



## ARANZ ALERT Issue 23

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Alert Editor

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### Kia ora koutou, and welcome to the December Alert

In the last weekend of November, ARANZ Council spent two days discussing the way we do things, making sure that all of our processes are appropriate, useful and meet the requirements of external regulators such as the Charities Commission. It was a useful reminder that as well as making sure we effectively manage the records of the places we work, we also need to keep our own Association's house in order.

We also discussed some big and sometimes contentious issues that have been swirling around various discussion groups in recent days. It's not always easy to have these conversations, particularly when most of us have responsibilities to different employers as well as to our profession as archivists and recordkeepers. However, it is our responsibility as elected Councillors to have these discussions, and make statements on behalf of members, while avoiding conflicts of interest by not sharing privileged information or becoming involved in discussions that directly affect our employers. Fortunately Council's make-up is such that others who are able to step in as required to avoid conflicts of interest do so. Therefore, for this Alert, I am back as guest editor.

As well as reporting on Council news and raising some ideas for discussion, this Alert includes announcements of upcoming conferences, exhibitions, scholarships available and awards presented, and other information we hope you will find useful. As a former recipient, I would encourage readers to consider applying for the Ian McLean Wards Scholarship.

As always, we welcome feedback from the membership.

Elizabeth, Guest Editor

### President's Report – Seán McMahon

Kia ora koutou katoa,

On behalf of ARANZ Council I want to wish all our members a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete me te Tau Hou.

### Council Meeting and Workshop

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November Council held its first meeting since the AGM in August. We welcomed

three new Councillors: Jennie Henton (Lower Hutt City Council Archives), Katrina Tamaira (Archives NZ) and Eric Boamah (The Open Polytechnic). This was a particularly long meeting clocking in at six hours. Three items coming out of the meeting with particular interest were:

- Increasing the Michael Standish and Ian Wards Prizes to \$500 each (up from \$250).
- The establishment of an ARANZ scholarship of up to \$500 for a member to attend the biennial ARANZ conference.
- Dr Susan Skudder has created a retention and disposal schedule for ARANZ so that we are better able to manage our records, many of which are currently estrays around the country.

Much of the meeting was taken up with looking at the procedures that the Charities Commission has put in place to audit charities. This is much more stringent than in previous years and Council is looking at what all the current requirements are and the potential impact on our association of these changes.

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November Council held a full day workshop in Wellington. After celebrating 40 years of the association in 2015 we are now fully committed to looking at what the future for ARANZ and our membership might be. At the workshop Council began the process of reviewing all the policies and procedures of the association as well as our constitution. We're looking to update all aspects which may have become outdated and are attempting to streamline other processes. In line with this is also a review of our financial arrangements and responsibilities as an incorporated society and charity. Council itself has to be stronger and more transparent in its own budgeting practices and better able to forecast potential spending from year to year. This work will be complete by our next AGM in August 2018.

### **Questionnaire**

Council will be looking at sending out a questionnaire in 2018. Part of the work here is to evaluate the benefits to the members of belonging to ARANZ. There will be demographic questions, as well as enquires around our journal *Archifacts* and the potential for this to be an online journal, or not; the biennial conference; regional branches; professional training opportunities; advocacy etc. If any of the members have questions they think would be helpful to ask the membership then please advise a Council member and we will include them in the questionnaire. We're endeavouring to explore how Council and the association stay relevant to our membership in a rapidly changing professional and technological environment.

### **Regional Branches**

Council is still very keen on seeing more branches active in our regions. Both the Wellington and Otago/Southland Branches have been very active this year. The Auckland and Canterbury Branches have been in recess for a number of years now. However, 2017 has seen a number of members express interest in re-establishing these branches and we hope that this may happen in 2018. If you live in the Auckland Region and would be happy to join a branch committee there please contact Belinda Battley in Auckland [belinda.battley@gmail.com](mailto:belinda.battley@gmail.com)

If you live in the Canterbury Region and would be happy to join a branch committee in Christchurch please contact Kathleen Stringer [Kathleen.stringer@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Kathleen.stringer@xtra.co.nz) or Jill Haley [Jill.Haley@canterburymuseum.com](mailto:Jill.Haley@canterburymuseum.com)

Branches are very much a grassroots network and they can offer local opportunities for events, talks, training, collaborating, and provide advocacy to Council from their own regions on local issues.

## **Records**

In the past year we have requested from membership any ideas about what the records management community may want from ARANZ in the way of training etc. If anyone has ideas in this area please continue to send them in to Council. We are looking at creating a records portfolio on Council and are looking at options for a one day records management seminar. We are only at the early stages of scoping this but we will get back to members when we know more, as it is likely we will need to set up a sub-committee to arrange such an event for our membership.

## **Archives New Zealand**

With the recent change of government the debate about Archives NZ's independence has been reignited. I have written to the Prime Minister, but have yet to receive a reply. The Archives Council has requested to meet with me.

## **Other Initiatives**

Council has a number of other initiatives bubbling around in the background which we hope to tackle in the next year. These include the 2018 conference in Rotorua, a rebuild of the website, a te reo name for ARANZ, new branding, a review of the membership database, work in the community archives space, an online directory of archival repositories, and continued support to our branches and SIG groups.

## **Thank you**

I would like to thank all the members who have served on Branches, SIGs, working groups, *Archifacts* and Council in the past financial year. Volunteer organisations like ours are always going to be resource hungry and I sincerely appreciate the time people have taken out of their busy lives to keep ARANZ functioning, energised and relevant as we move into the next forty years.

## **Branch Records**

Some of you may still have records of Branches lurking in your workplaces or homes. If you do, and they are no longer needed for the running of a Branch, you will soon be able to apply our new retention and disposal schedule, and then transfer any records to be retained as archives to the Beaglehole Room at Victoria University, ARANZ's archival repository. Contact ARANZ President Sean McMahon for more information.

## **Academics press Government on Archives NZ promises**

### **Mike Steemson**

Leading NZ academics have challenged the new Government to press ahead swiftly with its pre-election promises to restore public service independence to Archives New Zealand and the National Library and consider appointing the Chief Archivist as an Officer of Parliament.

Dr Julienne Molineaux, Director of Auckland University of Technology's influential Policy Observatory and lecturer in the university's Centre for Business Interdisciplinary Studies, launched the challenge in a post to the Observatory's *Briefing Papers* weblog which she edits. The post protested:

The issues aren't just about size, but separating out conflicts of interest, and recognising the loss that happens to organisations with strong professional cultures when they are submerged in large conglomerate agencies where the dominant culture is a managerial not professional one.

Victoria University Stout Research Centre Adjunct Research Associate, Dr Brad Patterson, a former ARANZ President, backed the challenge, telling *Alert*: “Placing Archives New Zealand beyond the misguided tinkering of unsympathetic politicians and bureaucrats would be a service to all New Zealanders.”

ARANZ Vice President, Elizabeth Charlton indicated that Dr Molineaux had made “very astute reflections on the current state of Archives NZ’s current deployment within the Department of Internal Department.” She continued

Archives NZ would be in a stronger position to deliver its 2057 strategy if it were unencumbered by the capricious policies of the larger department. Archives NZ is heading into a period of significant and sustained development. Financial support and assurance needs to be given by Government to the agency so it can deliver on its mandate as the public record keeper and repository of government memory.

### Labour Party Manifesto

In the run-up to the year’s General Election, the Labour Party’s 2017 Manifesto Internal Affairs policy ([Labour Party Manifesto](#)) vowed to:

- Commit to Archives New Zealand and the National Library being re-established as independent and separate entities outside the Department of Internal Affairs;
- Investigate the National Archivist being an Officer of Parliament

Dr Molineaux’s blog post, entitled “An Unlikely Political Football”, was published in late November at <http://briefingpapers.co.nz/an-unlikely-political-football/>. In it, she describes the constant re-structuring within the New Zealand public sector as “almost an addiction”. She argues:

The official archives of New Zealand should not change its priorities every time the government’s strategic priorities change. Additionally, it ignores the constitutional function of an official archive.

Archives New Zealand is the regulator of government record making, keeping, and destruction. It has an important constitutional role by providing the foundation of democratic accountability...

She recalls her opposition to the last Government’s actions re-absorbing Archives and the National Library back into the Department of Internal Affairs. “Now, it seems (Archives New Zealand) will yo-yo back to independence,” adding, hopefully

The proposal to ‘investigate the National Archivist being an Officer of Parliament’ is an attempt to entrench the main powers and functions of the Archives as answerable to parliament not government, which will also make it harder for upcoming governments and the State Services Commission to undo this reform.

Another authoritative voice, Dr Brad Patterson, a champion in the association’s historic campaigns against past Archives NZ re-structuring, commented:

Sadly, the adverse predictions of those opposing the 2010 reincorporation of Archives New Zealand into the Department of Internal Affairs have been borne out. The present

subordinate, enfeebled and professionally leaderless state of the institution is testimony to that.

Dr Molineaux's case that the mooted reform might proceed quickly, and should be the last, can only be endorsed. No other New Zealand public sector management specialist is as well acquainted with the issues.

## Ian McLean Wards Scholarship 2017

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH IN LIBRARIANSHIP, ARCHIVES & RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The Ian McLean Wards Scholarship seeks to assist researchers and practitioners in the librarianship, archives and records management fields to undertake a specific project advancing knowledge or improving practice relating to the recording, care, or conservation, of historical research materials. The primary purpose of the scholarship is to defray research expenses. In general, it is not intended to support post-graduate study, although particularly appropriate proposals may be considered.



The scholarship honours the outstanding cultural contributions of the late **Ian McLean Wards** (1920-2003), Chief Government Historian between 1968 and 1983. A life member of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand and the Friends of the Turnbull Library, Ian was also a stalwart of many other cultural and artistic organisations. He is widely remembered for his untiring campaigns to safeguard the nation's historical records and the integrity of the institutions holding them.

### **The general terms under which the scholarship will be awarded:**

1. The scholarship will usually be awarded annually, although the Trustees reserve the right to make no award if it is deemed in any year there is no proposal of sufficient merit, or to appropriately apportion the funds available if in any year more than one outstanding proposal is received.
2. The Trustees may, at their discretion, announce specific requirements when calling for applications in any particular year.
3. Applicants need not hold a university degree or diploma, but must provide evidence of ability to carry out research leading to a research report suitable for scholarly, professional, or popular publication, whether in print or electronic form.
4. The scholarship is open to all New Zealand residents.
5. Decisions relating to the award of the scholarship will be made by the executive committee of the Ian McLean Wards Memorial Trust, who may consult externally on the merit of particular research proposals received.
6. The scholarship will be paid according to a schedule agreed with the successful applicant.
7. A copy of the research report will be provided to the Ian McLean Wards Memorial Trust within a timeframe which shall be agreed between the Trust and the successful applicant prior to payment being made.

The value of the scholarship in 2017 (to be taken in 2018) is likely to be \$10,000.

## Application Format

Applicants should submit:

- a 2-4 page proposal outlining the proposed programme of research, together with a timeline indicating significant milestones and a provisional budget;
- a curriculum vitae clearly outlining educational/professional qualifications, skills, and background;
- the names of two referees who may be contacted for confidential comment on the applicant and the project.

Applications for 2017 will close on **Friday 22 December 2017**, and should be addressed to:

Secretary

Ian McLean Wards Memorial Trust

PO Box 12-036

Wellington

Email applications should be addressed to [info@e-recordkeeping.com](mailto:info@e-recordkeeping.com)

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## Upcoming Conferences

### Australian Society of Archivists Conference

Archives in a Blade Runner age: Identity & Memory, Evidence & Accountability

**Crown Convention Centre, Perth, Western Australia**

**Conference - Wednesday and Thursday, 26 - 27 September, 2018**

#### **2018 Call for Papers**

Philip K. Dick's novella, *Do androids dream of electric sheep*, first published in 1968, was at the forefront of a wave of science fiction that explored how information and technology interact. Sometimes called new wave sf, or cyber punk fiction, the genre references noire drama, detective fiction and predictions from futurists like Alvin Toffler. Situated within the genre, and something of a poster child in its own right, Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* built upon Dick's ideas. *Blade Runner* asked questions about how it was possible to construct and comprehend proof of humanity within and outside, from records, memories and bodies.

The 2018 conference committee now invites proposals for papers, presentations and workshops for the Perth, 2018 conference, drawing on the broad issues in the conference theme.

We encourage presenters to work together to conceive of and submit proposals for full sessions.

See format details below. Students and non-archivists, as well as practitioners from the Asian Pacific region, are encouraged to submit.

For more information, see the ASA website here: <https://www.archivists.org.au/learning-publications/2018-presenter-resources>

### Ke Au Hou - Generations of Pacific librarianship conference: May 1-3, 2018

2018 will mark the 50th anniversary of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UH-M) Library's Pacific Collection. We invite you to join with us and other Pacific librarians and scholars to reflect on the legacy left us by our librarian ancestors and consider what legacy we hope to build for the generations of librarians that will follow.

**Conference website** (<https://guides.library.manoa.hawaii.edu/Plib2018>)

**Submit a paper.** Deadline December 15, 2017. [Go here to see description of panel topics.](#)

**Register.** Deadline February 1, 2018.

The conference will include:

- A pre-conference workshop sponsored by UNT's LEAP about Creating, Curating, and Preserving Digital Collections.
- 2 keynote speakers and 4 panels presenting the past, present and future of Pacific librarianship.
- A half-day workshop to strategize the future of our profession in the region.
- Presentations by the LEAP students, the future of our profession.
- Opportunities to eat and socialize and connect with other librarians, researchers and students from all over the Pacific region.

This conference is jointly hosted by [UH-M Library's Hawaiian & Pacific Collections](#), [Center for Pacific Islands Studies](#), [Hawai'inuiakea School of Hawaiian Knowledge](#), [Nā Hawai'i 'Imi Loa](#), and the [University of North Texas' Library Education for the U.S. Affiliated Pacific](#).

If you have any questions, please email [plib2018@hawaii.edu](mailto:plib2018@hawaii.edu) or call [+1 \(808\) 956-8264](tel:+18089568264).

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## Other News

### Feminist Art Archives from the 1970s to the 1990s



In the first ever archives-only exhibition in the Gallery's main spaces, research librarians from the E H McCormick Research Library at the Auckland Art Gallery have curated [Collective Women: Feminist Art Archives from the 1970s to the 1990s](#). Indicative of the depth of their archives collections and coinciding with Suffrage 125 celebrations, the show examines the conscious strategy of many feminist art collectives to systematically record their initiatives for consideration and analysis beyond their own generation.

For more information visit the Gallery's website:

<https://www.aucklandartgallery.com/whats-on/exhibition/collective-women-feminist-art-archives-from-the-1970s-to-the-1990s>

## UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand

The UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand Trust is delighted to announce seven new inscriptions to the New Zealand documentary heritage register.

The successful inscriptions are:

**John A. Lee Papers** (Auckland Libraries)

**J. T. Diamond West Auckland History Collection** (Auckland Libraries)

**New Zealand Official Photographs, World War 1914-1918** (Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington)

**Kaleidoscope – a weekly television arts documentary programme** (1976-198) Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, Wellington, owned by Ministry for Culture & Heritage)

**Tyree Studio Collection** (Nelson Provincial Museum and Alexander Turnbull Library)

**Salmond Anderson Architects records** (the University of Otago's Hocken Collections, Uare Taoka o Hākena, Dunedin)

**The Ng New Zealand Chinese Heritage Collection** (Presbyterian Research Centre, Dunedin)

The Memory of the World New Zealand Trust Chair Dianne Macaskill announced the new inscriptions at a function at Auckland Libraries today.

There are now 27 documentary heritage collections on the New Zealand register. Each is a valuable source of research for historians, researchers, educators and many others in New Zealand and the world.

UNESCO recognition draws attention to the significance of documentary heritage and the importance of ensuring it is preserved and made accessible.

You can view more information about the inscriptions and the register on the Memory of the World New Zealand's website [www.unescomow.org.nz](http://www.unescomow.org.nz) and watch the UNESCO New Zealand National Commission's video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UR9-aGQOqzU&feature=youtu.be>

Cathy Holmes

Communications Advisor

UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand

## Digital preservation tools used by Archives NZ

A recent blog from Archives New Zealand described the different tools used for digital preservation and access, including the archival management tool and online finding aid, Archway; the digital preservation system, Rosetta, and various open-source digital preservation tools. You can read the blog here:

<https://records.archives.govt.nz/toolkit-blog/digital-preservation-at-archives-new-zealand-the-tools/>

## National Digital Forum

Excellent news if you couldn't make it to the National Digital Forum: Many of the presentations are now available on YouTube, here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/NDFNZ/videos>

## Digital archiving: Disrupt or be disrupted? A blog from the National Archives, UK

John Sheridan asks “Reflecting on the challenge of digital records, what does creative destruction mean for our archival practice? What do archivists need to do to make sure we are not rendered obsolete by rampant technological change?” The blog is here: [http://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/blog/digital-archiving-disrupt-or-be-disrupted/?utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=SocialSignIn](http://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/blog/digital-archiving-disrupt-or-be-disrupted/?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=SocialSignIn)

## A talk on Community Archives by Jeannette Bastian

Below is a link to a presentation by archival educator and practitioner Jeannette Bastian. It was posted on the Boston University Centre for Humanities Forum, which introduces it like this: “This presentation briefly defines community archives and explores this social phenomenon, its activist role and in particular its potential impact on traditional archives. Offering examples of community archives in Massachusetts and beyond, it discusses how this radical approach to records and recordkeeping can augment and enhance the archival mission.”

Here is the link: <http://sites.bu.edu/humanitiesforums/jeannette-bastian/>

Wishing you and your families and friends a safe, happy and relaxing summer break.



If you're looking for the usual Alert Editor over summer, you might find Belinda here.