



Report to General Manager

Attachments:

1. Report of the Shorelink Library Network Committee 22 June 2016

SUBJECT: Library Matters: Shorelink & St Thomas Rest Park Restoration & Children's Services

AUTHOR: Rebecca Aukim, Manager, Library Services

ENDORSED BY: Martin Ellis, Director Community and Library Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members of the Shorelink Library Network convened on 22 June 2016 and due to a lack of quorum resolved to present the outcomes by way of a report. Council's attention is drawn to:

Item 7 Manly Council amalgamation: the Northern Beaches Council representative advised: *Manly has committed to remain with the Shorelink Network until September 2017 and will continue to advocate the benefits of the Network. During the coming months our long term participation in Shorelink will be reviewed by the Executive of Northern Beaches Council and the Shorelink Committee will be advised of our future direction according to the terms of the Deed of Agreement.*

Item 10: General Business

Discussion: With regard to uncertainty over who might be an appropriate Councillor representative throughout 2016/17 for the Northern Beaches it was resolved: ***THAT** Legal advice be sought by the Agent Council [North Sydney] clarifying the impact on the Deed of Agreement of the current and proposed amalgamations*

The report also describes restoration of a famous monument in St Thomas Rest Park, and recent activities in Children's Services, including 2nd Nan Manefield Young Writers Award.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

To be determined

Local Government Act 1993: Section 23A Guidelines - Council Decision Making During Merger Proposal Period

The Guidelines have been considered in the preparation of this report and are not applicable

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT legal advice be provided to the Shorelink Committee as requested in the report

LINK TO DELIVERY PROGRAM

The relationship with the Delivery Program is as follows:

Direction: 4. Our Social Vitality

Outcome: 4.6 Library services meet information, learning and leisure needs
4.4 North Sydney's history is preserved and recognised

BACKGROUND

The Shorelink Deed of Agreement was written in 1983 and in large part still applies. or a quorum the Committee requires (I) one representative from each council and (II) at least three Councillors from three separate Councils, its minutes are forwarded to member Councils.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

The sustainability implications are of a minor nature and did not warrant a detailed assessment.

DETAIL

St Thomas Rest Park

It has been more than 40 years since St Thomas Cemetery was re-landscaped as the present-day St Thomas Rest Park, and 30 years this year since the Sexton's Cottage was opened as a museum. Nonetheless conservation work is ongoing. Most recently the Tiffin family headstone has been conserved and re-erected in its original location. The stone was badly damaged some time during re-landscaping or afterwards. Two pieces of the headstone were 'discovered' half covered by leaf material by historian Ian Rannard in the course of his research and brought to the attention of the Council Historian. The Tiffins were linked by marriage to the Blue family. Mary Blue, daughter of Billy Blue, married Robert Tiffin in 1830. They had two sons who did not survive childhood. Robert died in 1854 and Mary remarried. When she died in 1894, however, Mary was buried with her first husband and two sons. Further research revealed that the Tiffin's plot at St Thomas Cemetery was adjacent to the Blue family plot. For this reason, and out of respect for the families, it was decided to return the headstone to its original location. As only two pieces of the sandstone monument survived it was also decided to join them with stainless steel rather than patch extensively with concrete fill. The effect shows clearly the effect of time. A plaque will be placed near the headstone reiterating the entire inscription and explaining the decision to return it to the original location. The re-instating of the headstone does not impede passive recreation in the park and accords with the 2015 Conservation Management Plan.

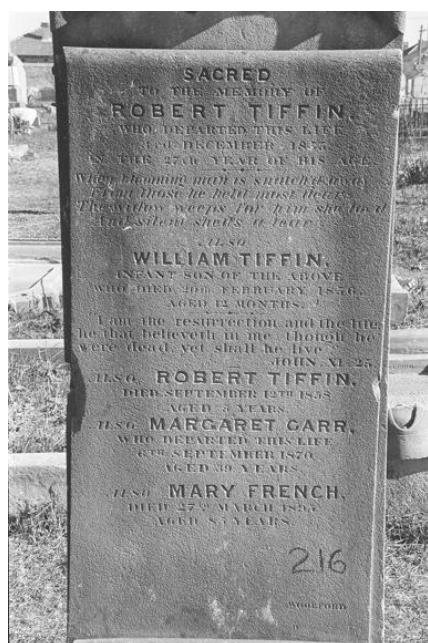


Figure 1

Headstone in near original condition c1965



Figure 2

Headstone as re-erected 2016

The 2nd Nan Manefield Young Writer's Award



This award for poetry and short stories received hundreds of entries from local schools and beyond in 2016. This writing award has been running in various forms, for 27 years. It is named in honour of Nan Manefield. Nan was a long serving School Librarian at North Sydney Boys High and a lifelong champion of literacy and local history; giving 30 years of service to North Sydney Council's Library and Historical Services Committees.

The judges of the award are all professional writers: multiple award winning children's author Ursula Dubosarsky, young adult author Will Kostakis, poet Tim Sinclair; North Sydney Council's Writer in Residence, Yvette Poshoglian; and local author and Library Champion, Ceridwen Dovey.

The major prize winners were:

11yrs:	Ciara Flex for <i>'World's Hardest Land'</i>
12yrs:	Jessica McCann for <i>'The Great Escape Plan'</i>
13 yrs:	Cooper Rands for <i>'The First Chair'</i> *
14-15 yrs:	Lucinda Peace for <i>'The War of Flame and Trees'</i>
16-18 yrs:	Sophie Goodin for <i>'Dinner Table'</i>

*Cooper Rands' story is attached to this report. All winning entries are available to read on the library webpage.

The Awards were presented by Mayor Jilly Gibson at a ceremony in the Library on 8 June, 2016. Winners of the 5 age categories did a marvellous job of reading their stories out on the night. Afterwards families and teachers stayed to enjoy some light refreshments and read all of the winning works on display.

Prizes worth over \$2,000 were presented to the writers. The sponsors this year were: The Ensemble Theatre, The Powerhouse Museum, Local resident Joan Dunnwald, Local artist; and Council. An additional prize was offered to all winners and place-getters of a chance to attend a Writers' Masterclass with Judge Will Kostakis in the following school holidays.



Teddy Bear's Sleepover

Young children experience Library magic first hand with the Teddy Bear Sleepover this June at Stanton Library. Aimed at children 3-6 years old, the evening started at 5pm with everyone in pyjamas for a bedtime storytime. After storytime the toys were tucked into 'bed' and their owners tiptoed away. We watched a short film 'Corduroy' about a bear who comes to life at night in a department store and then it was bedtime and the toys were left alone for their sleepover in the library.

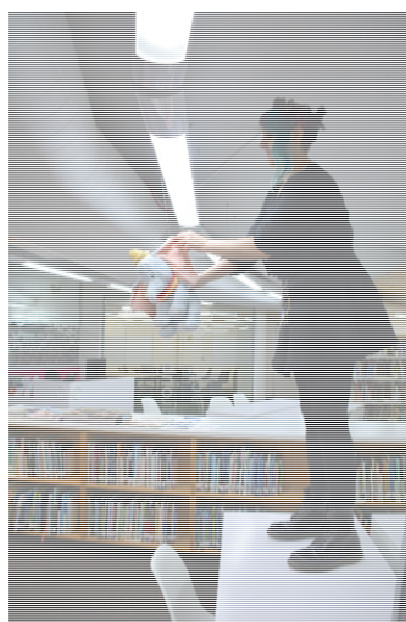
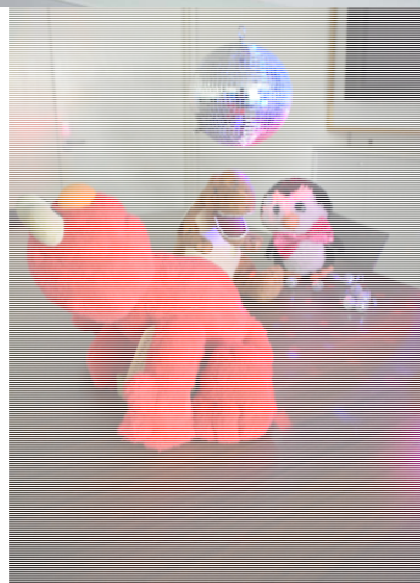
When the children came back the next morning they discovered that their teddies had managed to get up to all sorts of mischief. They climbed the shelves, pretended to be librarians, and even did a spot of disco dancing.

It was a little bit of sneaky work for the librarians after the library had closed, but was worth it for the level of delight and engagement with the young library patrons.



As is usual for Children's and Youth activities at Stanton library the event was booked out with a waiting list. And emails and comments have been received by staff after the event by people noticing the display of event photos, all looking forward to next years' event!

A wonderful article was also run in the Mosman Daily, featuring photos of some local children and their bears.



Shorelink Library Network

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Willoughby Council

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MINUTES OF THE 169th MEETING OF THE SHORELINK COMMITTEE Wednesday, 22 June 2016 at 6.30 pm Mosman Council Chambers

PRESENT: **Members:**

Lane Cove	Jennifer Bice
Northern Beaches (Manly)	Vicki Smith
Mosman	Cr Sherlock, Jill Cuthbert
North Sydney	Rebecca Aukim
Willoughby	Cr Wright, Angela Casey

In attendance:

Cath Bright (Willoughby), Coreen Tan (North Sydney), Martin Ellis (North Sydney)

LACK OF QUORUM

Those present agreed to consider the agenda and forward recommendations to the member councils in the form of a report.

ITEM 1: **Apologies:**

Cr Karpin, Lane Cove; Cr Moline, Mosman; Cr Marchandean, North Sydney

ITEM 2: **Declarations of Interest:**

Nil

ITEM 3: **Minutes of 168th Meeting held on 27 April 2016:**

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 32

THAT the Minutes be adopted

ITEM 4: **Matters arising from the Minutes of 27 April 2016**

Re: Item 5 Matters arising from the Minutes of 24 February 2016:

Discussion: It was agreed that resolution 2015/16: 26 is to be expressed as follows:

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 33

THAT the Shorelink Library Network enter into a one year contract for 2016/17 with Aurora Information Technology (AIT) for provision of the Aurora Library Management System, with the option for a one year extension 2017/18 at the same rate per license as in the original contract (2013/15)

ITEM 5: Shorelink Network Report 30/01/16 – 15/04/16

Additional ADSL2+ services from TPG have been ordered for the 2016/17 financial year for Lane Cove, Mosman, Stanton and Chatswood libraries. Mosman and Chatswood will be installing one additional line each, whilst Lane Cove and Stanton will be installing two additional lines.

Switches in the libraries were ordered and upgraded in May and are now operational.

Shorelink office is investigating alternatives to the current McAfee anti-virus software which expires on June 30 2016. One viable option Shorelink is considering is Webroot, which is supplied by a UK based company, and is cloud based. This means that no hardware is required, antivirus scanning and protection is done in real time and not dependent on periodic virus signature file updates.

There was no report of network wide system downtime during this period, though a significant slowdown in the speed of the Aurora LMS was noticed in late May and early June. The slow-down is also sporadic. Initial investigations indicate that the MPLS lines are connected and operating with normal speeds, however, the slowdown occurs when complex searches are being done on the Aurora software. Investigations are still ongoing at this stage.

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 34

THAT the report be received

ITEM 6: Shorelink Financial Report April 2016

The Shorelink cost report records:

1. *E-Book subscriptions*. Current unprocessed invoices of \$7,549. This will give a year's total of \$103,000.
2. Software Licensing & Maintenance has a new estimate of \$170,268 reflecting the Committee's resolution to fund Montage from Reserves.
3. Hardware maintenance shows a new estimate of \$168,906 reflecting member Councils contribution of funds to the purchase of switches and firewalls.

Note: Unrestricted funds (reserves): Currently at \$128,695.

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 35

THAT the report be received

ITEM 7: Manly Council amalgamation

On 12 May 2016 the Minister for Local Government, Paul Toole, announced the newly formed Northern Beaches Council an amalgamation of Manly, Pittwater and Warringah councils. At this time Mark Ferguson was appointed interim General Manager and Dick Persson was appointed the Administrator.

As a result of the amalgamation process Manly will have no Councillor representative on the Shorelink Committee until the next council elections scheduled in September 2017.

Manly has committed to remain with the Shorelink network until September 2017 and will continue to advocate the benefits of the network. During the coming months our long term participation in Shorelink will be reviewed by the Executive of Northern Beaches Council and Shorelink Committee will be advised of our future direction according to the terms of the Deed of Agreement.

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 36

THAT the report be received and noted

THAT the Chair write to the Northern Beaches Council inviting a delegate to the next meeting of the Shorelink Committee

THAT the Chair write to Cr Heasman thanking her for her work over many years for Shorelink on behalf of Manly Council

ITEM 8: Report on Lane Cove Library's automated handling system

In March 2016 Lane Cove Library installed an automated handling system which includes return chutes, buffer, singulator, sorter and returns bin. The Library used a Local Government Procurement Contract and selected FE Technologies to provide the solution. It is the first installation of this type of system in Australia.

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 37

THAT the report be received

ITEM 9: Second report on City of Sydney

In January 2015 Shorelink representatives met with senior staff at City of Sydney to encourage them to consider the cost benefits of joining Shorelink.

Shorelink's Strategic Objective Number five has as its specific actions:

1. Distribute information about the benefits of the consortia model to other councils.
2. Send follow-up correspondence and seek meetings to discuss the possibility of co-operation.

THE purpose of the meeting was described as:

(A) Allow for an understanding: Explain how Shorelink works from various points of view: staff, public, councillors etc.

(B) Allow for readiness: Raise in our colleague's mind the benefits of Shorelink so that if a suitable moment in the evolution of their own service arrives where their users would benefit from joining Shorelink, that the moment is not missed.

Key relevant facts and documents were presented using data that was available at the time, for 2013/14. No response was received from City of Sydney at the time and the merger proposals discussion commenced shortly thereafter. The City of Sydney's merger proposal has now concluded.

Discussion: It was agreed at this point that Shorelink's priority needed to be promoting its services to the Northern Beaches Council. It was further agreed that there would be benefits in additional research about where residents from member councils work and therefore which libraries joining Shorelink would provide the most benefit.

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 38

THAT the data be updated to current figures

ITEM 10: General Business

Discussion: Uncertainty over Councillor representation on the Committee throughout 2016/17 as a result of Council amalgamations.

RESOLVED: 2015/2016: 39

THAT Legal advice be sought by the Agent Council clarifying the impact on the Deed of Agreement of the current and proposed amalgamations

Next meeting: 24 August 2016 6.30 pm, North Sydney Council

The meeting closed at 7:45 pm.