



Manchester Street—The Rescue Mission

True, “rescue” is a rather dramatic word to use, but on 18 May when National Library staff in Christchurch were given one-off access to their old building to remove as much equipment and stock as possible, at times it did feel as if “rescuing” was exactly what was going on.

Between 8.30am and 3.30pm that day, the entire library collection of many thousands of books was wheelbarrowed out and stacked into crates. Chairs, desks and paperwork was carried out, and computers, servers, phones and other pieces of equipment were unplugged, loaded onto trolleys and carried down stairs and out of the building.

Amongst the People’s Network team, Andy, Glen, Mark and Moata donned hardhats and gloves and between them retrieved pretty much all of the APNK equipment (apart from heavy furniture that couldn’t be taken down the stairs) as well as helping out the Services to Schools team.

It was a busy, exhausting day and a successful one. After 3 months Trudy finally got her handbag back! Though Glen’s lunch which had been in his bag all that time fared less well. Getting back the APNK equipment and documentation makes providing services to our partners just a little bit easier, so it was definitely a worthwhile “mission”, as well as the closure it gave the team in being able to visit the building again.



We took pictures and video on the day which can be viewed on Flickr <http://www.flickr.com/apnk> or YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/peoplesnetwork>

Big Night @ the Library in Hamilton

Access to the APNK service (including WiFi) is usually only available during normal opening hours, however the service can also be made available for special events, after hours learning programmes or workshops that fall outside of these hours.

Hamilton staff, volunteers and customers took advantage of this opportunity in May during the 4th Night @ the Library event.

The “library lock-in” which took place between 4pm and midnight on 14 May allowed local genealogy enthusiasts to make the most of the staff, resources and technology on hand.

APNK was well used during the night with customers bringing in their own laptops to access genealogy databases like Ancestry and Find My Past, uncovering interesting familial ties, as Hamilton staff member, Mark Caunter explains -

“They are always fun evenings. In the past we’ve had people working alongside each other and unaware they were related until they happened to notice they were researching the same family. We have tutorials on various aspects of researching genealogy as well as tours of the library resources and archives.”

“[We] really appreciate the service [APNK] provide us, especially extending the hours of access. We couldn’t run the event without Internet access, especially WiFi.”



Three not-necessarily related genealogists use APNK PCs at Hamilton’s Night @ the Library event.

If there’s an after hours event planned at your local library that would benefit from extended WiFi hours, let the APNK team know.

Signing on the dotted line

New partnership agreements for libraries/marae have been sent out in anticipation of the new sustainable APNK funding model which begins on 1 July this year.

Managers are asked to sign and return one of the agreements as soon as possible.



APNK Board's Inaugural Meeting

The first meeting of the APNK Board on 19 May saw members approve the Terms of Reference under which the Board operate.

Chris presented the Manager's report, highlighting the APNK team status post earthquake and merger with the Department of Internal Affairs.

The APNK team were commended upon getting the network up and running again, responding to helpdesk calls and working from home in the aftermath of the February quake.

A significant challenge facing partners and the APNK is the *Copyright (Infringing File Sharing) Amendment Bill 2011*.

Information has been sought via the National Library to seek clarification with the DIA legal team regarding our position.

Sue Sutherland, as outgoing chair of the APNK Board, will write a report about the APNK providing a potted history together with current challenges and developments. In the future, Bill MacNaught will chair the Board and the Board will produce an annual report for stakeholders.

Dip your toes in "safe" social networking

Are you curious about social networking but a bit afraid to try it out? Have you seen customers connecting to Facebook and want to know what it's like without having to "sign a pact with the devil"?

APNK's Community of Practice (CoP) might be the place for you. The CoP is a customised social network hosted by Ning that is accessible only by staff that work at APNK partner libraries and marae.

It has a lot of features common to other social networks—you can "friend" people, upload a profile picture, update your status, join in forum discussions, upload photos or video, or text chat with people—but all within a select, library-friendly community.

Joining the CoP is a great way of becoming a little more social media savvy without having to take the plunge into Twitter or Facebook.

Join by sending us an email at peoples.network@dia.govt.nz

Copyright (Infringing File Sharing) Amendment

Recent changes to New Zealand copyright law have prompted much discussion in library circles about the provision of Internet services to the public.

Does your organisation have a policy in place with regards to Internet piracy?

We've started a discussion on the Community of Practice about this topic and would appreciate comment from staff working at APNK sites.

Join the discussion here -

<http://cop.aotearoapeoplesnetwork.org/forum/topics/copyright-infringing-file-1>

Connecting to Ancestry.com

Does your library subscribe to Ancestry.com?



Have customers who've seen the ads for it on TV and want to know how to connect on APNK PCs?

Some confusion may arise from print and TV ads that encourage people to visit ancestry.com.au. If using an APNK machine the URL entered should be

ancestrylibrary.com (or customers can use the link on the Get Info page of the regional portal). This URL will provide full access to family history information (in libraries where there's a current subscription for this resource).

We'd love to see you at NetHui 2011

Andy and Moata will be attending NetHui this year



and would love to catch up with any staff from APNK libraries or marae who will be there.

If you're considering attending later this month (registration for all three days is only \$34.50) then please drop us a line. We'll be taking part in the "Barriers and Bridges to Digital Inclusion: Taking action in the community" discussion on day one and attending many other interesting sounding sessions over the three days of the conference.

We're hoping librarians will have a presence at this event as many issues relevant to modern public library service will be discussed, including how well the law works on the net, whether we need rules for online behaviour and who's missing out on our online future?

We hope to see you there!

On the horizon...

In the coming months the APNK network will grow with the addition of Ashburton Public Library and Invercargill City Libraries to the network. We'll also be visiting Marlborough to install the GO-GO PC control system at Blenheim library.

Watch this space...

Recent Customer Feedback

The free internet is awesome! It's so hard to find here in New Zealand. It's really helpful to have it in the library for academic and social purposes. Thanks!

Vanessa, 3 June 2011

Thanks so much for the free internet i love it & plus i dont have internet at home sooo its pretty great :)

Belinda, Grey District, 3 June 2011

Contact us: peoples.network@dia.govt.nz

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