



ARCHIVES & RECORDS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND
CENTRAL DISTRICTS BRANCH

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
2016/17

This year the committee again looked at opportunities to share knowledge and ideas.

Some of the highlights this year include:

- ↪ Our Easter meeting not only included Easter Eggs and nibbles but also a good old-fashioned "show and tell". Each member brought along an interesting or quirky item and shared the story of that item with the other members of the committee.
- ↪ There are plans in place for an open workshop on box-building with the intention to send out an open invitation to community groups.
- ↪ Tararua District Council made an offer to the five museums within the district to pay a one year membership for each organisation. The intention is to give each group an opportunity to determine the benefits of membership.
- ↪ Palmerston North City Council has now successfully launched their award winning Manawatu Heritage website. Congratulations to Lesley and her team for producing such a wonderful tool.

Unfortunately with the continual expansion of time-hungry work commitments it gets harder and harder each year to find time to meet as a committee. Finding a mutually agreeable timeslot can sometimes take longer than the actual meeting. It may be time to re-evaluate. Is it time for a massive push to get new blood involved? Are there missed opportunities to encourage new membership? What is the future of the Central Districts Branch of ARANZ?

These are questions that I believe need to be asked. It would be regrettable if the outcome is the dissolution of the branch, as future reinstating of a closed branch is very rare. In the words of our younger generation, we seem to have "lost our mojo" – can we find it, or is it lost forever?

Joy Kopa
Chairperson
Central District Branch
Archives and Records Association of New Zealand