

Annual book sale important event

WEEDING stock is an important function at the Feilding Public Library and as a result of careful selections over the past year the library's 11th annual five-day book sale is now scheduled for later this month.

More than 4000 books will become available to the public from 10am on Monday, March 22, with the sale running each day until Saturday, March 27.

Library Manager, Simon Johnson, said the book sale was an important event and the decision to hold it on an

annual basis since 2000 had been successful.

"We have always weeded stock, but used to trickle it out, and the people were never really aware that it was there," he said. "Gathering the books together once a year and making an event out of it has been much better."

He said it was also a good way of raising extra dollars on top of the book budget to purchase new stock.

"Weeding books not only moves out stock that people are no longer interested in

but tells us what people want and don't want and what's out of date. It means that when buying in the future we can use the information learned from the weeding to buy better."

Mr Johnson said the books offered this year catered for a wide range of tastes, including popular fiction and major non-fiction subjects such as sport, travel, cooking and gardening.

"Fiction continues to be very strong and there appears to be no let-up in people's demand for it."

He said a noticeable mini trend centred on mysteries, with many serious literary authors turning their hands to this genre knowing there was a strong market for this type of work.

The sale runs Monday to Friday during the library's normal operating hours of 10am to 5.30pm and up to 7.30pm on Wednesday. Any books left over by Saturday will be free.

Mr Johnson said a large number of people visited the library during sale week and he anticipated another "first in, first served" rush on the first morning.

Sale prices are 50c or \$1 for children's books, \$1 for fiction, \$2 for non-fiction and \$5 for quality coffee table-sized publications.

Last year's sale yielded nearly \$5000.



LIBRARY Assistant, Liz Morris, prepares some of the titles that will be on offer at the annual book sale.

Manchester House deserves support

MANCHESTER House Social Services opened its new Op Shop in the Mandahl Building, Feilding, this week and the move to light, airy premises will certainly give all its volunteers a big lift.

The agency carries out great work in our community and deserves all the support we can give it.

The money this shop generates is extremely important to Manchester House's continuing viability and the whole enterprise is a great credit to the numerous people who help keep it going.

Two weeks ago I participated in a board strategy session at Makoura Lodge, Apiti, with people from throughout New Zealand who were impressed with the lodge, surrounding countryside and the views that that

part of Manawatu provides. Many of our hill country areas, and the Pohangina Valley in particular, are beautiful parts of New Zealand.



MAYORAL COMMENT
by Ian McKelvie

land and Lance Bickford and his team at Destination Manawatu are doing some great work to ensure people from all over the world learn just

what opportunities there are in our district.

The Mayoral Cycle Challenge at Timona Park, Feilding, was again very well organised by Sport Manawatu and while I was a little disappointed at the turnout (130), Serena Goulding and her team of helpers once again did a marvellous job.

We had a greater turnout of younger riders this year and one of those participants was very excited to win the bike presented by Bikewise NZ. It was also good to have the boss of Sport Manawatu, Mike Daisley, riding along with us on the day.

One last thing: Great win by the local Rangitikei Polo Club in the exciting Savile Cup final last weekend!

Rates grants applications due

APPLICATIONS for rates grants are currently being accepted by the Manawatu District Council.

The rates grants provide financial assistance, specifically for the purpose of paying rates, to pre-school education centres and sporting and other non-profit organisations in the community.

Democracy Support Offi-

cer, Sarah Anderton, said the Community Development Funding Policy featured five levels of assistance ranging from up to 25 percent credit of general rates (calculated on a pro-rata basis), plus service charges, and up to 100 percent credit of total rates (calculated on a pro-rata basis).

"Criteria and conditions are

fairly rigid and applications are strictly for non-profit organisations," she said.

Application forms are available from the Manawatu District Council Offices, Manchester Street, Feilding, or on the council website www.mdc.govt.nz.

Applications close on Wednesday, March 31.



WELLINGTON brothers Seth Harrison (3) and Morgan Harrison (6) are among the many children who have enjoyed the new equipment at the Himatangi Beach playground in recent weeks.

Parks and Reserves Manager, Albert James, said stage two in the playground project was about to be completed with the introduction of a flying fox.

Himatangi Beach residents were also building an adventure playground and BMX track in the vicinity as further attractions.

District briefs

Children's Day activities enjoyed

A RECORD crowd of 1400 children and adults celebrated the 10th anniversary of Children's Day at the Makino Aquatic Centre on Sunday by taking part in the many events that were on offer. Programme Coordinator, Adie Johansen, said "Praise and Encouragement" was this year's theme and it was great to see families enjoying the activities together. Raft races, kite and poi-making, face painting, drawing and dye craft, water-slides, tug-of-war and a bombing competition in the dive pool kept the crowd constantly entertained. Even the toddlers had a great time with the bubble machine.

Library's display area ideal

FEILDING Public Library's display area near the front entrance remains popular for clubs, societies and social organisations wanting to promote their activities and upcoming events. Library Manager, Simon Johnson, said those visiting the library would see the information notices as they were in an ideal spot for getting the message across. He said no charge was involved and groups usually kept their material on display for up to a month. Those interested in taking up the library offer can contact Displays Co-ordinator, Val Leighton, on (06) 323-5373 for information.

Dog control report for district

AS required by the Dog Control Act 1996, the Manawatu District Council has produced a report outlining its dog control activities for the 2008/2009 year, including a number of relevant statistics. Anyone interested may inspect or obtain a copy of this report from the council's administration building, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding, during office hours, or on the council website www.mdc.govt.nz

Volunteers clear invasive weed

AN enthusiastic group of volunteers, including a number of visitors to the area, formed a working bee to clear patches of the invasive weed, wandering jew, at Kitchener Park on Saturday. Park Curator, Gavin Scott, said some thick clumps of the weed at the park's southern boundary were targeted during the six-hour cleanup. "The project was extremely worthwhile," said Mr Scott, "as it gave those involved a sense of awareness of what we are doing regarding forest restoration."

Artistically Creative Need Financial Help?

Creative Communities Scheme

Applications for the above are now being called for.

Applications for arts and culture purposes only can be made by groups or individuals within the MDC area.

Application forms and further information are available from:

Manawatu District Council
Private Bag 10-001
Feilding 4743
Telephone: (06) 323-0000

Applications close 4pm,
Friday, March 26, 2010


