



ARANZ ALERT Issue 21

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Alert Editor

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Kia ora koutou, and welcome to a news-packed Alert

There's a whole lot packed into this quarter's edition: news of the newly-elected Council, chances for you to have a say in what the Council does for you, information about events coming up, opportunities for training and lots of other news from New Zealand and around the world. So much energy, it must be Spring.

It would be great to hear from you, especially if you have some stories to share, or if you have any suggestions, comments or questions. Just send a message to the email address at the head of this page. It would be especially good to hear more from everyone out in the regions, because we don't hear about what's going on unless someone tells us. All contributions are very gratefully received. This time, we are very happy to have reports from Michael Steemson on the newly available digitised version of Hansard Parliamentary Reports, and from Nina Whittaker on the Walsh Memorial Library's upcoming Oral-Histor-athon. I hope you enjoy this Alert.

New ARANZ National Councillors appointed

At the ARANZ National Annual General Meeting held at the National Library on Wednesday 23rd August, the new National Council was appointed. There were some new faces, while some Councillors were re-appointed from last year. The current positions of the Councillors re-appointed are shown below. Positions for the coming year will be confirmed at the first Council meeting in November. The new Council is:

- President: Sean McMahon
- Vice President / Advocacy: Elizabeth Charlton
- Secretary: Gillian Tasker
- Treasurer: (Currently vacant)
- General Councillors:
 - Christine Edney (Membership)
 - Charlotte McDonald
 - Alison Breese (Webmaster / Social Media)
 - Belinda Battley (Alert / Archifacts Reviews editor)
 - Katrina Temaira (new member)
 - Eric Boamah (new member)
 - Jennie Henton (new member)

- Archifacts Editor: Jessica Moran remains in this position, ex-officio

Farewell and thank you to our departing Councillors

Two of our long-standing Council members stepped down this year, and they were farewelled at the AGM. Many thanks to Louis Changuion and Lisa Austin for their years of service to ARANZ and its members.

Louis served on the ARANZ Council for 7 years, from 2011 to 2017, as Secretary and then Webmaster. Lisa served on the Council for 5 years from 2013 to 2017, and over that time she has taken responsibility for Social Media, Treasurer and Branch Liaison.

Ian Wards Prize 2017

The Ian Wards Prize is awarded annually to an outstanding piece of published writing which in the view of the judging panel also clearly demonstrates exemplary and/or innovative use of primary resources. First awarded in 2001, the Prize honours the contribution to New Zealand scholarship of Ian McLean Wards, Chief Government Historian between 1968 and 1983.



Jessie Munro, 2017 Ian Wards Prize recipient, with ARANZ President Sean McMahan

This year's Ian Wards Prize was awarded at the AGM to Jessie Munro for her book *Voices of Belonging: A History of Clevedon-Te Wairoa*. (Publisher: Steele Roberts Aotearoa Ltd, 2016). The publisher describes the book like this: "The protective arms of two headlands bring us from the Hauraki Gulf into the Wairoa River and up its meanders through wide valley flats, yet where steep hills on either side foreshadow the narrowing gorge to the river's source in the Hunua Ranges. At the end of the tidal reach is the village of Clevedon, where the old McNicol farmhouse stands out on a slope above the landing. It is now a museum for the district's history, and where this book was born. This story is brimful of people's lives: Maori and Pakeha, men, women and children, conveyed through a multitude of voices speaking from diaries, letters, farm records, minute books and memories; hence the title *Voices of Belonging*. Jessie Munro has set the immediacy of these experiences within the historical context of each period: narrative and analysis intertwine. *Voices of Belonging* speaks for its unique area, and for us all."

ARANZ congratulates Jessie Munro for her excellent use of archival sources in this book.

ARANZ Conference 2018

Save the date: the 2018 ARANZ conference has been announced, and it is going to be the place to be! The title is “Taonga Tuku Iho 2018”, with a special focus on Māori archives and records, and it will be held in Rotorua at the Copthorne Hotel from 22-25 August. The last time the conference was held in Rotorua it was excellent, and talked about for years afterwards, so make sure you get to this one. Watch the ARANZ website and NZRecords for the call for papers.

Are you a records manager? Tell us what training and resources you would like available!

ARANZ Council is looking for feedback on what types of training the records management community would be interested in, and how it would be most useful to you to access it. Also, are there specific resources that should be developed by ARANZ in this area? Please send your feedback to aranz@aranz.org.nz

Website

Have you visited the ARANZ website recently?

Here it is: <https://www.aranz.org.nz/Site/home/default.aspx>

The site is full of useful resources, job vacancies, and news and events (including the Branches) that will be of interest to those in the archives and records world. If you have any items of interest that may be able to be put on the website please contact the Webmaster, Alison Breese at webmaster@aranz.org.nz.

Walsh Memorial Library, MOTAT Oral Histor-a-thon



By Nina Whittaker, Library Assistant at the Walsh Memorial Library.

On Sunday 1 October, the Walsh Memorial Library, MOTAT will be working with the National Oral History Association of New Zealand (NOHANZ) to host an exciting event - an Oral Histor-a-thon. Working with experienced oral historians, visitors will be able to record their very own ten-minute interviews around one of three themes: *Cycling Stories*, *My First Car*, and *Travelling the Main Trunk Line*. These interviews will be kept in the oral history archive at the Walsh Memorial Library, which holds over 400 hours of interviews and insights into New Zealand's rich history of transport and technology.

The primary function of MOTAT's oral history programme is to support its collections and institutional history, providing all-important context for the museum's holdings. Our dedicated oral historian works to create in-depth oral histories that are abstracted, searchable, and available for research and recollection.

The programme has a strong outreach component aimed at capturing the diverse stories of New Zealanders who have experienced different moments in transport and technology. With the Oral Histor-a-thon, we are looking to draw in a wide range of visitors who might not otherwise think about interacting with, or contributing to, a historical archive. Our hope is to open up MOTAT's oral history programme as an inclusive and interactive experience for our visitors and community.

For more information, get in touch with the library team at library@motat.org.nz. Publicity materials will be released by MOTAT at the start of September.



NZ Hansard Parliamentary record

Delight at digitised, searchable 500 million Kiwi words, and some concerns

By Michael Steemson

Delight at publication on-line of the digitised, 500 million-word record of New Zealand Parliamentary debates since the 1854 day one has been keeping listserv lurkers and likers busy since a news release earlier this year.

Phrases like “great resource”, “finally unlocked”, “wonderful contribution”, “I’m so pleased” and “an impressive chunk of NZ history” abounded, as the community learned more about the digitisation and text optically recognised publication on-line of NZ Parliamentary debates recorded by the official parliamentary service, Hansard, over the past 150 years.

A Parliamentary Information Service¹ posting in April boasted:

“You’ll be pleased to know that this great resource has been added to the Parliament website, nicely ordered by volume number and date:

[https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/historical-hansard/.](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/historical-hansard/)”

Numbers for the new database are, indeed, impressive:

- 163 years of NZ Parliamentary debates;
- 150 years of Hansard transcripts, plus the missing first 13 years lifted from contemporary newspapers reports;
- 723 volumes;
- 750,000 pages;
- 500 million words.

Much of the hard work has been done by Google, the University of California and a US academic partnership, HathiTrust, as part of Google’s audacious project to digitise every book in the world.

Some misgivings

Kiwi information management gurus are happy, but praise for the initiative has not come without some misgivings. One *NZ-Libs* list posting enthused over the resource, adding: “But of course it’s human nature to want more. For example, a search term is highlighted in the text file but not on the images.” The commentator went on: “It appears you need to search on the full search term rather than a part.’

An *NZ-Records* list posting queried: “Does this include *te reo*?” *Te reo Māori*, the Māori language, became an official New Zealand language in 1987. The questioner commented: “My understanding is that all of the early *te reo* use (in Parliament) was only recorded in English.”

Another wondered: “I understood that MPs have in the past been given the right to edit the transcripts before they were printed and some parliamentary gems fell by the wayside.”

The digitised Hansard was also greeted enthusiastically by political reporter Isaac Davison in a principal Kiwi daily newspaper, *New Zealand Herald*, featuring NZ Hansard’s 150th anniversary exhibition of “its greatest moments”, a public debate and a tribute in Parliament.

An NZ oral history

One of the project co-ordinators in the Parliament’s Office of the Clerk, Peter Riches, told the *Herald* that the full, digitised Hansard was an oral history of New Zealand. It traced the country through women’s suffrage, the Great Depression, world wars, homosexual law reform, anti-nuclear protest, and natural disasters.

¹ Parliamentary Information Service: parlinfo@parliament.govt.nz.

He said: "It's hard to imagine any event in New Zealand's history of any significance that hasn't been discussed in some way in the House. So it's quite a good record of what's happening at any point in time over the course of our history, or at least since Parliament first sat."

Mr Riches explained the difficulties of making a record of debates in the 13 years before the Hansard service was established. He explained: "During this period the only record was provided by the press, and reporting was politicised and patchy. If the newspaper didn't like the members, they just didn't report them."

Five volumes of Hansard have nonetheless been patched together from newspaper reports over the missing terms.

Unparliamentary insults, too

The *Herald* reported, gleefully, that the text had also captured some of the less seemly parts of Parliamentary debates, the abuse flung across the chamber, ruled as unparliamentary by the Speaker and "now enshrined online for all time".

Among them are phrases like "retardate worm" and "hypnotised rabbit", or insults like: "His brains could revolve inside a peanut shell for a thousand years without touching the sides".

The same Peter Riches who helped the *New Zealand Herald* reporter has provided answers some of queries from the librarian and RM listserves. How accurate was the project's OCR system? Mr Riches reassured: "As far as we are aware, the OCR has not been manually corrected or cleaned up. However, as you would expect, the technology used by Google is state of the art, so the OCR accuracy is relatively high, particularly for later volumes where it is possible to get a much 'cleaner' image of the text." He said that earlier digitised versions of Hansard were held by various U,S, library collections and could be accessed for cross-checking through Wikipedia.

Minus fillers, and disfluency

Hansard was not a record of every word spoken, Mr Riches explained: "The transcripts of debates are near verbatim. This means the spoken words are edited, e.g. word repetitions, fillers and other disfluency are removed to make them more easily readable in written form."

What about Parliamentary speech in *te reo Māori*? There is no simple answer, Mr Riches warned. Initially only English versions of speeches given in *te reo Māori* had been published in Hansard, he said, adding: "Since 1997 speeches delivered in *te reo*, together with their English translation, have been included in Hansard."

Whatever the misgivings, the new database will undoubtedly keep RIMers and history researchers agitated and busy for more months than they should really spend. Watch this space for some of the hidden, forgotten and un-wished for revelations that will follow ... hopefully!

Copyright Act review

The Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs has released terms of reference for a review of the Copyright Act. They are calling for feedback while MBIE develops an issues paper, due to be released for public consultation in early 2018.

If you want to get involved in the discussion on the terms of reference, here are the details:

(copied from <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/business/intellectual-property/copyright/review-copyright-act-1994>)

"The final report, [*Copyright and the Creative Sector*](#), was released in December 2016. It was the culmination of information from 71 interviews, two sector workshops, an online survey and an online consumer focus group. The report illustrates the diversity of the creative sector, in terms of the works created, the drivers for creation, the means of distribution and the revenue models. It highlights some of the opportunities and challenges posed by developments in digital technology.

Understanding the landscape – how copyright is operating on the ground – is a first step toward developing high quality policy.

We invite feedback on the report (email creativesectorstudy@mbie.govt.nz). Stakeholder views will continue to inform our thinking.”

New guidance and discussion from Archives NZ: Visit the Records Toolkit

Want to know more about the roles and responsibility of an Executive Sponsor? Keen to find out more about digital preservation or transfers? Visit the Records Toolkit for resources and guides and an informative blog.

Executive sponsor guidance is here: <https://records.archives.govt.nz/home/roles-and-responsibilities-of-an-executive-sponsor/>

A blog post about digital transfer is here, with a bonus link to information about digital preservation: <https://records.archives.govt.nz/toolkit-blog/digital-preservation-pioneers-needed-now/>

Upcoming events

ASA Conference 2017: Diverse Worlds. 25-28 September, Melbourne

ARANZ members can attend ASA conferences at ASA member rates, which is a considerable discount. The conference is coming up very soon, so if you haven't booked yet, now is the time!

The conference this year is a joint one with ITIC: Information Technologies Indigenous Communities. The programme is looking great. Here is the conference main page: <https://www.archivists.org.au/learning-publications/2017-conference>

The schedule, which also has links to the programmes for individual days, is here: <https://www.archivists.org.au/learning-publications/schedule>

New Zealand Historical Association Conference: Tāmaki Herenga Waka: Where Histories Meet.

This conference is to be held in Auckland, 28 Nov – 1 Dec 2017. To find out more, visit the conference website: <http://historiesmeet.org/>

Knowledge Exchange Workshop: Widening Participation with Cultural Heritage through ICT Half-day workshop at Victoria University of Wellington

Details:

“Memory institutions have long played a role in the acquisition and curation of local cultural heritage collections. Developments in digital technologies present new opportunities through approaches like crowdsourcing, gamification and laser scanning, enabling more people to access and contribute to collections. This workshop will facilitate knowledge exchange of experiences in using digital technologies for community cultural heritage.

This half-day workshop is for anyone with an interest in community heritage and digital technologies. You may already have digitisation projects underway or you may not yet have started down the digitisation path but would like to find out more about the possibilities and practicalities involved. We'd love to hear what you're trying to do, what you have found works for you and what's getting in your way.

Come to our workshop in Wellington to explore what others are doing and learn from one another. The workshop will cover:

- * Digital cultural heritage - the story so far
- * Partnership approaches for heritage-led regeneration
- * IT-enabled engagement & participation - opportunities & challenges

Who should attend?

Anyone interested in community heritage and digital technologies.

Workshop details

Victoria University of Wellington, Rutherford House, Pipitea, Wellington.

Thursday 7 September, 9:00am to 1.00pm

The workshop will be led by Dr Elizabeth Tait from The Robert Gordon University (RGU), Aberdeen, UK. She will be supported by Professor Peter Reid, also from RGU and Professor Anne Goulding and Dr Chern Li Liew from the School of Information Management, Victoria University of Wellington.

Coffee on arrival, morning tea and lunch will be provided. There is no charge for the workshop.

Register to attend

Please register here:

http://vuw.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3f82LZvTQ4DLFz

During the workshop, discussions will be recorded because we hope to build on the outcomes with research further exploring the role of digital technologies for community heritage groups and institutions. You will find an information sheet giving further information and a consent form required by Victoria University's Human Ethics Committee attached to the registration form. The information sheet is for you to keep. Please return the signed consent form with your registration."

News from New Zealand and around the world

Chief Archivist's report on the state of Government recordkeeping 2015/2016

Delayed by the Kaikoura earthquakes, this report has now been presented to the Minister. You can read it here: [http://archives.govt.nz/sites/default/files/report - state of government recordkeeping 2015-16 final.pdf](http://archives.govt.nz/sites/default/files/report_-_state_of_government_recordkeeping_2015-16_final.pdf)

News from ICA

The most recent edition of ICA's publication "Flash" is here: <http://mailchi.mp/ica/publication-of-flash-34-publication-de-flash-34?e=eadcf827d4>

LinkedIn Group - NZ International Review Group for Recordkeeping Standards set up (IRG)

The NZ International Review Group for Recordkeeping standards has announced: "The IRG uses a LinkedIn Group to engage with NZ records community so that NZ records professionals can find out about, express interest in and respond to the standards work of the IRG.

Assuming you are a member of LinkedIn, click here to find the Group: [NZ International Review Group for Recordkeeping Standards](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13515243) (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13515243>). There's some recent urls & discussion about Blockchain technology and where it impacts recordkeeping, as well as updates on International Standards for Information and Records Management with NZ context."

Ludicrous Likenesses: The Fine Art of Caricature

Thursday 3 August to Monday 23 October at the New Zealand Portrait Gallery. A free exhibition marking the 25th anniversary of the New Zealand Cartoon Archive, bringing together depictions both hilariously crude and subtly subversive from the Alexander Turnbull Library Collection. (Thanks to the Sole Archivists' Group for the heads-up). The exhibition was curated by Dr Oliver Stead of the Alexander Turnbull Library, and Hannah Benbow, Research Librarian, Cartoons. Find out more here:

<http://www.nzportraitgallery.org.nz/whats-on/ludicrous-likenesses-the-fine-art-of-caricature>

On a related note, if you like cartoons you might be interested in this news from Australia:

Australian cartoonist Geoff Pryor donates his Canberra Times cartoons to the National Library of Australia – and they are all digitally accessible

Geoff Pryor donated 5000 of his original cartoons to the Library, and also volunteered one day a week for seven years to catalogue them. Find out more at this link: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/canberra-life/geoff-pryor-donates-his-canberra-times-cartoons-to-national-library-of-australia-20170628-gx0bss.html>

New University initiative focuses on Auckland's history

For those of you in Auckland, here's a heads-up about "The Auckland History Initiative", which hopes to build connections between the University of Auckland Faculty of Arts History department and the many different history and heritage communities in Auckland. Here is a link to a news release:

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/ED1708/S00057/new-university-initiative-focuses-on-aucklands-history.htm>

A report from the Guardian: UK Citizens to get more rights over personal data under new laws.

The Guardian reports that new legislation will give people right to force online traders and social media to delete personal data and will comply with EU data protection. Here is a link to the article:

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/aug/07/uk-citizens-to-get-more-rights-over-personal-data-under-new-laws?CMP=tw t a-technology b-gdntech>

Podcasts from The National Archive (UK)

For those Friday afternoons... when you're doing research into Outreach, obviously. Here is the link:

<http://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

But while we're on the subject of outreach: Cats!

Here's a very click-bait happy post from Archives NZ's blog: Cats, Cats, and Where to Find Them -

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/archives-new-zealand/cats-cats-cats-and-where-to-find-them/1516551048408173/>

For Neil Young fans: A living archive of music

Neil Young has announced plans for a digital archive of his music, said to be a full catalogue including unreleased tracks, to be available online. Here is an article about it in Rolling Stone:

<http://www.rollingstone.com/music/news/neil-young-plans-online-archive-with-full-catalog-unreleased-music-w496016>