

# GUARDIANS KAITIAKI OF THE ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY

## **Report of the Guardians (Kaitiaki) of the Alexander Turnbull Library For the year ended 30 June 2020**

### **Purpose of the Guardians (Kaitiaki)**

The purpose of the Guardians is to provide assurance to the people of New Zealand that –

- (a) The collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library are held in perpetuity
- (b) Those collections are –
  - (i) Provided with separate and suitable accommodation
  - (ii) Preserved, protected, developed and made accessible for all the people of New Zealand in a manner consistent with their status as documentary heritage and taonga
- (c) The character of the services distinguishing the Alexander Turnbull Library as a research library is maintained.<sup>1</sup>

### **Discharging our role**

The Guardians (Kaitiaki) met on 30 July, 15 October 2019 and 19 February, 27 May 2020. At each meeting we were briefed by the National Librarian and Chief Librarian of the Alexander Turnbull Library (ATL). We also received briefings on pertinent matters such as the moving of the collections held in Wanganui; Wai 262; the impact of the Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision moving into the National Library building; budget 2020; Tāhuhu the planned new Archives building; the 100<sup>th</sup> centenary celebrations; the impact of Covid-19; new collections; the overseas publications collection (OPC); and digitisation of the audio-visual collections. In particular we were appreciative of the regular updates from the Chief Librarian during the Covid-19 lockdown.

The Guardians (Kaitiaki) met with the Minister in May 2020 and invited the Friends of the Alexander Turnbull Library to the July 2019 meeting. In early 2020 the Guardians attended a very useful strategic workshop with other sector advisory boards, demonstrating the strengthened collaboration across the agencies.

As chair I attended various meetings on the National Archival and Library Institutions review. I have also met with the Chief Executive of the Department of Internal Affairs, Chair of the Friends of the Alexander Turnbull Library and the Chairs of the National Library, Archives, Komiti Māori and Ngā Taonga advisory groups.

Individual Guardians also attended various events and exhibitions through the year and I thank them for that commitment.

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<sup>1</sup> National Library of New Zealand (Te Puna Matauranga o Aotearoa) Act 2003 s17

Together with the information gathered from the activities described above we use the annual reports of the National Librarian and Chief Librarian in preparing this report.

### **Assurance provided under s17**

The assurance provided in the remainder of this report is based on the information gathered from the activities described above and our judgement thereon. That assurance is limited by the nature of those activities.

Each subsection of s17 of the National Library of New Zealand (Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa) Act 2003 is considered below.

#### ***The collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library are held in perpetuity***

Guardians (Kaitiaki) assessment: **Achieved**

The Guardians were interested in understanding the project on rehousing the overseas publications collection and its impact, if any, on the Alexander Turnbull Library collections. We were satisfied that the legal requirement to hold the ATL collection in perpetuity is well understood by staff and has not been compromised by the OPC project.

#### ***Those collections are:***

- ***Provided with separate and suitable accommodation***
- ***Preserved, protected, developed and made accessible for all the people of New Zealand in a manner consistent with their status as documentary heritage and taonga.***

Guardians (Kaitiaki) assessment: **Some delays and risks**

#### *Separate and suitable accommodation*

During the year we were briefed on the planned new Archives building and its impact on the ATL; the move of the ATL collection items that includes newspapers and photographic and microfilm collections from Wanganui to the National Library building and Auckland; the move of Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision into the National Library building in particular nitrate film handling and storage; and the security during the Covid-19 lock-down. Appropriate management steps were being taken in each situation. Of course all such changes are subject to some risk and Covid-19 has caused unavoidable delays.

#### *Preservation and development*

The Guardians (Kaitiaki) were briefed on acquisitions, Wai262, conservation and resourcing. We note the proactive and important collecting of items from the mosque shooting and from the Covid-19 lock-down. Both events are of significance in our history and deserving of a place in the ATL.

The appointment of a preventative conservator is a new development and one we will watch with interest.

### *Accessibility*

Digitisation is valuable for preservation and provides access to the collection for those New Zealanders outside Wellington. Funding was welcomed for the digitisation of the audio-visual collection before it deteriorates further. The collaborative nature of this project with Archives and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision is pleasing. This funding is welcome but there is much to do in the digitisation space and there is an ongoing need for resources in this area.

Arrangement and description suffered from unfilled vacancies and Covid-19 related delays. On the other hand distance enquiries advanced.

Loans from the ATL to exhibitions across the country is another way to make the collection accessible to all New Zealanders. We were briefed on all exhibition loans including the impact of Covid-19 that caused some changes to exhibitions across the country.

Sadly Covid-19 disrupted the celebration of 100 years of the ATL. However, the Pūkana exhibition celebrating Māori performance was a success thanks to everyone involved including the staff and the funding provided by the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust and the Te Puna Foundation.

***The character of the services distinguishing the Alexander Turnbull Library as a research library is maintained.***

Guardians (Kaitiaki) assessment: **Achieved**

The Guardians maintain a close interest in the research library aspect of our role. Three of the Guardians have research roles so are active researchers. During the year we explored the definition of a research library and our understanding of it in the ATL context. We also ensured research interests were considered by staff in reviewing the OPC, in particular looking at authors with close associations with New Zealand.

### **Acknowledgements**

I thank my fellow Guardians Paul Meredith, Victoria Passau, Jock Phillips and Sydney Shep for their commitment and wisdom.

Chris Szekely Chief Librarian Alexander Turnbull Library and Bill Macnaught National Librarian and their staff have once again diligently looked after the collection. I also thank Paul James, Peter Murray and other staff in the Department of Internal Affairs for their assistance during 2019/20.

Finally, I acknowledge the Minister the Hon Tracey Martin for her support and ongoing interest in the Alexander Turnbull Library collection.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lyn Provost', written in a cursive style.

Lyn Provost  
Chair on behalf of the  
Guardians Kaitiaki of the Alexander Turnbull Library

## **2019/20 Annual Report of the National Librarian to the Guardians Kaitiaki of the Alexander Turnbull Library**

I am pleased to present the National Librarian's 2019/20 Annual Report on the performance of the functions and exercise of the powers delegated to the Chief Librarian of the Alexander Turnbull Library, as required under the National Library of New Zealand (Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa) Act 2003.

2020 has been a milestone year for us all. Importantly, 2020 has marked the centenary of the opening of the Alexander Turnbull Library to the public. For the National Library, this year has brought significant challenges affecting our work but also great opportunities to celebrate our successes and to do things differently.

### **COVID-19**

The most unusual impact on the work of the Alexander Turnbull Library this year was the arrival of COVID-19. We closed all buildings in March 2020. The National Library was in lockdown for several months, along with the rest of the country, until it was deemed safe to reopen with a limited service in June. The safety and wellbeing of staff was my primary priority for the latter part of the financial year once I was satisfied that the collections were safe in lockdown. I am pleased to report that steps taken during those months to protect staff and collections were successful.

As the Chief Librarian reports, staff were not only safe but also productive during lockdown, gathering significant digital collections about the COVID-19 impact on New Zealand and the public response. This will provide a valuable resource for researchers in the future.

I was pleased to respond positively to a request from the Director-General of Health, Dr Ashley Bloomfield, to use the National Library auditorium for media briefings during the final phase of the initial lockdown period. It was a good example of the capable response by staff of the National Library during the COVID-19 emergency as part of the "team of 5 million".

### **Closer collaboration**

In September 2019 the National Library welcomed staff from Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision who relocated, at my invitation, from their earthquake-prone Taranaki Street premises to spaces on the lower ground and third floors of our Molesworth Street building with their research service for the public also opening in the Turnbull reading rooms.

Around the same time we celebrated the opening of *He Matapihi*, a branch of Wellington City Libraries in the former net.work space on the ground floor. This arrangement resulted from the need

to abandon the Wellington Central Library because of earthquake concerns. Part of the National Library's statutory role is to further and supplement the work of other libraries and my offer of temporary accommodation was welcomed by the City Council. Increased foot traffic as a result has attracted interest in the work of the National Library, our exhibitions and the collections in the Alexander Turnbull Library. The space is assured for the City Council up to 2023.

## **Tāhuhu – Preserving the Nation's Memory**

The biggest news of the year was the Budget 2020 announcement that funding is now secure for the major programme *Preserving the Nation's Memory*, now renamed *Tāhuhu*. It means that construction will begin in 2021 on the new building to house Archives NZ in Aitken Street, adjacent to the National Library building and connected by an air-bridge to form a campus for closer collaboration across the three resident institutions of Archives NZ, Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision and the National Library which, of course, includes the Alexander Turnbull Library. This programme presents major opportunities for the institutions to work together to provide a more seamless experience for researchers onsite and online. It will require new ways of working for all the institutions and, as usual, any change will need good leadership and careful management. The new building is expected to be ready in 2025. In the interim years the inevitable disruption due to construction works will need to be well managed and monitored. The plans mean that the Turnbull reading rooms will be directly affected and Guardians Kaitiaki will be kept closely involved.

## **Budget 2020**

The Government's Budget also included significant funding for the essential preservation of at-risk audiovisual items in the Turnbull collection and the Chief Librarian gives more detail in his report. This funding is part of a much larger collaborative programme with Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision and Archives NZ funded in Budget 2020. The risk of loss of our audiovisual material held in magnetic media formats has been a matter of growing concern for years and this funding is a major step towards safeguarding this content for future generations.

## **Rehoming of Overseas Published Collections**

Plans to rehome most of the Overseas Published Collections (OPC) from the National Library's General Collections were announced in October 2019. The context for this work was the project to exit Wairere House, in Whanganui, as a preliminary part of the *Tāhuhu* programme. Wairere House has reached the end of its useful life and the conditions for collection items from the Alexander Turnbull Library being stored there were becoming substandard. Those items needed to be relocated urgently to our main stores in the National Library building in Wellington. Staff worked hard to ensure the safe transfer of these materials.

The *Tāhuhu* programme plans to build a large, new, specially designed regional storage repository in the lower half of the North Island to complement the construction of the new Archives building in Wellington. At the time of writing this report the exact location of the new repository is still subject to commercial confidentiality.

In anticipation of this new repository becoming available, our plans to exit Wairere House were the catalyst for the large-scale deaccessioning of General Collection material that was considered no longer necessary for the National Library's business needs. Most of these items had not been used

for over twenty years. The General Collections are fully depreciated assets after twenty years. Rather than add to the cost of storing material that was no longer needed - transferring it to temporary storage and then to the high specification new storage - we made the decision to deaccession most of the Overseas Published Collections. Turnbull staff worked to identify items of research value from the OPC for retention. We planned to retain a fraction of the collection that still aligned with our collection policies and, with a similar focus on collection policies, staff continued to purchase new material published overseas for our General Collection.

As you know, the Alexander Turnbull collection is the collection that safeguards our documentary heritage and taonga in perpetuity; it represents New Zealand's heritage gathered by all its peoples and reflects the fact that New Zealand's culture is connected to the rest of the world. No items collected by the Alexander Turnbull Library are impacted by the project to rehome books from the Overseas Published Collections.

A number of concerns were expressed publicly by some researchers and media commentators about the rehoming of the collections. Considerable staff time was spent dealing with enquiries including Official Information Act requests and letters to the Minister. The Library and Information Advisory Commission provided advice to the Minister in full support of the Library's plans to deaccession around 600,000 books published overseas that had mostly not been used in over twenty years. Other libraries were invited to acquire the titles that they wanted from our lists. Messaging to the public and to stakeholders was repeatedly updated on the National Library's website and through media interviews.

Much misinformation generated some unwarranted concerns; some legitimate questions remained about access to the knowledge contained in this material in the event of some future research interest, as yet unknown. It was suggested that digital access to all titles would allay such concerns. Exploratory conversations were held with the Internet Archive about the feasibility and desirability of transferring our deaccessioned books to their collection for digitisation to be made available online to a global audience. The Internet Archive confirmed their interest, with further action yet to be taken in pursuit of this option.

The discussion about the Overseas Published Collections surfaced questions about the ability of New Zealand's library sector to support the information needs of researchers across the country. In the coming year 2020/21 I have asked my team to lead a system-wide discussion to strengthen that support with particular regard to the role of the National Library including the Alexander Turnbull Library's role in supporting researchers.

## **National Archival and Library Institutions (NALI) Ministerial Group**

An announcement of Government decisions on the options for alternative arrangements for the National Library and Archives New Zealand, anticipated in 2019, did not eventuate. Ministers agreed that no structural changes will be made in the term of this Government. The Department of Internal Affairs has continued its commitment to improving the impact of the National Library of New Zealand and Archives New Zealand together with Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision.

## Other Turnbull matters

I would like to congratulate the Chief Librarian on managing the highly successful tenure and positive publicity generated by the outgoing Poet Laureate extraordinaire, Selina Tusitala Marsh. The new Poet Laureate for 2019/21, David Eggleton was announced in September. Dunedin-based, David Eggleton has enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a poet, performer, editor and reviewer. Unfortunately COVID-19 hampered David's activities in the first half of 2020.

September saw the opening of *Pūkana! Ihi wehe wana*, an exhibition celebrating Māori performance and the first of two exhibitions marking the centenary of the Alexander Turnbull Library. Hundreds of Turnbull collection items were digitised and described to support the exhibition and many talented people from across the Library contributed to its success. Highlights of the public programme for *Pūkana* included a lunch time session where Paul Diamond interviewed singer Tina Cross and composer Carl Doy about their careers. A concert was performed by them later in the evening, the centrepiece of which was the song "*Nothing But Dreams*" which won the Pacific Song Contest 40 years ago. Again COVID-19 interfered with our original plans for public access to the exhibition.

## The World Library and Information Congress 2020 (WLIC) of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions)

Due to ongoing construction delays around the venue for this event, originally intended for 2020, New Zealand has now lost the opportunity to host the Congress in the foreseeable future. The NZ International Convention Centre was already well behind schedule and in early 2019 we had been given an extension to 2022 but the conflagration in October 2019 meant that construction would not be complete even by 2022. Understandably, IFLA then decided to take New Zealand off their WLIC hosting schedule until we have the NZ International Convention Centre complete.

## Concluding remarks

As I retire from my role as National Librarian in December this is my last report to the Guardians Kaitiaki of the Alexander Turnbull Library.

I would like to thank Chris Szekely for his leadership of the Alexander Turnbull Library during my tenure as National Librarian, and in particular over this last, quite extraordinary, year. I know that Chris will continue to champion and lead the Turnbull into the next era for the National Library.

I especially want to thank you, the Guardians Kaitiaki, for the invaluable work that you do to provide assurance, through scrutiny, that the collections are well protected; that we are doing a good job of building the collections; and, that we provide proper support for anyone wanting to use the collections for research and other appropriate purposes.

The collections of the Turnbull lie at the heart of the National Library's mahi. Your work as Guardians Kaitiaki is greatly valued in helping to maintain excellent standards of care and improve access to the documentary heritage and taonga that we hold in perpetuity on behalf of all New Zealanders.

Bill Macnaught CBE  
**National Librarian**

## **ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT – 2019/2020**

**Chris Szekely, Chief Librarian, Alexander Turnbull Library**

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This was a milestone year for the Alexander Turnbull Library as it reached its centenary anniversary. The year will be remembered as extraordinary as the global COVID-19 pandemic reached New Zealand, including a period of national lockdown and the resources that became available with the government's recovery budget.

This report covers the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

### **Preserving the collections**

This year the ATL Collection Care team took a step in a new direction and recruited a Senior Preventive Conservator. Preventive conservation is a fast-developing specialism within the conservation profession. The role focuses on measures to protect and prevent damage to collections from the agents of deterioration that are present within the library and will be responsible for risk assessments and control measures from managing environments, moving and handling collections to contractor management and pest management. This role will be particularly important as the library develops new preservation strategies for the Tāhuhu programme.

The largest project the Collection Care team worked on this year was exiting Wairere House, our offsite store in Wanganui. This is a distinct project within the Tāhuhu programme to temporarily relocate ATL collections to locations in anticipation of a new purpose-built offsite storage facility. The collections include 7,000 linear meters of newspaper collections, 55,000 microfilms and a collection of large aerial mapping photograph negatives. The work involves surveying, creating inventories mapped to locations and rehousing thousands of items, and will continue over the coming year.

Another very significant moment was budget confirmation for the Library's audio-visual preservation project. Turnbull has been preserving audio-visual materials since 1987. However, in recent times this work has taken on greater urgency with collection growth, imminent deterioration of magnetic media and decreased availability of suitable playback machines.

The Turnbull entered into a syndicated procurement arrangement with Archives New Zealand and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision to digitise as much material as possible before obsolescence and decay make the task impossible. A procurement process is currently in play to source and secure a provider with the necessary expertise to preserve over half a million collection items across the three institutions over the next four years. The project also enables Turnbull to employ resources over a multi-year period to enhance collection records to support findability.

## Developing the collections

Despite the challenges imposed by COVID-19 and curatorial vacancies the Library acquired 96,930 items, ranging in size from individual pamphlets to the collection of public tributes left with the Kilbirnie mosque after the Christchurch terror attacks. This compares with the 94,000 items acquired in 2018-2019. In numerical terms most of these new acquisitions (86,765) were newly published items. 57,807 of these were deposited with the Library by their producers under legal deposit in a mix of both analogue and digital formats.

As always there were several acquisition highlights during the year. Just three collections are profiled here to demonstrate the diversity of materials and acquisition approaches.

Early in the 2020 calendar year ATL accepted a donation of material from Wellington Masjid, also known as Kilbirnie Mosque. The material comprised ephemera collected from the tributes left at the mosque in the wake of the Christchurch shootings. The Library was invited to meet with mosque representatives along with colleagues from Te Papa Tongarewa and Wellington City Council. The material had been gathered and stored in situ but a more permanent home was sought. It was agreed that the material would be deposited with the Turnbull, and resources were prioritised to preserve, package and describe the collection. The collection material includes: cards, posters, banners, paper chains, paper doll chains, woven items, small clothing items, florists' paper, toys, and works of art. Many items are inscribed with messages. The collection record has yet to be published online as access arrangements are still in discussion at the time of writing this report.

The Norton Collection comprises some 8,000 vinyl records collected by New Zealand music enthusiast Anthony Norton. The focus of the collection is on material recorded and published from the 1970s onwards. Although published New Zealand music is collected under Legal Deposit provisions the acquisition filled many gaps in the Library's holdings, particularly overseas pressings and associated ephemera.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in New Zealand and subsequent lockdown and social distancing requirements generated the third collection highlighted here. The Library began harvesting New Zealand's online response to the Coronavirus in February 2020, moving to a more systematic approach in March as the country headed into lockdown. The corpus of material is large and complex, containing websites, tweets, memes, digital ephemera and sound recordings. Describing this material and making it accessible is a formidable challenge. The Turnbull therefore seeks to employ another full time Digital Archivist for two years, dedicated to working through the myriad issues. In the meantime, Turnbull continues to collect in this area.

In January, the Turnbull hosted a Fulbright Specialist, Peter Chan. Mr Chan is a digital archivist from Stanford University Special Collections and Archives. He worked closely with the Turnbull's Digital Collecting team to streamline processes relating to collecting emails. The team organised an Archiving Email Symposium as part of his visit which attracted over seventy participants from around New Zealand and Australia. The event was also livestreamed and attracted virtual participants from Australia, Canada, the United States, United Kingdom and Ireland.

In July the Library hosted a special event to acknowledge the New Zealand Cartoon Archive and announce an expanded collecting scope. The collection will now be known as the New

Zealand Cartoon and Comics Archive, signalling more deliberate efforts to collect New Zealand comic-related material and cartoons beyond the former editorial scope. The event honoured the Founder of the Archive, Mr Ian F Grant, and members of the Cartoon Archive Guardians. The guardians group has now disbanded and will be replaced with a new advisory group convened by the Library.

## **Making the collections accessible**

### *Arrangement and Description*

Unfilled vacancies due to funding reductions continued to impact on the Arrangement and Description team's ability to create new records to enable newly-acquired archival collection items to be found in the Library's catalogue. This, combined with the COVID-19 lockdown and inability to access these collections, resulted in a significant decrease compared to last year's levels. Approximately 17,500 records were created compared to last year's tally of 24,000 items.

On the positive side, the lockdown period enabled the team to do substantial clean-up work on the catalogue, particularly in relation to name authorities. Over 2,000 historical name index inaccuracies were corrected, which in turn increases item findability in the catalogue.

Despite the substantial drop in overall new collection records, many new and complex collections were described and are now available via the catalogue. One indicative example is the Kathleen Hancock collection, where approximately 10,000 photographs were processed covering the Pacific Islands in the period 1955-2004. Ms Hancock was a journalist who travelled extensively through the region. The availability of this collection has the potential to substantially advance Pasifika research.

### *Reading Rooms*

This service was significantly hampered by technology failures and COVID-related closures and service reductions. The onsite computers available for public usage continued to malfunction daily due to network load and machine issues. User numbers were obviously lower than last year because the Reading Rooms were closed for over two months during the COVID-19 lockdown and alert level three closure and reduced services during alert level two. There is a corresponding reduction in items issued from the reading room and onsite research requests.

Staff members in the Research Enquiries team and other Turnbull teams are to be commended for their willingness to don masks and work the front line as COVID-19 alert level 2 was implemented and onsite research services resumed.

### *Distance Enquiries*

Successful responses to distance enquiries came in at around half the number of last year's total, again due to COVID-related onsite closure and staff inability to access the collections. The COVID-19 lockdown afforded a unique opportunity to push forward some thinking and planning around how research services and resources could be delivered to offsite users. One of the most successful of these experiments was the deployment of remote access to the Library's subscription databases which generated a substantial increase in new user registrations.

A new user guide called 'Using the Library from Home' was published online and proved popular. Research Enquiry staff also published several posts on the National Library blog promoting the collections.

### *Exhibitions*

In September, the first of two ATL 100 centenary exhibitions was opened in the National Library Gallery. *Pūkana: moments in Māori performance; te ihi, te wehi, te wana* was well-received and attracted over 10,000 visits in its first months, including school groups. A highlight of the public programme was a live concert from performers Tina Cross and Carl Doy. The event coincided with the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their Asia Pacific contest win with the song 'Nothing but dreams'. Unfortunately, the exhibition run was interrupted by the COVID-19 lockdown and alert levels for over two months, along with the cancellation of several associated public programme events.

The exhibition was co-funded by the Turnbull Endowment Trust and the Te Puna Foundation.

Exhibition loans from the Turnbull collections to other institutions were also impacted by the COVID-19 response, as shows at the Christchurch Art Gallery, Adam Art Gallery and the Maritime Museum were interrupted.

### *National Library Overseas Published Collections*

Staff from Turnbull's Research Enquiry Service and Curatorial Services spent considerable time and effort selecting items from the National Library Overseas Published Collections (OPC) for retention. The OPC is not a Turnbull collection and was earmarked for disposal due to storage issues, low usage and the implementation of a change to the National Library collection policy. It is however, recognised that there is material in the OPC that should be retained to provide context and connection to the Turnbull collections and research mandate. The process of selecting for retention is expected to continue into the coming year.

## **Outreach**

### *Oral History Advisory Services*

The Oral History Adviser delivered workshops in Dunedin and Alexandra with 62 people attending at least one of the two *Essentials of oral history research* sessions. In addition to training people in oral history the Adviser also advised the Central Stories Museum and the Central Otago Heritage Trust on their oral history archive equipment loan service.

### *National Preservation Office (NPO)*

The Turnbull's National Preservation Office (NPO) provides advice and assistance to community groups and agencies on care and preservation of documentary heritage collections. It produces publications, delivers workshops and courses and undertakes preservation collection assessments. This year the NPO delivered two workshops, in collaboration with National Services Te Paerangi at Te Papa Tongarewa

The NPO undertook seven preservation collection assessments for a range of organisations including Māori organisations, museums, and marae collections.

In November the NPO worked with the Library's digital archivists to deliver a workshop: *Building Digital Collection Capabilities: managing digital collections in iwi organisations*. Resources developed for this workshop included *Rokiroki Matihiko Digital Preservation* a bilingual poster with practical prompts to advance the preservation of digital collections. This resource was created to complement, *Ngā Pūtake Whakaero Tekau Agents of Deterioration* flip chart created for the first Iwi archivists workshop held in 2019.

The NPO helped develop the programme for the ten-week Ngāti Porou Iwi internship programme that ran across the Turnbull Library, Archives New Zealand and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision. The iwi internships are a tangible outcome of DIA's Treaty Commitments with Ngāti Porou.

The NPO delivered preservation teaching for Te Wānanga o Raukawa - delivering preservation content for the *Ngā Taonga Tuku I,II,III* papers for Heke (Diploma) and Poutuarongo (Bachelors) Puna Maumahara qualification and Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) – *Te Ara Pourewa* graduate diploma qualification.

Bi-monthly Library conservation clinics continued to deliver one-on-one preservation advice. The NPO publications continue to be regularly requested and their online versions received 6,267 unique page views. The most popular downloads from the *Preservation Advice* page were *Caring for collections – marae photographs* and the *Heritage audio digitisation checklist*.

## **Other matters**

### *Budget 2020*

Budget 2020 brought good news on several fronts for the Turnbull. Firstly, a slight budget increase based on long-standing cost pressures provided resourcing to arrange two staff members to fill vacancies in the Arrangement and Description team. Substantial multi-year funding was also announced for audio-visual preservation. As mentioned above, ATL has joined forces with Archives NZ and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision to procure the necessary expertise to deliver this programme of work.

The biggest budget announcement with a direct connection to the Turnbull was confirmation for the *Tāhuhu* programme (formerly known as *Preserving the Nation's Memory*). The programme now has confirmed funding to build a new building for Archives New Zealand in Wellington. The Turnbull's Collection Care and Imaging Services teams will be domiciled in the new facility which is expected to open in 2025. Money was also allocated to purchase land for a new offsite store to be shared by National Library and Archives and to enable planning for reconfiguring the public spaces (including Turnbull reading rooms) in the National Library's Molesworth Street building.

The programme is premised on the expectation that the National Library, Archives NZ and Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision will collaborate to optimise this infrastructure investment. The nature of collaboration and the contribution and positioning of the Turnbull in this arrangement remains unclear at this stage.

Another budget announcement of interest was confirmation of monies to develop a business case for the strengthening and refurbishment of Turnbull House. The House has been closed since earthquake damage occurred in 2012. Heritage New Zealand is responsible for this project.

#### *Alexander Turnbull Library centenary celebrations.*

June 28<sup>th</sup> 2020 marked one hundred years to the day that the Alexander Turnbull Library was opened to the people of New Zealand. Unfortunately, several of the planned centenary events for the latter half of the 2019/2020 year were postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19. On a happier note, the Turnbull Endowment Trust received confirmation of a grant from the Lotteries Heritage and Environment to support centenary celebrations over the 2020/2021 period. These include a mini-documentary, a publication and support for the *Pūkana* exhibition to travel outside of Wellington.

#### *Turnbull Endowment Trust*

This was a notable year for the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust (ATLET). The Trust employed an Executive Director and three events provided opportunities to increase its profile: the opening of the *Pūkana* exhibition as mentioned above, the Lilburn Lecture and a reception to honour outgoing Poet Laureate, Selina Tusitala Marsh.

The Turnbull Endowment Trust is the sole Trustee of the Lilburn Trust which disperses grants to support New Zealand music activities. Two key Lilburn initiatives are the biennial Lilburn Fellowship and the annual Lilburn Lecture. Dame Gillian Whitehead delivered the Lilburn Lecture to a capacity audience in the National Library auditorium in November 2019. Dr Anton Killan was announced as the Lilburn Fellow in May 2020 and will commence his research residency into New Zealand gamelan performance in 2021.

#### *UNESCO Memory of the World*

The Turnbull hosted a special reception, as a centenary event, to honour new inscriptions to the UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand register. Inscriptions recognised collections from Auckland Libraries, Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision, Hocken Collections and the Turnbull. The Turnbull inscription was for the Sir Julius von Haast collection.

#### *Staffing matters*

The Library farewelled three longstanding staff members. Roger Swanson, Barbara Lyon and Christine Petrie all retired during the year, taking with them over 100 years of Turnbull experience. The Library sincerely acknowledges cumulative contributions and wishes them well in retirements.

#### **Concluding Remarks**

Operational resourcing continued to be a prevailing concern for most of this year, until overtaken by the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Both impacted on the Turnbull's ability to operate effectively, but also demonstrated the Library's continuing resilience and commitment to delivering services. Despite these setbacks there were highlights associated with new acquisitions and the Library's centenary.

Thanks are due to the Friends of the Turnbull Library, the Turnbull Endowment Trust, the Te Puna Foundation, the Guardians Kaitiaki of the Alexander Turnbull Library and to colleagues across the National Library and Department of Internal Affairs.

**Chris Szekely**

**Chief Librarian, Alexander Turnbull Library**