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Life

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SELF



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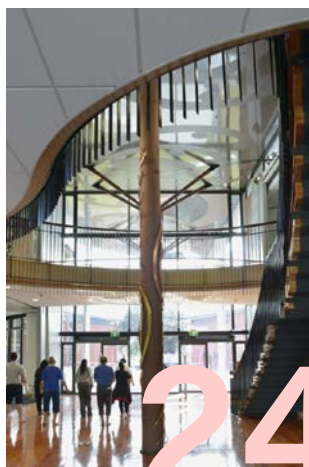
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#### COVER IMAGE

Te Whare Pukapuka University of Waikato  
Library staff, back row left to right: Dr  
Rangihurihia McDonald, Ngāwaiata  
Henderson, Ngaki Te Kare-Ruaine, Kalehi  
Apete, Ammon Apiata, Hollie Tawhiao. Front  
row: Neha Nisha, Keshia Cleverly Karaitiana.

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#### EDITORIAL STATEMENT

*Library Life* is the digital magazine of New Zealand's Library and Information Association Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa. Providing a voice for the views and news on issues relating to the GLAMIR sector. You may use material found in this publication in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 CC BY licence for any purpose if the original creator is acknowledged.



## FROM THE EDITOR NĀ TE KAITĀTARI

### ANGELA CAIRNCROSS

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It is a great privilege to bring you this issue of *Te Rau Ora Library Life*. For the first time, we feature a wānanga library, Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library and Information Commons.

It is exciting to see the efforts the library and information sector make to indigenise their collections, facilities and services. We feature Te Whare Pukapuka the University of Waikato Library and learn how it supports the university's ambition to become an anti-racist institution and to indigenise its library services.

Also featured is Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui Wellington City Libraries Nohinohi Reorua programme to develop its bilingual services for tamariki. And the career pathway in this issue features LIANZA Council member, Tracy Maniapoto.

You can find out who received LIANZA Professional Recognition Awards and read about Sana Saleem's Australian research tour. Alan Dingley talks about being Te Awhi Rito Reading Ambassador and we have our first column from the LIANZA Climate Action Standing Committee. And lots more.

Thank you to everyone who made contributions to this issue.

Would you like to feature your library in *Te Rau Ora* or share what is happening in your service? Get in touch with me here at LIANZA: [comms@lianza.org.nz](mailto:comms@lianza.org.nz).

Ngā mihi nui

**Angie Cairncross**  
**LIANZA Communications Advisor**



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

## NĀ TE TUMUAKI



**RICHY MISILEI**  
**LIANZA PRESIDENT**

Tena koe everyone,

October has four Pacific languages to celebrate – Tuvaluan, Fijian, Niue and Tokelauan – so let me greet you all in those languages: Fakatalofa, Ni sa bula vinaka, Fakaalofa lahi atu, and Mālo ni.

A lot has happened since August. I say this for myself, but I am sure you may have your own experiences. Life can be so busy, manic, fast and sometimes messy. You can get caught up with an information overload, wherever it is coming from, and it can all be a bit much. If you are in that space now, stop reading and take a few moments to pray, meditate, stare out the window, listen to a song or whatever helps you to be still. In those moments of 'stillness', you can breathe and collect yourself to push through the inevitable hustle we experience daily. So, please, do that now.

I will keep this one short because I do not want to add to your information overload, but I want to speak briefly about two things.

Number one. I had a wonderful time connecting with colleagues from the New Zealand Law Librarians Association (NZLLA) at their conference last month in Wellington, thanks to a gracious offer from Erin Cairney, NZLLA President. I have been in public libraries all my library career, so I wanted this opportunity to learn about another side of the sector. And boy, did I learn! From artificial intelligence to a digital strategy for our court system to the current state of the legal information profession, I was blown away!

The 'top-of-mind' point I came away with was the encouragement I received in pushing for our sector to work together even more. Especially in light of certain issues that seem to be common amongst us all: recruitment into our sector, professional registration and others. I guess I have deepened my mindset on this after conversations with Erin, our PLNZ colleagues and the new SLANZA President, Claudine Crabtree, and connecting with ARANZ President Evan Greensides. We can only get stronger from working together I believe!

And two. We have the LIANZA 2023 Conference coming up in a few weeks' time. I have been attending the conference committee meetings following the LIANZA Executive Director's departure to support that mahi. And let me tell you, this crew is great! They are working hard to execute an excellent conference for you all. The excitement grows

even further when I check out the programme and see the fantastic sessions. It is a great opportunity to learn about the mahi happening in our sector, work together and see the potential for the whole sector to strengthen as we focus on our communities and the impact we can have together.

Please look after yourselves amid what is a busy and sometimes challenging world – remember, there is also beauty all around us as well!

Fakafetai lasi, Vinaka vaka levu, Fakaaue, Fakafetai,

**Richy Misilei**  
**Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa**  
**LIANZA President**

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Handwritten signature of Andy Fenton in black ink.

Andy Fenton  
Founder & CEO

# INDIGENISING TE WHARE PUKAPUKA, UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO LIBRARY



Back row left to right: Dr Rangihurhia McDonald, Ngāwaiata Henderson, Ngaki Te Kare-Ruaine, Kalehi Apete, Ammon Apiata, Hollie Tawhiao.  
Front row: Neha Nisha, Keshia Cleverly Karaitiana. Image supplied.

**In 2022, the University of Waikato's [Library Plan](#) took effect under the leadership of a new university librarian, Michelle Blake. The plan is underpinned by principles taken from the university's [Te Tiriti o Waitangi Statement](#) and supports the university's ambition to become an anti-racist institution. The intention to indigenise the library services is at the heart of the plan.**

It was clear that indigenous expertise was required to lead this work. After reorganising the library in 2022, six new dedicated Māori and Pacific positions and two Māori and Pacific student assistant roles were created. It was necessary to attract the right people to these roles, so they were advertised with as much flexibility as possible, and cluster recruitment ensured the staff filling these positions were not coming in alone.

The Pou Ārahi (Cultural Advisor) role is held by [Dr Rangihurhia McDonald](#) (Ngāti Maniapoto), who is responsible for relationships with Māori communities and supporting the achievement of Māori student and staff equity. She also leads the library's anti-racism work.

Hollie Tawhiao (Ngāti Tiipa) is the Kaitiaki Mātangireia and oversees the Mātangireia collection of Māori, Pacific and indigenous resources. Hollie ensures appropriate manaaki

of the collection in collaboration with our communities.

Ngāwaiata Henderson (Ngāpuhi, Maniapoto, Tūhoe, Ngāti Hāua) has taken up the post of Te Mata Aurei as part of the Teaching and Learning team. The team is responsible for teaching library skills to students and researchers, and Ngāwaiata's role focuses on taurira Māori.

Ammon Apiata (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Toarangatira, Ngāti Koata) has taken on the role of the Māori and Indigenous Research Support Advisor in the recently formed Open Research team. The team is tasked with advancing the university's open research culture and supporting researchers to make their work open and accessible. In addition, Ammon's role includes implementing and advising on Māori data sovereignty concerning the storage and management of research data.

Kalehi Apete (Fakaofu, Tokelau) is our Kauvaiaora. She guides Pacific-identifying researchers about indigenous data sovereignty, research data management, publishing pathways to reach indigenous audiences and open-access equity funding. The Kauvaiaora role is the first-ever library role that is solely committed to fulfilling the goals of the university's Pacific Strategic Plan. This has involved building the foundation for engaging with

our Pacific communities and reforming the Pacific collection.

Keshia Cleverly Karaitiana (Waikato-Tainui, Te Rarawa, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Kāi Tahu) is the Kaitūhono (Māori Engagement Advisor). This role engages our Māori communities, promotes library services and runs events.

Ngaki Te Kare-Ruaine (Ngāti Wairere and Ngāti Maniapoto) is our Māori student assistant, a new position created to support rangatahi Māori into library pathways. Ngaki works closely with the Mātangireia team.

A further role was created for a Pacific student assistant, and Neha Nisha has taken up this post. Neha works closely with the Mātangireia team and our Kauvaioa to expand the Mātangireia Pacific collection.

The addition of these positions has resulted in Māori and Pacific staff numbers increasing from approximately 7% to 21% overall. The manager group is now 33% Māori, and the library is beginning to reflect our user communities more accurately.

Attention has turned to ensuring the lived experiences of our kaimahi are positive. In January 2023, the Kaimahi Forum was established to provide an exclusive space for Māori and Pacific staff to come together, collaborate and share ideas, and advise library management on Māori and Pacific matters. Our kaimahi work collaboratively to deliver initiatives that contribute to our library plan. Te reo Māori-speaking staff have begun facilitating regular te reo practice sessions within team meetings, creating reference and research resources in te reo, and holding waiata practices for all library staff.

We have started our anti-racism work involving team conversations about casual racism/racial micro-aggressions in the workplace. We have also developed a reporting form for library staff to report this. Library management takes these reports seriously and works together with those affected to resolve the issues that arise. All library staff are supported to take responsibility for their learning in the anti-racism space, so an anti-racism resource list has been curated. Everyone must have at least one anti-racism goal on their annual development plan.

All library staff must attend a training session on Te Tiriti o Waitangi and te ao Māori, including a local iwi context component. Our kaimahi further

support this learning with training and support that is relevant to us in the library. For example, kaimahi have recently delivered a presentation on indigenous research as part of a series aimed at supporting staff who work with indigenous researchers and the materials of interest to these communities.

Our Mātangireia team has been working to rebalance decades of colonial acquisition and management practices. The collection has been undergoing a complete inventory and assessment to correct this. The team has also rewritten policies and plans to prioritise indigenous content and perspectives. Further, a full review of our data collection management and digital dissemination platforms has encouraged collegial partnerships with like-minded institutions such as **Tauranga Libraries** and **Local Contexts**. The collection policies regarding materials by Pacific people and about the Pacific have been revised for the first time since 2003. This has involved enriching and updating the metadata of these materials.

Māori, Pacific and other indigenous researchers are being supported in the open research space to make informed decisions about where they place their work and understand its reach and impact. The library recently established an Open Access Equity Fund, which prioritises Māori and Pacific researchers, among others, to publish open access and make their research publicly available.

Kaimahi have also improved relationships with Māori and Pacific communities across campus and beyond. We have hosted open-house events, promoted our services and offered tours of our spaces, archives and collections of interest to Māori and indigenous communities. We have worked collaboratively with the Waikato Students' Union, other student groups and staff on campus to host activities to celebrate significant events throughout the year, such as Matariki, Te Wiki o te Reo Māori and Pacific language weeks. We have also been working to increase the visibility of Māori and Pacific content in the library's digital spaces.

While our kaimahi have already achieved a lot, there is much more work to be done. Indigenising our processes, services and collections will not be a quick fix but an ongoing project involving all library staff. Nō reira, hoake tātou!

*This article is a collaborative effort of the featured staff.*





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# NOHINOHI REORUA: WHĀNGAIA TŌ TAMA TOA KI TE PĀNUI PUKAPUKA!



Left. Stephen Clothier reading to tamariki. Right. Wellington City Libraries kaimahi Riafe Ruiz presenting Nohinohi Reorua at He Matapihi Molesworth Library. Image credit: Wellington City Libraries.

*Kia hari, kia koa  
Kia mahitahi  
Ngā tamariki  
Ngā mātua  
Ngā kaitiaki  
Kia hari, kia koa!*

(Karakia tīmatanga for children's storytimes, composed for Wellington City Libraries by Suezanne Pohe in 2016)

**In this article, Stephen Clothier of Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui Wellington City Libraries (WCL) shares his perspective on a recent step taken at WCL to develop their bilingual services for tamariki.**

Tēnā koutou kātoa e hoamahi mā. I am not Māori, nor do I consider myself fluent in te reo Māori. I am fortunate to have worked with and been supported by many kaimahi Māori and speakers of te reo over the years I have worked at WCL, and my description of our

libraries' recent journey is only made possible through their expertise and generosity. There are too many people to name and thank for their incredible mahi over the years, but I would like to pay special homage to Suezanne Pohe, Louise Dowdell, Pippa Cubey, Ann Reweti, Te Atawhai Scott, Charlotte Findlay, Leila Waiora Bailey-Moore, Deon Knox, and Belinda Davis – ehara taku toa, he takitahi, he toa takitini. Auē!

## THE EVOLUTION OF KŌHUNGA KŌRERO

In late 2022, the Children and Youth Services (CYS) team at WCL was faced with something of a dilemma as we considered how best to provide bilingual programmes in English and te reo Māori to the pēpi and tamariki of Te Whanganui-a-Tara and their whānau. Since 2009, we had run a popular te reo

Māori storytelling programme across our branches called Kōhunga Kōrero, derived from 'kōhungahunga' – 'to be young, of people and birds.'

Kōhunga Kōrero, or KK as we affectionately called it, was envisioned as a full-immersion programme, where fluent library kaimahi would share stories, waiata and pūrākau, and converse with families fully in te reo Māori. Introducing Kōhunga Kōrero was an important step for WCL as we sought to bring te reo Māori storytelling to our youngest library users. The example provided by the amazing wāhine leading the programme led to more and more of our presenters who were running the nominally English-medium Preschool Storytime incorporating stories and waiata in te reo Māori in those sessions as well.

However, through circumstance and staffing changes, we started running short of kaimahi who had the level of fluency required for them to feel confident and comfortable leading such a session. I started helping to deliver Kōhunga Kōrero in 2018. By this time most of our KK presenters moved out of necessity to a more bilingual delivery model. Some of us felt quietly whakamā that we were not living up to the Kōhunga Kōrero vision, even though the whānau attending our sessions were enjoying themselves.

This worry that we were not fully honouring the whakapapa of Kōhunga Kōrero and the legacy of the amazing wāhine who had led it for so long, and the fact that the responsibility for presenting this programme was falling on the shoulders of a smaller and smaller number of staff as the years went on, was creating a situation that we knew we had to address.

## NOHINOHI REORUA: TOWARDS A NEW BILINGUAL STORYTELLING PROGRAMME

After an initial brainstorming session, we came to what felt like the most obvious solution for everyone. Most of our storytellers had been incorporating te reo Māori into their English storytimes already, and many of our Kōhunga Kōrero presenters found it expedient to use English during their sessions as well. Why

not simply combine the two approaches?

Nohinohi Reorua, from 'nohinohi' – 'to be small, little, new,' was imagined as a bilingual storytelling programme where presenters use both English and te reo Māori to deliver a session shaped by mātauranga Māori and in accordance with a tikanga that we built together.

We worked out an appropriate order of karakia, mihimihi, story-sharing and pūrākau, waiata and kēmu to create sessions that reflect the order of proceedings of a pōwhiri but still feel intuitive and enjoyable to tamariki who want to listen, move their bodies and participate. We developed a handbook that kaimahi can use to help them plan a session. And, thanks largely to work by former kaimahi Suezanne Pohe and Leila Waiora Bailey-Moore, a new training programme and staff guide to te kohikohinga Māori to help them select pukapuka at the right level for their reo, with kupu and rerenga kōrero that they can pronounce confidently.

Preparing for a Nohinohi Reorua session is familiar for staff who have presented Preschool Storytime in the past – looking for books, deciding what waiata to use, maybe preparing an activity or a game. The key difference is that we do it intentionally with tikanga and mātauranga Māori at the heart of each decision we make. The goal is to deliver a session centred around te ao Māori and to foster a warm and inclusive

atmosphere where all feel comfortable exploring kōrero i te reo Māori to the degree they can.

Following a period of practice and preparation, we introduced Nohinohi Reorua at six of our libraries in May 2023. The response from the public has been wonderful and immediate – our sessions are bursting with tamariki from preschools and kindergartens, and whānau who are keen to participate and learn more about te reo and te ao Māori. Attendance at Nohinohi Reorua is about 50% higher than usual for our English storytimes.

But the greatest success, I think, is in how wholeheartedly my amazing colleagues have embraced the new approach. Where previously there was a dwindling group of just four or five staff who felt confident delivering Kōhunga Kōrero, we now have 20 staff across our network working together to run Nohinohi Reorua.

Since May we've added one more library and a community centre to the list of locations that are offering the programme. And a fresh group of 10 more kaimahi is on the waiting list to attend training. I am feeling more positive than ever about the future of te reo Māori in our children's programmes. I can't wait to see where our kaimahi take the programme next – and how we can start integrating what we have learned across all our programme offerings.



**Stephen Clothier** is the Children's and Youth Services Coordinator at Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui Wellington City Libraries. His library-related interests include reading to children in funny voices, teaching robots to read to children in funny voices, and breaking things (usually dramatically) with the express purpose of putting them back together again – hopefully better than he found them.

# ALAN DINGLEY - TE AWHI RITO READING AMBASSADOR



**ALAN DINGLEY**

**Alan Dingley, a Palmerston North librarian, was named as Te Awhi Rito Reading Ambassador for children and young people this year. He talked to Te Rau Ora Library Life about his role as a library professional, reading and what being Te Awhi Rito means. We will see more of Alan at #LIANZA2023.**

## TELL US ABOUT YOUR ROLE AS A LIBRARIAN AND WHERE YOU HAVE WORKED.

It is not often that you can say that failing something was the best thing that ever happened to you. But when I failed teacher's college, it set me on the path of school librarianship and to the post of Te Awhi Rito today.

I worked as a special needs teacher aide at Monrad Intermediate in Palmerston North. Not long after, the librarian retired and I stepped into the role.

I loved working with children and my theatre background probably set me apart from the usual image of a librarian. After

Monrad Intermediate, I went on to be Palmerston North City Library's Youth Librarian, and then on to Palmerston North Intermediate School. I am now back at Palmerston North City Libraries as a community branch librarian. Running a small community branch is all about relationship building, which is exactly what the Te Awhi Rito role also requires.

## WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT MATTER TO YOU IN THAT ROLE?

I believe your first job is to make the library a place that people not only want to visit but want to return to. That comes down to a collection that suits their current needs and future steps on the reading journey, and knowing both the patron and the collection well so you can put the right book in the right hands at the right time. As a school librarian, you must be agile in your mindset. You will be confronted with every level of need, whether it be social or academic. You must have plans A, B, C, D and more!

## WHAT DOES BEING TE AWHI RITO MEAN FOR YOU AS A LIBRARY PROFESSIONAL?

Librarians, in both school and public libraries, are on the front line of the reading-for-pleasure battle. Free access with dedicated, professional staff is crucial to what libraries are all about. So I believe for a school

or public librarian to be chosen as Te Awhi Rito is a nod to us being valued in that role. I can confidently stand in front of a crowd and have them know I am speaking from a place of professional passion. I want them to cross that threshold into those libraries, knowing that it is their place and that we are there for them.

## HOW CAN THIS ROLE HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN TAMARIKI AND RANGATAHI TAKING UP READING?

Reading for pleasure is something we need to normalise and make into a habit. It is coming into the New Zealand curriculum so my hope is that schools will realise that having a library, staffed by passionate, knowledgeable staff, is an incredible tool to shift those tamariki into good reading habits and keep them engaged in the world of reading. I want to find all the areas that might be falling behind in those habits, which is usually down to poor access to material, and a lack of passionate people to dispense it. Get in front of them and ask, "How can I help?"

## WHAT DO WE NEED TO BE DOING MORE OF TO SUPPORT MORE READING IN TAMARIKI AND RANGATAHI?

We need to be reading role models. They need to see us



reading for pleasure, see us talking about books the same way we talk about streaming shows or movies. They believe they have this world at their fingertips due to social media and the internet, but we need to show them that books and libraries have **worlds** within them. We need to open the door and guide them through with whatever books or material they want to read. It is so very important that we give them a voice when picking what they want to read. Forcing texts or our own personal preferences on them will discourage them from reading rather quickly. Let them start with what makes them comfortable, you just have to be ready when they come asking what to read next. Librarians need to be willing to recommend whatever will appeal to the reader, none of the snobbery of yesteryear allowed. Libraries are

open, safe spaces, regardless of status or situation.

We should be the guides of knowledge, not the gatekeepers.

"They believe they have this world at their fingertips due to social media and the internet, but we need to show them that books and libraries have **worlds** within them."

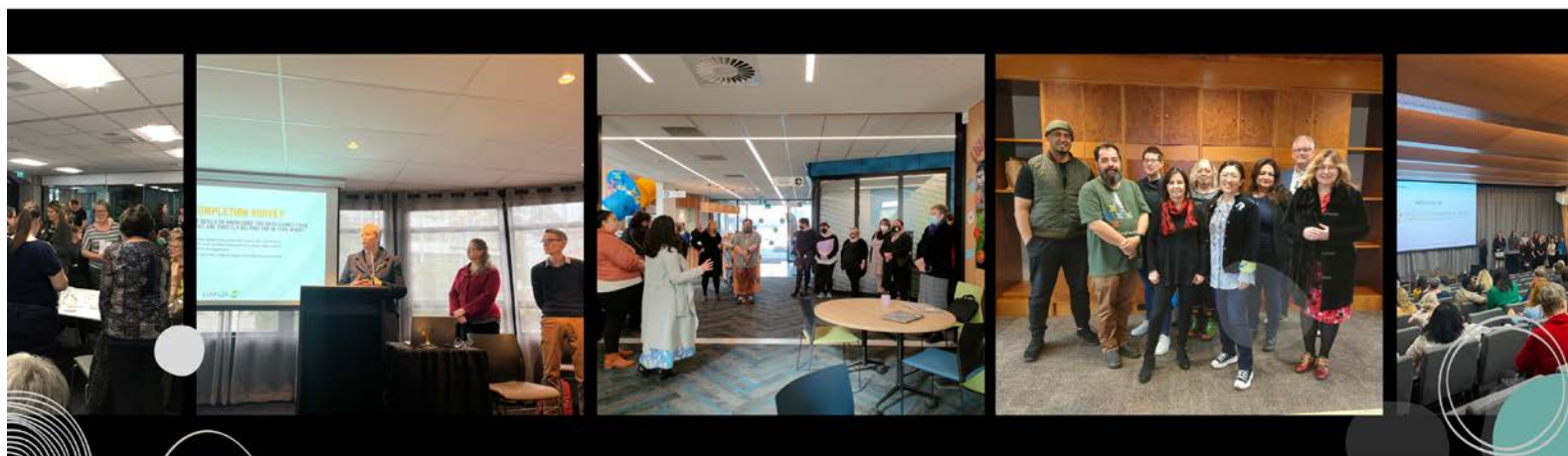
### WHAT EVENTS WILL YOU UNDERTAKE OVER THE YEAR AND HOW DO LIBRARIES 'BOOK YOU IN'?

I will visit as many schools as possible, and libraries and communities that will have me! Also, I will be visiting the areas involved in Pūtoi Rito Communities of Readers projects around Aotearoa. I am honoured to speak on a panel at LIANZA 2023 Conference in

my birth town of Christchurch in November!

I just want to connect with as many people as possible, talking about how books have the power to be a mirror or a doorway. Bring the message that reading is the doorway – haere mai!

I would love to come visit anyone, anywhere, anytime! Contact the awesome team through [reading-ambassador@dia.govt.nz](mailto:reading-ambassador@dia.govt.nz)



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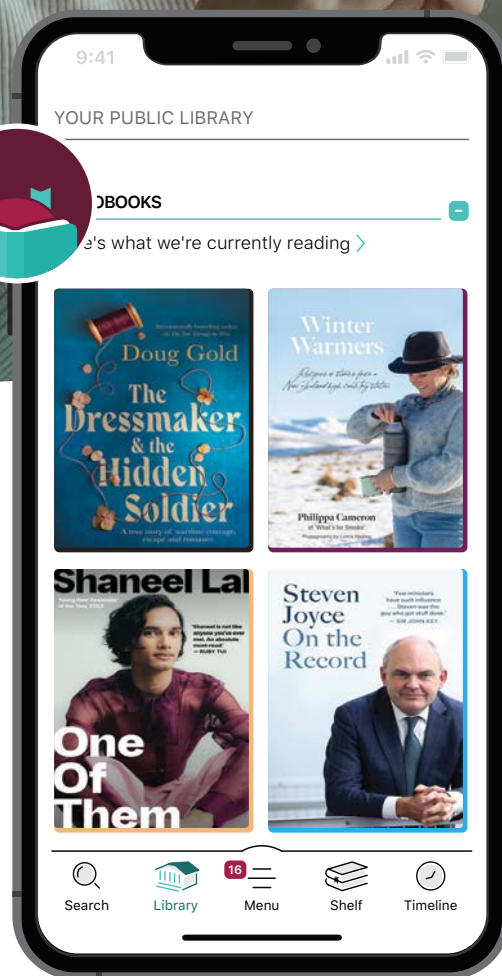
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# LIANZA PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS



With great pleasure, Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA announces that the following professional recognition awards have been made for 2023.

## LIANZA FELLOWSHIPS



**KIM TAUNGA**

Kim Taunga, Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa, LIANZA immediate past president and currently Head of Community Delivery South (Auckland Council) has made a long-lasting contribution to the way that public libraries meet and respect diverse customer needs. Kim is an inspiration to others. Her commitment to service, to manaakitanga, and her generosity in mentoring and assisting others to learn, develop and get involved are her key drivers.

Kim's involvement with LIANZA dates from 1995, five years after commencing as a library assistant at Manukau Libraries. Since this time, she has continuously been committed

to and involved with LIANZA as regional chair, regional councillor and several conference committees.

Kim has always actively supported the bicultural journey of Aotearoa and the profession. Kim has been highly involved in bicultural and Pasifika kaupapa. She is an enthusiastic member of the LIANZA Pasifika Information Management Network and staunch supporter of Te Rōpū Whakahau partnership. She has demonstrated a strong and enthusiastic commitment to growing the capacity of our profession to provide resourcing and high-quality services to Pacific peoples in New Zealand and in the Pacific. In 2023 Kim was elected to the IFLA Asia-Oceania Regional Division Committee.

Kim has the determination to bring about change and make things better for others. She is hard-working and is not afraid to push boundaries. One of many examples is her clear innovative vision and achievements in major new library build projects

such as the libraries at Botany (first public library with RFID), Papakura, Ōtāhuhu (Tōia library pool and rec centre) and most recently Te Paataka Koorero o Takaanini Library and Community Hub. These libraries have attracted and influenced library visitors from Aotearoa and internationally. Kim spoke about Takaanini at the IFLA LBES (Library Buildings and Equipment section) mid-year seminar in Sydney earlier this year.

Kim is a role model for librarianship in Aotearoa. She has coached a new generation of library leaders who will further enrich our profession, services, and communities. She has changed the landscape of future public library leaders through her desire and ability to mentor others. She is a librarian who shares her own experiences and wisdom generously. Kim is a public librarian dedicated to excellence for her communities and profession.

Kim is highly deserving of the award of Fellowship.





## PETER MURGATROYD

Peter Murgatroyd RLIANZA has made an outstanding contribution to health libraries in New Zealand and demonstrated exceptional leadership in this sector, worthy of recognition by the award of a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Fellowship.

Peter is currently the Library and Knowledge Services Manager at Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, Counties Manukau, supporting the information needs of clinical and patient care staff as well as improvement in healthcare service delivery, design and innovation. He is also responsible for Ko Awatea LEARN, a DHB-focused eLearning community education service providing a range of programmes, courses, and community forums.

Peter has been an active member of the LIANZA Health SIG as well as convenor from 2019-22. During this period,

Peter initiated and fostered a relationship between the LIANZA Health SIG and ALIA's Health Libraries Australia. Peter has encouraged knowledge sharing between these groups and the sharing of professional development opportunities from Australian and New Zealand health librarians. Peter is also a member of the editorial team for the Journal of Health Information and Libraries Australasia (JoHILA). In 2023 Peter was appointed to the IFLA Evidence for Global and Disaster Health Special Interest Group.

Additionally, Peter has worked tirelessly to improve communication and collaboration across organisational boundaries and to remove the inequities and barriers to accessing resources. Peter helped to provide the enthusiasm and thought leadership that resulted in a vision for the future of health librarianship in New Zealand and was a key architect of the report that was distributed to stakeholders. Peter was actively involved in the local, regional and national response to COVID 19 contributing to information curation and dissemination within both the health and library sectors in addition to being a Reference

Group Member of the New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme (NZLPP) 2021-2022.

Peter was also a member of the LIANZA 2019 Conference programme committee and a member of the organising committee for the 2023 Asia-Pacific Health, Law, and Special Libraries Conference. Peter has also presented at a number of LIANZA and other professional association conferences in New Zealand and internationally. He has also published widely throughout his career. Peter has also had a longstanding involvement with library development in the Pacific Islands and has served as Vanuatu Library Association President, Samoa Library Association Vice President and he was also the Pacific Regional Chair of IAMSLIC, The International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres.

Peter has generously shared his time, knowledge, and experience to support the leadership development of health library colleagues with strategic thinking and clear communication being hallmarks of Peter's contribution to the sector.



## PHILIP MILES

While Philip's work has been largely based in the public library sector in the Greater Auckland

Region, his career has been nationwide, across several library sectors, in professional networking groups and with professional association committees and roles at all levels.

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Library and Information Services, Philip's work in Auckland Libraries has included managing a community library, leading digital solutions

across the libraries' network, and working with the Connected Communities programme. In these generalist and specialist roles, Philip has consistently created success with both processes and people, helping large projects in both planning and implementation phases and ensuring staff-friendly and customer-friendly delivery was always at the forefront. Philip has modelled leadership and strategic thinking through his

contributions in all these areas, making him a valuable member of the Auckland Libraries staff.

Within the wider professional sphere, Philip has made a strong and continued contribution to LIANZA at both the regional and national levels. He has served on the LIANZA Hikuwai committee including as chair and was regional councillor on LIANZA Council for two terms from 2019-2023. Philip was involved in two major reviews for LIANZA. He was on the working group for the review of special interest groups and regions in 2019 and contributed significantly as a member of the

strategic leadership governance working group in 2020-21. Philip chairs meetings, webinars, and conference sessions in person and online with a respectful, professional approach, and with great humility. In both roles, his contribution has always been a mixture of diligence and practicality, with strong strategic and future-thinking contributions. Philip understands the broader picture of a national organisation and what it seeks to achieve, making him a valuable contributor at all levels.

In all of this, Philip is a quiet and determined professional. He does not need to be in

the limelight or to get lots of credit for his mahi, and he takes satisfaction in a job well done and in supporting and encouraging others. His strength is in relationship building and strategic thinking, a combination which makes him a highly effective member of Council, regional committees, and workplace contexts.

It is the breadth and depth of his involvement and contributions in the library profession that makes Philip a worthy recipient of the award of a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Fellowship.

## LIANZA ASSOCIATESHIPS



**LISA SALTER**

Lisa Salter RLIANZA is awarded a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Associateship.

Lisa's library career has focused on school and community libraries. At the Ruawai College library, the library was developed into a community library hub and Lisa continued with this work while she was employed there.

As Kaipara District Library Manager, Lisa's vision for her small community is as broad and equitable as that of larger regions, with a focus on continuous improvement, using her strengths of effective

communication, a professional approach and spotting chances to develop library services. In her current role, she manages the Dargaville Public Library, four community libraries, a team of staff, and more than one hundred volunteers. In 2022, thanks to Lisa's work, Kaipara District Libraries went fines-free.

Lisa has partnered with National Library's Pūtoi Rito project to grow reading for pleasure for young people in Dargaville – a lasting and meaningful project. Her proudest achievement is her high-functioning team of staff and dozens of volunteers.

Lisa has ensured Kōtui is available across a volunteer network. Lisa launched Tutu Discovery Library and developed a strategic direction for the library service. She works collaboratively with neighbouring local authorities.

Lisa has been an active member of LIANZA, PLNZ, and SLANZA.

She continues to hold a variety of positions, including as a member of the Kōtui Board manager's executive and Public Libraries of New Zealand National Executive.

It is the breadth and depth of his involvement and contributions in the library profession that makes Philip a worthy recipient of the award of a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Fellowship.



University of Otago.. Image credit: Wikipedia.



## SIMON HART

Simon Hart RLIANZA is awarded a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Associateship.

Simon has worked in management and leadership roles at the University of Otago for over 30 years, collaborating with library colleagues nationally and internationally.

As Learning Services Librarian, Simon coordinated and promoted the library teaching and learning programme, collaborating with The Higher Education Development Centre and academic divisions to promote information skills development.

As a policy, planning, and evaluation librarian, he has initiated and coordinated innovative projects and activities designed to extend assessment activities locally, nationally, and internationally. Simon is the co-chair of the CAUL (Council of Australian Librarians) Value and Impact Community of Practice, facilitating a strong community of practitioners across Aotearoa

New Zealand and Australia.

Through his research, Simon has contributed widely to the literature on measuring and assessing library services.

Simon cares deeply about how the library supports the library user and how the organisation can support their staff. He continues to provide leadership to foster evidence-based decision making and a culture of continuous improvement in libraries.

## LIANZA LETTERS OF RECOGNITION



## ADRIAN JENKINS

Adrian Jenkins RLIANZA is awarded a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Letter of Recognition for his contribution to the LIANZA Professional Registration Board.

Adrian was a member of the board from 2020 to 2023 and acted as chair from July 2022 to March 2023.

During his time on the board, he worked with the LIANZA Executive Director to update the Professional Registration Board content in the LIANZA Code of Practice. Adrian also led to completion a project to update the Professional Registration Revalidation template to increase the ease of use for members, so the board received the right information to

assess. He also established clear guidelines on extra requirements for applicants who requested an extension of submission date for their Professional Registration revalidation journal.

Adrian's support and leadership of the board have been deeply valued by the sector.





Wintec | Te Pūkenga. Image credit: <https://wintec.ac.nz>



### DAWN CARLISLE

Dawn Carlisle is awarded a LIANZA Letter of Recognition for her contribution to ākonga and kaimahi at Wintec, Te Pūkenga,

for her support of learning around Te Tiriti, mātauranga Māori, Pasifika, and equity and inclusion.

Over the last year, Dawn has developed an expansive set of resources for ākonga, enabling them to deepen their understanding of Māori and Pasifika worldviews. She actively sought advice and feedback from Māori and Pasifika groups at Wintec, bringing together Pacific conversations in

accessible and comprehensive guides.

In developing this work, which has been deeply valued by ākonga and kaimahi, Dawn has shown dedication, humility, and willingness to learn.



### MARK HUGHES

Mark Hughes is awarded a Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa LIANZA Letter of Recognition for his continued and sustained advocacy and commitment to library and information

services in the Murihiku - Otago Southland region. He is described as an integral part of this region and over the past decade or so has taken on several LIANZA committee roles including chair, treasurer, and member in order to provide continuous networking and professional development opportunities.

Mark is described as "*the rock that held it all together*", especially over the COVID period and has been on the organising committee for the

LIANZA 1910-2010 Centennial Conference.

Mark brings a positive, professional, and proactive presence. His continued contribution has meant that LIANZA has survived and thrived in this region.

# LIBRARIES, COMMUNITIES AND VEI TALANOA



*The PHIVE in the city of Parramatta. Image credit: Sana Saleem.*

**Sana Saleem attended the Australian Libraries Research Tour in August 2023 as the LIANZA delegate. In this article, she talks about the tour and what she learned.**

I want to begin by acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which the research took place in the various interstate libraries we visited. I pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The 12 days of warm Australian sunshine, eating delicious barramundi, and heartfelt appreciation for the beautiful heritage buildings, diversity and community engagements were some of the highlights of visiting Australia in my birthday month, August. I was blessed to be the

LIANZA representative on the tour, travelling with Marion Read, Denise Clarkson, Māia Abraham and Siren Deluxe.

## PREPARING FOR THE TRIP

We began preparing for the trip over Zoom in May. Our e-talanoa involved getting to know each other, selecting and deciding on the list of potential libraries to visit, and finalising the accommodation and flight details. We all had tasks, and the team prepared an infographic of the common themes and questions, which we sent to the Australian library managers in advance, on programmes, community and partnerships, governance and strategies, operations, staffing and resources, spaces and design and key issues and trends.

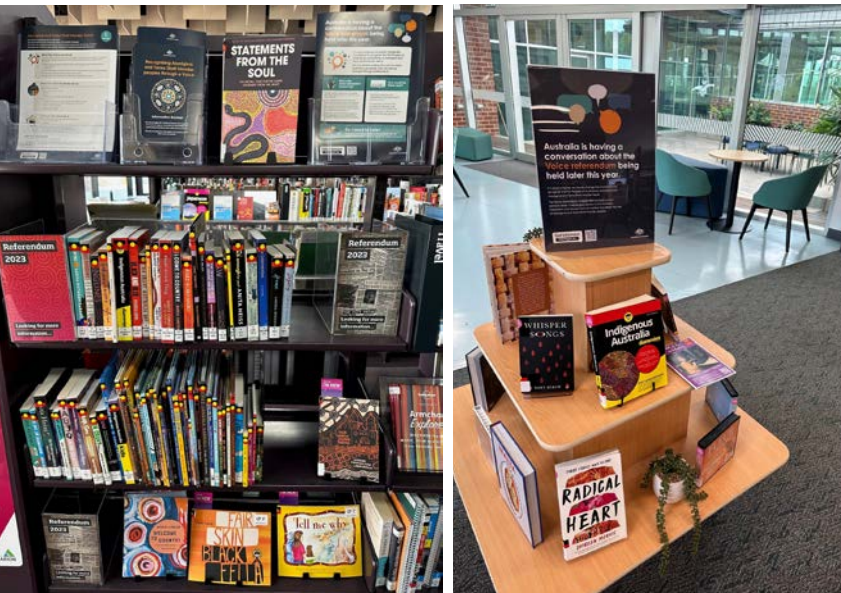
It has been a trip of sharing, giving and receiving information. I demonstrated my Fijian values of veiwekani – relationships, vei talanoa – conversing respectfully with people, and vei rogorogoci – listening with respect and intently to others, making connections on how a library is a place and space that brings people and information together under the whare/vale/fale of learning.

The library visits covered the states of New South Wales and South Australia.

## SYDNEY LIBRARY VISITS

We visited 10 libraries in the first three days of the trip. These were: **City of Parramatta – The Phive, Wentworth Point Community Centre and Library, Our Library@ Mount DrUITT,**





Left & centre. Library displays on the Australian Indigenous Voice Referendum and more. Right. From left, Māia Abraham, Siren Deluxe, Denise Clarkson, Sana Saleem and Marion Read. Image credit Sana Saleem.

**Granville Centre, Cumberland Libraries, Wentworthville Library, Marrickville Library, Haberfield Library and Community Hall Heritage Project, Lane Cove St Leonards Library, and the State Library of NSW.**

The team then flew to Port Macquarie to continue our journey and to spend a whole day in Kempsey, visiting the **Kempsey Library** and **Port Macquarie Library**.

From there, the team was split between Adelaide and Melbourne for a few days before finishing the tour.

## ADELAIDE LIBRARY VISITS

I visited the **Onkaparinga Libraries**, which included Woodcroft, Seacroft and Noarlunga Libraries, **Cove Civic Centre, Cultural Centre Library, Salisbury Community Hub, Burton Community Hub, Para Hills Community Hub**, and the **State Library of South Australia**.

## WHAT I LEARNED AS A LIBRARIAN AND AS A RESEARCHER

### Libraries

The roles of libraries and librarians have evolved as we move beyond the traditional library and its functions. I saw excellent examples of co-existing and co-locating Australian public libraries and community/cultural hubs operating together and fit for purpose. The community hubs are designed to transform the notion of thinking beyond libraries full of books. It demonstrated the extraordinary value of public libraries situated in the heart of communities and local councils, representative of the identities of the place. The PHIVE in Parramatta is not just a library. The \$138 million architecturally designed award-winning landmark combines smart technology and eco-friendly interiors to create a balanced library functioning as a service delivery model, enabling equity of access and promoting information literacy. Another example of a school hub library in Onkaparinga showcased the joint use of resources in a metro

area to attract young people to engage with a floating collection.

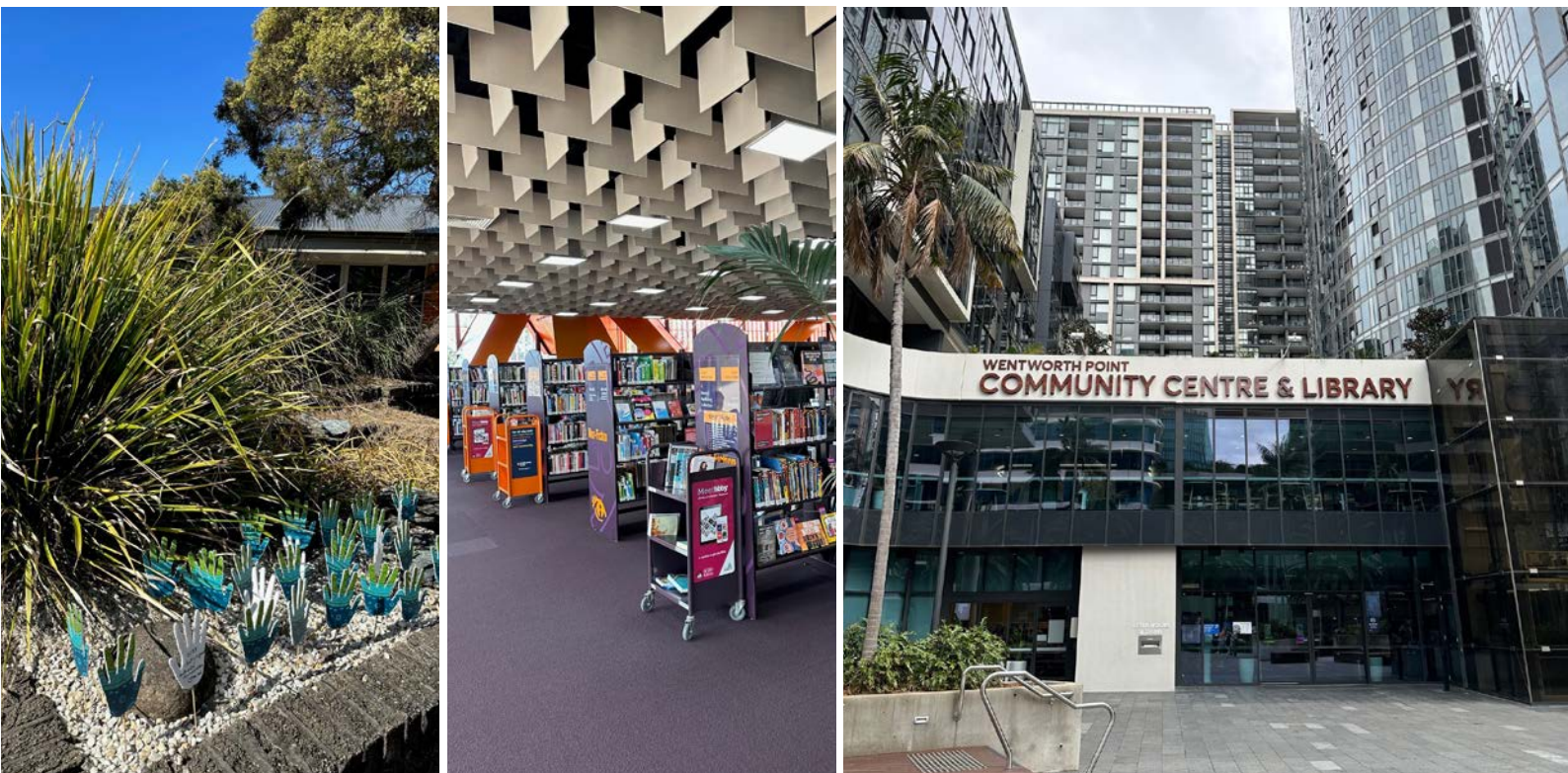
I believe some Australian public libraries are emerging in bicultural consultations and indigenous partnerships to provide culturally safe access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander library services and collections.

I found it encouraging to see library displays on the Australian Indigenous Voice referendum held on October 14, 2023.

### Communities

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a substantial impact on public libraries in Australia. Almost all libraries experienced some period of lockdown, resulting in libraries adapting their services to suit the diverse needs of their communities. Australia's public library system serve a diverse range of urban, regional and remote communities, including young and aged populations and immigrants. Many libraries have recognised the importance of partnering with local communities and councils





Left. Kempsey Shire Library garden and hands. Center. Cultural Centre Library. Right. Wentworth Point Community Centre and Library.  
Image credit Sana Saleem.

to strengthen the voice and advocacy for a successful library.

Hearing how those public libraries responded and established new practices of connecting with a 'new normal' from a user perspective was promising. For example, libraries transitioned into online services provided safe spaces for the homeless and interactive hubs for the children's programme, and increased the community languages available in the physical collection. It was wonderful to see diverse communities connecting with both libraries as a collection and an inclusive and safe space to study, learn and feel the warmth of the 'village' coming together.

Kempsey Shire Council and library staff showed us their garden decorated with hands. The hands had messages to acknowledge the land's traditional custodians, the Thunggutti/Dunghutti nation, and celebrate National Reconciliation Week.

### **Vei talanoa**

I had many interactions, conversations and networking opportunities with my Australian library colleagues through the respectful way of *vei talanoa*. We had meaningful spoken engagements to understand better how librarians from **ALIA** and **LIANZA** professional organisations support the library and information sector

in the libraries, places and communities we serve in Aotearoa and Australia. The face-to-face interactions provided more context and an open process to share knowledge, while maintaining the *kaupapa* of our team project.

There were some excellent examples of library design, green hubs, community hubs and modern spaces.



**Sana Saleem** is from Nadi, Fiji, and is the Pacific Librarian at Unitec Library Te Pūkenga.

# CAREER PROFILE



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF  
**WELLINGTON**  
TE HERENGA WAKA



**TRACY MANIAPOTO**

**Tracy Maniapoto grew up in military camps in New Zealand and overseas and has whakapapa to Te Āti Haunui-a-Pāpārangī and Ngāti Tūwharetoa through her father and Ngāti Porou and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Te Wairoa through her mother's whānau. Tracy tells *Te Rau Ora Library Life* about her career pathway and her current role as a lecturer at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington.**

I have a Bachelor of Information Technology from Whanganui UCOL, now Te Pūkenga, and a Master of Information Studies (MIS) from Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington. I am currently studying for a PhD in Māori Studies through Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa

Massey University and my doctoral research explores the revitalisation of the Māori language within libraries, archives and museums.

My first role was as a library assistant at the local polytechnic. I remember being well supported by the other library assistants when I started and learned a lot from their experiences. They provided much of the technical, on-the-job training.

While working, I enrolled on the information studies post-graduate certificate at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University. Eventually, I moved into a librarian role in a neighbouring city. Over time I staircased my qualification into a Master of Information Studies. Upon reflection, I should have enrolled directly on to the masters but lacked the confidence to think I could complete it.

After meeting my partner at a LIANZA conference I moved to Auckland and worked in the library at the University of Auckland. From there, I shifted across to public libraries and was based at Auckland Central Library as Senior Librarian Collections before moving into

academic roles in Māori health and the library and information studies sector.

## ACADEMIC ROLES

I worked as a curriculum and assessment writer and lecturer for Open Polytechnic, now Te Pūkenga, in the design and delivery of three courses: LIS504 Te Ao Māori in the Information Environment, LIS505 Introduction to Communication, Advocacy and Marketing, and LIS506 Collection Management in Libraries. It was very rewarding to be part of a team contributing to developing these courses for the Bachelor of Library and Information Studies.

I also taught on the Hauora Māori and Environment paper at Auckland University of Technology (AUT). One of the key highlights was working with library staff from AUT South Campus library to develop a **Hauora Māori (Māori Health) subject guide** to support first-year students.

For the past six years, I've worked part-time with the School of Information Management at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University as a teaching fellow. More recently,





Image credit: Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington Facebook Page.

I was appointed as a full-time lecturer in January 2023. This year I'm teaching in four courses and am currently redesigning the INFO533 Services to Special Groups course for Trimester 3. The format for this course is a six-week intensive programme, rather than the traditional 12-week programme – quite a shift from the norm and I'm looking forward to seeing what the students develop over this time.

## INVOLVEMENT WITH TE RAU HERENGA O AOTEAROA LIANZA

I have been involved with LIANZA Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa for several years, taking up roles with Tel SIG, Te Rau Ora Library Life, Hikuwai Committee, and the Professional Registration Board.

I attended my first LIANZA conference in 2011 and participated in my first lightning presentation based on an assessment I did as part of the MIS. The conference gave me the opportunity to share what I had learned with other like-minded professionals.

As a national body, LIANZA is pivotal in creating and developing a thriving library network and ensuring our presence remains. I am a National Council member of the LIANZA Council and am excited to give back and support the library and information sector.

## EARLY CAREER ADVICE

**Find your tribe** – this is about your sense of belonging. Build your networks, join communities of interest, surround yourself

with those who support you and genuinely have your best interests at heart. If you can't find a tribe, start one!

**Keep learning** – this is about your professional growth and wellbeing. Read often, watch that webinar, talk with your peers, apply for grants to attend a conference, or apply for a scholarship to start a degree. You might just get one!

**Transferable skills** – find ways to get your start. If you are not working in the sector yet but are ready to apply, reflect on how transferrable your skill set is to the role or sector you are applying for and start building a list of examples for your CV and interview.



# LIBRARY OF THE ISSUE

## TE KŌPUTU KŌRERO A TĀ HIRINI MOKO MEAD - TE WHARE WĀNANGA O AWANUIĀRANGI LIBRARY AND INFORMATION COMMONS



*Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library entrance. Image credit: Mereana Coleman.*

**Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi translates to 'the house of learning of Awanuiārangi' and is situated in Whakatane in the Bay of Plenty. As an academic institution established by Ngāti Awa, it was formally opened on February 10, 1992. Te Rau Ora Library Life is privileged to have Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library as the library of the issue.**

The name Awanuiārangi derives from a tupuna and links all iwi and hapū within the Mataatua area through whakapapa. Te **Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi** is one of three organisations recognised as wānanga under the Education

Amendment Act of 1989. Wānanga offer tertiary education options to help Māori students achieve better educational outcomes, filling a gap in the national education system by providing progression from Kohanga Reo, Kura Kaupapa Māori and Wharekura.

### TE WHARE WĀNANGA O AWANUIĀRANGI LIBRARY

Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library had humble beginnings. The first location of a temporary library space was in a house leased offsite, and the value of the collection was close to \$10,000 of purchased and donated books.

Development in 1994 saw the addition of a library building – an old prefab, on campus, suitably furnished – the appointment of a qualified librarian and a considerable increase in library resources. The development of a purpose-built library building began in 2010 and on December 7, 2012, the Library and Information Commons, Te Kōputu Kōrero a Tā Hirini Moko Mead was officially opened by Te Arikiniui Tā Tumu Te Heuheu (Te Heuheu Tūkino VIII).

The library is named after the prominent Māori writer Sir Hirini Moko Mead, the foundation professor of Māori Studies at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington and



Left. Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. Centre. Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library inside entrance. Right. Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi collection. Image credit: Mereana Coleman.

one of the founding fathers of the development of Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. Mead is a well-known and respected scholar with exceptional Māori language and culture knowledge.

## ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE LIBRARY

Every Monday, the staff and students gather in the library for karakia to usher in the week and offer spiritual protection and guidance. The library space is used for various activities and events, including whakatau, pōhiri, haka practices and community gatherings. Ngāti Awa Waitangi Commemoration Day is an annual event held in the library that celebrates the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in Ngāti Awa.

We serve as a focal point for events such as the New Zealand Census, and voting in October

for the New Zealand Elections will again be available here. Awhi Taurira, our Student Support Services team, is physically located on the library's ground floor. This partnership provides a one-stop shop for students seeking academic and library support.

## POINTS OF DIFFERENCE AS A WĀNANGA LIBRARY

"The main reason I love working in this library is to support and see our taurira succeed. We create an environment where it is welcoming and friendly, and our taurira are awesome. Approximately 80% of our taurira are Māori and returning to study after an absence of more than 15+ years and that is where we need to pick up on those taurira who look lost. For me, it is about breaking down the fear of libraries (not everybody like/loved the library at school, I know I did not)."

**Bev Paul – librarian**

A focus on Māori tikanga and mātauranga is strongly ingrained in the library and the institution's cultural identity, and provides a distinct difference for how our library operates. We have an emphasis on the use of te reo

Māori in the library. This can be seen by using Māori subject headings when cataloguing, visual signage and the preferred language of communication.

While not a priority, staff working within a wānanga library typically have a strong understanding of Māori people, culture and language. Community engagement in the library focuses on promoting Māori research and education.

## THE LIBRARY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Accepting, appreciating and curating gifted collections have several benefits, more so than the goal of enhancing the library's holdings. These

collections support research and education and the greater goals of cultural preservation, understanding and historical significance. Gifted collections at Awanuiārangi include Sir Harawira Gardiner (KNZM) Book





*Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library. Image credit: Mereana Coleman.*

Collection, Sir Hirini Moko and Lady June Mead Collection, Evelyn Stokes Indigenous Book Collection, Neil Grove Collection and Waitangi Tribunal Research Collection (unpublished collection). The latter is a unique collection of Waitangi Tribunal claims research.

We have several complete collections of documentation pertaining to a Waitangi claim and we were also fortunate to acquire the collection from the Crown Forestry Rental Trust upon its closure. We recommend this collection to post-graduate students with master's and doctoral degrees.

Te Kōputu Kōrero a Tā Hirini Moko Mead Library supports

"I like that our library users are not faced with the barriers or notions of mainstream libraries that have been documented in the various Te Ara Tika reports. I also like the flexibility of doing things that are a bit different from other libraries, such as the alternative measures we take to acquire resources. We work closely with rare book dealers other than the neighbourhood bookstore to locate 'out of print' Māori literature. We establish relationships with lawyers, so we can ask for their documentation at the completion of a Waitangi Tribunal case."

**Mereana Coleman - Library and Information Services Manager**

activities to improve the study experience whilst boosting students' academic success. Please stop in and say kia ora if you are in our beautiful Bay of Plenty region or travelling through Whakatane.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- Awanuiarangi Google (2021, February 11). *Te Kōputu Kōrero a Tā Hirini Moko Mead - Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library* [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82\\_hatG0vHc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82_hatG0vHc)
- Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Library website: <https://www.wananga.ac.nz/support/library/>



**Mereana Coleman** is the Library and Information Manager at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. She began her library career as a library assistant at the National Library in Wellington. On completion of the New Zealand Library Certificate she worked in library roles at the Alexander Turnbull Library, Te Puni Kokiri Library and the Ministry of Women's Affairs Library before moving to her current role at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. Mereana graduates this month with her Master of Information Studies. Her research report is titled *Mātauranga Māori in New Zealand libraries: An annotated bibliography of resources to support BOK 11: Understanding Māori knowledge paradigms.*



# LIANZA PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

## RACHEL ESSON NATIONAL LIBRARIAN

I encourage anyone at any point of their career to work towards LIANZA Professional Registration. Join LIANZA and connect with other professionals passionate about the place of libraries and information services in making Aotearoa New Zealand a place where everyone can thrive, grow and participate in communities, in education, and in employment.



## WHY SHOULD I REGISTER?

### HE AHA AHAU I RĒHITA AI?

- Gain recognition of your commitment to professional standards and enhance your professional competence throughout your career.
- Use the registration process and Bodies of Knowledge to reflect on your ongoing learning in your professional practice.
- Demonstrate your engagement with the latest innovation and developments in the profession.
- Display your commitment to professional learning to your peers, current and prospective employers.
- Gain greater influence within your organisation and the wider sector.
- Once you are registered you will be able to add RLIANZA to your signature.

## HOW DO I REGISTER?

### ME PĒHEA TAKU RĒHITA?

- **Join LIANZA** or an affiliated organisation.
- Complete an **application form**.
- **Contact LIANZA** for support.

## MIRLA EDMUNDSON GENERAL MANAGER, CONNECTED COMMUNITIES AUCKLAND COUNCIL

At Auckland Libraries we take professional registration very seriously for our senior and specialist professional roles. It not only provides career progression due to the higher pay grades that we can apply to the senior roles, it also gives us confidence that the people in those senior roles are up-to-date reflective professionals who have taken care of their own professional development.



## WHEN SHOULD I REGISTER?

### ĀHEA AHAU E RĒHITA AI?

- You can be at any age or stage of your career.
- Recent graduates with Victoria University of Wellington Master or Postgraduate Diploma of Information Studies and Open Polytechnic Bachelor of Library and Information Studies qualifications automatically qualify to apply for RLIANZA.
- LIANZA Professional Registration applications and revalidations are accepted throughout the year.

## WHO CAN REGISTER?

### KO WAI KA TAEA TE RĒHITA?

- Anyone with an **approved New Zealand library and information qualification**.
- Anyone with a library and information qualification **recognised by international library associations**.
- People with a bachelor's degree in any field **AND** that can demonstrate three or more years of experience in the profession by mapping this against all **Bodies of Knowledge**.

**CLICK HERE TO START YOUR LIANZA PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION JOURNEY TODAY!**



# NEW LIANZA MEMBERS

*Welcome to all our new  
LIANZA members!*

Amy Bustard  
Wilma Coleman  
Hayley Collett  
Sandra Johnston  
Subhashni Prasad  
Karlie Jean Robinson  
Matthew Sampson  
Aimee Smith  
Anika Whalley



# LIANZA PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

*Congratulations to all LIANZA members who  
have recently gained or revalidated their  
LIANZA Professional Registration*

**AORAKI**  
Alison Fields  
Ngaire van der Knaap  
Justine Lester  
Joan Simpson

**HIKUWAI**  
Debbie Airey  
Yessar Barakat  
Fiona Diesch  
Corrine Oemcke  
Karlie Jean Robinson  
Zahra Sotoodeh  
Georgina Bowley  
Erika Soeterik  
Joanne Rochelle Sy  
Dave Tucker  
Izzy Zhang

**TE UPOKO O TE IKA A MAUI**  
Oliver Stead  
Marianne Dobie  
Janice Keys  
Kirsty McNeill

**TE WHAKAKITENGA AA KAIMAI**  
Nicole Thorburn  
Penny Guy

# OPEN POLYTECHNIC



## NO LIBRARY IS AN ISLAND - SPECIAL LIBRARIES IN THE PACIFIC



Lorin Pai (left) and Pam Bidwell at a food break during a research meeting. Image credit Pam Bidwell.

**While living in Fiji, Pam Bidwell's interest in special libraries was triggered by an anecdotal story of the collections of a disbanded library being left in boxes for Suva passers-by. Pam thought that might be just a story, but wondered if it was evidence of a 'boom-and-bust' cycle for Fiji's special libraries. Her current research project arises from that speculative thought and from what she has seen so far, Fiji's special libraries seem to be doing OK. Pam talks about her research in this article.**

A brief sabbatical in Fiji's capital city earlier this year gave me an opportunity to begin this research on special libraries. This was my first return to the country since 2013, when I left

my role in library and information studies at the University of the South Pacific.

Special libraries in Fiji have quite a long history. The first known library was established in Lautoka in 1904 to support the information needs of staff at the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's Agricultural Experiment Station. Within Fiji, special libraries are now common in government departments and research institutions and the largest provide regional support for staff in government and non-government organisations.

There have been challenges in Fiji's special libraries over the years, including an exodus of librarians following the various coups since 1987. The last

directory of special libraries was released 37 years ago – just one year before the first coup.

The research investigates the health and viability of Fijian special libraries, considering collaboration, resource sharing and digital collections. This is an ongoing joint project with Lorin Pai, a librarian at the University of the South Pacific. Lorin has a background in special libraries and was recently elected President of the Library Association (Fiji). She is also a past student of mine, who went on to complete a Master of Information Studies at Charles Sturt University in Australia.

Stage one of the research involved four one-hour interviews with the managers of two government libraries,



one commercial library and one non-government library. As a qualitative research project, we analyse conversations initiated using starter questions. Transcriptions of the recordings have been made using local support. That work is almost complete, so we are looking forward to beginning our analysis.

We aim to repay research participants with outputs that benefit local special libraries. In the past, a series of library directories, including two directories of special libraries, helped with what Fijians call the 'coconut wireless' – an informal local network to share news and information. An important task is to compile a new special libraries directory. This will

facilitate an online survey for stage two of the research project and will be distributed to special libraries for future resource sharing and collaboration.

This research has an overall aim of local empowerment and collaboration, and the survey will seek out local solutions.

*Some Fiji special librarians have ended up in New Zealand, so if any readers have knowledge to share, please get in touch with me ([pam.bidwell@openpolytechnic.ac.nz](mailto:pam.bidwell@openpolytechnic.ac.nz)). Pam Bidwell is a Senior Library and Information Studies Lecturer at Open Polytechnic Te Pūkenga.*

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# HISTORY CORNER



## THE LADIES' READING ROOM



Central Public Library Reading Room, Mercer Street. Archives Online, accessed September 21, 2023.  
<https://archivesonline.wcc.govt.nz/nodes/view/14043>

### **Did you know there were plans to have a separate women's reading room for eight of the 18 Carnegie libraries in Aotearoa New Zealand?**

This was the case according to Professor Abigail Van Slyck who cites 'primary documents' (van Slyck 1996; p.221, footnote 1). In 1993, Professor Van Slyck was awarded a Fulbright senior scholar award to study Carnegie libraries in New Zealand. That research culminated in *Knowledge is Power: Carnegie Libraries in New Zealand*, an exhibition at the National Library of New Zealand.

Plans published in the *Supplement to the New Zealand Herald* on June 6, 1885 for the new library in Auckland show that there was a designated

Ladies' Reference Room overlooking Wellesley Street. But this is the only mention of it. The building was completed and the library opened on March 26, 1887 with no ladies' reading room. The building now solely holds the Toi Tāmaki Auckland Art Gallery.

Ladies' reading rooms were a phenomenon for libraries built roughly in the last quarter of the 19th century and up until the First World War in the United States, the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire.

Various reasons have been given for the existence of separate ladies' reading rooms in libraries, including to protect female readers from the 'library



loafer' – men who would come in to check the racing pages – to keep working-class men away from middle-class women, misguided ideas around gendered reading interests and to encourage women's use of the library.

The 1892 issue of *The Library* (the organ of the Library Association in the UK) featured an article on ladies' reading rooms: "It is true they have not been successful in all places where the plan has been tried, as for instance in Birmingham, where a women's reading room had to be closed on account of some very flagrant abuses of the privilege. Even in this case, the result was in some measure due to imperfect control by the staff." A search of the British Newspaper Archive could not shed any light on these 'very flagrant abuses,' but please let us know if you can do better.

In the same article, it summarises Thomas Greenwood's view from his 1885 manual on public libraries. Greenwood objected to women's rooms because they encourage a good deal of gossip, and fashion sheets and plates are occasionally missing from the tables!

From an American point of view, Van Slyck (1996) argues that ladies' reading rooms fell out of favour due to the professionalisation of librarianship and a greater focus on customer service so that the 'library loafers' were included as part of the public we serve.

Although there were other societal factors in Aotearoa New Zealand, the class issues that were a reason for the existence of ladies' rooms in Britain were not so prevalent here. New Zealand had already passed suffrage by the time the first Carnegie libraries were being built so they were perhaps already seen as old fashioned by the time they appeared in this colony.

Howard Strong, who ran the Canterbury Public Library from 1879 to 1911, wrote in [an interview he gave with \*The Press\* in 1913](#) after he had retired that "A ladies' reading room was opened in 1904... but twelve months later... was closed on account of misuse. As it was, the average attendance was

only three or four a day, and similar departments in other libraries had always proved unsuccessful."

The interior photograph of the Central Public Library Reading Room in Wellington in the 1930s shows men in overcoats and hats occupying most of the tables (above). But three tables on the right are marked as Ladies' Tables. Even if ladies' reading rooms did not catch on, the idea of gendered spaces continued for a while in Aotearoa New Zealand libraries.

This fascinating, short-lived phenomenon deserves further attention in Aotearoa New Zealand's library history. If you are interested, I highly recommend the journal articles below.

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# FREEDOM OF INFO



## AROUND THE GLOBE



Image credit: Banned Books Week Website

### AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA) - BANNED BOOKS WEEK OCTOBER 1-7

This is an initiative of the American Library Association, which is marked elsewhere in the world. It is an opportunity to draw attention to threats to the ability of libraries to acquire and give access to the books their communities need, independently of political or other pressures. With challenges growing right now, the importance of protecting the rights of libraries is high. You can look at the [Banned Books Week](#) website for more information, and [resources here](#).

### LIANZA - LIBRARY CHALLENGES TOOLKIT

Work is still progressing on the toolkit for school and public librarians, as we begin to think about how to present the content. Look out for a session at the LIANZA Conference on the toolkit and a panel discussion on misinformation. In Australia and Aotearoa, the most challenged book this year is *Welcome to Sex* by Dr Melissa Kang and Yumi Stynes.

**CALL TO ACTION:** Banned Books Week is an opportunity to showcase your collection development policy and LIANZA and international statements about freedom to read and freedom of information.

### AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION (ALIA)

ALIA has set up a **Freedom to Read** working group and is working on an Australian-wide reporting system for challenges. They report that book challenges are predominantly related to titles dealing with LGBTQIA+ issues, gender identity and concerns about books being too explicit or graphic for children. Accusations of 'child grooming', 'pornography' and 'demonic/satanic filth' are common. To a lesser extent complaints are directed at excessive violence and mis/disinformation. ALIA has been providing workshops for public library managers to help them respond.





Image credit: UN Photo/Martine Perret/Eskinder Debebe/Gregório Cunha

## INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS (IFLA) AND UNESCO

### International Day for the Universal Access to Information – September 28

Born out of Right to Know Day, this day is an opportunity to underline the importance of access to government information, through freedom of information laws and proactive reporting, and information in general. This year's theme focuses on why online spaces matter for access. IFLA will produce an opinion piece for the event, but check out the [UNESCO website](#) for the list of global events.

## GLOBAL MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY (MIL) WEEK – OCTOBER 24-31

This week provides an opportunity to draw attention to the importance of reliability and accuracy in information, and the role of libraries in building the skills that allow people to value and recognise this. This year's theme focuses on the need for MIL in digital spaces. We encourage libraries around the world to think about how they can get involved. See the [UNESCO website](#) for more, or to **register your own events** or check out **the guide** on how to get involved.

## HUMAN RIGHTS DAY – DECEMBER 10

Human Rights Day 2023 will mark the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which includes the right of Freedom of Access to Information that is at the heart of IFLA's work. This year's theme is Dignity, Freedom and Justice for all, and the United Nations have already started preparing for the day with a [dedicated website](#). IFLA will be active through the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE). Keep an eye on the IFLA website for more.

# CLIMATE ACTION



## FAIR USE AND FAIR DEALING

# LIANZA STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE ACTION

### NEW CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

Library and information professionals have a vital role to play in the climate crisis, encouraging communities to learn, discuss and act. The LIANZA Standing Committee on Climate Action was established in June 2023, responding to the scale of the climate crisis and the need to demonstrate leadership and provide guidance to the sector.

The list of committee members can be found on our [new LIANZA website page here](#). We are working on a LIANZA statement to formally acknowledge the climate emergency and the important role that library and information services can play in society's response to this crisis. The statement will align LIANZA with other library associations like ALIA and local government organisations in this symbolic and necessary step to unify the library and information sector around this issue. We are also developing a workplan for the year ahead to map out our actions to inform and support LIANZA members. This will be through statements, resources, advocacy and advice.

### LIBRARIES AND CLIMATE ACTION GLOBALLY

IFLA focuses on amplifying libraries' important role in the climate crisis and supporting their members to engage in climate action. The topic featured heavily at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in July 2022, with inspiring keynotes highlighting the vital role library and information professionals can and do play in securing the sustainable future needed for people and our planet.

One of these keynote speakers, [Michael Peter Edson](#), labels the climate crisis and other global crises the "Big Frikin' Wall", arguing that "working in safe, slow incremental ways will not enable us to get over [it]". Edson called on librarians to be conscious of the inherent activist nature of our work and tackle the climate crisis head on with creativity, innovation and partnerships. We are excited to hear more from Edson at the LIANZA 2023 Conference where he will deliver a keynote speech.

At this year's WLIC, IFLA hosted an open session titled, How Can Libraries Accelerate Climate Empowerment? The crowdsourced ideas captured

in this session were fantastic and put forward a diverse range of actions librarians can take to help our communities understand the scale of the crisis and encourage them to act. Useful, concrete examples were outlined under the following areas: science engagement and education, community collaboration, modelling sustainable behaviour and innovative approaches. You can [read the session summary online](#) to learn more and look over the examples.

### LIBRARIES AND CLIMATE ACTION IN AOTEAROA

With the caveat that bold action is needed to get us over the "Big Frikin' Wall", we acknowledge that our small actions collectively add up to make a big difference. We know that LIANZA members across Aotearoa are acting in their day-to-day mahi to reduce carbon emissions and adopt sustainable practices, many of which set a great example for the communities we serve too!

Our committee will use LIANZA channels to spotlight examples of climate action within libraries in Aotearoa, ranging from hands-on guidance on achievable steps you can take today, to





Image credit: Refat Ul Islam on Unsplash

building partnerships with other organisations to increase impact. In this edition of Te Rau Ora Library Life, we are taking aim at a commonplace practice in libraries – lamination!

## BREAK UP WITH YOUR LAMINATOR

The unfortunate thing about laminating paper is that you take a biodegradable and recyclable product and coat it in a plastic that is not biodegradable, nor currently recyclable in Aotearoa. Even our most important documents do not need to last centuries. So, what are the alternatives?

Depending on your reason for laminating, you might try one of the following:

- Reprint the document when needed – it may get tatty but at least this is recyclable!
- Print on thicker paper or cardstock for a bit more durability.
- Use reusable document covers or sleeves. These come in larger sizes for your posters as well.
- Try a reusable poster holder – these can be freestanding, table-top sized or fixed to the wall in your usual advertising spots. You could even use a reusable document cover or sleeve and some Blu Tack.
- Cut into strips for bookmarks or weaving, triangles for bunting or other shapes for a puzzle.

Are you involved in climate action in your mahi? We would love to share your examples with the sector! You can:

- share your examples in the Open Forum thread on LIANZA Connect
- email us on [climate@lianza.org.nz](mailto:climate@lianza.org.nz).

Do not waste those laminated projects though! Before binning old or out-of-date items, see if you can reuse them. Here are a few creative ideas:

- Make covers for recycled paper notebooks.
- Use blank backs as dry-erase boards.
- Cut into shapes for crafts or accents for a display.

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