

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: District Librarian
REFERENCE: L407
DATE: 21 November 2006
SUBJECT: District Librarian's Report

ONLINE DATABASES

In April 2004 Tasman District Libraries along with other libraries throughout New Zealand introduced their users to the online databases purchased as part of the EPIC project. This project facilitated by the National Library of New Zealand and managed collaboratively by New Zealand libraries established an all-of-New Zealand site licence for a basket of databases from two main suppliers – Thomson-Gale and Ebsco. In using these databases libraries reached a clearer understanding of what additional products were needed to fill the gaps identified by the needs of Library users. This resulted in the addition to the EPIC licence this year of Encyclopaedia Britannica, the Oxford English Dictionary, Grove Art, Grove Music and Proquest Science.

In April this year Tasman District Libraries re-launched its completely redesigned website. Fundamental to the structure of the site were features designed to lead users to the information contained in the online databases. The user is encouraged to follow a path starting with the topic in which they have an interest and which leads to the resources which have the answers to their questions. This makes it a lot easier for users to see the relevance of the online information sources to their information needs.

An idea of how well the Libraries' online resources are being used can be gained from these statistics:

JULY 2005 - JUNE 2006

	Worldbook	Ebsco	Thomson-Gale
Sessions	440	696	1,154
Searches	941	1,643	5,613

New Databases

MAY-JUNE 2006

	Encyclopaedia Britannica	Oxford Dictionary	Grove Art	Grove Music	Proquest Science
Sessions	90	31	51	50	
Searches	81	98	62	99	105

OCTOBER 2006

 Ancestry.com (in Library use only)
Sessions 31

OTHER RECENT TASMAN DISTRICT LIBRARIES STATISTICS**ISSUES:**

	October 2005	October 2006
District Library	26,801	28,417
Motueka Library	13,923	14,145
Murchison Library	560	679
Takaka Library	5,588	7,644
Website	741	1,039
TOTAL	49,613	51,924

DOOR COUNT STATISTICS:

	October 2005	October 2006
District Library	13,291	13,517
Motueka Library	7,161	7,538
Takaka Library	5,262	5,706
TOTAL	25,714	26,761

OTHER STATISTICS:

	October 2005	October 2006
Reservations	1,699	2,018
Reference queries	1,115	1,210

Brian Paterson
District Librarian