

FRIENDS OF CHRISTCHURCH CITY LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

Chair's Report for AGM June 2023

Tena koutou - greetings to members of Friends of Christchurch Libraries

This year has been one of change and change isn't always easy. Earlier in the year we conducted a survey of our members because we wanted to gauge opinions about the book talks which have been a regular feature for many years but which had dwindling support. The results while disappointing in number of responses, nonetheless confirmed everyone's enthusiasm for the annual book sale and partial support for changing the times and venues of our meetings. At the same time, your committee agreed to support the libraries' public programmes which are held at Tūranga and which feature events and speakers. The first of these programmes was held in April and was an outstanding success. For those of us who were able to attend, the event was a ray of sunshine in an otherwise wet and gloomy day. Congratulations to the organisers and we look forward to many more.

One of our initiatives this year was a rebranding exercise and we now have a new logo, a promotional banner for events like the programme mentioned above and the book sale. We have also redesigned our leaflet and the committee now have badges to wear at events. It all helps to highlight who we are and what we do. However, we have a reducing membership for many reasons, the obvious one of which has been Covid-19. The survey also highlighted where we meet and whether we should alternate to the different libraries in the city. These are all challenges to be worked through.

Our mission is a simple one - to support the libraries in a meaningful way - and this year our major project was to fund the Margaret Mahy mural which is now in its permanent home above the Mahy Children's Reference Collection at Tūranga. This project couldn't have come to fruition without the financial support of members through your subscriptions. We always ask the libraries' staff to let us know what projects we can support that aren't funded by the City Council. To this end, we work through our liaison person Elaine Sides who is a wonderful support to our committee. We owe her a vote of thanks.

Our major project every year is the annual book sale which is always an outstanding success. Our members provide support at the event - getting the books displayed, acting as cashiers and counting the many books that families come along to buy. It is always a joy to see the children enthusiastic about their 'finds' at the sale tables and confirms for many of us, that children still love to read.

This year has been an interesting one for me personally with many challenges. As a result I will be standing down as Chair of FOCL. Being a Friend of any organization, whether it is libraries, or the museum, art gallery or the Court Theatre means supporting their endeavours which can take time and commitment. I hope FOCL continues to support the libraries and I know that the libraries value the work we do. I extend special thanks to Julia Fomison for designing and preparing our newsletters which are always a delight to read, and thank the other members of the committee for their enthusiasm, dedication and willingness to take on any task that comes up.

Nāku noa, nā
Vivienne Allan

Upcoming Events



WORD Christchurch
23-27 August

Follow our WORD coverage
- recommended reading,
top picks, & see what's on
at Tūranga!

Book now at wordchristchurch.co.nz



Buck Nin's work "Green Valley"

Save the date - Friday 24 November 2023 - 5.30 p.m. TBC

Painted in 1965 and bought by Ron O' Reilly (Head Librarian) at Nin's one man show at the Durham Street Art Gallery, December 1965.

Buck Nin was of Chinese and Māori heritage (Ngāti Raukawa and Ngāti Toa) but lived mostly in Northland. He studied at Elam School of Fine Arts in Auckland in the early 60s but then went to Ilam School of Fine Arts in Christchurch from about 64 - 66. His tutor was the renowned Rudi Gopas, a painter who had a huge reputation in Canterbury and New Zealand and who influenced Buck Nin's work quite a bit.

Our guest will be Megan Tamati-Quennell, one of New Zealand's leading contemporary art curators and the leading curator of contemporary Māori art. She has worked as a curator for over 30 years and for most of that time as Curator Modern & Contemporary Māori & Indigenous Art at Te Papa. Such exhibitions she has curated are Toi Art, 2018 at Te Papa and Swallowing Geography, 2022 at Govett-Brewster Art Gallery.

Megan will speak about Buck, his work and career and his contemporaries (e.g. Ralph Hotere) followed by a chat/discussion with Māia Abraham (Team Leader NRM and Art aficionado) and an opportunity for questions.



Deano Yipadeelive @ Tūranga sponsored by Friends of the Library



Over the weekend of 15/16 July we were treated to four performances at Tūranga by Deano Yipadee author and performer.

All the sessions were booked out with a total of 800 children and families attending.

He read, he sang, he played the guitar, he danced and had the audience completely engaged singing along and laughing!

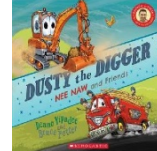
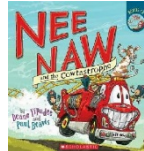
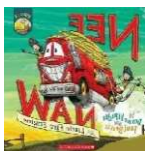
Testament to this was the families who queued for up to 45 minutes after the show to get their books signed and have a selfie with Deano.

This was the first time Deano has performed in Christchurch - he is a Kiwi but now resides in Australia. His popularity is evident with the shows selling out within hours of going on sale. His followers on Facebook and his Youtube channel proved very effective ways of marketing his programmes.

Please see some feedback received:

Kia ora I just wanted to write to say great Mahi on hosting Deano Yipadee this weekend. I have been wanting to take my child to see him for nearly 2 years but he's never come to chch and I can see many people enjoyed it. Well organized nice space and great to have the library to use after.

We are very grateful to the Friends of the Library for their sponsorship of these events and look forward to future collaborations.



Bronwyn Shanks
Public Programmes Co-ordinator

Your Friends of the Christchurch City Libraries Committee 2023

Chair: TBC
Secretary: Diane Bargas
Treasurer: Norma Porter
Newsletter Editor: Chrissy Clark
Committee: Barbara Clarke
Michael Buck
Michael Gordon
Shirley McLoughlin
Trish Faulkner

Library Representative: Elaine Sides

All communications in the first instance to friendsofchchlibrary@gmail.com

Renewing your membership or know someone who'd like to join?

Visit <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/friends/>

To renew your existing membership :

1. Either pay online to account 030855 0392046 00 quoting your name and membership type: waged, unwaged or family
2. Or you can pay by cash at a Friends' book talk or meeting.

New membership:

1. Either pay online to account 030855 0392046 00 quoting your name and membership type: waged, unwaged or family and email friendsofchchlibrary@gmail.com the following details:
Your name:
Address :
Phone number (s):
Email address:
2. Or you can pay by cash at a Friends' book talk or meeting.
Membership fees are
\$10 Unwaged
\$15 Waged
\$20 Family - 2 adults & any number of children under the age of 18 years living at the same address.

Donations are very much appreciated.

The financial year runs from 1st April to 31 March