



Library staffer Jeffrey Smith tackling the mammoth task of shelving.

BELOW: Mayor Khal Asfour outside the new Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre.



BIG MOVE FOR BANKSTOWN

Bankstown City Council library staff recently undertook the arduous task of shifting tens of thousands of books and equipment from the library to the new Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre.

The new centre is significantly bigger, with a 5,000sqm library, a dedicated children's area including two children's PCs and smart TV, a new History@Bankstown library, outdoor reading garden and a dedicated youth area.

It also has considerable more seating, with the new library seating over 326 people while the previous library could only seat 82 people.

The new centre also boasts new technological features including 52 public computers, an IT training room, smart information kiosks, a technology sharing table, a smart board and dedicated iMacs.

The new library will also offer an overnight returns service and reservation self-collection point.

Despite the challenging situation, the move went well thanks to the hard work of staff and business removal specialists Goals A+N. Despite being just across the road and the other side of Paul Keating Park from each other, it took more than a week to relocate to the new library.

It was a mammoth task with over 90,000 items moved from 635 bays of shelving, including 55 computers. That's in addition to 105 general equipment items including a Colour MFD copier, change machine, minicashier, two black and white copiers, money counting machine and three safes.

It was the second major library move that staff have undertaken recently, with nearby Chester Hill Library and Knowledge Centre opening in September 2013.

Having completed that move just a few months previously, staff used the lessons they learnt at Chester Hill during the move at Bankstown. Organisation was key, with staff packing 120 crates and more than 450 boxes before the move.

The expansion of Chester Hill Library and Knowledge Centre included four new group study rooms, a dedicated children's library, new public amenities, installation of 12 public computers, a courtyard area upgrade and a self-loans and reservations collection point.

Temporary library services were conducted at Chester Hill Community Centre before books and equipment were relocated to the new library.



Library relocation?



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