

# Shelf Life

MASTERTON LIBRARY DISTRICT LIBRARIES AOTEAROA

Issue 32, February 2018



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COVER: Summer Reading Programme finale in Library Park.



**Like us on Facebook for the latest Library news, events, and some random fun stuff.**

# A closer look at our people



**This month we welcome two new student shelves to our team.**



Ruby was born in England and moved to Greytown, New Zealand. Her favourite books as a child were anything wrote by Jacqueline Wilson or Roald Dahl. She has so many favouritemagazines she simply couldn't choose one. We think she's going to love using PressReader! If Ruby was stranded on a desert island, the one book she would want to take with her is "And then there were none" by Agatha Christie.



Sydney was born and grew up in Masterton. Her favourite childhood book was Jacqueline Wilson's "Four Children and It". If she had magazine subscription, it would be for Women's Day. If Sydney was stranded on desert island, her one book would be "Red Queen"by Victoria Aveyard.





# From your library...

**Library Manager, Sandy Green**

We have just finished the Summer Reading Programme for 2017-2018 and have spent some time preparing the statistics for the programme that are highlighted in this issue. We have also been reflecting on the success of the programme and the caregiver evaluations. An important part of the programme for us is our debrief session, where we look at what worked well and what we could maybe do better, in preparation for next year.

At the same time as we have been running the reading programme I have been reading the newly released statistics for reading and literacy levels for New Zealand compared to the rest of the world: The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study, which shows that we are one of the poorest performing countries in the English language world. In 1970 New Zealand was ranked No 1 in the literacy ranking for our children.

The report shows that over 40% of our 16 – 65 year olds do not have the literacy and numeracy skills to participate in a high productivity economy. This illiteracy has been shown to cost a developed country up to 2% of their GDP. The report shows that whether rich, poor or in between, our kids are just not reading. This is highlighted because over 400,000 New Zealand adults did not read one book last year. These people did not role model reading to their children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends. Over 8% of New Zealand children are performing at the lowest literacy levels.

This is a problem for all of us for the future performance of our country and the quality of our lives, and it is up to all of us to do everything we can to address this, not just our teachers and schools. The Library focusses on reading and literacy for all of our community and has regular programmes, activities and events for our community to participate in reading and literacy. We are planning to step up this focus of the coming year and work with other libraries to deliver a Year of Reading. For those of you reading this Shelf Life we would appreciate you becoming ambassadors for the library, literacy and reading and supporting us to reach out to those who are not participating in the reading and literacy world and encourage them to see how easy it is and the ways that the library can support people to become confident and enthusiastic readers, which leads to an increase in literacy levels.

Reading is affordable through the library and is a pleasurable activity which leads to an increase in knowledge and understanding and the development of language. Our oral skills are also in decline in direct correlation to the increase in technology communication. The Library is involved in developing digital literacy through maker experiences, coding clubs and robotics, key to achievement in these areas is the student's ability to read. We have had children attend these classes who are surprised that they need to be able to read well to learn coding.

There is much published research that highlights the benefits of reading, for me it is simply that reading supports me to achieve in all aspects of my life, lifelong learning, creativity, health, financial, career, leisure, family and community.

Masterton District Library – Year of Reading and Literacy - 2018

# Summer Reading goes wild



# Summer Reading goes wild



# Summer Reading goes wild

The 2017/18 Summer Reading Programme ‘Wild about reading’ finished last month and was a fantastic success, with 100s of children taking part. Of the 420 participants who signed up to take part in the programme, 354 completed, including 16 out of 20 for the Te Reo version of the programme and 21 out of 25 Intermediate aged readers for the iRead programme. A total of 1812 separate ‘check-ins’ were made by the children over a seven week period during December and January. Here they would talk to staff members about the books they have been reading and (depending on their age and reading level) either read or have read to them, passages from their books.

The Summer Reading Programme represents a significant undertaking by the library in terms of staff time, but it is also a very rewarding activity, and offers an unparalleled opportunity to foster children’s enthusiasm for reading and enhance their reading ability. The programme has proved to be particularly useful for preventing the ‘Summer Slide’, an occurrence noticed in some children when their reading level slides backwards over the summer holidays, after the gains made during the school year. This is particularly relevant given the recently released statistics from the Progress In International Reading and Literacy study, ranking New Zealand children 33rd out of 50 countries.

Whilst reading programmes have been shown to have a great benefit for fostering a love of reading and developing a familiarity with the resources and services offered by the library, the Summer Reading Programme is not just about reading and reporting-in of course. We also ran craft activities, and played host to visiting performers. This year we were delighted to host shows by Little Dog Barking Theatre, and storyteller Mary Kippenberger. The Finale, a celebration of the children’s achievement, was held on a beautiful hot summers day in the Library Park, and along with the prize-giving we also had free ice blocks & sausage sizzle, a crafts table, ‘pin-the-tail on the jungle animal’ and face painting.

The programme is offered completely free thanks to the Eastern and Central Community Trust who fund the programme at all public libraries in the Eastern and Central region. For those who just can’t wait for next year, look out for the Winter Warmers reading programme that will be run at the library this coming Winter.

**Jane Horsham - Children & Young Persons Librarian**

The previous two pages show photos taken during the course of the programme - congratulations to everyone who took part.

# Featured author - Robert Muchamore

Masterton Library - Year of reading & literacy 2018



(c) Isabelle Grubert



**Robert Muchamore worked as a private investigator before starting to write a story for his nephew, who couldn't find anything he wanted to read. Since then millions of CHERUB books have been sold worldwide, with his books regularly topping bestseller lists. Credited with inspiring a new generation of readers, Muchamore's novels are a gritty, realistic and fast-paced action ride that should come with a warning - you will be reading these until the small hours and still be wanting more...reserve the next books in the series NOW.**

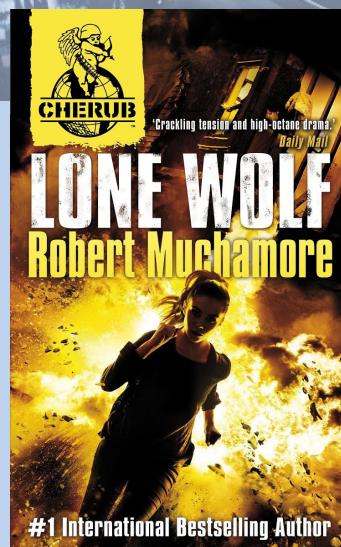
**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for teens & up - if you know someone who might benefit from some concentrated downtime with a good read please pass this recommendation on - they won't regret it.**

#### CHERUB Series -

A terrorist doesn't let strangers in her flat because they might be undercover police or intelligence agents, but her children bring their mates home and they run all over the place.

The terrorist doesn't know that a kid has bugged every room in her house, cloned the hard drive on her PC, and copied all the numbers in her phone book. The kid works for CHERUB.

CHERUB is not James Bond. There are no master criminals or high-tech gadgets. CHERUB kids live in the real world. They slip under adult radar and get information that sends criminals and terrorists to jail. For official purposes, these children do not exist.

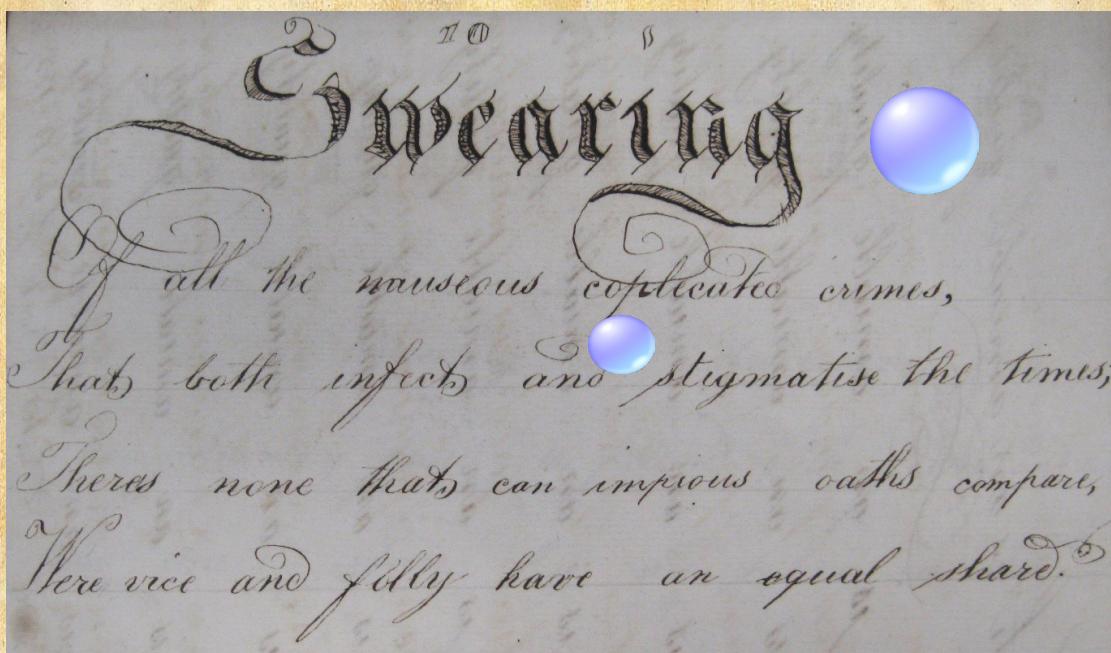


**NEW GUARD**  
**Robert Muchamore**  
#1 International Bestselling Author



**THE RECRUIT**  
**Robert Muchamore**  
#1 International Bestselling Author

# FROM THE ARCHIVES



A plain looking book in the Wairarapa Archive holds an interesting story. It is a 200 year old copy book, used by students to reproduce examples of handwriting. As well as the alphabet, the pupil was shown a sentence or a phrase, and was required to write it out in their books in cursive handwriting.

Amongst the pages is a one on swearing. Even two centuries ago, the use of bad language was recognised as being an unsavoury aspect of the English language. This particular saying was repeated several times throughout the book.

The book was owned and written in England by a young Samuel Oates, who is credited with later delivering the first mail to Greytown's postmaster and for helping introduce rabbits and gumtrees to Wairarapa. One of his trees is outside St Luke's Church in Greytown. The offspring of his rabbits are everywhere.

As an interesting note, this style of hand writing, while legible to older generations, is something of an enigma to young people today. Around the time of Anzac Day each year, the Archive helps students from schools with their Cenotaph projects. This requires a student to research a name on the Cenotaph and find out about their life. Personnel files from World War One, which were handwritten, are an essential resource, and is not uncommon for a student to look at the files as if it written in Latin. An Archivist is kindly asked to decipher the old script for them.

Mark Pacey - Archives Assistant

# Other peoples lives . . .

At a time when you can find out anything about anything online you may wonder if people still read non-fiction items - and it's true that the pattern of use of non-fiction collections in Libraries has changed a great deal.

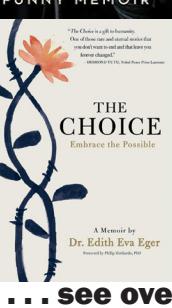
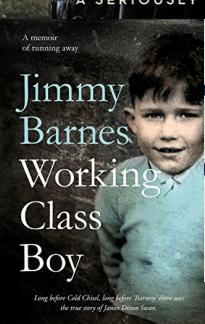
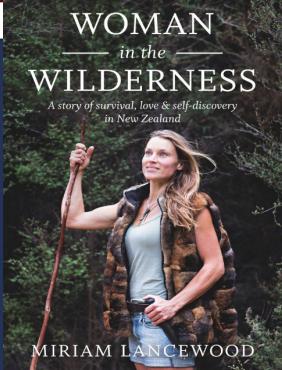
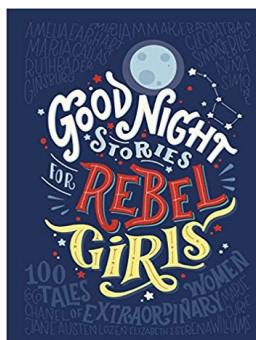
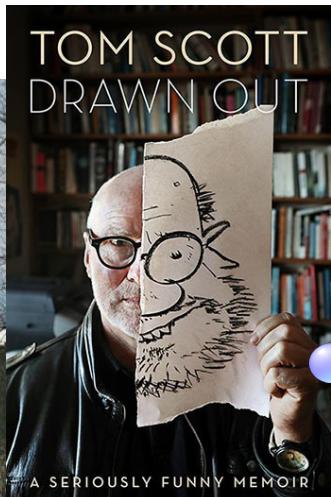
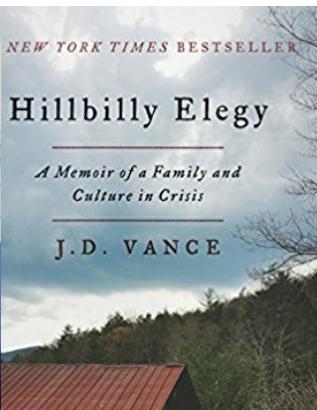
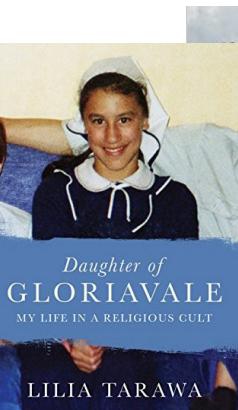
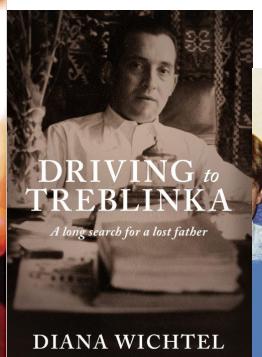
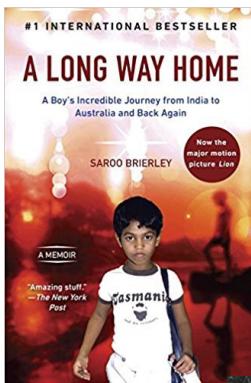
One thing that hasn't changed is the interest people have in stories – and this holds true for 'real life' or 'true stories' as much as it does for novels.

The biography section is one of our most used non-fiction areas and a large proportion of the reserved non-fiction is biography (including autobiography).

The telling of extraordinary stories within ordinary lives, the exploits of the rich and famous, the struggles of the poor, downtrodden and exploited, the achievements of the determined and talented and the familiarity of the everyday all have their place in the "bios" and all have a devoted readership.

We have placed the Biography section on the large side wall of the library near the Fiction collection, as it can be browsed easily and relates well to the novels alongside.

To get you started (or to be going on with!) here are the 20 most reserved biographies in 2017:



... see overleaf..

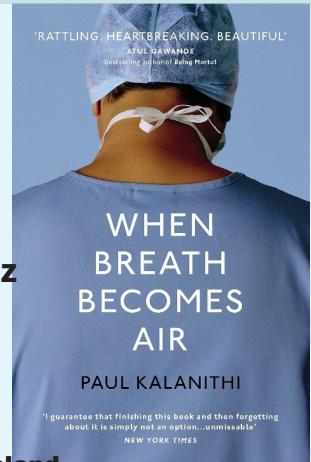
# Masterton Library - Year of reading and literacy 2018

## . . .Other peoples lives

...the 20 most reserved biographies in 2017:

Brierley, Saroo  
 Wichtel, Diana  
 Tarawa, Lilia  
 Vance, J.D.  
 Scott, Tom  
 Favilli, Elena  
 Lancewood, Miriam  
 Barnes, Jimmy  
 Eger, Edith Eva  
 Kalanithi, Paul  
 Lovell, Mary S.  
 Park, Yeonmi  
 Howie, Leonie  
 Dudding, Adam  
 Dann, Lotta  
 Strayed, Cheryl  
 Wong, Helene  
 Sebba, Anne  
 McNeish, James  
 Gay, Roxane

**A long way home**  
**Driving to Treblinka : a long search for a lost father**  
**Daughter of Gloriavale : my life in a religious cult**  
**Hillbilly elegy : a memoir of a family and culture in crisis**  
**Drawn out : a seriously funny memoir**  
**Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls**  
**Woman in the wilderness : a story of survival, love & self-discovery in NZ**  
**Working class boy**  
**The choice**  
**When breath becomes air**  
**The Riviera set**  
**In order to live: a North Korean girl's journey to freedom**  
**Island nurses: stories of birth, life and death on remote Great Barrier Island**  
**My father's island : a memoir**  
**Mrs D. is going within**  
**Wild: a journey from lost to found**  
**Being Chinese: a New Zealander's story**  
**Les Parisiennes : how the women of Paris lived, loved and died in the 1940s**  
**Breaking ranks**  
**Hunger: a memoir of (my) body**

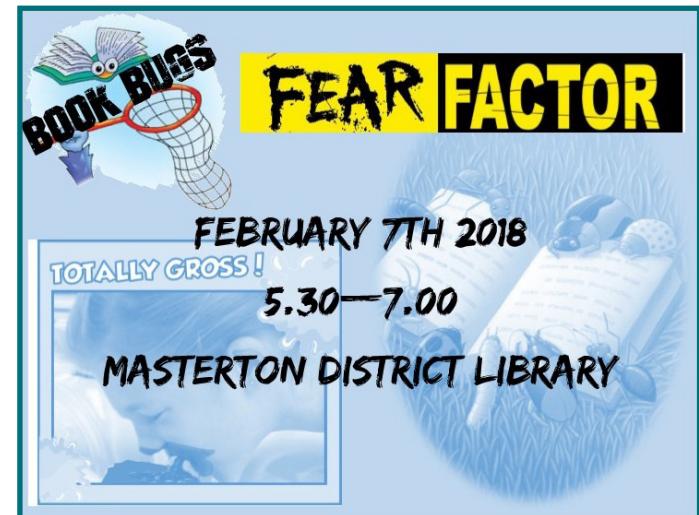


Chris Hawker - Customer Services Librarian

Coming soon..



pressreader offers online access to a multitude of newspapers and magazines from around the world (almost 200 publications from New Zealand alone!). We are really excited about this new service, and are looking forward to showing you the wonderful range of publications you will be able to access very soon.



# What's on in the library this month...

Welcome back to our popular weekly and monthly programmes!



## Device Advice

Every Monday at 11am. Sit with each other and our staff experts and get the tutoring you need to get the most out of your device!

## Sit, Knit and Yarn (knitting & craft group)

Every Friday 10.00am - 12.00pm

## Book Bugs Book Club (ages 10 - 13),

Wednesday 7th February, 5.30 - 7.00pm.

First session for the Term - new members welcome!

Fun for all with crafts, speakers, activities & books.

## Spark Jump Workshop

Thursday 8th February, 6 - 8pm. – FULL

## Spark Jump Workshop

Tuesday 13th February, 10 - 12am. – FULL

Spark Jump Workshop for families with children who do not have an internet connection in their homes. \$10 for 30GB, pre-pay service with no fixed contract. Free wifi modem.

## Story-Go-Round Pre-School Programme

First session Wednesday 14th February, Then every Wednesday during term time, 10.30 - 11.30am Fun with stories, singing and crafts.

## Puanga Kohanga Te Reo Pre-School Programme

First session Thursday 15th February, then every Thursday during term time 10.30 - 11.30am This programme is delivered in te reo Māori but is open to all.



## Spark Jump Workshop

Thursday 15th February, 6 - 8pm. – FULL

Spark Jump Workshop for families with children who do not have an internet connection in their homes. \$10 for 30GB, pre-pay service with no fixed contract. Free wifi modem.

## Spark Jump Workshop

Tuesday 20th February, 10 - 12am. – Spaces still available at time of printing, phone us, see staff at the desk or follow the link on our website to book your place today.

## Spark Jump Workshop

Thursday 22nd February, 6 - 8pm. – 2 Spaces still available at time of printing. More workshops will be available in March, see staff to reserve your space now!

## 'Last Thursday' Evening Book Club

Thursday 22 February, 7pm. Members read the same book and meet to discuss it and exchange views.

## BookEnds Book Club

Monday 26 February, 1pm



Members choose their own titles to discuss on the fourth Monday of each month.

If required, you can register for our events at

<https://masterton.spydus.co.nz/events>

You can find this link at the home page of the library website.

# Masterton District Library would like to THANK



Helping fund a better community



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RECREATION CENTRE

James Bennett



Mini Putt - Masterton  
Wairarapa Resource Centre

EMG  
EASTWOOD MOTOR GROUP LIMITED



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for their support of the  
Summer Reading Programme