



Ian Littleworth,  
Manager Libraries

## A word from the Library Manager

### Aotearoa People's Network (APN)

Over the past few months staff have received a number of comments regarding the new computers in the library so I would like to take this opportunity to explain a bit more about this service.

As people increasingly use computers and the internet in their everyday lives to communicate, and to access and share information, it becomes vital that local communities have free access to these resources.

APN is a Government initiative to put new computers and broadband access into public libraries across New Zealand. In funding APN the Government has seen that libraries are the best channel for this within local communities. Everything is funded from central government so there is no cost to the ratepayer but a requirement of this funding and the continued support is that access is free and available to all library users.

For our three Libraries this has meant we can now offer better services via these machines and an increase in the number of computers with internet available to the public. The ten new APN machines provide quality broadband, download facilities and a range of software products including Microsoft Office, Powerpoint and Skype. Each library also provides wi-fi access to APN.

January and February saw a big increase in usage of our resources by both holidaymakers and local customers. People here on holiday are entitled to use the library and APN resources and we find they bring new ideas and expectations that help us keep our libraries up-to-date and vibrant. To cope with demand we have a booking system.

Now the summer rush is over it has been great to see the local community continue their high use of APN.

We are still learning what APN will mean for the library but what we do know so far is that it offers a fantastic opportunity for the Nelson community.



Sarah Taylor,  
Circulation Team  
Leader tries out the  
new machine

## New self service issuing machines

Library members who prefer not to queue to have items issued will be pleased to see the arrival of three brand new self service issuing machines at the Elma Turner Library.

The machines have been placed in the fiction, non-fiction and children's areas of the library and allow customers to issue their own items – everything except DVDs – and to check their account details.

The technique required to issue items with these new machines is quite different to the library's last model. You'll notice the new machines have a distinctive "V" shaped cradle. It's important that the library barcode on the back of items is scanned squarely through the red laser line and that items are then quickly dropped right into the bottom of the cradle to be desensitised. Desensitising the items means it won't set the door alarm off when you leave the building. A distinctive "clunk-ding" sound lets you know the item has been issued successfully.

If in doubt about how to use the machines, please ask a staff member to help you. After one very short demonstration you'll be happily issuing your own items.

Another feature of the new self service issuing machines is a more detailed receipt which will let you know if charges are owed or if you have reserved items to collect. And, you can choose to have your receipt emailed to you, provided we have your email address on your account.

We hope you'll enjoy using these new machines. Again, please ask for staff assistance if you'd like a demonstration. We're sure you'll find the new machines easy to use once you've given them a go.

## Reciprocal membership

In the previous Shelf Life we announced that a 12 month trial of free membership between Tasman and Nelson libraries started on 1 August 2008. We're pleased to advise that the two councils have now decided to make this a permanent arrangement. Further, this free membership arrangement has now been extended to include Nelson and Marlborough. This means that Nelson residents are eligible to join and borrow from any libraries in Tasman or Marlborough.

## New Bookchat Group

A Bookchat group has started in the Stoke Library. If you enjoy reading, talking about books, or like to hear about books that other people have been reading – you will be most welcome to join our group. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month and start at 10.30am. Tea and coffee is provided. The next Bookchat at Stoke is on Tuesday 2nd June. For more information contact the Stoke Library staff. (Remember that Nelson Bookchat is the second Tuesday of each month at 10.30am)

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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



## Holiday hours

All libraries are closed on  
Monday 1 June, Queen's Birthday  
Normal opening hours apply for all other days over this  
period, including weekends.

## News & notes

### The Prow is launched

After over a year of planning, writing, research and development, the Prow website, [www.theprow.org.nz](http://www.theprow.org.nz), was launched at Founders Fun on 15 February .

The Prow is a heritage site, which collects together stories from the Top of the South – our region, which is known by Māori as Te Tau Ihu o te waka a Māui or the prow of Māui's waka. It is a collaborative project led by Nelson Public Libraries, in conjunction with Tasman and Marlborough District Libraries, The Nelson Provincial Museum and NMIT and funded by the Government's Digital Strategy Community Partnership Fund.

The stories on the site at launch time have been written by people contracted to the project. More stories are planned.

A major feature of the site is that it is designed to be interactive. Have we missed anything, or got something wrong in a story? Then tell us by using the "Comment on the story" feature. You can also add your own story. Register on the site and add your story and images. Full instructions are provided, and we are planning to run training sessions in the near future.

The waka prow and stern representations from the launch event remain on display at Elma Turner Library.

We invite you to explore the Prow website and contribute to its growth - go to [www.theprow.org.nz](http://www.theprow.org.nz)



Local kapa haka group helps to launch The Prow



### Use it or lose it!

Remember to use your library card to borrow something at least once a year to ensure you stay on our membership database. We keep our records up-to-date and delete those of people who haven't used their cards for two years or more.

However, if this happens to you, it's very quick and easy to re-join – all you need is personal identification (driver licence, passport) and proof you reside in Nelson, Tasman or Marlborough (amenities bills, bank statements).

Let us know your new contact details if you move and give us your email address if you'd prefer library notifications electronically.

Please also let us know if you can't find your library card. We can re-issue one instantly for just \$2.50. Remember, you're responsible for any items borrowed on your card until you let us know it's lost.

## In the library

Popular author  
Jodie Picoult



### Diana Neild visits

Some junior classes from Nelson Central, Hampden Street and Hira schools were treated in May to a very lively presentation by Diana Neild, children's author from Palmerston North. She was in Nelson to celebrate her first book Piggity-Wiggity Jiggity Jig being a New Zealand Post Finalist. (It won an Honour Award).

Diana read not just her first story but also it's newly published sequel. The stories were made even more memorable when a few eager littlies were invited to dress up as the piglet characters in her books (see below). In sharing a little about herself, Diana demonstrated to the young audience that authors are regular people just like them.



### More reading suggestions

Following on from the great popularity of our fiction genre bookmarks, we've had a lot of more specific requests from customers who want to extend the pool of authors they enjoy. So we've created a series of flyers which we expect will become equally helpful and popular. These new flyers are displayed at the Recreation information desk in Elma Turner Library, and also at the community libraries in Stoke and Tahunanui.

#### The new flyers are:

**Fiction set in the Top of the South - Nelson, Tasman, Marlborough & Buller**

**Jodie Picoult readalikes** - For anyone who's in the sad situation of having read all her books and want to know about books which might fill the void

**Fiction from France, Italy, Spain and Portugal** - An increasingly popular area

**Indian fiction writers** - A frequently requested topic

**Scandinavian fiction** - Books from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden - book publishers' 'flavour-of-the-month'

**Women's fiction** - 'Good reads' about the often complex lives and friendships of modern women

### Our current bookmarks

**The range of "If you like....try these authors" covers these genres.**

Christian fiction, Family sagas, Fantasy fiction, Forensic/medical mysteries, Gentle mysteries, Gentle romances, Glitz & glamour, Historic fiction, Historic mysteries, Historic romances, Humorous stories, Light mysteries, Military fiction, Psychological mysteries, Science fiction, Sea stories and Spy stories.

**"Authors who write like" bookmarks include:**

David Baldacci, Janet Evanovich, John Grisham, Marian Keyes, Patricia Cornwell and Wilbur Smith.

The ever-popular brochure featuring books which are similar in style or content to Dan Brown's Da Vinci Code is regularly up-dated to include new titles.