

Library Open Day Enhanced by Double-Decker Bus, RedRoutemaster Responds

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A red double-decker bus attracted a lot of attention at an annual library fun-day which helped promote two New Zealand libraries and reading for young children. RedRoutemaster commented on the report detailed in the Nelson Mail.

The day consisted of more than 60 parents and children from Tahunanui boarding the bus touring the Nightingale Library and Elma Turner Library. Parents admitted that their kids enjoyed the combination of reading books and the bus trip across town.

Steve Harley, a team leader at the Elma Turner Library, said: "It's really important for us to make sure the library gets involved in the community. It's all about developing literacy and getting people into the library early on."

Those onboard were given a tour of the libraries' activities and services, along with interactive story-telling and making Anzac poppies out of pipe cleaners as well as lollipop sticks. The Nelson City Council supported the event with a councillor speaking about his favourite comics to the children.

A spokesperson for RedRoutemaster, who allow Brits to hire out famous London buses for weddings and other events, has released a statement commenting on the news in New Zealand. They said: "Buses are useful for a range of things and the annual library event would have been educational and enjoyable for the kids lucky enough to go on the bus ride. The story-telling was reported to have been a success among the children and this helped to promote the usefulness of local library services.

"London is renowned for its red buses and we let people hire double-decker ones for a range of occasions, including parties, weddings, civil ceremonies and corporate events. Our buses are arguably the most famous around after having 50 years on the streets of London. Although these were withdrawn from mainstream service 10 years ago we have restored them to be the perfect vehicle for important events."

RedRoutemaster (<http://www.redroutemaster.com/>) are a locally owned, family run company who hire out iconic Routemaster buses for special occasions such as weddings and birthdays, as well as tours and trips for large groups of people. With a number of fully licensed vehicles – all built in West London by official manufacturers during the 1950s and 1960s – available for hire, they have established themselves as market leaders in the field.