

Report No:	RCS11-09-02
File No:	
Date:	25 August 2011
<i>Information Only – no decision required</i>	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Community Services Committee
Meeting Date: 8 September 2011
Subject: Libraries Report
Report Author: Glennis Coote, Libraries Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the activities of Tasman District Libraries for July and August 2011.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

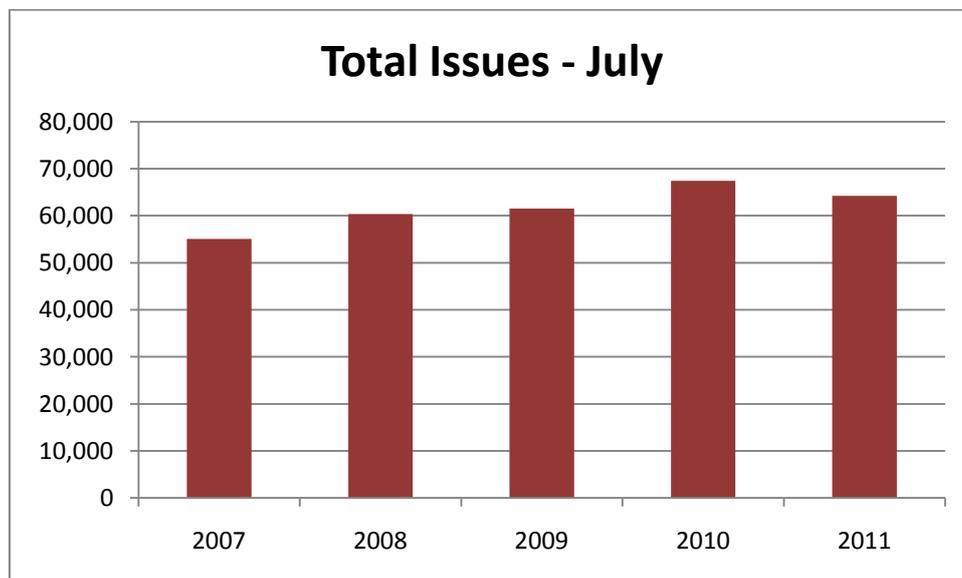
THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Manager's Report RCS11-09-02.

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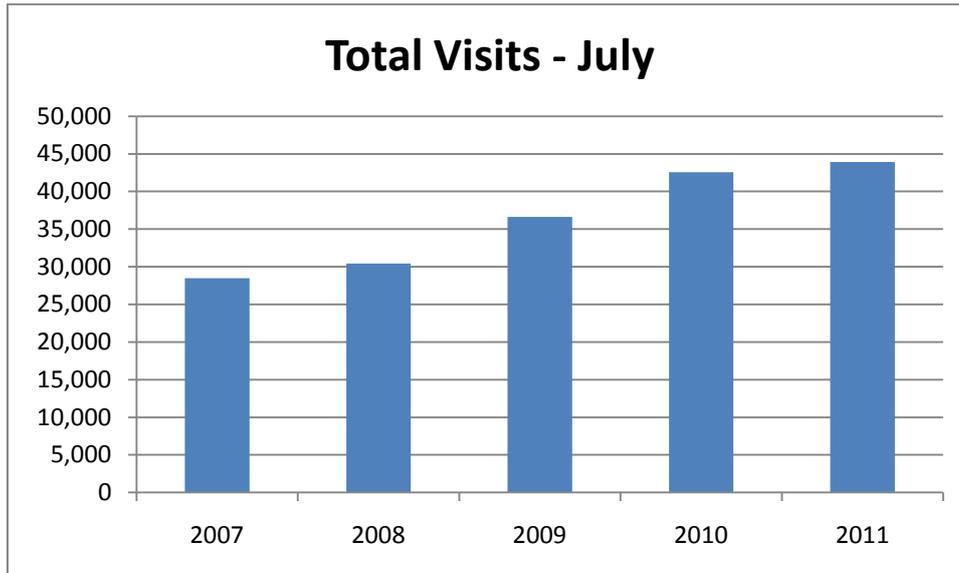
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1. Statistical Trends

- 1.1 Items issued across all branches in July totalled 64,262. This represents a decrease of 4.7 % or 3,185 compared to July 2010. Richmond Library was the only branch to show a decrease in issues when compared with the same period the previous year. This is likely to be due to exceptionally high issues at Richmond Library associated with re-opening in July 2010 after renovations.



- 1.2 During July total visitor numbers recorded were 43,912. This represents an increase of 3.2% or 1,359 compared with 2010. Richmond Library showed a small decrease of 1.4%, this was not unexpected as July 2010 was exceptionally busy following the completion of the library renovations. Motueka Library showed an increase of 9.6% and Takaka Library showed an increase of 8.9%. Total visitor numbers across the district were the highest ever recorded for the month of July.



2. Library Management System

- 2.1 The date for our migration to the new Kōtui shared library management system has now been confirmed as 24 November. The migration will necessitate a three day closure in order that data from our old system can be uploaded to the new system. During October and early November we will be concentrating on training all of our staff in the use of the new system. Planning for this has been a complex undertaking as we need to ensure the adequate training of 42 staff while continuing to offer our usual service to library customers. We will be partnering with Nelson Public Libraries to deliver some of the training at the Nelson City Council. Our Customer Services Librarian will also assist with training some of the Nelson Public Library staff.
- 2.2 On 29 September Marlborough District Libraries will be the first library to migrate to the new shared library system. Taupo, New Plymouth and Nelson Libraries will follow during October and early November. By the end of March 2012 eight Councils will be part of the Kōtui consortium.

3. Radio Frequency Identification

- 3.1 An increasing number of libraries in New Zealand are converting to Radio Frequency Identification (RFID). RFID is a method of remotely storing and retrieving data using smart tags which are attached to library materials.
- 3.2 Benefits resulting from the use of RFID include:

- Multiple RFID tags can be read at one time making the process of issuing and returning items considerably faster than scanning individual barcodes. Libraries are able to reduce the amount of time staff spend on routine circulation tasks and can therefore redeploy staffing resources to more personalised customer –focussed interactions.
- RFID makes it possible to undertake regular stock-takes by scanning items on shelves using a mobile scanner. Each item no longer needing to be removed from the shelves.
- Shelf checking to ensure that items are correctly shelved is a necessary but time-consuming activity. Using RFID with mobile scanners, this process can be performed more efficiently and regularly.
- RFID provides for enhanced item security and self-issue options. We currently use an electro-magnetic security system which is now regarded as “old technology”. Continuing to use this technology limits the security and self-service options which are to be available to us.

3.3 RFID is now regarded as standard library technology. Costs have decreased over recent years and RFID is now a feasible option for a library of our size.

4. Richmond Library Meeting Rooms

- 4.1 The meeting rooms at the Richmond Library continue to be well used by the public. During the 2010-2011 year bookings for the library’s large meeting room numbered more than 100. Almost half of these were for after hours use. The room has been used by a wide range of groups for meetings and other activities including: home educators group meetings; pilates classes; cake decorating and floral art workshops; business presentations; computer users group meetings and youth worker training. In addition, the meeting room has been used by Council staff for team meetings, community consultation meetings, public forums and workshops.
- 4.2 The small meeting room is largely used for library and Council purposes but is available for public use during library opening hours. During the past year the room has been used by the public for training sessions, study groups, meetings and job interviews.
- 4.3 Use of the meeting rooms continues to increase as more people become aware of the facilities.

5. Library Events and Promotions

- 5.1 Highlights for July and August included:

Richmond Library runs weekly Tiny Tots sessions for preschoolers. The final session in July featured Jenny Dravitsky from Sports Tasman leading an “active movement” session. Active movement is a series of exercises and activities designed to promote brain and body development in children under three years in preparation for literacy and other life skills.

During the July school holidays each of the four library branches held story-time sessions with the theme “flying and other mis-adventures”. A total of 10 sessions were run across the district with more than 340 children plus caregivers in attendance.

- The highlight for Richmond was a performance by singer/songwriter Levity Beat, the meeting room was almost overflowing with an appreciative audience of 55 children and 19 adults.
- In Motueka, children invented their own flying machines, created bird masks and made a flying saucer with its own alien inside. Staff noted that there were a number of new families enjoying the sessions, with the parents enjoying the sessions as much as their children.

Takaka Library celebrated Maori Language Week in early July with a range of events.

- Glyn Rogers spent an hour showing a very attentive audience how to pronounce local Maori place names and commonly used Maori words.
- John and Hilary Mitchell spoke on “Early Maori-Settler Encounters and Relationships.” It was a wonderful talk which brought such immediacy to the historical presence of Maori in the Bay. The audience was held captive by the intriguing stories and anecdotes from early settler diaries.
- Year 1-3 children from local primary schools attended a special Maori Language Week story-time.

A number of talks from Takaka’s Maori Language Week and Winter Series were recorded and replayed on Fresh FM. Some talks are also available as podcasts from Fresh FM.

In August author Anne Harvey began a series of four early evening talks for mothers at the Richmond Library. Anne is the author of “Sons to men: a mother’s guide”.

Motueka Library’s Teen Blind Date with a book was a great success, with 59 teens taking part. The event was wrapped up with a Pizza Evening which was held in early July. It was an opportunity for teens to share their thoughts about the books they had read. The Motueka High School Librarian praised the event saying “how impressive it is to see the library including the teens and encouraging them to make it feel like it is their space too”.

In early August Motueka Library hosted a talk by Marios Gavalas, author of the popular Day walks series and Abel Tasman Park guide. Marios talked about his experience of writing books with great enthusiasm.

5.2 Upcoming events during September:

WordFest is held in Golden Bay in September and Takaka Library will celebrate by hosting a public debate between students from Golden Bay High School and members of the community.

Murchison Library will host a Chilean Cuisine demonstration in early September.

Motueka Library's new book group will meet for the first time.

6. Recommendation

That the report be received.

7. Draft Resolution

**THAT the Community Services Committee receives the Libraries Report
RCS11-09-02.**

Glennis Coote
Libraries Manager

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