



# panorama

# 2013/1

Dear Members,

Welcome to our first issue of Panorama in 2013 and apologies for the long time it took to get the issue out. It should have been published after the ICA Congress in Brisbane was held, but unfortunately many events colluded and it was not possible to get the issue out before now. We are already preparing for PARBICA 15 to be held in Honiara, Solomon Islands, but the focus of this issue is still on the ICA Congress to allow all to catch up with last year's happenings.

## Setareki Tale Awarded Fellow of ICA



Photo: Event Photography, August 2012

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## Message from the President

Talofa, Bula, Tena Koutou Katoa and warm greetings to you all,

The International Congress was held in Brisbane from the 20 – 24 August 2012 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. It was so exciting to see many familiar faces from around the Pacific Region and PARBICA family. Those of us who were able to be there enjoyed a rich program of presentations where archives professions from around the world were able to share their expertise and experience with other colleagues from around the globe in more than 100 sessions which were organized around the theme for this year which was sustainability, trust and identity in archives. I believe everyone who attended was able to go back to their own country and workplace with better understanding and maybe a solution to some of the many problems that we encounter during our daily work.

The PARBICA Bureau and members present at the Congress were able to meet and discuss our Business Plan.

On Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of August the Annual General Assembly was held in the Great Hall; delegates overwhelmingly approved the new constitution of the ICA. The 'Principles of Access to Archives' was unanimously adopted in principle; the venue for the Annual Conference for 2014 was confirmed for Girona, Spain and the theme for the 2014 conference will be Archives, Culture and Creative Industries. The location for 2013 Annual Conference was yet to be confirmed.

The final note of this Annual Conference was to honour four new Fellows to ICA, Mr. Lewis Bellardo, Mr. George MacKenzie, Mrs. Colleen McEwen and Mr. Setareki Tale. On behalf of PARBICA I would like to congratulate Seta for a well deserved award. We are all proud of your achievement.

On the following week I was able to visit the National Archives of Australia in Canberra through an invitation from David Fricker, Director-General. Those of us who were able to visit Canberra were fortunate to tour the National Archives, experience and learn from them. For myself, a lot has been learned from this visit and also the discussions which we have had with other colleagues from National Archives from New Zealand, Scotland, Singapore, Japan and China. I am grateful to the National Archivist of Australia and staff in Canberra for inviting and sharing your extensive knowledge with us. I very much enjoyed our discussion and look forward to working with you in the future.

I would like to congratulate members of PARBICA for all the hard work and achievement we were able to achieve in 2012. I know we had met obstacles and challenges during our everyday work but I am sure we were able to learn from them. A big Faamalo and Faafetai to our hard working Bureau for all that we manage to achieve throughout the year, I understand we have so much work to do before our PARBICA 15 in Solomon.

Soifua ma ia Manuia

Amela Silipa

Dear PARBICA members,

The ICA 2012 Congress is all wrapped up. One thousand international archivists converged on the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in August to meet, talk, listen and enjoy themselves.

Since I started with the National Archives of Australia in January 2012 the Congress has been one of my priorities and I'm thrilled to have been involved in such a successful event. I hope that all delegates of the 2012 International Council on Archives Congress, particularly those of you from the Pacific Region, have returned home from Brisbane with fresh ideas and a renewed enthusiasm for our profession.

You may be interested in seeing many of the full papers <http://www.ica2012.com/program/full-papers.php> and the social media streams <http://www.ica2012.com/pages/social-media.php> .

I look forward to learning more about all the exciting developments underway in our Branch of the ICA and trust the 2013 PARBICA conference in the Solomon Islands will provide a stimulating opportunity for personal and professional development.

Stay safe and happy,

David



*David Fricker, Photo courtesy NAA*

## **Personal Reflection on Brisbane 2012**

*By Opeta Alefaio, National Archives of Fiji*

Congratulations to the National Archives of Australia and everyone who was involved in putting the Brisbane Congress together. It was a resounding success, and on a personal level it really has rejuvenated and re-focused me on why we do what we do.

This year has been quite tumultuous for the National Archives of Fiji (NAF), and in the grind to deal with various matters I came to view the Congress as just another item that needed to be checked off my "to do" list. But the Brisbane Congress gave me so much more than I had expected. It was an excellent opportunity to meet old friends and new, and expose oneself to cutting edge thinking on various means of addressing fresh and long standing challenges. It also threw up an array of possible futures for archives and had participants examining some complex questions about the role of archives and whether or not fundamental assumptions are still relevant in today's environment.

All quite heady stuff, but also very engaging because I think these issues have been on our minds for a while now, and the Congress provided the forum to be able to participate in vigorous and informed discussions that would not have been possible for us in our different and often isolated parts of the Pacific.

The planning of the Congress was very well done. I was especially grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Disaster Preparedness Pre-Congress workshop. This was a very practical workshop that offered excellent information from individuals and institutions that were able to draw on real life learning's around this issue. This was a good way of preparing us for the Congress proper, and I wish to express my gratitude to those who planned this approach.

The official Congress was a tour de force. The key note speakers at the beginning of each day delivered hard hitting and insightful presentations that drew a line under the core ideas for archives and archivists while also posing questions about whether we are adequately fulfilling them. This engendered much discussion and soul searching and really set the tone for the rest of the day's proceedings.

Another strong element of the Congress was the Young Professionals Programme; which used feedback from young professionals who had attended the different sessions and highlighted the strongest themes from the presentations and discussions. This was an excellent way of rounding up the days programme.

Session presentations were also very strong, providing much food for thought. Personally, one thing the Congress did was emphasise some core principles that will guide our efforts to improve recordkeeping in Fiji: 1. the need to take a systems approach, and 2. the power of collaboration. The Congress really demonstrated for me that there are many opportunities and initiatives that can help address weaknesses or help capitalise on strengths but for any of these to be sustainable Pacific Island archivists need to be trying to establish and maintain systems. While we have some very basic and fundamental areas that need to be addressed, it strikes me that we also need to be thinking on a larger scale. We need to be thinking about establishing recordkeeping frameworks, and that these can be a good way of getting on the agenda of government. This also means being able to make submissions for increased staffing which would in turn require proper scoping works and the preparation of large scale planning. These are the types of things that might enable Pacific Island archivists to gain more traction.

Relationships and collaboration have always been central to PARBICA's operations, and this mode of operation is the best means for Pacific recordkeepers to build recordkeeping. This was again evident at the Congress, and we will continue to use this approach at the local, regional, and international level. After all it was only through partnerships that we "the smaller" members of PARBICA have been able to attend the Congress. Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to thank AusAID, NZAID, and the ICA for enabling our attendance and full participation in the Brisbane Congress. It certainly was not a cheap exercise, and I am sure we are all looking at ways to put what we have learnt at the Congress to the best possible use locally.

Yet another highlight of the Congress was the award of Fellow of ICA to Setareki Tale in recognition of his services to the international recordkeeping community. Seta has been championing the plight of small and developing archives for well over a decade, and it was very pleasing to see one of our own receiving this recognition. He was in very good company joining Lewis Bellardo (USA), Colleen McEwen (Australia), and George MacKenzie (Scotland) as the four new Fellows of the ICA.

I will end my reflection on the Congress by coming back to again thank all those who contributed to making the Brisbane Congress happen. It is a matter of some pride, that Australia, a PARBICA member, was able to secure and host the congress in such a professional and passionate way. You have done us all very proud, and you have certainly put down a marker for Seoul 2014.

Vinaka Vakalevu



*Opeta (far right) at the PARBICA Delegates Dinner, Brisbane August 2012  
Photo: Janeen Kirkham, courtesy NAA*



## ICA Congress Brisbane 2012

*By Julian Chonigolo, National Archives of the Solomon Islands*

The ICA congress in Brisbane in 2012 was my second to the last ICA Congress in Kuala Lumpur in 2008. At the first congress I had learnt about the different aspects of Archiving which enabled me to settle down in my position as Archivist for NASI. However, during the 2012 Congress I focused my attention on digitization of records. I came to analyse and pick out the challenges of digital archiving to my country's context. I concluded that for a small developing country like my own, technical expertise on digital archiving and finance are two important factors to consider in order to keeping up with changes in technology. However digital archiving is very efficient for accessibility and as a method of preservation.

The sessions on WikiLeaks also captured my attention. This gives me a new understanding on the profession that archiving is not merely looking after old records but also in current activities as politics of today and even in highly secret documents.

Finally, I had made use of my tea and lunch breaks meeting archivists from far away countries. I marvelled at getting to know them and discussing how they do archiving in their own countries. It is also helpful because we create links and networks to share. This gives me a broader view of archiving and how it is done in other countries.

To conclude, on behalf of the Government and people of Solomon Islands I would like to thank the National Archives of Australia, AusAID, ICA, and the PARBICA Bureau for making it possible for me and Bernard to attend the ICA congress 2012. Your funding and assistance are done for a good cause which will benefit the National Archives of Solomon Islands and its people for years to come.



*Julian is busy networking during a break at the Congress. Photo courtesy Julian Chonigolo*

## **PARBICA Secretariat Update**

*By Anna Gulbrandsen, Secretary General*

Kia ora, warm Pacific greetings PARBICA colleagues, I hope this issue of Panorama finds you and your archives well.

There is a lot happening in PARBICA and I'd like to try and capture some of this activity in this update.

### **Thank you**

I'd like to start with a thank you. Last year I took several months off to explore some of the world. While I was away Anna Henry filled the role of Secretary General and kept things running smoothly, thank you Anna for stepping up to role and doing such a wonderful job. Anna has now left Archives New Zealand to take up an exciting role at the Tate in London. I and the rest of the PARBICA membership wish you all the very best Anna.

Thank you also to the other members of the Bureau and the wider PARBICA membership who filled in for me during my absence.

### **Welcome**

The PARBICA Secretariat role continues to be well supported at Archives New Zealand. Talei Masters has recently joined me as an assistant to the Secretary General.



As well as recently joining the PARBICA family Talei has recently arrived in New Zealand from the United Kingdom. Talei brings with her 10 years of practical experience as a qualified archivist and records manager. She has worked in a variety of different records and archives organisations ranging from a small private organisation to local government archives, a local government records centre and a national archive.

Talei is working for Archives New Zealand in our Digital Continuity team as a Senior Archivist. The Digital Continuity team is involved in the programme to build a digital archive for the New Zealand government.

Talei also has a strong connection to the Pacific with her father being of Fijian descent. I am very pleased to have Talei on the team supporting the PARBICA Secretariat.

### **Congress**

The 2012 International Congress on Archives, hosted by the National Archives of Australia, was held in Brisbane from 20-24th August this year and has been deemed a resounding success.

As well as the eminent keynote speakers, the program featured over 200 additional speakers from all aspects of the archives and information management professions. Attended by over 1,000 delegates from nearly 100 countries, participants were emerged in a highly organised and insightful array of presentations, workshops, business meetings and social events. Aimed at creating discourse and collaboration for archival professionals in the 21st century, the Professional Program explored many of the changes and challenges facing archivists today; the flood of contemporary information, varying formats and technological development and increased demands for access to information.

PARBICA was well represented throughout the Congress. A number of Category A members were successful in obtaining limited funding support to attend the Congress by the generous support of the National Archives of Australia, NZ Aid and the International Council on Archives. Helen Walker, Mark Crookston (standing in for me – I was unable to attend due to ill health) and Opeta Alefaio delivered a well-attended presentation on the PARBICA toolkit and were joined by Marc Trille, Christine Martinez and the Minister of the Public Service in Burkina Faso, Mr Soungalo Ouattara, who gave a compelling presentation on how the adaptation and translation of the Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit for French-speaking countries has found deep-interest and implementation in a number of countries in Africa and now also in Haiti in the Caribbean.

A PARBICA business meeting was held on Tuesday 21 August which presented a chance for current and past members and supporters of PARBICA to meet and discuss our present position and aims, especially in reviewing the PARBICA business plan for the coming years.

A number of our members including the PARBICA President Amela Silipa were interviewed during the Congress by Flying Reporter Salote Vuki from the Office of the Public Service Commission, Kingdom of Tonga. The interviews, and another with the Director-General of the National Archives of Australia, can be viewed on the PARBICA website <http://www.parbica.org/news.htm>

I hope that all delegates fortunate enough to attend the 2012 International Council on Archives Congress have returned home with fresh ideas and a renewed enthusiasm.

Congratulations to Helen Walker, Fleur Jamet and the team at the National Archives of Australia for putting on such a successful congress and showing off our region to the rest of the worlds' archival community.

Thank you also to Fleur Jamet, Helen Walker and the team at the National Archives of Australia for all the work put into managing travel arrangements and funding for PARBICA delegates. Arranging travel and funding across the Pacific is no small task and the PARBICA community are grateful for your continued support of this work.

### **Business Planning**

Following PARBICA 14 and the Congress in Brisbane the Bureau continues to refine the business plan. There are many challenges around what to focus on and how to resource this work. We are currently grappling with the question of what to do next? How do we capitalise on the great work of the Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit and continue to build on this momentum for the benefit of the PARBICA region.

If you'd like to be involved leading or contributing to any PARBICA work activities please contact Amela Silipa, Dianne Macaskill or myself to discuss in more detail.

### **PARBICA 15**

The Bureau is very busy with planning for PARBICA 15 - Leading Archives into the Digital Age: Personal, Professional, Institutional.

Pacific archives need strong leaders. Positive and decisive leadership is very important for Pacific archives in today's environment. The rampant rise of technology coupled with growing expectations that all information should be available at the push of a button has changed the way work is done and drastically increased the stakes for archives. In this setting archivists cannot afford to be passive, we must up-skill and be ready to respond. PARBICA 15 seeks to explore what leadership means at a personal, professional and institutional level.

We will be making information about funding opportunities available shortly. I would encourage anyone interested in attending the conference to explore all possible in-country funding options as funding opportunities are likely to be limited given the current economic climate. The Bureau is working very hard to maximise participation in the conference and we urge you to explore all funding opportunities that may be available to you.

You can keep up to date with the conference on the PARBICA website

<http://www.parbica.org/conf15.htm>

For information or if you're interested in being involved in PARBICA 15, please contact:

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- Julian Chonigolo, Government Archivist, National Archives of the Solomon Islands and Conference Host Phone: +677 21397  
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### Tell us what you're up to

I love hearing updates on what is happening across the region. If you have any things you want to share with the PARBICA membership – new projects, challenges, questions, successes etc... please share them with us. You can share your stories in a variety of ways:

- Via the PARBICA listserv <http://www.parbica.org/PARBICA%20Listserv.htm>
- Contact the team at the National Archives of Australia to have news added to the website [PARBICA.Treasurer@naa.gov.au](mailto:PARBICA.Treasurer@naa.gov.au)
- Submitting articles or content for Panorama by contacting Karin Brennan [k.brennan@unsw.edu.au](mailto:k.brennan@unsw.edu.au)
- Sending things directly to me [anna.gulbransen@dia.govt.nz](mailto:anna.gulbransen@dia.govt.nz)

The more we share with each other the more we can work together.



*Take care and see you in Honiara*

*Anna*

### **FE Williams Collection Inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia/ Pacific Regional Register**

The FE Williams' collection is a record of first contact with Papua New Guinea, a world hardly known to the outside world at the time. It reveals the customs, behaviours and lifestyles of their Papuan subjects, and it is also of great significance for the depiction of Australia's administering role in Papua in the 1920s and 1930s. The breadth and duration of Williams's work make his photographs unique in their coverage of the inhabitants of Papua New Guinea.

The collection of almost 2000 glass plate photographs and negatives was taken during Williams's time as government anthropologist in the Australian Territory of Papua from 1922 until his death in 1943. Most are held by the National Archives of Australia and the National Archives of Papua New Guinea, with some in the South Australian Museum – all of whom are jointly awarded the place on the Register.

*[Source: Register Subcommittee Report, 5th MOWCAP General Meeting, 14-16 May 2012, Bangkok, Thailand and NAA Media Release, 8 June 2012]*

## **Archives Records Manager to NZ for Appraisal Training**

*By Naomi Ngirakamerang, Director, Bureau of Palau National Archives*

The Bureau of Palau National Archives, Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs would like to take this opportunity and express its deepest appreciation to the funding of New Zealand Aid for their participation in the one week International Council on Archives ICA Congress Sessions at Brisbane Australia on August 20-24, 2012.

The Bureau of Palau National Archives in October 2011 received funding from ICA FIDA program, Funding for International Development on Archives, in the amount of EUROS 5000 to their February 2011 proposal. The funding is for the Archives Records Manager to attend a three weeks appraisal training with Archives New Zealand from September 20-October 15, 2012.

The Bureau of Palau National Archives also received in June 2011 funding from the Palau/Australia Small Grant Scheme, the Palauan Language Summer program activities in the amount of \$USD10,700.00 and the Survey analysis of records project in the amount of USD\$12,557.26.

The Archives requests for 2012 supplemental budget was denied and we are appealing to the public and private entities in assisting the transfer of our shipping container located at Koror State ground area at Malakal and the old President office at Meyuns ground area to our office at Yelch, Ked, Airai State.

Once these shipping containers are transferred to Archives ground area, the AusAID funding will be utilized to upgrade the shipping containers into workable conditions. The Archives need to initiate the AusAID funding of \$12,557.26 to start implementing its Survey Analysis of Records Project. Once the survey analysis of all the Republic of Palau government records has been assessed and surveyed, the Archives will be able to establish a Recordkeeping program for all the government agencies.



Naomi Ngirakamerang  
Director, Bureau of Palau National Archives  
ICA Congress August 20-24, 2012



Brian Lakobong  
Records Manager, Bureau of Palau National Archives  
Archives New Zealand Sep 20-Oct 15 2012

[Photos: courtesy Bureau of Palau National Archives]



## **GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY Vanuatu National Library & National Archives Building**

**International Day of the World's Indigenous People  
9 August 2012**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vanuatu's Independence, 30 July 2010, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce, Governor General of Australia, commemorated the occasion with a most generous gift from Australia: \$3 000 000 for the construction of a National Library and National Archives building. In her speech on this occasion the Governor-General observed: "Australia is a proud and willing Pacific partner and friend to Vanuatu. Thousands of Australians travel here every year and fall in love with your land and people. Australians want to see your story nurtured and safeguarded and your future shine."



*Photo courtesy Anne Naupa, National Archives Vanuatu*

On 9 August 2012, after two years of careful preparation the ground breaking ceremony took place. Traditional dancers from the island of Tongoa led the four "ground breakers", (the Acting Australian High Commissioner to Vanuatu, the Director General, Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Chairman of the Vanuatu National Cultural Council and a representative of the Chiefs) in a very joyful and memorable ceremony.

The official opening of the new building is expected to take place in July/August 2013.



*Photo courtesy Anne Naupa, National Archives Vanuatu*

## Delegates at the ICA Congress in Brisbane, August 2012



*Plenary, photo by Event Photography*



*Organising Committee, photo by Helen Walker - NAA*



*PARBICA Dinner, photo Janeen Kirkham-NAA*



## Delegates at the ICA Congress in Brisbane, August 2012

*Photographs courtesy Amela Silipa, Julian Chonigolo and Karin Brennan*







## PARBICA 15

### **Leading Archives into the Digital Age: Personal, Professional, Institutional**

Fifteenth Conference of the Pacific Regional Branch of the  
International Council on Archives  
12-16 August 2013, Solomon Islands

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### **Invitation**

On behalf of the PARBICA Bureau and the Government of the Solomon Islands, we extend a warm welcome to you to participate in PARBICA's Fifteenth Biennial Conference from 12 to 16 August 2013 in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

PARBICA 15 provides an opportunity for the archivists and records managers of the Pacific Islands region, Australia and New Zealand to renew professional contacts and share experiences with others who often work in isolation. We look forward to welcoming you in Honiara.

Ms Amela Silipa  
President, PARBICA

### **Conference Theme**

Pacific archives need strong leaders.

Positive and decisive leadership is very important for Pacific archives in today's environment. The rampant rise of technology coupled with growing expectations that all information should be available at the push of a button has changed the way work is done and drastically increased the stakes for archives. In this setting archivists cannot afford to be passive, we must up-skill and be ready to respond.

Our institutions are the trustees of memory; we must play a lead role in moving into the digital age and help find solutions for the challenges we face. If we don't, we may end up relegated to the sidelines and our services may become compromised.

PARBICA as the professional archival body in the region has made significant head way in building a network and developing tools and resources for use across the Pacific. We must ensure that we capitalise on this work and make plans to continue moving the branch and the profession forward.

Positive and clear leadership can leverage challenges into opportunities for archives and our governments. Being proactive about the issues we face will give us a greater opportunity to influence strategic planning, raise the status of our archives and the archival profession, and allow us more input into decision making that directly affects archives and the well being of our nations.

We invite you to come and be part of the discussion at PARBICA 15. Together we will discuss ideas and share experiences as we explore the best way to lead archives in the Digital Age



## Programme Overview

The programme will be structured with a mixture of conference sessions and practical training workshops. The workshops will cover topics including; *implementing an in-country training program, leadership skills, digitisation, ICA AtoM, the Universal Declaration on Archives, Memory of the World, and an Introduction to the PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit.*

There will be many opportunities for participants to network, discuss relevant issues and share ideas for common solutions. All participants will be expected to engage actively in the conference, to speak and to contribute.

Delegates will also have opportunities to take part in a special cultural visit and set of activities.

## Conference Objectives

PARBICA has held fourteen successful conferences since its foundation in 1981. Knowledge gained at the conferences is taken back to the islands of the region by participants to inform their work and to provide in-country training for other archives and records staff. PARBICA 15 is an opportunity for:

- Training, professional development and identification of concrete implementation plans in areas identified as most necessary by PARBICA's members
- Strategic planning for the next two years of PARBICA's work to improve the conditions of archives and recordkeeping in the Pacific
- Presentation of results and discussion of next stages for PARBICA's current projects
- Reports on the range of activities being undertaken by Pacific Archives
- Networking and meeting colleagues working in the same field across the Pacific

## More Information

For information or if you're interested in being involved in PARBICA 15, please visit contact:

- Anna Gulbransen, PARBICA Secretary General  
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## Report On Workshop: Recordkeeping For Good Governance Toolkit Held In Accra, Ghana

By Anna Gulbransen, PARBICA Secretary General & Senior Advisor, Archives New Zealand

In May this year, Mark Crookston (former Secretary-General) and I were fortunate enough to be asked to facilitate a training session on the PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit in Accra, Ghana.

The training workshop was funded by the International Council on Archives, through FIDA (Fund for the International Development of Archives) funding after a request from staff at the Public Records and Archives Administration in Ghana. Christine Martinez Deputy Secretary-General for the International Council on Archives joined us on the training workshop as she is leading the work to translate the toolkit into French.



Ghana Conference participants, photo courtesy Anna Gulbransen

The training was attended by representatives from five West African countries, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cameroon and The Gambia. Mrs. Bridget Katsriku, Chairman of the Public Services Commission in Ghana provided the opening address.

*‘Effective records management, facilitate the achievement of transparency and accountability in public administration ...*

*Research findings clearly show that many developing countries such as ours have severe record management challenges. As a result, effectiveness in public administration is directly undermined in a number of ways: the administration of justice is greatly compromised and government revenue cannot be fully collected because the records on which their calculations must be based are not comprehensive enough, or were never created at all.*

*Ladies and Gentlemen, in an environment in which records are poorly kept accountability is practically impossible, leading to poor governance. We, in the public service, on daily basis make decisions that relate to the provision of services. Rationale decision-making depends on credible and reliable records. Where records are disorganized, missing or lost, we are likely to make poor decisions, and sometimes delayed decisions. Our citizens are denied the benefit of quality decisions and therefore quality services. When citizens cannot get prompt services from public offices because the relevant records are missing or lost, or when the records in question have been intentionally hidden by some public servants, the citizens will be tempted to bribe so that somebody will “search” for them. Improper records management therefore, promotes corruption and I am sure we are all aware of it and it can easily be said that well-kept records are the greatest enemy to corruption.*

Mrs. Katsriku's speech clearly articulated the many problems associated with poor records management and delivered the participants with a very clear direction to work to improve the state of recordkeeping in West Africa

Mark and I had been tasked with providing West African archivists with an overview of what the toolkit contains and facilitating discussion about how the toolkit might work in a West African context.

During the four day workshop, Mark and I walked through the toolkit products looking at what the products cover and how they could be applied in the African context. We spent quite a bit of time looking at the [Model Recordkeeping Policy](#) and the [Appraisal Guidance](#) as these were key areas of concern for the West African archivists. We had a fantastic session on the model policy with the participants having heated discussions about how the policy may need to be modified to work in their context. None of the countries in attendance had a formal government wide policy in place but all agreed that the model policy in the toolkit provided a great platform to build on. I am hopeful that we will see traction in this area in the near future.

Dealing with the paper back log seems to be a universal challenge. We ran a session similar to one run during the development of the toolkit asking the participants to list the reasons you would keep something forever and the reasons why you would get rid of something. The participants gave some fantastic answers as well as some hotly debated answers, including that some people will destroy records to get themselves out of trouble! It was a great debate to have and participants all agreed that guideline 10 would be very helpful for providing a robust framework for undertaking appraisal.

In fact, the Ghanaian Public Records and Archives Administration are already using the criteria for permanent retention or disposal (in guideline 10) in the government semi-current records store. The Ghanaian semi-current records store is the largest in sub-Saharan Africa; it was great to see the toolkit products in action on such a big scale.



*Workshop participants hard at work, photo courtesy Anna Gulbransen*

The final afternoon of the workshop included a session on strategies for implementing the learning from the workshop. As a result, participants agreed the following actions.

### **National Recordkeeping Policies**

- The members of the workshop agree to work to develop and implement national recordkeeping policies for their countries.
- The toolkit model recordkeeping policy provides a good model that we will adapt to make work for our needs

### **Developing a network in West Africa**

- The members of the workshop agree to work collaboratively, using WARBICA, with their regional colleagues to develop regional solutions to regional issues for example legislative issues, and developing digital recordkeeping capacities

### **Working with Strategic Partners**

- The members of the workshop agree to work with their strategic partners, including Auditors General, Attorney Generals, Ombudsmen, IT Professionals, Public Service leaders, ICA and other stakeholders to support the aims of recordkeeping for good governance

### **The PARBICA toolkit**

- The members of the workshop recognise that the PARBICA toolkit provides a good model for Recordkeeping for Good Governance in West Africa
- The members of the workshop agree to use the relevant guidelines of the PARBICA toolkit, adopting and adapting the guidelines to make them relevant to their country or situation

On the final day of the workshop international delegates visited to Ministries and the offices of PRAAD to observe recordkeeping practices in a Ghanaian context. The visits were very rewarding and highlighted that recordkeeping challenges are the same the world over.

The toolkit began in the Pacific as a regional solution to regional issues – but the increasing international attention being paid to the toolkit is highlighting that despite slight regional differences, the core issues are the same across many regions and the toolkit provides a great base to build on. I think the toolkit was a great achievement for PARBICA and everyone involved should feel proud of their accomplishments.



*Anna and Mark at PRAAD, photo courtesy Anna Gulbransen*



**PRINCE CLAUS FUND:** Through its Cultural Emergency Response (CER) programme, the Prince Claus Fund provides first aid to cultural heritage damaged by man-made or natural disaster. CER supports quick actions to rescue cultural heritage, aims to prevent further damage and carries out basic repairs. CER implements its cultural emergency relief actions in direct cooperation with local partners in the affected communities. For more information

see <http://www.princeclausfund.org/en/programmes/cultural-emergency-response>

The **National Archives in the UK** has [released online](#) early photographs and drawings of Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and other Pacific Islands. The photographs have been uploaded to the photo-sharing website Flickr so that you can [tag and contribute comments and suggestions](#) to help improve the descriptions.

The **Queensland State Archives** has published the *Queensland Government Digital Continuity Strategy* on its website. It sets out strategic activities and principles to guide a consistent approach to ensuring the continued accessibility of digital records throughout their lifecycle, in the context of ongoing technology obsolescence. A copy of the strategy can be accessed from <http://www.archives.qld.gov.au/Recordkeeping/DigitalContinuity/Pages/Default.aspx>

Special Collections at the **University of Auckland Library** has published a new guide to the *Western Pacific Archives*. The Western Pacific Archives (WPA) contains the records of the British colonial administration in the Western Pacific from 1877-1978. Spanning more than 760 linear metres, the WPA was transferred to Special Collections at The University of Auckland Library in 2002. (Library reference: Great Britain. High Commission for Western Pacific islands. Western Pacific archives. MSS & Archives 2003/1. Special Collections, The University of Auckland Library.) Access the Guide from the new WPA webpage <http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/about-us/collections/special-collections/general-library/western-pacific-archives> for further information  
contact: [specialcollections@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:specialcollections@auckland.ac.nz)

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**A PCOM Digital Recordkeeping Programme resource:** all about the relationship between ICA-Req (ISO 16175) and other ISO TC46/SC11 related products. Read the article by Adrian

Cunningham: <http://www.ica.org/12989/articles-papers-reports-and-proceedings/relationship-between-the-iso-16175-series-of-standards-and-other-products-of-isotc46sc11-archivesrecords-management.html>

Une nouvelle production du programme Archivage électronique et outils numériques de PCOM: tout ce que vous avez toujours voulu savoir sur les relations entre ICA-Req (ISO 16175) et les produits connexes d'ISO TC46/SC11. Découvrez l'article d'Adrian Cunningham: <http://www.ica.org/12990/articles-rapports-notes-et-actes/relations-entre-la-srie-de-normes-iso-16175-et-les-autres-produits-disotc46sc11-gestion-des-archives-et-de-larchivage.html>

**Elizabeth Wood-Ellem (1930-2012)** passed away in 8 September 2012. Wood-Ellem was a leading scholar of the history of Tonga. In 2008, King George Tupou V recognised her contribution to the field by bestowing on her the title of Commander of the Order of the Crown of Tonga. <http://www.smh.com.au/national/obituaries/historians-turf-was-tongan-royalty-20121018-27trf.html>



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