



Archives & Records Association of New Zealand
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Award for Jessie Munro

A pioneering history of the Clevedon-Te Wairoa area south of Auckland has been awarded a national prize for its skilful use of archives and manuscripts. *Voices of Belonging: A History of Clevedon-Te Wairoa*, by Jessie Munro (published by Steele Roberts Aotearoa), received the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand's 2017 Ian Wards Prize at a ceremony in Wellington on 23 August.

The Ian Wards Prize recognises an outstanding piece of New Zealand historical writing, demonstrating innovative or exemplary use of archives and manuscripts. The judging panel said *Voices of Belonging* stood out for its innovative use of research resources, and is an outstanding example of scholarly good practice. '*Voices of Belonging* must be regarded as right at the forefront of the family and local histories genre. Taking the sometimes unique experiences of one small district, the author skilfully relates them to contemporary developments, both in Auckland Province and New Zealand as a whole.'

Voices of Belonging is an engaging, wonderfully written and informative read. It canvases most types of formats for research: oral histories, local manuscripts, government and council archives, family photographs, maps and a wide variety of secondary sources. The judging panel said Munro's publication offers a model for other writers to follow.

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[Photograph: Jessie Munro and Seán McMahon at the Ian Wards Prize ceremony in Wellington, 23rd August, 2017.]