



MEDIA RELEASE

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## Online Library Downloads Service Collects Users and Unique Books

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Special editions of book favourites *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, and *The Lost World* are the latest audio titles to boost the fast-growing digital downloads collection available from Yarra Plenty Regional Library.

The titles are available thanks to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) electing to make its audio books available to Overdrive, Yarra Plenty Regional Library's download service.

The BBC versions of the books are original special editions. *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* is a special edition of the original radio series, first broadcast on BBC radio in 1978 and recently voted the United Kingdom's favourite audio book in a newspaper poll. The BBC versions of *Lord of the Rings* and *The Lost World* are full-cast dramatisations.

More than 1000 library members have used the library's online download service since it was added to library services in January 2008. The service not only offers audio books, but music, video, and e-books in PDF and Mobipocket formats. The most popular downloads have been *At the Playboy's Pleasure* (A Harlequin romance e-book), Brian Tracy's *Manage Your Time and Double Your Productivity* e-book and an audio version of *1<sup>st</sup> to Die*, the first book in James Patterson's Women's Murder Club Series.

Any library member can access the free downloads service, using a personal computer and the Internet. Follow the links to 'Overdrive - Downloadable Media' on the YPRL website at [www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au).

YPRL's Collections Manager, **Anita Catoggio** says there are interesting audio books being added to the downloads collection all the time.

"You can download and enjoy the digital titles anytime, anywhere on compatible devices including iPods, iPhones, MP3 players, laptops, Pocket PCs, and Palm OS devices. Many audio titles may be burned to CD and played in the car. The loan period is 3 weeks - best of all, items are automatically returned, so there's no damage, late fees, or replacement costs!"

Free iPod fridge magnets are available from every Yarra Plenty Regional Library branch.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Photo of someone using an iPod and pretending to hitchhike (A reference to *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*) on the road outside the library branch.

**Please contact me on 9401 0755 to organise a suitable time for photography.**

**A complete list of the top ten Yarra Plenty Regional Library Overdrive downloads is available upon request.**

**For further information:**

Suzanne Male

Marketing & Media Coordinator

Yarra Plenty Regional Library

Phone: 9401 0755

Email: [smale@yprl.vic.gov.au](mailto:smale@yprl.vic.gov.au)