

Te Anau Library closed until October 13

The Te Anau Library will be closed until October 13 after it was flooded this week.

Southland District Council Library Manager Lynda Hodge said one of the toilet cisterns in the neighbouring public toilets overflowed on Tuesday night and when staff arrived on Wednesday morning, water was two inches deep throughout the library.

“Luckily the books are on shelves six inches off the ground but some magazines have been damaged and books returned through the drop-off hole got a bit wet,” Mrs Hodge said.

Carpet throughout the library has to be replaced and possibly some furniture and plumbing as well. Some repainting will also have to be done.

But the flood will have a silver lining for all District library users as there will be an amnesty on overdue book fines across the District during the three-week closure.

“So have a look in the boot of your car or under your bed and return those late books,” Mrs Hodge said.

Existing fines still stand, however.

Te Anau library users can return their books to the Te Anau Council office or to any other library and can also borrow books from any other library.

“We may be able to arrange some loans if people are absolutely desperate so ring us on 0800 732 542 to find out.”

The library has been closed since Wednesday but people were jumping a bike stand to come in.

“I didn’t realise we were so popular,” she said.

“We are also extremely grateful for the support from Fiordland College who are helping us move all the books out and lift carpet.”

ENDS

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