

Report No:	RCS12-07-03
File No:	
Date:	2 July 2012
Information Only – no decision required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Community Services Committee
Meeting Date: 12 July 2012
Report Author: Glennis Coote, Libraries Manager
Subject: **Libraries Report**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report covers:

- Library statistical trends, including book issues, library visitors and membership.
- The increasing use of e-books.
- The introduction of a self-service station in Richmond Library.
- The third annual Children's Book Quiz.
- Library events and promotional activities.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

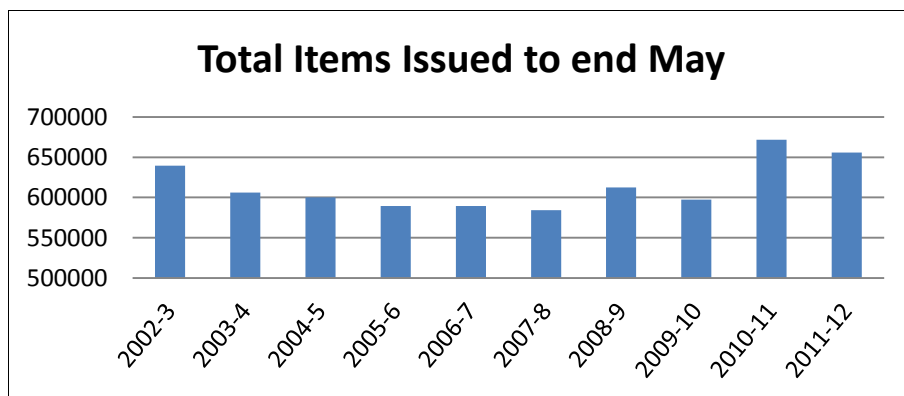
THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report RCS12-07-03.

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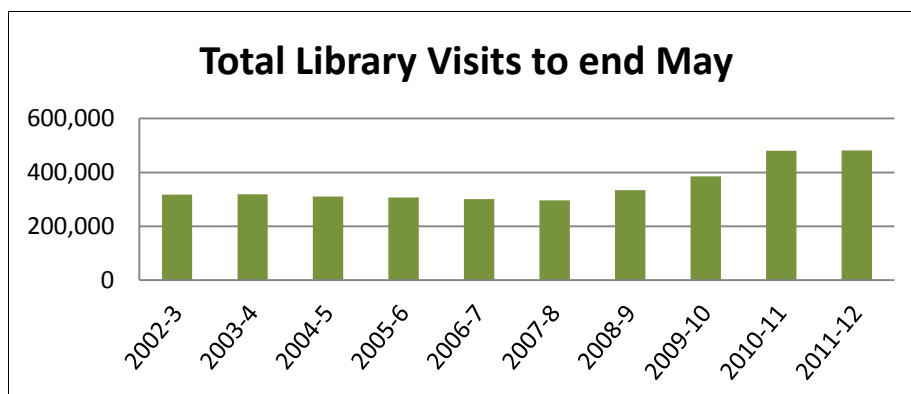
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1. STATISTICAL TRENDS

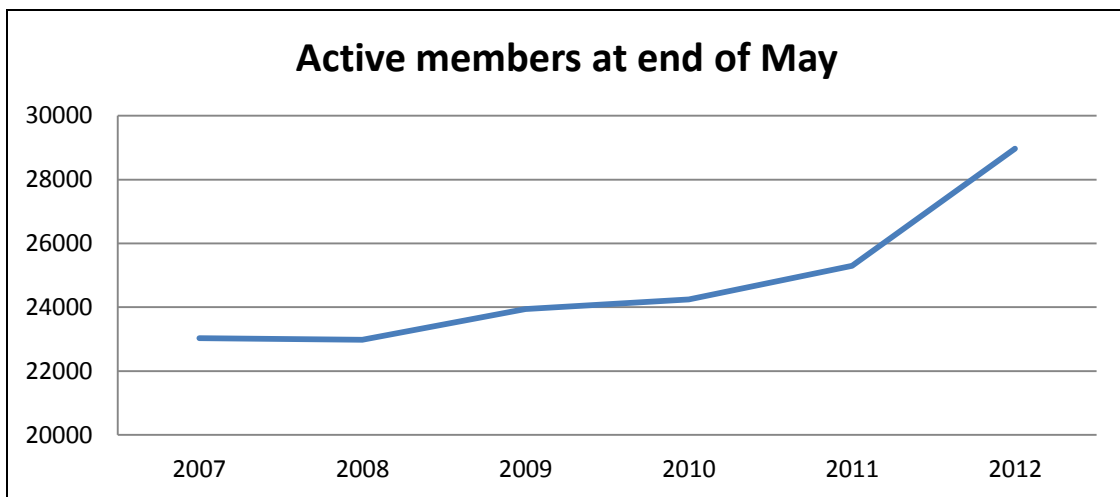
1.1 Items issued in May totalled 59,260; this was a decrease of 2,558 or 4% compared to May 2011. There are, however, always fluctuations in issue numbers from month to month and the total for May was the highest monthly total since January. Issues for the year to date are 2.4% lower compared with last year but remain considerably higher than all previous years.



1.2 Visitor numbers for May totalled 42,647; this was a decrease of 1,302 or 3% compared to 2011. Total visitor numbers for the year to date show a very small increase of 0.2% compared to last year and an increase of 25% compared to 2010-11.



- 1.3 During May, 269 new member registrations were processed, 73 fewer than in May 2011. At the end of May the number of active members who had used their library card within the last two years was 28,970. As can be seen in the following graph the number of active borrowers has been steadily increasing over recent years.



2. E-BOOKS

- 2.1 In 2011 a consortium of South Island public libraries was established for the purpose of purchasing and sharing digital media in the form of e-books and downloadable audio books. Tasman District Libraries was one of the founding members of the consortium along with 12 other libraries.
- 2.2 The consortium purchases titles from Overdrive, a vendor with more than 20 years experience in supplying digital media to libraries. The consortium's collection of digital media is growing slowly but steadily. By the end of May 2012 the consortium had 1062 e-book and 250 audio book titles available to library users.
- 2.3 In the eight months from October 2011 to May 2012 the total number of issues to Tasman District library users was 688 and the number of individual Tasman District library users to have borrowed digital media was 222. The issue figures are still very modest but use of the service is steadily growing. We receive queries regarding the availability of e-books from the library almost daily. This is clear indication that many users would prefer to borrow e-books instead of, or in addition to, purchasing them.

- 2.4 In addition to queries about the availability of e-books we are often asked for advice on purchasing and using e-readers. There is an increasing demand for this type of assistance and we will be running public training sessions over the coming months. These sessions will be available across the district and will give people the opportunity to try out different e-reader options as well as guide them through the process of borrowing e-books from the library.
- 2.5 It has been frustrating for some of our users to find that when they want to borrow an e-book that the majority of titles are currently on issue to other borrowers. In an effort to meet the demand from our users we have begun to use Overdrive's Advantage service. This allows us to purchase titles which are available only to members of Tasman District Library instead of to all consortium library members. We are also investigating the potential for using additional e-book vendors.

3. SELF-SERVICE OPTIONS

- 3.1 The change to our Library Management System (LMS) software late last year has meant that we are now able to explore self-service options for library users. Our previous LMS was unable to integrate with self-issue machines.
- 3.2 We have recently purchased a self-issue station which will be installed in the Richmond Library. Installation is expected to take place in August. The self-issue station will provide library users with an additional option for having their items issued. There is also the potential for self-collection of reserved materials and self-return of items in the future.
- 3.3 Self-service is now common in many areas of business and we expect that our users will quickly adapt to using the self-issue station. We will maintain a staffed circulation desk for those users who would prefer not to use the self-service station.

4. CHILDREN'S BOOK QUIZ

- 4.1 The third annual Tasman District Libraries Children's Book Quiz was held in June and was one of the highlights of the month. More than 130 children from across the district took part in the quiz.
- 4.2 The quiz is a competition for year five and six students from local schools and is run simultaneously at Motueka, Richmond and Takaka libraries. Teams of four compete for the winner's trophy and the event generates a lot of

excitement. Children from some schools “train” for the event and compete to be a member of their school’s team.

- 4.3 As well as a trophy for the winning team various prizes are awarded including a prize for the best-dressed team. Prizes and refreshments were sponsored by publishers and local businesses.
- 4.4 The quiz achieves a number of positive outcomes: it encourages children’s reading and comprehension; it encourages children to regard the library as a fun and inviting place to visit and it helps to enhance and develop the library’s relationships with local schools.

5. LIBRARY EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

5.1 Recent highlights include:

- Golden Bay author Suzanne Clark launched her second book at Takaka Library. Suzanne’s book “Mrs Lacy” is a novel set in Golden Bay. Thirty four people attended the event which also featured publisher Dave MacManus talking about the local publishing scene.
- As part of the Abel Tasman 370 celebrations, Takaka Library provided the venue for Tony Richardson to speak about Ernst Plischke, the architect of the Abel Tasman Memorial and the challenges of wartime construction.
- Gavin Bishop and Jill Marshall, 2012’s Top of the South writers in residence, presented workshops at Richmond Library. Gavin presented “Creating a legacy: writing stories from our own lives for our children and grandchildren” while Jill’s workshop covered non-traditional publishing for writers.
- Sixty students from Waimea College visited Richmond Library during May for training in how to use the library’s resources for research. The training covered using our physical collections as well as our electronic resources.
- The Nelson Youth Theatre performed “Journey through Oz” at Richmond Library during the first week of the July school holidays, with five performances over three days.

5.2 Upcoming events:

- From 20 July to 24 August Takaka Library will host the Winter Series. There will be a range of talks and presentations on a variety of subjects from Charlotte Bronte to rock climbing to yurts in Mongolia. This is the third successive year that the library has organised and hosted the Winter Series.
- Takaka Library will celebrate Maori Language Week with several lunchtime speakers as well as a special Storytime session.
- Richmond Library will hold a range of courses to mark Family History month in August. Classes will range from learning to use the slide scanner to save ageing slides and photos, to getting started with family history or tracing New Zealand ancestors.
- The Motueka Arts Council and Motueka Library will present an evening with Golden Bay writer Suzanne Clark.

6. RECOMMENDATION/S

- 6.1 That the report be received.

7. DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report RCS12-07-03.

Glennis Coote
Libraries Manager

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