

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: District Librarian
REFERENCE: L407
DATE: 28 March 2007
SUBJECT: District Librarian's Report

USE OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

INTERNET:

Tasman District Libraries policy is to charge customers for use of the internet. No discrimination is made between the purposes for which customers use the internet. With the huge increase in information available through the internet it is true that our charging policy creates a barrier to access to that information. However internet charges form a significant part of the Libraries' income stream (\$5,252 in 2005-2006). Because of the charges our internet computers are used principally by tourists and others in order to send and read emails. Equipment available for use to access the internet from our libraries is also limited – this is a factor both of the availability of computer equipment and of space in the libraries. Our situation is not uncommon among New Zealand libraries but differs from that in libraries in other first world countries where internet use is commonly free of charge. This situation is one which is currently receiving intensive attention in New Zealand. We will need to revisit our Library's internet policy as these developments unfold. As part of the Government's Digital Strategy, the New Zealand People's Network aims to make free internet access available in all New Zealand public libraries. The Community Partnership Fund has funded a pilot project in selected local authority areas including the West Coast as a step towards realizing this objective. If the People's Network is to be successful it is expected that it will involve central government support and that it will be set up as a sustainable model.

The numbers of customers paying for use of the internet in TDC libraries during January and February was as follows:

District Library, Richmond = 446

Motueka Library = 32

Takaka Library = 95

The numbers of users is strongly influenced by the numbers of visitors in town and the availability of other email facilities. The District Library for example

was very busy in January when there were many visitors in Richmond and the commercial email facilities were closed for much of the time.

ON-LINE RESOURCES PROVIDED BY THE LIBRARY:

- Library Website:

Visits from 1 July 2006 to 23 March 2007 = 54,230

Most popular pages apart from the home page:

Online Resources

New on the Shelf

Teenzone

About the Libraries

Great Reads

- Borrowed items renewed on-line by customers:
1 July 2006 to 28 February 2007 = 8,900
- Use of on-line resources (September 2006-February 2007):

<u>Database</u>	<u>Sessions</u>
EBSCO	180 (Nov-Feb)
Thomson-Gale	327
Proquest science	122 (searches)
Grove Art	34
Grove Music	38
Oxford Dictionary	38
World Book Encyclopaedia	115
Encyclopaedia Britannica	79
Ancestry.com	219 (Oct-Feb)
Total	1,152

RECENT TASMAN DISTRICT LIBRARIES STATISTICS

Finer weather in February made for a quieter month in all of our libraries. This is reflected in the statistics.

ISSUES:

	February 2006	February 2007
District Library	26,784	26,165
Motueka Library	13,332	12,679
Murchison Library	720	694
Takaka Library	7,422	6,772
Website	844	1,060
TOTAL	49,192	47,370

DOOR COUNT STATISTICS:

	February 2006	February 2007
District Library	13,347	12,663
Motueka Library	7,240	6,602
Takaka Library	5,469	5,126
TOTAL	26,056	24,391

STATISTICS FOR VALUE ADDED SERVICES:

	February 2006	February 2007
Reservations	1,649	1,743
Reference queries	1,158	1,239
Inter-Library loans	79	133

Brian Paterson
District Librarian

[http://tdctoday:82/shared documents/meetings/council/committees and subcommittees/community services committee/reports/2007/rcs070404 report district librarians.doc](http://tdctoday:82/shared%20documents/meetings/council/committees%20and%20subcommittees/community%20services%20committee/reports/2007/rcs070404%20report%20district%20librarians.doc)