



“Libraries for Life” Library Strategic Plan adopted by Council

At the last Selwyn District Council meeting, the Council adopted the Libraries Strategic Plan “Libraries for Life” with only one change—the contentious phase out of the Paparua subsidy was modified to remove the ability for anyone new to join the scheme but current (and active) users will have up to five years to receive Council support in using Christchurch Libraries but after 2014, all library rates will be invested in our local libraries instead. The adoption of this strategy is a significant step forward for our communities and along with our improvements to all of the extant libraries opens the door to a raft of exciting new services. Stay tuned for exciting news in our next issue!



New Leeston Library steams ahead

Work has begun on converting the previous Selwyn District headquarters building into a shared facility that will be home to the Leeston Medical Centre and the Leeston Library. The local Plunket will also have the use of rooms in this building and an already existing large community meeting room will be a great asset to the residents of the Ellesmere area.

At this stage the expected date of completion is January 2009 and the library and service centre is really looking forward to moving from extremely cramped conditions to an area of around 500sq m.

The Leeston Library currently occupies space in a very old building that limits many opportunities to introduce new services, activities and programmes for the local community.

The photo below is looking towards the area that will be home to the children’s library with new external doors that will lead into a secured courtyard – what a wonderful area this will be for summer storytimes!



Catch that Mobile Library!

Our very popular Mobile Library service is now in its eighth year and a recent review found it to be a critical service in our District which will be continued and well supported. The Mobile Library visits every town and almost every school at least once a month and issues thousands of items to people of every age and interest. For some people this is almost the only Council service they see and it is always welcome.

The Mobile review has also identified a few new stops which are currently being tried - download our timetable from <http://library.selwyn.govt.nz/about.php> to see all of the stops. You may like to pop along to the new stop at Tai Tapu or perhaps stop on the way home as Anita trials (for the first time) twilight stops in Prebbleton between 4:30 and 6:30 twice a month.

Come along!!



Schooling up with the Libraries

The Selwyn public libraries have been talking with the National Library of New Zealand and decided to approach every school librarian and principal in the Selwyn District with the goal of forming closer relationships. We found that many libraries (public and school) struggle to get sufficient funding and staffing so thought that we may find support and strength in numbers.

Though only at an early stage of discussions (about half of the schools in the District met with us to talk about working together), we have identified several areas that we can work on and if all goes well we could look at supporting each other through the sharing of big purchases, negotiating discount for bulk-buys, we can cross train and share in professional development and what we would like is to ensure that every child in Selwyn has a library that supports them, to know that they can go to any library and know what to expect - together we can build for that happy day.

On display @ your library



The Libraries have recently acquired a set of glass display cabinets one of each are now set up in the Darfield, Leeston and Rolleston Libraries (Lincoln looking for a little more room first...). These cabinets are for community displays - your stuff! Right now, to start things off the libraries have set up some initial displays—in Darfield (Right) there is a showcase about the Malvern District



sister district agreement—their sister area in Japan visits Selwyn regularly and founding friendship agreement plus many precious items are displayed in the locked cabinet. At Leeston (lower right) there is a local artists work - she saw the cabinet and quickly asked to put a display up which is exactly how the library wants it to work -

get in touch and book a place to show off your hobby, craft, interest or information.

In Rolleston (left) there is a stunning display of ships in bottles (and light bulbs!?) created by a very talented local - pop in and admire the handiwork! This display will be followed by one on Armistice Day and on to still more exciting presentations. Come by, take a look and think about what you have to share with your community!



Canterbury Show Day 2008
is **Friday 14 November.**
Libraries will be closed
on Show Day but open
for you as usual on the
Saturday, 10-1pm

Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read. ~ *Groucho Marx*

Policy on Unattended Children

The Library is a familiar and trusted place to all of us but like any public environ - people of all types may pass through and it is not possible for the staff to watch everything, everyone at every time.

The Librarians would like to remind people that any child under the age of fourteen needs to be accompanied by an adult when in a public place - as much as we love having kids visit, use and love the library we are not de facto babysitters and do not take responsibility for unaccompanied minors.

Although we know that many kids visit and use the library well every day, we will call the police to pick up any unaccompanied child who is in distress or who is unable to use the Library by themselves.

Please don't put us or your children in this position - come to see us and explore the universe of your library together.



Kids - Summer @ the Library!

Upcoming events:

Xmas decoration making classes in December for toddlers and school children

Summer Reading Programme - coming soon!

Keep an eye open for advertising for both events in your local Selwyn library as well as the Council Call in your local Selwyn newspapers.