

July - September 2014 District Libraries Quarterly Report

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| TO | Tairua-Pauanui Community Board |
| FROM | Linda Hayfield - Library Coordinator |
| DATE | 22 September 2014 |
| SUBJECT | July - September 2014 District Libraries Quarterly Report |

1 Purpose of Report

To report on the activities and performance of the district libraries (Thames, Mercury Bay and Tairua) for July, August and September 2014.

2 Background

Thames-Coromandel District Council fully funds and operates libraries in Thames, Tairua and Mercury Bay. Council also provides support for a number of community libraries by way of grants.

3 Performance Measures

Circulation and membership

This information was not available at time of writing the report and will therefore be tabled at meeting

Highlights

The Wonder Programme

This continued throughout July culminating in a finale at the end of that month. This was an opportunity for children to share the discoveries they had made throughout the programme.

Their deep knowledge of their wonder topics, and confident ability to communicate that knowledge to others confirmed that our three objectives of the Wonder Programme (equip children with the ability to identify their passions, demonstrate the library's essential role in pursuing their passions, and deliver a programme that honoured the process of reading and library use) had been met.

One child from each library was selected to be featured in a Hauraki Herald article to acknowledge their wonderful creations.

Parent feedback:

'Fantastic. Kids really took the idea of wondering and ran with it. Loved the openness and the way the focus was very much on the process rather than the end result.'

'The kids were absolutely engrossed in their wondrous discoveries. The creativity session to begin the programme was a great way to inspire the kids to explore a new topic.'

Child feedback:

'I liked learning about science and how things based on science work. It was great because I was getting the right books and learning more.'

"I loved how we could do whatever we wanted. It was so much fun!"

"I learnt heaps."

Working With Youth

Emma, Community Librarian Tairua, has been meeting regularly with others in the Tairua community to offer events and activities under the new Tairua Youth Group organisation. This initiative grew from community concern at the lack of support for youth and the associated mental health issues which have been causing alarm.

Not only is this building a relationship with the Youth Group teens but also the wider community who now view the library as the place to go for Youth Group information. Two Thames High School teenagers now come to the library most afternoons after school where they not only utilise the Wi-Fi and computers they also borrow books and, importantly, interact with Emma.

A meeting with Louise West, Youth Coordinator, DHB, has resulted in posters, featuring local youth in positive roles, which are now on display in a newly created small separate teen area.

Stephnie, newly appointed Children's and Teen's Librarian at Thames, has met with the Thames Youth Group and is also exploring ways to support youth. She is keen to build relationships with children, teens and their families to explore ways to better work together.

Christine, Library Assistant Mercury Bay, has strengthened the relationship with the local school and pre-schools through regular visits and her work with the Wriggle and Rhyme baby programme has led to the formation of a Mums and Bubs group. Those parents are now meeting at the library with their toddlers and continue to not only support their children's literary development but also support each other.

International Library Getaway

This is a newly developed adult reading programme offered for the first time this winter. It retains the reader's advisory elements and the experience of connecting with others but has moved away from offering costly incentives. Themed events held at each library added value to the experience. A blog was included this year which a small but consistent group embraced. When asked what they enjoyed most about the programme comments included:

'Reading material I would not normally read'.

'The chance to broaden my reading'

'Cooking demonstrations'

'Social participation'

'Good challenge'

4 Issue

Theft of historical fiction from the Thames Library continues and has extended into the non-fiction collection. Finding ripped book covers with missing inners is occurring more frequently indicating this is increasing as it has gone on for many months now.

There is also an increasing amount of theft being reported by the public of personal

belongings while in the library. There is also a level of unsocial behaviour which has resulted in wilful damage to personal property and some violence and threats towards members of the public.

Surveillance cameras would be beneficial in helping the police to identify the perpetrators and take action.

Safe and Sound Security has quoted \$8048.85 to supply and install an IP based system of surveillance. There is currently no budget provision for this.

5 Suggested Resolution(s)

That the Tairua-Pauanui Community Board:

1. Receives the report.