

# shelf life

nelson public libraries newsletter • spring 2012



Above: Historic Places Trust plaque, Trafalgar Street, marks the location of our first Library building in Nelson, September 1842.

Right: Nelson Institute original premises in 1892 when building was occupied by Miss Maude Cooper, dressmaker. Nelson Provincial Museum, Maguire Collection: 46829



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## Library locations

Elma Turner Library  
27 Halifax St, Nelson  
Stoke Library  
cnr Putaitai St & Neale Ave, Stoke  
Nightingale Library Memorial  
2 Beach Rd, Tahunanui

## Contact your library

Telephone: 546 8100  
Email: [library.info@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:library.info@ncc.govt.nz)  
Web: [www.nelsonpubliclibraries.co.nz](http://www.nelsonpubliclibraries.co.nz)  
Private Bag 41, Nelson 7042

## 170th Celebration September

In September, Nelson Public Libraries will celebrate 170 years of continuous operation. On 27 September 1842, The Nelson Literary and Scientific Institute moved into a small building in upper Trafalgar Street, more or less where Harry's Bar is now, and opened a library and reading room for members. On 27 September 2012 at 10am we'll unveil a panel depicting our history and journey through our first 170 years. Other happenings for the week include:

- **A Literary Ramble around the city**  
27 September, 1.30pm, Elma Turner Library:  
Taking in some of the sites that celebrate Nelson having quite probably New Zealand's oldest public library, and also some key people who helped make books accessible for all in the past. Led by Debbie Daniell-Smith for approx. one hour.  
**Free event.**
- **Two special Story Times** for children ages 2-4 years:
  - o Wednesday 26 September, 2pm, Stoke Library
  - o Thursday 27 September, 2pm, Children's Library, Elma Turner Library.
- **A Readers' Evening**  
Thursday 27 September, 6.15pm, Elma Turner Library. **Free event.**
- **Local author Steve Richards talks about his latest novel 'Arthur's past':**  
27 September, 10.30am, Activity Room, Elma Turner Library: A story of early Canterbury settlers. Nelson Institute presents this commemorative Coffee & Books session. **\$2 at door.**

# In the Libraries



*Great space for a relaxing read.*

*All this space - pity we need to fill it with books.*

## New-look Elma Turner Library

We hope you're enjoying a newly refreshed and refurbished Elma Turner Library. Certainly, customer feedback would suggest this is the case. The library was closed for a week in July to allow for old carpet to be replaced, walls to be repainted, furniture to be re-covered, more seating to be installed, and shelves to be moved around. As well as refresh the library, moving shelves and collections has allowed the creation of quiet lounge spaces at each end of the library for study, reading and relaxation. Computers and customer desks, where it tends to be noisier, are clustered in the centre of the library. Mobile shelving has also been installed so that the lounge areas can be used for events. The major changes customers will notice are that newspapers and magazines have been moved to the sunny, northern river end of the library where customers can relax in the lounge and browse these collections. The Maori collection has a new home

next to the Research Room and Heritage Collections. The popular Young Adults collection has been moved closer to the centre of the library and the computer area. A new World Languages area has taken its place in the south east corner and students of any language are able to use this space. CDs and DVDs are now housed along the corridor window on space-saving shelving. The Large Print collection has moved to the former newspaper area and now has a lounge area of its own. Smaller changes, like moving the glass display cabinets, and frosting part of the windows, have also made a big difference to the look and feel of the library. "We're delighted with how customers are enjoying and using the new spaces created," said Manager Libraries, Ian Littleworth. Feel free to provide us with your feedback by filling in a Have Your Say form or by speaking with a staff member.

### New tools

You will have noticed that with the change around in the Halifax Street end of the Elma Turner Library there is now an iPad for staff use on the end of one of the book bays. This enables access to the staff library system as well as to all the resources we use to help customers find their next good read. iPads are light portable tablet computers that can be used as staff walk around the collections.

### World Languages Area

We are really proud of our new Languages Area. Located where the Young Adult Collection used to be, this area brings together our World Language material as well as all our resources for learning English or other languages. Quick Reads and Talking Books are also shelved adjacent to the area. We held an evening event to introduce the new area to organisations working with those learning English, and it was received very positively.

# What's happening

## Computer Classes

Our computer classes, which run through most of the year, continue to be popular. We will be starting up a new series in October. We have run sessions on basic mouse skills, our catalogue and online resources and basic web searching, plus specific subjects – ebooks, travel planning, ancestry library, health resources. We recently ran a short course for Workbridge clients to assist with basic computer skills leading up to CV writing and job applications.

If there is something you would like us to cover in our classes in the future, please tell us – we are always open to ideas.

Contact

[library.ref@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:library.ref@ncc.govt.nz)

## Some peace and quiet

If you are ever in need of a really quiet place while in the Elma Turner Library, ask at the Information Services Desk about using the Research Room. There are some requirements, eg no bags can be taken into the room, however we have secure locker storage available.



*Mottley crew of the Children's Library getting ready for a Pirate's evening recently.*

## October School Holiday Programme at the Children's Library

**Story Time sessions for 3-6 year olds, 10.30am-11am on these days:**

- Tuesday 2 October – **PIGS** with Sheila
- Wednesday 3 October – **FARMS** with Bridget
- Tuesday 9 October – **WOLVES** with Sheila
- Wednesday 10 October – **MONSTERS** with Nettie

**Craft classes, bookings essential, please book at the Children's Library desk:**

- **Art** with Jo Tyson for 8+ year olds, \$2 per child when booking:
  - o Friday 5 October 10.30am-12noon
  - o Friday 12 October 10.30am-12noon
- **Mini soap box derby** with Jane for 6+ year olds, free:
  - o Thursday 4 October 2pm-3.30pm
- **Stick painting** with Nettie for 8+ year olds, free:
  - o Thursday 11 October 2pm-3.30pm

## An Evening for Readers

We recently held a 'Fiction Evening' at Stoke Library – it was a chance to have a chat about all things fiction – genres, book groups, book shops, E-books etc. It went very well and we are going to hold a similar evening as part of our 170th birthday celebrations at the Elma Turner Library at 6.15pm on Thursday 27 September. We are collecting ideas for future Readers' Evenings so come along on the 27th, check it out and give us your suggestions.

## BookChat Stoke will try a different time

A suggestion made at our Stoke Fiction Evening has led us to trial having Stoke BookChat at a different time and day. Note that on these next few dates Stoke BookChat will be at 5pm on the second Wednesday of each month: 10 October, 14 November, 12 December. Join us and talk about what you have been reading.

# News & notes

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*Speed-working - creating the new look Elma Turner Library. See page 2.*

## E-books

The library's collection of e-books continues to grow, and now includes non-fiction and a few Young Adult titles on our Overdrive e-book platform.

You can also now find in the library catalogue the selection of e-books we have purchased with the South Island consortium—search “overdrive and e-books” on a “catalogue only” search. Ask us to show you how to do this. At the moment this search will not show you the additional titles Nelson Public Libraries have purchased for our own members. When you go onto Overdrive, make sure you log on with your library barcode and pin to see the full selection of titles available to you.

We are happy to help you use your ebook reader to access our Overdrive collection. Ask at the Information Desk, where we now have an iPad available to show you the site on a mobile device, or attend one of our classes. We can also provide some advice about what kind of ereader to purchase.

## A word from the Library Manager

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Thankfully the rainy winter weather seems to be slowly disappearing as we welcome in the change of seasons.

Similarly our Libraries have been going through some changes, the most noticeable is the layout change at Elma Turner Library.

Staff spent a lot of time considering how to make best use of the space and reflect the changing needs of our customers.

I think we have managed a good balance between meeting the requirements arising from the more ‘traditional’ library use and accommodating new technologies and the changing ways libraries are now being used.

Public libraries today are not hushed and musty refuges, but vibrant places, where the community can meet, learn and relax.

Printed books will remain the centrepiece of most public libraries for the foreseeable future, but Nelson Public Libraries, like many others, has a growing collection of electronic and digital formats, including e-books and DVDs.

We have music and spoken word available to download or borrow on CD, as well as online information databases.

We bridge the digital divide with public computers, and free Internet access, so that anyone can view or download information. Increasingly our website is becoming our 4th library in Nelson.

You will start to see a greater range of activities and events being held in the Library which is a reflection of our diverse local community and the role the Library has of being an important community hub.

Like the seasons your Library is also changing as we cater to the needs of our diverse range of customers.

Come in and enjoy what we have to offer!

*Ian Littleworth, Manager Libraries*