

The Centre
for Children's Literature

BOOK LINKS QLD INC.

2018- 2019 Report

Mission

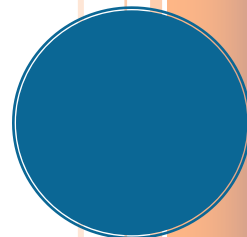
Link people and groups throughout the community with stories and experiences to build literacy and learning; so as to enrich lives.

Objectives

- **Establish and grow vibrant spaces** (fixed, flexible, and online) to nurture communities where children and young adults are exposed to literature; stimulated to be imaginative and artistic; and where stories and their creators are valued.
- **Support networking, events, learning, and an appreciation of story** for children and young adults throughout the community.

Jenny Stubbs, President

5/10/2019



Book Links Qld Inc.

2018- 2018 Report

OUR HISTORY

In 2004, the Queensland Branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia celebrated its 50th anniversary. During that year members were keen to develop commemorative projects to celebrate this key milestone, whilst furthering the aims of the CBCA in Queensland in some distinct way.

A small group of dedicated and passionate lovers of children's literature took this opportunity to explore the possibility of establishing a Children's Literature Centre in Queensland.

The outcome was that it would be more effective initially, to establish a presence through the provision of a range of activities aimed primarily at school age children and others who have a strong interest in children's literature; namely librarians, parents, teachers, students and researchers before embarking on an actual physical centre.

Book Links was registered as an Incorporated Association in February 2006. Book Links QLD Inc. is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Status. In 2017 a Symposium was held to examine literature based centres for children in other states and to reignite support for a literature centre for children in Queensland.

OUR PEOPLE

Committee Members

Name	Position	
Jenny Stubbs	President	2018-2019
Yvonne Mes	Vice-President	2018-2019
Lianne McDermott	Minutes Secretary	2018-2019
Tyrion Perkins	Treasurer	2018-2019
Sandy Driessens	Membership Secretary	2018-2019
Name	Position	

Jenny Stubbs	Responsible Person
Dr Andrew King	Responsible Person
Rachel Nolan	Responsible Person
Dr Cherri Ryan	Responsible Person

Volunteers

Name	Position	
Maria Parenti-Baldy	Newsletter and Media	2018-2019
Mia Macrossan	Story Links Coordinator	2018-2019
Yvonne Mes	Write Links Coordinator	2018-2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON JACKIE FRENCH

Link Hands- and Love Books

Every year gets better for those who love books, love books for children, diversity in books, sharing books, lighting the spark that makes a child not just a reader, but one who absorbs all they read into heart and mind and promises for the future.

One of the joys of growing older is meeting adults who have been shaped by the Australian children's literature of the past 30 years. Every member of Book Links has contributed to that, and is contributing. We may never know the spark was lit, or where the flame may go, but just one person, sharing just one book can lead to so many books and personal journeys that we never could have envisaged.

Books matter. They share our past, our present, our values and our dreams. Kids matter, as they are our future and the dreams to come. Book Links matters deeply, as it not only partners kids with books, but links those love both books and children, gives us templates, inspiration, or simply the knowledge that there are so many who value what Book Links does. It is an enormous joy and privilege to be its patron, and to see the links extend.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This year has seen a continuation of the events and projects from the past years, cementing these events as part of the established children's literature events in Queensland.

Our events and projects connect children and literature lovers with the latest in children's literature and supports creators of children's literature. This year has seen some new developments with Book Links offering a mentorship for emerging writers and introducing the two day conference StoryArts Brisbane; while Story Links has introduced a writing competition for children and Write Links has trialled writing activation at their monthly [meet-ups](#).

BOOK LINKS EVENTS

Big Lit Quiz

25 November 2018

The fourth annual quiz was held at Our Lady's College, Annerley and once again provided an opportunity for organisations that contribute to children's literature in and around Brisbane to celebrate together the end of our literary year and to talk about events and projects for the following year. The quiz raises money for like national organisations and over \$400 and was donated to the International Board on Books for Young people (IBBY).



Thirty-four members from the Children's Book Council Australia (Queensland), Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (Queensland), The May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust, Last Tuesday Book Club, Write Links and Book Links came together to compete with Mia Macrossan as quizmaster.

Romancing the Stars

Sunshine Coast 8 March, Brisbane 15 March, Gold Coast 14 June, 2019

This was the eighth year of Romancing the Stars in Queensland. Romancing the Stars was held on the Sunshine Coast in partnership with Voices on the Coast, on the Gold Coast in partnership with Somerset Storyfest and in Brisbane. During these events children's literature enthusiasts such as teachers, librarians, book creators, parents and more met with Queensland children's authors and illustrators who shared their latest books, the stories behind their stories and insights into what it is like to create stories for children.



Tristan Bancks and Giuseppe Poli at the Gold Coast Event, Somerset College

At the Gold Coast event Tristan Bancks launched his new book *Detention*.

Attendance for all venues was just under the numbers for the previous years.

Writing and Illustrating Workshops for Children

This year we increased the number of workshops delivered for children aged 9 – 13 years including adding illustration workshops and established policies and procedures for working with children. Workshops were held at State Library of Qld and all participants provided positive feedback from the workshops.

17 March - Illustrator Katrin Dreiling (pictured) conducted an illustration workshop for 15 children. Participants each created an artist's book.

14 April - Author Dave Lowe ran a writing workshop for 24 children.

19 May – Illustrator Giuseppe Poli ran an illustration workshop for 23 children aged.

13 July – Dimity Powell ran a school holiday writing workshop for 20 children and on the same day Remy Lai did an illustration workshop with 23 children.

14 Aug – Josie Montano ran a **free** writing workshop for 17 children and Pip Harry did a writing workshop for 11 children as a contribution to the CBCA Book Week celebrations.



The Narelle Oliver Lecture with Bruce Pascoe

24 May



This event was held in partnership with State Library of Qld Talking Ideas Program. Bruce Pascoe was a big drawcard with around 300 people attending, filling Auditorium 1 and flowing over into Auditorium 2 where people could see the presentation via a live stream. This was then uploaded for people to view at a later date and had 301 views.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFgK2M8d10g>

The Annual Narelle Oliver Lecture aims to raise the profile of children's literature, to stimulate discussion and disseminate the results of current research on children's literature.

Bruce Pascoe talked about the importance of telling children the truth and his new book **Young Dark Emu** was made available for early purchase at the event. Prior to the talk, people gathered in the Library Café to hear singer Kelsey Iris before she sang in the auditorium prior to Bruce Pascoe speaking.

Poetry with Kathryn Apel

16 June

In partnership with the Qld Writers Centre we organised a session with regional poet and author Kathryn Apel who was in the area for the Ipswich Poetry Feast school workshops program. A group of twenty adults attended her session.

Mia Macrossan in Conversation with A. J Betts

20 July



When opportunities arise, Book Links connects with authors to offer members and the general public insights into their work. When A. J. Betts was in Queensland for Voices on the Coast Literary Festival, we offered an In Conversation session with her, which attracted a keen audience.

A Focus on Illustrators

To increase our events supporting illustrators, this year we added more illustration workshops for children, providing employment for more local illustrators.

On Sunday 15 September, we took a group of eighteen people from Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast to Caroline Magerl's studio at Buderim to see how she worked and to purchase her artwork.

9 October we open a 5 day exhibition of three illustrators at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.

OUR CURRENT PROJECTS

Read Up



ReadUp is a library loyalty scheme for library members originally designed for aged 8 and under but the program is now extending to include up to ten years. Children currently earn certificates for visiting the library. These have been created by award winning Queensland children's book illustrators, including Katherine Battersby, Lucia Masciullo, Giuseppe Poli and Benjamin Johnston. The resources were developed by Moreton Bay Region Libraries, and have been made available online via the Book Links website to all libraries through a partnership with Book Links.

Travelling Suitcases

Book Links' *Travelling Suitcases* are filled with interesting and curious keepsakes from six of Queensland's top children's book authors and illustrators. They include their books, edited manuscripts and a DVD of the artists at work. Activities to use in the classroom and in public libraries are included to extend Literature and Arts learning.

Eight suitcases have toured this year, a decrease in numbers. It was interesting to note the NSW Jackie French case on display at the Australian Children's Laureate Summit in Canberra in February and a display of cases by NSW authors at the CBCA Conference in Canberra in June. A few CBCA NSW authors have created their own cases using the Book Links model.

One case was used at a Write Links meeting by the illustrators group who found it very useful.



Membership

Many thanks to Membership Secretary Sandy Driessens for keeping track of memberships this year and communicating with members. We continue to use Try Booking to accept memberships online and collect data on members.

2019 membership as at 22 Sept:	2018 membership as at 12 Oct:
144 Personal members	91 Personal members
19 Family members	7 Family members
9 Corporate members	5 Corporate members

Book Links continues to provide discounted offers for members from the following bookshops: A Lot of Books Ipswich, Books@Stones, Riverbend Books, The Book Warehouse and The Library Shop (SLQ), Brisbane.

OTHER

Partnerships and Strategic links

In October 2018 Book Links had a table in the Trade Fair at the **Future Libraries Conference**. The Travelling Suitcase on display attracted attention and was borrowed at the end of the day.

Book Links partnered with **State Library of Qld Talking Ideas** to deliver a much larger audience than usual at the Narelle Oliver lecture.

Book Links worked with **CBCA Qld Branch** to develop and deliver a program of events for CBCA Book Week on 24 August. Over 70 people attended the CBCA funded part for under 8s in The Corner, with our members Yvonne Mes and Emma Middleton presenting entertaining and interactive sessions.

Book Links took over the planning and delivery of the StoryArts adult program from the **Ipswich District Teacher-Librarian Network**, obtaining a grant for Arts Qld to deliver a two day conference 19-20 October, 2019.

Book Links continues to cross promote events with the **Queensland Writers Centre**. This year we partnered with QWC to present a poetry writing workshop with Kat Apel with 20 people attending.

Where the Wild Things Are in West End has helped greatly in providing stock for *Romancing the Stars* in Brisbane, with Mia Macrossan managing the book sales and returning a profit to Book Links. They will also be providing books for the upcoming exhibition of illustrators at Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha in October.

Social Media and Newsletter

Our newsletter has gone from strength to strength through the dedication of Maria Parenti-Baldehy who is also the unofficial Book Links photographer. This year Book Links went from 176 to 276 subscribers with an average of 58% opens which is above the industry average for non-profits. Ten newsletters were sent via MailChimp to Book Links members. Two special edition newsletters were sent to children who attended workshops, providing them with information about events and opportunities for children.

The Book Links website has attracted more views than in the same period last year, with engagement with the website increasing during times of events.

The Book Links Facebook page has grown from 923 page followers to 1,196 page followers over the reporting year.

The Future

Book Links plans to continue its events and programs into the future, growing and evolving in response to the needs of its members and the community. We have updated our Strategic plan for 2020 - 2023.

As part of our commitment towards getting quality literature to children who may not have easy access to this, we will work towards offering a program of incursions into schools taking book creators to children. We will also work towards more exhibitions like the upcoming one at the Richard Randall Art Studio.

Book Links aims to continue its current partnerships and works towards developing new collaborations with other like-minded organisations.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all members of the management committee for their dedication and hard work: Yvonne Mes Vice-President and Write Links Coordinator, Liane McDermott Secretary, Tyrion Perkins Treasurer and Travelling Suitcases coordinator and Sandy Driessens membership Secretary, and the additional members involved in planning StoryArts Brisbane: Danielle Freeland, Jackie Halpin, and Karen Tyrrell. Also thanks to Mia Macrossan for continuing to develop Story Links reviews, resources and competitions, planning the illustrators' exhibition and looking after books sales and Maria Parenti Baldehy for delivering our informative newsletters and photographing events.

Jenny Stubbs

President Book Links QLD Inc



STORY LINKS REPORT

This year showed a steady growth and some changes to formats and layout as a result of feedback and practical experience.

A huge thank you to Peter Carnavas who allowed us to use artwork for the new logo and to Ozan Tortop who incorporated it into the new design.

The adult Short Story competition was popular again and generated a lot of interest on the webpage. It is planned to continue to run this every year and publish the winner at the Narelle Oliver Lecture.

The new Children's short story competition had a record number of entries 135 for the younger category – grades 4 – 6. It has been decided to drop the older reader category as there were not many entries, less than 20, and the standard was not high. The judges recommend that the word length be shortened to 1000 words and that we give them a stimulus to write about – three items to be included in the story somehow. This still gives them freedom to write about whatever theme etc they like.

The Children's Story Art exhibition grew out of discussions with Caroline Magerl during her Story Links interview. Three artists Lucia Masciullo, Helene Magisson and Paul O'Sullivan will exhibit their artwork at the Richard Randall Art Studio in October. More exhibitions to support local illustrators are envisaged depending on the availability of suitable display space.

Thanks to Yvonne Mes for setting up a Mail Chimp account during the year so now regular newsletters to subscribers can be sent. To date 4 newsletters have gone out. It is intended to send a newsletter bi-monthly.

WEBPAGE for 2019

Published posts to date – **92**; Views: **11,316** of which **10,039** were in Australia; **1746** views through search engines, **1072** through Facebook; Visitors: **4315**; Likes: **149** (down from 345 in 2018); Comments: **22** (down from 55 in 2018)

Interviews published in 2019: **2**: Debbie Smith, Caroline Magerl (A J Betts interview not published because her responses to written questions too brief, Remy Lai interview in draft atm)

Reading Lists - 20 lists to date

Most popular downloads (file download counts not recorded before July 2019)

1. Short Story competition **626**
2. Aboriginal Peoples' Stories - **28**
3. Dragons in fiction years 7 – 9 - **19**
4. Dragons in fiction years 10 – 12 – **17**
5. Environmental conservation – **12**

Most popular posts:

1. Short Story competition **2000+**
2. Reading Lists – **199**
3. Most popular interview – James Moloney - **58**
4. Malaysian Picture books - **78**
5. Most viewed review: The happiness box - **85**

FACEBOOK PAGE

Statistics for September 2019 - The number of times any content from the Page or about the Page entered a person's screen through unpaid distribution. This includes posts, stories, check-ins, social information from people who interact with your Page and more – 2254 for the last month.

260 page likes 158 people like the page, 265 followers up from 159 followers

Most popular posts are: Kerry Neary's review of Robert Vescio title and Maria Parenti Baldey's review of Candice Lemon Scott title. In both cases highly favourable reviews were taken up by author and publisher.

85% are women, 13% are men 2% not identified

FUTURE

- Aim to build up more followers and like and views on the webpage and the FB pages
- Four interviews per year is manageable
- Five to ten reading lists are manageable
- Promote the Adult Short Story competition – run it in the first half of each year and announce the winner at the annual Children's Literature Lecture. Have a small entry fee to pay for the prize money. Have first second and third prizes. Have a theme, maybe linked to CBCA book week theme or International Year of theme.
- Promote the Children's Short Story competition – run in second half of year.

My thanks to Jenny Stubbs, Shirley Stubbs, Yvonne Mes, Maria Parenti-Baldey, Margaret McKay-Lowndes and Dajo Finlayson for their help and support throughout the year.

Mia Macrossan, Editor Story Links



WRITE LINKS REPORT

Write Links is going from strength to strength. This is our seventh year and we have continued to actively support emerging and established children's writers and illustrators in and around Brisbane.

Attendance at our monthly four-hour meetings at SLQ has been consistent. We have a steady core of regular members, with anywhere from 20 to 40 people attending per meeting. All regularly attending members are financial Book Links members, with those attending less than twice not needing to be financial.

We had 71 people join our Write Links Facebook group over the last year, this is almost doubled the number of new members since the year before. At the start of the year we removed members who were not longer active members to maintain the group size and relevance. At present we have 216 members. I will be doing another clean of the FB group in the new year based on WL attendance.

Requests to join Write Links come through the Write Links website as well as direct requests through the Facebook group and are vetted by Rebecca Sheraton and myself. Many new members learned about the group through word of mouth.

There have been many success stories this year with writers and illustrators making valuable contacts, signing contracts for books or with agents and launching books through traditional methods and through indie-publishing or hybrids of these.

The growth of skills and experience of Write Links members since we have been running has been significant as evidenced by the many presentations delivered by some of our long-term members.

Our presentations this year:

- Saturday 1 December – Goal Setting for your Creative Projects with Yvonne Mes
- Saturday 2 February – Anthony Puttee on Wordpress for authors
- Saturday 2 March - Book Links Writers Series – Karen Foxlee – Inner Worlds
- Saturday 6 April – A look at Australian Writing Awards by Jenny Stubbs
- Saturday 4 May – Book Links Writers Series – Caroline Magerl
- Saturday 8 June Writing Activation – Story Sparkers with Yvonne Mes
- Saturday 29 June- Writing Activation with Karen Tyrrell
- Saturday 3 August – Writing Activation with Jenny Stubbs
- Saturday 31 August Writing Activation with Maria Parenti-Baldy



Book Links Writers Series - Caroline Magerl and Yvonne Mes

During our networking sessions, we shared our writing successes, challenges and aspirations. We also used this opportunity to prepare for and debrief after conferences and offered support and encouragement where needed.

At our core are the face to face critique groups which have remained unchanged. We have four active face to face critique groups: YA (led by Tyrion Perkins), Junior Fiction (led by Jacqui Halpin), Picture Book (led by Inda Ahmad Zabri) and Illustrators (led by Justine Lawson).

The networking sessions serve the purpose of celebrating our success as well as commiserating where needed and sharing pertinent information.

At Write Links we change our sessions to best suit our member's needs. Halfway through the year we trialled a change away from hourly Professional Development sessions to Writing Activation. The reason for this is twofold:

- When Write Links first started there was a shortage of professional development opportunities, we are fortunate that over the last couple of years there has been a big influx of workshops, conferences and other opportunities for children's authors and illustrators to learn, grow and develop their art and craft.
- We are aware that many writers struggle to find time to actually do what the name implies ... 'write'.

In response, we now use the previous PD time for writing related exercises or 'writing activation'.

We also set aside time for ‘creative wisdom’. This is where members can throw their writing, illustration and publishing related questions into the group and we try to answer the questions or discuss the issue using everyone’s knowledge and experience. This gives us the opportunity to collaborate, share information and learn from each other.

Many thanks to Lucy McGinley for coordinating the Write Links blog (news) this year. She has done an amazing job in ensuring regular and quality blog posts.

Our website is going strong with an increase in visits to our website of 13% over the year. Write Links now also has an active Instagram account @WriteLinks managed by Ian Morrison who shares the latest news from our Write Links members and our meetings. Looking ahead to next year:

Write Links will continue in a similar format next year and plans to support emerging and established creators of children’s literature in Brisbane and surrounding areas with the support of Book Links through critique sessions, networking sessions and access to professional development sessions.

Yvonne Mes
Write Links Coordinator

Financial Report (YEJ19)

Summary of Bank and other Accounts

As at 30/6/2019 Book Links had \$28,625.61 in its various accounts.

Profit and Loss

Income:

- The income was increased this year, partly due to increased Membership, and also being skewed by preparation for the Story Arts Festival in Brisbane which will be held next financial year and included the grant of \$5411.
- Without Story Arts, the income from Functions and Workshops would be \$5261 less at \$10855.69 – a similar figure to last year.
- Also Donations/Grants would be \$568 which is a bit less.
- Income from interest and merchandise has also gone down. A new category was the mentorship, which will happen in the next financial year.

Expenses:

- Most expenses were similar, but slightly increased – except rent, for which a second payment was made in the next financial year, so it will have also increased.
- Function expenses was also skewed by Story Arts, which added \$1656.72, so function/workshop expenses would have been \$9028.55 without it, which is still much higher. This is possibly due to us doing more events than last year (some of which had no income, so it wouldn't change the income listed).

Treasurer's Report for the year 2018-2019

Book Links QLD - Account Summary - 30/06/2019

Summary for the Year (YEJ19)			
Account	Balance (30/06/2019)	Balance (01/07/2018)	Change (YTD YEJ19)
Main	\$18,811.43	\$5,256.06	\$13,555.37
Donations	\$2,450.70	\$1,766.70	\$684.00
Investment	\$5,489.38	\$5,382.40	\$106.98
Trybooking	\$1,854.06	\$3,679.89	-\$1,825.83
Paypal	\$0.04	\$108.04	-\$108.00
Cash	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Totals	\$28,625.61	\$16,193.09	\$12,432.52

Trading Profit & Loss Statement - 30/06/2019

Financial Year 1 st July 2018 to 30 th June 2019				
	YEJ2019	YEJ2018	YEJ2017	YEJ2016
Income				
Functions / Workshops	\$16,116.69	\$9,396.59	\$12,141.40	\$7,118.32
Grants & Donations	\$5,979.00	\$608.40	\$18,604.00	\$902.00
Interest Received	\$106.98	\$108.78	\$124.28	\$115.20
Membership	\$3,250.00	\$2,120.00	\$2,550.00	\$2,600.00
DVDs/merchandise	\$32.95	\$149.00	\$291.00	\$120.50
Mentorship	\$121.00			
TOTAL INCOME	\$25,606.62	\$12,382.77	\$33,710.68	\$10,856.02

Expenses				
Advertising	-\$131.00	-\$121.15	-\$117.51	-\$184.00
Auditor / Accounting fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Depreciation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
General expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1.40	-\$284.01
Email, internet & website	-\$199.27	-\$54.95	\$0.00	-\$17.00
Functions & Travel	-\$10,685.27	-\$5,227.54	-\$12,210.95	-\$4,524.18
Gifts	-\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grants & Donations	\$0.00	-\$14,447.00	-\$4,208.78	\$-
Insurance	-\$825.00	-\$795.00	-\$1,325.00	-\$690.00
Membership	-\$100.15	-\$95.00	-\$129.61	\$-
Postage / Post Box	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$11.40
Professional Development	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$203.00	-\$107.00
Rent	-\$462.00	-\$924.00	-\$924.00	-\$990.00
Stationery Supplies	-\$12.99	-\$559.78	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travelling Suitcases & DVDs	\$0.00	-\$272.55	-\$81.72	-\$877.88
Office of Fair Trading	-\$55.35	-\$53.50	\$0.00	-\$49.95
Write Links	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$346.00	-\$170.37
Mentorship	-\$3.08	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	-\$13,174.11	-\$22,550.47	\$19,547.97	-\$7,905.79
OPERATING PROFIT / (LOSS)	\$12,432.51	-\$10,167.70	\$14,162.71	\$2,950.23

Statistics

Website

Wordpress – www.booklinks.org.au

Blog posts - the number of views have doubled for some months and are still in the high range for all months except January.

Our most visited pages for 2019 were:

1. Home page (2,951 views)
2. StoryArts Brisbane (888 views)
3. Program (754)

Our top referrers, sites that direct traffic to our website in 2019, were:

1. Search engines 2.642
2. Facebook 653
3. Trybooking 198
4. Storyartsfestival.com 152

Our stats for 2019 as of 22.9.19 are as follows:

1. Website visitors – 4,134 with 10,264 views (3,622 with 8,004 views in 2018)
2. All time: Views 53,242, Visitors 21,461
3. Follower Totals: 85

Facebook

On Facebook we have 1,196 followers. There has been a steady increase this year.

Our busiest times of the year included the period around Romancing the Stars Sunshine Coast and Brisbane (393), the Narelle Oliver Lecture (1,311), Romancing the Stars Gold Coast (337) and Book Week events (480).

Twitter

2019 – 848 followers

Instagram

Book Links joined Instagram in June 2016.

2019 – 412 followers

Number of posts – 129

Program Reach

Total attendance at all events - 1005

Number of events – 24

Fundraising

Grants & Donations \$5,979.00

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANK YOU

Book Links QLD Inc. would like to thank our members, supporters, partners and the many volunteers that are involved in the planning of events and the continuation of our projects. Thank you for giving your time, resources and donations and your ongoing support to Book Links and Children's Literature.

Supporters and Partners

Jackie French
Children's Book Council Australia - Qld
Queensland Writers Centre
State Library of Queensland
Voices on the Coast
Somerset Storyfest
Moreton Bay Region Libraries
Local Book Shops

Successes

Points to note from our strategic plan.

1. *Redevelop and maintain the website* – There are now three websites all being well maintained and continually reviewed: Book Links, Write Links and Story Links.
2. *Develop and implement a marketing plan for Book Links products, programs and events* -. Trybooking and Facebook Events work well to market events. A list of key people and organisations has been developed through which information can be disseminated.
3. *Generate financial and in kind support* – We received a grant from Arts Qld for the StoryArts Brisbane Conference. CBCA Qld partnered with us to deliver Book Week events with each organisation contributing \$500. SLQ provided much in-kind support for Talking Ideas Narelle Oliver Lecture.
4. *Develop and promote products and resources* – We continue to provide resources such as ReadUp! online and resource lists via Story Links. Our monthly newsletter now has a resources section.
5. *Research and lobby for a children's centre based on story* – We continue to look for opportunities to promote the concept of a center. A meeting was held this year with the Minister for Education to pitch the concept of a story bus for incursions into schools.
6. *Up-skill Book Links committee members* – Members gained professional development via Write Links sessions. Our President attended the Australian Children's Laureate Summit and the CBCA national Conference, both held in Canberra.
7. *Identify and promote Book Links specialist advisory services* – We continue to field questions relating to Children's Literature that come to us from QWC, CBCA National and general queries via email.
8. *Maintain and enhance mutually beneficial partnerships* – Read Up! program in partnership with Moreton Region Libraries, met with QWC to seek opportunities to collaborate, worked with StoryArts Festival Ipswich, CBCA Qld, and Future Libraries Conference, and cross promoted events of partners.
9. *Develop and implement a Book Links promotional plan* – needs reviewing.
10. *Maintain and expand the Book Links calendar of programs and events* – Events presented as per annual calendar. Write Links continues to provide a vehicle for engaging with and supporting emerging authors and illustrators. Events for children have increased. Online calendar is maintained.
11. *Develop, implement and maintain a Strategic Plan* – Strategic plan reviewed and updated.