

## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** District Librarian  
**REFERENCE:** L407  
**DATE:** 9 October 2006  
**SUBJECT:** District Librarian's Report

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### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

During August and September the Libraries presented a number of activities to engage with the community.

August was Tiny Tots month with weekly story time sessions for pre-schoolers and during the school holidays in September programmes of stories and craft making were presented for younger school-aged children. All the programmes were very well attended. During term time the Library staff were involved with a series of class visits both to the schools and of school classes visiting the libraries. The visits are carried out throughout the year and are a valuable part of the process of making children familiar with libraries and re-enforcing the reading habit.

During September the Libraries had a promotion focussed on books for boys. Boys and their parents were encouraged to explore some of the many books and authors which appeal to boys. Posters and book marks in the Libraries were used to catch their attention and details were also posted on the Library web site in the Kidspace and Teenzone. Lists of authors and titles were made available for the different age groups.

The Libraries were involved in providing a venue for the Never Ending Story a project in support of Adult Learners' Week – He Tangata Matauranga 2006. The story was started by the Mayor John Hurley and was then open to members of the community to continue. Also in September Libraries celebrated Library Week with the theme *Get Connected* for which much promotional material was sponsored by PSIS.

The Friends of the Tasman District Libraries were also very active in this time. They successfully hosted a meeting of Book Clubs from around the Nelson Tasman region and also presented an evening with Chris Cole Catley, at which she spoke about her new book *Bright Star* which is a biography of a little known but brilliant New Zealand scientist, Beatrice Hill Tinsley. The Friends have donated another \$1000 towards the purchase of talking books for the Libraries. The District Library also hosted for the first time a gathering of a music appreciation group affiliated to Probus. This will now become a regular event in the Library.

The Tasman Visual Arts Group continues with their display of art works by their members in the District Library. Three artists display at one time and the displays are changed each month. The art works attract considerable public interest.

## RECENT TASMAN DISTRICT LIBRARIES STATISTICS

### ISSUES:

|                   | <b>August 2005</b> | <b>August 2006</b> | <b>September 2005</b> | <b>September 2006</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| District Library  | 29879              | 30054              | 30201                 | 28976                 |
| Motueka Library   | 15385              | 15099              | 14665                 | 14535                 |
| Murchison Library | 713                | 624                | 759                   | 667                   |
| Takaka Library    | 7969               | 7932               | 8359                  | 7881                  |
| Website           | 708                | 1150               | 682                   | 1149                  |
| TOTAL             | 54654              | 54859              | 54666                 | 53208                 |

### DOOR COUNT STATISTICS:

|                  | <b>August 2005</b> | <b>August 2006</b> | <b>September 2005</b> | <b>September 2006</b> |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| District Library | 14531              | 14697              | 14669                 | 13884                 |
| Motueka Library  | 8036               | 7942               | 7750                  | 7633                  |
| Takaka Library   | 5503               | 5429               | 5594                  | 5595                  |
| TOTAL            | 28070              | 28068              | 28013                 | 27112                 |

### OTHER STATISTICS:

|              | <b>August 2005</b> | <b>August 2006</b> | <b>September 2005</b> | <b>September 2006</b> |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Reservations | 1659               | 1930               | 1671                  | 1967                  |

Brian Paterson  
District Librarian