

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021
of the
Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection**

**Douglas Lilburn Room, National Library
3 June 2021, 6pm
MINUTES**

**Chair: Corrina Gordon
Chantalle Smith**

Minutes:

The AGM was preceded by a presentation given by Mary Skarott of some books from a recent donation by Ron Lambert, as well as some award-winning titles that have been added to the National Children's Collection.

Attendees: Joan McCracken, Sheila Williams, Barbara Robertson, Gail Andrews, Fran Kell, Diane Scott, Rosemary Cole, Kathryn Walls, Neil Robertson, Mary Hall, Alison Grant, Chantalle Smith, Corrina Gordon, Mary Skarott.

Apologies: Tania Connelly, Margaret Hurst, Paula McLachlan, Dorothy Mitchell, Chris Szekely, Linda McGregor, Nancy Hill, Trevor Mowbray, Mary Mowbray, Gerard Ellis

1. **Minutes of the last AGM** – 16 June 2020 [these are available on the website]
2. **Matters arising from the last minutes**

- PO Box – We retained the PO Box until the end of the year. There is a change in the address now as it is sent to the National Library PO Box. Details are:
Friends of the Dorothy Neal White
C/O National Library of New Zealand
PO Box 1467
Thorndon, Wellington
- Have still been investigating quotes for logo design and merchandise.
Joan McCracken/Kathryn
Walls

3. **Reports**

- 2.1 **President's report – Corrina Gordon**

Stated that the committee members for the year were Corrina Gordon (President), Jeff Hunt (Treasurer), and Joan McCracken (Newsletter editor) with the other committee members being: Barbara Robertson, Kathryn Walls, Lynne Jackett and Margaret Hurst.

AP Remove Lynne from the list as she resigned prior to the 2020 AGM.

Margaret Hurst has now resigned from the committee.

Four events through out the year. Which is impressive given the Covid restrictions.

Talia Crockett is our Research Scholar for 2020/2021. Will advertise for the next grant in 2022.

Mary Skarott's *Notes-Books-Authors* was published.

Committee has revised the constitution.

If any members have ideas or articles for any future newsletters we would enthusiastically accept these.

At the end of the financial year we had 34 members.

There were no matters arising from the report.

Joan McCracken/Alison Grant

2.2 Report from the Research Librarian – Mary Skarott

A generous donation was made this year by Ron Lambert.

Current display in the cabinet is quite popular. It's titled "Mapping the imagination".

The display in the Reading Room for National Children's Collection material is still available for people to browse.

New Children's Literature Collecting Plan.

A Dorothy Neal White Collection Preservation Assessment survey has been completed.

Chris Szekely has stated that the Alexander Turnbull Endowment Trust has approved \$5000 to do some conservation work on the collection.

Sarah Gholami, our previous Research Grant recipient is still working on her PhD.

Talia Crockett is making good use of the collections.

Matters arising from the report: Question from Joan around the purchasing of books for the collection, what were there? Mary answered that they are reference books to support the study of children's literature.

Neil Robertson/Sheila
Williams

2.3 Financial Report – Joan McCracken on behalf of Jeff Hunt

Slightly down on subscriptions and donations.

More money spent on stationary due to the publishing of *Notes-Books-Authors*.

The meeting expenses is due to drinks for events.

Next year there will be more expenses due to the scholarship and the logo redesign.

No matters arising from the report.

Joan McCracken/Barbara Robertson

Subscription – Jeff proposes to keep it at \$20 per annum.

Jeff Hunt/Rosemary Cole

Accepted

2.4 Webmaster's report – Joan McCracken on behalf of Jeff Hunt

Jeff continues to maintain the website.
Although not many people use the website it is a good source of information about FDNW
Most of the *Notes-Books-Authors* are available to view on the website. It also shows the posts from the FDNW Facebook page, without you needing to sign into Facebook.
The contribution of Waikato University in hosting the website for free was acknowledged.

Joan McCracken/Alison Grant

2.5 Facebook report – Chantalle Smith

Have not posted as often as I have previously in the last 12 months. 83 “likes” and 101 “followers”
Most posts reach between 20-40 people.
Post on a range of topics to do with children’s literature; obituaries; award winners; and interesting stories about things relating to children’s literature.
The most popular post was in relation to the research grant applications being open.

Joan McCracken/Mary Skarott

4. Resignation

- Margaret Hurst has resigned from the committee.
- Thank you to Margaret for her commitment to the committee.

5. Election of officers

- Sheila Williams chaired to confirm Corrina Gordon as President. Joan nominated and Rosemary seconded it.
- Treasurer: Jeff Hunt. Corrina nominated. Joan seconded.
- Newsletter editor: Will be shared amongst the committee

6. Election of Committee

- Nearly all current committee members have put their names forward for the 2021-2022 committee:
Corrina Gordon, Barbara Robertson, Chantalle Smith, Joan McCracken, Kathryn Walls, Mary Skarott.

Sheila Williams/Alison Grant

7. Newsletter

- Request for newsletter contributions for any future newsletters. Please email these through to the committee.
- Next newsletter will be published in September 2021

8. Constitution review

- See the summary of changes (schedule at the bottom of the minutes)

- Question around the life membership: Is it advantageous to have it removed? We have not presented anyone with one, but this does not mean we won't in the future. Members expressed they would like to keep this in the constitution. **AP** Put clause back into the constitution
- Sheila asked if the constitution allows the AGM to take place via Zoom (like it did last year)? Neil suggested taking out the word "personally". **AP** Reword the constitution to make it clear that it can be run online as well as in person.
- Changes accepted except for the life membership.

Corrina Gordon/Diane Scott

9. Future Events

- If any suggestions for future speakers, please let us know.
- Next event will be in September
- Suggestion that during winter months, events be held at lunch time. In summer they held at 5:30 for 6:00pm.

10. General Business

- Joan has suggested that those who have been long standing members should still receive the newsletter, even if they have stopped paying their subscriptions. Agreed.
- Alison commented that in another group she is part of, that when they moved their events to lunch time, they got more members.

Actions Points	Owner
Remove the mention of Lynne resigning from the committee in the Presidents Report.	Corrina Gordon
Reinstate life membership clause in the constitution	FDNW Committee
Reword the constitution to make it clear around the running of the AGM	FDNW Committee

AGM closed 7:28pm

Summary of changes to FDNW Constitution

1. Deletion of 'Society' from Society of the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White
2. Objects: 2.1 – Addition of National Children's collections and Alexander Turnbull children's collections
3. Objects: 2.3 – addition of specifying sponsorship of regular newsletter, and papers on writing as well as publishing for children
4. Membership – 3.2 – removal of Secretary as role in committee
5. Membership – 3.4 – resignations tendered to Treasurer instead of Secretary
6. Alteration to Constitution – 5.1 – can be amended and voted on at AGM or in Special General meeting for this purpose
7. Alteration to Constitution – 5.2 - All approved changes must be submitted to the appropriate government body according to the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.
8. Meetings – 6.2 – Change from 15 to 10 financial members needed to vote on having a special general meeting
9. Change from 'Executive committee' to 'Committee'
10. 6.3b – requests for extra meetings to be accepted by President instead of Secretary
11. 'By mail' changed to 'in writing' to allow for email
12. Minimum committee member limit removed – stated as 5 before
13. Officers – 9.2 – Addition 'The Research Librarian Children's Literature shall be an ex officio member on the committee'
14. Change from 'The Secretary shall keep' to Minutes of all committee meetings will be taken and retained in a document management system
15. Papers etc. from FDNWC will be offered to Alexander Turnbull Library rather than archiving assumed
16. Treasurer responsible for receiving membership fees and maintain membership list – changed from Secretary
17. Addition of 'Any member of the Committee absent from three consecutive meetings without an explanation satisfactory to that committee shall be deemed to have vacated office'.
18. Power of Executive – removal of 10.6 'The Executive shall have power to borrow money'
19. Addition of 'The financial year of the society shall be from 1 April to 31 March'
20. Deletion of Life membership clause
21. Deletion of Common Seal clause
22. The Collections – 12.1 Change from 'the property of' to 'under the guardianship of'

