide snapshots (10-15 minutes each) – Newcastle; Sutherland; two more to be confirmed (Combination of regional/metropolitan)
- Inlusee – from Queensland, will do Zoom (recommended by Helena from Blacktown Library)
- Seniors rights legal – advocacy and information (Magnolia from Randwick has details)
- Maybe seniors dancing group? Budget? Susan will email Andrea who can check with Cameron
- Show table – home library bags, brochures, newsletters, marketing

### **Other business**

- Sonya from Hornsby spoke to Inlusee rep – brochures available at meeting today
- Bernadette from Hornsby showed the trolley and iPad they use when selecting for Home Library patrons
- Kay from Newcastle recently received *Supporting people to live well with dementia: a guide for library services* by Sarah McNichol UK, published January 2023
- Susan Bradley-Hoy asked that people do try to physically be at the working group meetings, when possible. Zoom is an option, but tech can sometimes be an issue. Push to come to Springwood Library for the 7 August meeting.
- Suzanne has access to the wiki – still figuring out how to add information
- Springwood Library opened 1 May 2023

### **Working Group dates/hosts for 2023**

- August 7 – Blue Mountains (Springwood)
- November 6 – Seniors in Focus (SLNSW)

**Meeting closed: 12.25pm**