

# Be enriched and read (BEAR)

A Year of the Family project by the City of Stirling Libraries

City of Stirling Libraries are celebrating 1994—*The Year of the Family* by mounting a BEAR program to encourage families to read together and to assist parents in selecting and using the right books for their children.

The theme of the program is *Be enriched and read* or BEAR. Prominent Western Australian author, Tim Winton, has agreed to be patron for the duration of the program.

The program will include family storytelling sessions, literary quizzes, make your own storybook competition, oral presentations of literature, displays, workshops/talks on study skills and exam techniques, parent seminars, meet the author sessions, reading aloud sessions at Homes for the Aged and library orientation sessions—all of which are designed to appeal to different age groups.

These events include some new initiatives which have not previously been used in City of Stirling libraries such as:

'Reading and Remembering', a program of theme-based sessions using read aloud and group discussion, held fortnightly for interested residents at a local hostel for the elderly.

The Dianella Library hosted a competition called *Telling Tales*. Primary and secondary school students were invited to present spoken work or dramatic performances of a favourite book,

poem or play. Prizes will be awarded in four categories from lower primary through to upper secondary levels. Finals will be held at the Dianella Library dur-

care-givers, focusing on the importance of books and reading for young people.

A series of booklists have been designed to reinforce the



ing Children's Book Week, 22-26 August, this year.

A special story-time session for children aged between two and three years is being conducted at the Dianella and Scarborough libraries over the year. The aim of this particular program is to educate and entertain toddlers and also provide parents with ideas, materials and techniques to use with their children at home.

Several libraries are hosting a series of sessions for parents and

aims and objectives of the program. The lists are available in all City of Stirling libraries and cover a range of themes of interest to all ages.

It is hoped that in the long term these activities will make a positive contribution towards raising the profile of City of Stirling libraries within the community, and particularly during the Year of the Family as BEAR will encourage the sharing and enjoyment of literature amongst family members of all ages. ■

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