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Country Report [Period Coverage: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021]

Name of Country New Zealand

National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Name of Library

Mātauranga o Aotearoa

Ms Rachel Esson, National Librarian

Name(s) of National Librarian,

Director-General and/or Director

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1 **Facts and Figures**

Sn	Item Description	Figures
а	Operating Budget	(for the NZ financial year mid-2021 to mid-2022)
	i. Government	\$89.2 million NZ dollars
	ii. External Sources	\$ 8.2 million NZ dollars
		Total: \$ 97.4 million
b	Total Staff (FTE)	346 FTE staff in total (all types of contract combined).
	i. Graduate or Post-Graduate	Note: the National Library does not keep separate
	with library qualifications	records of the different types and levels of
	ii. Other Qualifications	qualifications held by staff.
С	Collection Size	
	i. Physical collection:	Published items received in 2021: 142,630
		Total published items held (end of 2021): 4,388,511
		<u>Unpublished</u> items received in 2021: 5,490
		Total unpublished items held (end of 2021): 74,413
		(Unpublished items are counted at the collection
		level.)
	ii. Digital collection	Items ingested during 2021: 32 Tb
	preserved:	Total items held (end of 2021): 222 Tb
d	Visitorship (Annual)	







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	i.	Physical	visits to	reading	50,265
		rooms			
	ii.	Digital visits to websites			6.3 million visits to all the Library's websites.
е	Inter	Library	Loans	provided	6,041
	(Annual)				

2 Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

The national response to the Covid-19 pandemic affected all operations and services in 2021, in various ways. The Library needed to close or to restrict access by the public at certain times according to changing levels of national 'lockdown' decreed by the Government. However work on the following projects continued:

<u>Tāhuhu:</u>

Tāhuhu is the property and facilities workstream, which is part of Te Ara Tahi, a programme of transformation across National Library Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa that is shared with Archives New Zealand (the national archives of New Zealand) and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision (the national film and sound archive of New Zealand). This programme is about the institutions working more closely together, sharing expertise and resources to better meet the changing needs and expectations of New Zealanders.

The Tāhuhu portfolio includes the upgrade and construction of modern, purpose-built facilities designed to ensure New Zealand's documentary heritage is preserved and protected across Archives NZ, the National Library and Ngā Taonga. The Programme grew out of a property review conducted by the Department of Internal Affairs. The review identified that over 60% of Archives and National Library buildings in the North Island are not fit for purpose. Archives' Wellington building has been full since 2017 and the National Library will be close to capacity by 2030.

The Programme is guided by the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi – partnership, participation and protection - which underpin the relationship between the Government and the indigenous Māori people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

In 2021 planning work continued for the design and construction of new facilities, refurbishment of some existing ones and decommissioning of others that are no longer fit for purpose. A new Archives facility, on the site immediately adjacent to the National Library, will co-locate some of our conservation, digitisation and other specialist functions including digitisation facilities shared with Archives New Zealand. There will also be a link bridge that connects the new building with the existing National Library. The National Library itself will be refurbished so that both buildings together create a 'documentary heritage campus'. The extent of the refurbishment is Budget dependent. Construction of the Archives facility has now begun (mid-2022), and construction on the existing National Library building to receive the bridge will begin in 2023.





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[The photo shows what the new Archives building will look like, with the link bridge on the left to the National Library (out of view).]

Note:

Māori were the original owners of the land so a process of co-design with Māori (Te Tai Awatea) is being adopted for the new Archives building. The process is illustrated in this short video clip on YouTube: here

The same process has been applied to the design for the alterations to the National Library.

Promotion of literacy and reading:

The National Library of New Zealand plays a key role in supporting literacy and reading engagement through its nationwide services to school communities and through a range of collaborative initiatives, most recently through the National Reading Initiatives Programme. This includes the Pūtoi Rito Communities of Readers projects https://natlib.govt.nz/about-us/collaborative-projects/communities-of-readers to connect young people to books and experiences that encourage reading engagement. These are partnership projects in different settings aiming to influence and strengthen the conditions that develop and sustain reading cultures in communities. As well as the direct benefits for the young people in each community, the initiative is developing research and insights about creating reading communities in an Aotearoa New Zealand context. Another recent initiative led by the National Library, supported by a partner group, is the establishment of Te Awhi Rito New Zealand Reading Ambassador for children. The Te Awhi Rito Reading Ambassador is a national champion and role model for the importance of reading in the lives of young people, their families and communities. The first Te Awhi Rito Reading Ambassador, the poet Ben Brown, was appointed for 2021-2023. See: https://readingambassador.nz







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NZLPP:

The New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme (NZLPP) was a special government-funded and time-limited delivery programme created in Budget 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with the aim to provide economic and professional support to librarians and library services, to counter job losses, enable their retention through the pandemic to help with community recovery. The government asked the National Library to lead the programme and administer its special \$60m funding. Multiple initiatives and projects were funded to support the library sector and position it to be sustainable post-pandemic. The programme had a strong focus on such key areas as the creation of job opportunities, staff skills development, promoting reading and literacy including digital literacy, equity of access to information for Māori, and providing Internet access through wifi in public libraries.

At the end of 2021 NZLPP was approaching the end of the main funding allocation for public library partnerships and fee waivers, and the National Library of New Zealand was preparing to transition the programme's remaining deliverables into the hands of the sector, including implementation of a sector data, research and evidence strategy and a workforce capability framework, with a view to winding up most activity by June 2022.

Reports about the work of the NZLPP are available on the National Library's website – see: New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme — reports | National Library of New Zealand (natlib.govt.nz). The final report and evaluation will be published later in 2022.

A significant acquisition:

The Alexander Turnbull Library (responsible for the heritage collections within the National Library) reported that a significant acquisition highlight was the *Footrot Flats* archive, the archive of celebrated New Zealand cartoonist the late Murray Ball. The archive, comprising the original artwork of several thousand comic strips, was donated to the Library by Mr Ball's family.

3 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

Utaina!

The Utaina! digital preservation project is a collaboration between the National Library, Archives New Zealand, and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision to digitise our audiovisual collections with our digitisation partner Memnon.

We need to digitise our audiovisual collections because:

- they're stored on obsolete formats, or formats that deteriorate over time
- the equipment needed to play them is no longer being made
- each year there are fewer people with the expertise to maintain the playback equipment.







Utaina! is a huge project, with a combined volume of over 400,000 audiovisual magnetic media items to digitise. It will deliver the large-scale high-quality digitisation of audiovisual material in formats the public can access and use.

Our collections include music, oral histories, live recordings of community events, broadcast news and current affairs, documentaries, TV series, films, and more. Digitisation of this material, particularly our large holdings in Oral History and Sound collection and the Archive of New Zealand Music, mean that the voices, stories, music and creative output of Aotearoa will be preserved, and our documentary heritage kept accessible now and for future generations.

The project began with funding from Budget 2020 and the contract with Memnon was signed in 2021. For details see:

https://natlib.govt.nz/about-us/collaborative-projects/utaina-audiovisual-digital-preservation-project.

Papers Past:

The <u>Papers Past</u> website contains millions of pages of digitised historical content (in both English and Māori) from all over New Zealand, from the colonial period up till the present day. It began in August 2001, delivering page images of newspapers only, with titles from the 19th century. Full-text was added in 2007 and more formats in 2016. As of 2021, Papers Past delivers more than seven million pages of full-text newspapers, magazines and journals, manuscripts and the *Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives*. The newspapers range in date from 1839 to 1961, and the range of subjects covered by magazines and journals includes science (7 journals published by the Royal Society of New Zealand), nursing, religion and building.

One of the highlights of 2021 was gaining permission from the publisher to extend one of the major metropolitan newspapers, *The Press*, from the existing end date of 1945 to 1995. The first batch, 1946 to 1961, went live in September 2021. The other highlight of the year was the release of the new Books section on Papers Past, including the addition of 107 titles from the Ngā Tānga Reo Māori collection and a new search filter that allows users to limit their search to the Ngā Tānga Reo Māori content only, across most of the format sections.

Building the content of Papers Past has been assisted by a collaborative digitisation programme, in which many New Zealand cultural institutions, publishers and individuals participate. Searching on the user-friendly site has become very popular with scholars, writers, journalists, school students, family historians and the general public. From 3rd quarter 2021 to date there have been 6,944,200 'visits' to the Papers Past site, grouped into 2,146,374 sessions.

Collaboration with LIANZA:

LIANZA (full name: Te Rau Herenga o Aotearoa Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa) is the national organisation supporting institutions and professionals working in library and information services throughout Aotearoa New Zealand. LIANZA represents 1142 members, including 216 library and information institutions in all parts of the sector. LIANZA is governed by a







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national council. The current president is Ms Kim Taunga, who is the association's first Pasifika president. LIANZA works in partnership with Te Rōpū Whakahau (the Māori information workers association). The association advocates to government on policy issues affecting the library sector, and runs a dynamic programme of regional and special interest events, a professional registration scheme, an online member engagement platform and other activities to promote continuing professional development. The most significant example of LIANZA's collaboration with the National Library of New Zealand is seen in the NZ Libraries Partnership Programme (*described above in Section 2*). LIANZA has worked with the support of NZLPP and in partnership with the School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (SLANZA) to offer tertiary grants to enable people to complete an undergraduate or postgraduate library and information qualification.

The National Library provides leadership to the New Zealand library sector, broadly. In addition to LIANZA, the National Library collaborates with the smaller associations SLANZA (school libraries), Te Rōpū Whakahau and CONZUL (university libraries)."

Museums Aotearoa:

The National library is a member of Museums Aotearoa, the membership organisation for New Zealand museums, galleries, educators and others with an interest in the sector. Currently, our Director Public Engagement is the Co-Chair. The focus of Museums Aotearoa is advocacy, marketing and promotion and professional development. This network enables the National Library to stay connected to other institutions delivering exhibitions and public programming. It has helped facilitate exhibition touring opportunities, joint programming and loans.

On the advocacy front, membership has enabled us to understand and contribute appropriately to policy and regulatory changes impacting our sector.

4 International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

National Library of Australia and NSLA:

A key relationship for the National Library of New Zealand is our long-standing cooperation with the National Library of Australia, in many areas, but with a particular focus on providing digital access to cultural heritage documentation.

In 2021 the National Library rejoined Australian research libraries participating in NSLA (National and State Libraries of Australasia).

Pacific Virtual Museum:

The Pacific Virtual Museum programme continued during 2021. It is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia, and implemented by the <u>National Library of New Zealand</u>, Te Puna Mātauranga in collaboration with the <u>National Library of Australia</u>.







This project was funded as a pilot from 2019 until February 2022. DFAT have provided further funding until June 2023, which is to build on the work of the pilot phase, but also to enable travel and engagement in the Pacific region that it had not been possible to undertake during the pandemic.

The project aims to empower people in and of the Pacific Islands, enabling them to see, discover and explore items of digitised cultural heritage that are held in collections around the world. People of the Pacific may not be aware these items or records exist, and the project aims to support them as they connect with these aspects of their own culture and history.

The website <u>digitalpasifik.org</u> is a key part of the Pacific Virtual Museum project.

Cooperation Arrangements:

The National Library has formal arrangements on cooperation with NLB Singapore and the National Library of China. In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, contact with the NLB and the NL China was maintained through our collective membership of the IFLA Regional Division Committee for Asia-Oceania. The National Library was also represented in the "Leaders' Conversations" programme of international webinars developed by the NLB Singapore under the aegis of IFLA.

The National Library participated in the annual virtual congresses of IFLA during the pandemic, and the member consultations and assemblies required to endorse the restructuring of IFLA. The National Library attended virtual annual meetings of CDNL and continued to contribute articles to the enewsletter of CDNL-AO.