**Koha-Users (Melbourne) Notes on the Meeting held at the Athenaeum Library, December 1st 2014**

Meeting opened at 5.30 pm by Siobhan Foster, convenor. Thanks to the Athenaeum Library for continuing to host the meetings. Welcome to all present and especially to Bob and Irma Birchall from Calyx, Sydney who will speak about Koha developments and report on the KohaCon14, the International Conference in Cordoba, Argentina.

Present: Tom Coleman (Melbourne Athenaeum); Kerrie Stevens (Harvest Bible College); James Baker (Melbourne Athenaeum); Moyra McAllister (Melbourne Athenaeum & Brotherhood of St Laurence); Pat Miller (Melbourne Athenaeum); Judith Wakeman (Phoenix Institute of Australia, Melbourne); Marie Emmitt (Executive Dean at ACU / on behalf of Jesuit Teacher’s College in Timor Leste); Evan Giles (Catalyst / development work on Koha); Jan O’Sullivan (Yarra Hills Secondary College, Mooralbark); Bob and Irma Birchall (Calyx host of Koha, Sydney); Siobhan Foster (Divine Word Missionaries and Redemptorist Libraries).

Apologies: Jill Bartholomeusz (Photography Studies College, Melbourne); Anna Dubaj (Yarra Hills Secondary College).

Each person introduced themselves and their interest in or use of Koha.

BOOTSTRAP OPAC (Irma demonstrated this development)

Bootstrap enables a computer OPAC to be accessed and used on our smartphone, iphone or tablet, using a new template which replaces Prog template. The picture on the OPAC can be shrunk width-wise to phone size, but expanded lengthwise to allow all the information to be viewed on the smaller screen. This development was designed to suit the education field where it was found that 45% of the use of OPACs were from mobile devices, not PC or laptop. It will be fully operational from May 2015 with the 3.18 version, and Prog template will be outdated.

KOHA REPORTS (Moyra / Tom / Kerrie)

Siobhan had requested help with Koha statistics / reports. Moyra, Tom and Kerrie demonstrated their use of reports.

Hundreds of reports can be copied, dropped into Wizard and parameters changed to suit the individual library’s needs. Helpful to understand SQL. Advice readily available from the Koha Forum or this Koha User’s group.

OVERDRIVE (Moyra)

The Athenaeum Library has subscribed to Overdrive for ebooks and Koha can integrate the Overdrive ebooks into the Koha database, so that the reader can be offered book titles + ebook version on the OPAC. This should be operating in late January.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE FREE EBOOKS WITH MARC RECORDS (Moyra / Irma)

The University of Adelaide offers free links to their holdings of ebooks, the format is excellent. This comes with free Marc records. Good way to expand the offerings of one’s library. This can be downloaded straight to one’s collection, and updated monthly. It doesn’t slow the catalogue.

INTERNATIONAL KOHA MEETING, ARGENTINA (Bob)

Bob attended the KohaCon14, in Cordoba, central Argentina. Not only were the views flying over the Andes spectacular, but also the extensive size of the Koha community in Argentina, Turkey, the Philippines, India etc. Koha is used by most of the large universities, public libraries etc and taken up much more widely overseas than it is here. The first world is missing out on what developing countries use.

The conference program consisted of three days of conference, one day of rest, three days of hackfest where new features, bugs, system streamlining were discussed e.g. avoiding bottlenecks in bug sign offs; bulk editing of items; and hopefully at a later stage global changes to bibliographic records.

The conference does not have decision making authority however, that occurs at a monthly meeting chat channel.

Bob met up with Alvet Miranda from EBSCO Melbourne and they discussed immigrating the EDS (EBSCO Discovery Service) with Koha in a balanced way, not to swamp Koha.

Koha hopes to raise funds for research and development outside of the USA. On-going discussions with the big development companies.

Meeting closed at 7.15pm with thanks to all for attending and contributing to the Koha conversation. Several people adjourned to dinner at Il Pom in Federation Square.

Next meeting to be announced, probably in February 2015.

Suggestions for future meetings (date of which will be advised on the Koha Forum):

1. Commence meetings at 5.30pm.
2. Allow time for people to introduce themselves to the group and say what they hope to gain from the meeting.