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# Community Services Manager's Report – March 2007

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## Information Centre

### Potential Residents Packs

Total packs distributed for February - 6

### New Residents Packs

Total packs distributed for February - 8

## Trade Directory

We are currently working with Central South Island Tourism to produce the 2007/08 Trade Directory. This directory lists all tourism businesses in the combined region of Timaru and Waimate Districts and highlights the service offered by the operator and contact details. To ensure the directory is comprehensive there is no cost to the business. As the name indicates, the trade directory is distributed to the trade via TRENZ, at other industry meetings, and direct post.

## Tourism Get-together

Invitations have been posted to local tourism operators inviting them to our first industry gathering for 2007 on Wednesday 28 March at 5.30pm. The function is being held at the Information Centre followed by a visit to The Model Garage.

## Waimate Familiarisation Tour

The Information Centre staff are organising a tour around the District for Information Centre staff from neighboring regions. It is important to run these tours every two to three years to ensure new staff are familiar with the District's tourism layout of attractions, activities, accommodation, eating places and travel distances.

## Library

### Displays & Visits

Display on climate change to coincide with the movie 'An Inconvenient Truth'.

The Waimate Guides group promoted awareness of the Guides, Pippins, Brownies.

Waimate Gymnastics Club display

St Patrick's School visited the library 12 February

## South Island Children's Librarian Conference

This two day conference held in Wanaka in February was organised for Librarians who specialise in the children's section. Tony Morton attended and was inspired by the range of speakers and workshops. Two of the workshops of particular interest were teaching on storytelling, and technology and digital media in libraries.

## New Zealand Public Libraries Summit

By invitation I attended the above summit in Wellington. The purpose of the summit was to discuss the 2006 to 2016 strategic framework for public libraries of New Zealand.

The summit was opened by Hon Judith Tizard, Minister Responsible for the National Library and several keynote speakers followed including Chris Batt, Chief Executive of Museums, Libraries and Archives UK, David Lammy, Parliamentary under-secretary of State at the Department of Culture, Media and Sport in the UK. Local Government NZ were also involved.

Several workshops discussed ideas for implementing the strategies in the document and by the end of day two, the top five were identified. One idea is 'the one card' which allows access to all libraries throughout New Zealand, and of particular interest for rural libraries is the suggestion that a Central Government fund support areas that have a small population base, on perhaps an amount pro rata of population. As this is only the beginning of a long journey I doubt if we will see any new initiatives in the short term.

## Meetings Attended

Glenavy Keane Park – information sign

Improving Christmas decorations – working with the community

Multi Purpose Group forward planning

Pro-Ject Waimate monthly meeting

Social Services Committee quarterly meeting – social needs survey - forward planning

Sport South Canterbury presentation – Initiatives offered in the Waimate District

**Carolyn Johns**  
**Community Services Manager – 9 March 2007**