

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Libraries Manager  
**DATE:** 12 May 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Libraries Manager's Report

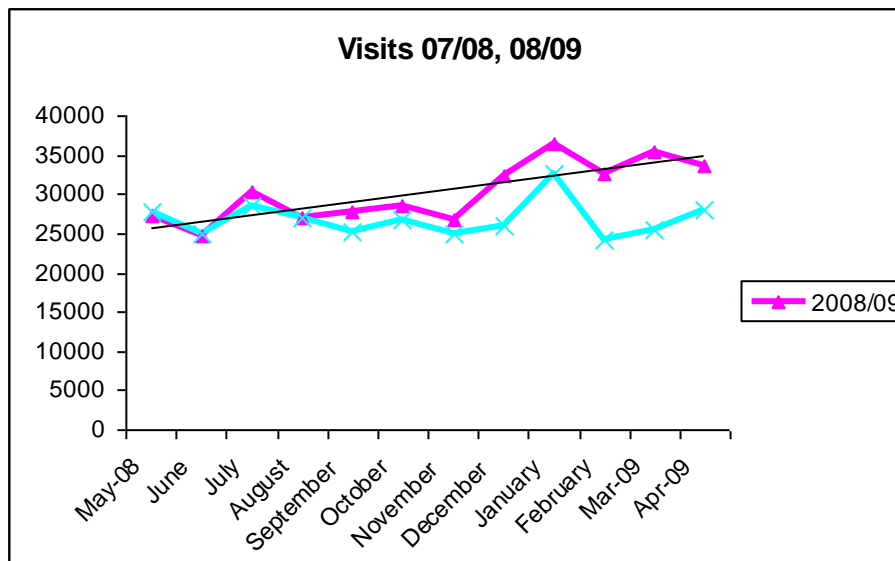
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## STAFFING

We farewelled Lisa Oldham and welcomed Catherine Bryham in as the Libraries Manager this month. Catherine has been visiting sites across the district and speaking with staff regarding business processes and opportunities.

## TRENDS

Visits continue to trend upwards, highlighting the need for relevant services such as the APN computers to be incorporated into library services, and the effect of well designed physical space such as Takaka's new building. Reference queries are trending up, as the community seek help to follow job leads and reskill.



## HIGHLIGHTS

**Richmond Library** Work is almost completed on a new shelving layout for the refurbished space in Richmond. Various fittings and furnishings are being considered, although we are waiting for an overall colour scheme and theme from our contractors.

**LMS** Our library management system is no longer supported by the supplier, and various options are being considered to position Tasman well for the future. Options include:

- 1 a basic upgrade to a platform supported by Civica, while we await a NZ wide system;
- 2 a regional purchase – requiring funding commitment from our neighbouring districts who have a longer timeline than we do;
- 3 an individual purchase of a new system.

Option 1 would accrue the least risk to Tasman, while options 2 and 3 would involve a risk that the chosen system is not the one eventually selected by the NZ wide consortium.

**School holidays** A variety of school holiday programmes were run across the District with including storytimes, a puppet show, a theatre make up workshop for 10-14 year olds and skits performed by the Covenant Players. Approximately 430 adults and children enjoyed the programmes.

**NZ Music month** The libraries are offering free rentals on music cds by a NZ artist for this month along with themed displays.

**Book launch** Takaka held a successful book launch evening of Gordon Challis's poetry book *Luck of the bounce*.

## **UPCOMING**

Motueka Library will be hosting a group of teenagers on 29 May from the high school, in an attempt to gain direct feedback on the services offered by the library to this sector. The group will also discuss the look and feel of the teen area, and make suggestions for improvement.

Takaka Library will be running a youth reading programme for six weeks, beginning two weeks before the July school holidays. The programme will provide a weekly prize draw with a major prize drawn from those who complete the entire programme. Participants read at least 6 books from different genres as chosen randomly from a library monopoly game board, and must complete a book review and session with a librarian.

A replacement project will begin on the library collections to substitute old copies of classic books and authors with either a new edition or a large print edition. The objective is to continue to provide the range required from a public collection, but to ensure they are presented attractively on the shelf.

Catherine Bryham  
Libraries Manager

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