Welcome to our new look newsletter. Also new is that we are emailing it out as well, and it’s big thanks to Joan Shepherd for making this happen!

Winter in Taupo has thrown out the usual ice, fog and damp, but the region has been looking beautiful. Here at the Library we have had a warming holiday programme in July, and the Friends have organised two recent events.

In June we hosted the Taupo Vintage Car Club and learned many interesting things to do with early model cars. This was our soup-and-rolls winter event, and many thanks to Brumby’s for supplying the delicious rolls.

Our July event saw two talented local illustrators show us what they do. Craig Phillips is a keen graphic novelist, while Donovan Bixley concentrates mostly on picture books.

And remember the Library has a customer selection basket with Wheelers books. We want the public to have their say on the library collection by adding what you want to the basket. Simply log onto the Wheelers website and sign in using lib@taupo.co.nz and the password Book1234. If you suggest a title, do add your name to the comment box so that the Library can contact you if they need to.
Meet Luisa Haines: Library & Museum Manager

I have had the privilege of working in libraries since I left school, and started my first job at the Mount Wellington Public Library in Panmure, Auckland back in the late 1970s.

Libraries today can be very different from one day to the next depending on who is visiting and what is happening. This offers numerous challenges and opportunities for both staff and users alike and is all part of being a busy modern library.

In recent years I was given the opportunity to lead a combined library and museum team. Libraries and museums are amazing places. Not only do they underpin art, culture, history, literacy, learning and much more, but they also play a key part in keeping society active and informed and they are places for everyone – both visitors and locals alike.

So please keep using our facilities, and let us know what you think and don’t be shy about sharing your experiences with others.

By the way, I am married to Clive and have 5 grown up children.

Have you got a bit of spare time? Currently, we could do with some help on our committee - we’re a bit thin on the ground. If you are interested in helping out, get in touch with Lorraine. It’s fun!

Bookish Fact:

Part of the M6 toll road in the UK is made out of pulped Mills & Boon novels. A reported 2.5 million recycled books were mixed in with asphalt and tarmac to create the road surface.

Mysterious paper sculptures have been appearing in libraries. Between March and November 2011, an anonymous artist delighted Edinburgh’s literary scene by leaving a series of intricate book sculptures on the doorsteps of various local institutes and art groups that support literature. An anonymous artist in Scotland has commented that, ‘It was an attempt to illustrate the notion that a book is more than just a book - and a library is a special kind of building.’

Taupo Library has been blessed with a beautiful wee paper sculpture that was left on the shelves, and is currently on display behind the issues desk. The card reads: ‘Gifted to Taupo Library by someone who appreciates the value of words and books.’ If that person is reading this: Thank You!