



Te Puna Whare Matauranga a Kura

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 8, November 2002

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President's Report

The last newsletter showed just how busy you have all been. It was a bumper edition but not quite bumper enough. I omitted to mention Maureen Trebilcock in my thanks to retiring National Executive members, an oversight for which I sincerely apologise.

Maureen has always shown great support for information literacy in New Zealand, from her time as a trained teacher librarian in Christchurch to her current role as Programme Co-ordinator for the Centre for Professional Studies at the Auckland College of Education. Maureen was also a dedicated member of the SLANZA Steering Committee and was a member of the first SLANZA National Executive. No job was

too big or too small for her and she was always one of the first to volunteer her help. Thank you Maureen.

National Executive has heard the concerns being expressed by librarians over their pay scales and an approach is being made to NZEI for clarification and practical advice on how to best improve the situation. I look forward to having something positive to report to you in the next newsletter. It has been very useful reading your comments on the listserv, reinforcing how valuable this is as a method of communication.

Judi Hancock
President

Evidence Based Practice

On 2 October a group of students, staff and advisers met at Auckland College of Education to participate in a morning workshop for evidence based practice designed by Dr Penny Moore. The students were teachers who were studying for their final module, The role of the Specialist Information Resources Teacher for the Diploma of Teacher Librarianship. The staff were from the Centre for Professional Studies and the advisers were our

colleagues who work out of the Auckland centre for National Library.

Penny informed us about evidence based practice and referred to the work she had already done with the School Library Association of Victoria in Australia and her collaboration with Dr Ross Todd. It was his keynote address at the IASL conference in Auckland in 2000 that identified this area of

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FINANCIAL REPORT



I always love this last term when senior pupils leave for study and exams in mid-November. The thought of Christmas holidays and sunshine beckons welcomingly so the end-of-year stock-

take, planning next year's work and ordering of new resources for the year can be done in the quieter period following their departure and with the promise of rest in the summer sun as a reward.

This term the SLANZA National Executive will meet in Auckland and I am preparing the budget for the forthcoming year, anticipating income and expenses and the annual book-keeping process with the SLANZA year ending 31 December. All of the information regarding income and expenses as reported to the SLANZA NE meeting at the end of August can be seen on our website www.slanza.org.nz. Click on 'reports' then 'Executive Committee meeting August 2002' and scroll down to 'Finance'.

The SLANZA accounts remain in good shape with the cheque account balance at \$6276.17, the savings account at \$4,765.86 and the term deposit at \$22,901.74 (total = \$33,943.77). Income from subscriptions and other sources trickles in still even at this late time in the financial year and apart from the cost of meeting in Auckland no major expenses are in the offing for the rest of the year.

Very best wishes for the remainder of term four and for a relaxing holiday,

Alison Pearson
Treasurer

Evidence Based Practice Workshop

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significance to all of us who work in the field of school libraries.

Penny's workshop identified the issues, guided the planning process and helped us to identify possible areas for investigation. Providing evidence of the value to the school community from the school library and its staff needs careful planning and collaboration with those concerned. When we shared possible areas for investigation it was clear that the focus had to be kept small to ensure an achievable outcome. It was suggested that possible areas could be from the latest concerns reported in the NEMP results on information skills.

We all left with a deeper understanding on what evidence based practice is as well as a planning process and some strategies to get us started. It is hoped that there will be follow up workshops to encourage us all to endeavour to complete and publish the evidence that demonstrates the value we bring to teaching and learning in our school communities.

Maureen Trebilcock
Diploma Coordinator

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REGIONAL NEWS

Auckland

What do Edmonds, Sunlight, and Taniwha have in common? SLANZAK 'Kiwiana' evening heard Richard Wolfe explain how he coined the term as he displayed treasured memorabilia from his private collection. His Kiwiana reference books drew sentimental sighs from the audience, who didn't look as old as their memories.

Cate Jessop and Amanda Chatman from Onehunga Primary, showed us how New Zealand culture could be the theme of an integrated and multimedia language, music and social studies unit with Year 4 and Year 5 students from many cultural backgrounds. Imagine at the age of eight having Dave Dobyn help you write Mother's Day lyrics.

Jan Foote, Otahuhu College, explained how teachers and librarians used Kiwiana as the basis for Year 11 research to achieve Social Studies standards. Some of her decile one students may have never been to the beach, but they learned the importance of such places to kiwi culture. Visual aids supporting presentations included members of the audience wearing piupiu, gumboots and swandris.

A focus on NCEA English Achievement Standard 1.9 across New Zealand will see SLANZAK members assisting New Zealand Association of English Teachers with research models and activities, in term four.

The Auckland Committee wishes all SLANZAK members a festive and restful Christmas holiday.

Anne Rolinson
And the Auckland Committee

Waikato/Bay of Plenty

After a successful and informative AGM in August, which focused on 'ERO and School

Libraries', Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region is having a quiet Term 4. We have no events planned for the rest of 2002, but have already got much happening behind the scenes, as the Regional Committee thinks through their professional development plans for next year. We are very keen to fit in with and not clash with other groups which may have similar interests as SLANZA, so we made a list of such organisations, including Children's Literature, ICT Clusters, LIANZA, National Library network meetings, BoPSLA and ARANZ, and organised a liaison person on the Committee for each organisation. We hope that this will help us plan events on dates that will not clash with the plans of these other groups.

SLANZA Waikato/Bay of Plenty is hoping to get started early in 2003, with a seminar looking at information literacy and libraries from primary school onwards and at how information literacy builds towards NCEA and beyond. The seminar will also address issues, problems and solutions. Next year too, we hope to work in with the Archives and Records Association of NZ, as school archives becomes an increasingly hot topic in the school library scene. We'll keep in touch as these plans become a bit more definite.

In the meantime, Waikato/Bay of Plenty wishes all the best to all the other SLANZA regions for a happy and relaxed end-of-term (!) and a wonderful festive season.

Linda McCullough

Central

Twenty three members attended the Central AGM at Wharerata, Massey University on 16 October. Considering the geographical vastness of the region we were pleased with the turnout on a wet Wednesday evening.

The programme began with refreshments and a social mingle followed by a report on discussions and outcomes of the last National

Executive meeting held in Christchurch. The AGM and election of the committee and Central coordinator followed.

The positions of Pat McKenzie and Mary Watkins as representatives of their regions Wanganui and Wairarapa have been reaffirmed. We are thrilled that Gaye Robertson of Woodford House has accepted the position to represent Hawkes Bay, and we hope to confirm in the very near future that an enthusiastic representative from the Taranaki sub group has joined the team.



Ken Benn

The AGM was followed by a meal and wonderful entertainment from our guest performer/storyteller and bibliophile Ken Benn.

Central has been established and operational for two years. We are confident that our infrastructure is now in place and we are looking forward to supporting the National Executive and contributing in a more substantial and rewarding way.

The minutes from the AGM, the coordinator's report and other items of interest are available on the new SLANZA web site, please visit it regularly.

Louise Robbie: Coordinator
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Wellington

A sense of sadness tinged our AGM as we said our farewells to several members of the Regional Committee—Rosalba Finnerty, Librarian Samuel Marsden Collegiate; Jo Grant, Librarian Karori Normal School; Barbara Walker, Librarian Onslow College; and Ruth Baker, Librarian Newlands

College.

Shortly after Regional Committee was elected in 2001 we discovered we had the task of organising a mini-national conference. Committee members responded to the challenge and it was their professional skills, dedication to school libraries and energy that contributed to its success. We wish to acknowledge the professional contribution that these four librarians have made to our region and to the organising of the mini-conference.

Rosalba was a panel member at one of our early meetings on creating interesting library displays, she was a panel member in the **Voices** section at the mini-conference, and presented on *Creative Budgeting* at our most recent meeting. She is always willing to share her knowledge on a wide range of library and archive issues.

Jo has managed the finances for the region and mini-conference efficiently, her contributions at meetings kept us focused, and her energy and skill at work sessions was prodigious.

Barbara Walker helped organise and run the ERO meeting this year, wrote for the Newsletter, and completed numerous key tasks to make the mini-conference run smoothly.

This year Ruth has been our minutes secretary recording decisions and reminding people of their responsibilities. Ruth quietly beavered away at her tasks.

Our regional membership has increased by 10—10 did not renew their membership and 20 new people joined. All members who hadn't rejoined were sent a membership renewal form and 30 responded. Secondary school library staff continue to be more heavily represented than primary—38 secondary schools compared to 21 primary/intermediate schools. From May to October of this year we had seven new members join and we believe that the mini-conference was a factor. It remains a goal of our committee

to increase the representation of the primary/intermediate sector.

Most of term three was spent by the regional committee tidying up the conference finances, writing thank you letters, recording the evaluation form comments and generally recovering from the conference.

The topic we chose for our final meeting for 2002 was *Creative Budgeting* as it was that time of year again. We thought it would be useful to share ideas about how to increase our schools' funding allocation to the library. Rosalba Finnerty and Janet McFadden emphasised the importance of promoting the library budget in person to the Principal. It is harder for any Principal to totally ignore the needs of the library if the teacher with library



Rosalba Finnerty



Janet McFadden

responsibility and librarian jointly explain their budget requirements. Of course including the costs in the budget for the 2003 SLANZ conference to be held in Christchurch was recommended. Suggestions and recommendations will be posted on the schoollib listserve (schoollib@it.canterbury.ac.nz)—this is a wonderful communication device.

The election of a new regional committee brought a sense of excitement about developing a new collective, having a different input of ideas and skills. We welcome Kim Baguley, Jane Blandford,

Catherine Doughty, Sue Esterman and Sue Ryan. Shortly we will have a regional committee meeting to plan our 13 March meeting on *Creating a Simple Intranet Library site* and issues of electronic publishing.

We hope everyone has a good vacation and returns energised for an exciting and challenging new year.

Adaire Hannah

Aoraki

Aoraki area has continued to expand quietly in all its regions. We now have 96 members:

2 from Area schools, 4 from Intermediate schools, 31 from Primary schools, 59 from Secondary schools.

Aoraki/Canterbury

Two meetings have been offered to our primary school library staff (members and non members) with invitations being posted and emailed.

The aim of these meetings was to seek input from primary school library staff on what they wanted SLANZA to do for them and what they would like to see at the Conference in 2003.

Though the meetings were not well attended they did confirm the Canterbury committee's ideas that library staff are most interested in improving their salaries, status and qualifications (through courses which will "add up" to those recognised as salary steps). It is intended to take up the concerns about salaries with NZEI to make them more aware of the special status of library staff compared to ancillary or support staff.

TLR's and Librarians at these meetings were unanimous in their desire to do better to meet the needs of their clients—our students. However they often felt hamstrung

by the lack of support from management. (I have seen similar comments on the list serve from secondary staff).

Hopefully SLANZA's efforts at connecting with Principals and the publication of the National Guidelines will help change these frustrations.

Aoraki/Nelson

The Nelson Marlborough region of Aoraki held a meeting at the start of Term 4 and has formed a regional committee, currently of 8 people with Dinah Warren of Garin College as Chairperson.

They have planned a storyteller meeting for 25 November, with Stu Duval as guest speaker. The president of SLANZA, Judi Hancock, and the Canterbury Chairperson, Margaret Forbes, will also attend.

The **AGM** was held at Le Café over coffee and food on 26 August. The present committee agreed to continue for another year with the welcome addition of Glenys Robinson of Elmwood School. After the usual formalities it was agreed to give part of 2002 Raeco sponsorship money to the Nelson area to assist with the setting up of their regional committee. Similar grants could be made to South Canterbury when their regional group is started. The reserve of the fund will be used to teleconference with the other areas of the Aoraki group as needed.

Part of the AGM was a report on PURR (Professionals Unleashed for Refreshment and Reflection), a joint initiative with the local LIANZA group. Merrilyn Smail reported on her holiday visit to Lincoln University and explained the benefits of seeing how other libraries work and the information needs of their students.

The meeting raised the idea of SLANZA promoting consortium buying as done by Tertiary libraries which purchase some of their stock ready processed for the shelves.

The request from a Secret meeting for the analysis of how valuable National Library is to our school libraries has been passed on to the Executive Committee and should be discussed in other regions. Aoraki will circulate their discussion paper through email so that all those members who wish may have input.

2003 Conference

Part of the Aoraki region's focus for 2003 will be the September Conference. Workshop presenters (or suggestions of colleagues we might approach to present) should contact the President, Judi Hancock, or Margaret Forbes. It would be great to reflect all the diversity and talent we have in SLANZA at the Conference as its theme **Powerful Partnerships** is vital to all who work in school libraries.

Otago/Southland

Another busy term is underway and knowing others will be feeling the end of year pressure, I would like to assure my Otago members that having missed this year I will be arranging a visit to you all early next year, but in the meantime please keep those e-mails coming.

I have just attended a meeting on SCIS at Konini School in Bluff and took the opportunity to talk a little about SLANZA. It was a relaxed meeting in their friendly library with a wonderful view over Bluff harbour.

Please don't forget our Conference next year.

Jill Barker
Otago/Southland Rep.
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SCISWEB

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in a small or remote school, it must be remembered that all students move on from schools, either to another school or other libraries. The local system will not equip students with transferable skills and understandings comparable to those gained by students from schools using *SCISWeb*.

Do you have the time to Catalogue?

The time it would take to catalogue resources, constantly referring to the abridged version of Dewey or *AACR2* and *SCIS Subject Headings* or *Te Patakataka* is time that could be better used on teaching-related tasks. These tasks include helping students and teachers identify and locate resources, cooperatively planning and teaching units of work, teaching students and staff how to use the OPAC terminals effectively and so on. The task of searching the SCIS database and identifying and ordering appropriate records is done quickly and efficiently.

Cataloguing is a Specialist Skill

Specialist cataloguers in most New Zealand tertiary, public and university libraries use purchased records. Specialist cataloguing skills are used to enhance downloaded records and cataloguers are able to spend more time cataloguing non-hits. This means that library staff keep in tune with the library stock while using purchased records.

SCISWEB doesn't cost that much!

Staff operating school libraries realise that there is more to the financing of a school library than actually buying the resources. Additional budgetary allowances are already made for covering materials and mending materials as well as equipment. *SCISWeb* should be included as just another of these additional costs, without which new resources do not reach the shelves.

If the cost is calculated as an additional cost per item, rather than as a large annual cost, its relative low cost becomes apparent. For example, the RRP cost for a school with 400–800 students is \$510 that is approximately \$1 per student. If the cost is calculated per item, it becomes even cheaper. If 1000 items per year are added to a collection, it means that the catalogue records will add approximately 50 cents per item to the processing costs!

It's a flexible system

The SCIS database also offers flexibility. *SCISWeb* allows staff to search and download as many or as few records as needed. If existing data in the school library system is not of a high quality then the catalogue records can be easily replaced by using *SCISWeb*. Catalogue records for resources such as reading schemes, videorecordings and teacher reference are also available. SCISWeb includes catalogue records of quality educational websites, which eliminates the time consuming task of locating the most relevant ones for student and staff use.

Recommendation

The commitment and investment of the education departments to the setting up and maintenance of SCIS indicates the importance of a centralised, consistent and professional cataloguing solution in schools. New Zealand National Library advisers recognise the benefits of using *SCISWeb* and are encouraging staff in New Zealand school libraries to consider subscribing.

Contact Details

If you have any queries about SCIS please do not hesitate to contact the SCIS Customer Support Unit. Fax: +61 3 9639 1616 or Email: scisinfo@curriculum.edu.au. SCIS Customer Support staff will then contact you by telephone to clarify any issues.

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NZNL PROMOTING SCISWEB IN SCHOOL LIBRARIES

85% of schools in Australia use *SCISWeb*. Now schools in New Zealand are also starting to use *SCISWeb*. National Library of New Zealand is committed to promoting *SCISWeb* to schools and believes that SCIS offers great benefits and opportunities to all library staff.

Do You Have the Expertise?

The SCIS specialist cataloguers have considerable expertise. Many library staff have not had specialist cataloguing training to enable them to make accurate and consistent cataloguing decisions about all the resources received into a library.

The consistency of SCIS records cannot be matched by library staff working alone. Students and staff find it reassuring that the system used in the school library is also used in almost all school libraries in the southern hemisphere and that the particular book or resource will be in the same

location in any library which uses the Dewey system. This is advantageous for students in schools using *SCISWeb*. No matter which school they attend, they will find consistent and accurate records in library catalogues. This means that once students have learnt to use a school OPAC those skills are transferable to other larger, more diverse libraries and such skills will be valuable throughout life.

While there may seem to be reasons for devising or using a local system, especially

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Qualification opportunities for all school library staff

As a result of the very positive responses we have received from school library support staff, we would like to inform you that the Centre for Professional Studies at Auckland College of Education will be offering the Library strand of the Certificate in Support Services for Schools *by flexible delivery* starting next year. The Certificate in Support Services is a one year equivalent programme that can be taken over 1-3 years. It consists of 7 courses and these courses are very practical and useful. They focus on administrative and information management as well as having a particular focus on the school library.

The courses being offered next year provided (we have sufficient numbers) are as follows:

- Semester One Library 1 School Library Systems
- Semester 2 The Role of the School Library Team (tentative title, still subject to approval)
- Summer School Information Management (new and upgraded to Level 5)

For Enrolment forms and further information please contact:

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