



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
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Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into ACT Libraries

Submission Number: 055

Date Authorised for Publication: 26 September 2018

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committee - ETCS](#)
Subject: Library enquiry
Date: Thursday, 20 September 2018 3:07:02 PM

Enquiry into Libraries

Name : Kate Beach

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am writing to give feedback in response to the library enquiry. I would like to convey how deeply I value and appreciate the service we receive at all the libraries in Canberra that I have used.

Kippax library is our local one and the one we most frequently attend. Over many years my children have enjoyed regular visits to story time, and the wonderful involvement of the staff who run that so very well. Pamela from Kippax has been particularly outstanding in the way she engaged the children with stories and craft and the genuine enthusiasm she conveys to all who attend. She will be greatly missed as she goes to Tuggeranong library.

I am an avid reader and would be in the library several times a week and always find the staff and environment to be helpful, friendly and pleasant. I appreciate the well run system of being able to request books online and have them sent to the local library, and thank the workers who make that possible. Also, staff place books of interest, or DVDs out on display, and I have discovered many excellent treasures this way. One of family's favourites was the Jeremy James series by David Henry Wilson, which was recommended to me by a helpful librarian. Our whole family have loved his books over the years, and the audio book made it even better. We actually were able to correspond with the author, in England, a delightful man with a lovely sense of humour, and all thanks to a kind recommendation from a librarian who took the time to suggest a good book.

I think that the library at Kippax serves as a real point of community connection. It is positioned right in the centre of the shopping area, with windows all around, and it really is a hub of the community. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful resource.

I do miss the late night openings, even if it was only one night a week, and one of my very happy childhood memories was my dad taking me and my siblings to the library in the evenings (at Jamison library). I still remember the creak of the floorboards and the wonderful smell of books as we chose our treasures to borrow, possibly why I am a bit of a library addict as an adult. So I do request consideration of one late night weekly opening at Kippax to make it more accessible outside of regular business hours.

The staff are excellent and I really appreciate the extra efforts they put in. For example, on Valentine's Day they wrapped books in plain brown paper and you could choose a "blind date" with a book, to read something you normally may not choose. They host art groups, knitting groups, giggle and wiggle for little ones, story time, holiday activities, etc. A big thank you to them for the wonderful service they provide!

Yours sincerely,

Kate Beach
Sent from my iPad