



CityLife West
02/09/2008
Page: 8
General News
Region: Wellington
Circulation: 14040
Type: Suburban
Size: 250.55 sq.cms
---T---



■ **Andrew Bonallack**
Andrew.bonallack@citylifefews.co.nz

Students from Bellevue School in Newlands and Northland School celebrated Living Heritage Day last month with a special ceremony at Wellington Central Library. The students researched heritage 'treasures' and submitted their findings to the Living Heritage website, an online bilingual site that supports schools in research and publication on heritage topics of their choice. In researching Stellan Memorial Park, Northland School students chose a poignant piece of history.

They recounted the story of New Zealand WW2 hero James Kingston Stellan who steered his disabled plane from a French village and school, but lost his life in the process. Bellevue School published their research into the neighbouring Woodridge Farm and the Newlands Volunteer Fire Service. National Library Minister Judith Tizard praised the children, teachers and parents for their hard work. "It's wonderful seeing seven and eight year olds using this material," she says. "I can see their parents are completely blown away – they had no idea their children

were so technically on to it. "It gives me confidence that these children are going to learn and develop what others will need for the future. She says it was good to see historic people as human beings. "These are people who had courage and optimism and integrity and hope, and we are all products of that foundation," she says. Living Heritage Day was part of National Library Week. The website is available to primary, intermediate and secondary schools and there are nearly 70 published sites online.

www.livingheritage.org.nz



ON TO IT: Northland School pupils, from left, Amelia Brooker, Max Nichol, Sarah Irons, with National Library minister Judith Tizard.
Photo: Andrew Bonallack