

Report No:	RCS11-10-03
File No:	
Date:	10 October 2011
<i>Information Only – no decision required</i>	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Community Services Committee
Meeting Date: 20 October 2011
Subject: Libraries Report
Report Author: Glennis Coote, Libraries Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the activities of Tasman District Libraries.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

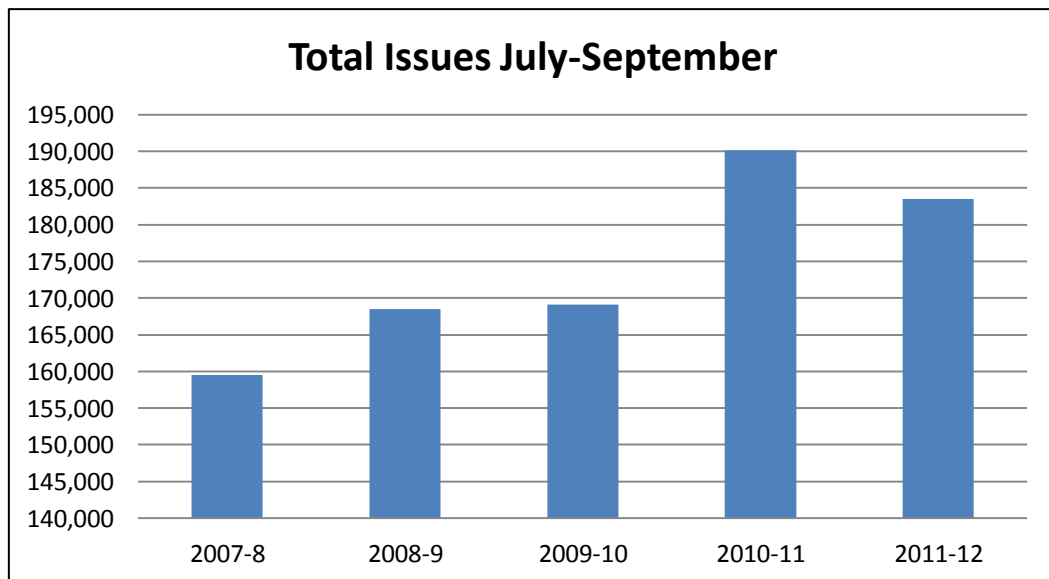
THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report RCS11-10-03.

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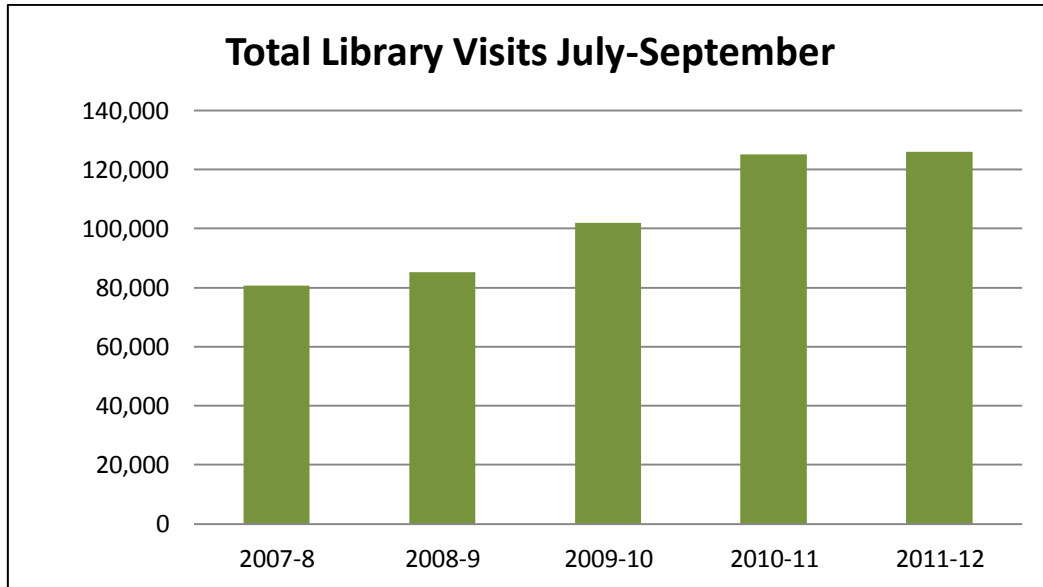
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1. STATISTICAL TRENDS

- 1.1 Items issued in September totalled 57,969; this was a decrease of 3,592 or 5.8% compared to September 2010. Richmond Library showed a decrease of 8.7% and Takaka Library showed a decrease of 5.2%. Issues at the Motueka and Murchison libraries were at a similar level to last year. Total issues for the first quarter of the year were down by 3.5% compared with 2010 but were still significantly higher than in previous years.



- 1.2 Visitor numbers during September totalled 39,433; this was a decrease of 2,646 or 6.3% compared with September 2010. Richmond and Motueka libraries both experienced decreases in visitor numbers while Takaka’s visitor numbers were on a par with last year. Overall visitor numbers for the first quarter of the year were 1% higher than for the same period last year.



- 1.3 The change to the timing of the term three school holidays is likely to have contributed to the comparative decrease in issues and visits during September. In 2010 the school holidays fell in September but in 2011 they fall in October.

2. LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- 2.1 In late September Kōtui, the new shared library management system, went live at Marlborough District Libraries. The launch went smoothly and other libraries have now implemented the new service or are very close to doing so.

Altogether 14 local government libraries (45 branches + 5 mobile libraries) will join Kōtui in its first three years of operation, and other public libraries have indicated they may join in the future.

All libraries involved undertake an intensive programme of planning and training before going live with the new system. Staff at Tasman District Libraries have put a considerable number of hours into the project and we are now anticipating a successful migration to the new system on 24 November.

3. INFORMATION SERVICES

- 3.1 Assistance with finding information is a core library function and each month our libraries deal with more than 1000 requests for assistance in finding specific information. During the 12 months to the end of September 2011 we recorded 15,000 information requests. Specialised research services are offered by the Information Services staff based at the Richmond Library and complex queries from the branch libraries are referred to the Richmond Library when local resources or expertise are exhausted.

Requests are varied and range from help finding homework resources to assistance with in-depth family history research. Staff also provide help with locating specific titles and also provide Readers Advisory services. Some recent examples of information requests our staff have assisted with shows the variety of requests received:

- Information on the Fauna and Flora of the Moutere area before European settlement.
- How to farm freshwater crayfish (Koura).
- When was the Maori version of the New Zealand national anthem first sung?
- Shipping lists for boats which brought Dutch immigrants to New Zealand in the 1950s.

4. DIGITAL SERVICES

- 4.1 A project group has been formed to work on updating the Library website. The group includes staff from the Library, Information Services and Communications teams. The redesigned website will have a new look and feel and will allow for greater functionality and more interactivity for our customers. It is intended that the new website will be launched in April 2012.
- 4.2 Tasman District Libraries has joined with 13 other South Island libraries to provide our borrowers with access to downloadable e-books and e-audio. The South Island Downloadable Media service launched in early October. The launch was kept low key but already the new service has generated a steady amount of interest from our borrowers.

5. LIBRARY EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

- 5.1 Highlights for September and October included:
- Motueka Teen Book Group enjoyed an informative get-together at the Motueka Library. Discussions centred around the new books on display and up-coming releases. Local author Ruth Moore gave a talk about her writing process and how she has self-published two books.
 - Author Justin D'Ath spoke at an evening event held at Motueka Library in early October. Justin is the author of over 30 books for children and teenagers. His books are very popular and there were many children amongst the audience of 54.
 - The Golden Bay Debate was hosted by Takaka Library in September. This is an annual event organised in support of Wordfest, Golden Bay's literary month. At least 50 people crowded into the Children's area to support the event and their response to the libraries efforts was heart warming.

- Takaka Library was approached by Elvira Pontier who runs “After School Art” classes to see if she could display the children’s work in the library and have the end of season celebration here. Branch Librarian Tish Potter reports that staff at the library were delighted to host another children’s event and that the request indicates how the library is seen as a focal point in the community.
- A Golden Bay Home Schooling group holds regular meetings at the Takaka Library. September’s meeting saw 30 children plus attendant adults celebrating all things Italian. Games, songs, and information about Italy was shared with a local who was born in Italy and the children particularly enjoyed making pizzas. A Takaka cafe kindly loaned their pizza trays and cooked the pizzas free of charge.
- The Young Adults’ Services Assistant Librarian from Richmond Library visited Waimea College to publicise new books and provide information on library facilities. Around 300 Year 9 students attended the presentations.
- Richmond Library hosted a display of quilts made by members of the Waimea Quilting group and a display of cakes decorated by the Nelson Cake Decorators and Sugar Artists group.

5.2 Upcoming events during November:

- Motueka Library will host a visit by Jeanette Aplin, author of “The Lighthouse Keeper’s Wife” in early November. This event has been organised by the Motueka Arts Council.
- A workshop on making rolls of all kinds from kindling log rolls to rice paper spring rolls will be held at the Murchison Library on 7 November.

6. RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

7. DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report RCS11-10-03.

Glennis Coote
Libraries Manager

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