

GET CARRIED AWAY WITH BOOKS

Me whakapau tōu ngākau ki te pānui pukapuka



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COVER: Registrations for the 2015/16 Summer Reading Programme begin this month. So hop aboard and 'Get Carried Away With Books' this summer.

A Closer Look at Our People

Each month we will feature a member of staff and let you know what they do, which areas they specialise in, and how their expertise can help enhance your library experience.



I am Chris Hawker – the Customer Services Librarian. I have been on the staff at Masterton Library for 13 years and had a number of roles over that time. I have previously worked in public libraries and in the film industry. I hold a Diploma in Library and Information Studies and a Cataloguing Certificate.

My position covers a number of areas of responsibility. I am the Circulation Manager and I oversee the working, use, and implementation of the Library Management System. (That's the software that lets us know who you are, what books we have and where they are. I train staff in the use of this system and trouble shoot how it is used.) I am responsible for everyday liaison with the other SMART libraries and the interactions we have with them.

I am also the Collection Manager. It is my responsibility to ensure that we buy new items and delete old ones in accordance with our policy. I enjoy buying new books and seeing how they are received. Deciding which of them to delete when the time comes, I don't enjoy so much!

I feel lucky to be part of a service that fulfils such an important role in our community. I love the positivity of working in a public library. Our customers want to be here and we are able to assist them in all sorts of ways – that's very rewarding each day. My particular reading interest is Non-Fiction, so please talk to me regarding any questions, requests or suggestions you have in this area.



From your Library...

Library Manager, Sandy Green

Hidden Treasures in the Library Basement

When staff at the desk rush off to get you something they say is “in the basement” or “in Stack”, they are heading down the back stairs to the Library basement to access our Stack Collections. The basement is an area roughly half the size of the main floor and is where we store the 10,000 odd items that make up our Stack. Few public libraries have the luxury of a separate space they can use for a Stack Collection, but Masterton has the largest Stack amongst the SMART Libraries and it is a much appreciated resource.

Managing the Library collection requires us to regularly make decisions about what to keep and what to dispose of. We added just under 10,000 items to our collections last year which unfortunately means we need to remove the same number of items from the shelves in order to have the latest and most popular titles available. We know, however, that there will be an ongoing demand for many of these older titles, so a percentage of the books we remove go to the Stack. Eventually even the Stack gets overstocked and we need to cancel items from the basement shelves.

Amongst the hidden treasures in the Stack are: earlier titles by popular authors that we no longer have shelf space for upstairs (James Patterson and Nora Roberts for example are incredibly prolific writers); earlier titles in popular and long running series (Inspectors Rebus and Wexford for example); titles that

are out of print but still popular enough that we need to have a copy available; and titles that are the last copy in the SMART network and we have a responsibility to keep.

Our Stack Collection also includes a separate collection of works by New Zealand authors and numerous Non-Fiction titles, with a particular focus on New Zealand, Wairarapa and Military History. We also have two niche collections in our Stack: the Art Stack Collection which features over 1,000 titles covering just about every area of the arts; and the Motor Manuals Collection with manuals for vehicles of almost every make and model until cars became too electronic for most backyard motor mechanics. These collections can be searched separately by using the Advanced Search in the catalogue and selecting the collection you want to search.

Last year our figures showed that, on average, library staff made 20 trips per day down to the basement. Please don't see this as a difficulty or burden for us though. We really want the collections in the basement to be used and we value the expansion the Stack adds to our service. For some of us it's also an opportunity for a bit of exercise!

GET CARRIED AWAY WITH BOOKS

Me whakapau tōu ngākau ki te pānui pukapuka

Registration for the 2015/16 Summer Reading Programme takes place at Masterton Library from Tuesday the 24th of November, to Friday the 27th. The programme itself runs from the 7th of December until the 20th of January 2016, and is one of the highlights of our year with literally hundreds of children participating. This year the programme has a ballooning theme and we're encouraging the kids to 'Get Carried Away With Books'.

Children enrolled in the programme read Library books (or have Library books read to them) and then come to the Library to 'Report In' - talk with a member of staff about the books they have been reading. Reporting-In is a great opportunity for kids to talk about books they've enjoyed and get suggestions on new books, subjects or authors they may like. Children receive incentive prizes at each Report-In and can Report-In twice a week. Children who manage to report in four times during the six weeks of the programme qualify for a certificate, book prize and to attend the Finale event.

The Summer Reading Programme is available for children aged two to twelve. A Te Reo programme is available for children who wish to complete the programme in Maori, and the iRead programme is also available for Intermediate School aged children. All of this is available for free thanks to the funding of the Eastern and Central Community Trust.

Unfortunately places are limited but we will do our best to get as many people participating in the programme as we can. As an extra feature of the Summer Reading programme, the Library is also hosting performances by fantastic storytellers and entertainers and everyone is welcome to attend these events. For more information on any aspect of the Summer Reading Programme please talk with a member of staff.



Judging Books by their Covers

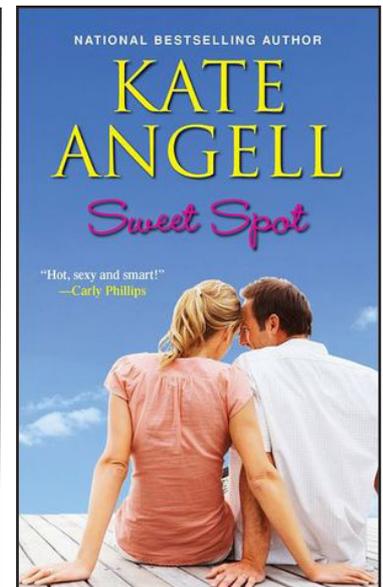
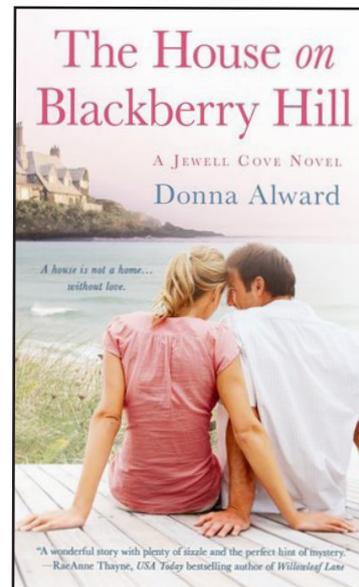
“Don’t judge a book by its cover”: it’s an often repeated phrase and generally sound advice. People, places, objects and experiences that seem glamorous and inviting often turn out to be less pleasant in reality. Conversely things that initially seem undesirable or uninteresting can reveal hidden depths and qualities. There can be no disputing however that first impressions count, and when it comes to actual books, we are all probably guilty of judging them by their covers.

The cover should give us a reasonable idea of the content inside. Covers featuring daggers, butcher’s cleavers or handguns for example, accompanied by copious amounts of blood splatter, are unlikely to contain books that could be classified as ‘gentle reads’. Nor are covers featuring revealingly clad couples, locked in amorous, passionate embraces, likely to contain stories dealing with espionage and international intrigue. Book covers can give us, especially if we don’t know the author, our first impression of what the book is about, and whether we are likely to enjoy it.

Publishers, of course, are very aware of the influence covers can have on peoples reading choices. They put a great deal of effort into designing covers they think will attract readers including images that are titillating, arresting, disturbing or amusing. Then there are books that don’t really reveal their content in the cover but try to intrigue us by using unusual imagery or typeface. Often books in a similar genre will have similar covers and sometimes when a book takes off, such as ‘The De Vinci Code’ several years ago, publishers will copy the look of the cover to piggy-back on its success.

As Librarians we also have to judge books by their covers. We know that a poorly designed cover can have a detrimental effect on the number of issues a book will have. As the old saying suggests, a good cover does not guarantee an enjoyable read, nor an unattractive cover mean we won’t enjoy the book within (and it’s a good idea to sometimes try something that looks a little bit different to what we usually read). But the book cover is the very first communication we have with a book and it’s only natural that we use it to judge whether this is a relationship we are keen to pursue.

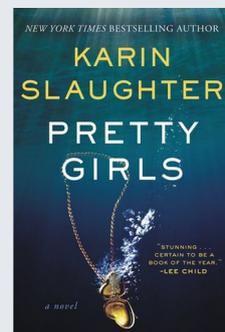
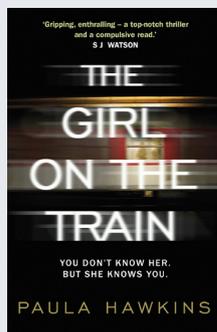
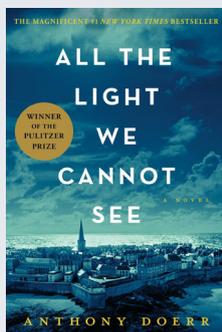
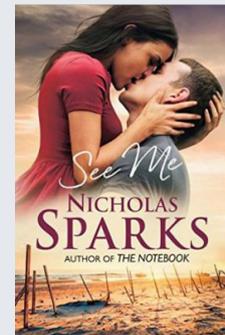
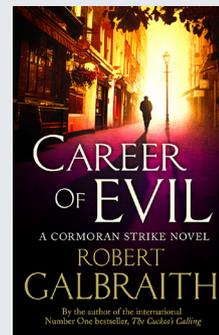
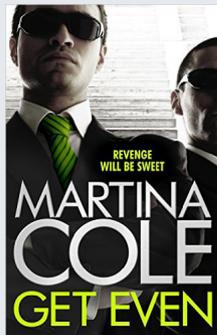
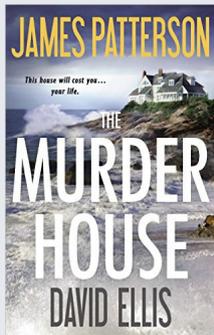
As a further complication to judging books by their covers, publishers occasionally use the same stock photo for different books. Below are covers for two books in our collection by two separate authors, Donna Alward and Kate Angell. In this case both books, as the covers would seem to suggest, are romances.



Top Ten Fiction for October

Below are the ten most reserved Fiction titles for October - have you reserved your copy yet?

1. **The Murder House**
James Patterson
2. **Get Even**
Martina Cole
3. **Make Me**
Lee Child
4. **Career of Evil**
Robert Galbraith
5. **See Me**
Nicholas Sparks
6. **All the Light We Cannot See**
Anthony Doerr
7. **The Girl on the Train**
Paula Hawkins
8. **Shadow Play**
Iris Johansen
9. **The Last Kiss Goodbye**
Tasmina Perry
10. **Pretty Girls**
Karin Slaughter



From The Wairarapa Archive

The Wairarapa Archive staff is used to handling difficult family history queries, but a letter that arrived in late October had everyone scratching their heads.

The letter, from a woman living in Ballarat, Australia, came with five photographs, mostly showing a group of three young children, sometimes with their grandfather. The letter writer explained that she was interested in finding out who the children were as it may help solve a little family mystery. She went on to say that, as a child living in England, she had not known her maternal grandparents, and knew none of that side of her family. She said her mother visited uncles and aunts, but the children were never allowed to go with her.

When the writer and her husband were leaving to live in Australia, her mother had given her the photographs, which were stamped with a Masterton's chemist's name on the reverse, suggesting that as she was going to be near New Zealand, she might want to track the children down. The photographs had arrived with a food parcel from Masterton in 1948.



The children were only named by their Christian names and ages, so it took a lot of digging and searching to find out who they were, but eventually the West School admittance registers disclosed their identity – the Blackburn family. And remarkably, the three children in the photographs, are all still alive (along with another sister) and all live in the Wairarapa.

It looks as though we may be on the way to untangling a family secret.

What's on in the Library (and the wider Wairarapa)

Story-Go-Round - stories and crafts for pre-schoolers

Masterton District Library

Wed. 4, 11, 18, 25 Nov., 10:30am

Book Bugs Book Club (ages 10 - 13)

Masterton District Library

Wed. 4 Nov., 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Puanga Kohanga - Te Reo stories and crafts for pre-schoolers

Masterton District Library

Thu. 5, 12 Nov., 10:30am

**Lions Community Fireworks Display
Solway Showgrounds, Masterton**

Thu. 5 Nov., 6:30pm

Scarecrows Big Day Out

Carterton (various sites)

Sat. 7 Nov., 9:30am -

The Desotos

King St. Live, Masterton

Sat. 7 Nov., 7:00pm

Snow White and the Three and a Half Dwarfs

Masterton Town Hall

Fri. 13 Nov., 11:00am - 1:00pm

**Masterton District Library Book Club
(last meeting of the year)**

True Blue Cafe, 87 Queen Street

Mon. 23 Nov., 1:00pm

Seniors Celebrate

Masterton District Library

Tue. 24 Nov., 2:00pm

**Check the Library Noticeboard for more
Wairarapa Events.**



facebook.com/mstnlibrary Like us to WIN!!

Follow us on facebook and WIN!!!

We have lunch vouchers from Taste Cafe next to the library and Ice Choc vouchers from Trocadero cafe. Plus many more prizes to be won this month! Be the first to know about events on in the library.



Maths was Fun!

Last month Masterton Library hosted the Maths Is Fun holiday programme, which culminated with a Finale event at the Masterton Town Hall. It was a fantastic evening with food, certificates and a competition to design and build a flag pole out of 40 straws, the winner being the tallest structure that managed to stay upright. There was also a competition to design a new flag. Below are photos of some of the participants and their creations.



Author Profile: Patricia Grace

Patricia Grace (of Ngati Toa, Ngati Raukawa and Te Ati Awa descent, and affiliated to Ngati Porou by marriage) is a distinguished writer of novels, short stories, and children's books. She has received numerous awards for her writing including the 2008 Neustadt International Prize for Literature, widely regarded as one of the more prestigious international literary prizes. In 2007 Grace became a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her services to literature.



Born in Wellington in 1937 Patricia first began writing while teaching in North Auckland, having gained an appreciation for NZ Literature at teachers' college, and realising that she too had a unique voice and truth to tell. She continued to teach and write when she moved to Plimmerton (where she still lives), as well as raising a

family of seven. Her first book, **Waiariki** (1975) was the first short story collection to be published by a Maori woman writer and won the PEN/Hubert Church Award for Best First Book of Fiction.

Grace has gone on to write several more collections of short stories and numerous novels including **Potiki**, **Cousins**, **Tu**, and her most recent work **Chappy**. Spanning several decades and several continents, **Chappy** is a touching portrayal of family life which explores racial intolerance, cross-cultural conflicts, and the universal desire to belong. Grace is also highly regarded for her writing for children, producing well known titles such as **The Kuia and the Spider/Te Kuia me te Pungawerewere**, and **Watercress Tuna and The Children of Champion Street/Te Tuna Watakirihī me Nga Tamariki o te Tiriti o Toa**. Grace has also written the Non-Fiction book **Ned and Katina: a True Story of Love in Wartime and Peace** which tells the story of a wounded Maori soldier and a young Cretan woman who fall in love when he is sheltered by her family during the Second World War. The story, which goes on to relate their long, rich and happy life together back in New Zealand, came about when Grace was approached by the whanau of Ned and Katina to compile their parents' story.

Grace's writing has been described as "...expressive of Maori consciousness and values" and distinguished by "... the variety of Maori people and ways of life it portrays and for its resourceful versatility of style and narrative and descriptive technique."¹ She has become a leading figure in New Zealand literature and we have many of her books available here at the Library for those wanting to experience her special voice.

1. Oxford Companion to New Zealand Literature

How Well Do You Know Your Children's Books?

The following are the opening sentences from 10 well-known Children's books - can you match them to the correct title?

1. All children, except one, grow up.
2. When Mary Lennox was sent to Misselthwaite Manor to live with her uncle everybody said she was the most disagreeable-looking child ever seen.
3. Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies, with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife.
4. Look, I didn't want to be a half-blood. If you're reading this because you think you might be one, my advice is: close this book right now.
5. How five crows managed to lift a twenty-pound baby boy into the air was beyond Prue, but that was certainly the least of her worries.
6. There was a boy called Eustace Clarence Scrubb, and he almost deserved it.
7. Mr and Mrs Dursley, of number four Privet Drive, were proud to say that they were perfectly normal, thank you very much.
8. Once upon a time, a little girl named Laura travelled in a covered wagon across the giant prairie.
9. It's a funny thing about mothers and fathers. Even when their own child is the most disgusting little blister you could ever imagine, they still think that he or she is wonderful.
10. If you are interested in stories with happy endings, you would be better off reading some other book.

The excerpts have been taken from the following books: ***The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*** by C.S. Lewis; ***Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*** by J.K. Rowling; ***Matilda*** by Roald Dahl; ***A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning*** by Lemony Snicket; ***Peter Pan*** by J.M. Barrie; ***The Secret Garden*** by Frances Hodgson Burnett; ***The Wizard of Oz*** by L. Frank Baum; ***Wildwood*** by Colin Meloy, ***Little House on the Prairie*** by Laura Ingalls Wilder; and ***The Lightning Thief*** by Rick Riordan. The answers can be found on pg. 12 and if any of these excerpts have wetted your appetite, they are all available from the library.



lynda.com

Masterton Library is thrilled to bring our users free access to Lynda.com, the online university. Lynda.com offers nearly 4,000 online courses covering a huge range of subjects, and supported by 157,678 video tutorials (and counting!). The courses range from beginner level to advanced, the videos are high-quality, and are presented by experts in their fields. If you want to learn how to write an essay, take professional photos, or even just use Microsoft Excel, then Lynda.com has a course for you.

Answers: How Well Do You Know Your Children's Books

1. Peter Pan 2. The Secret Garden 3. The Wizard of Oz 4. The Lightning Thief 5. Wildwood 6. The Voyage of the Dawn Treader 7. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone 8. Little House on the Prairie 9. Matilda 10. A Series of Unfortunate Events: A Bad Beginning