

Report No:	RCS12-03-04
File No:	
Date:	28 February 2012
Information Only – no decision required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Community Services Committee
Meeting Date: 8 March 2012
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

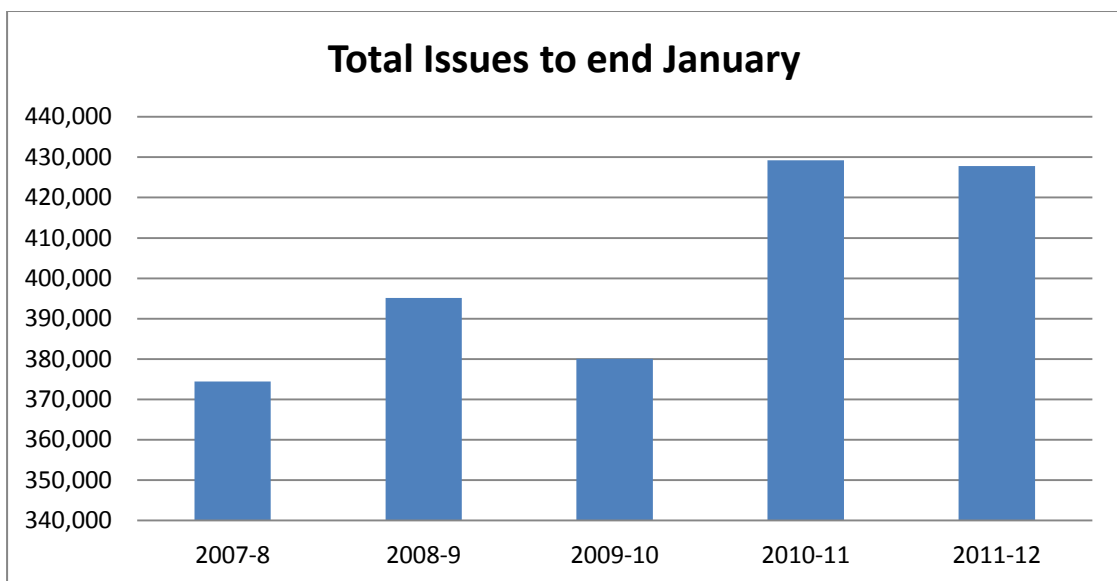
THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report RCS12-03-04.

Report No:	RCS12-03-04
File No:	
Report Date:	28 February 2012
Information Only – no decision required	

Report to: Community Services Committee
Meeting Date: 8 March 2012
Subject: Libraries Report
Report Author: Glennis Coote, Libraries Manager

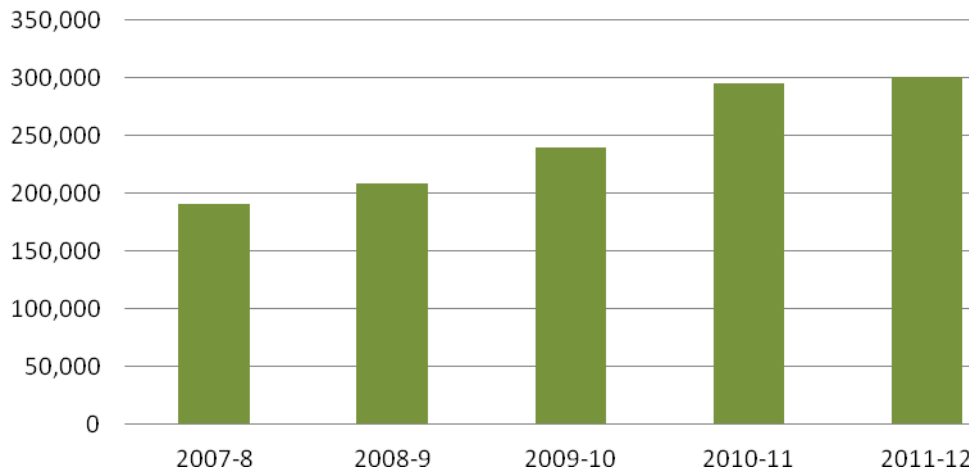
1. STATISTICAL TRENDS

- 1.1 Items issued in December and January totalled 127,641, a decrease of 1006 or 0.8% compared to the same months in 2010-11. Issues for Richmond for the period were 1.4% lower than for last year, issues for Motueka showed an increase of 1.9% and issues for Takaka showed a decrease of 1.5%. Total issues for the year to date are 0.3% lower than for last year but are still considerably higher than for previous years.



- 1.2 Visitor numbers for December and January totalled 94,137 an increase of 2,145 or 2.3% compared to the same months in 2010-11. All branches experienced a modest increase in the number of visitors compared with the same months last year; Richmond's visitor numbers were 2% higher, Takaka's were 1% higher and Motueka's were 4% higher. Overall visitor numbers for the year to date are 1.6% higher than for last year and 25% higher than for 2009-10.

Total Library Visits to end January



- 1.3 Typically December and January are the busiest months of the year for our libraries. Staff in Motueka experienced their busiest ever day on 31 January with a record 779 visitors. 31 January was the busiest day of the holidays across the district with a total of 2814 people visiting the Richmond, Motueka and Takaka libraries.
- 1.4 During December and January 727 new member registrations were processed, representing a 25% increase over the same period last year. The count of active members was restarted when our new computer system went live on 24 November and since that date 13,577 individual members have used their library card.

2. SUMMER READING PROGRAMME

- 2.1 Another successful Summer Reading Programme has concluded. 440 children enrolled in the programme and 409 or 93% completed the programme. Overall the completion rate was similar to previous years although Takaka Library had fewer participants complete than is usual. A number of families were comprised by the flooding in Golden Bay and this may have contributed to the lower completion rate.
- 2.2 The number of report-ins was reduced this year from five to three. This was done to contain costs and also to make the programme more achievable for those unable to commit to visiting the library each week in the holidays. We did have a number of people comment that they preferred to report-in more frequently but generally most people felt fewer report-ins made the programme more manageable for them. The less frequent report-ins also made it possible for a family from St Arnaud to register for the programme; these enrolments were the first ever from the St Arnaud area.

- 2.3 Children from 29 schools across the district participated in the programme and it is pleasing to note that many children from rural schools participated. Particularly notable was Central Takaka School with 28% of their students taking part and Appleby School with 22% of their students taking part.
- 2.4 Online enrolment was available for participants in Richmond and Murchison. Online enrolment was not made available to participants in Motueka and Takaka due to concerns about availability of internet access. We continued to require registration in person for these areas but did survey participants as to their preferred mode of registration. The results showed that slightly more people would prefer to enrol online than in person.
- 2.5 We received many positive comments from the parents of children taking part in the programme:
- Eight year old boy particularly benefitted. Usually too busy to read but now is fully engaged and enjoying reading.
 - I love the link in with the schools, last year the kids got a big kick out of being rewarded at assembly.
 - It's been great for me as a parent seeing my 10 year old who didn't read unless made to get into books she enjoys and now reading for enjoyment, the commitment of 15 mins a day has developed into enthusiasm that wasn't there prior.
 - The programme has been the difference between my daughter, age 10, enjoying reading and only doing it because she has to. She now reads daily as she enjoys it and has been introduced to books that she is interested in.
 - Wonderful use of money for the children and families. Good use of an excellent community resource.
 - Thank you so much for funding this wonderful programme. My child's love for books and pleasure for reading has grown through this programme and her confidence using the library and talking with the librarians has increased hugely. It is a fantastic way to get to love the library!

3. FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

- 3.1 A donation from the Waimea South Historical Group has allowed us to purchase a one year subscription to the FindMyPast family history database. The Library also provides access to another family history resource, Ancestry.com. Together the two subscriptions offer a very wide range of resources for our users. Family history research is very popular with library users; Ancestry.com has the highest use of any of our online databases and our "Introduction to genealogy" training courses are always in demand.

4. LIBRARY EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

- 4.1 Highlights for December, January and February included:
- A display of works by the Tasman Potters Group in the Richmond Library.

- A summertime display in the Richmond Library promoted recreational activities across the district.
- David Young, author of “Coast” talked about his writing at an evening event at Motueka Library.
- Summer Reading Programme presentations at 26 schools across the district.
- Local author Grant Bryan talked about his book “Out of Nowhere’ at the Motueka Library. Grant drew on his wide experience as a keen outdoors man to write his novel.
- Book group meetings resumed in Richmond, Motueka and Takaka.
- Staff from Motueka and Takaka joined their local Christmas Parades to promote the Summer Reading Programme.
- Author Carol Henderson talked about her book “Searching for Grace” at Richmond Library. Grace was Carol’s grandmother who lived an extravagant Downton Abbey-style life in the early twentieth century.
- There were 40 bookings for the Richmond Library meeting room during December/January, compared to 19 for the previous December/January period.

4.2 Upcoming events during March:

- “Babytime” sessions for the under two’s resume in Takaka.
- Richmond Library will host a meeting of the Nelson Historical Society.
- “Introduction to the Library Catalogue” and “Introduction to Genealogy” training courses at Richmond Library.
- “Creative cardmaking for grown-ups” at Motueka Library. This follows on from the success of school holiday cardmaking sessions.
- Planning begins for local celebrations for the New Zealand Post Book Festival which takes place in May. This year Lucy Brunwin, Children’s and Young Adult’s Librarian, is acting as convenor for the Nelson region.

5. RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

6. DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report RCS12-03-04.

Glennis Coote
Libraries Manager

g:\tara\agendas\community services\2012\march\rCS12-03-04 libraries manager.docx