



School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa

Strengthening and promoting the role of the school library to enable all school communities to become information literate

Newsletter 9, April 2003

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President's Report

When we began discussions on possible themes for the first national SLANZA Conference to be held later this year, it did not take us long to settle on the key focus of **“Powerful Partnerships”** as this is what modern librarianship is all about. And I have certainly seen considerable evidence of that since I became President.

Last week I had the pleasure of meeting Penny Carnaby, the newly appointed National Librarian. On behalf of SLANZA, I would like to congratulate Penny on her appointment. Her enthusiasm, commitment and genuine interest in school libraries ensure that our communications with the National Library will be welcome and effective.

Recently I have had several occasions to seek information on school library-related matters and each time I have received immediate and valuable responses from a variety of people, from primary through to secondary schools, from National Library advisers to people who work in Colleges of Education and Polytechnics. Thank you to all of you, especially those who sent me information on salaries and the impact of NCEA. And to those of you who responded to the call for workshops for the National Conference—I am so impressed by your willingness to meet the challenge of doing something which may be putting you way beyond your normal comfort zone. Thanks

too, to all of you who share your expertise on the schoollib listserv to such good effect.

The responses we received from you about your experiences with salary claims are being used in a document being drawn up by Louise Robbie (Manawatu College) and Merilyn Smaill (Riccarton High School). We will present this document at a meeting with Jane Benefield, NZEI in March this year and hopefully she will be able to incorporate the information into the negotiations. We will pass this information on to you.

A positive development last year was the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with LIANZA. LIANZA is a role model for SLANZA and we are most appreciative of the links being created between the two associations. Over the Christmas holidays we contributed to LIANZA’s submission to the National Information Strategy, our expertise enabling



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SLANZA sponsored by Auckland College of Education

FINANCIAL REPORT

Hello to all for the last time. Yes I'm off to Australia to join my husband at long last... just consider me as another export product to show the Aussies how things should be done! I'm very happy to be leaving SLANZA in such good shape. We are in a healthy financial state.

Regional Treasurers will be working, as I am, towards preparing their end of year balances and gathering the data required for our annual audit. Term one is a very busy time so we all appreciate their efforts in giving up their own time to do this responsible job.

At the last National Executive meeting in November I raised a number of points for discussion about SLANZA's finance. As a way to return funds to our membership we looked at the amount of subscription fees received during the course of the 2002 year and the projected surplus at the year's end with the result that we will be able to return \$500 to each region.

Also, to simplify the accounting processes we decided to open another cheque account for the funds derived from conferences. This account will allow us to manage the profits (which are taxable whereas our subscriptions are not) and disperse payments for future conference expenses and for grants to prospective delegates.

Looking at the balance in our conference account at the end of 2002 (\$13,233) the SLANZA NE agreed to pay \$2000 to Waikato/BOP as seeding funding for the mini-conference to be held there in 2004.

As well it was agreed to fund 14 registrations—***two delegates per region*** to the National Conference in September 2003. ***Applications from prospective delegates need to be with the chair of the regional committees by the end of April***, see the Minutes of the November meeting at www.



Alison in her element at RangiRuru library.

slanza.org.nz for details.

There was also a discussion regarding the funds donated by SLN that are held in a term deposit account. Some clarification is required before we can proceed. Please read the Minutes about this and feed back comments to regional chairs.

Other immediate expenses are payments to an administration assistant to process the membership subscriptions which have been arriving in bulk. If you haven't already remembered, subs are due now for 2003!

And, a plea from us about membership

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SLANZA Newsletter

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REGIONAL NEWS

TAI TOKERAU Northland (North)

The year and year about approach for SLANZA Tai Tokerau (based in Northland North (Kerikeri) and Northland South (Whangarei) alternate years) seems to be working, with a smooth handover at the end of each year from one committee to the other. The two committees are in the process of finalising guidelines for how the two "sub branches" of the region operate—agreeing on protocols for finances, communication, meetings etc and how to achieve our goal of increasing SLANZA membership in the North.

The SLANZA Tai Tokerau (North) committee has re-convened for 2003, with Di Eastwood (Kerikeri High School) re-elected as Chair, Janet Kemp (Kaikohe Intermediate School) as Treasurer and Jeannie Skinner (National Library Adviser) as Secretary. Other members of the enthusiastic committee are:

Leigh Allanson-Evans (Kerikeri Primary School), Elaine Heeney (Bay of Islands College), Jan Hobbs (Oruaiti School and Te Kura o Hato Hohepa), Lesley Holemby (Mangonui School), Helen Hollister (Kaeo Primary School), Kaye Neeley (Riverview School and Kerikeri Public Library).

The SLANZA Tai Tokerau AGM will be on Wednesday 19 March, at Kerikeri High School Library, 3.45 pm for a famous Eastwood Devonshire tea, AGM at 4.10 pm, and at 4.30 pm our guest speakers, ERO Reviewers Di Moffitt and Colleen Macguinness, talking about ERO's new process, the school library perspective, and what a review with a "literacy focus" might look like

The SLANZA committee have decided to don an additional hat for Term 1 2003, taking on organisation of events and activities for the New Zealand Post

Children's Book Festival in March/April. In the past the events have been mainly based in the Whangarei area, so the SLANZA committee are giving the Festival a Far North focus this year. The theme for events is centred around the books in the Non-fiction Shortlist section, with activities about kauri forests, insects, bush and landscape—and with Robert Sullivan, author of *Weaving earth and sky: myths and legends of Aotearoa* as the touring writer.

Further SLANZA seminars are planned for later in the year—we will post information on the website to keep you all informed. All the best from Tai Tokerau.

Jeannie Skinner
Secretary

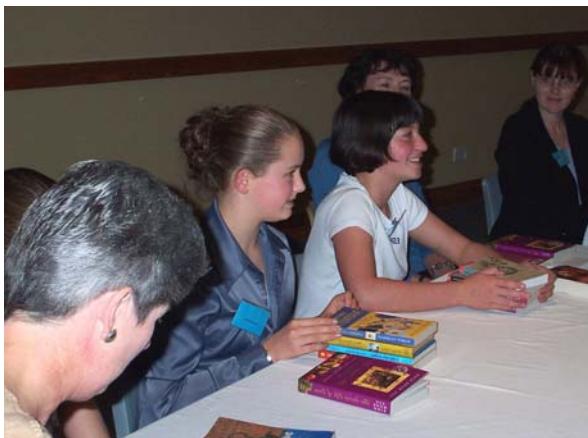
Auckland

A full programme of professional development for Aucklanders associated with school libraries was planned for 2002 despite all the problems brought about by PPTA action, NCEA training days and literacy and numeracy contract involvement. Our plans included a literature competition with Wayne Mills, ACE students and members from Tai Tokerau (eventually postponed) and an afternoon of Kiwiana with

R i c h a r d
W o l f e
supported by
t e a c h e r s
demonstrating
how this topic
could be
incorporated
i n t o
programmes
in primary
a n d
secondary
schools. Our



Paula Boock



Part of St Cuthbert's College literature Quiz team

members also supported the first National conference in Wellington.

Our first event this year was the highly successful 'Girls and Reading' seminar on Saturday morning, 1 March. Keynote speakers, Carol Beu from the Women's Bookshop spoke on '**Who's afraid of the big bad book?**' and writer Paula Boock on '**Stories and Lies.**' Both speakers gave fascinating and stirring presentations. There were also workshops, ranging from '**Great reads for gutsy girls**', '**Internet sites for literature**' to '**Fantastic females**' (feisty heroines in children's fantasy fiction) and a panel comprising students and teachers who discussed why they read, what they read and who had influenced their reading along the way. All these were very well received and it was a great morning, helped without doubt by the very pleasant venue at Kings College.

This year brings renewed energy, and in term two members and guests can look forward to sessions on Evidence Based Practice and feedback from the 2002 International Association of School Librarianship conference in Malaysia, Maori and Pacific themes and writers in term three, the National SLANZA Conference in September in Christchurch and a traditional library trail in term four.

Thank you to everyone, especially to the committee who travel from all over Auckland to meet on Friday evenings in

order to complete the necessary planning and preparations.

In short: membership is in good heart, finances remain healthy, collegiality is strong and there is as much need to support each other professionally as ever before.

A Rolinson

Waikato/Bay of Plenty

Waikato/Bay of Plenty SLANZA's professional development seminar for term two is: School Archives. Schools should be setting some systems in place for dealing with their own archives, as this is being covered by the Public Records Bill, going through Parliament in May. We are holding a day programme at Tauranga Intermediate School on Saturday, 10 May, called '**From the Banana Box to the School Archive**' which will help you get started along his path. Speakers include: Philippa Pidd, from the Ministry of Education, who is working with Archives and Records Association of New Zealand on this section of the Bill; Sarah McAlley, who is looking at Internet sources for beginning archivists; and Christine Black, School Archivist for St Cuthbert's School in Auckland. Fliers will be going out by end of Term I: we hope you will be able to join us for the day'.

Linda McCullough

Central

Central's planning committee met last week to discuss preparations for the region's day of professional development. Although the programme has yet to be finalised, we are pleased to announce that the date and venue have been decided. Please join us at the Palmerston North Science Centre on Saturday, 7 June.

Possible speakers, workshops, discussions being considered include: Copyright in the school library, computerised cataloguing—trouble shooting, INNZ—free and online, resourcing NCEA, improving your time



management, guidelines for NZEI members who seek an upgrade from grade B to grade C, censorship in the school library ... and more.

Feedback from participants at our last day of Professional Development was very positive. We intend that our programme will be of interest to all primary, intermediate and secondary schools in our region.

Newsletters and promotional material will be sent to you all in the near future. Any queries to Louise Robbie.

Louise Robbie

Wellington

Wellington Region enjoyed the hospitality of Karori West Normal School Library as the venue for our first meeting of 2003. Their new library was impressive, as were the refreshments. The theme of the meeting was ***How to Create a Library Site on a School Intranet***. Brian Waddell, a trained teacher-librarian who is also employed by the Auckland College of Education to run courses in information literacy in the Wellington region, presented.

Brian has been the driving force behind the school's intranet accessed through the Karori West Normal School's website. Pupils use their user name and password to access the link to the Library Intranet (Te Awa), which they can access both at school

and from home. The site is impressive, very child friendly with the use of the children's art as icons. Brian and Janice Jones (TLR) like to involve the children as much as possible.

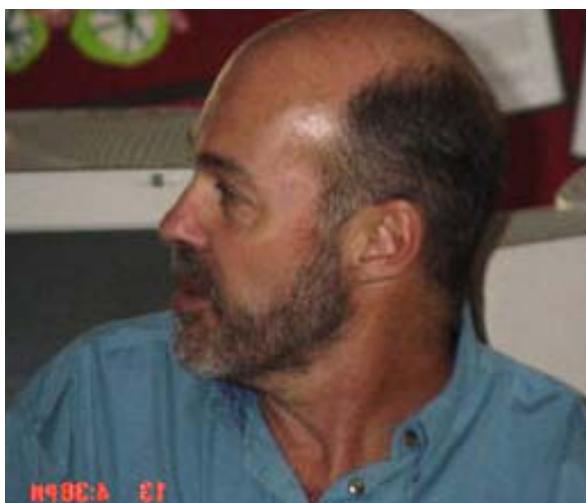
There are links to excellent book review sites through "Cool Reads"; to popular authors such as Lemony Snickett; to Book Chat (English On-Line) and to "real" libraries such as the Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch Public libraries.

There is a Writing link where pupils' writing is published and there will be a place for children's book reviews and recommendations. Brian emphasised that it is important for the site to be updated regularly and that it continues to evolve.

A more recent development is a "Learning Site" where relevant and appropriate web sites supporting a topic study can be stored and accessed by the students. These web sites can then be archived for future use although they will need to be checked regularly to confirm that they can still be accessed.

Brian told us that the setting up took a lot of time but keeping it updated is not so time consuming. They used a web-based facility, SINA (School Internet Network Administrator) and the web site is hosted through Victoria University.

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Brian Waddell showing Karori West's intranet

Cambridge High School

Letters to the Editor

Linda McCullough

We write to express our concern about ... Cambridge High School's decision to abandon its school library in favour of a "cyber café".

Far from being the "museum" Mrs Annan refers to, the library is the information centre of the school. I refer you to the publication: *The school library and learning in the information landscape: guidelines for New Zealand schools*, published by the Ministry of Education and National Library last year....

The school library today must provide managed access to information in all its forms: books, magazines, CDROMs, newspapers, posters, video, audio *and* the internet. Indeed, many NCEA subjects have a research component using a range of media. ...

A good library media programme, with trained library staff working in conjunction with teaching staff from all curriculum areas, will greatly enhance their learning. This is recognised internationally, for example, in a major study of Colorado schools, which show quantifiable improvement in student achievement where information skills are taught as part of the school library programme.

...

The school library is also in the business of developing life-long readers. Access to an up-to-date, attractive range of well-managed resources is critical to developing independent and self-motivated readers. Reading is critical to all learning: to extending the imagination; to helping us think and to shape our world; and to developing empathy with those around us.

...

... We urge them to invest in the future of its students by using the \$1.5 million to refurbish their library with all media, including books, and with trained staff to support the teaching and learning programmes of the schools.

Linda McCullough
Waitkato/Bay of Plenty SLANZA Regional Chair

High school to
replace library
with cyber cafe

WT 19/03/03

p/9

Cambridge High School
is closing its library and
replacing it with
cappuccino and computers.

At the end of this year
the school's library will
shut, and hundreds of
books will be thrown out,
to make way for a cyber-
café.

Teachers have been
asked to select non-fiction
books they still use from
the library, and store them
in their classrooms.

"A lot of this research
that students do is now on-
line research and they are
just not using the non-
fiction section of the
library in the way they
used to," said Cambridge
High School Principal
Alison Annan.

Students would have
better access to the books

Cambridge High School Joins Ngā Hīkoi

Dr Penny Moore

once they were stored in classes instead of “being in one big room that is more like a museum,” Mrs Annan said.

“It’s getting to the stage where schools can’t really compete with libraries in terms of the funding required. Just one book these days costs the earth,” Mrs Annan said.

“Students would have access to Waikato University’s library in Hamilton after Cambridge High negotiated a deal with the university this year,” she said.

Work on turning the school’s library into a cyber-café is expected to start in the middle of this year. It will be funded by a \$1.5 million capital building grant that schools are given every five years by the Education Ministry.

The café would be open to students during the school hours.

—Michelle Sutton

(originally printed in the *Waikato Times*, 19 March 2003, p 19)

It is with interest that I read that Cambridge High School is to replace its library with a cyber café.

I wonder whether the school’s community is aware of international research findings that school libraries with well-developed school library programmes have been found to significantly improve students’ academic outcomes, regardless of socioeconomic factors. If this school library was “like a museum” it clearly did not have a well-developed school library programme. The outcome of a school library programme is that students’ literacy, information literacy (inquiry abilities) and cultural understandings are systematically developed across all subjects. Such programmes ...also depend on an understanding of how best to combine the expertise of teachers regarding the curriculum and learning, with the knowledge of school library staff concerning the information world and people as information seekers. This is of course facilitated where school library staff include people with dual qualifications in teaching and librarianship, but the application of their expertise can be strangled by misunderstanding and lack of willingness to acknowledge one’s own limitations regarding complex information processes.

...

An OECD study of students in 34 countries (PISA 2000) found that 90% of 15 year old students struggled to identify task relevant information in unfamiliar text, when that text had been handed to the students as appropriate to the task. What are their chances of finding and identifying information in a cyber café? Will there be information assistants available to them at Cambridge High School?

And if only the non-fiction books are to be retained in classrooms, what sources will be feeding students recreational reading? Not important? Well, if these students are not encouraged to engage in sustained reading for pleasure, how will they develop the advanced reading skills needed to comprehend and analyse information downloaded from the web or borrowed from the public or University libraries? Those same skills influence their ability to

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A captivated audience at the SLANZA Wellington meeting at Karori West Normal School Library

This was a very popular meeting, attended by a large number of library and IT staff from around the Wellington region, some travelling quite long distances to get there. We left the meeting inspired and very impressed by what Karori West has achieved.

Jane Benefield, NZEI Executive Officer Support Staff, will talk about the library staff (Support Staff) contract round at 4.00 pm, Hutt Valley High School on 22 May. The contract negotiations will be in progress at that very time!

Mary Pollock

Aoraki

Since the last newsletter there have been major developments in the way SLANZA works in this area.

In November 2002 the **Top of the South Aoraki** committee was formed. SLANZA President, Judi Hancock, and Aoraki Chairperson, Margaret Forbes, were able to attend the launch held at Garin College, Nelson. The Top of the South region has elected a committee and set up a programme for 2003. This includes:

- NZEI meeting to discuss Collectives contracts, B and C grade status in Term 2
- Focus on libraries and literacy for Term 3

- Social evening and report back from Conference in Term 4.

Aoraki/Canterbury has also planned its programme for the year.

- Term 1 meeting on 29 March at Riccarton High School with NZEI rep. (Does anyone see similar focus and concern here? How many other regions are involved in similar sessions?)
- Term 2 Intranets, why, how, who makes them and updates them?
- Term 3 AGM. Where do we buy resources? What to buy?
- Conference
- Social event, hopefully at a new library

In mid March the South Canterbury library staff met at Mountain View College. Judi Hancock and Margaret Forbes discussed SLANZA's role and the group decided to

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SLANZA membership is for a calendar year and, therefore, subscriptions for 2003 are now due.

Unless you have paid your subscription for 2003 (i.e. received since October 2002) would you please renew now. You may ask your school to pay for you but the subscription is held in individual names.

If you have already paid for 2003 please hand this form on to other members of your library team.

Remember SLANZA is as strong as its membership. If we want to support and speak for all school library staff we need as wide a membership base as possible.

Thank you.

Margaret Forbes
Membership Secretary
Christchurch Boys High School

ask liaison people to continue the contact between the Aoraki region group and the already strong networks in South Canterbury.

Aoraki SLANZA has been liaising closely with LIANZA Aoraki. They will share the hosting of a NZ Post Festival function at the start of April. LIANZA is also investigating running another of its popular “bus tours” round different libraries in a school holiday time so that school library staff can take part more easily.

Communications in this area depend very much on email contacts so if you haven't sent in all your details please email or post them through to Margaret Forbes.

Otago/Southland

Otago/Southland will be meeting in Term Two. At present I am open to suggestions for a venue suitable for everyone. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any ideas jbarker@mtanglem.school.nz

Also a very big welcome to new members who have joined.

Cambridge High School

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communicate complex ideas themselves.

...

It may be that Mrs Annan has an extensive plan to address these basic questions.... I hope also that she and other Principals will take the opportunity offered by the SLANZA conference in September to participate in debate on the powerful partnerships needed to ensure that student learning and intellectual access to information is developed....

Penny Moore, Ph.D.
Executive Director, International
Association of School Librarianship

Sally Sleigh

In response to the discussion going on about Cambridge High School and its Library, I thought it was time to set the record straight re the University of Waikato's non-involvement in the closure of this School Library.

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Conference Offer!

The Centre for Professional Studies at Auckland College of Education has reserved two registrations to the SLANZA Conference in Christchurch in September.

We would like to give them to SLANZA members—one to a teacher and one to a library support staff member.

If you would like us to pay for your registration please write a letter and email it to Maureen or Lynn (addresses below) explaining the benefits you and your school community would gain from your attendance at this conference.

This offer closes 1 June 2003.

Maureen Trebilcock m.trebilcock@ace.ac.nz

Lynn Chatfield l.chatfield@ace.ac.nz

Cambridge High School

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It is true we have 15 Bursary students who have limited access to the Library (they can take 5 books out each) but this is part of a completely different scheme in which we wish to introduce some Bursary students to the University of Waikato campus. Cambridge High School happened to be the trial school in the scheme. It is hoped that the scheme can be extended to other interested High Schools in the second semester. So far, only one other has expressed interest. As said before, borrowing privileges are extremely limited but we give the students two tutorials on how to use libraries and the internet and general electronic resources and they are given a tour of the campus- a bit of marketing if you like, to encourage Waikato students to think about the University of Waikato in their future plans, but certainly nothing to do with the closure of a school library.

Sally Sleigh
Information Access Manager
University of Waikato Library

Letter to Alison Annan

Judi Hancock

...

Can you outline for me the steps being taken at Cambridge High to ensure that staff and students are being taught the skills necessary not only to successfully search the Internet for appropriate information but to evaluate that information for relevancy and authenticity once it is found.

... Presumably the exercise has been done comparing the cost of maintaining a library with an adequate budget and staffing to the cost of providing stable Internet access. ... Will you continue to buy books for the classrooms and if so, who will be responsible for that?

My final question is, how is Cambridge

High fulfilling the information skills requirement of the New Zealand Curriculum Framework ?

...

I look forward to hearing from you.

Judi Hancock
Teacher Librarian/SLANZA President

FINANCIAL REPORT

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forms—when you are sending in your membership form please attach your cheque to it and complete each section. We need your name and address to be legible for correspondence purposes and your school name and the details about job description and qualifications for statistical purposes. Please note that SLANZA is not registered for GST because we are an incorporated society with an educational purpose and, about SCIS—please don't send us your SCIS application, we will receipt your subscription and send it to you as soon as we can for you to send on to SCIS.

At the end of 2002 there was \$48,626 in the SLANZA National fund—a huge difference from when we started in May 2000 with the *New & Notable* funds and the indispensable backing of National Library. For me, personally, the last three and a half years have been great. I thank the people who propelled me into the job—Judi Hancock, Elizabeth Jones and Andrea Thompson; they allayed my fears and showed faith in my ability beyond my imagination! To the SLANZA National Executive I extend my thanks for all the intensity, dedication to school librarianship and for the fun. Best wishes go to John Kenny who is the next Treasurer and whose first job will be to forward the Raeco sponsorship money to Regional Treasurers. On that happy note, I hope to see everyone at the SLANZA Conference in September.

Best wishes
Alison Pearson,
SLANZA Treasurer—retiring!

President's Report

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us to give a school perspective on an issue of considerable importance.

The National executive member for Waikato/Bay of Plenty, Linda McCullough, did a superb job of organising a submission to the Ministry of Women's Affairs "Next Steps to Pay Equity" and you will be able to read this on the SLANZA website. By making submissions like this, SLANZA is able to make a significant contribution at government level. Thanks again to Linda and her team for all their hard work.

This time last year I had just started tutoring Infolink at Windsor Primary School here in Christchurch. It was the beginning of several weeks when I looked on in awe as these dedicated teachers and library staff took their pupils, from pre-emergent readers to Year 6, through the stages of action learning, showing that creativity and ingenuity so often seen in our primary schools. Today I went back to have morning tea with them and was astounded when a

very proud principal, Andy White, showed me their new library but what really impressed me, yet again, was the school-wide commitment to developing the children's information literacy skills across the curriculum. Windsor is a great example of what can be achieved when common goals are set. Andy and the library team will be presenting workshops at the September conference!

Speaking of which, registrations for the "**Powerful Partnerships**" conference to be held in Christchurch 22–24 September, 2003 open mid March and I do hope you will be joining us. Organisation is well underway with the focus being on providing a good range of workshops for both primary and secondary school library teams. The conference dinner promises to be especially enjoyable. SLANZA is sponsoring two registrations from each region so do look out for information on that.

I wish you all a productive year and I look forward to seeing you at the conference in Christchurch.

Judi Hancock

Powerful Partnerships

22–24 September, 2003

Rangi Ruru Girls' School

- Registration is now available online at www.slanza.nz
- Early registration closes 1 July, 2003
- Draft conference programme available online shortly
- Over 40 workshops to choose from.
- Topics of interest for library staff from primary, intermediate and secondary schools

Alison Pearson

A Tribute

When a treasurer was sought for the newly formed SLANZA in March 2000 Alison Pearson did not immediately put up her hand. However, her potential to cope with monetary matters was immediately obvious to her fellow committee members and she was persuaded to accept the "honour" of being the inaugural treasurer. Despite a steep learning curve, she approached the new job with her usual attention to detail, developing systems and processes for both the national and regional committees. Many hours of work on her part have ensured that SLANZA's finances pass the Auditor's scrutiny with flying colours.

At the end of this term, Alison faces a new challenge as she leaves New Zealand to join her husband in Australia. She will be sorely missed. Her big laugh, quick wit and genuine interest in people have lightened many a moment during our National Executive meetings. While attentive to the business at hand, Alison never loses sight of the human element in what we are trying to achieve.

Of her time on the National Executive Alison says, "The intensity of the National Executive meetings was a great experience and very memorable ... all that hard thinking and debating leavened by laughter, the politics and the psychology of how everyone operated, was



Alison and Judi

fascinating. Every National Executive member had, and still has, the best of intentions—to make a difference for the library staff and libraries where support is most needed. I feel privileged to have been a part of that and sincerely wish SLANZA every success for the future."

So a huge "thank you" goes to Alison for all the work she has done for SLANZA and we wish her well for what lies ahead. And it could be anything!

Alison is resisting all offers of library work and is looking forward to doing something new. Whatever she chooses, she will enrich the lives of the people she meets.

Judi Hancock