

## **STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** District Librarian  
**REFERENCE:** L407  
**DATE:** 14 February, 2008  
**SUBJECT:** District Librarian's Report

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### **LIBRARY NEWS**

In the past two months there have been several changes in the Tasman District Libraries. There is a new librarian at Takaka, Tish Potter, as well as a new District Librarian based in Richmond, Lisa Oldham. There are also new part time library assistants in Takaka and Murchison.

The Takaka Library building is nearing completion and we are looking towards an opening date in the new building by the end of March.

The new library will be a great community asset for the residents of Golden Bay. It is likely, based on the experiences of other libraries in NZ, that there will be a substantial and sustained increase in the use of the library when it re-opens.

Other districts\* have seen 20-50% increase in business for the first two years after opening a new facility. This expected increase in library usage should have a positive impact on neighbouring businesses with increased foot traffic in the area.

### **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

The school holidays are an especially busy time for the Children's services in the district libraries. The Rocket into Reading programme has been very successful with 404 children participating and a high completion rate of 90.8% across the district with a 96% completion rate at Motueka.

This has included 951 personal interviews between librarian and child in the month long programme to discuss books and reading progress.

The evaluation comments from parents at the end of the programme are consistently positive:

- "Absolutely awesome programme. I have 2 more children keep to take part next year"
- "Fantastic programme. Even though we've done it before, we get more out of the programme as the girls go through different reading stages."

- “We were most impressed at how well organised the programme was”
- “Vital programme, long may it continue”
- “ The programme is very good, would recommend it to all parents of school age children”

## LIBRARY STATISTICS

### Visitors to the library

	Nov-2007	Dec-2007	Jan-2008
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,877</b>	<b>26,008</b>	<b>32,675</b>
Richmond	12,873	13,201	16,483
Motueka	7048	7041	8442
Takaka	4956	5766	7750

### Value added services

	Nov- 2007	Dec 2007
Reference Queries	1257	1211
Interlibrary loans	77	43
Housebound visits	38	35

### Visits to the Library Website

November	7438
December	6528
January	7334

### Transactions via website

November	1101
December	995

### New Library Members

November	162
December	188
January	212

\*Hurunui, Porirua, Karori, Pukekohe, Franklin, Papamoa, Papakura, Waitakere, Whangaparaoa

L Oldham  
District Librarian