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FEATURES NGA TOHU

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LIANZA 2023 CONFERENCE: 06

A KŌRERO ABOUT AI IN LIBRARIES: 16

LET'S TALK VALUE!: 18

TE WAKA HOU WORKFORCE CAPABILITY FRAMEWORK: 20

AND

A SUMMER DAY IN SHANGHAI: 23

LAW LIBRARIANS IN A NUTSHELL: 26



03 FROM THE EDITOR NĀ TE KAITĀTARI

04 FROM THE PRESIDENT NĀ TE TUMUAKI

06 FEATURES NGA TOHU

Highlights from LIANZA 2023

A kōrero about AI in libraries

Let's talk value!

Te Waka Hou Workforce Capability Framework

22 NEWSBOARD PITOPITO KŌRERO

LIANZA Te Whakakitenga aa Kaimai

Library Assistants' Day

A summer day in Shanghai

Law librarians in a nutshell

Book review: Everything I know about books

29 REGULAR COLUMNS

Career Pathways: Claudine Crabtree (Ngāpuhi)

Library of the Issue: Rangitikei District Libraries

History Corner: *Library Life* over the years

Copy-Riot: Copyright law reform

Freedom for Information: Equity or harm

Climate Action: Update-



COVER IMAGE

Audience at LIANZA 2023 Conference at Te Pae in Ōtautahi October 31-November 2.

Image credit: Jane Wyles.

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EDITORIAL STATEMENT

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FROM THE EDITOR NĀ TE KAITĀTARI ANGIE CAIRNCROSS

We have a new team at the LIANZA office. Here we are above at LIANZA 2023: from left Jess Buchanan-Smith, LIANZA's new Executive Director Pete Elderkin, and me Angie Cairncross. It was an excellent opportunity to have Pete start in his position with LIANZA by attending the conference. Many of you will have met him there. His contact details are pete@lianza.org.nz.

This is a very full issue, but there is a lot to say about #LIANZA2023 – our first kanohi-ki-te-kanohi conference since 2019. It was a successful event attended by more than 500 people. I'm happy we can share some of the highlights from the conference in this issue – issue 500 of *Te Rau Ora Library Life*! Tal Roloff talks about the evolution of *Library Life* over the years and Helen Stephen-Smith – there at the production of issue 1 in 1978 – reminisces.

A few workshops from the conference are shared with you as articles: Let's Talk Value was presented by Denise Wilson and encourages libraries to share their outcomes in innovative ways, Shiobhan Smith's article continues the conference kōrero about artificial intelligence (AI) in libraries, and we look at an example of using the Te Totara Workforce Capability Framework at Whanganui District Libraries, in their Te Waka Hou model.

The library of the issue is the libraries of the Rangitikei District. I confess, I was born in Marton and spent many hours at the Marton library – still the same here. Claudine Crabtree, SLANZA President and LIANZA member, shares her career profile with us. Plus, we have our regular columns and updates. Please enjoy.

Ngā mihi nui

Angie Cairncross
LIANZA Communications Advisor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

NĀ TE TUMUAKI



RICHY MISILEI
LIANZA PRESIDENT

Kumusta everyone,

Can you believe we have almost hit the end of 2023? I cannot believe how quickly the year has gone by! As I sit and write this president's column for December, I can say again that a lot has happened since the last column.

I'm going to keep the theme of my columns to note-worthy points as I don't want to give you information overload, so here they are:

#LIANZA2023

Wow! What a great time we had in Ōtautahi. I don't want this to be a cliché where the president has to say a conference went well, so let me pick out parts of our conference that helped to fill my cup.

The first was catching up with people face-to-face. Seeing old colleagues and meeting new ones was an honour and pleasure. Everyone who attended brought a good 'buzz' and energy, which helped set the atmosphere beautifully. If

I were a stranger coming into this conference, I would have walked away knowing that this sector and its people are genuinely passionate about their communities and society.

Second was the great content we received from all our presenters. The sessions I caught exhibited presenters with deep knowledge and passion. If we continue down this path and apply what we've learned, our sector can only grow stronger – that potential is exciting!

Third, thank you to our hard-working conference committee who toiled and plugged away at bringing this all together: Alice, Amy, Jennifer, Kate, Kirstin, Ky, Maatakiwi, Saskia, Wendy and Danielle, as well as our LIANZA office, Jess and Angie. Fa'afetai to our sponsors NZMS (thanks Andy), Bolinda/BorrowBox, OCLC, Wheelers, OverDrive Australia and Peter Pal. Other aspects of the conference added to it being such a wonderful gathering – Te Pae and Christchurch being two of them – but as I want to keep this brief, I will end by saying I cannot describe how much this time blessed me!

Fa'afetai tele lava, everyone.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Recent occurrences have resulted in some community leaders questioning the value of libraries and I envisage this type of 'questioning' to keep occurring until the immense value of our

sector is in everyone's minds. I've recently had two media appearances dealing with this topic (here is the link to one of those: [RNZ](#)).

Part of dealing with the issue was to hire someone who will be up to the task of taking on this mahi, among other things. We were fortunate to find that in Pete Elderkin. I won't steal Pete's thunder by introducing him again, but he has great advocacy experience with the Museum of Technology and Transport, Deaf Aotearoa and the Auckland City Mission. Since starting in late October, Pete has dived into his role and is like a 'sponge' learning everything he can. If you want to drop Pete a line, his email is pete@lianza.org.nz.

Before I finish, I wish you all an amazing Christmas and New Year. Christmas has become quite a commercialised and secular celebration, but through my Christian lens – and continuing my August theme – the beauty of Christmas comes from euangelion, meaning 'good tidings', which starts in Christ's birth. So, in this essence, I pray euangelion for you and your loved ones and a blessed start to 2024!

Shukran and shalom,

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

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LIANZA 2023



Rangī Mātāmua's presentation. Image credit: Jane Wyles.

MANDY WALL'S HIGHLIGHTS

Thank you to LIANZA for the opportunity to attend the LIANZA 2023 Conference. There were so many excellent and informative sessions. At the top of my highlight list would be those related to library services for Māori and those discussing Artificial Intelligence.

LIANZA 2023 offered a robust and well-rounded discussion on mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori. Keynote speaker Professor Rangī Mātāmua's presentation on Māori astronomy and Matariki grounded in the history of his family and the work he is doing to restore mātauranga Māori provided the context and set the scene for the sessions which followed.

Dr Hana O'Regan's keynote enhanced this further, highlighting the ongoing colonisation Māori have suffered, how many issues we face in Aotearoa are

rooted in this history, and the journey and hope of moving forward.

Against this background, the sessions by Terissa Goldsmith on *The Ngāi Tahu core list at Christchurch City Libraries*, followed by the *Te Āhua o te mātauranga: the nature of knowledge* by Ngapiu Tainui-Maclure, where library resources important to Ngāi Tahu are collated and represented, that contribute to mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori, and support decolonisation.

Dawn Carlisle's presentation, *A transdisciplinary design of a future library: an insider's approach*, showed how libraries can implement practical support through the library guides and webpages she created at Wintec as a result of her research.

I found the combination of these presentations inspirational. My most significant takeaway is that



Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre. Image credit: <https://newsline.ccc.govt.nz/>

there is plenty of opportunity to improve how libraries deliver for Māori. The initiatives presented provided ideas to reflect upon and potential areas to improve, which I can take home to the library where I work.

A further high point was the opportunity to learn more about AI through attending the sessions by Nick Scullin and Kathryn Andrews, *Keen on Keenious? AI versus traditional database searching*, and Shiobhan Smith's *Artificial Intelligence and Libraries: What is the fuss?* I had not investigated AI in any great detail, but I had heard a lot about the problems posed, so learning about the benefits AI tools can offer libraries, particularly in the academic

library context, was an excellent counterbalance to all the negative press AI has received. I've been sharing my learnings with my colleagues and will look into Keenious and the AI websites Shiobhan presented.

One last highlight I must mention is the final-day tour of some of the libraries in Christchurch. It was uplifting to meet and hear from so many passionate librarians doing wonderful work for their library customers in so many varied ways.



Mandy Wall lives in the (normally) sunny Hawke's Bay and works as a Collection Services Librarian at Te Pūkenga Eastern Institute of Technology. Mandy has been a librarian for about 14 years, working across special, law, and public libraries, and this is her first year working in an academic library.



DIANA MCMAHON-REID'S EXPERIENCE OF #LIANZA2023

Wow! LIANZA's 2023 conference delivered a masterclass in weaving.

The conference theme, 'Ngā aho – weaving our threads of knowledge together', was evident throughout – from the swift processing of registrations and the flow of participants from the auditorium to the breakout rooms, merging and parting, meal breaks, kōrero and workshops, it created a vibrant tapestry.

The beautiful Te Pae, our venue for two days, is sleek and new, in contrast to, yet also at home among, the stone provincial council chamber and the bandaged cathedral, genuinely weaving the old and the new together.

President Richy Misilei set the tone for the conference in his welcome speech, reminding us of the many connections across the library sector and the opportunities for collaboration, and encouraging us to be innovative and responsive while holding our communities at the heart of our work. He reminded us of the value we bring to our communities and urged us to communicate that value more loudly and widely. Throughout the conference, Richy seamlessly connected the sections and speakers with humour and detail, moving us from one to the next, a single garment from many diverse threads.

The organisation of the conference was superb. Even the last-minute cancellation by a keynote speaker – every organiser's nightmare scenario – barely caused a ripple in proceedings. Dan Walker stepped into the keynote speaker role and owned it, giving one of the most interesting presentations at the conference.

Fuelled by excellent barista coffee from the busiest stand in the display room, we met kanohi-ki-

te-kanohi with a great variety of suppliers for everything library related. This was an opportunity that has been sorely missed since 2019.

My favourite keynote was the interview with historians Dr Andrew Pettegree and Dr Arthur Weduwen, in which they discussed their book, *The Library: A Fragile History*. This was a fascinating tour of the library from its elite origins – “no idle books and riff-raff” for the founder of the Bodleian Library – to the public library movement and the current metamorphosis to a community hub. And while the presenters felt that the future of libraries is diverse and uncertain, they saw libraries had an advantage in providing a space to find the unexpected. I have joined the waiting list at my local library to read more of their research. Day three of the conference was a choice of library tours. This was an inspired decision by the conference organisers, as nothing beats seeing how things work in the real world. I chose tour five – a walking tour of libraries and facilities in the central city. From Ara to the art gallery, the law courts to Tūranga, it was a wonderful opportunity to experience libraries in different sectors to my own and to see how they were run, who they served and what services they offered.

The manaakitanga and generosity of those librarians in hosting and sharing their spaces and experiences was humbling and demonstrated why, as Canadian National Librarian and Archivist Leslie Weir stated, librarians are the most trusted profession in Canada and the second most trusted worldwide. This tour was a highlight and a fitting end to a conference filled with positivity.

I want to thank LIANZA for the Hikuwai Community Conference Grant I was awarded, which enabled me to attend this fabulous event. I have learned, admired, and tucked away ideas to adapt for my own library space. It was three days of invaluable information, discussion, fellowship and fun.



Diana McMahon-Reid lives in Auckland and has a library background in the secondary and tertiary library sectors. Diana is a subject librarian at Te Pūkenga – Manukau Institute of Technology and the co-convenor of LIANZA TEL SIG, the tertiary special interest group.



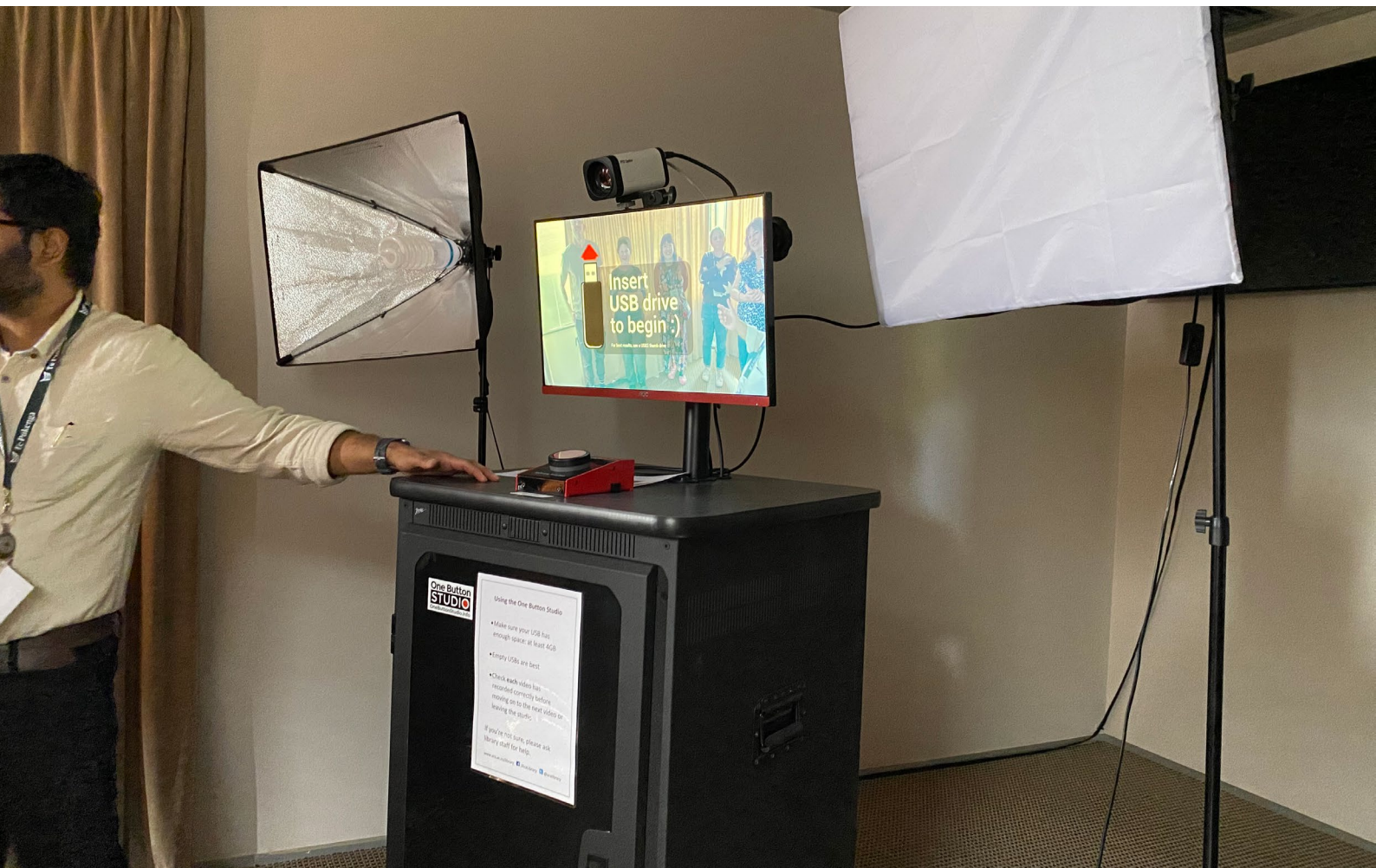
*Left, Te Puna o Waiwhetū Christchurch Art Gallery Conservation Lab. Right, The Kōrero o nehe ā-whānau / Family History card catalogue.
Image credit: Shiobhan Smith.*

SIOBHAN SMITH'S CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

I thoroughly enjoyed attending the 2023 LIANZA conference and am very grateful for receiving the Murihiku LIANZA Regional Community Conference Grant. My first observation on entering the conference venue was not the amazing Te Pae building – although it was impressive – but the buzz among the attendees. It felt exciting and positive, and the conference carried this feeling right through the next couple of days.

The keynotes were inspirational. I especially enjoyed the personal journey Professor Rangi Mātāmua took us on. It set the tone perfectly for understanding the role of libraries as the aho between knowledge and people and also highlighted the difference between studying a culture and living it, providing thought for how libraries can support both.

I attended the workshop by Kāpiti Coast District Libraries on 'Te Tōtara: rethinking the development of a diverse workforce.' As someone who has created a capability framework and provided feedback on the Te Tōtara model when it was being developed, I was interested to see how it was being used 'in the wild.' I was greatly impressed with how Kāpiti Coast District Libraries have engaged with Te Tōtara and the honesty of the presenters, who were not afraid to talk about the difficulties encountered in getting their team onboard. They had very quickly grasped the power of the metaphor. They gave real-life examples of where it could explain roadblocks (not preparing the soil) and provide ways of discussing difficult or complex problems (larger trees allowing light to reach the smaller trees). I came away from the event very excited about the possibilities of this framework and am looking forward to bringing it to colleagues at the University of Otago for further discussion.



Te Pūkenga Ara Institute of Canterbury One Button Studio. Image credit: Shiobhan Smith.

On the last day, I signed up for the walking tour taking in Te Pūkenga Ara Institute of Canterbury, the New Zealand Law Society and Judges libraries, Te Puna o Waiwhetū Christchurch Art Gallery and Tūranga Christchurch Central Library. It was a lot of walking, but I regret nothing! Each venue had amazing hosts highlighting features, spaces, collections and services, and answering all questions. As someone working in a university library, I relished seeing what colleagues in other types of libraries are doing. The Ara One Button Studio was a great innovation – it allows students to practice and record their presentations and only requires a USB with decent capacity to get started.

The sneak peek at the art gallery's conservation lab was intriguing. Learning more about the role of court librarians revealed to me that despite

many years in the profession, I am still learning about the many different manifestations of our work. Visiting Tūranga was a highlight of highlights. I loved the innovative blending of the physical and digital, perhaps best exemplified by the discovery wall. Yet it was equally special to thumb through their traditional card catalogue in the Kōrero o nehe ā-whānau Family History space and find references to my grandfather and other relatives.

This was my first LIANZA conference, but I am certain it will not be my last. I encourage other new LIANZA members to apply for a LIANZA conference grant in 2025. Once again, thanks to LIANZA for allowing me to be a recipient of a LIANZA Regional Community Conference grant.



Shiobhan Smith is the Associate University Librarian (Customer Experience) at Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtāgo the University of Otago. She has more than 17 years of experience working in academic libraries, including roles educating researchers on open access and supporting the use of OUR Archive, the University of Otago's institutional repository.



Left, The interactive wall at Tūranga. Right, The children's area at Tūranga. Image credit: Sharon Cornwall.

SHARON CORNWALL'S CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

I was lucky enough to be awarded the Ada Fache Grant for travel expenses to the LIANZA conference. Before 9am there were queues of people waiting to register, but fortunately, I had arrived earlier – what great attendance for the first in-person conference since 2019.

The opening video presented real people telling their stories about what libraries mean to them. It was wonderful to hear the experiences of a wide range of library users.

In his address, LIANZA President Richard Misilei noted that we need to effectively communicate our value to leaders to prevent us from being seen as just rooms with books, which are easy targets when cuts are needed.

We listened to a fascinating keynote by Professor Rangi Mātāmua about mātauranga, and he passed on his grandfather's wisdom that "knowledge that isn't shared isn't knowledge".

In a well-attended breakout session on 'Challenging access to information', Trish Hepworth noted that challenges to books are nothing new, something that several other speakers also mentioned. She stated that when people struggle, it is easier to turn to conspiracy theories to explain a world that appears out of control. Fortunately, LIANZA is developing a toolkit to deal with these challenges, which Louise LaHatte discussed in her presentation.

On a lighter note, the lively SPARKY mobile outreach van was an entertaining session. It was interesting to hear about the requirements for SPARKY – compact, smart, green and not too heavy. Its bubble machine sounded fantastic.



Richy Misilei at LIANZA2023. Image credit: Jane Wyles.

Dr Hana O'Regan gave a very insightful talk on how Māori have been excluded from knowledge and poorly treated by the education system. Professor Beth Wahler from the US talked about the increasing psychosocial needs of library patrons and the impact that dealing with these needs can have on library staff. I can't wait to read her book. Loopy Tunes presented a great workshop – there was not much sitting and much moving in that session. Who can forget Dan Te Whenua Walker's dance? Let alone all his work incorporating indigenous beliefs and knowledge into Microsoft and the other corporations he has worked at.

We were lucky with the weather on our walking tour of Tūranga, the Law Society Library, Te Pūkenga (Ara) and Te Puna o Waiwhetū. All the libraries were interesting, and I was intrigued by the bird concept at Tūranga, with each floor relating

to a different bird. The interactive photo wall made me very envious, while the art installations around Ara library were intriguing. At Te Puna o Waiwhetū, we learned about the poison book project and the conservation and storage areas. By the time we reached the end of the day, we'd walked over 15,000 steps!

Some of my takeaways were the need to promote what libraries do and to work in partnership or collaboration with other providers. A library is a community hub that must be connected to our user base to stay alive.

It was a most enjoyable conference, and meeting other librarians and vendors was excellent.



Sharon Cornwall is from Waikato and has worked in various libraries, including the University of Waikato library, Waikato District Health Board library, Wintec Library and IPU in Palmerston North, and worked in England and Saudi Arabia for a short time. Along the way, she has been associated with various LIANZA committees and is currently on the LIANZA Professional Registration Board. She has been at HB Williams Memorial Library in Gisborne since March 2021, where she manages the collections area.



Left, Dan Walker at LIANZA Conference. Right, LIANZA Conference workshop. Image credit: Jane Wyles.

KATE OGDEN AND #LIANZA2023

It was a privilege to be at this conference, and so good to connect with colleagues from around New Zealand in person again. These aren't just other people who work in the GLAMMIR sector, they are partners in providing library, gallery and museum experiences for this country. A conference like this allows us to share, support, challenge, encourage and inspire each other. And that is what we did.

PJ Bramley gave an illuminating presentation about the experiences of neurodiverse staff in information organisations. He was open, honest, and helpful.

There were several sessions about innovative library programmes and products. Phil Clarke and his team at the IHC Library have done exemplary work on creating a co-designed, outcome-focused game to support rangatahi with special needs to live independently. If you have yet to look at [Stand Tall](#), then do it now! It is a great resource – be prepared to offer it to our customers. Please look at Queenstown Lakes Libraries' [Milk Bottle People](#) for a taster on one of the several other programmes I learned about.

For me, the standouts of the conference were some of the keynote speakers. Michael Peter Edson, and Professor Andrew Pettegree and Dr Arthur Weduwen gave us two keynotes from entirely different perspectives. Michael Edson

was focused on the future, looking at libraries and their role in society and social issues. He inspired us to get involved in social issues and lead community conversations. Professor Pettegree and Dr Weduwen had a perspective on the future that drew on their understanding of the history of libraries. They reminded us to be aware that not everyone in our community is moving at the same pace and that we must draw people in. The juxtaposition of these two keynotes left me questioning how we take our communities on the journey with us and how we facilitate engagement with new ideas and social change.

It was a treat to hear Professor Rangī Mātāmua speak, and we were honoured by his acknowledgement of the sector's work on Matariki. He didn't demand more thought or action from us so much as provoke a desire to do more and to do it well.

Dr Hana O'Regan did not hold back and was much more explicit about the appalling wrongs of the past and the need to be very thoughtful and aware in our work now. Coloniality was a new term, but it describes a concept I recognise. Dr O'Regan left us with many things to think about and challenges to rise to. What will I do to make sure the whole story is told, and that mātauranga Māori is understood, handled and accessed on an equitable footing with Eurocentric knowledge and its frameworks?



Kate Ogden is the team leader for New Brighton, Parklands and Aranui libraries in the east of Christchurch. Kate started her career in tertiary libraries in London, and in the 22 years since emigrating to New Zealand, she has had 16 different jobs in Christchurch city libraries. She is passionate about the work public libraries do to improve people's lives in our communities.



From left, Leslie Weir, Celia Joe-Olsen, Bill MacNaught and Ivy Guo. Image credit: Jane Wyles

WINSTON ROBERTS' PERSPECTIVE ON #LIANZA2023

My primary purpose in attending the conference was to participate in an information session with other IFLA committee members to promote sector engagement with IFLA (the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions).

This session was proposed to give feedback from the World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Rotterdam and to give some advance information on WLIC 2024 in Dubai. With the cancellation of the event in Dubai, it seemed even more critical to give New Zealand colleagues a future perspective on the meaning of IFLA for the wider Asia-Pacific region.

By good fortune, two senior IFLA colleagues were present: Leslie Weir, Librarian and Archivist of Canada and President-Elect of the IFLA, and Te Paea Paringatai, Chair of the Professional Council of the IFLA Governing Board. IFLA committee representatives Elizabeth Jones, Kim Taunga and Celia Joe-Olsen were also at the session.

Leslie and Te Paea commented on IFLA policies in a challenging world. At the same time, we spent

some time explaining how to get involved in the IFLA committee and project work, and the personal and professional benefits that can provide. I was keen to highlight that librarians from New Zealand have significantly contributed to different facets of IFLA work over many years – we should be proud of that contribution and continue it. This work was in collaboration with other countries in our region. We currently have an Australian, Vicki McDonald, as President of IFLA and we are represented on the Regional Division Committee by Kim Taunga, LIANZA's past president. Our Pacific library colleagues are looking to us for support.

More support for this international work is needed. Colleagues wanting practical advice on using their skills and expertise internationally may contact me at wroberts@caverock.net.nz.

MY TAKE-OUTS ON THE MAIN PROGRAMME

For me – somewhat an 'outside' observer with a head full of years of international work for IFLA but remembering Christchurch as it once used to be – this conference was an exceptional experience. It was small by international standards, but right up there with the best due to the quality of the venue, the organisation, the general ambience

o the whare tipuna
between the ancestors
o dance with the stars



thing tree, by Canterbury University Press (2014).

Rachel Esson, National Librarian & LIANZA past president. Image credit: Jane Wyles

encouraging thinking and networking and the quality of the speakers.

There were some ideas that stood out clearly from presentations and discussions.

- Maintaining people's trust in information, and library services as providers of truthful information, in the face of what seem to be campaigns of misinformation and disinformation is a worldwide problem.
- Ensuring that young people are given the most trustworthy digital information or books to read for pleasure – and combatting retrograde attempts at censorship.
- Being conscious of 'coloniality' – Hana O'Regan was strikingly clear on this – coming to terms with it, overcoming it and helping develop new cultural perspectives for the country, which bring together the people of the land and the people of the treaty.
- Building multicultural awareness into the language of library services and the very fabric of the buildings that contain and deliver these services, whether that is Tūranga in Christchurch or Te Ara Tahi in Wellington.
- Modelling a mindset of accepting and defending human rights, equality, diversity and freedom of expression.

- It was appropriate to be in Ōtautahi Christchurch, to discuss the trauma of seismic events in all senses of the word.

- "People matter most," said Beth Wahler in her thoughtful presentation on trauma among library staff in the US. How to support staff experiencing PTSD or burnout? She advocated for applying reflective practice, with self-care and community care, and this resonated with the conference audience.

- Taking advantage of the benefits of AI to run our services, but not fearing it – there is no tool that society cannot put to both good and bad use.

- Encouraging reading in a society where people's attention spans and tolerance of complexity and long sentences are getting shorter.

In summary, the library sector in Aotearoa New Zealand is innovative and dynamic. Through all the presentations and discussions, Aotearoa New Zealand's distinctive character and its complete professional integration with the rest of the global library sector was clear.



Winston Roberts is the former chair of the Regional Division Committee of IFLA for Asia-Oceania and a member of the Regional Council. Winston was a senior business advisor/international with Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa National Library of New Zealand until his recent retirement.

A KŌRERO ABOUT AI IN LIBRARIES

EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES AT THE LIANZA 2023 CONFERENCE

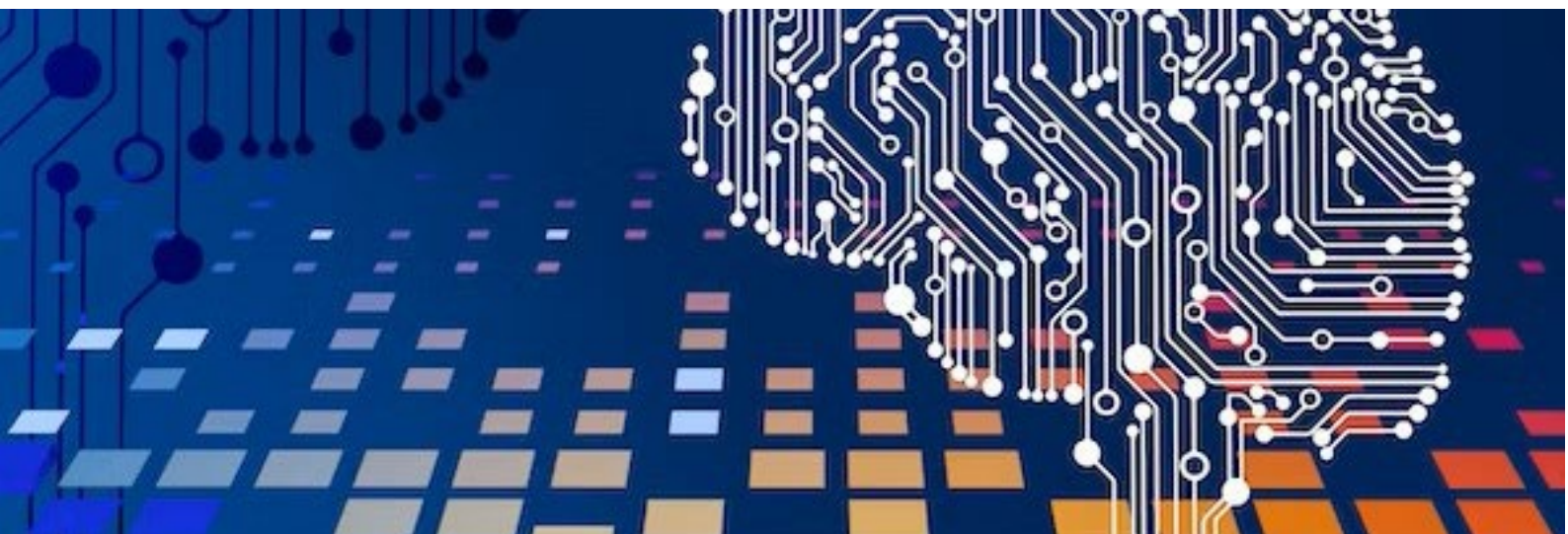


Image credit: Steve Johnson, Unsplash.

At the LIANZA 2023 Conference, Ivy Guo and Shiobhan Smith facilitated a kōrero session on AI. This article, written by Shiobhan, highlights some of the conversations from that session.

AI is a hot topic right now, especially since the launch of ChatGPT. However, it has been permeating our profession for a while, including in an area I have researched – bibliometrics. Prior to the kōrero, I shared one example of a pre-ChatGPT citation classification tool using AI in the conference presentation titled 'Artificial intelligence (AI) and libraries: what is the fuss?'. However, ChatGPT feels like a watershed moment, a significant evolution in our understanding and experience of AI. Unsurprisingly, the kōrero session was oversubscribed, with people turned away due to lack of room. I hope this article will go some way to acknowledging the generosity of discussion on the day and allowing those who missed out a chance to also engage with the topic.

The goal of the kōrero was to give attendees the opportunity to broadly engage with the concept of AI and begin to think critically about both the opportunities and challenges it brings to the profession. The first task was for groups to come to a shared understanding of what AI means to them. After all, people conceptualise it in various ways. For some, it conjures terminator-like images of robots and intelligent machines with enhanced human capabilities. For others, neural networks

and learning algorithms use our data to recognise patterns and make predictions or decisions.

At the kōrero, reoccurring descriptive themes included AI being a technology, a software, an algorithm and a tool. AI was described as a product by humans for humans. In other words, it is fundamentally a creation of human ingenuity programmed by humans to serve human needs and interests. Yet it was also described as a black box requiring a cautious approach. An external intelligence transcending that of humans on specialist tasks and domains, yet capable of stupid things like hallucinating citations, generating misinformation and plagiarism.

The next part of the kōrero explored the impact of AI on libraries and librarianship. Broadly, AI was seen as likely to impact the areas of information literacy, descriptive practices and collection analysis. It was predicted to lead to efficiencies with its ability to analyse large data sets quickly, summarise information and automate processes. It would also lead to new roles for librarians, such as teaching how to create effective prompts and educating communities on common problems. Libraries could also provide access to paid AI tools to address the digital divide and advocate for responsible use of data when training AI. This could include the Aotearoa New Zealand context to ensure Māori lead the conversation on AI and the use of indigenous data.

Moving on to the pros and cons of AI, attendees already had a broad knowledge of common problems or concerns. Some problems described were at the micro level. For instance, when ChatGPT returns a non-existent reference to a specific prompt. However, it seemed that the macro-level issues were the ones many attendees sought more direction on. These are issues around AI and data sovereignty, mis or dis-information generated by bad actors, lack of regulation, bias in training data, impact on intellectual property and privacy rights, lack of empathy, and potential job losses. Equally, attendees identified many positives to AI, both potential and realised. As a productivity tool, AI can support creative thinking, generate ideas, remove accessibility barriers, enhance outreach, and reduce cultural tax. Rather than making libraries redundant, it further demonstrates the value and relevance of libraries. However, to advance the positive side of AI, library management needs to be prepared to make space for professional development and experimentation.

The final part of the kōrero was a call to action to determine our possible next steps. Upskilling ourselves and educating our communities was an important next step for attendees. Take time to think, experiment, share, use, and critique AI tools and do it now as these continue to become more prevalent and improve. As one attendee expressed it, "Tuwhitia te nopo! Feel the AI and do it anyway". The call was also made to seek more clarity from regulators, policymakers, individual institutions, and professional leaders on issues like AI and copyright, harvesting library data, intersection with traditional knowledge, and use as a research tool.

My reflection from the kōrero is that two streams of considerations are currently at the forefront of our profession regarding AI. One is a personal one focused on learning how to use specific tools, how to teach others to use them, and how to sort the wheat from the chaff in this rapidly changing environment. Professional development is central to this stream as it provides a means to meet those challenges. The other stream is at the macro level, asking the bigger questions about AI encompassing ethics, law, psychology, autonomy, and sovereignty. We are seeing more conference presentations, webinars, training courses, and other

tools supporting our professional development with AI. However, the big questions are much further away from being answered. The rapid pace of AI advancement continues to outpace the development of policies and regulations to govern the emerging ethical, legal, and societal implications.

If this is a topic you are interested in, I have curated some resources of various types for you to explore:

- The best introductory video I have seen to address AI fluency specifically for librarians: <https://vimeo.com/841055109/056df1c313>
- My go-to article for definitions of AI by Andrew Cox and Suvodeep Mazumdar: *Defining artificial intelligence for librarians*: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/09610006221142029> [open access]
- Andrew Cox's recent webinar presentation for LIANZA TEL SIG: Data, AI and Digital Transformation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfi-QPvNLd8&t=2630s>
- Lorcan Dempsey's blog post: *Generative AI and libraries: 7 contexts*. You may wish to explore some of his other posts on the topic: <https://www.lorcandempsey.net/generative-ai-and-libraries-7-contexts/>
- My favourite library blogger: Aaron Tay is always testing the latest AI developments and providing an honest and accessible assessment: <https://musingsaboutlibrarianship.blogspot.com/>
- Join IFLA's AI special interest group: <https://www.ifla.org/units/ai/>
- Explore the AI4LAM YouTube channel for a variety of examples and perspectives: <https://www.youtube.com/@ai4lam120/videos>

Also, watch out for a new LIANZA Connect community about AI, where we hope to continue the conversation, share more resources, and support each other.

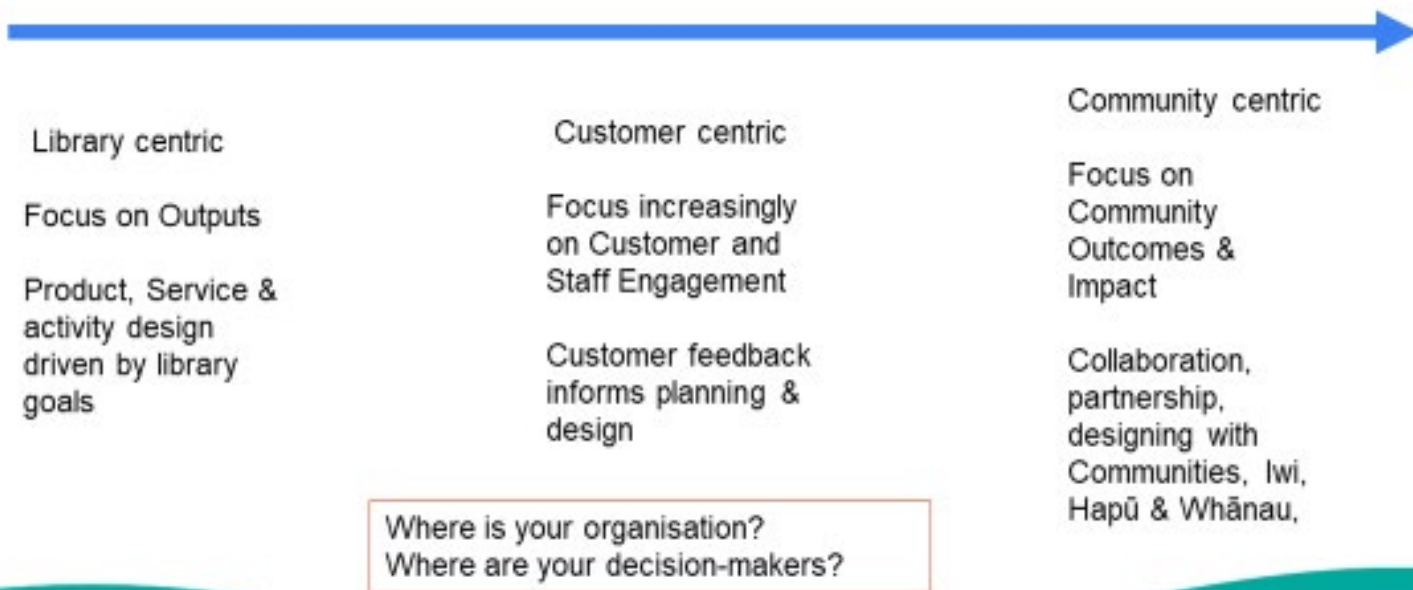
"Hasta la vista, baby!"



Shiobhan Smith is the Associate University Librarian (Customer Experience) at Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtāgo the University of Otago. She has more than 17 years of experience working in academic libraries, including roles educating researchers on open access and supporting the use of OUR Archive, the University of Otago's institutional repository.

LET'S TALK VALUE!

Transformation to Community Outcomes and Impact Focus



DeniseWilson

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This article looks at Denise Wilson's LIANZA 2023 workshop 'How to manage impact, increase library contribution and demonstrate value!'

THE GAP BETWEEN THE PERCEPTION AND REALITY OF LIBRARY VALUE

Over the years in my work with libraries, I've seen them take a steady trajectory from library and book-centric, through customer-centric to now gradually becoming more community and outcomes-centric (see diagram above).

We see library closures and budget cuts worldwide and scratch our heads. From a library perspective, library value is increasing, providing essential services through a pandemic and greater access to digital

services, increasing the breadth of services and continually innovating.

However, there is a disconnect outside of libraries in the perception of what they do and their value and relevance, regardless of progress and innovation. This affects every kind of library.

The perception of libraries is stuck in the past, especially in parts of the community and with non-users, outliers and people who aren't part of 'The Library Club' of regular users, and certainly with decision-makers and funders. Having people – particularly those who are crucial to libraries' survival – unable to see the value of libraries creates a vulnerability, a risk to survival.

We need to change the perceptions of libraries while maximising the value they deliver.

CHANGING PERCEPTIONS AND MAXIMISING VALUE

How to change perceptions and maximise value was the theme I explored in my workshop.

As a starting point, we worked through a social impact canvas, and the groups tackled social problems, including digital equity, accessibility and homelessness.

USING THE CANVAS

The purpose was to introduce a practical tool we can work through with our team. The canvas allows us to use a shared language to describe and think through how we will deliver value. We can use it to plan and implement new strategies and initiatives or evaluate and improve existing ones.

Social Impact Canvas

Initiative: _____

Planning for Impact	Increasing Library Contribution	Demonstrating Library Impact & Value
Problem to solve	Solutions	Outputs
Customer/Stakeholders	Activities	Outcomes/Impact
Purpose/intended impact	Community Engagement - Partnership opportunities	Evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators • Data collection tools Prototype – test – improve Stop-Change-Start
Strategic Outcomes	Community Engagement - Advocacy opportunities	Compelling Messages/Stories
Benefits	Enablers	Marketing/Promotion/Communication
Resources	Barriers/Constraints/Risks	
Costs	Revenue Model	

You can download the blank canvas and slides with prompt questions [here](#).

The canvas describes what is called your 'Theory of Change.' Who will change and who will benefit –and in what way – because of your activities.

I cover a few of the key concepts here.

OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

To demonstrate value, we need to capture both outputs and outcomes. What's the difference?

Outputs are the work libraries do, for example, the number of loans and the number of attendees. They are easily quantifiable and easy to gather, but also important data to share.

Outcomes are how we show the value of what we do. Outcomes are the benefits of what we do or the changes to the people we serve, the people who participate. They can be short-term, such as gaining knowledge

or skills, medium-term, such as changes to attitudes and behaviours, and longer-term, such as impacts on wellbeing.

Libraries deliver many outcomes, helping jobseekers to get into the workforce, students to build knowledge and skills, and people to find connection. If our decision-makers need evidence of economic outcomes, they already exist. We need to be strategic about gathering and sharing them.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND GETTING A SEAT AT THE TABLE

As we saw at the LIANZA 2023 Conference, there is a strong community within the library and information sector.

We also need to build an ecosystem outside of libraries. A team, a community of mutually beneficial relationships. We

can help them understand and benefit from our unique offering, and they can help us to increase and promote our value.

We need to get to know them – the outliers, the potential influencers, advocates and partners – and not just at a superficial level. To get a seat at the table, we need to understand what is important to them, what they care about and how we can add and demonstrate relevance and value. The stronger the relationships and understanding of our value, the more indispensable we become.

PROMOTING LIBRARY VALUE

Conference keynote Rangī Mātāmua, "Knowledge that isn't shared isn't knowledge".

It might seem like an uncomfortable prospect to promote library value and benefits to the community, but



Denise Wilson workshop at LIANZA2023. Image credit: Jane Wyles.

you are sharing knowledge. You are attracting partners, advocates and funding to do more of what you do well and benefit even more people while ensuring library sustainability.

Consistently gather your arsenal of data and stories to share. Be clear on your audience. Who are they? What do they care about?

From the outputs and outcomes you collect, create a library of content to have a foundation slide deck ready. You can repurpose and tailor your presentation according to your audience.

A video might work best for the council or community, slides for the CEO, and the annual report for potential sponsors, partners or funders, and grant applications. The key is to focus on outputs and outcomes, data and stories that will resonate with what matters to your audience.

BENEFITS TO BEING VALUE DRIVEN

This approach doesn't require

more resources. It creates focus and becomes part of everyday work. It can result in a team with more clarity of purpose, which knows what it is trying to achieve and can see progress towards those goals.

As skills and experience grow, confidence grows. People also see their worth reflected at them as more people understand the value of their contribution. This improves morale, and libraries also become more attractive as a career option.

Closing the library perception gap requires a commitment from leadership. Many people in libraries are chipping away at their own value projects, but grassroots enthusiasm is not enough. To secure libraries' place in the future – whatever that future may look like – we need to strategically demonstrate value and make it part of how we do things. Every day.

The aim is for you to work through the canvas and create a two-minute video focusing on outcomes. So, not just showcasing what your library offers, but what changed as

a result of the library and the difference you make in people's lives.

Imagine that you are pitching to prospective partners or sponsors or for additional support or funds. The goal is to compile a playlist by March 31, 2024.

A good example of an organisation that promotes its value through outcomes is Charity Water: <https://www.charitywater.org/stories/waiting-for-clean-water>

Here you can see the tangible difference Charity Water made in Bintou's life by the description of how things were before and after its help.

You can download the resources from the workshop and find instructions for the video challenge here: <https://www.denisewilson.co.nz/lianza-conference-2023>



Denise Wilson is a director and consultant at MortonPrescott Ltd and has worked with libraries for the past 17 years. Denise is a Social Value Associate with Social Value International. Her focus has been on strategy and planning, and customer and employee experience. In recent years she has progressed into social impact, looking at how libraries can work more collaboratively with their stakeholders and communities, improving what matters to them and increasing impact. She has a podcast called Let's Talk Libraries: <https://www.denisewilson.co.nz/lets-talk-libraries-podcast>. Contact details: <http://www.denisewilson.co.nz>, libraries@denisewilson.co.nz

TE WAKA HOU WORKFORCE CAPABILITY FRAMEWORK

“KO AU TE AWA KO TE AWA KO AU”

In this article, Jasmin Ratana discusses adapting the Te Tōtara Workforce Capability Framework for the Whanganui District Library team and its new Te Waka Hou framework.

The rhythmic splash of paddles in the water kept in time by the call of our elder kuia is a sound that resonates throughout the centuries to our present day. What does that have to do with a capability framework? Not a lot, until you search for the unique qualities in the library workforce serving the Whanganui Community.

Before I saw the Te Tōtara framework, I had never seen a competency framework, let alone a capability one. I had first to understand what it was and how it is helpful to us before I could explain it to others or consider how it could be useful to our library. There were other considerations, too. This framework has a kaupapa Māori base standing on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. How do I feel about this? Does it resonate with me as Māori? Will it resonate with my other colleagues?

A capability framework is about establishing desirable capabilities in a library workforce. It also enables you to identify your own capabilities.

Although it was somewhat long and complex, I found the Te Tōtara framework helpful once I had worked my way through it. I had issues, though.

With Te Tiriti o Waitangi at the base, the framework should provide for a two-culture partnership. Where did the principles of the kaupapa Māori appear in the capability sets, and where were the principles that should stem from Pākehā culture? In addition, the Whanganui District Library already has a Kaupapa Māori framework. Would the two sit together?

Those issues gave birth to the Te Waka Hou project, which was about taking the Te Tōtara framework and making it fit 'Whanganui.' For the Whanganui community Te Awa Tupua, the Whanganui River is our heart and for Whanganui iwi, it is our revered tūpuna. We identify ourselves with this whakatauki: Ko au te awa ko te awa ko au, I am the river and the river is me. This is where the sound of paddles is heard. Te Tōtara was transformed into a waka.

The hull, made from the original Te Tōtara framework, also represents Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which is to make clear that the waka belongs to all of us. The

prow carries the dual values system of our library's Kaupapa Māori Framework and our professional library ethics. The paddles are our capabilities as they pertain to our particular library, so they can be added or subtracted as necessary. There is the addition of a pou or pole, carried on our river waka, to help traverse rapids and travel upstream. The pou represents a new capability set, the Whanganui capability, which gives life to the unique skills of the Māori librarian.

Some might consider it a radical step, but if you listen carefully, you can hear the sound of the water speaking to us from our tūpuna awa, our river of knowledge. Hear the paddles wielded by capable librarians dipping into the water. In this way, we find our place in the team and our personal strengths, and develop our navigation skills for the river of knowledge that we care for.

*Ruapehu te maunga
Whanganui te awa
Whanganui te lwi
Tēnā tātau katoa*



Jasmin Ratana is the Pou Whiria, Māori Information Librarian for the Whanganui District Library. Jasmin is based at the Alexander Library Te Rerenga mai o te Kāuru, the heritage and research library for the Whanganui District. She works closely with the heritage and archive collections. As Pou Whiria, she is responsible for the Kaupapa Māori Collections. She actively seeks all opportunities to bring a Māori perspective to the library service.

LIANZA TE WHAKAKITENGA AA KAIMAI LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' DAY



Participants at LIANZA Te Whakakitenga aa Kaimai Library Assistants' Day.

Library Assistants' Day was held on September 1 at the newly opened Te Kete Aronui in Rototuna, Hamilton. It was a typical day in the Waikato, starting with fog and turning into a beautiful sunny afternoon. Lisa Hayward and Heather Furniss talk about how the day went.

More than 30 librarians from all around the region turned up to socialise, network and hear from other library professionals.

The day started with a mihi whakatau. Hamilton Library staff gathered and welcomed us to their space with a beautiful waiata, 'E Minaka Ana', and as part of our welcome, all our participants shared their pepeha.

This was followed by a lovely morning tea and time for some networking. We were then given a tour of the new library space, and we admired the shelving,

the teen space featuring a PlayStation, the inbuilt fireplace and the well-appointed café.

Our first presenters were some senior Hamilton Library staff, Christina Barns (Programmes and Services Manager East), Rob Baigent (Digital and Communication Manager) and Rowan Miller (Archivist), who shared their insights about roles and career progression through libraries.

Sash Rinaldi and Cecilia Mooney from The University of Waikato then spoke about their new whānau room and their staff's te reo journey.

We had an incredible lunch, with many opportunities to network and learn more about our region's libraries.

After lunch, we heard from Kim Taunga and Richy Misilei through the magic of the

internet. Unfortunately, they were unable to make it in person, so we heard from them via pre-recorded messages.

Nicole Thorburn introduced the group to pathways to professional registration, options for study and scholarships available through LIANZA. We finished the day with some discussion time and a round-the-table of final thoughts and comments on the day.

We had great feedback from the group. Everyone appreciated being able to come together and found something to take back to their libraries. We also received good insights on what to offer for next year's event. A huge thank you goes out to all those who attended LIANZA Te Whakakitenga aa Kaimai and all the people who made the day possible.



Lisa Hayward Ringa Tohu, Community Library Lead at Mangaonua Hillcrest Library, Hamilton – LIANZA Te Whakakitenga aa Kaimai Committee member

Heather Furniss, Community Engagement Librarian at Matamata-Piako District Libraries – LIANZA Te Whakakitenga aa Kaimai Committee member



A SUMMER DAY IN SHANGHAI



Left, reading room in the Library East Building. Centre, digital screens at Shanghai Library. Right, the book train tracks in the processing room Shanghai Library. Image credit: Ivy Guo.

At the end of July, during the hot summer, LIANZA President-Elect Ivy Guo stopped in Shanghai on her way home to visit family and friends. The libraries were on the 'must-do' list. Ivy managed to visit three libraries across the old and new districts of Shanghai on both sides of the river. These were the Shanghai Library – also called the old Huaihai Building – the Bibliotheca Zi-Ka-Wei and the newly opened Shanghai Library East Building.

It was a day of time travel between the old and new libraries, between the scent of leather-covered old, printed books and the sunshine through the tall glass windows of the enormous reading room.

SHANGHAI LIBRARY

Commonly known as the 'old building', the library structure stands tall and is well-

maintained. The pot plants and natural lighting create a friendly and comfortable atmosphere in a somewhat traditional library building.

MODERN SYSTEMS AND THE BOOK BUSINESS

The digital screens and signages are well placed. The digital signage boards located by the lifts include maps and subjects on each floor, alongside directions to offices, help desks and reading rooms.

The return trolley and the self-check machine are located very close to the processing room and users can search the catalogue or renew books on the touch screen.

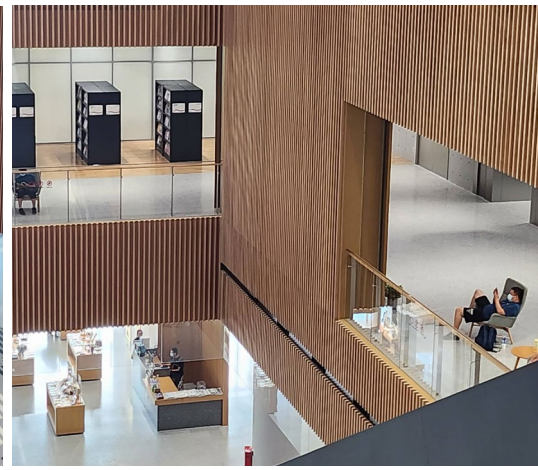
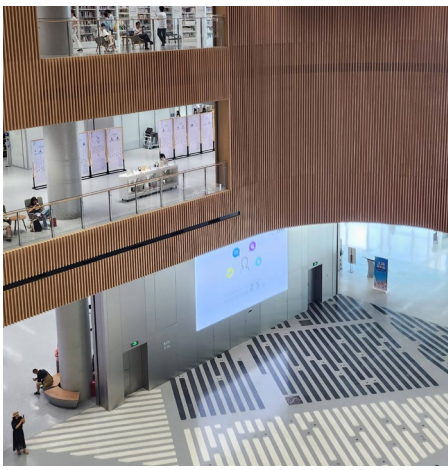
What is not very traditional is the train tracks through their seven floors for books – and only books. The book cars travel along the tracks, meandering horizontally and vertically, and

twist and turn to keep the books in the cars between walls and floors for efficiency and to reduce labour. I wasn't brave enough to ask about the cost.

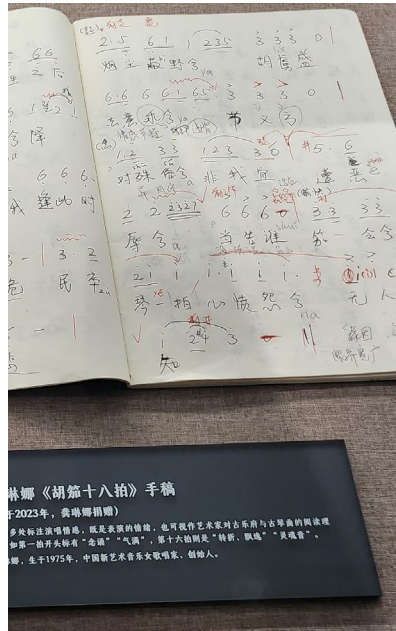
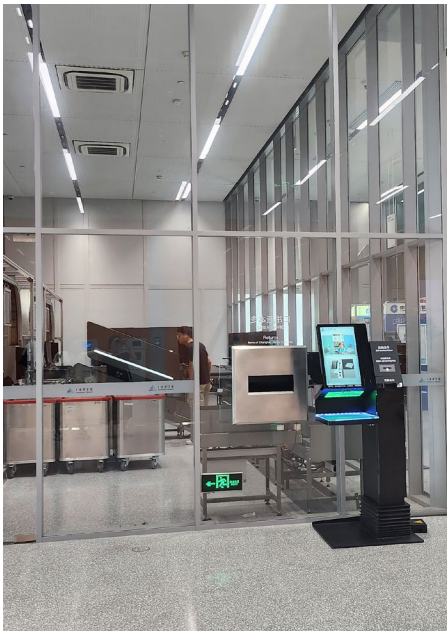
THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

Between high-rise glass towers in the middle of Shanghai, a three-floor building stands at the end of a well-maintained garden. Being the first modern library established in Shanghai, Bibliotheca Zi-Ka-Wei holds over 200,000 volumes of rare European language books and major dictionaries supporting Jesuit studies since 1847. It also has extensive holdings of rare newspapers and magazines published in the Shanghai region in Chinese, English, French and Japanese.

Walking into the building, the dark wood flooring and stained-glass lighting immediately enclosed the library into a time



Left & Centre, City Library East Building. Right. Permanent and temporary exhibition areas, City Library East Building. Image credit: Ivy Guo.



Left, the processing room and the robot greeting everyone by the main entrance, City Library East Building. Centre & Right, permanent and temporary exhibition areas - including themed exhibitions, manuscripts, old card cataloguing cases, and historical printings, City Library East Building. Image credit: Ivy Guo.



Left, special effect work studio Centre, Music hall and the open practice by musicians from the Music School. Right, the in-house theatre.

All City Centre East Building. Image credit: Ivy Guo.



Left, book storage room in Bibliotheca Zi-Ka-Wei. Centre, rare copies of early publications: the China Weekly Review and North-China Herald. Right, different seating arrangements in Coty Library East Building. Image credit: Ivy Guo.

capsule. Researchers quietly occupied the reading room, where they didn't seem to mind or notice me walking around them.

Other than housing and preserving the historical collection, the library has been systematically digitising the collection and they have managed to turn hundreds of fragile newspapers into microfilms and other digital formats. This includes English newspapers such as the China Weekly Review and North-China Herald.

The librarian/historian work in the library is very resourceful. It's always fascinating to hear librarians talking about their collection with such great passion.

The exhibition room is open to the public and features semi-regular collections. During my visit, I noticed a lack of visitors, which surprised me considering the library's location in the heart of a metropolis of nearly three million residents.

CITY LIBRARY EAST BUILDING

After a quick lunch, I arrived at the largest library building in China – Shanghai Library East. When googling the library before the trip, the images I found were mostly about the building and the space. I was overwhelmed by how busy it was when I got there, and the reading room was almost at full capacity. All seating areas on the different floors were well

used, with people relaxing on the armchairs, readers sitting by the bookshelves, and people with their laptops or devices claiming every corner.

I was amazed by how popular it was and the library's effort to keep the balance between traditional and modern library functions.

LIBRARY AND BEYOND

The library contains bookable multi-function rooms on the basement level. These include the in-house theatre, a special-effects work studio and a music hall where musicians from the Shanghai Conservatory Music School practice in open sessions.



Xiaolu (Ivy) Guo is Manager, Resource and Acquisitions, at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington Library and is LIANZA President-Elect.

LAW LIBRARIANS IN A NUTSHELL



Victoria University of Wellington Law Library. Image credit: Angie Cairncross.

SURVEYING LAW LIBRARIANS AND LEGAL INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS - WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR LIANZA?

In 2022, the New Zealand Law Librarians' Association (NZLLA) surveyed law librarians and legal information professionals in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is the third time that the NZLLA has surveyed the demographics, work tasks and salary packages of individuals working with legal information in our sector and the 2022 survey has built on the findings of the 2016 and 2019 surveys. In this iteration, we received 82 responses and our full survey results have been published in the Australian Law Librarian. For this article, we have chosen to highlight our findings about membership in LIANZA and our thoughts on LIANZA's professional registration scheme.

A note on terminology. We refer to our respondents as law librarians and legal information professionals to reflect that some respondents do not work in traditional law librarianship roles yet are still a part of the sector due to the use of legal information as a key part of their professional roles.

LAW LIBRARIAN AND LEGAL INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP OF LIANZA

The NZLLA began in 1977 as the New Zealand Law Librarians' Group and became a LIANZA Special Interest Group in 1991. Since 2000, the NZLLA has been a standalone incorporated society. In 2023, it is an active independent professional association with a small membership of 100 passionate members working in courts, government departments, law firms, professional associations and tertiary institutions across Aotearoa New Zealand.

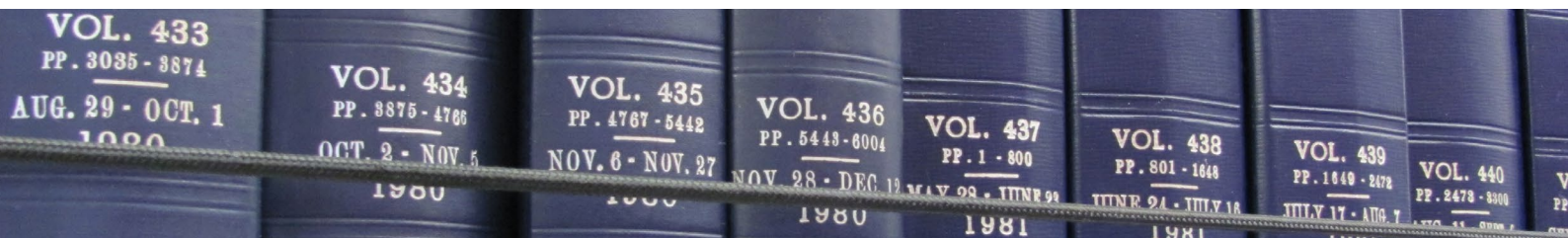
Despite our shared history, professional membership has been divergent across the law librarian and legal information sector. Not all members of the NZLLA are members of LIANZA, so in our survey, we sought to see how many of those in our sector were members of one or both organisations. In our 2022 survey, 77% (n=63) of our respondents were members of the NZLLA and 33% (n=27) were members of LIANZA.

Twenty-six percent (n=21) of our respondents were members of both LIANZA and NZLLA.

LAW LIBRARIAN THOUGHTS ON THE PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION SCHEME

In each iteration of our NZLLA survey, we have identified that only a small number of respondents are professionally registered. Responses for not participating in the registration scheme were negative and indicated that the scheme is of little relevance to most respondents. This negative feedback included:

- that respondents felt the professional registration scheme offered no benefit, value or relevance to their roles
- the cost and/or time to participate in the professional registration scheme was a barrier to participation or offered little in return for the investment in cost/time



Victoria University of Wellington Law Library. Image credit: Angie Cairncross.

- that respondents were unaware of the scheme and did not know what participating consisted of.

With such negative feedback around the benefit, value and relevance of professional registration, is it time for the LIANZA Council to review whether the professional registration scheme fits the entire profession? We note that the LIANZA draft strategic plan identifies 'deliver[ing] a contemporary and robust professional registration scheme' as a key goal and we hope that these results assist in identifying where changes could be made.

In positive news, 10% (n=8) of respondents indicated that they were currently professionally registered and that they were planning on revalidating under the professional registration scheme.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR LIANZA?

The NZLLA represents one part of the wider Aotearoa

library profession. The survey results are an opportunity for the NZLLA and LIANZA to work more closely together, particularly as some respondents have indicated that neither LIANZA membership nor professional registration meets their needs. We advocate that LIANZA and the NZLLA should work together to ensure these professionals feel valued and visible as a part of the wider library sector.

We plan to repeat this survey in 2025 and welcome any feedback on how it can be improved to assist those working in the legal information sector to understand the salaries, work tasks and benefits of others working in the sector.

For more information and to join the NZLLA, please visit <https://nzlla.org.nz/>.

Editor's note – the authors have raised points regarding professional registration. LIANZA Professional Registration Board frequently seeks new members and would welcome the perspective of a law librarian/

legal information professional on the board.

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Theresa Buller, University of Canterbury, is the NZLLA's immediate past president.



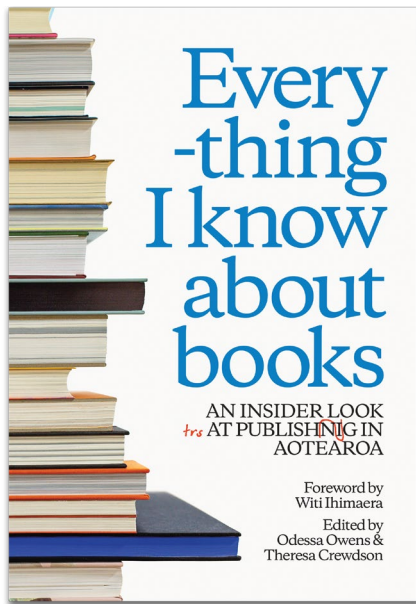
Nadine Fathers, New Zealand Commerce Commission, is the NZLLA events co-convenor, Wellington.



Julie Matthews, Wellington Law Society Library, is the NZLLA events co-convenor, Wellington.

EVERYTHING I KNOW ABOUT BOOKS

AN INSIDER LOOK AT PUBLISHING IN AOTEAROA



Edited by Odessa Owens and Theresa Crewdson

Published by Whitireia Publishing October 2023

ISBN: 9781877192630

Reviewed by Rochelle Ganderton

Books are an escape for me, always have been and always will be. Hopefully, you feel the same way too. Have you ever considered what REALLY goes on behind the scenes that enables the book in your hands to even exist? In a very naïve way, I had not given it too much thought, and *Everything I know about books* raised my eyebrows and offered plenty of hmms – in my head and out loud as well.

I know one writes a piece of work, whether poetry, essay,

short story or novel and then sends that work out into the world hoping someone says YES, we will publish it! And voila, a book ends up in the consumer's hands. What I had not fully considered was all the steps that have to happen in between. There are agents, editors, numerous reads and re-reads and re-edits before it even gets to be published. Naively, I had assumed once an agent says yes, the deal is done. But after reading *Everything I know about books*, I now know it is far from being that simple.

The section '*From Colenso to Catton by Elizabeth Caffin*' was a fascinating read of two centuries of publishing in Aotearoa. What raised my eyebrows was that in 1940 the New Zealand government became a publisher to celebrate one hundred years of colonial rule. Times were different then, I know, but this still had me turning to my mum and remarking on it. We both shook our heads. Also within this was a fun fact of how Whitcoulls came into creation, once a publishing business but now a well-known book store.

In '*Publishing Nicky Hager by Robbie Burton*', I learned that there is so much more going on other than all the 'scandalous' media zeal regarding anything Nicky Hager writes and then almost spy-like gets published. I

feel that at the time when Nicky was first releasing books, I was too young to even know what was happening in the country. But I certainly remember the insanity of *Dirty Politics*. I discovered that Nicky Hager is vastly knowledgeable and has done a lot of good despite what many people say.

And finally, another standout read was '*How to rock self-publishing by Steff Green*'. What Steff Green has achieved in the realm of self-publishing with Amazon is amazing. A vast amount of hard work has gone into her success, and for a moment there, I felt inspired to follow her path. Days after finishing this book I am still connected to her contribution in this book.

To sum it up, this was an insightful and enjoyable book that opened the door to what really goes on in the world of publishing books, in their many forms. Next time you open your brand new book, or even start that new eBook, give a thought to everyone who worked hard to get it into your hands. Even better, get yourself a copy of *Everything I know about books* and find out for yourself.



Rochelle Ganderton is the Kaitiaki Pukapuka Matua – Ngā Hangarau senior librarian – technical at Hauraki District Libraries.

CAREER PROFILE



Image supplied.



CLAUDINE CRABTREE (NGĀPUHI)

Ko Maungataniwha te maunga
Ko Tapapa te awa
Ko Hokianga te moana
Ko Ngātokimatawhauroa te waka
Ko Ngāpuhi te iwi
Ko Te Uri Mahoe te hapū
Ko Mangamuka te marae
Ko Otene te whānau

I am Claudine Crabtree (Ngāpuhi and Tangata Tiriti). I am married to Nick, and we have two boys, Sam, 19 and Ben, 14, two cats and a dog, Phoebe. We currently live in Orakei, Tamaki Makaurau.

I was born and raised in Auckland and went to Murvale Primary, Bucklands Beach Intermediate and Pakuranga College. After a brief stint working in an office, I attended the University of Auckland and the University of Queensland.

After university, I worked in various companies as an executive assistant. After travelling overseas while Nick pursued his professional sailing career, we had our boys and ran a business in Queenstown. Nick's next role took us to Hampshire in the UK, where we lived for five years. It was here I volunteered at my son's school library and loved it. That led to a part-time job and then to a full-time career.

Bookshops and libraries have always been my happy place. That anticipation and joy about books and what I might discover inside has never wavered.

TYPICAL DAY IN MY ROLE AS A SCHOOL LIBRARY MANAGER

I am the Library Manager at Baradene College of the Sacred Heart in Auckland, where I have been for nearly five years. I'm a passionate school librarian with more than ten years of experience in both UK and Aotearoa schools at primary and secondary levels.

A typical day – not that there ever is one – is welcoming students in, issuing and returning books, advising students and suggesting what book to read next, talking to classes and recommending books. And then there is the admin side – checking and responding to emails, ordering new books and talking to staff about reading, information literacy, referencing or research. The most important thing is to connect a student with a book. My day has been successful if I have done this at least once.



Left, image supplied. Right, Annie Spratt, Unsplash.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Being Library Manager at Baradene – I still pinch myself when I drive to the gates.

Becoming President Manukura of SLANZA. It's early days yet, but I am keen to drive change, raise our profile and make a positive difference in the school library sector by ensuring every school has a library, a librarian and the finance and resources to support them.

THE VALUE OF ASSOCIATIONS

I am a LIANZA member, and as President of SLANZA, I meet and work with LIANZA. I represent SLANZA on the LIANZA SLANZA Tertiary Grants project, which has been a rewarding experience for our associations. Our associations have a mutually beneficial relationship – connecting, collaborating and communicating with each other is so important as we fight to keep our libraries and to ensure they are recognised and valued by everyone. We are all working towards the same goal: for libraries to be at the centre of our communities, to encourage and increase reading for pleasure and to ensure everyone has access to relevant, current, trustworthy and reliable information.

I attended the recent LIANZA Conference in Christchurch, which was fantastic. I took away lots of learning, advice, initiatives and contacts to enhance and improve my work and I look forward to sharing this with other school librarians in Aotearoa.

EARLY CAREER ADVISERS

For those new to the sector, I suggest volunteering in a library, even if it is just for a few hours. It is a great way to get to know a role, meet other librarians, and build contacts and connections. Most librarians I know are keen to share their knowledge and skills and to welcome more librarians into the sector.

Join an organisation like LIANZA or SLANZA if you want to work in a school library. Check out the reading lists and take part in some professional development. Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, the National Library website, has amazing information, advice and resources on their website that are worth checking out.

Reach out, connect and meet up with other librarians in your area or around Aotearoa who are new to libraries too. Sharing problems, concerns and queries is a great way to get the help you need and to help others.

THE FUTURE OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

I would like to see a full-time school librarian and a library in at least 75% of schools in Aotearoa. Where that is not feasible, for example, in the 25% of schools with rolls of less than 100, then at a minimum, a dedicated space available for students to sit and read with a current, relevant and quality collection of books to borrow and take home.

The data is unequivocal: school libraries and librarians are critical to school students' academic and emotional intelligence. We are not just 'keepers of the books'. We are literacy advocates, resource managers and research specialists. We encourage, support, help, care, motivate, engage and share our love of reading and learning with our communities. **School libraries are unique in that they are right where students are, from when they start school until they finish.**

I want everyone to recognise and realise how vital libraries and librarians are to our people and society. They are critical to every one of us, and we can't afford to lose any of them. We need more!

LIBRARY OF THE ISSUE

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT LIBRARIES



Taihape Town Hall. Image supplied.

Rangitīkei District Libraries are located in the southwest of the North Island. If you have travelled through the North Island via State Highway 1 or 3, you will probably have travelled through the towns of Hunterville, Taihape, Bulls or maybe Marton. Or, you may have attended our unique events, such as the Turakina Highland Games, Gumboot Day in Taihape, the celebrations at Rātana Pā, the Shepherds' Shemozzle in Hunterville, or rafted down the beautiful Rangitīkei River. We are fortunate to be situated in such a picturesque area with easy access to the mountains and sea.

Our library service dates to the 19th century. The Taihape Library, which also acts as an information centre and council service centre, was initially started by the Mechanics' Institute. In 1908, it was taken over by the Taihape Borough Council and moved into a special wing of the Taihape Town Hall. Regular travellers through Taihape may have noticed this building is temporarily closed due to earthquake risk. After public consultation, it has been decided that the building will be strengthened and renovated on the original site.

The Marton Library began back in 1883. In 1914, the Marton Borough Council was successful

in applying to the Carnegie Foundation for a grant to build a new library, which opened in 1916. The library is still operating out of this building and is one of only two Carnegie libraries in New Zealand to be doing so. The library acts as an information centre and provided an AA Express Driver Licence service for several years, operated by the library staff, until it was contracted back to the AA. The Rangitīkei Toy Library was recently welcomed into the space after the building it occupied was identified as earthquake prone. This has proved a successful partnership, with the Toy Library now far more accessible and bringing in new visitors.



Left, Carnegie Library opening in Marton 1916. Right, Te Matapihi Bulls Community Centre. Images supplied.

The Bulls Library began its service in 1885 as a public reading room. In 1917, a new building was erected after a fire destroyed the old one. This building commemorated residents who served in the First World War. In September 2022, our Bulls Library became the Bulls Learning Hub when it moved into our new facility – Te Matapihi (Bulls Community Centre). This centre combines our library, information centre, town hall and meeting rooms, and space for Plunket to deliver services. It is a beautiful light-filled facility with many spaces for the community and travellers to enjoy.

Rangitikei Libraries was the second public library service in New Zealand to go completely fine free in 2008. We are very proud of this, and it is heartening to see many other libraries in the country achieving the same for their communities.

In the past couple of years, with the challenges we faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, we, like many other libraries, had to adapt our services. We saw growth in the use of our online resources, increased our website content and had online story

time, and staff supported our communities by stepping into welfare roles.

During this time, the funding from the New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme was very welcome. We put our funding into a digital co-ordinator and community engagement role, which made a huge difference in our ability to support our community. Our digital co-ordinator ran programmes and digital drop-ins all over the district. It was a time when we all realised how many people can't access technology – there is much work to do in this space.

Emerging from the pandemic, with groups now returning to our spaces, we are seeing a real desire from users to attend events and socialise. Our spaces are transforming from transactional spaces to community spaces with Lego, colouring and knitting groups.

Our holiday programmes have changed from craft activities, story time and the occasional performer to virtual reality gaming, table tennis, sewing classes and so much more.

We are looking at partnering with others to increase our reach across the district. In 2022, our neighbours at the Whanganui District Library offered us a six-month trial of their library van, servicing a couple of our smaller townships that are close to our border. The trial was very successful and was well used by residents, so we have now agreed to continue this service to the communities that didn't previously have easy access to a library facility.

Our team is exploring new ways to share stories about our heritage and culture via our website and social media and hopes to run oral history workshops in 2024. We are looking forward to what the future brings for our libraries and seeing how our services adapt further to meet the needs of our communities.

If you would like to learn more about our libraries and district, please feel free to follow us via our [Facebook page](#).



NEW LIANZA MEMBERS

*Welcome to all our new
LIANZA members!*

Gimhani Abeynayaka
Sonia-Ingrid Anderson
Rob Baigent
Katie Brazil
Anne-Marie Cassidy
Angel Cheng
Lyn de Graaf
Amy Drummond
James Eunson
Beaue Frost
Amanda Hutchinson
Ky McWilliam
Dany Miller-Kareko
Declan O'Hallahan
Amanda Pertiwi
Miriam Rasmussen



LIANZA PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

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

HIKUWAI
Daniel Blomfield
Abigail Ennor
Fred Ling
Jerome Rivera
Sarah-Jane Rowland
Marion Walker
Angel Cheng
Mohammed Faruk
Trina Schuster

TE UPOKO O TE IKA A MAUI
Megan Ingle

TE WHAKAKITENGA AA KAIMAI
Michelle Anderson

HISTORY CORNER



LIBRARY LIFE OVER THE YEARS



Library Life was launched in February 1978, as a rebrand of the former New Zealand Library Association (NZLA) Newsletter. This issue is number 500, and Tal Rogoff looks at its evolution.

Library Life has seen its readers through some difficult national and global events, such as libraries responding to the Christchurch attack, issue 472, April 2019, and Libraries in the time of COVID-19, issue 478, May 2020.

The magazine documented the questions of interest, the latest innovations and concerns of the day. Looking back, you can see how some topics have evolved and progressed and where concerns continue to bother us, such as the sustainability of librarianship in Librarian – the redundant profession?, issue 252, December 2000.

In March 1996, issue 200 looked back on some of the key moments documented over the years, including the association's commissioned bicultural report, Te Ara Tika (issue 155, February 1992), and the rebranding as New Zealand Library and Information Association: Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa (issue 166, January-February 1993). In that tradition, here are some highlights from the further 300 issues.

The 21st century had a busy start with issue 250, October 2000, reporting on LIANZA's National Information Policy proposal to the government, as well as Christchurch City Libraries' rebranding, the National Library's reorganisation and the revision of the National Library Act – a new century, lots of big changes!

Following their LIANZA Conference 2005 paper of the same title, James E Herring and

Elizabeth C McMaster reported the results of Internet Training for Library Staff in New Zealand: A Survey in issue 300, March 2006.

Inspired by the Te Whare Pūkapa LIANZA conference, Library Life issue 434 was dedicated to libraries' engagement with their Pasifika community across the different sectors, in May 2015.

For issue 450, Donald Gregory presented a well thought out and thorough article titled Making Māori Material Discoverable – A Fresh Approach to Promoting Awareness and Increased Use of Ngā Upoko Tukutuku: Māori Subject Headings (MSH), October 2016.

My favourite moment, though, as small as it was, was the quote of the month in issue 416, November 2013, which quoted Albert Einstein: "The only thing that you absolutely have to know is the location of the library."



Tal Rogoff is a librarian with a great passion for history and genealogy. She has worked in public, academic, and corporate libraries across New Zealand and Israel.

HISTORY CORNER



THE START OF *LIBRARY LIFE*



Helen Stephen-Smith was there when it all began and tells us about her experience with the first *Library Life* magazine.

In 1969, because I lived near 10 Park Street and was no longer working full-time, Miss Bibby – always Miss Bibby, never Doreen to me – sometimes asked me for help with some NZLA routine tasks. One of them was sorting and folding the mimeographed *NZLA Newsletter*.

Miss Bibby was responsible for my appointment as assistant editor of *New Zealand Libraries* – a task I took on to help the newly appointed editor, Bill Blackwood, upgrade and revitalise that publication.

That appointment meant I became a member of the NZLA Publications Committee. I quickly learned that, like me, the members were dissatisfied with the content and the look of the newsletter. No committee member had the skills needed to redesign the publication, so in 1977 I completed a Wellington Polytechnic editorial

production course. As part of the course, I redesigned the *NZLA Newsletter* into an A4 three-column publication that included photographs and advertising.

Then we needed a name. We asked the wider members for suggestions, but nothing appealed. As I read a paper by Mary Ronnie at the 1977 NZLA Conference in Whanganui, the words “the library life of New Zealand” leapt out at me. At the next Publications Committee meeting, *Library Life* was unanimously accepted as the title for our new monthly newsletter.

The Publications Committee's recommendation to the NZLA Council to change the format of the newsletter and to appoint a professional editor was accepted. Ruth Thomas began the job with the March 1978 issue. That meant the task of producing the first issue fell to me!

In those days, all copy had to be typed and sent to a typesetter who used an IBM golf ball machine to set the copy in the

specified column width and produce the headings in either bold or italic script. The editor would then lay out the set copy, cutting and pasting to get a good result, which went off to the printer.

The first issue did have a whoopsie. We had a paid advertisement for a book on lighthouses. Somewhere in the printing process, the dollar part of the price that had been glued on fell off, and the price showed as 75. Oops! The ad was reprinted correctly in the next issue.

Ruth Thomas left the editor position after a year, and my husband, Havell Stephen-Smith, was appointed NZLA's Executive Officer. As well as working for business, marketing and professional organisations, Havell had 15 years of experience in editing and publication production. As a result, and to save money, the production and editing of *Library Life* was brought in-house.



Helen Stephen-Smith worked in government libraries before establishing the first library and information consultancy in New Zealand. She created more than 50 new positions for librarians in business, engineering, academic, public and special libraries. She retired in 2000 and was ordained as an Anglican priest. She is now part of a ministry team in Waikanae but is still passionate about librarians ensuring that their libraries are essential to their community.

COPY-RIOT



IMMINENT COPYRIGHT LAW REFORM - ITS IMPACT ON THE IMPORTANT WORK OF LIBRARIES

This column has been written by Anna Rennie and Lee Rowe, members of the LIANZA Standing Committee on Copyright, on proposed changes to the Copyright Act. The committee is seeking library sector feedback.

In 2018, the government began a review of the Copyright Act 1994. It was recognised that changes were needed to ensure that the legislation remained relevant in the context of rapid technological change. However, despite the government repeatedly seeking feedback, no significant changes to the act have been implemented.

On July 10, 2023, New Zealand signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union. Part of the compromise in achieving this trade deal was commitments New Zealand made to amend copyright law. The ratification and implementation of these changes are expected to enter into force in 2024, and any copyright-related obligations will need to be implemented within four years of the FTA entering into force, so these changes are imminent.

Specific commitments relate to extending technological protection measures (TPM). Known as digital locks, these include protections against the unauthorised avoidance of access control TPMs. In addition, the FTA requires that New Zealand extend the term of copyright: the term is currently 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which the author dies, and is changing to 70 years.

The Cabinet has agreed to implement these new copyright obligations through a review of the Copyright Act 1994. What is unclear at this stage is precisely when this will happen and what is in scope for review – for example, will issues beyond the changes to TPM and the term of copyright be included?

HOW DOES THIS IMPACT NEW ZEALAND LIBRARIES?

In light of the changes, each of us must consider the implications to our roles of an additional 20 years of protection for copyright works. How does this affect libraries when accessing and sharing content? What does it mean more broadly in terms of libraries' content provision? What will the impact be on activities around opening up content at the end of a 50-year copyright term or digitisation projects? Issues such as works without a known or contactable author or orphan works will also be subject to this new regime, and the longer term will exacerbate these issues.

It would be helpful for the LIANZA Standing Committee on Copyright (LSCC) to hear your feedback on how this will impact your libraries.

Please provide us with examples or projects that may be affected. This is important as the LSCC is considering proposals to the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on ways of offsetting any impacts the term extension has on libraries. MBIE is the government body tasked with implementing this change. Let us know what you think by emailing your feedback to the LSCC via the LIANZA office at officeadmin@lianza.org.nz.

FURTHER READING

- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. (2021). *Review of the Copyright Act 1994*
- Nicholls, J. (2023). *Tangled copyright law denying public access to works they've a right to see.*
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (n.d.) *Understanding the NZ-EU FTA.*

FREEDOM OF INFO



EQUITY OR HARM?

This was the title of a panel session organised by the LIANZA Standing Committee on Freedom of Information held at the recent LIANZA 2023 Conference in Christchurch. Committee member Rob Cruickshank put several questions to four distinguished panellists: Leslie Weir, Librarian and Archivist of Canada; Māia Abraham, Team Leader of Māori & Multicultural Services at Kete Wānanga o Ōtautahi | Christchurch City Libraries; Distinguished Professor Steven Ratuva, Director of the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury; and Associate Professor Spencer Lilley, Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington.

THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

To start, Rob Cruickshank reminded everyone of the definitions:

- **Misinformation** – unintentional propagation of false information, not intended to mislead or cause harm.
- **Disinformation** – deliberate propagation of information known to be false, with intent to mislead and cause harm.

For simplicity they are referred to collectively below as 'misinformation'.

The conversation began with a kōrero on the scale of the problem. Rob invited each of the panellists to talk about their perceptions of misinformation – particularly relating to misinformation about indigenous people – and to describe the harms that this misinformation can cause.

MISINFORMATION'S DEEP HISTORY

A strong theme that emerged was that **misinformation has a deep history** and is not a new phenomenon. It may have gone under different names in the past, such as propaganda, but in fact it is as old as history. There has been misinformation about Māori since colonisation. The clearest example of this is the different

translations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and subsequent narratives about different 'sides.' We see now that truth is contestable and comes down to who's perspective we take. Truth narratives are being manufactured for political and social purposes. Prejudice is embedded in books and indexes that feed misinformation and these narratives draw from pre-existing ideas in academia. This misinformation may not be deliberate, but it is embedded in stereotypes.

A CANADIAN PERSPECTIVE

Another theme that emerged is that **absence of information is itself a form of misinformation**. As librarians, it is our job to fill this gap. But we also need to cultivate cultural literacy about our information sources, including misinformation about indigenous matters retold through a western lens. Leslie Weir spoke about this from a Canadian perspective. Archives Canada holds residential schools records, which were created in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by the Canadian government, in cahoots with various Christian churches. Their aim was to educate, convert and assimilate young indigenous people into Canadian society. The truth was much darker and created a legacy of inter-generational harm that continues today. This resonated strongly with Hana O'Regan's keynote talk earlier in the day that had referenced New Zealand's own Native Schools Act and its extraordinarily harmful legacy. A topic that was to feature a few times during the conference.

RECOGNISING THE DIVERSITY OF INDIGENOUS VIEWS

Leslie continued, highlighting that the actions of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission directly relate to making these records accessible, so the organisation has a huge responsibility to do this well. Archives Canada works with many different indigenous groups who have varying views on freedom of information and access to information, so each collection is handled differently. These collections have been built with a colonial, western approach, which can be challenging when working with such diverse

indigenous nations and communities. The panel pointed out that **the diversity of different views among Māori is not always recognised** and needs to be more widely considered. This was a point that was also made elsewhere in the conference, including during Rangī Mātāmua's keynote.

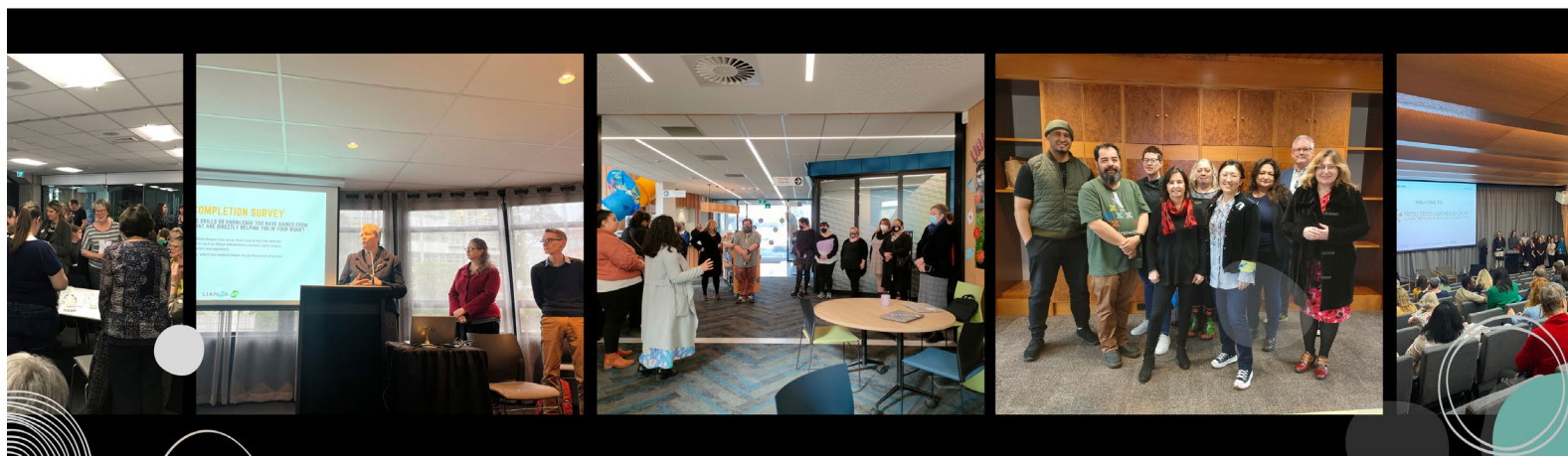
BALANCING HARMS

The conversation then turned to the balance between intellectual freedom and social justice. How can we weigh the harms caused by misinformation against the harms of censorship? Is it the job of librarians to provide access to all information regardless of its potential to harm, or is there some misleading material that causes so much harm that we should exclude it from our collections? The panellists were invited to explore where the balance lay for them. But they saw past this false dichotomy, emphasising instead that **solutions lie in creating authentic relationships with indigenous owners of information and recruiting more indigenous librarians**. Placing blame on the commodification of knowledge, particularly in academia, leads to algorithms that aren't friendly to indigenous knowledge, but rather reinforce dominant coloniser narratives and worldviews.

PRACTICAL ADVICE

To finish off the session, the panel were asked if they had any practical advice for librarians grappling with these issues. Again, working with and alongside indigenous communities and bringing them into the library profession was a strong theme. They identified a need to put materials into the right context but emphasised that this job is **best done by indigenous people** themselves to align with their values and concerns.

Developing critical cultural literacies, educating and enabling staff, and empowering librarians to be allies of indigenous communities was reinforced. The discussion ended on a positive note from Spencer Lilley, who reminded us that libraries are strong advocates for freedom of information and have solid collection policies that are worth their weight in gold. So there is a lot of potential to make a difference. There will always be people who are offended by content and others who are pleased that it's there.



JOIN LIANZA

A THRIVING LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SECTOR

CLIMATE ACTION



IFLA CLIMATE ACTION SURVEY

LIANZA STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE ACTION

IFLA has partnered with the **Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Communication and Education (MECCE) Project** on an initiative to help measure how libraries are making a global impact on the climate crisis. As part of this mahi, the IFLA invited libraries and library associations to share their experience with climate action, communication and education through the IFLA Climate Action Survey, which closed for responses at the end of October.

The Standing Committee on Climate Action submitted to the survey on LIANZA's behalf. We were pleased to report that the standing committee was created this year to provide leadership and guidance to the sector on climate action, with professional development opportunities for members planned for 2024.

The IFLA has released some initial findings from the survey. These reflect that libraries engage in climate communication and education in many ways, with most of these centred around activities encouraging community building and lifelong learning. The examples mentioned in **IFLA's blog post** showcase the wide variety of climate action initiatives supported by libraries,

from mend clubs and community gardening to recycling schemes set up with local waste collection services and library-led activities where university students help to record pollution levels in local waterways. We look forward to the next stage of reporting on the survey.

LIANZA 2023 CONFERENCE

Four committee members attended the LIANZA Conference in Ōtautahi last month, which was a fantastic opportunity to learn, share and connect. We're already looking forward to LIANZA 2025 to help elevate the discussion on the climate crisis and our crucial role in supporting climate action.

The climate crisis was very much central to cultural and digital strategist Michael Peter Edson's keynote. Edson began by outlining a question that has troubled him over recent years: "Why is the library sector so passive and slow in the face of the climate emergency?" He didn't single out libraries in this dilemma, noting that other sectors like education, museums and cultural heritage are in the same boat, being "demonstrably passive and slow

in the face of the one of the greatest, most interesting, most fascinating, most challenging, most problematic, most dire challenges ever to face our species".

Edson traced out what he sees as the key issues contributing to this failure to respond, aiming primarily at our professional training that normalises certain practices rooted in a "world of yesterday", which has less and less relevance to today's world. Followers of Edson's recent work would have encountered the 'Big Frikin' Wall', a concept first outlined by social media strategist Kathy Sierra. For Edson, this wall is a colossal obstacle separating organisations from where they are and where they need to be. He argues that we'll never get over the wall by sticking to established ways of doing things. Instead, we need to embrace new forms of professional practice to entirely rethink our approach to problems.

Edson challenged librarians to think about their sense of agency within their organisations to create the change we want to see in our professional practice. Edson referenced his **2022 IFLA World Library and Information Congress keynote**, where he



suggested that librarians need to fully embrace their role as activists to scale the 'Big Frikin' Wall', adopting creative and innovative ways to respond to the climate crisis at scale and playing a central role in building joy, resilience and trust in society.

Ultimately, Edson concluded that to tackle the problems facing us today and into the future, we need to build organisations that are deeply involved in the life of their community and the things that matter. One project Edson is engaged with that embraces this kaupapa is **Climate Things**, which aims to "normalise the idea that part of being a cultural practitioner is being involved in your community at scale with great boldness on the things that matter in the world".

If you're interested in the issues raised by Edson and want to learn about the projects he's currently involved with, including Climate Things and the new Museum of Solutions in Mumbai, you can check out his keynote address on **LIANZA's YouTube channel**.

SCALING THE 'BIG FRIKIN' WALL' IN OUR BACKYARD

Our committee is planning for 2024, and we're excited to be putting together a webinar series to host kōrero on climate action and libraries themed around different issues facing the sector.

Are you involved in climate action in your mahi? We are interested to hear about the initiatives and projects you're

involved with so we can better understand what's happening in libraries across Aotearoa and share these examples with the library and information sector. Please contact us by emailing climate@lianza.org.nz – we would love to hear from you!

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