

## Branchlines

Newsletter of the Waikato/BOP LIANZA Region  
Volume 26, No.2, June/July 2005

The committee has an interesting programme of events lined up for the rest of the year, and several reports from earlier successful events held in the region. We hope you are all managing to stay warm and enjoy the clear weather, even if it means the mornings are a little nippy. There was some very useful feedback and comment received from participants at the Te Aroha Weekend School. Thank you to our colleagues in the beautiful Te Aroha Library for their warm and gracious welcome.

## News from around the region

**The committee wishes to thank all host libraries for making Library Assistants' Day such a great success.**

### LIANZA Waikato / BOP region: Library Assistants' Day – Rotorua (5 May 2005)

A group of 23 library assistants from Tauranga, Taupo, Te Puke, Te Awamutu, Rotorua and possibly other areas met outside the Rotorua Public Library at 8:50am on a beautiful, clear day. Robyn, from Rotorua Public Library had the unenviable tasks of maintaining a correct headcount and keeping us on schedule – tasks she accomplished most efficiently.

Our first stop was Rotorua District Hospital where Janet Arnet showed us around the library and explained the specialities of a health library and the importance of journals and maintaining up-to-date information.

We then took a scenic drive towards the Redwood Forest to the Forest Research Knowledge Centre where we were hosted by Sue Foster and treated to a lovely morning tea with scones and cream. I was amazed to discover that this centre holds the largest collection of forestry material in the southern hemisphere.

Next stop was Waiariki Polytechnic where Anne-Marie and Josie showed us around and explained their organisation. Their enthusiasm was wonderful and it was great to see how much they enjoy their work.

Lunch was supplied at Waiariki restaurant and this was an excellent opportunity to meet and chat with the other librarians in a great atmosphere with soft, relaxing music, exceptional service and fantastic food!

Back to Rotorua for 15 mins free time before meeting at 1:30pm at the Rotorua Public Library where Jane Gilbert introduced us to two members of staff who guided us around. I know we were all most impressed at the size and variety of the collections and the efficiency with which all the tasks are carried out. The signage too, was very impressive. The day concluded with afternoon tea and cake in the spacious staff room where I left a very enthusiastic group still chatting to staff members.

I am an Open Polytech student working on the Level 6 Diploma although I am not currently employed in a library. I therefore, perhaps had a slightly different focus on the organisations we visited compared with the rest of the group who were obviously making comparisons with their workplaces and noting different methods and ideas. Many in the group were taking copious notes and one was even taking photos on a digital camera – very enthusiastic!

I believe everyone who attended would have benefited in some way and I am sure they all found it as informative and inspiring as I did. We were made really welcome wherever we went and I am sure we are all looking forward to a similar event being held next year!

My thanks to all involved in the organisation of this event.

Ann Bradfield

## LIANZA Weekend School Te Aroha June 10-12<sup>th</sup> 2005-06-24

Friday evening we met at Te Aroha Library and were made to feel warmly welcome. Nibbles and liquid sustenance plus a "tour of the library" were all much appreciated. (Hope our arrival in fancy duds but gumboots was taken in the spirit of fun it was meant?)

Though 'the Waikato' turned on a vintage foggy day the venue was easy to access and warm.

Saturday morning it was a privilege to have Penny Carnaby as keynote speaker. To have the "digital strategy" explained by one of the key players made me feel truly inspired by the vision of nationwide dissemination of the three C's.

**Connectivity** through all libraries regardless of size and financial ability.

**Content** which is truly New Zealand, comprehensive and all-encompassing

**Capability** of all users to connect with the comprehensive material available.

Penny made us see the work done in Wellington through her eyes and made it feel attainable. She reinforced the need for Librarians to "step up to the plate" and take ownership of the responsibility to lead towards New Zealand content, on-line, now, and to ensure that it is available to a child in Invercargill, or to Fonterra.

Though the enormous importance of the digital paradigm needs stressing we must not lose sight of the importance of print material. Her phrase was "It's AND time"

Print and digital together.

Penny then recommended we read the November Listener article by Russell Brown entitled "Throwing open the doors" and informed us with regard to current achievements. A few mentioned were MATAPIHI-EPIC-ANY QUESTIONS- and the Encyclopedia of New Zealand on-line [www.TEARA.govt.nz](http://www.TEARA.govt.nz).

So in the first hour there were 4 sites to hook into and peruse.

Hmmmm Over morning tea I felt sure this was going to be a bonza weekend and it was.

Those who attended the development workshop run by Sally Angus were truly buzzing with what she offered them in 'life coaching'

Those who stayed to listen to "Best practice Reference" also had a satisfying morning listening then discussing **capability**.

Thanks to Stef Clark.

Common IT problems was presented by Linda Harrowfield and covered a range of possible whoops and remedies, though priority Number One is develop a good rapport with your governing IT Department.

After lunch there was more discussion of electronic media and practices then we were treated to an update on Copyright by Tony 'Copyright' Millett.

And very interesting it was too.

The rules have changed so best make sure YOU know what can and cannot be copied. Ignorance can mean prosecution NOT bliss. No more whipping off a couple of copies for the children coming in to do homework research after school. Oh No! there must be a specific request BEFORE the copy is made and the percentage allowed has dropped.

Be Aware.

And so to ..... The pools, the Quilt display, the shops, whatever and dinner.

Sunday morning was again informative with Steven Lulich presenting an update as LIANZA President and Ruth Ivey reporting from Te Ropu Whakahaui.

Regional round-up with occurrences from round the area including a very interesting introduction to the on-line tutorials on the University of Waikato Site.

Next a well presented practical session on 'Job hunting' from one who has been interviewing for years. Thanks Judy Sail et al.

Vye Perrone then taught me what a Blog and an RSS feed were and what things like furling/ del.icio.us /flickr./and wikipedia were about.

Well she informed us and I now have some idea of what its about and will no doubt spend considerable time looking at the 14 websites recommended and learning heaps of the things that "today's librarian should know" about Today's Top Technology Trends.

Another of Vye's messages was the immediacy needs of today's users are not DEMANDS as such but only what the user is accustomed to.

It's the world they know and if we're not up to speed we'll be left behind.

So thanks LIANZA regional committee for a satisfying and informative Weekend.

Sandra Kilby

### ***The Library Life version includes pictures – don't miss it. Here's the text***

Nestling at the foot of Mt Te Aroha, the 'Mountain of Love', was a mountain of love of a different kind at the mid-June LIANZA Waikato/BOP weekend school. Guests certainly fell in love with the Te Aroha Public Library, an art deco delight externally, softly glowing in the misty evening at the welcome drinks on Friday evening. Inside, a warm welcoming glow too, from Clare and her team who deserve to be very proud of their library. Originally a council chambers and offices, its several rooms, restoration and décor have made the transition to the 'living room' concept very well, beautifully presented and immaculately tidy. Of that we could all work in such elegant surrounds, where the electronic and print resources blend so well.

Just as everyone was settling into the warm, cosy atmosphere, those terrible Taurangean public librarians turned up. We won't name them (but see picture), they are rapidly gaining a reputation as rabble rousers of the highest order. Dressed in their period frippery and finery (with gummies in rude acknowledgement of the fact that they were forced to spend their weekend 'in the country'), there was a quick move from elegance to downright debauchery (see picture also).

Saturday brought a typical Waikato fog. A novelty for the Bay of Plenty crowd :-), so not a dampener at all. First speaker, National Librarian Penny Carnaby. Feedback since the event tells us that Penny was an inspiration, and that many from smaller libraries appreciated the opportunity to hear Penny speak. Likewise, with Stephen Lulich on Sunday morning, it became obvious that our profession's leaders are accessible, keen to listen and take action to help those of us with recalcitrant local bodies become part of the bigger picture.

Sally Angus was another favourite, demonstrating practical techniques to discover our role in life and libraries. Lots of good advice, and an opportunity to share as much as we felt comfortable doing. How true her quote "when you are in a rut, all you can see is six inches of

dirt on either side". We were impressed that such a process brought out some very serious goals, including one who committed to doing a triathlon by October – despite not being able to cycle or swim! An inspirational moment for the rest of us.

There were several other highlights, documented elsewhere, so thank you to all who made contributions. Now let's get back to the mountain of luuurve.

Love is expressed in many ways, sometimes in open admiration ["Tony you know so much about copyright."], sometimes in open abuse ["Tony, did I pay money to come here to thank you all weekend."]. This could give the impression that the 'retiring' Tony Millett was the focus of the weekend. In some ways he was, as we gradually realised the impact that Mr Copyright's absence would have on the content and character of next year's event.

We displayed a healthy love of food at Ironique on Saturday evening. Prefixed and suffixed by many giggles in the loo. The novelty of accoutrements made from old tools took a while to wear off. Is that what you call a spanner in the works?

We wanted to love the Top Technology Trends. But for some the talk of Blogs, RSS feeds, wikis, furling, del.icio.us and flickr etc put stars in our eyes and fear in our hearts. Vye was our star, she has a passion for these things and persuaded us that they were quite normal information tools for our younger clientele, so we better get to love them too!

Weekend Schools have a unique place in our local library calendar. They allow freedom of expression, informality, experimentation with new ideas and great camaraderie, as well as a shameless display of a 'mountain of love' for librarianship. One feels that the move to 'professionalise' LIANZA national conferences (in my opinion a positive means of raising the bar as a profession) will also result in a stronger role for the annual regional weekends – Whakatane, Taupo, Thames and Te Aroha have all been special, who wants to be next? Carol Spanhake on behalf of the Waikato/BOP Region Committee

### **News from Thames**

Thames library is being refurbished. As I write this the pungent odour of paint fumes wafts into my office - how does the saying go? Something about loving the smell of napalm in the morning? I'm sure it will all be worth it in the end but it's been a challenge working with a colour consultant to find a solution that pleases most of the staff, not to mention the customers. After a shaky start with the first carpet selection being rejected out of hand (luckily it turned out to be way too expensive anyway) the carpet was sorted but the paint was a different matter. Customers are tricky things and seem to assume ownership of THEIR library. Overheard after the first coat was on one wall; "Who put that DISGUSTING dirty brown on the wall?" Ah well, I must confess the staff were thinking much the same but it's starting to take shape now.

We really underestimated the task of laying the new carpet though and foolishly thought we could just move the books around by ourselves. Well, librarians CAN do anything. Once it was pointed out to us it would take 6 men 3 days to remove and restate the library we decided perhaps we weren't quite the superwomen we thought we were and engaged a team of strongmen to perform the task. That meant having to find somewhere to move the books to. First we tried hiring containers but that didn't work. Then we tried using an empty local store but that meant having to load and unload a truck twice, so finally we managed to

acquire the use of the church hall next door which just means a short stroll across the carpark.  
Having finally got that sorted I received a letter today from a company that specialises in carpet solutions for libraries; including a system which saves having to decant bookshelves and close the library! Arrghh..oh well...next time perhaps?

### Changes and new arrivals

@ Scion (Formerly Forest Research)

New staff are: -

Sally French - Knowledge Advisor, Technical Services  
Hilary Grinter - Knowledge Advisor, Serials  
Pauline Siegfried - Knowledge Advisor, Library

Part of Forest Research is now called ensis - in a joint venture with CSIRO in Australia (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation)

The other part of Forest Research is Scion (as from 30 May) - the library is in Scion. Our users will see some rebranding of Forest Research, but we will continue with our name of National Forestry Library.

@ Tauranga

Pamela Hoban has been appointed as the Business Manager at Tauranga City Libraries. Pamela came from Auckland and commenced work on 20th June 2005.

### *Farewell to Sue Pharo*

Members of the Waikato/BOP library community are invited to farewell Sue Pharo who leaves the Waikato/BOP in July to take up the position of University Librarian at University of Otago. Sue has made a tremendous contribution to the region as a former LIANZA president, as well as heading Tauranga District Libraries and the University of Waikato Library over many years. She will reminisce and talk about the challenges ahead.

Venue: Cambridge Public Library

Date: Wed 13<sup>th</sup> July 6.00pm – 7.30pm sundowner and talk at the Library

7.30pm dinner at a local Cambridge restaurant (to be advised)

Cost: Sundowner – free. Please pay for your own dinner.

RSVP: For drinks and/or dinner by Fri 8<sup>th</sup> July to Maureen Roache at Cambridge Public Library

Email: [Maureen.Roache@waipadc.govt.nz](mailto:Maureen.Roache@waipadc.govt.nz) or 07 8233838

NB: This is an invitation to ALL colleagues in the region, not just LIANZA members.

### Conference Sponsorship

The Waikato/BOP LIANZA Regional Committee is delighted to offer a LIANZA member sponsorship to the LIANZA Conference “te wero” to be held in Christchurch from 11-14<sup>th</sup> September 2005. The sponsorship will cover registration fees plus \$200.00 towards accommodation or travel.

To apply for this sponsorship please state your reasons for wishing to attend the Conference and how you and your organisation would benefit. The committee will select and notify the lucky candidate. He or she will be required to provide a written report for Branchlines or Library Life.

Applications should be posted or emailed to Judy Sail and arrive no later than the 30 July 2005.

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