

Branchlines

Newsletter of the Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region

March/April 2005

Summer is going on and on and isn't it a bonus? We're going to have a great vintage this year in terms of quality, so something to look forward to. Other things to look forward to in the coming year are the Weekend School in June. Another eagerly awaited event in the events calendar is the Library Assistants Day in May.

Information below.

Recent Events

An Awards Night was held at Cambridge Public Library. Past recipients of LIANZA awards spoke about their experiences and encouraged others to apply. Rob Arlidge, the new LIANZA Business Manager talked about proposed changes to the Association. It was a lively meeting with a lot of discussion. Thanks to Rosemary Bublitz and her team for their organisational skills. Carol reports on the meeting below.

New Jobs

Tauranga City Libraries are going through some restructuring and as result changes have been made to the Management Team. Andrew Kerkham has been appointed as Collections & Information Manager and Judy Sail as Community Services Manager. The Business Manager is till to be appointed.

Carol Spanhake has commenced work with the Whakatane District Libraries (WKP). Her contact details there are: Email: carol.spanhake@whakatane.govt.nz
Tel: 07 3060500 x897

Wintec Library news: Sarah-Jane Saravani has been appointed Wintec Library Manager. Moheka Williams is the new Wintec Maori Liaison Librarian and Stef Clark is has been appointed as Information Services Team leader at Wintec.

People

University of Waikato Liaison and Information Literacy Team Leader, Rosanne Jatania is on leave with pregnancy complications – she is expecting a baby mid-year. We wish Rosanne all the best.

Congratulations to Angela Broring who received the Region's sponsorship to attend the Interloans Workshop on April 11 in Hamilton.

Forthcoming Events

Library Assistants Day

Last year's popular tour of Hamilton libraries for library assistants is to be repeated - this time in Rotorua, city of mud, glorious mud Thursday 5th May 2005.

21 Library assistants are looking forward to visiting the following libraries:

First a health library - Lakeland Health (is it like being a bit part in ER?) Then an academic library - Waiariki Institute of Technology (that new library building is something else), followed by a special library – Forest Research Knowledge Centre. Finally a public library – Rotorua Public (and what they do to have the most orderly shelves in the country?).

Waikato/BOP Region Weekend School - 2005

First we had the wonderful Whakatane Weekend in 2002. Then a terrific time in Taupo in 2003 and the temptations of Thames in 2004. In 2005, we offer you a therapeutic weekend in Te Aroha.

Do you get so caught up in the daily demands of a busy library that you never get to sit back and smell the roses? Then...

- Plan a spa, swim or therapeutic massage at the historic Te Aroha domain with private and communal geothermal spas
- Visit the art or quilt museum
- Walk the Heritage trail
- Tramp Mount Te Aroha
- Mountain bike (bike? up those hills? who are you kidding?)

Sleep in whatever is your style - 10 rooms reserved at the Te Aroha Motel \$80/night (\$40pp shared) - mention 'the librarians group'; other accommodation options at Te Aroha Mountain Lodge www.arohamountainlodge.co.nz and courtesy of the Te Aroha Information Centre

And...if the weather should set in, we will lounge like lazy lizards drinking wine by a roaring fire where the cosy warmth of the debate will thaw your tiny frozen bits.

Maybe we will do that anyway.

Draft Programme for the 2005 Weekend School (subject to confirmations)

Venue: Diprose Board Room: Whitaker St Te Aroha

Date: Fri evening 10th-Sun 12th June 2005.

Costs: To be confirmed (very reasonable)

Welcome drinks and nibbles and registration to be held on the Friday evening at Te Aroha Public Library

Saturday 11th June

8.30am - 9.00am	Registrations
9.00am - 9.15am	Welcome and housekeeping
9.15am - 10.00am	Steven Lulich and a representative from Te Ropu Whakahau
10.00am - 10.30am	Morning tea
10.30am - 12.30am	Session A: Sally Angus/Session B: Reference Interviews and Common IT Problems
12.30am - 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm - 3.00pm	Debate on two topics (possibly information literacy)
3.00pm	Afternoon tea and therapeutic activities
Dinner	Grand Hotel

Sunday 12th June

9.00am - 9.45am	Penny Carnaby
9.45am - 10.30am	Regional Show and Tell
10.30am - 11.00am	Morning Tea
11.00am - 12.00pm	Panel Discussion: CV's and job interviews
12.00pm - 1.00pm	Vye on "Top Technology Trends"
1.00pm	Farewell and Lunch

A call for Registrations will be advised shortly. Further details from:

carol.spanhake@whakatane.govt.nz

Event reports

Te Roopu Whaka hau Hui-a-Tau held at Maketu Marae Kawhia

Vye Perrone and Judy Sail were among the guests at the Friday awards evening in response to the Region's sponsorship of the hui. They appreciated the warm welcome, the fabulous kai and waiata and were impressed with the enthusiasm and growth of the Association. Steven Lulich was the guest speaker and spoke about the importance of qualifications and the great contribution Te Roopu Whakahau had made in the partnership role with LIANZA.

Here is a report from Marie Payn Information Services Librarian: Reference, Tauranga City Libraries

Te Rōpu Whakahau Hui-A-Tau 2005, 13-16 April

Organisers of the Hui were:

Te Wananga o Aotearoa Hamilton

The University of Waikato

Tauranga City Libraries

Bay of Plenty Polytechnic Library

The National Library of New Zealand, Hamilton

As organisers of the hui we mutually agreed to call ourselves (Te Rōpu Whakahau Tirohanga ā Kaimai)

Key speakers were:

Mererina Murray/Chris Szekely – “To go forward you must return to the past”

David Kukutai Jones – Te Reo Māori as a second language

Tharron Bloomfield – Lessons learned from a salvage operation in Niue

Guest speaker: Steven Lulich, LIANZA President

There were approximately 75 participants at the Hui representing a broad range of New Zealand libraries.

There were representatives from:

Public Libraries

Tertiary Libraries

Academic Libraries

School Libraries

Music Libraries

Main topics covered:

Panel discussions were set up for people to discuss, share thoughts and work towards great things in our profession.

Members were also able to discuss some of the issues they have had to deal with in their work. For example Sharon spoke about information literacy in schools and how it impacts in high schools and therefore in research retrieval skills in libraries. This was also backed up by other librarians who spoke along similar lines.

The panel discussions were continued the following day and I found them to be very interesting and informative especially as the discussions were about other libraries triumphs.

One of the comments from Mererina Murray on the first night was that everyone introduced themselves so well and without any prompting. She said “when Te Roopu Whakahau hui’s first started up in the 1990’s people were very whākamā (shy)”. She seemed most impressed with the way people stood up and introduced themselves (mihimihi) with pride.

What I learnt from the course that is relevant to my present position in libraries is that it doesn’t really matter if the library is Academic or Public reference librarians still face one very similar situation and that is keeping customer focused and providing a professional and quality service. Information retrieval skills are important because our customers may not be able to access the right information, or importantly may not know how.

For the work that I may do in the future I see Te Roopu Whakahau as an important link, especially contacts made with librarians from libraries around New Zealand. Also having the same cultural background can be advantageous as well. I met some wonderful people at the hui and felt connected to them through the discussions and general networking that we were able to do.

What I learned from the course for my general interest – That there are so many Maori librarians working in libraries now. When I entered into public libraries in the late 1970’s there were very few Maori librarians at the time. It is quite heartening to see so many now. I think Te Roopu Whakahau Hui’s are very important for networking with other librarians, talking about the things we have done, what we have achieved and what we would like to do or see happen in our professions.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, otira tena tatou katoa

LIANZA meeting in Cambridge Public Library, March 8 2005

In February, Sue Hill talked to us about presenting ourselves professionally in the job search process. March’s meeting was more about professionalism on a collective scale, with some interesting implications for future development of professional status. Fellowship and Associate awards were the focus of the second part of the evening.

Guest speaker Rob Arlidge, LIANZA’s new Business Development Manager, spelt out his role and short and longer term plans for the strategic development of LIANZA. It is always interesting hearing someone from outside the profession give an insight into how we as a profession are perceived. It is good to be challenged. In doing so, Rob highlighted the following:

- That LIANZA is a ***professional*** organisation. In that, it is similar to organisations that represent accountants and engineers. He explained the features of a profession e.g.: that a tertiary qualification is required for professional status, that the profession is self-policing, sets its own

professional standards, behaves in an ethical manner and encourages currency.

- That LIANZA has a strategy with an endorsed business plan that will focus on decreasing expectations of income from running national conference each year and increasing income from other continuing professional development activities and sales of publications.
- That LIANZA is looking at ways to develop a system of registration, so that it is easier to identify just who or what constitutes a ‘professional’ librarian. This follows the path of sister organisations such as ALIA in Australia and CILIP in the UK.

It is hoped that these actions, apart from making the profession stronger, will result in improved salaries for librarians. All of these initiatives and more are to be found on the LIANZA website, www.lianza.org.nz

One of the side benefits of taking part in regional meetings is the opportunity to see a variety of libraries. Cambridge Public Library, with its high angled ceilings and large tracts of light must be a very pleasant working environment – thank you to our hosts for making us welcome.