

**MINUTES for the GENERAL MEETING of
FRIENDS OF THE BENALLA LIBRARY INC. (FOBL)
held at 9:45am at the Benalla Library
on Tuesday 15th September 2026**

- 1. Apologies:** Christine Atkinson, Kaye Blore, Priscilla Shanks, Amber Gold, Shirley Robertson Corrie Witlox and Bev Thornell.
- 2. Present:** Robyn Maclean, Christine Glynn, Lynn Gibson, Deb Saunders, Geraldine McCorkell, Betty Lindsay, Andi Stevenson, Heather Rogers, Ramey Hengen and Kay Johnson.
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on July 21st 2026**

Received: Geraldine McCorkell Seconded: Christine Glynn Passed

Business Arising:

- Shelving for window display – woodworker still away (note from Kay Blore)
- Follow up progress on the return chute –
We have received an updated invoice \$19,593.20.
Geraldine moved that we agree on the updated price.
Robyn seconded the motion. We all agreed on the updated price.
- Writing competition – carried over to General Business
- Benalla Community Expo – we have decided that we will not be setting up a display table at this event.

4. Correspondence:

In: None received

Out: Emails to each entrant of the writing competition re the Presentation of Awards.

Moved that correspondence be accepted:

Accepted: Geraldine McCorkell Seconded: Andi Stevenson Passed

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report

Friends of the Benalla Library
Treasurer's report 1/7/26 till 31/8/28

1/7/26 Opening balance \$ 12,756.86

INCOME

Books	\$ 3,657.60	
Membership	<u>76.00</u>	<u>3,733.60</u>
		\$ 16,490.46

EXPENDITURE

Shop		
Hides bakery - rent	\$1,200.00	
Hides bakery - elect.	<u>103.85</u>	\$ 1303.85

Library support			
Bluey magazine	\$ 65.00		
Newspapers	110.00		
Belle magazine	87.99		
Writing comp. Prizes	<u>1830.00</u>	<u>\$2,092.99</u>	<u>\$3,396.84</u>

Closing balance 31/8/26 \$ 13093.62

TERM DEPOSITS

503 maturing 11/4/27 4.7%	\$ 12,056.29
808 maturing 8/8/26 5% \$14,630. + interest \$322.90	<u>\$ 14,952.90</u>

Total funds \$ 40,102.81

Move: That we accept the report and withdraw the term deposit for \$12,056.29 so that the money can go towards the cost of purchasing the return chute.

Moved: Geraldine McCorkell Seconded: Andi Stevenson Passed

Membership Report:

General Members	52
Life Members	38
TOTAL	90

Sadly, we have lost the following members in this reporting period –Margaret Castles - July 2026, Bill Edgar - June 2026 and Ruth King – July 2026. All have been longstanding members of The Friends of the Benalla Library. Marg Castles has been a valuable volunteer in the Redb4 Bookshop.

Library Coordinator's Report:

HIGHLIGHTS SINCE LAST MEETING (JULY 2026):

- Shannon has started in the temporary Full-Time Library Officer position and is settling into the role.
 - The Public Libraries Victoria Conference in Melbourne was inspirational. I hope to implement several of the programming ideas that will broaden our outreach such as: Cook Book Book Club and Digital Library Outreach
 - School Holidays are around the corner and will be here before we know it
 - Coming up in the next two months we have 2 NBN Support and Information Sessions (28 Sept and 22 Oct), CFA Information Session (14 Oct), Scams Awareness (21 Oct), DnD for Seniors (26 Oct), and a Staying Safe Online Session (28 Oct)
 - Author talks: Darry Fraser is coming on 4 Dec with the time to be confirmed, but likely late morning and we are hoping to get Jim Mitchell for an author talk in November on theme with Remembrance Day.
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ITEMS THAT WOULD ASSIST STAFF/PATRONS

J.Burrows Mobile Whiteboard 1800 x 900mm

Brand: **J.Burrows** Product code: **JBMOB18090**

★★★★☆ (27) [Read reviews](#)



\$450.00

Options for this product

Variation

1200 x 900 mm

1800 x 900 mm

Add to Cart



Ways you can get it



Pick up in-store



Deliver to me

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Payment options



afterpay

PayPal

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- Our white board is often used for events and library programs during school holidays. Our current white board is on its last legs.

In Shelf Signage

Section Dividers & Index blocks to simplify book navigation within shelving

[Library Supplies Shop](#) > [Book Display](#) > [In Shelf signage](#) > [SECTION DIVIDERS JUNIOR A-Z SET](#)



SECTION DIVIDERS JUNIOR A-Z SET

\$434.50 inc GST

- 1 +

ADD TO CART

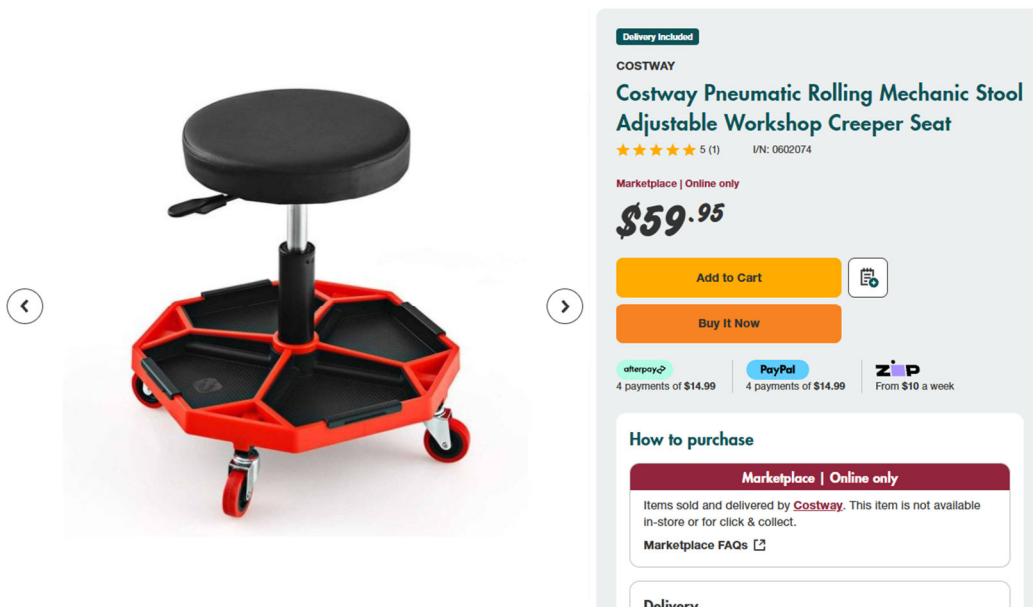
Pay in 4 interest-free payments of \$108.63 with **PayPal**. [Learn more](#)

SKU: 32954

Category: In Shelf signage

[JUNIOR SECTION DIVIDER](#)

- In shelf signage for Junior fiction, junior nonfiction, and general fiction to update signage and simplify patrons' library experience



Rolling stools to ease shelf checking during extended periods of time

Based on the current needs of the library the following items have been identified for purchase:

- Whiteboard
- Shelf dividers for the Junior Area, the Fiction Area and other areas to be reviewed. These dividers are designed to stay forward on the shelves
- Low stools on wheels for checking low shelves x 3

NB: Christine will follow up the company she has used and let Ramey know the details in regards the low stools on wheels.

A Speech Therapist has been approached to present a session for parents in November 2026.

Motion: That we purchase the whiteboard, three low stools on wheels and the shelf dividers once the number and overall cost has been reviewed and presented by Ramey.

Moved: Andi Stevenson **Seconded:** Betty Lindsay **Passed**

Bookshop Report:

The Bookshop is going well.

Coffee vouchers for volunteers for December and January will be given again this year.

Reports accepted: **Moved:** Geraldine McCorkell **Seconded:** Lynn Gibson **Passed**

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Writing Competition – Review

The Writing Competition was a great success with 45 entries received and 96 people attending the Presentation of Awards on Wednesday August 26th.

Thank you to the committee and judges for the support you provided. Without you the competition could not have happened.

As this was the first writing competition that we had organized it gave us the opportunity to establish a process that could be used for future competitions.

It was agreed that our next Writing Competition would commence in the last few weeks of term 1 in 2028 and close after the holidays. Presentation of Awards would take place in late May.

2. Discussion re use of Social Media for RedB4 Bookshop

This requires a facilitator and clear guidelines and purpose.

At this stage we do not have a reason to create our own identity on Social Media.

Occasional posts on the Benalla Community Page is an option for now.

3. AGM in November – nomination forms / booking venue

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 17th November at the Golf Club.

Nomination forms will be available at RedB4 from 17th October and emailed with these minutes. All positions will be declared vacant.

Kay will be retiring from her role as roster coordinator. We will consider a shared role for this position.

Geraldine will book the venue.

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 17th – Annual General Meeting