



Media Release
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Library events in August

During August, local libraries are hosting a series of free computer training sessions and a fun reading challenge for kids.

Selwyn Libraries are part of a reading challenge supported by Hell Pizza and the New Zealand Book Awards. The challenge is open to children in years 1-8 and starts from Monday 1 August. To take part in the challenge, children pick up a 'pizza wheel' handout at a local library, read and review (in person at a library) seven books by 23 September. Children need to have each segment validated by library staff. Once the wheel is complete, children can get their wheel validated at their local library and present this by 4 December at any Hell Pizza to receive a free 333 healthy pizza.

Free Stepping UP computer training sessions also run during August and cover five topics with a focus on using technology for employment opportunities or to connect to others. Sessions will introduce people to computer basics, how to find a job online, how to use Skype, Trade Me and social media.

Sessions start from Thursday 4 August at Darfield, Lincoln and Leeston Libraries and from 15 August at Rolleston with both daytime and evening session options.

The sessions are provided by the Council in partnership with 2020 Trust, a registered charity, which works with public libraries in New Zealand to offer introductory computer training. Currently 35 library networks deliver services with the 2020 Trust.

Darfield and Leeston Libraries have been hosting Stepping UP sessions between May and July, which have been popular with customers.

"We are very pleased that our partnership with the 2020 Trust means Selwyn Libraries can now offer sessions in Rolleston and Lincoln and expand the range of topics the sessions cover to help people build their technology skills and use these to apply for jobs, connect with others or access services online," says Vicki Carlyon, Selwyn Libraries Manager.

The sessions are open to anyone aged 13 and over but prior registration is required. To find out more and register for the computer courses visit www.steppingup.nz or call your local library. All Selwyn Libraries also offer free internet access on public computers and free secure Wi-fi.

Ends

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