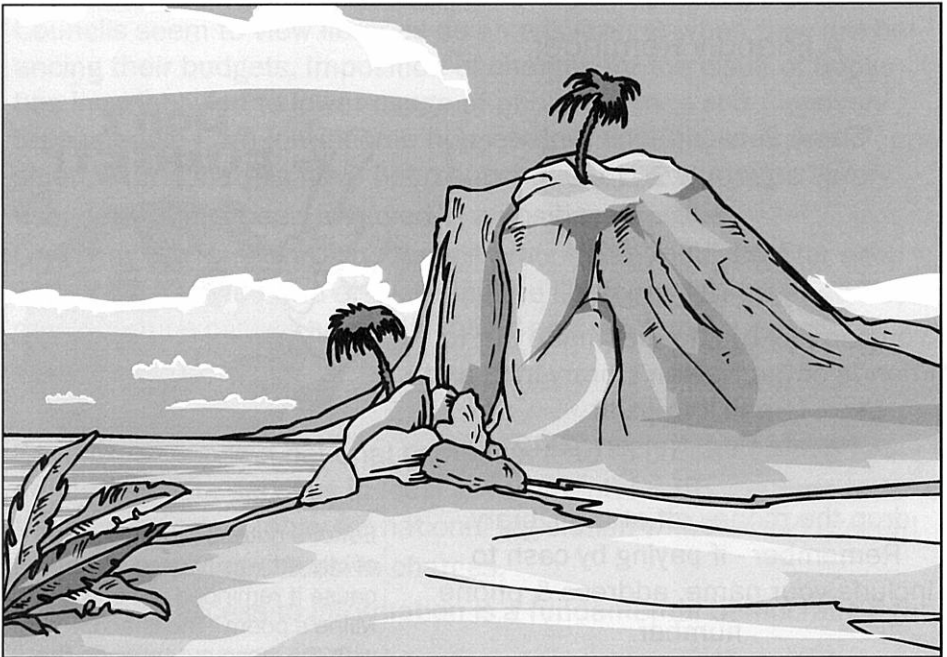


Friends of the Nelson Library Inc.  
Private Bag 41  
Nelson 7042  
MARCH 2012 newsletter



Friends of the Nelson Library Committee  
2011 - 2012

Jeannie Woodhouse (Chairperson) ph. 538-0969  
Mary Belser (Secretary) ph. 548-9721  
Priscilla Wardell (Treasurer) ph. 546-9079  
Jill Blechynden (Book Sales ) ph. 548-0075  
Fay Eades  
Bill Fleming (Archives)  
Dixie Lane  
Helen Newnham  
Christopher Vine  
Chris Shepherd

Andrea King (Library Liaison) Elma Turner Library

### A Friendly Reminder

Some subscriptions for the  
1st July 2011  
to  
30th June 2012  
ARE OVERDUE!!

You can pay by cheque (made out to  
"Friends of the Nelson Library Inc:) and  
mail it to us at

Private Bag, Nelson 7042

or

drop the money off at the Library.

Remember - if paying by cash to  
include your name, address & phone  
number.

Your contribution helps us support the  
Library with special projects and also  
to defray our administration costs, like  
postage.



Editor's note: The cover piece of clip art was chosen just because it reminded me of A.A Milne's poem "The Island" with the 'coco-nut trees on the cliff's green crown', and the 'slow waves thunder'. Magic.  
The Ed.

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

In our role as the Friends of Nelson library, the committee has decided to support the nationwide campaign to "Keep Public Libraries Free".

People often assume that free public libraries are the right of every N.Z. citizen. However there is no legislation in New Zealand to stop local councils obliging libraries to charge for services like book loans, internet and digital services. Note that in Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom free public libraries are protected by legislation. In N.Z. public libraries have huge public support with 37.5 million visits to our 298 public libraries during 2010.

Councils seem to view libraries as an easy target when they are balancing their budgets. Imposition of charges for the issue of books has invariably led to lower usage of public libraries and disadvantages people from low income households. In the face of public opposition where charges have been subsequently dropped the library usage trend has been reversed in a positive direction.

Last year the Hamilton City Council proposed a \$2 charge for each fiction book issued and also closing the library on Monday and Tuesday to reduce costs. The public rallied and the Council has since back-tracked.

Several years ago a national campaign led to public libraries being defined as core services in local government. Now is the time to take the next step and lobby for national legislation which would prevent Councils applying extensive charges.

Freedom of access to information is a fundamental democratic right.

Reference: Lianza "Keep Libraries Free Campaign".

Jeannie Woodhouse

## From the Library

### A STAFF NOTE

Nicki Sharpe will soon be leaving us for a year's leave of absence. Nicki has worked with us since 2003 and many of you will know her as a cheerful presence at all three of our libraries. Nicki ran the Elma Turner Young Adult Club (YAC) till last year, and has continued to run the Stoke YAC - she is even planning to write a blog of her trip for the Stoke YACers. Nicki has been responsible for many of the great displays around the libraries - we are certainly going to miss her and look forward to her return in 2013. Bon Voyage Nicki!



Alyson Baker  
Acting Community Librarian

*I am certainly going to miss the library, staff, customers and books! However, knowing that I am coming back to work in a year is really exciting. I recently finished my Level 5 diploma, so I plan to drag my boyfriend into libraries world wide and bring back lots of fresh ideas next year.*

*I would love to tell you where we are travelling to, but so far the only plans are to land in Singapore in April. And be in Vladivostok in June/July to do the Trans-Siberian across Russia. I am hoping to Skype the YAC members from the train. So if you want to see where I am and what I am doing, follow me on my blog [www.nickisharpe.blogspot.com](http://www.nickisharpe.blogspot.com)*

See you all April 1st 2013.

Nicki



## BOOK REVIEW

THE JASON VOYAGE by Tim Severin. Hutchinson 1985

Tim Severin has made a specialty of researching ancient journeys such as those of Odysseus, Marco Polo, St Brendan and others. In the case of sea voyages he has built replicas of the original craft using materials available to the contemporary mariners and faithfully reproducing their specifications.

The legend of Jason and his search for the Golden Fleece goes back before Homer, probably to about 1300BC. It has been described in detail by Appolonius of Rhodes, the head of the great library at Alexandria, and Severin has used Appolonius' *Argonautica* as his main source of information, although he has done a formidable amount of other research.

For this voyage Severin employed a Greek shipwright to follow the plans of Jason's galley *Argo*, powered by a row of twenty oars in a single line, plus a simple very small sail. The crew were friends who had rowed for Oxford, and shipmates from previous exploits. He also had volunteers from Greece, Turkey, and Georgia in the Soviet Union.

The most difficult part of the journey was rowing up the Bosphorus against the powerful outflow from the Black Sea. From there they followed the coast of Anatolia to Georgia where they received a rapturous welcome, and were escorted up the River Rhini to the site where Jason is said to have captured the Golden Fleece. To this day gold prospectors use sheepskins tacked to boards in creeks high in the Caucasus to collect gold dust in the fleece.

Tim Severin has given a detailed but highly readable account of his adventures in the reconstructed *Argo*

Brian Prendergast



## Friends of the Nelson Library Talk

As part of New Zealand Book Month (March) the Friends are hosting a library talk.

Local author  
**DAVID YOUNG**  
presents

“FICTION AFTER NON-FICTION”

Sunday 18th March 2012

Activity Room

Elma Turner Library  
Halifax Street, Nelson

1:30 pm

\$2 pp

The title of the talk reflects a recent transition for David. In particular he will be talking about **Coast**, his recent novel.

“**Coast** sets a resonance between a departing shore in Scotland, and a receiving shore in New Zealand”.

Everyone is welcome and there will be the usual \$2 entry fee.

Copies of **Coast** will be available for purchase after the talk.

Note that the Friends' Sunday talks will run at 1:30pm on every third Sunday of the month until August.

For more info about David Young check out  
[www.davidyoungwriter.com](http://www.davidyoungwriter.com)

## BOOKCHAT

BookChat sessions are open to everyone, and are where folks get together and talk about what they have been reading. People are welcome to just come and listen, or to talk about what they have, or haven't, enjoyed in their recent reading. They are relaxed sessions with coffee & tea provided, and discussion ranges widely.

**Activity Room of Elma Turner Library at 10:30am on the second Tuesday of each month.**

March 13th, April 10th, May 8th, June 12th, July 10th, August 14th, Sept 11th, Oct 9th, Nov 13th, Dec 11th.

**Stoke Library at 10:30am the first Thursday of every month.**

March 1st, April 5th, May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd, Sept 6th, Oct 4th, Nov 1st, Dec 6th.



## THE PROW

The Prow celebrates its third anniversary on 15 February 2012. The website, which started with 50 commissioned stories on historical people, places and events, now features 280 stories, which include 93 stories contributed to the *Your Story* section.

We continue to add stories and have been delighted to see the way the warp and weft of each local story gets filled in with more detail through submissions and additional materials, breathing even more life into the people and stories from the top of the South's past. Visitor numbers keep growing - 31,371 in 2009, 55,037 in 2010 and 72,364 in 2011). A total of 358,910 pages have been viewed during our first three years. And the most popular story of 2011? New Zealand's first game of rugby of course!!

March is NZ Book Month.

Heritage Week starts 15th April with social education as a theme and libraries as the focus.

Did you ever wonder about the many genre of books a library such as ours has? Below are some of them—many genre cross over with another, of course, and may be either fiction or non-fiction. And there are sub-sets within genre. I am sure readers can think of ones I have missed! *The Ed.*

Adventure

Spy stories

Science fiction

Travel

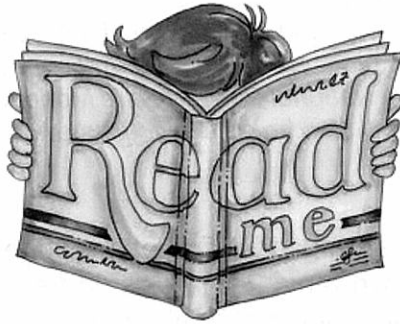
War stories

Chick lit

Humour

Sea stories

Fantasy



Thrillers & suspense

Sporting stories

Christian fiction

Historical

Romantic suspense

Mysteries & detective stories

Children & young adult

Biography

Animal

Horror

Romance

Erotica

Western

Psychological

## Nelson Institute Update

As part of the 370th anniversary of Abel Tasman's visit to New Zealand, The Suter Te Aratoi o Whakatū is holding an exhibition titled "Wish You Were Here". This will run from February 18th - April 1st 2012.

*This exhibition revels in the beauty of the Abel Tasman National Park and Golden Bay region as seen by different generations of artists. It will feature landscape paintings from The Suter collection, supplemented by loaned works by regional artists. Two of The Suter's most important art works: Western Coast of Tasman Bay 1885 by John Gully and All Along the Heaphy Highway 1998 by Bill Hammond will be on display along with a stunning suite of landscape studies by Irvine Major, watercolours by Doris Lusk and Olivia Spencer Bower, and paintings by John Bevan Ford and Cedric Savage. A portrait of pioneering New Zealand conservationist and founder of the Abel Tasman National Park, Perrine Moncrieff (1893 - 1979) by Marjorie Naylor, will also be on show. (Quotation taken from the eventfinder.co.nz website)*

The Nelson Institute has arranged for Dr Robin Hodge, a Wellington-based historian who has written a PhD thesis on Perrine Moncrieff, and who is currently writing Moncrieff's biography, to present an **illustrated talk** at the Suter Theatre on **Wednesday 7th March at 8pm**. **Tickets (\$5 pp)** will be available at the Suter from Monday 27th February. Please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

The talk will focus on Moncrieff's role in establishing Abel Tasman National Park during the Second World War. It will also include her other conservation projects and her role in the Nelson institute. Perrine was a stalwart of the Institute for many years, and it was her Life Membership that was one of the arguments for the group's continuation in the face of attempts to disband it in 1965!

Friends of the Nelson Library Inc  
Membership Form

Yes, I'd like to join/renew

\$10 p.a.

Please make Cheque payable to *Friends of the Nelson Library Inc.* Please mail with form to: The Treasurer, Friends of the Nelson Library Inc, Private Bag 41, Nelson, or leave in envelope, marked as above, with a Library staff member.

Name (please print) : .....

Address : .....

.....

Phone .....

Date .....

Email

(optional) .....

Members receive

- \* \$6 of Library vouchers each year that can be used for reserving books, CD's etc.
- \* 10% discount on non-sale items at Page & Blackmore Booksellers, Trafalgar St, Nelson.
- \* Quarterly newsletter

Optional : please indicate if you are interested in being involved with any of the following

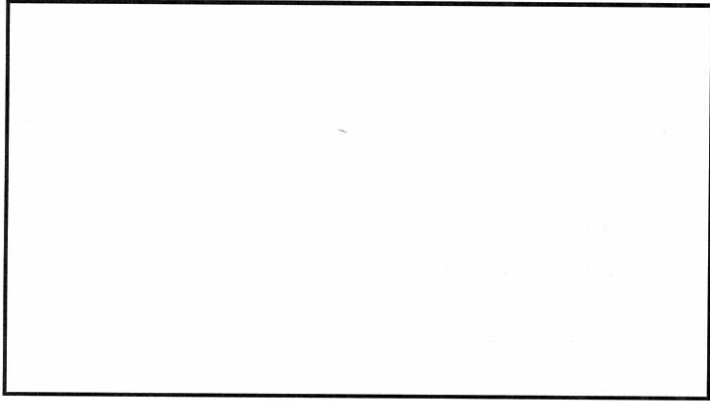
Contribute to newsletter

Assist with events eg setting up room, door duty, checking catalogue for material to display at talks

Help with book sales

Serve on the committee

NB: Membership is for 12 months, to commence 1st July, start of our financial year.



Affix stamp here

The Friends of the Nelson Library  
Private Bag 41  
Nelson 7042

### MONTHLY BOOKSALES

Remember these continue to be held on the first Saturday  
of each month in Elma Turner Library. 10 am–12:45pm.

Enquiries to Jill 548 0075