

1965

Nataniel Li

(NLNZ, n.d.[d])

## HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NEW ZEALAND

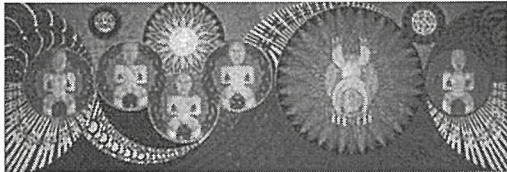
The National Library was formed in 1965, when the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Library Service were brought together.

### KO TE HITORI O TE PUNA O TE MĀTAURANGA

Nō te tau 1965 ka tū ai Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, he whakakotahitanga i te Whare Pukapuka o Alexander Turnbull, te Whare Pukapuka Whakaminenga Whānui, me te Ratonga Whare Pukapuka o Aotearoa nā te Ture.

**Mā mua ka kite a muri; Mā muri ka ora a mua.**

**Those who lead give sight to those who follow; Those who follow give life to those who lead.**



The following timeline shows significant events in the formation and growth of the National Library:

- 2011** The National Library is integrated into the Department of Internal Affairs, alongside Archives New Zealand.
- 2009** The National Library starts a redevelopment of its Wellington building, to ensure the safety of the collections and create storage space National Library's building redevelopment
- 2003** The National Library of New Zealand (Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa) Act is passed. More about the National Library Act
- 2001** The publication of Te Kaupapa Mahi Tahi – A Plan for Partnership affirms the Library's commitment to Māori clients.
- 1992** Ian Grant establishes the New Zealand Cartoon Archive in the Turnbull Library.
- 1991** The Oral History Centre is created within the Alexander Turnbull Library when the New Zealand Oral History Archive (which had been an independent organisation since 1987) is disestablished.
- 1990** The National Film Library becomes part of the National Library.
- 1988** The National Library becomes an autonomous government department, no longer administered by the Department of Education. The Library is the Mātauranga o Aotearoa – the wellspring of knowledge.
- 1987** Library staff and collections are moved from 14 sites around Wellington to the new National Library building on Molesworth Street. The move is completed in August.
- 1985** The General Assembly Library separates from the National Library. It is now known as the Parliamentary Library.
- 1980** The Archive of New Zealand Music is established at the suggestion of Douglas Lilburn.
- 1974** Construction begins on the new National Library building, but is suspended between 1976 and 1981.
- 1965** The National Library Act (1965) brings together the General Assembly Library, the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Library Service of New Zealand.
- 1945** The Country Library Service and the School Library Service are amalgamated to form the National Library Service.
- 1942** The School Library Service is established.
- 1938** The Country Library Service is formed, the first step towards creating a national library.
- 1934** The Munn-Barr report recommends a national library service.
- 1920** The Alexander Turnbull Library, based on the collections bequeathed to the Crown by Alexander Horsburgh Turnbull in 1918, is opened.
- 1858** General Assembly Library is formed to serve Members of Parliament.

[Email this page](#) [Print this page](#)

[About this site](#) | [Contact details](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Terms of use](#) | [Internal Affairs](#)

[newzealand.govt.nz](http://newzealand.govt.nz)

Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa  
**NATIONAL LIBRARY**  
OF NEW ZEALAND

3rd