



From the Manager's Desk

With the holidays well and truly behind us here at APNK we are heading into 2013 at full speed.

Our biggest news is, of course, our new team member, Ruth Lewis. Ruth comes to us from Lincoln University and brings with her years of experience working with library management systems, discovery systems and networks. She has joined the team on the helpdesk and will be primarily focused at first-lines support for our Kōtui customers and providing back up for Susanna. She'll also be supporting APNK libraries that need assistance.

We're really excited about the mix of skills and personality she brings to the team so please join me in welcoming her on board!

We have a lot to get through in the first half of 2013.

We've been working on a new, Windows 7-based, software image for APNK PCs which we hope to deploy before June.

We're also pushing ahead with our PC replacements programme, which has been delayed for a few months.

A big focus for us is to ensure that the APNK service maintains its security track record, keeping all of our users safe from any attacks on our networks.

On the Kōtui side of things, the projects to bring Kawerau, Hastings, Selwyn, Carterton and the South Wairarapa on board are well on their way. Kawerau is our oldest APNK library so its especially pleasing to see them join Kōtui too. I guess we must be doing something right!

All the best for 2013!



Above—Windows 7, coming to an APNK PC near you in 2013.

Recent customer feedback

lisa | 15th January 2013

“love the Gisborne library, the wifi for me is life changing. Helps me pay bills, look for a job, and I come here and feel apart of the community. BUT this library needs more seats, there is no place to park up :)”

Ron Brown-Rigg | 30th January 2013

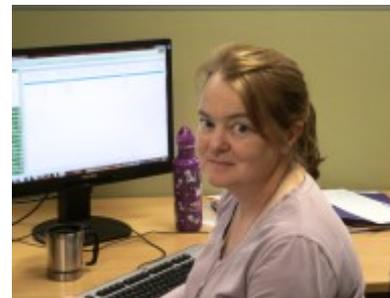
A great innovation and proof that New Zealand is at the forefront of educational service for all it's citizens both old and young well done nz

An End to Ruthlessness

The APNK used to be Ruth-less but this hasn't been the case since last month when Ruth Lewis joined the team as Kōtui Application Specialist.

Ruth is a welcome addition to the team and been busy learning the ropes.

A trained librarian, Ruth comes to us from Lincoln University Library where she had the role of Digital Access Coordinator. She has also worked at Landcare as a Symphony system administrator.



Above—Recent Kōtui recruit, Ruth Lewis, settles in at her new desk.

E-Reader Training at Oamaru Library

When it comes to technology in libraries, e-readers and e-books are very much in the public consciousness at the moment.

As most in the public library world would be aware there are lots of issues associated with providing e-books to library customers. One of these is upskilling customers and staff in how to work through all the steps required to download an e-book onto whichever of the many different devices available might be in use.

Getting an e-reader for Christmas is easy, learning how to use it can be more difficult. Fortunately for Oamaru residents the staff at their library are running tutorials on how to use these devices to access library e-books.

We interviewed Christopher Meech, Reference & Heritage Librarian at Oamaru Library about why they're running the classes and what they'll be covering in them. Read our blog post to find out more <http://www.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.org/content/making-e-readers-easier-oamaru-library>

Right—“Customer demand motivated us to start our e-read classes”. Christopher Meech of Oamaru Library demonstrates how to download e-books.



Kōtui-ing into the new year

The biggest excitement in the Kōtui world at the moment is, of course, the arrival of Ruth Lewis our Kōtui Application Specialist. She is learning the ropes quickly, and just as well as there are four library networks waiting in the wings to get the shared library system installed in the next six months. Kōtui libraries already confirmed for 2013:

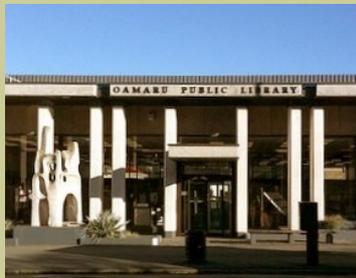
Kōtui

- Kawerau Library
- Selwyn District Libraries
- Hastings District Libraries
- Wairarapa Library Service—Carterton District and South Wairarapa libraries

Other libraries are also expected to join Kōtui later in the year.

Oamaru to get GO-GO

Glen will be heading to Oamaru, one of the Waitaki District libraries, later this month to install a GO-GO PC reservation system. While there he'll also be putting in an extra PC bringing the total number of free Internet computers at Oamaru Library to six.



Above—Oamaru Library gets GO-GO and an extra PC this month.

“Doctor” Andy’s Lab of Wifi

Up a set of stairs and behind a locked door at APNK HQ is a room that is currently known as “Andy’s Lab”. While that may have you imagining beakers and Bunsen burners, cables and network switches would be closer to the reality.

Andy has been hard at work testing different aspects of our wifi system in order to make it better, faster, and stronger.

While this kind of work isn't necessarily “visible”, it's just one of the things going on behind the scenes at APNK to improve the service we offer libraries.

Right—Aerials, cables and switches decorate Andy's wifi test lab.



So long, Trudy

It's with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to Trudy Beatson, our Kōtui administrator this month. Trudy started with APNK back in April 2010 after moving to Christchurch from Motueka, as cover for Anne Mortimer's parental leave and the launch of Kōtui gave us the perfect excuse to keep her on. But having completed her Accounting study with flying colours she will soon be applying these skills at a local publishing firm. We wish her all the best for the future.



Above—Trudy, Kōtui administrator, leaves the team in February.

24/7 wifi a winner

In November last year we offered libraries the option of extending their wifi hours. So far a number of libraries have gone 24/7 with their wifi and people have certainly been using it

Indeed, Kaikohe Library reports that they experienced much less vandalism and damage to the library building over the holiday period than they would otherwise have expected. They're putting this down to more people being near the library after hours most of whom aren't the usual mischief makers.

If you've experienced a similar result at your library let us know!

Jobseekers use Skype in libraries

We know of at least one Richmond Library customer who successfully gained employment recently by utilising the free library wifi and Skype.

For more info read our blog post

<http://www.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.org/content/what-do-jennifer-lawrence-and-apnk-customer-have-common>

If you know of other library customers using the APNK service in this way, we'd love to hear about it.

You can get hold of us in a multitude of ways including email, Facebook, Twitter or The Community of Practice (see contact details at the bottom of this page).

Your Community of Practice

Wouldn't you like to have an online space where you can kick your jandals off and share your ideas with staff at APNK libraries around the country?

We thought so. Luck for you there's the Community of Practice. If you work at any of the organisations we partner with you can join. Just drop us an email at peoples.network@dia.govt.nz and we'll do the rest.