

### 3. CHRISTCHURCH CITY LIBRARIES

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of significant activities since 1 July 2002 and to advise the Committee on any issues or significant activities in the coming six months.

#### STRATEGIC REVIEW

The review of the Library's strategic directions was adopted by Council at its meeting in August 2002. *The Plan* is available on the internet at <http://library.christchurch.org.nz/ThePlan/> . It has received very positive feedback from many quarters for its clarity and simplicity. We have been using it to guide our planning for the current year and also as we prepare the annual financial plan for 2003/04.

#### SOUTH LIBRARY

The tender for construction of the south library, learning centre and service centre has been let to Mainzeal and work has started on construction. The Project Control Group leadership has moved from Ian McKenzie to Mark Noonan (both of City Solutions) as we enter the construction phase. Mark is accountable for ensuring that the work is done to plan and budget and the reporting framework is now to the Property and Projects Committee. At an appropriate time, the Committee will be invited to view the interior colour schemes and also to have a site visit.

The tender for the operation of the café has been let to the proprietors of The Cup, a successful operator who runs two facilities, one on Cashmere and the other in the inner city.

Recruiting for the new Community Librarian is currently underway and the position of Learning Centre Manager will be advertised before the end of the year. Both positions will start sometime in February/early March so that detailed planning for opening can take place.

#### CENTRAL CITY LIBRARY AWARD

The Central City Library has won an award in the local NZIA (New Zealand Institute of Architects) Resene Colour Award in the Community Colour award category. The citation on the certificate reads:

***'Central City Library Refurbishment***

*Colour has been used successfully in this library refurbishment to define spaces and facilitate easy navigation. Each collection is identified by a colour that saturates the space, providing a vibrant and comfortable environment. The result is a library space that is readily understandable and popular with its users.'*

The architect for the project was Scott Koopman, of Architecture Warren and Mahoney

In the acceptance it was noted that the vibrant colours had revitalised the library, challenging and changing people's perception of what libraries were about and enhancing the library as a place where people wanted to spend some time rather than somewhere they had to visit.



## LOCAL EYE



Councillors were invited to the launch of localeye on 31 October 2002. This online gateway was funded by the Community Trust and has been developed in partnership with one of Christchurch's foremost internet development companies, Alchemy Group and their partner Q marketing and design. The concept to the gateway is a 'one start' shop making access to information by and about Christchurch and Canterbury on the web, easy.

The development of this gateway is a continuation of a traditional role of libraries delivered in a new medium. The gateway selects, organises and catalogues information to make it easy for people to find it. What we once did in the physical world we now do in the electronic. I acknowledge the vision, knowledge and commitment of John Truesdale, Information and Technology Manager and Paul Sutherland, Information Technology Librarian in achieving this project.

### NEW ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Five new databases have been added to our collection of electronic resources. All are available from outside the library via our homepage as well as from computers within all our libraries. The databases are:

1. Newztext Magazines - An archive of the full text of many of New Zealand's key business publications covering business, marketing, primary production and medicine.
2. Newztext Newspapers - An archive of the full text of many of New Zealand's key news publications, including up to date INL (including The Press) material and The Herald.
3. Oxford Reference Online - The Core Collection brings together 100 language and subject dictionaries and reference works into a single cross-searchable resource.
4. World Book - All articles from the 22-volume print set plus 3,700 more! Search thousands of articles from the World Book Year Book dating back to 1922!
5. XRefer Plus - Contains over 100 searchable and browsable reference books from some of the world's leading publishers, including Bloomsbury, Collins, Penguin and Thames and Hudson.

### COMMUNITY BOARD REPORTING

As part of the process of keeping in touch with their local communities, Community Librarians, accompanied by the appropriate Area Manager, have been reporting to their Community Boards on local activities for the year ended 30 June 2002.

### PROMOTIONS

Several libraries participated in Heritage week during October. Community Board members, and local historians were asked to speak at events hosted at Sumner, Halswell, Central, New Brighton and Fendalton. The events were well received by the public.

This year's Library week, which is an event celebrated throughout New Zealand libraries during September, focused on a campaign entitled 'Get Answers'. The Library received publicity through a local radio promotion, the Press with a full page advertising feature and activities held within libraries. Feedback from customers using our phone information service indicated a positive response to our media advertising.

## BOOKSALE

The major book sale this year was held from 19 September 2002 to 20 September 2002 in the Pioneer Stadium. The changed venue worked very well, with more room and easier loading and access to bring in the stock. Approximately 35,800 items were available for sale with approximately 66% of items being sold. The remainder was given to voluntary libraries, community agencies and groups who were able to select stock after the close of sale, with a very small amount of stock being sent for recycling. Revenue target of \$30,000 for the sale was met.

## THE READING CRUSADE

Following on from a great idea of Annette Williams, Children's Reference Librarian, Christchurch City Libraries has developed a unique and exciting reading promotion for students in year's one to eight. The programme is in partnership with the Crusaders and The Caxton Press, and has also been enthusiastically endorsed by the Canterbury Primary Principals' Association and the Canterbury Reading Association. Early next year all Christchurch primary and intermediate schools will receive an invitation to join the Reading Crusade. Children will be asked to read their choice of 12 super titles, and complete an entry form with details of their reading. The Crusaders will be encouraging children by endorsing the reading message, allowing us to use their name, logo, photos and signatures on publicity and prize materials and having a presence at the launch and prize-giving ceremonies. Children will be in to win rugby and reading related prizes (the former being donated by the Crusaders) and presented by squad members. All children who enter the Reading Crusade will receive a certificate printed with signatures of the Crusaders Super 12 Team. The printing and final design of certificates and entry forms is being organised and sponsored by The Caxton Press. We are delighted with the response from the Crusaders and Caxton, who is one of our printing suppliers.

Annette Williams and Bill Nagelkerke went to Rugby Park to help out with a photo shoot featuring Reuben Thorne. A photo of Reuben reading will be used on publicity posters. Following is one of the team at the photo shoot!



*The action on Rugby Park*

## INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Sue Sutherland attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Network held in Utrecht, Holland in early October 2002. Associated with the conference was a symposium for Dutch librarians and politicians which was attended by about 150 people, including colleagues from Germany. Sue spoke about the award winning FingerTip Library, which is the our virtual library, comprising phone, email, fax and desktop to desktop services. There was considerable interest in the thinking and planning which had gone into the development of the concept, particularly the idea of viewing this as another branch library.

Christchurch City Libraries was also highlighted recently in *Library Journal* (The American Library Association journal) in an article written by Susan Kent, Los Angeles Public Library, about the Network. You can read the article on line at:

<http://libraryjournal.reviewsnews.com/index.asp?layout=article&articleId=CA252308&display=searchResults>

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.

**Chairman's**

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