**Koha-Users (Melbourne) Notes on the Meeting held at the Photography Studies College, 65 City Road, Melbourne on 13th July 2017.**

Meeting opened at 6.15 pm by Moyra McAllister, who kindly agreed to convene the meeting while Siobhan Foster took notes. There was a slightly delayed start to the meeting to allow people to arrive due to disruption in the train system.

Present: Allison Belcher (Photography Studies College); Donna Benjamin (Catalyst IT Australia); Chris Cormack (Catalyst IT Australia); Galina Brejneva (Bureau of Meteorology Library); Irma Birchall (Calyx); Bob Birchall (Calyx); Moyra McAllister (Melbourne Athenaeum & Brotherhood of St Laurence); Katherine Hicks (St Luke’s Grammar School, Sydney); Pat Miller (Melbourne Athenaeum Library); James Baker (Melbourne Athenaeum Library / Calyx); Shannon Parsons (N/A); Siobhan Foster (Divine Word Missionaries and Redemptorist Libraries, Box Hill / Kew).

Apologies: Deborah Decru (St Athanasius Coptic Orthodox College of Theology); Tom Coleman (Athenaeum Library Melbourne); Kerrie Stevens (Harvest Bible College); Kathleen Fitzgerald (Australia Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Vic. Branch); Hugh Rundle (Brimbank Public Library, Sunshine) – joined us for dinner after meeting.

Moyra thanked Allison for offering to host the meeting, our second at PSC.

1. **Koha and the FOLIO Initiative**

Donna Benjamin, from Catalyst IT, our guest speaker, spoke on “Koha and the FOLIO Initiative.”

See the slides of her presentation here: <https://outlook.live.com/owa/?path=/attachmentlightbox>

Donna said she has only recently learned about FOLIO, the Future of Libraries is Open, which is an initiative of EBSCO but is being built with an open community model.

 She began by asking us what we enjoy about Koha and what we would improve, some comments were:

* Everyone brings something new to Koha, makes it work the way you want it to work
* Community support is very helpful
* Cost saving compared with other library management systems
* Opac is brilliant
* Love the open source
* Ease of using Koha e.g. incorporating ebooks etc.
* Lists, suggestions etc very useful features
* Used worldwide, every continent, every city
* Improvements: wish it were faster.

FOLIO fosters collaboration across and within libraries and vendors to share an understanding and delivery of a modern library technology infrastructure. It is largely funded by EBSCO and some other vendors. It will enable libraries to better serve the users. For the first time libraries will not only be customers, but investors with vendor partners in defining the future of library systems. See https:// www.folio.org/collaboration/

Donna spoke about the FOLIO platform <https://www.folio.org/platform/> with its flexible, modular and affordable advantages. Such that it is within the range of most libraries. 2017 marks the initial release of the platform, with tests of applications from 2018, it is akin to a Lego system for library software. Should there be user focused special interest groups? Could Koha be such a forum?

Chris (Catalyst IT New Zealand) then spoke about the Okapi layer, for integrating FOLIO with other systems. EBSCO are in nearly all tertiary institutions. Discussion ensued about the possibilities of FOLIO for libraries.

1. **Computer Security**

Next Bob Birchall spoke on computer security, as requested, following several malware events globally. He said that bad things happen on the internet: viruses; ransomware; phishing; identity theft; and denial of service etc. They are being fought off each week.

What to do? Some obvious suggestions are:

* Keep software up to date, applications and operating systems.
* Keep virus protection up to date.
* Back up data.
* Use passwords wisely.
* Do not click on unknown or suspicious links.
* Scammers are persistent, be wary.
* Drop box is NOT a backup, use off site backups.

Ways in which Koha is protected:

* Data protection, regular back up tests.
* Fire wall maintenance.
* Weekly operating system update.
* Koha security patches applied immediately.
* Upgrades are a major feature of Koha.
* Privacy policy, confidentiality agreements.
* Active participation in the Koha community.

3. **St Luke’s Grammar School and Koha**

Katherine Hicks showed us her new Koha website in the library at St Luke’s Grammar School, in North Shore, Sydney. It has enabled her to really interest the students in all the library has to offer. The suggestion box is very popular; and the lists feature. In addition to Dewey Decimal Classification, she uses colour coding, on the catalogue and throughout the library to help students find material. Koha has been a great success in her school.

 4. **New Koha-Oz website**

James Baker showed us the start of his development of a new Koha-Oz website for Koha users. He is open to suggestions for ways to develop the website e.g stream meetings on the website; have a Koha calendar; it could be an important resource about how people make the move to Koha with ease; provide a list of known Koha users. James and Moyra will maintain the website.

Moyra thanked all our speakers and all who attended the meeting, and invited everyone to join us for a meal.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm and most of us had a meal in the Southbank Food Court.

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