

## **Country report: New Zealand**

### **1. The National Library**

#### General overview of activities

The National Library of New Zealand was established by Act of Parliament in 1965. It is a government department, accountable to Parliament and under the responsibility of the Minister Responsible for the National Library. Its mission and functions are defined by the 'National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa Act 2003'. (The Library's Māori name means 'well-spring of knowledge'.)

The roles fulfilled by the National Library are:

- To develop and maintain the national (government-owned) documentary heritage collections, principally the Alexander Turnbull Library, which includes a comprehensive collection of documents relating to New Zealand and the people of New Zealand.
- To make the National Library's collections accessible in order to provide for the most advantageous use of those collections and resources.
- To provide other services including access to information resources and bibliographic and school services.
- To promote cooperation and work collaboratively with others on library matters within New Zealand and overseas, and
- To advise and assist the Minister Responsible for the National Library on library and information issues.

Like other similar institutions, the National Library of New Zealand it is witnessing an explosion in the amount of digital information being produced. Print production continues to increase, yet most publications now originate in digital formats – from web pages to compact discs. Digital material and access co-exist with physical media and with conventional methods of information storage and retrieval.

The key challenge for the National Library is in balancing the collection and preservation of documentary material against the goal of making more information accessible to a wider audience.

The Library needs to ensure that staff have the appropriate technical skills, and must maintain a technology infrastructure capable of ensuring the integrity of digital material 'in perpetuity'. The inclusion of electronic legal deposit in the National Library of New Zealand Act 2003 is extremely important for preserving the nation's published memory.

The Library's expertise contributed strongly to the New Zealand government's 'Digital Strategy' that was launched in May 2005, based on the 3 'enablers' of Content, Confidence and Connection. The Digital Strategy aims to ensure that New Zealanders are information literate, technologically confident and have digital content to access. One of the Digital Strategy initiatives - the development of a 'Digital Content Strategy', led by the National Library - is premised on the idea that digital content is important to New Zealanders for a host of economic, social and cultural

reasons. See: [www.digitalstrategy.govt.nz](http://www.digitalstrategy.govt.nz). The National Library is one of the key government agencies which steer the Digital Strategy at both advisory and operational levels.

Two projects funded under the Digital Strategy and led by the National Library are:

- New Zealand People's Network:
  - o This project of central and local government with industry support aims to develop public libraries as the community ICT hubs to deliver benefits of the Government's Digital Strategy to the people of New Zealand
- Digital Content Strategy:
  - o Rather than attempting to tackle all content issues, the Digital Content Strategy is largely focused on public digital content, including policies, strategies and incentives for migrating non-digital and relevant private content into the digital public arena. The National Content Strategy will also consider ways of providing greater access to relevant international content, to content of significance to New Zealand's development, and to making selected New Zealand content available to other countries.

### **The National Digital Heritage Archive (NDHA)**

Since 2004, the National Library has been actively developing a 'trusted digital repository' to protect the nation's digital documentary heritage. This government-funded project will ensure that the nation's digital memory is not lost for future generations. The NDHA will collect, preserve and make accessible digital objects including websites, published works, images and material contained on CDs and other electronic media.

### **E-legal Deposit**

The National Library Act 2003 mandated the extension of legal deposit to electronic documents (text, sound and video). E-legal deposit was implemented in early 2007, and a sustainable environment established that will preserve and protect electronic material until the National Digital Heritage Archive is fully in place.

In New Zealand two copies of each publication must be deposited: one goes to the Alexander Turnbull Library (the heritage division of the National Library) for the primary purpose of preservation, while the second copy is held within the General Collections of the National Library thus supporting both the Library's preservation and access functions. Legal deposit provides the basis for the New Zealand content of the National Bibliographic Database (NBD) and the National Union Catalogue (NUC).

### **'Strategic Framework for Public Libraries'**

On behalf of local government (responsible for public libraries), central government and other representatives, the National Library facilitated the development of a strategic framework to guide the public library sector over the next decade. The framework was launched in mid-2006 by the Minister Responsible for the National Library and the Minister for Local Government. In February 2007, the National Library and other stakeholders held New Zealand's first Public Library Summit, and are now working on the action agenda coming out of the Summit, to help meet the information, social and educational needs of all sectors of the national community in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **Documentary Heritage**

The growing interest in New Zealand's documentary heritage collections is increasing the costs of preserving and making accessible these collections to their communities (some of which have a high profile and reputation in New Zealand and overseas). The National Library, at the request of

government, worked in consultation with museums, libraries and archives to develop a policy framework to enable consideration of support required for documentary heritage collections in New Zealand.

### **Institutional repositories for the research sector**

The National Library in partnership with CONZUL (Council of New Zealand University Librarians) is supporting a project which explores the best options for repository architectures in order to provide a more strategic approach to making New Zealand's publicly funded research outputs more accessible on-line.

### **Relationships:**

- within the government sector, the National Library builds on its relationships with other government agencies in the information, culture and heritage, education, library and information sectors to explore the development of cross sector outcomes:
  - o It provides advice to Government on issues related to community access to information, the development of the information society, technical standards and content description.
  - o It works with other cultural institutions such as Archives New Zealand and the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, to lead and support the work of the National Digital Forum (NDF), a coalition of organisations (museums, archives, art galleries, libraries, government departments) across New Zealand with an interest in digital resources.
  - o It engages with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage on national policy overview issues such as the protection of cultural property and more recently on the concept of cultural well-being. The Library has worked closely with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage on issues arising from international treaties and conventions (eg for cultural diversity, protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, preservation of cultural property and the definition of intellectual property rights and exemptions).
- the National Library engages with the research sector, which covers humanities and science and technology, either directly with researchers or through its work with Crown Research Institutes and other bodies such as the Humanities Research Network.
- The National Library engages with the wider community through its link with stakeholder organisations (professional organisations and NGOs working in the areas of education or community ICT applications, and the creative sector).

### **Support for the education sector:**

The National Library provides a range of services for New Zealand schools which contribute to the Ministry of Education's key education goals: building an education system that equips New Zealanders with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills; and reducing underachievement in education. Increasing the knowledge and skill base of New Zealanders gives the National Library an opportunity to explore the e-learning environment to develop sector outcomes. The National Library contributes to the outcomes of the tertiary sector by providing collaborative systems and access to collections, which underpin the country's information and research infrastructure.

The National Library influences educational attainment at all levels; through working directly with agencies delivering programmes to schools, including supporting the professional development of school library staff, and by participating in policy development at central government level. School Services takes a proactive approach to sector-wide initiatives and has developed a range of collaborations particularly in relation to e-learning, online resourcing and literacy initiatives to support teaching and learning in schools. Work with other agencies and

organisations closely linked to the Ministry of Education have also been strengthened and expanded, for example, the Education Review Office and the Internet Safety Group.

The National Library plays a leadership role within the library and information sector, particularly on whole-of-country initiatives such as EPIC (a consortium for the purchase of electronic resources). The Library works at both a strategic level with other libraries and information providers to guide the development of the sector in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and at an operational level providing bibliographic utilities, web-based services and collections to complement those of individual libraries.

#### Organisational structure:

The National Library currently is organised into 7 operating Divisions, including: the Alexander Turnbull Library (heritage collections), Schools Services, Te Puna (bibliographic services), Collections Services, Digital Innovation Services, Services to Māori, and Policy (advice to the Minister and operational policy).

School Services also operates out of the National Library's network of regional centres.

The National Library's operating budget is currently \$53.386m (NZ dollars) per annum. It currently has 385 FTE staff.

Some structural changes may flow from the National Library's 'Next Generation National Library' strategy, through which the Library aims to achieve its goal of connecting New Zealanders with information important to all aspects of their lives.

#### Library users:

In addition to rapidly changing technological developments, the National Library is being set a challenge due to changes within its traditional user communities, many of whom are now 'digital natives'. Dealing with technologically sophisticated users requires the Library to develop new methods of access to its collections, including digitisation and the development of alternative dissemination mechanisms, such as via mobile telephones. At the same time the National Library building needs to be an interesting end destination for visitors; a real sense of place is still important for libraries of all types, but is particularly important for national libraries because of their importance as major cultural institutions contributing to the national sense of identity

Public libraries are responding to similar challenges, and to the need to help disadvantaged sectors of the community to overcome the digital divide.

#### Collections in the National Library:

##### Overall statistics:

The collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library focus on New Zealand and Pacific material, and are mainly oriented to the needs of researchers. Collections include: 350,000 books (including 44,000 rare books); 58,000 maps; 140,000 items of printed ephemera; 2.6million photographs, negatives and albums; more than 78,000 paintings, drawings, prints and cartoons; 40,000 discs, tapes and cassettes of music and oral history; 1,600 linear metres of newspapers, 8km of manuscripts and archives, over 4 km of serials, 124,000 microfilm reels. Special collections of particular value include: works of John Milton, and works of New Zealand author Katherine Mansfield.

The National Library also offers general reference services in its Wellington building, and takes part in the national interlibrary lending scheme.

#### Reading promotion and information literacy:

The Schools Services collections of the National Library make a particular contribution to reading promotion and information literacy, by:

- Providing all New Zealand schools with free access to loans of quality resources to support literacy programmes -1.16 million items were issued to schools in 2006.
- Providing a Professional Development programme through seminars and in-school programmes which aims to enhance teachers' and school librarians' knowledge of how the library can contribute to the development of literacy and to enhance teachers' knowledge of children's literature.
- Working with key agencies including the Ministry of Education, Universities and the New Zealand Book Council to promote reading.
- Providing schools with free consultancy, information and advice on enhancing the role of their libraries in supporting student literacy development.
- Providing schools with free consultancy, information and advice on enhancing the role of their libraries in supporting information literacy.
- Supporting and providing staffing for the AnyQuestions.co.nz service ([www.anyquestions.co.nz](http://www.anyquestions.co.nz)), an online reference service for school students which uses co-browsing to model good information-seeking skills

#### Affiliations and international relations:

The National Library works closely with key national bodies in the sector such as the Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA), the Council for New Zealand University Libraries (CONZUL) and MetroNet (the grouping of public libraries serving the larger urban areas). It works closely with the National Library of Australia and the Council of Australasian National and State Libraries.

The Library is an institutional member of IFLA. Its CEO, Ms Penny Carnaby, is the current chair of CDNL..

The National Library has close collaborative links with other institutions such as the British Library, with which it has worked on leading edge projects (for example the development of a 'web curator' tool).

The National Library was the lead agency for New Zealand's representation at the World Summit on the Information Society and continues to monitor implementation of the WSIS action lines.

## **2. Library sector at national level**

#### Some statistics:

New Zealand has a number of professional associations, including:

- LIANZA (Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa) including 6 regional councils and 13 Special Interest Groups – see [www.lianza.org.nz](http://www.lianza.org.nz)
- SLANZA (School Libraries Association of NZ Aotearoa)

- Te Roopu Whakahau (= association of Māori librarians and information workers)
- NZLLA (NZ Law Librarians Association)
- IAML NZ (International Association of Music Librarians NZ Branch)

New Zealand is well-supplied with libraries of various types:

- 75 Public Library Services (one in each local government area) – if branch libraries are included, the figure rises to approximately 200 (depending on the definition of the term ‘branch’)
- 15 mobile library services
- approximately 200 special libraries of various types (in the business, government and research sectors)
- 59 libraries in tertiary education institutions, including 22 university libraries (i.e. 8 main university libraries plus institute and faculty libraries)
- between 2500 and 3000 schools, most of which have a library (over 700 school librarians are members of SLANZA)
- 11 theological libraries

Several new and innovative public libraries have been opened in recent years, offering ICT facilities and a wide range of services to support all sectors of the community including students.

For full details of the services offered by New Zealand public libraries, see the portal [www.libraries.org.nz](http://www.libraries.org.nz)

#### Library and manpower development:

(see also section 5: Education and Training)

Students seeking a post-graduate qualification in library and information studies, at Victoria University of Wellington’s School of Information Management, enter the MLIS at all ages and with a wide range of undergraduate degrees. Most are seeking a base-level professional qualification to start their career. Approximately half of the graduates from the MLIS go on to work in conventional library environments while the others find employment in corporate information centres, web content management positions, archives work, and, increasingly, institutional repositories.

Students taking library studies courses at the Open Polytechnic of New Zealand (via distance learning) are working in libraries in all sectors throughout the country - some are overseas students, though most are New Zealanders. Most are aiming for professional librarian positions, and most are mature students (over 35) and predominantly female.

### **3. IT infrastructure**

The National Library operates a combined Novell and Microsoft environment providing the desktop environment to internal users and Sun support for many of the external-facing services. The library is connected internally by 1 Gigabit infrastructure using Cisco hardware. Primary Internet connectivity is through a 2 Megabit circuit with an additional 100 Megabit connection to Wellington’s Fibre Optic network, ‘Citylink’. Remote site connections are all via broadband connections ranging from 120 kilobits to 512 kilobits. The library provides free Internet access to the public via kiosk workstations as well as wireless hotspots in public areas, the wireless facilities are through a partnership with a national wireless service known as Cafénet.

The National Library is part of the KAREN network (= Kiwi Advanced Research Network) which provides 20 Gigabit connections to research and education institutes around New Zealand and high speed international connections to similar facilities abroad.

Other types of libraries use the IT infrastructure of the organisations on which they depend, which may be local authorities, educational institutions or business. Most have modern computing facilities and are linked to high-speed networks, although broadband services are not yet available to public libraries in some smaller towns and remote rural areas.

#### **4. Preservation**

##### Digital preservation at the National Library:

Overall management and development is carried out in cooperation between the Alexander Turnbull Library (ATL) and Digital Innovation Services (DIS) (for the NDHA). Preservation Services provides advice regarding specialised standards for media formats such as pictorial images, sound and video. Sound Conservation uses digital technology for preservation of ATL audio collections, and also manages quality assurance for digitally-born audio material coming into the ATL collections.

##### **Preservation copying:**

The main programme here is the National Newspaper Preservation programme for which the Library assembles the best and most complete run of 19th and early 20th century newspapers available from all sources (borrowed in many cases from other institutions and even private or commercial owners), for microfilming. The resulting preservation master films are kept as part of the ATL permanent collections as originals, since it may be that this complete series could never be reassembled again. (The target in FY 2006/7 was 480,000 pages).

##### **Digitisation Programme**

Each year the Library runs a digitisation programme and a number of projects are undertaken in addition to the existing copying programmes. For the 2005-2006 FY the projects included:

- 150,000 pages of early newspapers digitised from microfilm (ongoing programme)
- OCR project for textual materials – selecting a vendor and OCR processing 100,000 pages of newspapers
- 4,500 photographs (1950s glass plate negatives from the now-defunct newspaper The Evening Post)
- The early publications of the Royal Society of New Zealand, including Transactions and Proceedings from 1868-1963, have been digitised in conjunction with the Royal Society (65,000 pages) – see <http://lists.natlib.govt.nz/mailman/listinfo/nzdigi-l>

All copying follows the National Library Preservation Policy, Care and Handling Guidelines, and Copying and Digitisation Guidelines. All photographic processes are digital (4x5 black and white photography can be undertaken for preservation purposes). Equipment used at the National Library includes a wide range of types of digital cameras, scanners, printers, duplicators and film processors.

##### **Preventive conservation programmes:**

These include disaster prevention and control measures (smoke sensors, sprinkler systems, earthquake restraints), environmental control and monitoring including specialised low temperature/low RH storage areas, appropriate archival packaging and storage furniture, handling and copying procedures<sup>1</sup>. (The archival packaging target for FY2006/7 was 72,400 archival enclosures used including both in-house manufacture and purchase from external suppliers).

**Conservation treatment programmes:**

These include stabilisation treatments such as cleaning, treatment for mould and insect infestation, flattening, and providing specialised supports and enclosures; and full conservation treatments including support and binding repairs, chemical and wet cleaning, chemical stabilisation, and removal of pressure-sensitive tapes and adhesives. Skilled staff and facilities are used to carry out in-house treatment of books and serials, maps and plans, manuscripts and documents, works of art and ephemera on paper, photographic prints/negatives/transparencies, microfilm, audio and video tapes, and audio disks. Treatment work for collection items such as oil paintings and 'curios' are contracted to specialist conservators. (The FY 2006/7 target was 4100 items).

**Disaster preparedness:**

The National Library has a draft 'Disaster Preparedness Plan: Collections & Records'. There is also a separate IT disaster plan managed by Technical Services, and general business continuation plans.

National Preservation Office:

The NPO is housed in the National Library, and provides advice and support to institutions throughout the library, information and archives sectors.

## **5. Education and training**

There are two major library schools in New Zealand. The School of Information Management of Victoria University of Wellington ([www.sim.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.sim.vuw.ac.nz)) offers postgraduate professional programmes in information management, including the Master of Library and Information Studies. About eighty students per year graduate with an MLIS, which is recognised by the American Library Association as an accepted qualification for employment in the US. The programme is available internally in Wellington or by distance using a variety of communication technologies such as audioconferencing.

The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand offers Information and Library Studies courses for undergraduate degrees, diplomas, and certificates. The degrees offered are the Bachelor of Applied Science and the Bachelor of Arts. The BA can also be completed with a double major in ILS and either Humanities or Communications. The Diploma in ILS is the initial qualification and can be a step to the Diploma in ILS. The Open Polytechnic also offers the Diploma in Records & Information Management, the Certificate in Literature and Library Services for Children and Young People, and the Certificate in Cataloguing. All courses are taught by distance, using online and print resources and the e-learning capability of an Online Campus. See: [www.openpolytechnic.ac.nz/programmesandcourses/subjectareas/pcinformation](http://www.openpolytechnic.ac.nz/programmesandcourses/subjectareas/pcinformation)

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<sup>1</sup> The National Library's policy documents include *Conservation Guidelines* and *Copying Guidelines* which can be consulted via links on the NLNZ website from the *Preservation Policy* page.



Another course aimed specifically at Māori librarians is the Diploma in Māori and Information Management (DipMIM), a one-year course offered by the polytechnic Te Wananga-o-Raukawa.

## **6. Copyright and libraries.**

The 'National Library of New Zealand / Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa Act 2003' mandates the National Library to collect, preserve and make available (in conventional and in digital form) documentary heritage and information about the peoples of New Zealand including specifically its indigenous Māori people. The 2003 Act institutes legal deposit of digital documents, and regulations for this e-legal deposit have just come into force.

New Zealand has a range of legislation on different aspects of intellectual property. Copyright is dealt with in the 'Copyright Act 1994'; however this will be amended during 2007 by the 'Copyright (Digital Technologies and Performers' Rights) Amendment Bill' which is currently before Parliament. The Bill is aimed at bringing New Zealand's copyright legislation fully up to date, while maintaining a balance between the rights of IP owners and the rights of users of information. The Bill also takes into account the mandate of the National Library to preserve and provide access to e-documents.

The National Library is currently working with civil society organisations aiming to develop a Creative Commons licence for New Zealand.

Copyright clearance in New Zealand is managed by Copyright Licencing Ltd, a private sector body. See [www.copyright.co.nz](http://www.copyright.co.nz)

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