

## **STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** District Librarian  
**REFERENCE:** L407  
**DATE:** 12 February 2007  
**SUBJECT:** District Librarian's Report

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### **BUSY HOLIDAY SEASON**

As always the combination of holidays and changeable weather made for busy libraries this January. Top day overall was Wednesday 3 January with 990 visitors to the District Library in Richmond, 546 to the Takaka Library and 484 to the Motueka Library – for a total of 2,020. Items returned on that day amounted to 5,154 while 4,656 items were issued. Running a close second in the door count stakes was Tuesday 9 January with 943 visitors in Richmond, 526 in Takaka and 488 in Motueka – for a total of 1,957. There were a total of 31,444 visitors to the Tasman District Libraries during the month of January.

Adding to the buzz in the libraries during the holidays were children checking in with librarians as part of the Summer Reading Programme – “Don't Monkey Around - Read!” In all, 441 children were registered with the programme (Richmond 221, Motueka 100, Murchison 24, Takaka 96). The programme is designed to consolidate and sustain the reading habit for children during the long summer holiday. Over a period of seven weeks each child registered undertakes to read for at least 15 minutes each day and to report in to their local library at least four times. At each check in the children discuss what they have been reading with a librarian and receive advice about other books they might enjoy reading. At each check in the children receive a special sticker for their reading file and a small incentive gift. Those completing the programme are awarded a medal which is usually presented by a library staff member at the child's school assembly. This year 386 children or 87% completed the programme successfully. Of these exactly half were girls and half were boys. Feedback forms completed by parents have been overwhelmingly positive about both the structure and the value of the programme.

Another special event in the holidays was library book sales in Richmond, Motueka and Takaka. All three were very successful with Motueka leading the field with takings of \$1,115, followed by Takaka with \$580 and Richmond \$540. Books sold include those discarded from the library stock and donations which are unsuitable to be taken into stock. These special book sales are in addition to the regular sales through the year and take advantage

of the opportunity to sell books to holiday makers as well as regular customers.

## RECENT TASMAN DISTRICT LIBRARIES STATISTICS

### ISSUES:

	January 2006	January 2007
District Library	34,349	34,533
Motueka Library	15,083	14,995
Murchison Library	1,065	706
Takaka Library	9,669	10,306
Website	849	1,203
TOTAL	61,015	61,743

### DOOR COUNT STATISTICS:

	January 2006	January 2007
District Library	15,449	16,065
Motueka Library	8,028	8,021
Takaka Library	7,502	7,358
TOTAL	30,979	31,444

### STATISTICS FOR VALUE ADDED SERVICES:

	January 2006	January 2007
Reservations	1,866	2,027
Reference queries	1,173	1,369
Inter-Library loans	86	89

Brian Paterson  
District Librarian