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## From the Chair

Welcome to all our members as the end of 2008 rapidly approaches. It's that time of the year when we are thinking about our Plans and Budgets for next year, doing the stock take and dealing with those one hundred and one things that need attending to before the end of the year!

2008 has been a busy year for SLANZA. We have made good progress in many areas but still have important things that require our ongoing attention.

This year we have had a particular focus on the professional development needs of school library staff members. We held a pilot programme of the EPIC 'Train the Trainers' course which resulted in follow-on training sessions around the country, we provided Study Grants to 7 of our members to enable them to further their studies in Librarianship and we also sponsored 23 SLANZA members to attend the Dr Ross Todd 'Guided Inquiry' seminars in July.

We are successfully developing much closer working relationships with the other sectors of the NZ Library industry. For example, our participation in the NZ Libraries Strategic Advisory Forum, the LIANZA Professional Registration Scheme, the Marketing the Profession Working Group, the 2008 LIANZA Remuneration Survey, the Te Puna Strategic Advisory Committee, the Open Polytechnic Information and Library Studies Advisory Committee, the EPIC Governance Group and the AnyQuestions Overview Group. We're also represented on the PPTA ICT Advisory Taskforce and the Multiple Literacies Working Group of the Ministry of Education.



All these activities require a great deal of time and effort on the part of our National Executive members. We are very grateful for the support given to us by our schools who release us during school time to be involved in these activities. Whilst some of these groups provide funding for expenses for us to attend these meetings, for others SLANZA has to meet the costs involved. This was therefore one of the reasons why National Executive decided to increase our membership subscription to \$50 next year. In order for SLANZA to improve the lot of NZ school libraries and library staff we must upscale and take advantage of these and every other opportunity we have.

We all share in the disappointment of the recent decision by the Ministry of Education not to continue its funding of SCIS which has facilitated a huge improvement in the quality and consistency of NZ school libraries bibliographic records. SLANZA has been working with National Library to develop solutions to this problem and we encourage those who can, to continue to use SCIS. SLANZA has also presented a detailed submission to the Ministry of Education regarding the proposed removal of research from the revised English matrix of a level one Achievement Standard. As well, we have expressed our grave concern to a Board of Trustees and Principal about the imminent closure of their school library.

Whilst we have good working relationships within the NZ Library industry it has been recognized by National Executive that SLANZA needs to develop much closer relationships (sounds like CER's!) with those outside of the Library industry. In particular, with the Ministry of Education, the new Minister of Education and Associate Ministers. Recognition at the highest levels must occur of the importance of school libraries and school library staff in the role they can play in teaching and learning, particularly with the new curriculum and the enhancement of the information technology infrastructure in schools. School libraries must be well funded to provide the best possible resources and school library staff must be well remunerated for the skills and knowledge they contribute. We await with interest the recently announced Working Party on Funding of Schools.

Thank you for your support in 2008 and we trust that you will continue to support SLANZA again in its efforts next year. In the meantime, I wish everyone a very happy Christmas with family and friends and a well earned rest over the holiday period to return refreshed for another successful year in 2009 – our Conference year.

Kind Regards

Joyce Richards  
[richardsjoyce@ngatawa.school.nz](mailto:richardsjoyce@ngatawa.school.nz)

# Central Region



## Central Regional Report – October 2008

The two Introduction to EPIC workshops that I ran this term went well. The first was held at St Peters' College here in Palmerston North and the second at Waiopehu College in Levin. Even though our numbers were small, the librarians who came I'm sure went away feeling more confident in using some of the databases.

I will be running another two slightly longer sessions on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October. These sessions will be held at my school, Palmerston North Girls' High School.

As for other events, regrettably the author panel/debate that the committee had planned in conjunction with the City Library was not able to go ahead. Everyone liked the idea so maybe we will look at running it again in the future.

The committee are also exploring two other ideas for the future, the first is showing the film "The Hollywood Librarian" in conjunction with other library organisations and the second is a "Library Trail" to be held in March 2009. The Library Trail will be a full day's professional development where we visit other school libraries to share ideas.

Pat Bellhouse  
SLANZA Central Chair  
[library@pnghs.school.nz](mailto:library@pnghs.school.nz)

*The Library Trail will be a full day's professional development where we visit other school libraries to share ideas.*

# Waikato/ Bay of Plenty Region

## Waikato/BOP Regional Report – October 2008

A meeting was held at the Loose Goose in Tirau on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

PD for term four will be two library tours. 31<sup>st</sup> October we will visit several school libraries in Tokoroa and 14<sup>th</sup> November we will be visiting school libraries in Hamilton.

I applied to New Zealand Post for the Community Post envelopes and we have been given 100 prepaid envelopes which we plan to use for a membership drive.

PD opportunities for 2009 are being planned. We will hold a repeat of our Wikis and Blogs workshops during term one.

Our next event will be a pre Christmas get together in Tirau. This location suits us all well as it is reasonably central for all of us.

Cynthia Frankcombe  
Waikato/BOP Chairperson  
[cynthiamary52@hotmail.com](mailto:cynthiamary52@hotmail.com)

*Our next event will be a pre Christmas get together in Tirau*

## Southland Region

### Southland Regional Report – October 2008

This is the first Southland regional report since beginning our trial separation of the Otago/Southland region and I am feeling very positive about the direction we're heading.

I would have to say that it has been a very successful year. It has been jam-packed full of professional development opportunities. We had a full house for our full-day workshop on Web 2.0 technology and how to use it for teaching and learning in a library setting and Book-talking skills with National Library staff John Bartlett and Bob Docherty from Christchurch. This was very well received.

There is to be a social get together for all librarians working in both primary and secondary schools at 4pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, where we plan to get to know each other a bit better over drinks and nibbles and will talk about what professional development opportunities are top of their list. I will be promoting SLANZA conference in Christchurch next year at this event so librarians remember put it in their diaries (and their budgets) for 2009.

Our last PD session for the year was last week and was taken by Jennifer Tait, TLR at Southland Girls High School. This session offered some insights into practical teaching skills for librarians and promoted lots of discussion.

Cynthia Smith, National Library Advisor in Southland and myself are specifically targeting primary schools in Southland for training in EPIC databases and are planning an EPIC session in Queenstown at the beginning of next year.

Senga Watson  
Southland Regional Representative  
[library@jameshargest.school.nz](mailto:library@jameshargest.school.nz)

Senga Watson

*We had a full house for our full-day workshop on Web 2.0 technology and how to use it for teaching and learning in a library setting and Book-talking skills with National Library staff John Bartlett and Bob Docherty from Christchurch.*

*33 participants were inducted into the mysteries of RSS feeds, wikis, Flickr and blogs*

## Aoraki Region

Welcome to SLANZA Aoraki

An evening was held to book buy and socialize at PaperPlus on 10 September 2008. Thanks to PaperPlus for the drinks, nibbles and discounted books.

Professional Development for Term four was Web 2.0 for beginners presented by Paul Sutherland and Elizabeth Whyte. This event was sponsored by RAECO and Aoraki SLANZA and was held at Avonside Girls High School on Saturday 22 November 10.00am – 1.00pm. 33 participants were inducted into the mysteries of RSS feeds, wikis, Flickr and blogs and all went away with much to think about

The Christmas event, to have been held at Madras Café Books was cancelled when the pressure of end of year events proved too much for members.

Many of the Aoraki committee are also on the committee organising the 2009 SLANZA Conference.

Kim Slack  
Aoraki Chairperson  
[kslack@avonside.school.nz](mailto:kslack@avonside.school.nz)

## Top of the South— Aoraki

*This year we had the opportunity to chat with: Maurice Gee, Jessica Le Bas, Renee Hollis, Jan Trafford, Melanie Drewery and Tracy Duncan*

*we organised a workshop for our primary library teams exploring Encyclopaedia Britannica via Epic on-line. We felt that EPIC is under utilised in the primary sector*

*Introducing Karen Richards. The new SLANZA Administration Officer*

'The end of a school year is always a time of reflection on a year well done and I would like to start with a special thanks to our small but committed and hard working SLANZA Top of the South team. This year we all enjoyed a range of activities which enabled members to meet some talented and world renowned authors both local and national, and to further advance our research, teaching and processing skills with some excellent professional development.

As we are lucky enough to have many of the country's very talented authors living in our area we again organised a meet the authors evening in February. We used a tried and true recipe of wine / juice, nibbles and a very informal setting where everyone feels comfortable just having a chat. We offer our authors an optional five minute time slot to talk to the group about their work, latest releases or anything else they may want to say. This year we had the opportunity to chat with: Maurice Gee, Jessica Le Bas, Renee Hollis, Jan Trafford, Melanie Drewery and Tracy Duncan

Four of our members had the privilege, thanks to the financial support of SLANZA and our schools, of attending the Ross Todd seminar in Wellington. What an inspiring workshop. On returning to Nelson we then worked on re writing and adapting a presentation to show to our own schools. Three of our Nelson secondary schools are adapting their junior student's work units to move away from the "Bird Units" to something more inspiring and relevant to our students and the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Term three we organised a workshop for our primary library teams exploring Encyclopaedia Britannica via Epic on-line. We felt that EPIC is under utilised in the primary sector mainly because of content available. However Britannica provides all sorts of information, educational games, and teacher resources in all sorts of formats and levels as our attendees found. Thanks to Clenda who facilitated this workshop.

Our final event for the year was an evening with Fleur Beale. Fleur in conjunction with The New Zealand Book Council's "Writers in Schools" programme visited Nelson for a week running workshops for our local students. Fleur also managed to fit into her very busy schedule an evening for SLANZA members. As well as joining us for dinner Fleur spoke to us about being a writer and her new non-fiction project. It is an honour to have access to such talented, diligent and generous people.

Dinah Warren  
(Top of the South)  
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## Karen Richards— New Administration Officer

I completed my studying for the NZLS Certificate whilst working at the Department of Education Library in 1981. Since then, I have worked in a wide range of libraries, including special libraries, law libraries and currently a school library.

I have worked at Palmerston North Boys High School for the last 7 years, and still love it. The position has changed immensely, and my main focus is on user education. I have just completed a Diploma in Adult Education, and will be taking this to a Degree in 2009.

I have 3 young adult boys, who keep me busy with their sporting pursuits, outside of work. I look forward to working with the National Executive, and for SLANZA as a professional body.

[karenanne.r@xtra.co.nz](mailto:karenanne.r@xtra.co.nz)

# Auckland Region



**Kaaren Hirst-**  
**SLANZAK co chair**

*We ran a session on 'Refugees and new immigrants' sharing experiences from a library perspective and Jabberwocky Children's Bookshop displayed a great range of resources*

*Planning is underway for 2009: Term 1 – Information literature and Web 2.0 Saturday event, Term 2 – Educational games, Term 3 – TBA, Term 4 – Conference wrap up.*

We have had a busy Term 3 with one event and much planning. On 14 August 2008 SLANZAK members and other attendees visited Alfriston College in South Auckland. The topic for the evening was "Refugees and new immigrants". The evening was in two parts with the first including a presentation by a staff member from The Mangere Refugee Centre and a young student who had passed through this Centre on her arrival in New Zealand, and the second presentation was by an ESOL teacher, Andrea Stephenson, from James Cook High School. Both presentations generated much discussion and provided us with an opportunity to discuss and share experiences from the library perspective. Julie and Colleen from Jabberwocky Children's Bookshop provided us with a great display of fiction and non-fiction resources to browse through. The range of resources was broader than our topic for the evening including new resources on countries and stories that reflected the culture of the refugees and immigrants who are coming to our country. For a list of resources contact the bookshop at [kidsbooks@jabberwocky.co.nz](mailto:kidsbooks@jabberwocky.co.nz)

Although this was a rewarding event we were disappointed at the attendance numbers. We have tried to take events to different parts of the region in the past two years and each time we have moved away from a central location we have been disappointed by the small attendance. As a committee, we have decided that events in the future, particularly those during the working day or after school, will be at a central Auckland location.

We have another day PD planned for Term 4, on October 29. Vince Collins will show us how to do displays with very little budget and Anthea Hamlet will be showing us the latest from AnyQuestions/Many Answers. This event will be held at St Mark's Church Hall, Remuera Rd, Newmarket. On November 13 we will be having an evening with Rob Southam from Scholastic. Rob has a wealth of knowledge of children's reading habits, and their likes and dislikes that is invaluable for librarians and parents alike. This event will be at Ponsonby Intermediate after school.

Planning is underway for 2009: Term 1 – Information literature and Web 2.0 Saturday event, Term 2 – Educational games, Term 3 – TBA, Term 4 – Conference wrap up. Dates will be decided at our next meeting.

We are getting a trickle of requests for EPIC training through both the National Library Advisors and personally through emails. We are also starting to field calls from TLRs on behalf of library team members and librarians themselves about Professional Registration: what they need to do? How they go about applying? This has led to a number of library team members becoming SLANZA members for the first time. On this note, Kaaren attended the "Professional Registration mentoring" presentation at Auckland University on Tuesday. This was a live video meeting through Otago, Waikato, Canterbury, Lincoln, Victoria and Auckland universities with two presenters. The first presenter was Brent McIntyre from the Parliamentary Library talking about mentoring of new MLIS graduates, and the second was Alison Dobbie discussing the mentoring of new graduates towards registration. Kaaren came away thinking that we could develop a programme of mentoring for librarians who are new to school libraries or those that have been around for some time who are looking to develop their skills and become qualified.

A newsletter has gone out to members highlighting various activities that we are involved with through National Executive and in our region. Our committee is meeting with Victoria from the NZ Book Council to discuss how school libraries use their services and ideas for the future. Michaela from Raeco has passed her representation to Malo and Robin from Raeco.

Jackie McCormick and Kaaren Hirst  
[KHirst@stmaryak.school.nz](mailto:KHirst@stmaryak.school.nz)  
[J.mccormick@ags.school.nz](mailto:J.mccormick@ags.school.nz)

Co chairs, SLANZAK

# LIANZA Representative's Report

LIANZA representative's report to SLANZA NE October 2008.

## LIANZA Conference:

The 2008 LIANZA conference will be held in Auckland 2-5 November 2008. The theme of the conference is "Poropitua Outside the Box". This refers to the shifting nature of what we do and the world we work in. The website for the conference is at <http://www.lianza.org.nz/events/conference2008/index.html> The programme is now available online.

## LIANZA CHILDRENS' BOOK AWARDS

Winners of the LIANZA Children's Book Awards Announced at the Launch of Library Week **Gavin Bishop** has received The Russell Clark Award for his picture book **Rats** (Random House). The Russell Clark Award was established in 1975 and celebrates a distinguished contribution to illustrated children's books. The judges described Rats as "a brilliant story, from a master illustrator that will be around for a long time."

Wellington writer and teacher **Mandy Hager** was awarded New Zealand's longest running book prize, The Esther Glen Award. The Award was established in 1944 and is given to the author who is considered to have made the most distinguished contribution to literature for children. The prize was presented to Hager for her young adult fiction book, **Smashed** (Random House) and is defined by judges as "a stand-out story about seeking the truth, with characters that are believable, strong and still in our minds long after we close the covers."

Graphic Designer **Heather Arnold** won the Elsie Locke Award for her first book **Draw New Zealand Birds. A step by step guide**. (Raupo). The judges described Arnold's book as "a timeless professionally written book..." The Elsie Locke Award was established in 1986 and celebrates a distinguished contribution to non-fiction for young people.

The Te Kura Pounamu was presented to **Kai Ora! 2 - Tikanga a Iwi series** (Hana Ltd) by **Kararaina Uatuku, Hana Pomare, Charisma Rangipunga, Hana O'Regan and Che Wilson**. The Te Kura Pounamu celebrates a work in te reo Māori that promotes excellence in library resources in Māori and makes a distinguished contribution to literature for children and young people. The judges said this fantastically photographed series was "unique with nothing else available on the topics in Maori or English."

Heather Manning

9 October 2008

[Heather.Manning@natlib.govt.nz](mailto:Heather.Manning@natlib.govt.nz)

*Te Kura Pounamu celebrates a work in te reo Māori that promotes excellence in library resources in Māori and makes a distinguished contribution to literature for children and young people*

## Planning for the New Curriculum

### 5 Steps Librarians Can Take

**Read the Curriculum Document.** Your school may have a copy you can use, or it's online as a PDF at <http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/> Concentrate on pages 8-13: the Vision, Principles, Values and Key Competencies. What are you doing already? Where could you go?

**Find out how your school is developing its own curriculum.** What are the dates for staff PD? Be at those sessions. Be involved in deciding your school's values in particular, since the Library has an important role to play in expressing and supporting these.

**Have conversations** with staff with whom you are already working. Talk to other library teams as well. What is working well already, and can fit into the new curriculum? Highlight these successes.

**Email or send a note to each HoD**, perhaps something like this:

'Dear Head of Social Sciences,

I've been reading the new curriculum document. Have you noticed that the Library can help develop student's understanding of 'Continuity and Change' by providing relevant fiction, like the popular 'My Story' series? We can also help you to develop the skills students will need in asking question, gathering information and examining issues and values.

Perhaps we could meet to discuss how we can work together in developing a programme to fit the revised Curriculum?'

Remember that fiction is a fabulous way of learning values and exploring issues!

**Share successes and difficulties**, for example through the schoollib listserv or your local library network, so we can all help and learn from each other.

[jennifer.tait@southlandgirls.school.nz](mailto:jennifer.tait@southlandgirls.school.nz)

*Be involved in deciding your school's values in particular, since the Library has an important role to play in expressing and supporting these*

## SLANZA Conference 2009 : Turning Heads

The SLANZA Conference 2009 will be held in Christchurch at Rangiruru Girls' School 28/29/30 September 2009.

### Early Registration

Early Full Member Reg. - 350.00

Early Full Non-Member Reg. - 400.00

Early Day Registration -150.00

### Late Registration

Late Full Member Reg. - 400.00

Late Full Non-Member Reg. - 450.00

Late Day Registration- 175.00

The earlybird registration for members of \$350.00 is in line with the cost of the 2007 Conference .

We are working hard to secure some exciting keynote speakers. Early next year we will call for abstracts for the workshops.

Coming soon on the SLANZA website <http://www.slanza.org.nz> : details of speakers, workshops and registration.

Johnann Williams/ Judi Hancock Conference co-convenors

[j.williams@rangiruru.school.nz](mailto:j.williams@rangiruru.school.nz)



*The earlybird registration for members of \$350.00 is in line with the cost of the 2007 Conference .*

*contact your local  
SLANZA  
representative or  
your National  
Library  
Advisor for  
more details about  
opportunities for  
EPIC training*



## EPIC Governance Group

### EPIC Governance Group Report – October 2008

There have been two face to face meetings in Wellington as well as several teleconferences since my last report as EGG continues to work through options for the future direction of EPIC. There is also to be a final meeting for the year on the 5<sup>th</sup> December.

There have been lots of reading of reports, lots of discussion and lots of hard work as we endeavour to make sure EPIC remains relevant to its users and viable into the future.

There was a successful presentation of information about this report and the findings at the recent LIANZA conference and other sectors will also be kept in the loop.

There is a planned mail out to all school principals and school libraries promoting EPIC usage which will hopefully to be followed up with a strategic marketing campaign to increase usage in schools and to encourage schools not already using it to register. This is a very positive move and is crucial in securing continued government funding for free access for schools to EPIC, which continues to be negotiated on a yearly basis.

Senga Watson

EPIC Governance Group Schools Representative

[library@jameshargest.school.nz](mailto:library@jameshargest.school.nz)

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PLEASE SUPPORT THEM AS THEY SUPPORT YOUR  
PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION

## Leading learning with Dr Ross Todd. July 2008



*My usual practice of teaching research skills had been tipped upside down*

First of all I would like to thank SLANZA for their sponsorship to allow me to attend this seminar. Without your financial backing I would not have had this marvelous experience.

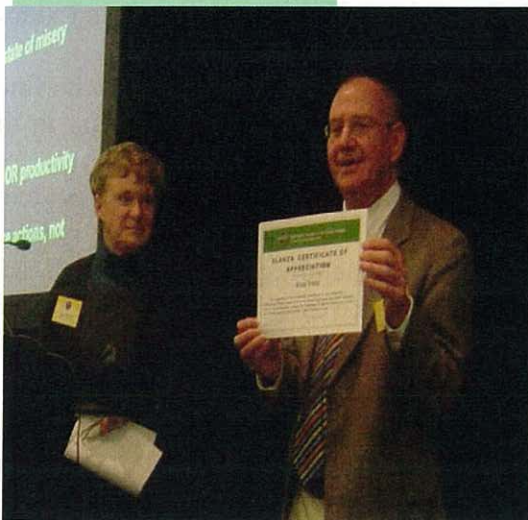
In his opening address Dr Ross Todd promised to provoke and challenge us and that our first step to “thinking outside the box is to get out of the box” By morning tea I realized I was still fighting the cardboard lid. My usual practice of teaching research skills had been tipped upside down, away from the fact gathering and precision of citation. A new emphasis on questioning and allowing students to “wallow” in the exploration of ideas before outlining their intended approach to the topic.

Gathering and notetaking of facts is neither exciting or inspiring, no wonder some students turn off at this stage. Ross Todd suggests letting students explore the topic in the initial stages, where they can select and reject ideas, plan the focus of the research, and therefore take personal ownership of the task. The input of teacher and librarian at this stage is important. We can stimulate discussion of ideas and guide students progress. Sending students off to do this solo creates a sense of abandonment with those who need guidance and reassurance. Librarian and teacher involvement will ensure students go on will a properly planned and structured task. Ross has also observed that we are inclined to get a bit obsessive about citation detail and structure, very true if you think about it.

I found this day long course very exciting and stimulating. The venue was great, food wonderful and networking brilliant. I left feeling mentally exhausted but with lots of ideas to develop. This Citation Queen hereby abdicates that role and promises more “wallowing” and time for stimulating exchanges of ideas among students.

Jenny Millar  
Logan Park High School  
[Jenny.Millar@lphs.school.nz](mailto:Jenny.Millar@lphs.school.nz)

## SLANZA Certificate of Appreciation



*Ross Todd receives his SLANZA Award from the President, Joyce Richards*

After the Wellington seminar ‘Leading Learning’, and prior to the SLANZA AGM Dr Ross Todd was presented with a special SLANZA Award of Appreciation by the SLANZA President, Joyce Richards. In her presentation speech Joyce said, “For many years now you have provided New Zealand school library teams with wonderful professional development opportunities to extend and strengthen their effectiveness and expertise.

Also, you have taken a keen interest in projects and developments here, for example, our new Curriculum, and your generous sharing with us of the results of yours and others international research. We are extremely grateful for this.”

The citation reads:

‘Ross receives this SLANZA award in recognition of his outstanding commitment to, and leadership in, information literacy based on his international experience and robust research. Also, for his willingness to share this knowledge in order to improve information literacy, and thereby, the teaching and learning in New Zealand schools.’



# President's Report to the Annual General

## President's Report to the Annual General Meeting of the School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa, Wellington, 2008

A very warm welcome again to this, the eighth, Annual General Meeting of the School Library Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (SLANZA). In this report I will review our activities of these last 12 months and mention challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for our organisation.

As you know, at the last Annual General Meeting members voted to affiliate to the Professional Registration Scheme adopted by LIANZA. To date, approximately 44 SLANZA members have obtained their Professional Registration. I would strongly recommend to those of you, particularly those with experience but without qualifications, who have not yet done so, to apply for Professional Registration during this 'transition phase' which ends in July next year. LIANZA has recently sent letters to employers around the country, including school principals, encouraging them to promote the scheme to their employees. Professional Registration is a very important means by which school library staff can gain so desperately needed professional recognition. Thank you to Johann Williams for her work as our representative on the Professional Registration Board.

The facilitation of Professional Development for our members has been a major focus for SLANZA this year.

In February we ran a pilot programme of the EPIC 'Train the Trainers' course whereby those 14 people, in collaboration with National Library School Library Advisers, are now able to provide online database search training to other school library staff around the country. Thank you to Senga Watson for coordinating this for us. Senga is our representative on the EPIC Governance Group (EGG).

We also provided Study Grants of up to \$550 to 7 of our members to enable them to further their studies in Librarianship this year. As well, we have financially assisted 25 of our members from around the country to attend the Dr Ross Todd guided enquiry seminars held here today and in Auckland on Monday.

Following on from our meeting with the Ministry of Education a year ago regarding the state of information literacy education in schools, we now have Liz Probert, a previous SLANZA President, representing us on the Ministry of Education 'Multiple Literacies Working Group', the outcome of which is to be a revised "Framework for Literacy Acquisition" (all literacies). This, and the introduction of the new curriculum with a focus on inquiry learning, will offer new opportunities for school libraries.

SLANZA's participation in the 2007 LIANZA Remuneration Survey again showed that remuneration of school library staff remains well below that of the rest of the industry. Whilst we were very disappointed in the extremely low participation rate of school libraries in the Survey we were heartened by the interest the Survey results generated, both from school library staff and importantly, from the wider New Zealand library community. It is recognised that our clients will be their clients in the future. To quote Johann in her Report to last year's AGM "Schools are being recognized as a significant group in the library profession in New Zealand". I cannot emphasise this point too strongly.

This recognition has also been seen in our inclusion in the New Zealand Libraries Strategic Advisory Forum. This Forum has a two-fold purpose:

- To provide all-of-sector advice to the National Librarian/CEO on current and emerging issues affecting the New Zealand library sector to inform National Library policy advice to government
- To provide LIANZA with opportunity for consultation with all-of-the-sector to enable it to represent professional interests.

*Professional Registration is a very important means by which school library staff can gain so desperately needed professional recognition*

*Liz Probert, is representing us on the Ministry of Education 'Multiple Literacies Working Group', the outcome of which is to be a revised 'Framework for Literacy Acquisition*



*Planning is well  
underway for our  
Conference next  
year at Rangi Ruru  
Girls' School in  
Christchurch, 28-  
30 September. The  
theme is "Turning  
Heads"*

## From the Chair contd.

At both meetings so far I have highlighted the critical issues for our sector. These include the fact that there is no mandate for schools to have a library; the low profile of New Zealand school libraries and their staff; their remuneration, terms and conditions of employment; the standard of information literacy education in New Zealand schools and colleges of education and the need for the inclusion of a teaching module in Librarianship education.

Similarly, recognition is seen in SLANZA's inclusion in the 'Marketing the Profession Working Group' set up by LIANZA. This group is to develop resources to promote all sectors of the library and information profession specifically for students and careers advisers. Thank you to Rosalba Finnerty for representing our interests on this Group.

In February, Geraldine Howell, Director of Young New Zealanders, National Library of New Zealand, attended our Executive meeting. At this meeting we discussed our issues and concerns with her. She expressly asked for feedback from our regions regarding staffing and funding issues so please communicate these to your regional SLANZA representative.

As well we want to build up a dossier of evidence that school libraries do make a difference to the teaching and learning outcomes in New Zealand schools. So please also forward these on to your regional SLANZA representative.

Tomorrow at our Executive meeting we are again meeting with Mr. Kevin Burrows from NZEI to discuss pay and employment issues, in particular, the removal of the remuneration of school library staff from the Operations Grant.

During this year SLANZA has also had representation on the PPTA ICT Taskforce, thank you Di Eastwood; the Open Polytechnic Information and Library Studies Advisory Committee, thank you to Penny Gorman, and representation on the Any Questions Overview Group.

Planning is well underway for our Conference next year at Rangi Ruru Girls' School in Christchurch, 28-30 September. The theme is "Turning Heads" and it is hoped to keep the registration cost close to that of the 2007 Conference. Input to the programme is welcomed by the Conference Committee.

Unfortunately this year our Web Manager, Karen Clarke, because of work and other commitments was not able to continue in her role. Consequently, we apologise for our website currently being somewhat out of date however it has been under review and the Executive are making a decision tomorrow about its redevelopment and maintenance. Thank you Karen for all the work you did for us as Web Manager and Newsletter Editor.

Also too, Pat McKenzie, unfortunately is resigning from her position as our Administration Officer because of business commitments and concerns about her eyesight. Thank you Pat for the enormous amount of work you have done for SLANZA and for your boundless energy and efficiency!

I would also like to thank you, our members for your continued loyalty and attendance today, and the members of the Executive, in particular the representatives of our Regions. We must acknowledge the workload and resources required to maintain and grow our organisation. We are grateful for the continued support from Raeco. Our relationship with Raeco has recently been put on a more formal basis which now requires twice yearly reporting to them of how their sponsorship is used, public acknowledgement of their support and promotion of their products.

I would also like to sincerely thank LIANZA and National Library and the other sectors within the Library industry for their support. Schools are indeed being recognised as a significant group in the Library profession in New Zealand.

Joyce Richards