



Standing up for our Libraries

As I write this, submissions are about to close on the Strategic Plan for Libraries and feedback on the Council's annual budget (which included the proposed change to the Library rate) closed recently.

It has been a great pleasure to see many people writing in to support libraries, understanding their lifelong value and importance to our District. As with any consultation, we have received feedback from right across the spectrum including those who would rather not pay for a Library service to exist in any way whatsoever though I trust the final tally will balance out these views.

At a time when the public's access to Libraries is at an all time high in New Zealand (see items in the right-hand column) it is great that Selwyn is prepared to invest in making great Libraries - community facilities which we can be proud of and which will stand the test of time.

Even though it may be difficult at the time I feel that the sign of a good decision is that you never regret it. As Selwyn's Libraries develop into key community services I don't believe that anyone will ever regret them but will in fact celebrate them and those citizens who helped, who fought, to establish them properly.

- Glen Walker—Libraries Manager

Something for everyone..

The Selwyn Libraries have been making friends recently - delivering services to all parts of the community is part of the mission for Libraries and recently they have been being made good use of!

Quite apart from the usual library customers, Rolleston School has begun using the local library with all of their classes - establishing great habits from childhood. Part of the reason for visiting the public library is that they have not yet been able to begin building their own new library/information centre because of the burgeoning roll but plans for this are with the Ministry. The

Library is well known for it's great preschool and holiday activities plus reading clubs and special events but having a school bring pupils ensures that everyone has equal access to the tools, treasures and delights of the library.

Another relationship which is developing well is with some of the local home-schooling groups. Already avid readers, Outreach Librarian Jackie Claridge has encouraged them to take part in some of the holiday activities and craft programmes as well, below is a group having a creative session with a local Artist at Rolleston Library.

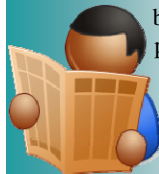


New Zealand Libraries

• Selwyn Libraries Manager Glen Walker has been elected by NZ Library professionals as the next president of the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA), he will begin his term in July 2008.

• The Chatham Islands is to finally begin receiving a public library service—the last authority in New Zealand to have one.

• Announced in the recent budget; the National Library in Wellington is to have a major refit which will enhance their services, better protect material and create a new level of visitor experience for everyone wanting to use New Zealand's most interactive taonga (treasures).



Have you seen the latest? – New DVDs at the Library

Lincoln	Love in the time of cholera [videorecording (DVD)]
Leeston	Death at a funeral [videorecording (DVD)]
Darfield	Into the wild [videorecording (DVD)]
Rolleston	A mighty heart [videorecording (DVD)]
Lincoln	The heartbreak kid [videorecording (DVD)]
Rolleston	Superbad [videorecording (DVD)]
Lincoln	I am legend [videorecording (DVD)]
Rolleston	Starter for 10 [videorecording (DVD)]
Rolleston	Cloverfield [videorecording (DVD)]
Darfield	Conversations with my gardener [videorecording (DVD)]
Leeston	American gangster [videorecording (DVD)]
Darfield	Beowulf [videorecording (DVD)]
Lincoln	No country for old men [videorecording (DVD)]

Only \$2 a week!

ToddlerTimes @ Your Library

Outreach Librarian Jackie Claridge is back in the swing of ToddlerTimes for Term2 - there are new topics every week, sessions may contain books, rhymes, stories, songs and games. And no, there's *no* charge to attend!

Darfield	Monday	10-10:30
Rolleston	Tuesday	10-10:30
Leeston	Thursday	10:30 -11
Lincoln	Friday	10-10:30

Reminder: Please bring your card with you when using the Library - this helps the Librarians serve you quickly plus ensures that items are recorded against the correct record—you wouldn't believe the number of people with the same names!

A new Malvern Library in Darfield – site selected!

After nearly nine months of study and consultation, the Council has decided to locate the new Darfield Library in the vacated council building in South Terrace. The clincher was a survey of Malvern ratepayers in April in which a large majority favoured the council site.

Among the other options considered was the idea of a joint library with Darfield High School, similar to those in Upper Riccarton and Akaroa. Some residents felt that the alternative options had not been explained or understood sufficiently in the April survey and asked that the Council do another survey. "Councillors took this request very seriously," said Corporate Services Manager, Douglas Marshall. "But, the April result looked too overwhelming to be reversed by a second survey."

A new library site is needed in Darfield because the current site in McMillan Street cannot be easily replaced or extended to meet future needs. In particular, the next generation of libraries will need more social and study space.

"This is because the role of libraries is changing," said Mr Marshall. "Rather than being simple book exchanges, future libraries will be social and community learning centres where people gather to share and exchange information."

This is the vision outlined in the district's draft libraries strategy, Libraries for Life (<http://library.selwyn.govt.nz/plan/>)

"The idea is to future-proof the library so that changes or additions are not required every few years," said Mr Marshall.

"This means adding some more room to the council building. Councillors have allowed for this in the budget, their over-riding philosophy being to do it once and do it right."



The new Library in Malvern will be built from the old Darfield Service Centre.