

COUNTRY REPORT 2014-2015

FOR THE 23rd MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDNL-AO) 9-12 June 2015 – Bangkok, Thailand

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1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

Both the National Library and Archives New Zealand are located within the Information and Knowledge Services (IKS) branch of the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). The DIA including the National Library, like all New Zealand government departments, is working within a very constrained fiscal environment. However, by a constant process of review and innovation, the National Library is successfully maintaining its services.

In recent months the National Library has been:

- Progressing the 'Archives Exhibition' project, which will relocate the Treaty of Waitangi (1840) and other key historical documents to the National Library building for secure display and interpretation in a newly-built area;
- working with other units within the Department to implement a 'digital shift' to meet government policy objectives for enhancing the effectiveness of the public service;
- working to implement within the Library the Department's new Maori Strategic Framework (particularly important in this 175th year since the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi);
- engaging with other government departments and cultural institutions in a national programme to commemorate the centenary of the 1st World War 1914-1918;
- strengthening cooperation with other National Libraries, especially those in the Asia-Pacific region, through regional associations and bi-lateral arrangements.

2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

This year the National Library will celebrate its 50th year - the 'National Library Act 1965' created the National Library by bringing together collections and services which had been set up separately at different times. In 2003, Parliament passed the new 'National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Matauranga o Aotearoa Act 2003'. The Act defined the purpose of the National Library as being "to enrich the cultural and economic life of New Zealand and its interchange with other nations." The Act established legal deposit of electronic publications..

In 2011 the National Library was integrated into the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). The Minister of Internal Affairs is responsible for the National Library.

Although located within central government, the National Library also provides services and leadership to other parts of the wider library sector nationally, particularly to public libraries (operated by local government authorities) and to school libraries.

3. KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

The divisions of the National Library are:

- the Alexander Turnbull Library (ATL) (the heritage collections)
- Content Services (acquisitions, bibliographic processing, digital preservation, and national services provided to libraries, authors and publishers)
- Literacy, Learning and Public Programmes (Services to Schools, and Public Programmes)
- Digital New Zealand (DNZ) (for the development of shared content creation)

The total of National Library staff in post is currently 280 FTE. Most staff are in Wellington, but others work in the Library's main regional centres in Auckland, Christchurch and other cities.

The Library's operating budget is \$NZ31.7m (excluding overheads and depreciation), which comes principally from the Government through the DIA.

The National Library's main building in Wellington has a floor area of over 24,000m². The collections occupy a total of 95km of shelving. The Library keeps 100% of the heritage collections in controlled-atmosphere storage.

Among the heritage holdings in the ATL, particular collection strengths are in the areas of indigenous Maori and Pacific studies, manuscripts, prints and drawings, sound recordings, and oral history recordings. The official government valuation of the heritage collections is nearly \$NZ1 billion.

Digital preservation is carried out using Rosetta. In the current financial year July 2014 to June 2015, the National Library and the Archives have together preserved nearly 1 million files representing 14Tb of data. The total size of all digital collections stored is currently 140 terabytes.

During 2014-2015 the Library received an estimated 16,500 visitors per month (on average) in all public spaces, a figure which includes the estimated 4,500 monthly users of the open-access digital services and facilities on the ground floor. In terms of remote use, the Library recorded 1.4m visits on its main website [i.e. sessions, not page views].

4. COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

Public programmes

The Library has continued to offer a very successful series of programmes, including: summer holiday activities for children, exhibitions in the main gallery and other display spaces, story-telling events, talks, and other cultural events. One of the major themes running through the exhibitions and talks has been the commemoration of the centenary of the 1st World War and its deep impact on the national community.

Support for literacy and learning in schools

The National Library's redevelopment of its Services to Schools division has been completed. The aim of the redevelopment is to strengthen school library services for

young New Zealanders, supporting their development as readers and digitally literate learners in modern library learning environments.

Support for public libraries

The Kōtui Consortium for collective procurement, led by the National Library, now has 28 members (public library systems of local authorities). The National Library has worked with public libraries on a national procurement strategy for e-resources.

The Aotearoa People's Network Kaharoa (APNK) is helping public libraries to break down the digital divide by ensuring citizens have the skills and connectivity to actively contribute to New Zealand's economic, social and cultural life. APNK operates out of the National Library's regional centre in Christchurch.

APNK provides free public access to the Internet to connect communities through 48 public library systems of local authorities (representing facilities installed at 153 sites in cities, small towns and rural districts).

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

Papers Past

The Library's 'Papers Past' website has continued to expand the range of newspapers available, and is in great demand among many categories of users. It offers searchable digital access to the content of New Zealand newspapers of the 19th and early 20th centuries, in English and Maori. Over the past year the site has registered 2.5m visits (sessions), representing 35m page views. For further details see the [National Library website](#) and <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>.

(See also the *Annex*, below, for a note on the complex history of some Samoan newspapers recently added to the Papers Past site. This gives an illustration of the impact of world events on the countries of Oceania.)

Research in the National Library's collections

Access to the rich resources of the National Library's collections has been facilitated by the award of several grants and fellowships in 2015. These include the 'Lilburn Research Fellowship' (researching the music collections), and the 'Friends of the Turnbull Library' grant to a scholar who will research a new biography of noted New Zealand writer Katherine Mansfield.

In partnership with Victoria University of Wellington, several grants have been awarded to students to research innovative ways in which the digital 'archives of the future' may be used.

6. COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND OTHER NATIONAL COLLECTING INSTITUTIONS

Centenary of the First World War

As noted above, the National Library is actively engaged in the national programme of events commemorating the centenary of the 1st World War (see <http://ww100.govt.nz>). See also the article on the National Library website www.natlib.govt.nz on the digitisation of diaries of New Zealand soldiers in WW1.

The unpublished collections of the National Library, audio and film archives, and military records from the national Archives were all drawn upon for contributions to the national events in Wellington centering on the opening of Pukeahu the National

War Memorial Park, on Anzac Day, 25th April, to mark the centenary of the Dardanelles campaign in the 1st World War.

Digital New Zealand

Use of the DigitalNZ API data service exceeded more than 26 million queries a month for the year to 28 Feb, 2015. The most significant new use of the data service is the Network for Learning (NfL), who are using DigitalNZ to funnel content from partners into NZ school classrooms. Contributions to DigitalNZ continue to be strong. There are over 180 content partners with over 29m records searchable in www.digitalnz.org and accessible through the API. DigitalNZ has also recently open-sourced the tool it uses for aggregating, searching and sharing metadata records. Known as 'Supplejack', it transforms messy data, creates a unified search index and makes consistent metadata widely available via an open API data service.

International collaboration

In the framework of the Library's Arrangement on Cooperation with the National Library of China, the Library recently sent two conservators to Beijing for discussions on preservation strategies and management, and the preservation of works on Chinese paper. Preparations are also continuing for the holding of an exhibition of Chinese New Year Pictures at the National Library of New Zealand's centre in Auckland.

In the framework of the National Library's Arrangement with the National Library Board of Singapore, the two national agencies are currently exchanging information for benchmarking of services, and discussing new developments in the area of collaboration between national libraries and national archives.

The National Library of New Zealand and the National Library of Turkey have recently exchanged 'letters of intent' to cooperate in providing digital access to documentary cultural heritage in areas of mutual interest.

Annex

The 'Papers Past' website now offers digital access to historical Samoan newspapers, in German and in English:

The "Samoanische Zeitung"'s first issue was on 6 April 1901. The first half of the paper was published in German and the second half in English. Emil Lübke edited the German text while F. Muller, from Queensland (Australia), edited the English section. When Muller left in January 1910 his place was taken by James Ah Sue of Chinese-Samoan heritage.

With the New Zealand occupation of Samoa on 29 August 1914, changes to the ownership and content were bound to follow. James Ah Sue effectively took over the editorship of the paper and the newspaper's name changed to The Samoa Times as from January 1915. The paper became an English-language newspaper with a German-language supplement, which continued into 1916. In July 1916 the paper was bought by James Ah Sue who edited the paper until his death on 21 November 1918 from influenza.

The Samoa Times continued until 28 February 1930. It was replaced by the Samoa Herald, which ran until 27 March 1936 and was continued by the Western Samoa Mail, which ceased publication on 28 March 1942 due to the 2nd World War.

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