

# Libraries Board happy to see local upgrades

The Libraries Board of South Australia visited the Eyre Peninsula last Monday.

Once a year the board visits an area of the state and 2008 was the turn for the West Coast.

A party of 10 flew into Ceduna, hired vehicles and began their tour of the libraries.

First on the agenda was the Ceduna Community Library, followed by Streaky Bay, Karcultaby and Wudinna.

The SA Library Board is made up of retired and current librarians, council representatives, professionals and retirees.

Library staff Linda Heath, Sue Denton, Nola Buckham, Paige Boylan and Karen Watson, Wudinna Area School principal Maria McCallum, Wudinna District Council staff Andrew Buckham, Neville Scholz and Eleanor Scholz and Nikki Payne from the Wudinna Area School Governing Council introduced themselves for an informal chat with the board members.

Many of the visitors had never previously visited Wudinna and were extremely impressed with the feel, size and general layout of the library.

At a quick informal meeting, library manager Linda Heath welcomed everyone and gave a quick review on what has been happening in the Wudinna Library since they last visited in 2003.

Included in the library's upgrades are new carpet, painting of the interior and new furniture for both students and patrons.

A toy library has been established, including many toys and games for all ages; a minimal charge of \$10 per family per year exists for borrowers.



**WUDINNA LIBRARY VISIT:** Peter Myhill, Neville Scholz, Fiona Adler, Linda Heath, John McDonald, Public Library Programs manager Teresa Brook, Libraries Board chair Dr Peter Goldsworthy, Beth Davidson-Park, Sue Denton, Ann Short, Karen Watson, Eleanor Scholz, Janice Nitschke, Public Library Services associate director Geoff Stempel, Nola Buckham (obscured), Maria McCallum, Geoff Coles, Nikki Payne and Andrew Buckham.

The library has put into place a Baby Bounce program run by Sue Denton each fortnight.

Preschoolers come to the library and listen to stories and music.

The Born to Read program, where new born babies are presented with a picture book, continues to be a popular initiative.

Recently, the library was changed into a Chinese scene in support of the Olympic Games in Beijing, with Linda Heath providing classes the opportunity to learn about China.

After their short stop, the board continued to Lock for a visit then on to Port Lincoln where they stayed overnight.

During the course of the evening the Libraries Board held their regular monthly meeting.

On Tuesday morning the group visited the Port Lincoln Public Library, and other EP libraries at Cummins, Tumby Bay, Cowell and Cleve, before returning to Adelaide via Whyalla.



**PHOTOGRAPHERS ALL:** Reece Thompson, James Kavanagh and Jeremy Watson, with one of Reece's photos.

## 'Amazing' images from the edge of SA

Students from Ceduna Area School, Koonibba Aboriginal School and Yalata Anangu School showed off their photography talent last Wednesday night at the opening of the Images from the Edge exhibition at the Ceduna Memorial Hall.

During school time over the past few months, they have been honing their skills using digital cameras under the instruction of professional photographer Jeremy Watson and their regular teachers.

Mr Watson came up from Adelaide several times to run workshops focusing on "technical application, landscape, portraiture, macro imaging and digital manipulation.

He said the results were "amazing".

"They've had three months with me visiting the communities and we had an emphasis on field trips ... and then we review our work each week and we'll talk about techniques," Mr Watson said.

"With my input they narrowed it down to two final pictures per student and each person has two exhibits."

Mr Watson did classes with some of the same students from Ceduna last year, including Reece Thompson and James Kavanagh.

"It was really good this year because I think everyone's a lot better this year and understands what was going on and we went to a few more locations as well," Reece said.

Reece recommended others become involved in Images from the Edge next year, and said the best advice to take better photos was "take their time and think about it".

The project was an initiative of the Ceduna District Health Services Youth Program and coordinated by Nicole Kaehne.

The official opening was done by Steve Grieve, the chairman of Country Arts SA, who was in Ceduna in his job as an architect designing the new hospital.

# Ceduna highly commended at Centrelink awards

Ceduna Centrelink has been recognised in national awards for its work to help people with literacy and numeracy challenges.

Ceduna manager Nikki Collins said she and her staff were delighted to have been recognised with a "highly commended" ranking in this year's Centrelink National Awards, presented last week.

"It's a tribute to the work of the staff and a recognition of their determination to do all they can to help our customers," Ms Collins said.

"To date, we've only been able to refer customers who might benefit from a literacy and numeracy program to a correspondence program.

"Some of our customers only have English as a second language. This is particularly the case for traditional indigenous customers from the Yalata and Oak Valley communities.

"Obviously a correspondence program isn't going to be suitable for many customers who face literacy and numeracy challenges.

"This meant staff were reluctant to refer customers to the course. While we've raised the issue with relevant agencies in the past, it's been difficult to progress without quantifying demand.

"So we decided to be proactive. When reassessing customers' activity agreements, we decided to start making referrals, which

means we've been able to clearly demonstrate the demand for a face-to-face literacy and numeracy program to be available in Ceduna and, as a result, the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations and TAFE are considering the possibility of establishing a program at Ceduna TAFE.

"This has come about as a direct result of the innovative thinking of my staff here at Ceduna and I'm immensely proud that the team has been able to lay the groundwork for what could be a significant change for some of our customers."

Centrelink Ceduna received a commendation of "highly commended" in the Ross

Divett Memorial Award at the Centrelink National Awards presented in Canberra last Wednesday, September 24.

The Ross Divett Award is named in honour of Centrelink's late deputy chief executive officer and is the highest achievement award for work done that exemplifies his legacy of "plan-do-review-act".

Centrelink state manager Brian Silkstone congratulated the Ceduna Centrelink team.

"Their success in the awards is recognition that a bit of innovative thinking can be the catalyst for change which can help improve lives and create new opportunities for customers," Mr Silkstone said.