

News from NZ

October 5 was a good day for the New Zealand branch. After a full-day training course in Wellington, the branch's annual general meeting was held and attended by 12 members, both old and new.

This was the best attendance at an AGM since the branch was founded in 2004. Most were from the Wellington area, but one came from north of Auckland. One determined member made it on crutches.

Both the course and AGM were held at the historic Turnbull House. This was the birthplace of New Zealand's national library, and we gathered in one of the large rooms where Alexander Turnbull's collection of books, documents and paintings was housed until 1973. In the election of officers, Tordis Flath became vice-president and Julie Daymond-King secretary. Pam Strike joined the committee. Robin Briggs, Jill Gallop and Susan Brookes were re-elected as president, treasurer and mentoring co-ordinator respectively.

We discussed the freelancers' register, which is about to go to publishers, and the prospect of hosting an ANZSI conference, perhaps in 2013.

We also discussed a proposal for us to hold an indexing workshop or presentation at the annual conference of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand next year, and set up a sub-committee to explore this and present a framework.

The provisional minutes of the AGM and the president's report may be read on the ANZSI website.

The advanced book indexing course was organised and conducted by Tordis Flath, assisted by Robin Briggs, and was attended by seven indexers who had taken other training courses and/or had experience in the field. They shared their knowledge and we believe all left with fresh ideas and understanding as well as a stack of comprehensive course notes.



Tordis Flat and Nelly Bess at the New Zealand branch AGM in Wellington