

LIANZA - Murihiku Community

Annual Report 2021-2022

LIANZA – OUR MISSION

Strengthening our members to be innovative and responsive to future information needs

LIANZA – OUR VISION

People and communities connected and empowered by information

LIANZA – COMMUNITIES

Active member communities based regionally or with shared interests in particular aspects of library and information management. These communities use LIANZA as a platform to connect and get things done.

LIANZA – COMMUNITY OF MURIHIKU

As we reside somewhere in Murihiku - Otago & Southland we are automatically allocated to this 'Community', and as a result receive notifications of events organised by the committee, or by LIANZA, being held somewhere in Otago & Southland.

The last twelve months (August 2021 – July 2022) have been particularly challenging for your community, as we have endeavoured to organise various events, only to be thwarted by Covid impacting upon our planning.

Leadership

Our LIANZA Murihiku community has an elected committee of representatives, the majority of whom are nominated from several libraries from within Dunedin city. It is the membership, yourselves – who choose to be prepared to stand for nomination, or take the initiative to nominate or second someone, that decides the make-up of our community's committee. Over the last year your committee has met on 11 occasions, and this has been made possible due to Zoom.

I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the 2021/22 committee members: Eryn Makinson, Olga Hemmingsen, Jackie McMillan, Maxine Ramsey, Fiona Kerr. Eryn has been the minutes secretary and does a great job providing excellent minutes in a timely fashion to work from. Olga has continued in the role of treasure, liaising with LIANZA head office who administer everything on our behalf. Everyone on the committee has been active, prepared to commit energy and enthusiasm to potentially organise various events over the last year – so a sincere thank you.

Our newly appointed Regional Councillor as of 1 July 2021 was Amber Nicholson, from Southland District. One year later, and Amber's term as the Murihiku Councillor officially came to an end! As Amber has reported: *it was an eventful year, with the launch of a new governance model, a new communications platform, and Conference, all while coming to grips with the new Covid-normal. I have learnt an absolute tonne, and I'm determined to continue my involvement. LIANZA is a dynamic, responsive organisation and I'm excited about the future.*

The new LIANZA constitution came into effect on 1 April 2022. Our council composition changed from six regionally elected to four nationally elected council members and two appointed members. This year nominations for the first two elected council members and one appointed member were sought, in addition to the next LIANZA president-elect.

Three regional councillor roles for LIANZA Te Whakakitenga aa Kaimai, LIANZA Ikaroa, and LIANZA Murihiku, ceased as of 30th June 2022. LIANZA farewelled and thanked Melanie Chivers and Amber Nicholson for their contribution to LIANZA at their last Council meeting in late June.

Community of Practice

The 'Journal Club' met twice. We did meet in person in Dunedin on Thursday 11th November, over breakfast, at 'Nova'. For the first time ever, we met at 5.05pm on Wednesday 6th April 2022 via Zoom, our topic being: IFLA & LIANZA - responses to the situation in Ukraine. The articles selected for a topic are open source and made available to our region's membership. Thank you to both Olga Hemmingsen and Helen Brownlie for facilitating these opportunities to gather and discuss topics relevant to our profession.

10th August 2021 we held our AGM for the second consecutive year via Zoom, with 14 members in attendance and 5 apologies.

LIANZA Conference 2021 was fully virtual – taking place over the days: 9th – 11th November

Covid alert levels over the last year have really played havoc with our attempted planning of various events.

Jackie McMillan made contact with Ben Brown about the possibility of his visiting the Murihiku Region. At one stage March 2022 seemed a possibility, however due to factors beyond our control, it is now likely to take place in October 2022

Jackie McMillan made enquiries as to whether we could co-ordinate an introductory sign language session (it has been several years since we last ran one). This proved not to be possible this year; NZ Sign Language Week was 10-16 May 2022. We agreed to work towards something in 2023

Maxine Ramsay originally contacted the *Learning Differences Aotearoa Trust* re running a session in Murihiku on integrating neurodiversity into your library, however the Trust had also been in contact with LIANZA National Office who ultimately offered an introductory Zoom session in December, and repeated it in February 2022. Maxine continued to engage with the Trust and they are now offering an in-depth three sessions by Zoom in September 2022 for up to 20 participants in our region of Murihiku. So, if you have not registered yet, please do as numbers are limited.

The LIANZA Aoraki Committee was keen in late 2021 for us to apply jointly for LIANZA contestable funding, towards organising a joint South Island event, such as a weekend school. Again, Covid alert levels interrupted the concept, however a Zoom meeting was finally arranged for Thursday 2nd June 2022 with Mark, Amber & Alice Cruickshank – the Aoraki regional chair. Alice is keen to maintain contact with us, however in 2023 Christchurch is hosting the LIANZA conference, so it is suggested we plan to host a joint event in 2024

LIANZA has enabled a range of Zoom sessions for membership across the motu, and this development is certainly welcomed

Sustainable Foundations

Our membership in the Murihiku Community remains stable at around 100 or so personal members – several of whom are retired librarians. To be sustainable though, we do need to grow our membership base and LIANZA is actively preparing to embark upon a membership drive over the next year. Please encourage those you work with to consider the merits of joining LIANZA. In some cases, our institutions pay, or reimburse one, for professional membership, so do take up that opportunity if it is on offer.

In Closing

Thank you to the outgoing committee – who have really been dedicated and a pleasure to work with. We have all shared the various responsibilities of endeavouring to organise events over the last 12 months. We have met on a monthly basis, and nearly always all of us have managed to be present. After being the chair for six years, I am happy to step back, and am delighted to nominate Amber Nicholson to take on the role, assuming there are no other nominations! I wish the new committee all the very best, and hope the coming year is a productive one, with more opportunities provided for our members to attend various professional events, and perhaps even some semblance of social events!

Mark Hughes, Chair, 14 August 2022