

The Shelf Shuffler

Quarterly Newsletter of the Bega Valley Shire Library
Issue No.3 – October 2004

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Message from the Library Manager

As I write this Newsletter, the rain is falling steadily – it seems consistently across the Shire – chatting to people in the library today everyone has “welcomed the wet” for so many reasons.

As we reflect on the past year, the Library Service is proud to boast a busy and productive 2004 with

- Seniors Week and computer skills training in March 2004
- Official Opening of Eden Library
- Children’s Bookweek in August 2004
- School Holiday activities
- Regular storytime at branches
- Mobile Library presence around the Shire and local events
- Book launches at Bega Library
- New display shelving, and furniture at Bega
- New noticeboards provided by Friends of the Libraries
- New Collection Development Policy

On behalf of all library staff, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very safe holiday time with friends and family.

We look forward to an exciting 2005 and invite you to join us on our lifelong learning journey together

Copies of our Newsletter will be available at all our libraries, or you can download a copy from our Website by going to www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au, click on Community & Library, Library Services and Newsletter.

Manager, Library Services

Library Customer Survey, 2004

With more than 1,000 surveys completed, staff have been working hard to analyse and prepare a final report to Council. Here are some of the most popular responses, many of which will be considered as we plan for new libraries in Merimbula and Bermagui.

Thanks to everyone who participated. Your feedback will be invaluable as we continue to improve library services across the Shire.

Please turn over to see a sample of priorities and responses



Library Customer Survey – “Helping us Grow Your Library”

More than 1,000 library users responded to the survey at all libraries in the Shire including the Mobile. Of the people who answered these questions, here is a sample of their responses and comments

Listed resources given as a priority by users

- New Books = 61%
- Computers = 7.5%
- Videos/DVDs = 6%
- Activities for Seniors = 3.2%
- Quiet study areas = 2.9%
- Activities for Children = 2.7%
- Activities for Youth = 2.6%
- Talking Books = 2%

If you could change something what would it be?

(these were freehand comments made by individuals)

- ** More New Books = 13.7%
- ** More Videos/DVDs = 7.5%
- ** More/wider range magazines = 7.2%
- ** More computers = 6.7%
- ** Adequate quiet study space = 5.2%
- ** More audio/talking books = 5.1%
- ** Nothing needs to change = 2.4%

Surveys were completed by customers from ages 12 years – 60+ years - a wide cross-section reflecting community



If you have an interest in the history of the Shire then check out the new collection of local newspapers on microfilm in the Local History area of the Bega Library.

We now have the Bega District News available on microfilm from 1876, available for use in the library. Previously, our collection stopped at 1917. Other local papers such as the Eden Free Press, Twofold Bay Telegraph, Twofold Bay/Maneroo Observer, some dating back to 1860, are now available. Please note that given the nature of these old newspapers there are incomplete runs due to unavailability from publishers. Our collection now complements nicely the microfilm collection of the Bega Valley Genealogy Society. Bega Valley Shire Library will continue to purchase from Gosford Micrographics current rolls of microfilm as they are produced to ensure our collection is up to date.

DVD & VIDEO LOANS

These items, particularly DVDs are extremely popular, with many people anxiously waiting the return of their favourite from loan. We'd like to improve your access to these resources SO....

From October 25th, 2004, all DVDs and Videos will have a loan period of ONE (1) week with 1 week renewal.

PLANNING DAY

Libraries will close on Thursday 11th November, 2004 for their

Annual Planning Day

And re-open again on Friday 12th November, 2004.

“Libraries – People Places”

WHAT'S A GOOD BOOK TO READ?

Check out what's hot and what's not - @ your local Library!

