

Brilliant bargains for bookworms on a budget

WITH close to 50,000 books ready for a new home, visitors to the fifth annual Drug Arm Book Affair didn't go home empty handed.

Drug Arm marketing manager Josie Loth said until 1pm today at the Ipswich Showgrounds, bookworms could pick up a book from as little as \$1.

Ms Loth said the aim was to raise \$10,000 from the three-day event to ensure the organisation could continue to fund local programs such as the Street Outreach Service (SOS) and community and family support services.

"Needs are increasing across the board and funding is decreasing, so we rely on the community to help us out," Ms Loth said.

"We see everyone from young families who, as rents go up, can't afford basic necessities such as groceries, to older people who, through family or marriage break downs, can't afford to stay at home and end up moving to caravan parks and, in the worse cases, onto the streets."

Kirsty Silence was on the hunt for early Christmas presents for her siblings and described the range as "absolutely amazing".



GOT IT COVERED: Drug Arm's Josphine Loth (left) and Mechile Gumalai with some of the books on offer at the fifth annual Drug Arm Book Affair.

Photo: Rob Williams OC2209WD