Community Languages AGM Report 9 November 2015

The Community Languages Operating Group and Steering Committee work closely with Chris Kennedy from PLS and much of our energy is directed to selection. Thanks to our community selectors, the Community Languages Working Party and Chris Kennedy the 15.16 orders have been placed and supply has commenced for many of the languages.

At the end of the 14.15 financial year the unallocated funds were used to top up stock in collections such as CDs, Dutch Large Print and Italian Mills and Boon. There is, however, no unallocated budge for specific items in the 15.16 budget. It is also the last time that IELTS will be paid for from the Community Languages budget. In future it will come from the Digital Content budget.

Although the cost of cataloguing continues to increase all new Community Languages stock will continue to be supplied with barcodes, spine labels and catalogued to the Library Management System. However RFID tagging will not be provided at this stage as it will make the cost of the cataloguing more expensive.

Working with Chris has created other opportunities to promote awareness of Community Languages.

A reminder that the 'Welcome to our Library' flyer is available in Chinese and Farsi. Swahili, Dari, Nepali and Arabic translations are in the pipeline.

Realia kits are a terrific and underutilised resource. These have been created from the now closed Aboriginal, Multicultural Languages and Learning Resources Centre and are, searchable on the staff library catalogue. They are stored in TOLL courier crates so are deliverable through the courier system; just contact the owning library direct, i.e. Burnside for the Japanese kit and West Torrens for the Chines e and Indian kits. They are perfect for displays or promotion of events.

Cultural Awareness training with Dr Fiona Price was held in April and good feedback from the training has been received.

What is happening now?

The Community Languages Operating Group have partnered with the Ethnic Schools Board, which has since merged with the Multicultural Education Centre. Charles Sturt, West Torrens, Salisbury and Campbelltown library representatives have attended the meetings of this group to increase the teachers' knowledge of One Card in general and Community Languages in particular.

Community Language map - a visual representation of what languages are held by each library and how to find each library. The map has been put together by a university student who is doing a work placement with PLS this month. The plan is to finalise the map and offer it to the network for loading on to Enterprise by the end of the year. Zoran is currently working on ways to integrate the map with Workflows.

I would like to thank Chris Kennedy for her support and infinite knowledge of all things Community Language which she willingly shares. I would also like to thank all the Community Language representatives for a very enjoyable and productive year. It has been a pleasure working with you.