From the Editor

Kia ora koutou,

Since the move to Recollect, you may note that the links don't work within it. You are able to use the links if you download a copy.

We've been lucky enough to get three really interesting submissions this month—enjoy!

Kia pai tō koutou rā,
Hazel Loughrey,
Catapult editor

Inside this issue

LIANZA CatSIG Committee

Convenor: Joanne Rowan (University of Auckland Library)
ORDAC: Bridget Jennings (Wellington City Libraries)
Committee: Anoushka McGuire (National Library of New Zealand), Madelene Turnbull (Otago University)

Contact the Committee: catsigcommittee@gmail.com

Info

Catapult is published three times a year in April, August and December).

Previous issues are available on LIANZA's Recollect.

CatSIG news

Joanne Rowan

LIANZA CatSIG - Cataloguing Update and Discussion Forum

When: Tuesday May 20, 10.00 AM—11.00 AM

It has been a while since cataloguers have had a chance to get together to kōrero about cataloguing issues, and a lot has been going on! This is an opportunity to come together virtually to discuss what's happening in the cataloguing world, including the progress of Official RDA.

As a starting point, these are some discussion questions we want to discuss:

Cataloguing in general

- Are you a sole cataloguer, or are you in a team?

- How much cataloguing is a part of your role?

- How much original / copy / [other] cataloguing do you do?

- What has changed over the last few years with respect to cataloguing in your institution?

- What challenges are at the forefront of your mind and your colleagues ' minds?

- Do you feel you have enough cataloguing support in your role?

Official RDA

- Have you had a chance to engage with official RDA, e.g. in training, reading, or watching webinars?

CatSIG news

Joanne Rowan

Cont.

- What changes have you seen coming through in catalogue records (e.g. NLNZ official RDA implementation)?
    - How have these changes affected what you do?
    - What approach have you taken to decide how to respond to the changes?
    - Have you started original cataloguing using Official RDA?

Communication

- How much communication do you have with cataloguers outside of your institution?
- Would it be helpful to have more communication?
- What ways?

If you can't make it but want to send some feedback, contact catsigcommittee@gmail.com.

Register here: LIANZA CAT SIG – Cataloguing Update and Discussion Forum

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Oceania RDA Committee (ORDAC) update

Bridget Jennings, Wellington City Libraries

What is ORDAC?

If acronyms are not your friend, here is a brief summary! The Oceania RDA Committee (ORDAC) is responsible for representing the Oceania Region on the RDA Steering Committee (RSC) which in turn is responsible for maintaining the Resource Description and Access (RDA) content standard.

ORDAC currently consists of members based in New Zealand and Australia, but we are looking at developing cataloguing relationships with libraries in other countries in our region.

New Zealand currently has three ORDAC members: Charlotte Christiansen, the National Library of New Zealand representative and the Oceania Representative on the RSC, and Ebe Kartus of the National Library of New Zealand and myself, Bridget, as CatSIG representative.

New LIANZA CatSIG representative on ORDAC still needed!

A second CatSIG representative to join me, Ebe and Charlotte as New Zealand members of ORDAC would be greatly appreciated! You don't need to be an RDA expert who knows what soft-deprecate or Nomen string actually means to be a member of the committee; ORDAC and the RSC more broadly benefit from hearing the perspective of people who use the standard in their day-to-day work. This is an opportunity to contribute your perspective, and it is an excellent professional development opportunity.

If you would like to find out more about what is involved then feel free to get in touch with me directly: bridget.jennings@wcc.govt.nz, or contact the CatSIG committee (catsigcommittee@gmail.com) if you are interested in the role.

Oceania RDA Committee (ORDAC) update

Bridget Jennings, Wellington City Libraries

RDA Steering Committee meetings, presentations & documents

As I write this update the agenda for the April RDA Steering Committee (RSC) meeting is coming together, and Charlotte will represent Oceania at this meeting. Ebe will present on the National Library implementation of Official RDA at the public session of the meeting, and this presentation will also be recorded and posted on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel.

At the January meeting, there was a presentation on how the DACH (German speaking) region is implementing Official RDA. You can watch this on YouTube here.

At the April meeting the RSC will also be discussing the proposal presented by the North America RDA Committee regarding the internationalisation of the treatment of numerals associated with given names. The documentation for this discussion is on the RDA website here.

RDA, cataloguing and AI

The joint RDA Board and RSC Working Group on Artificial Intelligence recently published a White Paper: *Considering AI in the growth of RDA*. This is now available to read on the RSC website here, for those interested in the topic of AI and cataloguing.

Oceania RDA Committee (ORDAC) update

Bridget Jennings, Wellington City Libraries

Links and Contact Information

All RSC documents, including meeting minutes, papers and responses to papers can be viewed on the RDA Toolkit website here. Have a look at what is being discussed and let me know if you have any comments. Past webinars, events, forums and training sessions are available to view on the RDA Toolkit YouTube channel here.

If you have any other comments or feedback, please send them on! All comments are welcome – please send directly to: bridget.jennings@wcc.govt.nz.

* * *

Reparative Description Community of Practice

Bridget Jennings, Wellington City Libraries

The Reparative Description Community of Practice (RDCoP) is an informal group hosted by ACORD (The ALIA Community on Resource Description) in Australia.

The group was set up in response to the publication of *Guidelines for First Nations collection description* by Tui Raven (access online version here: Guidelines for First Nations collection description / Tui Raven - Catalogue | National Library of Australia). The group meets monthly on Teams to discuss reparative description practices and to share presentations on projects and developments.

On the recommendation of a contact in Australia I recently joined the CoP and attended the February meeting. It was great to join a community of people focused on remediating current practices to express metadata in a more thoughtful and inclusive way. I also found it fascinating hearing about work that Australian cataloguers are doing in highlighting First Nations content.

The community welcomes members from Aotearoa, so if this is an area of interest for you I would really recommend joining! Instructions on how to join are on the RDCoP page on the ALIA website. After a bit of messing around with Microsoft Teams channels you will be good to go!

* * *

Items in brief: important updates

OCLC research blog

- [Activating URIs in linky MARC: an OCLC RLP discussion summary](#)

- [Advancing IDEAs: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, 1 April 2025](#)

- [Navigating the future of special collections metadata by using insights from the past](#)

- [OCLC Research Library Partnership update](#)

- [Resource-sensitive collecting and Total Cost of Stewardship: Insights from the RLP Special Collections Leadership Roundtable - Hanging Together](#)

- [Linked data for metadata operations: An RLP Product Insights session summary](#)

- [Building connections with publishers to bridge the OA discovery gap](#)

- [Research rewind: reflections on hits from our back catalog](#)

- [ILL across borders: Insights from SHARES on sharing physical materials internationally](#)

- [Collective collections through collective wisdom](#)

Library of Congress

- [SCS Task Group on Privacy in Name Authority Records: Final Report Transmittal & Tracking Sheet](#)

- [PCC Task Group for Metadata Related to Indigenous Peoples of the Americas Final Report Transmittal & Tracking Sheet](#)

Others

- [Call for proposals for 2025 Practical Cataloguing Online Workshops (CILIP)](#)

- [OCLC Knowledge base data update 268, April 2025](#)

Māori Classification Trial at Wellington City Libraries

By Shane Caldwell,
Customer Service Librarian, Te Awe Library

At Wellington City Libraries we are looking at a new system for ordering Indigenous knowledge in the library. Our concept uses an atua-based structure, with the use of Ngā Upoko Tukutuku and He Pātaka Kupu as starting points for deciding where material is located.

The original concept/design was to use atua as broad class markers, as opposed to Dewey classes, and explore how the atua classes relate to one another, with Ranginui and Papatūānuku overlapping at the centre, and other atua in a circle surrounding them.

Choosing the Atua

We originally had 11 classes: a combined Ranginui and Papatūānuku in the centre, with 10 more flowing out from there. The initial atua chosen were those included in He Pātaka Kupu, the Māori language dictionary, where each word has a corresponding atua: Papatūānuku, Ranginui, Tānemahuta, Rongomātāne, Haumietiketike, Rūaumoko, Tāwhirimātea, Tangaroa, Tūmatauenga, and Whiro.

When thinking about a physical shelving arrangement, there were a number of options considered. We settled on a curved or horseshoe shape when viewed from above. It begins in the centre with the combined Ranginui and Papatūānuku class. It then branches out in each direction.

On the Papatūānuku side (branching out to the left when viewed front on), we go from her to Rūaumoko, then to Haumietiketike, then Tānemahuta, then Rongomātāne.

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On the Ranginui side, we go from him to Tāwhirimātea, to Whiro, to Tangaroa, to Tūmatauenga. There's a generative/oppositional element to the overall design, though not everything fits precisely.

Rūaumoko goes with Papatūānuku as he was still inside her belly during the separation. We then see the generative quality of the rest of the branch: Rūaumoko symbolising the fertile ashen soil, Haumietiketike the fresh shoots growing from that soil, and Tānemahuta as the fully developed growth. This branch also works with the Arawa tradition that has Haumietiketike and Rongomātāne being given shelter from Tāwhirimātea's fury within Papatūānuku.

Similarly, Tāwhirimātea goes with Ranginui as he disagreed with the separation and stayed with his father. This branch doesn't have the same generative flow, and places atua more in oppositional roles, for example Tūmatauenga being opposite Rongomātāne.

During an initial, behind closed doors trial, one question that was asked was where all the atua wāhine were? We thought that was a good question, and after some research settled on two extra classes bookending the collection: Hineteiwaiwa closing out Papatūānuku's branch, and Hinenuitepō closing out Ranginui's. One thing that this did was give the collection the feeling of going, from left to right, from birth to death.

Māori Classification Trial at Wellington City Libraries

By Shane Caldwell,
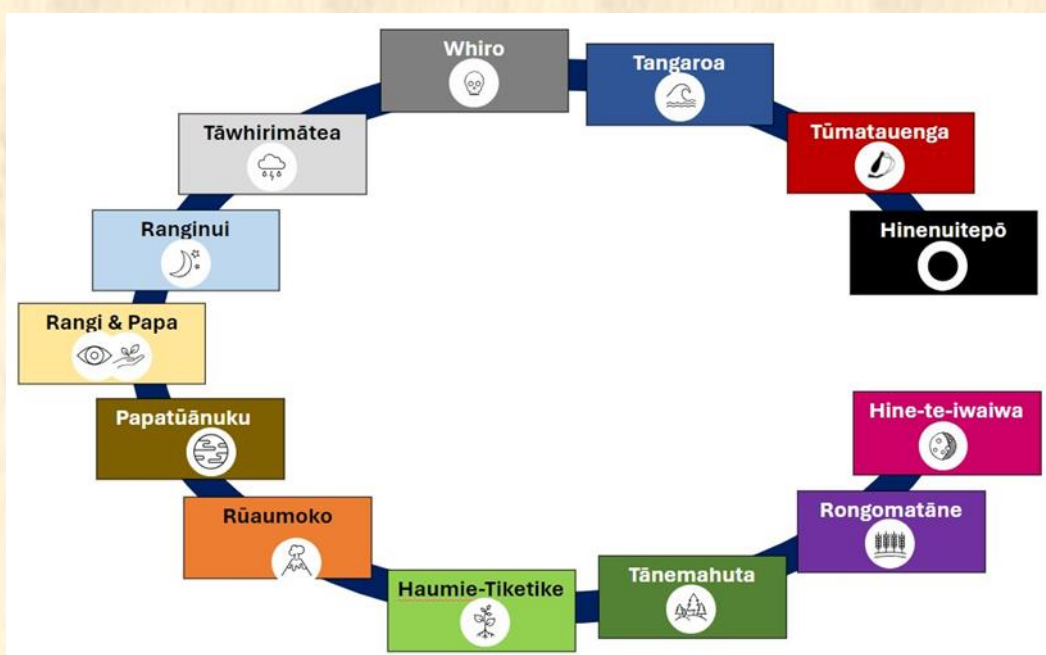Customer Service Librarian, Te Awe Library

Fig. 1: A diagram showing a bird's eye view of the atua structure.

Assigning Topics

As our original starting point in choosing the atua was He Pātaka Kupu, we began there by looking up the topic and seeing which atua the dictionary had assigned to that word.

There are obvious choices like books on the Land Wars being with Tūmatauenga (or seemingly obvious: do you focus on the land or the wars?), though Tūmatauenga also has anything created by man (as Tūmatauenga is the atua of tools), as well as anything created by non-Indigenous peoples. For example, although art in general is under Tangaroa, non-Māori art comes under Tūmatauenga.

Māori Classification Trial at Wellington City Libraries

By Shane Caldwell,
Customer Service Librarian, Te Awe Library

Similarly, imported religious customs (like Christianity, Islam, Buddhism) fall under Tūmatauenga, while books on ngā atua and Māori cosmology go with Ranginui. However, although astronomy comes under Ranginui, the moon is assigned to Hineteiwaiwa.

Tangaroa being the atua under which art is placed is a good example of our looking to the whakapapa of a topic to determine its place, which we did in conjunction with our reference to He Pātaka Kupu. In this instance we took the story of Ruatepupuke going to rescue his son, who had been turned into a tekoteko by Tangaroa, and thereby discovering the carved meeting house under the sea, as the origin of whakairo in our world.

However, if an area wanted to use this general system, but their whakapapa were different, it would make sense for them to use what fit their area. The system as a whole is loose enough that the same base principles can be applied in whatever way makes the most sense to those who are using it.

On the cataloguing side of things, we use Ngā Upoko Tukutuku for finalising where the individual items end up. Every Ngā Upoko Tukutuku top term has a corresponding atua, with the 23 current top terms being spread across 6 classes: Ranginui and Papatūānuku (3), Ranginui (2), Papatūānuku (2), Tānemahuta (6), Tangaroa (1), and Tūmatauenga (9).

Māori Classification Trial at Wellington City Libraries

By Shane Caldwell,
Customer Service Librarian, Te Awe Library

We also wanted to place things that "felt" to be related together. For example, books related to building/s are under Tānemahuta because they're traditionally made from wood.

There were still some topics that were tricky to place. Do you place hunting with food gathering or sport? Whaiwhai in our system is under Tūmatauenga, while in He Pātaka Kupu it corresponds to Tāwhirimātea. There is no exactly right place for most things. For example, even though Whiro is often connected with lizards, any books on lizards would go with Tānemahuta under land animals.

Labelling

We also needed a new spine label system to differentiate this collection from our general non-fiction, and to highlight our shift away from Dewey.

An example of why we'd want to move away from Dewey is to remove the Indigenous pigeonholing that happens in Dewey. For example, we find ourselves using the Dewey number 305.8994 a lot to classify. But by removing the need to recognise their "Māoriness" we ended up with these resources spread across the collection, in places that are hopefully more relevant to the content of the books. A sample selection of 28 books from 305.8994 ended up spread across 5 main, and 12 narrower, sections within our trial collection.

Māori Classification Trial at Wellington City Libraries

By Shane Caldwell,
Customer Service Librarian, Te Awe Library

An inspiration for choosing the spine labelling was the Brian Deer Classification System, and its use of letters as opposed to numbers. We ended up with a system using all letters, and only letters from the Māori alphabet (except for author names).

Each atua was assigned a letter starting from Hineteiwaiwa with A and going around to Hinenuitepō with W. With each succeeding letter (up to four) more narrowly defining topics.

For example a classification beginning MHEA breaks down to:

- M for Papatūānuku

- MH for Tāngata Whenua

- MHE indicates that it is about iwi or hapū

- MHEA indicates the rohe (Te Upoko o te Ika).

When breaking down by rohe we used the designations used by Te Rōpū Whakahau.

A full spine-label example is MHEI / TUH [SMI]. The first four letters show that the book is about Tāngata Whenua in the Waikato/Bay of Plenty region. The letters after the slash show that it is a book about Tūhoe, and that the author's surname is Smith.

The books are then shelved alphabetically: A, AA, AAE, AEE, etc...

The collection is still in a trial state, so any feedback still to come has the potential to change the shape of the collection.

* * *

How the Details in Cataloguing Make a Difference

By Jenny Hammond

I know they say that sometimes it's more about the journey than the destination, but you can take that sort of thing too far. I read a book called The escape room by L. D. Smithson. I got to the end, page 378, and it wasn't the end! It looked like it was meant to go over at least one more page.

The Wellington City Libraries catalogue record had the identifier for manifestation (aka ISBN), which was a match, and gave its extent of manifestation as 378 pages. What the heck! The manifestation in my hand may match the details in the catalogue record but I still had no ending to the story.

Was the author using their artistic license and being cute about the ending? Did they write one of those stories that has an unresolved ending, and the point is supposed to be in the pondering of how it could have turned out? Or, was there a different expression out there somewhere with different pagination and maybe an ending?

I googled the ISBN and Amazon had the extent as 432 pages. Hmm. So, I reserved the other copies held by Wellington City Libraries and discovered that the other two copies did go further than 378 pages, though not quite as far as 432 pages. Best of all it had an ending and I got to enjoy the destination as well as the journey. It was easy! Or was it?

It was only because of two small, often underrated, details in a catalogue record that I could do this, the identifier for manifestation and the extent of manifestation. Most cataloguers probably enter the page numbers into a record and move on without a second thought.

How the Details in Cataloguing Make a Difference

By Jenny Hammond

This experience made me have a second thought about page numbers and other such small details that cataloguers faithfully transcribe. They helped me dig further into the details and figure out that the copy I'd originally loaned from the library was faulty and find another copy which gave me the end of the story. Or to put it another way, they helped me Find, Identify, Select, Obtain and, last but not least, Explore. The 432 page copy at Amazon? Well, I didn't buy it to find out if that really was a different expression, I'll leave that as a mystery. Did I like they delayed ending? Yes. Would I recommend the novel? Yes, if you like gruesome thrillers. And I do.

* * *

Recent articles of interest

- [Transforming Library Catalogs: The Promise and Challenges of Linked Data](#) / Katherine Knox
- [Defining harmful content statements: cultural humility work that leads to institutional change and accountability](#) / Challen R. Wright, Irina Rogova
- [Identifying Metadata Quality Issues Across Cultures](#) / Julie Shi, Mike Nason, Marco Tullney, and Juan Pablo Alperin
- [How do LGBTQ+ library catalog users talk about subject searching?](#) / Heather Moulaison-Sandy, Brian Dobreski, Karen Snow
- [How are library cataloging metadata used differently over time: a large-scale quantitative analysis of the Library of Congress catalog](#) / Kai Li, Brian Dobreski, Molly Busch
- [Bias in the System: A Case for Catalogers' Judgment](#) / Annisija W. Hunter
- [Metadata as White Ignorance](#) / Jose C. Guerrero
- [Artificial intelligence and the five laws: a new vision for library science](#) / Dattatraya Kalbande, Digambar Hemke, Nandkishor Motewar
- [Library automation trends at City University of New York (CUNY): transforming face-to-face services into remote access during and post-pandemic – a case study of York College's Library](#) / Mohammed J. Sarwar
- [Representation of Swedish LGBTQ+ fiction in commercial information services](#) / Koraljka Golub, Daniel Ocic Ihrmark

Recent articles of interest

- [Planting Seeds of Change to Help Grow the Field of Librarianship for Native American Students](#) / Tessa R. Campbell
- [Linked data adaptation and practice in libraries: an Indian panorama](#) / Biswanath Dutta, Nabina Khamaru, Harikrishnan JS
- [Automated data management practices in university libraries of Jammu and Kashmir: a study in India](#) / Diksha, Abhi Sharma, Meghna Dhar
- [Defining harmful content statements: cultural humility work that leads to institutional change and accountability](#) / Challen R. Wright, Irina Rogova
- [The impact of artificial intelligence on Sri Lanka libraries: an interview with](#) [Premila Gamage](#) / Premila Gamage, Anna Maria Tammaro

Courses & professional development opportunities

Library juice May—Aug

Beyond the Basics: Cataloging DVDs, Blu-ray discs, and Streaming Videos	2025-08 (Aug)
Cataloging with BIBFRAME	2025-05 (May)
Controlled Vocabularies and Taxonomies	2025-08 (Aug),
Electronic Resources Cataloging	2025-06 (Jun)
Introduction to Cataloging	2025-05 (May)
Introduction to Metadata	2025-06 (Jun)
Introduction to Technical Services in Special Collections	2025-06 (Jun)
Library of Congress Subject Headings & Genres	2025-07 (Jul)
Linked Data in Library Metadata and Cataloging Real World Objects & More	2026-05 (May)
LSSC Elective Competencies: Cataloging and Classification	2026-02 (Feb)
Names, Identities & Entity Management	2025-05 (May)
Serials Cataloging	2026-04 (Apr)
Using MarcEdit	2025-07 (Jul)
Working with Subjects, Names and Controlled Vocabularies for Museums, Archives, Libraries & More	2026-08 (Aug)

Te reo Māori

This certificate consists of four parts, all of which are offered at no cost*

Te Pōkaitahi Reo (Reo Rua) (Te Kaupae 1) [New Zealand Certificate in Te Reo (Bilingual)]

See conditions on website

Courses & professional development opportunities

ALA courses

After the Collection Diversity Audit	On-demand
ALA Essentials for Library Workers: Cataloging	On-demand
Best of Core Forum: Improving Preservation and Metadata Practices for Better Digital Projects: Streamlining a Workflow Preparing Collections for Digitization	Jan 30, 2025
Best of Core Forum: Looking Beyond Your Digital Repository: Metadata for Storytelling	May 14, 2025
Best of Core Forum: Mapping Your Skill Sets: Understanding and Using the Core Competencies for Cataloging & Metadata Professionals	May 28, 2025
Cataloging Rare Materials with the Official Toolkit and DCRMR	May 28, 2025
Climate Change Library Lab: Climate Preparedness in Your Library	On-demand
Fundamentals of Cataloging 2025- Session 4.0	July 7 - Aug 14, 2025
Fundamentals of Cataloging 2025- Session 5.0	Aug 25 - Oct 3, 2025
Fundamentals of Institutional Repositories 2025 Session 2.0	June 16 - July 25, 2025
Fundamentals of Metadata 2025 - Session 4.0	July 21 - Aug 29, 2026
On-Demand - 3 Part API Series (Part One): An API Primer; Building Blocks for Digital Library Innovation	On-demand
On-Demand 3-Part Webinar Series: Application Programming Interfaces for Libraries	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar - 3 Part API Series (Part Two): Introduction to Springshare APIs	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar - 3-Part API Series (Part Three): Introduction to Primo APIs	On-demand

Courses & professional development opportunities

ALA courses

On-Demand Webinar - Best of Core at ALA Annual Conference: Sustainable Reparative Description and You	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar - Best of Core Forum: Creating an Inclusive Metadata Policy	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar - Best of Core Forum: Preservation as a Service; Applying a Customer-focused Framework while Caring for our Collections	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar: Dropping the Other I-Word: Local Library of Congress Subject Heading Replacements	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar: Technical Services Tools at Work	On-demand
On-Demand Webinar: To Hold a Cloud: MARC Holdings in the Modern LMS	On-demand
State-Wide Collaborative Virtual Programming with Illinois Libraries Present	On-demand
Tackling Racism and Bias in the Library Catalog	On-demand

Library Carpentry

Tidy data for librarians

Library Carpentry: Introduction to Regular Expressions

Library Carpentry: OpenRefine

Library Carpentry: Introduction to Git

Library Carpentry: SQL

Python Intro for Libraries

Introduction to R

Upcoming events

ResBaz 2025	30 June - 4 July 2025
RBMS 2025, A Multitude of Stories	June 24-27, 2025

Related publications

Title	Latest issue
IFLA Journal	Volume 51 Issue 1, March 2025
Cataloging & Classification Quarterly	Volume 63, Issue 2-3 (2025)
Cataloguing Lab—Critcatinate	March 2025
Catalogue & Index	Vol. 210 (2025)
Technical Services Quarterly	Volume 42, Issue 2 (2025)
The Code4Lib Journal	Issue 60, 2025-04-14
ISSN News Newsletter	n° 139 - April 2025
International Journal of Librarianship	Vol. 10 No. 1 (2025)
Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship	Volume 36, Issue 4 (2024)
Journal of Library Metadata	Volume 25, Issue 1 (2025)
Library Resources & Technical Services	Vol 69, No 2 (2025)
The Serials Librarian	Volume 85, Issue 7-8 (2024)
OLAC Newsletter	Volume 45, Number 1, March 2025

Contribute to Catapult

Contribute

Catalogue something interesting? Find a new way of doing things? Want to raise something of conceptual or ethical interest? Catapult is seeking content and would love to hear from you! Contributing to Catapult is a great way to engage with the cataloguing community and share ideas.

Please email the editor with your idea, article or suggestion.

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CatSIG
Cataloguing Special Interest Group