



**LEARNING
NEEDS
LIBRARY INC**
EDUCATIONAL & THERAPEUTIC RESOURCES

Annual Report





Chairperson's Report AGM 2022

I am pleased to present the 44th Annual Report for the Learning Needs Library Incorporated, my 2nd report as Chairperson, the first under our new name.

First and foremost, I would like to thank all our volunteers for their commitment to the library particularly with the changing nature of ongoing Covid throughout the country. The library has been able to continue operating with no disruption, with our systems in place to keep everyone visiting and working in the library safe.

To **every volunteer** - we couldn't run the library without you, *we thank you for your loyalty.*

During the year Life Member Anne Helem sadly passed away. Anne dedicated many years to the library as a volunteer, and Chairperson for several. During her time as Chairperson, she saw the Building Blocks Campaign which was set up to raise money to purchase our existing building come to fruition.

We began 2022 with the appointment of Vivien Mahoney as our coordinator, after Vanessa Cashell left to take up fulltime employment. With a great knowledge of our library systems Vivien has fitted into the role very well, we are delighted to have her on our staff. Thank you to our other staff Christina and Charlotte for their continued commitment to the library, their enthusiasm and help is invaluable.

Thank you to Nick and Colin from Christchurch Kiwanis who did a great job painting our outside wall down the driveway, we appreciate the ongoing support from Kiwanis especially Nick Atkins.

To all those who have supported our organization, particularly Trusts and donors listed on the Funding Administrator's report, an enormous thank you to you all.

Through ongoing communication with our clients, families, and professionals, we work to improve and update our service to the community, to take on board their suggestions and ideas, to keep moving forward and provide the best possible service we can. We continue to make the library inclusive, welcoming, friendly, and supportive for all users. The successful day to day running of the library has been provided efficiently by the staff and volunteers who have maintained an excellent service to all clients.

Simon and Belinda Mortlock were presented with well-deserved Life Membership to the library in recognition for over 30 years supporting the library in many ways.

Congratulations to Christina Murray who was presented with the Paul Harris Fellow International Rotary award for her 32 years of service to the library.

A great milestone we are celebrating this year is our 45th year of operation providing our unique service to the community in Canterbury. Going forward the library is well placed and governed to continue into the years ahead.

Laurane Doig
Chairperson



Funding Administrator's Report 2022 AGM

The Learning Needs Library Incorporated

is incredibly grateful to the following for their valued financial assistance during 2021

Wayne Francis Trust	NZ Lottery Grants Board
Rata Foundation	Christchurch Kiwanis
Maurice Carter Charitable Trust	Lamar Charitable Trust
Kiwi Gaming Foundation	Blogg Charitable Trust
Inner Wheel of Christchurch West	Mary Moodie Trust
COGS	Keith Laugesen Trust

Thanks to all those who contributed items for the **Christmas raffle**, special thanks to Heather and the team from **Ferrymead Rotary** who sell tickets for us; Margaret our ticket seller extraordinaire sadly passed away during the year, we were very grateful for her support over many years.

Sincere thanks to all the volunteers who contribute and support our fundraising activities.

- ❖ Fundraising during the past year included Christmas raffle, Easter raffle, Entertainment books, community weekend markets; making it work with Covid hovering all the time has at times been challenging.
- ❖ Resources that are no longer required are taken by Tanya from **Ferrymead Rotary** who sells them on behalf of the library at the Linwood Community Market on Saturdays, Heather liaises with Tanya delivering the items to her, we are extremely grateful to them both. This year we withdrew 169 resources, - most for sale at the market, others withdrawn because of missing pieces or broken.
- ❖ During this last year we had many donations of resources of all shapes and sizes, we happily accept all - people having big cleanouts during both self-imposed and government covid lockdowns. 😊
- ❖ The Cataloguing department is a busy and productive section of the library, thankyou Mandy for your efficient system, to Ken quietly working away uploading resources on to our website, to Robyn our new volunteer in the cataloguing department and to Colin in our repairs.
- ❖ We also encourage those who refer clients to us, to gather information from them on new resource ideas and choices we can offer our clients. This year we purchased 65 new resources, in addition to many donated items, which made for a busy time. Most were very special resources purchased for our learning differently section.
- ❖ Thank you to **Christchurch South Lions** who donate fabulous wooden toys from Santa's workshop at Christmas for our families, who really appreciate them.
- ❖ Thank you also to **Menz Shed Hornby** who made a playhouse for us to raffle at Christmas.
- ❖ Special thanks to you Vivien for your many skills.

Wayne Francis Charitable Trust has committed to support the library for five years with a grant of \$25,000 per annum., such is their belief in the great work the library is doing in our community, we are incredibly grateful. Our first year of their funding contribution now completed.

We celebrate our 45th birthday at the end of this year 😊

Christina Murray

Liaison/Funding Manager

Educational and Therapeutic Resource Advisor Report AGM 2022

My job as Resource Advisor continues to be very interesting and rewarding as new clients join with a variety of conditions and challenges. It is also great to be able to keep supporting our current clients. With Covid challenges over the year for our families and ourselves we have adjusted our service as necessary and have still been able to be available for our clients.

Often my role is expanded to keep me challenged and to enable me to provide a worthwhile, and very necessary complimentary service to early intervention programmes, schools and many adult organizations and support groups.

Frequently I am informing clients of services/activities/agencies available to assist them that they haven't heard about before coming to the Library.

The Home Visiting Service – This is a vital service that the library offers, - **and is our point of difference.** Families are really grateful for this essential service.

A number of the families I visit have two children with disabilities. Parents/carers need the support, encouragement and especially a 'listening ear'. Additionally, I am liaising with the child's therapists so we are all using the same skill focus to enable the child develop to their full potential.

My main objective is specifically involved around the issue of appropriate items to assist the person, to achieve skills and reach the level of development they are working on and extend the skill as appropriate. Therapists and teaching staff are always commenting on how great our resources are, and how they cover such a wide range of abilities and skill areas.

Points of Interest

- I attended the Show Your Ability expo in March 2021 at Pioneer Stadium. I saw a number of our families, occupational therapists and physiotherapists from a variety of organisations.
- Talks to various early learning centres and parenting groups were given during the year.
- Each year we have a wish list of resources needed, input is welcomed from professionals and clients, I then select the needed resources to the value of around \$12,000 which Chris prepares for presentation to approach our funders.
- New resources are very popular and are all beautifully presented by our cataloguing department with new colour coded labelling to help with placement in the library and to soon be able to scan the resources.
- University students interested in product design for those with disabilities visited; occupational and physiotherapy students while on placement in Christchurch spent time at the library with me.
- Ruby McGruddy from Nationwide Health and Disability Advocacy Service met up with me to discuss her role and see about our service.

I love finding resources to help a child/adult with multiple challenges, but it is even greater to find a person's strength and interests to find resources to achieve their goals.

My main goal is always for people to leave the library with a positive plan in place with hope and anticipation in their eyes.

A pertinent quote which describes a lot of our families:- "A hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles ." – Christopher Reeve.

Charlotte Ganderton
Educational and Therapeutic Resource Advisor