

ARANZ President's report September 2015

The year in retrospect

The year has been one of consolidation and operational improvements. We have revitalised our website and now have a mobile-friendly interface. The membership database has been upgraded and an improvement made to our methods of invoicing and payments. Membership has increased – latest figures to be tabled at the AGM, but more needs to be done to attract new members. ARANZ continues to operate in an environment of financial constraint, as in the previous year. The successful 2014 joint ASA Conference did improve these circumstances however, as this year's annual financial report indicates.

A personal highlight was representing ARANZ at the Waitangi 175th garden party celebrations at Government House in February.

Conference 2015 – Footprints in space and time

As co-convenor this has occupied much of my time and energy. I now have a greater appreciation of the intricacies and demands of such a role! Thanks must go to co-convenor Belinda Battley and to the Auckland conference committee team: Kate DeCourcy, Libby Nichol, Darryl Pike and Victoria Passau. It has been a pleasure to work with them on this initiative and we have benefited from the expert assistance of Claudia Bell, conference planner at Auckland University. It has also been invigorating to plan the conference this year in association with PARBICA. My special thanks to Helen Walker, Talei Masters and Ana Monson for their collaborative input to the conference.

Acknowledgements

I continue to be humbled by the energy and dedication of Council members who gather from various parts of New Zealand four times a year in Wellington to ensure the continuity of the Association. That is only part of the deal however, as email messages and reports fly around the country throughout the year, believe me.

Archifacts

Special thanks to Dr Gillian Oliver who has stepped down as editor of *Archifacts* after a very successful stint as editor of the journal. Thanks also to Stuart Strachan who has resigned as reviews editor. We are fortunate that Dr Shannon Wellington has kindly accepted the role of editor for future issues.

2016

Next year is the fortieth anniversary of the Association. How this will be marked will be high on the agenda for the incoming Council's first meeting in November. Ideas welcomed!

Theresa Graham/ ARANZ President August 2015