

Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa (PHANZA)

Secretary's report, 2022-23 Year

This report is a composite of tasks and activities undertaken by the secretary and executive assistant.

Committee

PHANZA's Executive Committee has held 10 ordinary meetings since the last AGM. The committee has benefitted again this year from the work done by executive assistant Elizabeth Bowyer (Libby), Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University PhD candidate and we are pleased to advise that Libby will be continuing in her role for the coming year, providing valuable continuity during a period of change on the committee. We have also welcomed new PHANZA committee member Dan Bartlett.

This year saw the implementation of Xero for managing PHANZA's accounts. The committee wishes to register its sincere thanks to Treasurer Sandra Gorter and Elizabeth Bowyer for the time and effort put into this important transition.

As this year draws to a close there will be several changes to our steering committee. While this will be discussed in detail in other reports, the committee wishes to thank those stepping down after many years of dedicated service. In particular, Michael Kelly will be standing aside from the President's role and Sandra Gorter will be stepping away from the Treasurer's role. Our sincere thanks to them both for their excellent work and service.

Over the past year, 10 new members were added to the membership list and 2 previous members returned.

Correspondence and notices

We continue to post notices for public lectures, events, regular seminars, along with grants and employment opportunities that may be of interest to our members.

During the year we received regular requests from the public wanting to contact specific historians which we helped to facilitate. We encourage all members to ensure their PHANZA website profile is up to date to facilitate contact from interested parties and so parties can connect members directly.

We have noted a welcome increase in the number of calls for papers for in-person conferences, which we have included in our notices. Whereas last year conferences were still mostly online, it is encouraging to see a move to in-person meetings and conferences. NZHA's conference in November 2023 is an example. The NZHA conference theme is *Practical history in the real world* and we are expecting that many of our members will want to attend this event.

We have also received several enquiries from schools asking for resources to help with their curriculum preparation. We have been able to point them to resources on our website and put them in touch with specific PHANZA members to assist with their area of interest.

On average, since the last AGM, we note that 81% of people who receive our email notices will click on the notice and 38.5% will open the attachment or follow the link. We have received 3,278 visitors to the website since the analytic feature was installed in May 2023 and 7,646 views.

New Zealand Journal of Public History

Fiona McKergow, David Green and Dan Bartlett are *NZJPH's* honorary editors. The editorial advisor group is Bronwyn Daley, Nadia Gush, Michael Kelly and Bronwyn Labrum. The full publication of the 2022 issue was published this year and featured cover art by Whanganui print maker Catherine Macdonald. Articles published so far this year have come from Alison Breese, Leanne Croon Hickman and Sarah Johnston. We have sent out a call for papers for the 2024 issue to postgraduate students to encourage their contribution. *NZJPH* is posted through notices, on the website and by Mailchimp. It also has its own Facebook page.

Phanzine

PHANZA has sent out three issues of *Phanzine* since the last AGM with the work of editors Fiona McKergow who edited the December and April issues, and Reuben Daubé who edited the August issue. Sharing the editorial work of *Phanzine* has worked well and as Fiona McKergow has advised she will step away from her role as *Phanzine* editor to focus on *NZJPH*, the sharing of the editorial work will continue, starting with Julia Bradshaw editing the December issue. The committee registers its appreciation and thanks for Fiona's valuable work in this publication. Electronic versions of past issues are available on the website one month after they are sent out to members via email. On average, 83.6% of *Phanzine* recipients click on the email and 56.2% open *Phanzine* in the email. These figures are consistent with last year.

Social media

Danielle Campbell has continued to run our social media presence by keeping us up to date on Facebook, X and Instagram. Danielle is stepping away from this role after the AGM to focus on other areas of interest and the committee wishes to note its sincere thanks for Danielle's work in keeping PHANZA's profile active on social media platforms. Elizabeth Bowyer will take over the running of PHANZA's social media.

Social media statistics October 2022-September 2023

Twitter (X)

PHANZA tweets - 75 (48 less than 2022-23)

Tweet impressions - 22,000 (-26,000 since last AGM)

Twitter followers - 478 (+30 since last AGM)

Facebook

PHANZA posts - 92 (2 less than 2022-23)

Facebook page likes - 239 (+25 since last AGM)

Facebook page followers - 278 (+32 since last AGM)

Instagram

PHANZA posts – 22 (1 less than 2022-23)

Instagram followers - 350 (+62 since last AGM)

What to watch in 2023-24

The Incorporated Societies Act 2022 is due to come into force 5 October 2023. It will operate alongside the existing Act 1908 until 5 April 2026. We need to be re-registered under the new legislation by 1 December 2025. We are monitoring notices by MBIE in regard to our obligations and will be keeping members updated on any necessary regulatory changes to our constitution and governance structure. As a first step, we have proposed to include a dispute resolution clause in the constitution, as required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, at this AGM.

As our association moves forward into the new year, we look forward to re-engaging with the pressing issues in our field and representing your interests in the important public history debates that will occur. We welcome our new committee members and thank most sincerely those who are stepping down after years of dedicated service. We couldn't have done it without you.

Monica Webb and Elizabeth Bowyer

6 September 2023