



Loving Jesus, Loving People

Sonshine Toy Library BORROWER'S INTRODUCTION



WHO WE ARE & OUR CHURCH PARTNERS

Sonshine Toy Library first opened in September 1982 as a ministry of the local churches, seeking to love people in response to loving God, and Jesus Christ, who makes it possible for us to know God.

Sonshine Toy Library is run by a committee of volunteers who are members of one of the local churches.

Currently the Warragul & Drouin Baptist, Anglican, Uniting & Presbyterian Churches, Community Church, Deep River Fellowship and Church of Christ are represented by volunteers serving here as committee members, fundraising partners or in day to day running support.

The Coordinator, currently Kerryn Selvaraj, is employed by the committee. The current Committee of seven members includes three office bearers and four Committee members. There is an Annual General Meeting held in October each year to which all borrowers, volunteers and interested community persons are invited to attend.

Information on activities for families provided by our Church partners is available on the wall near the sign in desk. Free Bibles and booklets are also available for those interested.

Be assured Christian beliefs will never be forced on anyone. It is a work God does in our hearts, not something anyone can force upon another.

If you have ever questioned or thought about....

- who God is
- why there is so much suffering
- what the purpose of life is
- what truth is
- and any question about the presentation and representation of God in the media,

check out our books, CDs and DVDs or talk to Kerryn. We will endeavour to seek out a resource that covers what you want addressed, or someone qualified to answer your questions. A qualified person would be someone who has studied the four year or more course to read the Bible in its original languages and know the culture and historical events it refers to.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering by borrowers is not compulsory because supervising your child is the priority. Yet we require volunteers to assist in the Duty of Care Check on each toy that is returned. People who can come without small children are a valuable resource for toy library. Please consider if you know anyone who would enjoy working as part of a team here at toy library for any amount of time, even once a term would be gratefully received.

PLEASE SIGN IN EACH TIME YOU COME

There is an attendance register & comments box on a desk as you enter. This is a way of validating the service provided, providing statistics, feedback for future planning and insurance.

STAYING TO PLAY

Free tea, coffee and Milo are available for you to help yourself and everything you need for nappy changing is in the toilet. To help us maintain a healthy, friendly and welcoming environment please.....

- Supervise your child to play friendly
- Participate in story time (to allow for a reprieve in the noise level)
- **PLEASE** do not bring sick children to toy library in consideration of expectant mothers and young children (particularly if they have had fever or vomiting in the last 48 hours).

SEEKING TO LOVE PEOPLE IN RESPONSE TO LOVING GOD

3 WAYS WE DO IT

- By providing access to toys that support the development of children and those requiring continuing developmental support during the adult years.
- By providing an environment where relationships are seen as valuable to comfort and encourage parents, grandparents and carers.
- We believe that God has created people and wants us to know him and live with him in eternity. To truly love people, we need to provide opportunities for people to know God and how to live in peace and loving community with him and others. This is the focus of many of the books, DVDs and CDs made available in our library.

SAFETY MATTERS

To help us avoid accidents please.....

- Remind your child to ride vehicles on the 'track' indicated on the floor, not in the sitting area.
- Pick up any toys your child discards on the floor.
- Any accident/incident needs to be recorded in the Incident book at the front counter.

STORY TIME

- We endeavour to provide a story time at 10:30am during our morning open sessions.
- This depends on the availability of a volunteer student teacher or other experienced person. At the moment Wednesday sessions are consistent, with our President bringing in his guitar or ukulele to sing songs and read stories to the children.
- We ask that parents cooperate by participating in story time with their children.
- There is a multiple purpose for story times.
- Children benefit from participating, the volunteers are given a reprieve from the noise level & parents have some interactive time with their children.

BORROWING FEES

- An annual borrowing account costs \$55 for 1 child, \$65 for 2 children and \$70 for 3 or more children.
- A borrowing account for Family Day Carers costs \$70.
- A borrowing account for an organisation costs \$100.
- Fees may be paid by EFTPOS for payments of \$15 or more, or instalments of a minimum of \$5 cash per month until the full annual payment is paid.

ALL ABOUT FOOD

To comply with children's services practices and care for children with allergies please.....

- Do not bring any food with nuts or egg.
- Supervise your children eating.
- Children must sit at the tables to eat.
- Do not allow children to walk with food.
- Do not leave any food unattended.
- Wipe down the table and wash any dishes.

DUTY OF CARE CHECK ON TOYS

We aim to provide quality, hygienic toys. To achieve this aim, our volunteers graciously offer their different skills and abilities to implement a duty of care check on every toy that is returned. We check for corroded batteries, broken/sharp edges, peanut butter, and washing dress ups, dolls' clothes & bedding as needed. Volunteers also repair broken toys & dress ups where possible. Toys are checked against the label to ensure there are no missing parts.

FUND RAISING

Funding for running costs is mostly obtained through fundraising activities.

- Chairo Christian School is a major sponsor.
- Local businesses may purchase annual \$100 advertising providing:
 - An A4 space on our apple tree
 - Their business card displayed on our counter
 - A link from our website to their website
 - Inclusion in our quarterly newsletter.

We welcome the support of friends to find businesses willing to support toy library in this way.

- We gratefully receive donations of second hand children's clothes which are available to purchase.
- Annual fundraisers include:
 - 2 cake stalls
 - 1 pie drive
 - 1 drink stand at Farm World
 - 2 sausage sizzles

ALL ABOUT TOYS-AT TOY LIBRARY

- Please do not allow children to play with bagged toys at toy library.
- Please ensure children are not in the gated storage areas without supervision.
- 5 toys may be borrowed per child for a two week period.
- If you are unable to return toys for any reason, please telephone and your toys can be 'renewed'.
- If your child is still playing with the toy and no other borrower has put it on hold, you may continue to borrow it.
- Books, DVDs & CDs may be borrowed in addition to the 5 toys per child.

ALL ABOUT TOYS – AT HOME

- Please remember that it is the toy, not the packaging that is to be played with. Once home, please ensure boxes and plastic toy bags are kept out of children's reach.
- If a toy is issued with safety instructions, please ensure your child is well supervised whilst playing.
- Please wipe toys over with a baby wipe before returning them.

MISSING TOY PIECES?.....DON'T PANIC!!!

- There are **NO FINES** for missing pieces. The age group we cater for means pieces will be lost or 'posted' in hard to find places. There is no shame in this. Whenever the part is discovered, even months later, please return it to be included in our 'spare parts' collection.
- We maintain a list of missing parts we hope to find in op shops.
- A reminder alert regarding the missing piece or part will be placed on the borrower's account for a limited time. We speak to you again next time your in at the front counter. Please don't take offence, it is a process we follow.
- We understand that from time to time toys will get damaged and broken, please do not worry too much, most can be repaired- we have an amazing volunteer who can fix just about anything.