

## Fine-free makes a difference for library membership

Waitomo District Library staff are celebrating one year of being fine-free for overdue books.

Last year the library joined a nation-wide library movement in removing overdue library fines for books - and it has made a huge difference to membership.

District Librarian Julie O'Toole says the changes reflect what the community have been telling us and it has been well received.

"By removing the fines for overdue books, we're now in line with many other libraries around the country. It takes away the anxiety for people wanting to use our services," she says.



"We have seen people return to the library after being absent for some time. It's so nice to remove that barrier."

The library also dropped overdue fines for children's books in 2020 to encourage more children to use the library and recently removed

the charge to rent a DVD.

Julie says library services have evolved over time but the ethos remains the same: "we want residents young or old to enjoy reading and the benefits that brings."

"Whether you're one or 101, we've got something for you at our library. It's free and so simple to join. Just pop in and chat with one of the Library staff and we can sign you up with a card. Or you can sign up online," says Julie.

"We've got more than 18,000 physical books to choose from, hundreds of eBooks and audiobooks, DVDs and so much more."

## hoopla

Tap into Discovery.
Instantly Read, Listen, and





Reading is fun way to escape to new lands, learn something new and immerse yourself in an adventure!

But what happens when you're not sure what to read? ... take part in our 'Read Something' challenge on Beanstack to expand your reading horizons, revisit old favourites and always have something new to read!

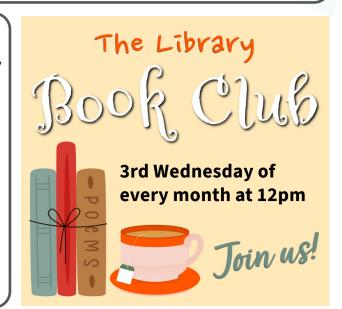
Join the challenge on Beanstack, where you'll be tasked to read books and complete activities!

## Homeschool meet a success

Waitomo District Library's new homeschool event, The Home Schoolers Get-together had their first meet on Tuesday 17 September and it was a success, with five of our districts homeschooling families coming together!

The get-together was created so homeschooled families from around our district can connect. This is a laid back get-together where families can socialise, swap stories and even take part in a few activities set up by library staff.

Join us on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1pm! The next get-together is on Tuesday 15 October.





## More than just books ...

**Waitomo District Library** 

