

11.5 Library Services - Quarterly Report

REPORT BY THE LIBRARY SERVICES COORDINATOR
TO 20 FEBRUARY 2019 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400067, F0620020

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the report by the Library Services Coordinator on the Library Services - Quarterly Report.

Executive summary

This report seeks to inform Council of the activities undertaken by the Mid-Western Regional Council Library Service, under the broad outlines of Customer Visits, Library Borrowings, Purchased items, Strategic Partnerships, and Sustainable Organisations. This report covers the period October to December 2018

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

CUSTOMER VISITS, LIBRARY BORROWINGS, & PURCHASED ITEMS

Visits to our Library branches during the October to December 2018 period are slightly below visits for the same period in the previous year.

| Quarter | Visits |
|--------------|--------|
| Oct-Dec 2018 | 22,697 |
| Oct-Dec 2017 | 23,561 |

Across the Library Service, loans of library items remain stable when compared to the same period in 2017.

| Quarter | Loans |
|--------------|--------|
| Oct-Dec 2018 | 19,029 |
| Oct-Dec 2017 | 19,105 |

Loans from the Mobile Library during Oct-Dec 2018 are slightly higher than for the same period in 2017.

| Quarter | Loans |
|--------------|-------|
| Oct-Dec 2018 | 1,363 |
| Oct-Dec 2017 | 1,348 |

The use of library resources (library subscribed databases) has increased, when compared to the same period in 2017.

| Quarter | Accesses |
|--------------|----------|
| Oct-Dec 2018 | 1,108 |
| Oct-Dec 2017 | 198 |

The Library continues to purchase new items in line with the Collection Development Strategy. These items include audio books, magazines, fiction and non-fiction for adults and children in both print and electronic format, and DVDs.

| Quarter | Purchases |
|--------------|-----------|
| Oct-Dec 2018 | 2,284 |

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Library continues to support the Rotary/Council Mudgee Town Hall Cinema partnership on Council's behalf, by providing continuous administrative support, liaising with film distributors and Rotary, and provision of online/over the counter ticket sales. Over the Oct-Dec 2018 period, this totalled a minimum 95 support hours by Library staff, and included 25 movie screenings, reaching 1,429 customers.

Mudgee Museum continues to be a Library partner, providing a historical display exhibit at Mudgee Library, which is replaced frequently.

SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION

Library staff set up a small browsing library at the Rylstone Office, in preparation for the much anticipated Rylstone Office/Library renovation during 2019. Rylstone residents now have access to borrow adult fiction, large print, non-fiction, young adult, children's books, DVDs, and a Chargebar (to recharge phones and other electronic devices), in addition to the existing use of public PCs and Wi-Fi.

The Library continues to encourage life-long love of books and reading through its literacy initiatives. During the Oct-Dec 2018 period, Library staff hosted 122 separate sessions/workshops for children and youth across our branches – reaching 1,033 children and young adults.

| | Born to Read | Toddler Time | Bookworms | Preschool visits | Holiday Craft | Book Bouncers | International Games Week | School visits | Total |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Sessions | 24 | 16 | 48 | 1 | 21 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 122 |
| Attendees | 192 | 114 | 409 | 17 | 169 | 15 | 106 | 11 | 1033 |

The Library also hosted 16 events for adults – reaching 208 individuals.

| | Bookgroup | 1st Monday History Talks | Heritage Snapshot | Knitting Group | Barnardos | Totals |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Sessions | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 16 |
| Attendees | 10 | 38 | 20 | 50 | 90 | 208 |

The Library continues to engage with the community through regular newspaper features, items in Council's Community newsletter, and via the Library's Facebook page. An email is sent monthly to subscribing customers and BookGroup members advising them of upcoming events and new items in the Library. A separate email is sent to schools and school librarians, which includes posters and instructions for use on a different online library database each month.

Mudgee Library continues to host a monthly Monday History talk, with local historians invited to present on a topic of interest to the wider community. The history talks have generated much local interest.

All branches of the Library hosted a range of well-attended children's craft and storytelling programs during the school holidays.

The Library continues to support the 'Wrap with Love' program, acting as collection points for knitted squares. Mudgee Library also supports a monthly knitting group at the Library.

Community Plan implications

| Theme | Looking After Our Community |
|--------------|--|
| Goal | A safe and healthy community |
| Strategy | Maintain the provision of high quality, accessible community services that meet the needs of our community |

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

The Library Services – Quarterly Report has been developed in line with the 2017/18 – 2020/21 Delivery Program and the Library's Collection Management Strategy.

Council Policies

Not applicable

Legislation

Not applicable

Financial implications

Not applicable

Associated Risks

Not applicable

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LIBRARY SERVICES COORDINATOR

SIMON JONES
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

5 February 2019

Attachments: Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER