



Branch Reports

2021

**For 2022 AGM reporting on the 2021 year held
May 14, 2022**

SLAV Peninsula Branch – 2022 AGM SLAV Council Report

SLAV Peninsula Branch continues to have great support from members for both onsite and online meetings. We also keep connected via our Facebook page and Google Group as we once again worked from home and/or in remote learning environments.

Term 1 – Our meeting was held onsite at MESC and branch positions were filled - Lynn Swannell (Convenor and SLAV Council Rep) and Patricia Bernardo (Treasurer). Discussion regarding SLAV PD members had attended, variety of opportunities available for everyone (book club, forums, master classes, etc.). Also discussed the ‘pros’ and ‘cons’ remote learning had on our own libraries and changes we have made due to these issues. We also shared links to various articles regarding graphic/manga novels. Term meeting dates/venues were set although we may need to change to online meetings or reschedule.

Term 2 – We were to meet at Farrell’s Bookshop (with dinner afterwards) however this was a last-minute cancellation due to COVID and no meeting was held.

Term 3 – Members joined the online CBCA Judges talk with other SLAV branches in lieu of a branch meeting. We are all becoming much more familiar with this mode of meetings and all members reported back that they thoroughly enjoyed this event once again.

We also held an online meeting (in lieu of Term 2 meeting) where we discussed ‘click and collect’ issues under new COVID school management plans, Book Week plans, weeding collections and gentrification.

Term 4 – We held an informal online meeting to ‘check-in’ with members, talk about our return to a ‘COVID-normal’ workplace, how we had dealt with arrangements and plans moving forward.

We thank SLAV for their continued support of school library staff and the amazing professional learning opportunities made available to all throughout a most difficult year.

Lynn Swannell
Convenor
SLAV Peninsula Branch

26 April 2022

Metro South SLAV Branch Annual Report for 2021 – for AGM & SLAV Head Office

Branch Convenor: Term 1: Robyn Stark, St Bede's College ris@stbedes.catholic.edu.au

Term 1 meeting: Location: Online Host: Robyn Stark

Utilising the FYI Magazine: Attendees at the meeting pre read a FYI article "Imagining the teen reader: What do Australian publishers understand about teenage readers?" by Katya Johanson & Bronwyn Reddan from the Summer 2021 issue of FYI (Volume 25, Issue 1, Pages 22-23.)

A thinking routine was used to analyse the article and discuss. The focus was on a sentence, phrase and word that stood out from the article.

There was also discussion around various COVID protocols as well as locations for future meetings.

Term 2 meeting: No meeting

Term 3 meeting: Location: Online – CBCA Judges Talk

Theme: CBCA Judges Talk

The Term 3 meeting was combined with the CBCA Judges talk presented by SLAV to all members. An annual popular talk, this year having it online drew a bigger attendance from SLAV branch members and hearing about all the books is always popular.

Term 4 meeting: Location: St Bede's College Bentleigh East Host: Robyn Stark

Theme: We made it!

Everyone was very glad to get to the end of what was a tough year for all. We took turns to discuss what we learnt from the year and hope to take into next year. Everyone wished a safe and happy break for all.

Thank you to all who have attended and supported the Metro Southern branch in 2021. We hope we can meet in person on a more regular basis in the 2022 year.

**NORTHERN METROPOLITAN BRANCH
AGM REPORT 2021**

Term 1: With everything that has happened in 2020, one of the great things resulting from the lockdown is that we are now experts at online meetings and teaching. Therefore, our branch will trial having 2 online meetings and 2 face to face meetings for this year. Our meeting was held via Webex on Thursday 18th March. 6 members logged in to join the host, Reina Phung for a lively discussion on all things post COVID in the library! 😊 It was nice to 'meet' Debbie Packham from Greenvale Primary who attended our meeting for the first time.

Our discussion focus was 'What were some of the positives that came out of 2020 and what are the big plans for your library in 2021?' Once again, our meeting was very informal as we went off topic, but it was nice to just chat about all things libraries. We took turns sharing and it was great to see some of the highlights via photos, websites, PowerPoint, etc by sharing our screen.

Term 2: Meeting was held on Thursday 17th June at Alphington Grammar where Head of Library, Angela Mare gave us a tour of her new library. We have not visited a school library since Term 1 2020, so it was very exciting to have our first face to face meeting this year and to be able to see a new library was an extra bonus! Many photos were taken of the beautiful new library. We especially loved the built-in wall shelves, the huge booths, high study tables and chairs, super comfy chairs & ottomans and the write on walls. It was a very busy library with lots of students in there after school utilising the space. We then moved onto the staffroom for our meeting where Angela spoilt us with a lovely afternoon tea. Our discussion focus was on Book Week ideas with this year's theme and other display ideas were also shared. Many thanks to Angela Mare and her library staff for hosting our meeting and to Susan Bannister for taking the minutes.

Term 3: We had an 'extra' online meeting on Tuesday 14th September for the Northern Metro Branch to round off the term (the previous one had been a dedicated CBCA Book Week Judges' Talk earlier on in the term). We thought it would be good to touch base with our members, given the whole remote learning/lack of networking engagement that we have been experiencing. We had tentatively planned for it to be a discussion about 'What did you do in Book Week?' but it ended up being so much more than that... and very informative to boot, running almost 2 hours, as opposed to the 1 hour that had been scheduled!

Of particular interest was the discussion of the pros/cons of the various eBook and Audiobook platforms that schools were using, including the uptake, accessibility and supporting technology. The conversation also moved to the usage of the 'Renaissance/MyOn' reading program by a librarian in a K-12 school and which, with our 'FYI' journal editorial hats on, suggested that member consider writing an article about.

We did finally get to our Book Week agenda item. Essentially, all events were held online, or held over until face-to-face learning is back on. It was an enthusiastic and thoroughly informative meeting. Everyone was keen to speak and share across all topics.

Term 4: A small group gathered for dinner on Thursday 2nd December at the Old England hotel where we reflected on another Covid year. It was a nice way to unwind and see each other face to face again and we are just thankful that we've made it through another challenging year! 😊

Reina Phung & Alida Galati

Branch Co-convenors May 2022



Metro Western Branch

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Term 1.

Our first meeting for this year took place on Wednesday 10th of March online with WebEx. Prior to the meeting, a short survey for feedback on needs and expectations of the branch was distributed to establish contact with members.

About 10 members joined Hope and Milena, shared their practice, ideas and issues. We planned to have online meetings per term, with an end of year visit to a local school Library.

Hope shared a reading challenge app called 'Beanstack' that led to a further discussion for next Term meeting. Hope also created a Padlet for sharing latest SLAV opportunities and for referring back to any details discussed by members at the time.

Term 2.

Our Term 2 Meeting took place during lockdown on the 2nd of June via WebEx. We welcomed 16 Members to discuss latest events and the following;

- Author virtual visits
- Battle of the books in Wyndham
- Emmanuel College Point Cook new library
- Islamic College of Melbourne's new library

We also welcomed Dianna Walpole as part of the team of western conveners.

Term 3.

Another long lockdown, members joined all other branches at the CBCA Judges Talk online on July 22nd. A very enjoyable and informative event.

Term 4.

Online meeting on the 20th of October. The meeting went well, although we would have preferred to be together sharing a coffee and sweets. Each one of us discussed our current issues, a padlet was created for sharing ideas and current SLAV events. Hope spoke about a reading ability diagnostic tool called **Lexplore**. *'Lexplore is centered on a ground breaking method of measuring reading ability using artificial intelligence and eye tracking technology, to offer an entirely new insight into literacy.'*

Milena announced that she will pass back convening to Hope Do, as she will be taking long service leave in 2022 and totally detaching from 40 years of work but not retiring.



December 2021.

We did meet up in December! After we browsed through Readings in Carlton, we had coffee and food together at Brunetti, look how happy we are!

Milena Gates, Hope Do & Dianna Walpole



SLAV AGM Geelong Branch report May 14 2022

The Geelong Branch held their Term 2 meeting on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at the recently refurbished Senior School Library, Christian College Geelong. There were twenty members in attendance. Susan Mapleson, Senior School Teacher Librarian at Christian College was the speaker. Susan's presentation *Dealing with disasters*, detailed the library team's experiences of recovery and redevelopment following two floods and a disastrous fire.

The Geelong Branch AGM preceded the presentation and elections of office bearers for the coming year were held. Joy Whiteside was elected the branch Convenor for the coming year, Leonie Stephenson and Louise Monotti were elected co-convenors. Rennai McCarthy stepped down from her role as secretary and was thanked for her contribution for many years. The branch committee members included Rennai McCarthy, Annette Spurr and Gerradine Barry.

The SLAV Geelong Branch held their Term 3 2021 meeting online on Wednesday August 4 at 4.30pm. The plan was to visit the St Joseph's College Library Reading Room for this session but COVID restrictions meant that the meeting had to be moved online. In attendance were 26 branch members as well as Dr Susan La Marca, SLAV EO.

Branch members shared details of Book Week plans and programs and Joy gave the meeting a brief virtual tour of the St Joseph's College Reading Room that houses the fiction collections organized in genre order around the room.

Dr Susan La Marca shared information about the upcoming professional learning programs and events and encouraged participation in initiatives such as Shelftalkers.

Geelong Branch members also attended the CBCA Judges talk on Thursday July 22.



The Term 4 Geelong Branch meeting was held on Thursday November 25th. Twelve branch members gathered for an evening dinner at the Telegraph Hotel. It was lovely to gather together rather than meeting online.

The Term 1 2022 Geelong Branch meeting was held at Oberon High School. Louise Monotti gave the eighteen members a presentation of the journey that they have been on moving from the old school to the new school. Louise talked about the challenges of the school and library move, the collection development issues, and the library team's ongoing problem solving. All attendees were treated to a school and library tour.

Joy Whiteside, Geelong Branch Convenor 2021/22.

Metro Central Branch Report for 2021

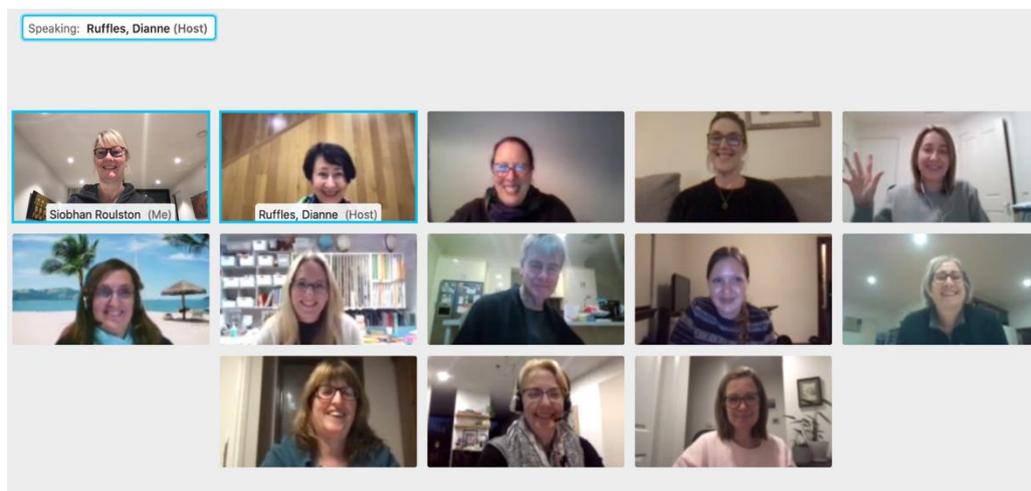
Term 1: March 18, 2021 – Korowa Girls’ School

We had a lovely Term 1 meeting in the Junior Library at Korowa Girls’ School with approximately 25 branch members present. Natalie and her team provided us with a Covid safe healthy afternoon tea. We discussed our smooth transitions back into school and shared anecdotes from when we were teaching online e.g. how we developed intimate knowledge of students’ pets, met their siblings, etc. When coming back to school there was great excitement about seeing new books. There was a lot of discussion around our library reading programs and how to excite secondary students (especially boys) to participate more actively in their personal reading. Margaret Merga’s work around reading culture was recommended.



Term 2: 3 June, 2021 - Online

Once again we needed to meet online due to Melbourne being in Lockdown 4.0. Raff Grasso introduced us to Clubhouse which is a private app created by Educ8.world. It is a platform whereby people can meet for live discussions (nothing is recorded). It operates in a style similar to the ABC’s Q & A program. A range of topics are discussed but participants must be invited to join and need a link to be able to download the app. SLAV’s Executive Officer, Dr Susan La Marca, joined our meeting to promote the huge range of professional development activities being planned by SLAV this year. The range includes Masterclasses, workshops, online Book Club, conferences and the CBCA judges’ talk. Susan also mentioned the new edition of fyi and the SLAV podcasts.



Term 3: 22 July, 2021/9 September – Online



Our Term 3 meetings were the CBCA Judges' Talk on 22 July and another on 9 September to touch base with each other.

We shared our range of strategies for supporting our students and the different measures we were taking to get books / resources into their hands. Some of us were allowed to

work from our libraries but others had to work from home which made it difficult to get books out into the school communities. Online resources have proven to be a godsend during all of our lockdowns. Everyone agreed that we are doing the best that we can considering the conditions we are operating under and that we are all looking forward to reconnecting in person with our school communities.

Term 4: 2 December, 2021 – The Auburn Hotel

Term 4's meeting was the end of year branch dinner at The Auburn Hotel. This is always a relaxed opportunity to exchange practical ideas amongst peers and celebrate the end of the year.



Diana Kelly

Co-convenor Metro Central

SLAV Metro Eastern Branch Annual Report 2021

Prepared for the SLAV Annual General Meeting 14th May, 2022

2021 was a year where we continued to pivot and try and learn to live and work alongside the pandemic. We shared our practice and continued to provide support and build collegiality in a tough, lockdown environment.

Term 1

It was great to meet in person at last and around 16 members met at REALM on March 10th. There were also many new members who had never been to a SLAV Branch Meeting before and they were warmly welcomed.

Paul Croft, who is the Digital Literacy Leader for Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges was the guest speaker. He was eager to start building his connections with schools within our region. He oversees their Schools Database Program which includes both a simple student sign up process to give students full access to all their resources, as well as school visits to introduce students or staff to their libraries. He also oversees Digital Literacy Programs and free online tutoring with a service called Studiosity.

As Camilla Elliott is stepping back from her SLAV duties, the Branch acknowledged her significant contribution over many years with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and card. Kelly Nolan from Balwyn High School has volunteered to replace Camilla as a Co-Convenor with Julie Pagliaro.



Terms 2 & 3

On 22nd July many branch members came together on the Zoom for the CBCA Judges. This event provided excellent information about all of the short-listed books, saving members time and assisting with discerning what books they need to purchase and promote.

Term Four

A small group met online on November 4th and each member shared what was happening in their school library. This included COVID-19 updates and how this affects school libraries, fund-raising ideas for raising funds, genrefying, author suggestions and promoting one's library. It was a very positive end to the year.

Julie Pagliaro

Co-convenor SLAV Eastern Metro Branch

6th May 2022

Latrobe Branch SLAV Annual Report, 2021

Term One: A group of 10 met at Lavalla's Marion Centre on March 24 at 4.30. We were given lovely refreshments and shared thoughts on the Notables lists as well as having the opportunity to look at copies of many of the listed titles. Some member made predictions for the shortlist.

We were then given a treasure trove of materials with which to start a library display for Library and Information Week in May. We discussed ideas about celebrating the National Simultaneous Storytime and possibilities for an author or illustrator visit to the area later in the year.

Term Two: We met online on June 2 and welcomed members from South and West Gippsland. We all had the opportunity to share some of recent experiences arising from the lockdown. There were also numerous offers of support to members who feel they are operating in isolation with little support from their school. Robyn Byrne gave a brief report (without notice) on the recent Primary Schools Conference.

We then welcomed Susan La Marca who gave us a comprehensive and most helpful tour of the SLAV website with particular attention to resources (blog, podcast journal articles) that are available to both members and non-members.

Thank you so much Susan for your time – I would recommend this as a great focus for a meeting, particularly an online one.

Term Three: Along with many branches, we participated in the CBCA judges' talk provided by SLAV. Members appreciated hearing the ideas and opinions of the judges firsthand.

Term Four: We were finally able to meet at Kurnai College after many cancelled and postponed attempts over the past two years. Andrea and Darren provided a delicious Christmas themed afternoon tea. We spent some time debriefing on the two years we have had. Andrea showed us how to make Christmas wreaths and other Christmas decorations from discarded books.



SLAV 2020/2021 Annual Report from Pakenham SLAV Branch

❖ Term 2 Meeting 2020

This face-to-face meeting planned to be held on 19th May 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19. Instead, the topic of Book Week was discussed on via ZOOM and we had a good attendance of 11 library leaders across the branch. We had an enjoyable conversation sharing about how we are coping with going online in the challenging times we are all faced with.



❖ Term 3 Meeting 2020

This AGM meeting was also held via ZOOM on 11th September 2020 and 14 library leaders were in attendance. We thanked Cassie Cardamone for her work on SLAV Council as a co-convenor and we have appointed Carmel Byrne, Tracey Ferguson, and I as Pakenham SLAV Co-convenors in 2021.

We discussed COVID-19 related issues pertaining to borrowing, lending rights, statistics, returning strategies and quarantining. There was great discussion about reading programs, reading promotion and how we stay connected while working from home during this term of remote online learning.



❖ Term 4 Meeting 2020

This face-to-face meeting planned to be held on 11th November was also cancelled due to COVID-19. Instead, a total of 13 library leaders met via ZOOM on 9th October 2020 where we enjoyed a time of sharing wonderful ideas such as Twitch, Discord, Borrow Bags & reserves, cleaning books, promotion of online activities via teams, boe.bookcrafts from Instagram, therapy dogs, Miro the online whiteboard, Kiah the critical thinking tool, peer teaching and wider reading programs on TEAMS.

Term 1 Meeting 2021

The face-to-face meeting planned to be held at St Peters College on 16th March 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19. The topic of databases, Reading Programs and Library Design was postponed to 2021. This event was be hosted by Joyce Sendeckyi in 2021 at the Clyde North campus on 19th March 2021. We had 11 library leaders attend and another 3 apologies.

There were robust conversations about various LMS, programs and sharing about what we have done and what we are doing that is working well. Many ideas were shared by Joyce who very generously spoke to her "Reading Detectives Program "and handed out her literacy cards used in classes.

SLAV 2021 Meetings: (ZOOM links to be supplied for anyone who can not be there in person)

Term 1 Meeting - 17th March at 4pm for 4:30pm start

Venue: St Peters College, Clyde North campus – Hosted by Joyce Sendeckyi

Topic: Databases, Reading Programs and Library Design

Term 2 Meeting - 26th May at 4pm for 4:30pm start

Topic: Book Week Think Tank

Term 3 Meeting – 9th September at 4pm for 4:30pm start

Venue: Cranbourne Secondary – Hosted by Barbara Cousins

Topic: Graphic Novels & Zines

Term 4 Meeting –17th November at 2:30pm until 4pm – for afternoon tea

Venue: Bunjil Library – Hosted by Tim Cashel

Topic: End of Year Catch Up

Ballarat SLAV Branch

Due to lockdowns and other circumstances, we met over Microsoft Teams for most meetings.

At the beginning of Term 1 we met on Teams and discussed the following:
Libraries – survival of the fittest?

Visit from booksellers eg Readings (local); How do we select? What's working? Lets talk.

What's trending for all schools? eg Manga/anime concerns?

Magabala Lenka re: Indigenous matters for a useful and honest session? Lenka.

In Term 2 we attended a shadow CBCA judging event hosted by Champion Books in Ballarat.

In Term 3 we met online and discussed the following:
Reading challenges etc for 2022 at schools e.g Sharon's Competition linked to house system.

Literacy issues in schools going ahead / Literacy Committees

What to do about boys and reading fiction?

Teaching information/research skills;

Databases kept or costs e.g Wheelers audio

Term 4 saw a gathering of members to farewell Marcia Phillips who retired from Loreto College at the end of 2021.

We met Online again in **Term 1 of 2022**. Consensus on below areas for discussion in 2022.

- **Visit** from bookseller eg Readings; Discuss accounts and also selection;
- **Navigating** selection and appropriate nature of material for schools/age categories
- The **RAP** for schools – what is everyone's involvement – option to invite Lenka who is on the board of Magabala (lives locally)
- **Discussion** around databases and subscriptions to all online services e.g news/audio/e and research databases
- **Manga Anime** – are there issues with content?
- **Literacy** committees at schools – what and how from Sharon
- **READING** – how do we engage our boys? Bigger discussion *around what is available and of appeal* to those students and boarders

We discussed ideas to keep Teams page alive as a communication tool and to keep resources. Everyone pleased to re-connect and talk all things our daily lives at school!

Sharon Hayes

Co-Convenor Ballarat SLAV

