

CatSIG Survey 2015: Summary of results

The aim of this survey was to find out about the New Zealand cataloguing community, about the diversity in interests and needs, and what we as a Committee can do to help. These questions and answers were designed to be able to help us plan training and networking, and to get us all communicating and supporting each other.

The survey was live online for one month through April 2015, and invitation to respond was sent out via the NZLibs and CatSIG email lists. We tried to encourage responses from non-CatSIG members as well as current members. In total we had 44 responses, from a wide range of places across the country.

Training:

- 1. Are your cataloguing training needs currently being met by your organization or consortium? Or do you have cataloguing training needs beyond what is currently provided by your organization or consortium?**

This question returned a range of answers, which were roughly split equally between those whose needs are not being met- for a variety of reasons:

No - while the organisation is supportive, I find I need to explore beyond what is offered by my workplace to find the training and development that I need

No. Small rural district, and we are pretty much on our own for cataloguing training

I am a self-directed learner who has slowly taught myself how to do the technical "stuff"

and those whose needs are being reasonably met, either by reliance on or access to in-house training by an experienced colleague, or by being able to attend external training:

This organization likes to send one person to train the trainer type courses, then have them pass on the knowledge

Yes if there were any courses we need to go to, work usually is able to let me go. I would like to have more practical sessions with other cataloguers

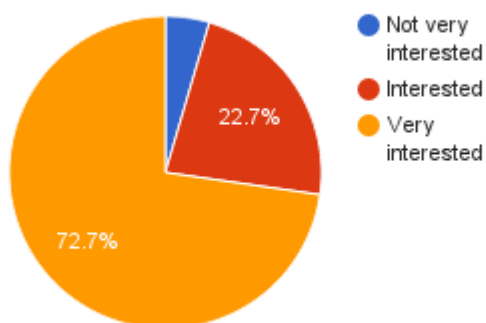
Yes. My organisation also sponsors me to attend cataloguing workshops

There is no in house training where I work but they are keen for me to attend anything I want in New Zealand

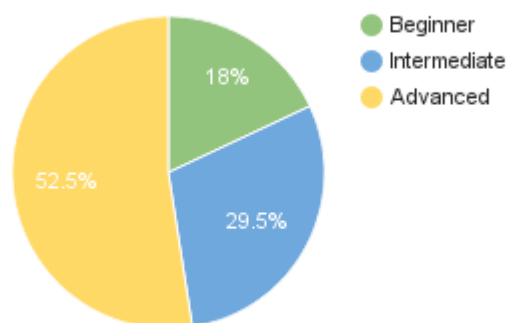
2. Subjects of interest and areas of need: The following questions were created to determine the range of levels of experience and the levels of interest within various aspects of cataloguing.

RDA: In general people were 'very interested' and many rated as advanced, but still a large proportion beginner and intermediate.

RDA / Level of interest

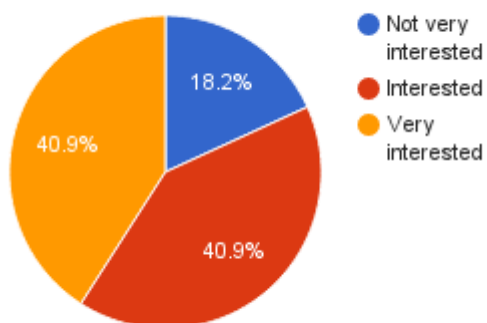


RDA / Level of experience

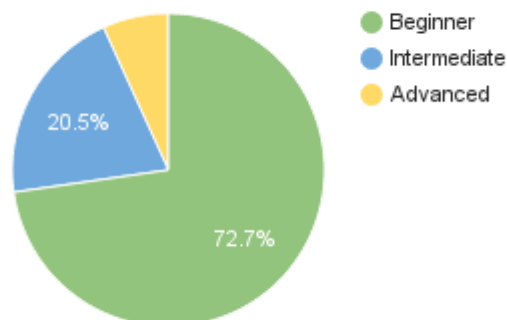


Linked Data and Bibframe: People responded in the majority as 'interested' to 'very interested' in this topic, and the majority of people were rated as beginner.

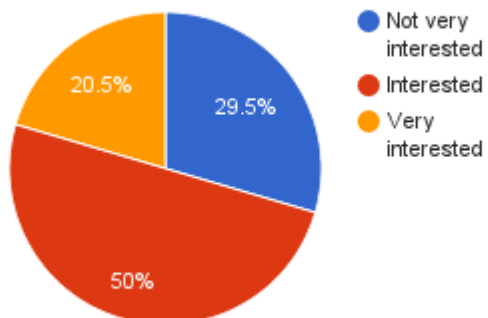
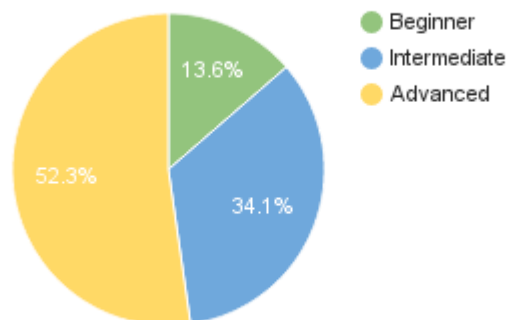
Linked Data and Bibframe / Level of interest



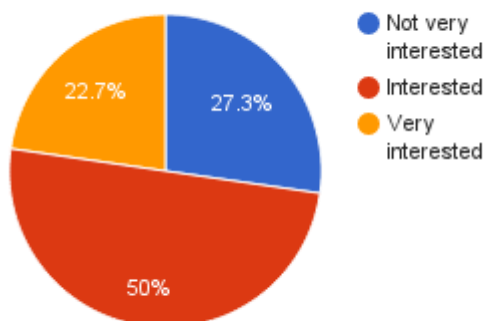
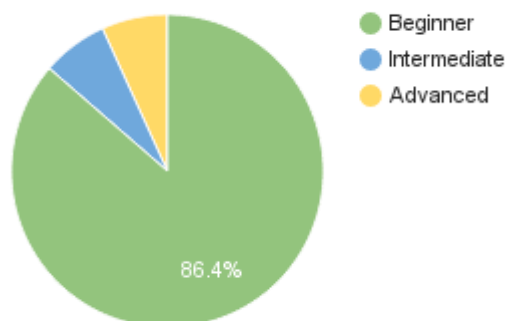
Linked Data and Bibframe / Level of experience



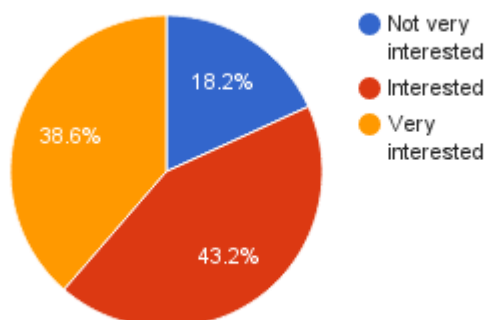
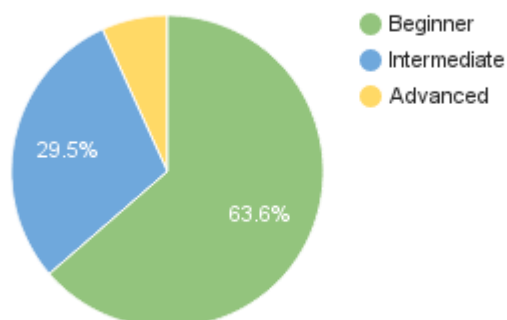
MARC: There was much more familiarity with MARC, with a large proportion of people 'interested' and also at an advanced level.

MARC / Level of interest**MARC / Level of experience**

Other metadata formats: An almost even split on either side of 'not interested' or 'very interested', but the majority reported as interested with most of us reporting as beginners.

Other metadata formats / Level of interest**Other metadata formats / Level of experience**

Managing datasets, cleanup projects etc: The majority responded as 'interested'-'very interested', but again, with a majority of beginners in this area:

Managing datasets etc. / Level of interest**Managing datasets etc. / Level of experience**

Training options:

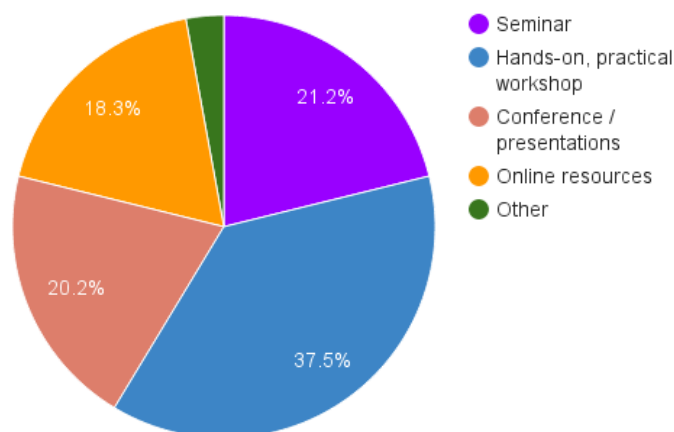
Location: With 13 people from Auckland and 12 from Wellington, these cities host the majority of our respondents, with then a few each from Tauranga, Dunedin and Christchurch. There were many solo respondents from across the country, from Kerikeri and Whangarei to Balclutha and Lincoln, via various North Island locations. Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton, and then 'Other' received the most votes for locations people could go for training, followed by Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Costs and fees: There was a mixture of response regarding the employer paying for respondents to attend training/ conferences - with the majority being 'maybe', and the average cost estimated as the respondent or the employer being willing to pay was generally from \$50-\$200 or \$201-500.

Cataloguer's Day: There was a very encouraging response to the suggestion of a Cataloguer's Day (a mix of presentations/ hands-on sessions, networking, etc.) being held in the years in which there will not be a LIANZA conference, with 95% of respondents showing interest in attending such an event.

Types of training: We asked what types and styles of training sessions people tended to prefer, with quite a wide response. The overall favourite style selected was a hands-on practical workshop:

Type of training session



Training event ideas:

We considered some event models to adapt for cataloguing training and sought interest, with Q&A options allowing respondents to choose as many choices as preferred:

Of the 44 respondents:

- 33 people (75%) chose - 'A day using the OLAC-MOUG conference as a model: some exciting keynotes, but mostly hands-on workshops'
- 22 people (50%) - 'A single, practical, co-operative workshop which would run like the recent "Jane-athon" (<http://www.rda-jsc.org/Jane-athon.html>)'
- 21 people (47.7%) - 'A CatSIG unconference, run in the same way as the DigLibSIG ran theirs'
- 23 people (52.3%) - 'A mini-conference or weekend school such as those organised by TelSIG and the Waikato/BOP regional group'

CatSIG Committee

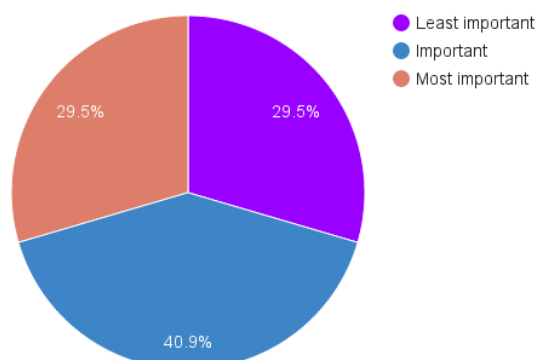
We then asked for opinions on the CatSIG Committee and our objectives. 68% of respondents were a member of CatSIG. We learnt many respondents want a safe place to ask cataloguing questions and learn tips, and for there to be more communication amongst New Zealand cataloguers. With the majority of people subscribed to the CatSIG email list (among other lists), we are aiming to use this tool more for such purposes.

The Committee's priorities

On the CatSIG webpage (<http://www.lianza.org.nz/catsig>), we list three key points explaining the Committee's aims and purpose. In the survey we asked what people considered to be the most to least important of these priorities. The results provided a fairly broad split, with all points holding importance. The highest percentage for 'most important' was for the third point below: the encouragement and support for continuing professional development.

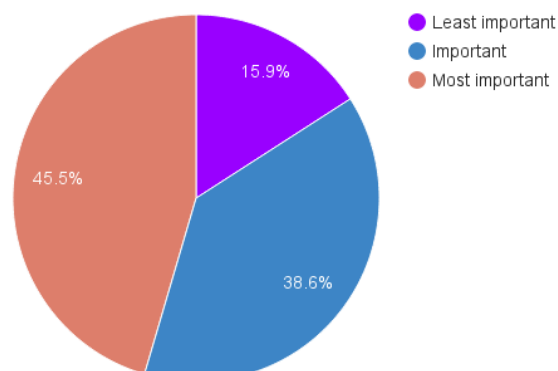
1. The exchange of information:

The exchange of information



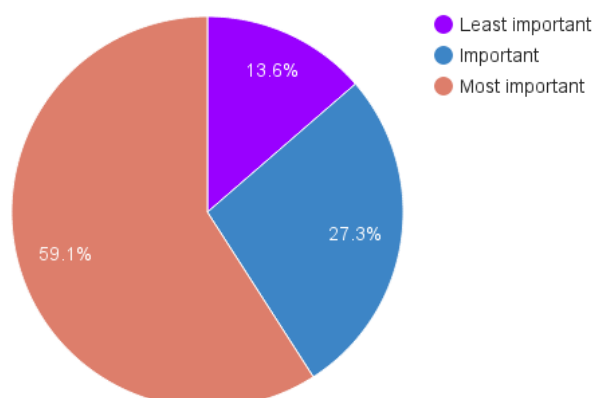
2. Sharing of ideas and support in efforts to create and maintain quality catalogues and other databases:

Sharing of ideas and support



3. The encouragement and support for continuing professional development through seminars, workshops, and sessions at conference

Encouragement for professional development



Anything else?

We also asked if there was anything else we could be doing. Comments generally highlighted the desire for more communication and sharing of news, and networking opportunities and regional events. The idea of mentoring came up, which would address many of the issues of lack of communication, training needs and a safe place to learn and share. Although we have no formal plans for this, if any experienced cataloguers would be interested in volunteering to mentor, please get in touch.

Keep updating cataloguing training material online since most of cataloguers have no chance to attend some professional conferences

More updates on Bibframe would be useful

Facilitating connections between cataloguers, especially sole cataloguers and/or junior cataloguers, so that we can get support or ask (basic) questions if no support is available in our organisations

Are there members out there who might like to mentor fledgling cataloguers who might be struggling in smaller libraries on their own?

I would like to see more funding and opportunities for senior experienced cataloguers to attend more advanced training, webinars, conferences etc... to develop areas we require skill and expertise (e.g. electronic resources, music and rare book cataloguing, Bibframe and other linked data initiatives) Important: Webinars and self-teaching should not replace engagement with the community and practical hands on training lead by a provider face-to-face

Catapult

We also wanted to find out opinions and readership on CatSIG's online magazine *Catapult*. We had a favourable and encouraging response, with the majority of respondents reading it and finding it useful, and most people being happy with the format, whether read online or printed out. People read it for:

- keeping up to date with new developments in cataloguing, and future trends
- information on cataloguers and the New Zealand cataloguing community
- useful links, news from the cataloguing world and ideas for professional development

I feel I am keeping up with new developments and get some good practical advice

Went back and read the last issue, which was really good. I appreciated the news items, the brief reviews of the blogs (which meant I was able to just read those I was interested/curious) and the book reviews, too

News, useful links, ideas about professional development, and a sense of the Aotearoa cataloguing community

Up to date information on new trends in RDA and Bibframe especially

Conclusion:

With many thanks to those who completed this survey!

All this has really helped and encouraged us to:

- look at planning training and seminars. We were able to show there could be interest for a Janeathon and are supporting the upcoming event. We are planning training events for next year
- appreciate there is a real need for greater communication, whether online (we are aiming to use CatSIG email list more to encourage wider use) and in person (regional meetings, networking ideas all gaining momentum..). There's a desire for a communicative, lively and supportive community. We want to hear about New Zealand cataloguers, news and content and have a space to ask and share New Zealand
- consider further that we have a diverse range of needs, levels of support and funding around us, so we need to maintain support, help, and provide greater access to training facilities for all levels of experience and interests in cataloguing

Upcoming events and news:

- **Kiwi-athon:** A New Zealand version of Jane-athon has been advertised by the National Library of New Zealand. Catsig were able to inform the planners of interest and ability in RDA from the survey results which encouraged the National Library to go ahead with plans, to advertise and to contact Deborah Fritz to host the event. This is planned for October 2015, to be held in Wellington... and please watch the CatSIG email list and Catapult magazine for more news soon
- **AGM:** The CatSIG AGM will be on Monday 9th November, 12-1pm, as part of the 2015 LIANZA Conference 'Shout!', and all are welcome. We also hope to have more informal get-togethers around the Conference, and will plan regional events and further networking ideas
- **Sponsorship:** We have awarded two sponsorships for students to undertake the Victoria University of Wellington's INFO546: Resource Description and Discovery paper, and Open Polytechnic's 72272 Cataloguing and Classification paper.