

LIBRARY BUILDINGS

Signage is minimal, and there are three silk screened black and white photographic print ceiling banners by Richard Stringer, matching his mural in the main entry foyer overlaid by Judith Wright's poem 'At Cooloola'.



**Sunshine Coast TAFE Noosa
centre at Tewantin**

Photo by Helen Martyn and Joy Paul

For the third year in a row, the Cert. IV and Diploma Visual Arts art students have claimed the top spot on Sunshine Coast TAFE library's statistics for the subject group who average the most loans from any of the four campus libraries. Students say that it's a very nice place to be—restful and full of light.

The library may have benefited from a closer consultation process with the project team when it came to the circulation desk and workstation design. The front desk is a large expanse of stainless steel with limited functionality—a case of form over function here.

This is a library with its face to nature and its soul in the arts, and is certainly a delight to work in every day.

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New Logan North Library—the library everybody loves

"I LOVE the new library. It is so spacious and roomy. I love the lounges and coffee and TVs and study rooms and meeting rooms..."

(A customer's comments regarding the new library at Logan North)

Community response to the new Logan North Library has been overwhelmingly positive since it opened on Monday 4 August 2008. Boasting state-of-the-art facilities, customers have been especially impressed by the library's welcoming and comfortable ambiance. In less than two months since opening, over 838 new members have joined and 75 000 loans have been issued.

Logan City Council Libraries (LCCL) began the monumental task of relocating its Logan North Branch in October 2006. The lease on the existing premises was due to expire in 2008, opening the way for LCCL to purchase a site to accommodate the new library. Designed by Wilson Architects, key considerations for the construction of the new library included taking best advantage of the site for energy efficiency, minimising wasted or 'dead' spaces, keeping the design to one level whilst elevated over an existing car park, and finding space for an extra 40 car parks.

New or expanded services include:

- 18 public access PCs
- an Accessibility Centre including 5 PCs with adaptive technology for customers with special needs
- a drive through 'stop and drop' for book returns

- a meeting room and a community workspace available to non-profit community organisations
- self serve coffee and drink machines
- quiet study rooms
- plasma TV with Foxtel
- dedicated areas for storytimes, young adults, reading and relaxation.

Another key feature of this library includes a trial of shelving some of the non-fiction collection by genre. Genres include Crafts, Careers, Health, Computing, House and Garden and Parenting. The aim of creating these collections is to assist borrowers find items that the Dewey Decimal System would traditionally separate. To date, the trial has proved a resounding success and very popular with borrowers.

Opening celebrations included a breakfast with author Marcus Zusak, who also facilitated two writing workshops on the day for both teen and adult participants. Over 250 children and adults also enjoyed a Kids Fun Day which included a superhero show, face painting, balloon twisting, give-aways and a very special visit from the Vegie Man!

Library staff have also embraced their new workspace with great enthusiasm and love sharing all the library has to offer with customers. In particular, the staff enjoy using the innovative ergonomic returns area with electronic dump bin and combined re-sensitiser and check in facility.

This is Logan City Council Libraries fourth major building project in the last decade and is an outstanding accomplishment considering that Logan City's geographical size and population almost doubled overnight as a result of the recent Queensland Local Government Reform.

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Big changes in the Top End

Exciting news for Darwin libraries! Casuarina Library, the main library in the Northern Territory's largest public library service, is in the middle of a major upgrade which will transform the library into a more streamlined and welcoming environment. The refurbishment is all part of Darwin City Council's (DCC) continued support and commitment to public library services in the Top End.

DCC libraries have over 37 000 registered members across their four libraries—Casuarina, Darwin City, Karama and Nightcliff, and circulation of over 48,000 per month (July 2008). Casuarina Library has been in its current location for 28 years. The close proximity to Darwin's biggest shopping centre makes the library all the more appealing.

The library closed its doors on 12 September 2008 for the expected ten-week project, and hopes to reopen by the end of November 2008. Services will continue at the three other branches with extra staffing so there is minimal impact on the community.

At a cost of \$1.2 million, the upgrade will provide a more modern facility with services such as self check-out, and a dedicated returns room. It is all part of making the library more user friendly for customers and staff alike. Included in the upgrade will be new carpets, all new shelving, furniture and improved air conditioning—a necessity for the Top End!