

# Researching NZ Nurses



The New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO) Library has material relating mainly to the history of NZNO and of the NZNA/NZNU before that, rather than on specific nurses who may have been members in the past.

While the library primarily offers research assistance to members, in some instances we may be able to assist members of the public. Please direct all enquiries to [library@nzno.org.nz](mailto:library@nzno.org.nz). Those wishing to research nursing history generally, and family members who were nurses, can use the following publicly-accessible resources:

## National Library of New Zealand

<http://natlib.govt.nz/collections/a-z/new-zealand-and-pacific-collection>

The New Zealand and Pacific Collection of the National Library includes New Zealand and Pacific reference materials and books.

## findNZarticles

[findNZarticles | National Library of New Zealand](#)

The result of a collaboration between Christchurch City Libraries, Dunedin Public Libraries, Landcare Research NZ Ltd and the National Library of New Zealand, this includes a bibliography of published family histories and various regional newspaper indexes.

## Index New Zealand

[Index New Zealand \(INNZ\) | National Library of New Zealand](#)

Index New Zealand (INNZ) contains articles from New Zealand journals (including *Kai Tiaki*) and newspapers published between 1987 and 2024. Some pre-1987 items have been added retrospectively. Copies of articles can be requested from local libraries or sometimes found online. Personal names can be searched in INNZ by surname first, followed by forename, using 'Subject' as the type of search. See also *Kai Tiaki* below.

## ***Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand***

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals/kai-tiaki-the-journal-of-the-nurses-of-new-zealand>

*Kai Tiaki* is the New Zealand Nursing Journal and has been in print since 1908. The first 20 years of *Kai Tiaki* (1908-1929) have been digitised by the National Library and are available to the public on the PapersPast website.

Articles from *Kai Tiaki* are indexed in Index New Zealand [Index New Zealand \(INNZ\)](#) | [National Library of New Zealand](#) for 1909, and from 1914-1926; from 1932-1993 when the journal changed its name to the *NZ Nursing Journal*; from 1993-1994 when it was called *Nursing New Zealand*; and from 1995-2024 as *Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand* again. If you wish to view a specific article from *Kai Tiaki* then you will be able to access it online via PapersPast up to 1929, or for later years, via databases at your local library. The NZNO Library holds print copies of *Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand*, as do some libraries. These may be consulted by members of the public by prior arrangement.

## **Alexander Turnbull Library**

[Alexander Turnbull Library Collections | National Library of New Zealand](#)

The Turnbull Library holds New Zealand's national documentary heritage collections including original manuscripts, oral histories, and photographs, and published and unpublished ephemera.

### **Information and useful links about researching family history:**

<http://natlib.govt.nz/researchers/guides/family-history>

### **Searching for nursing oral history interviews:**

[ATL: Unpublished Collections](#)

## **Archives NZ**

[Archive NZ Collections Search](#)

Archives NZ hold the archives of New Zealand government records, including public sector employment records.

### **Lists of nurses employed by the government may be found under 'Medical -- Nurses'**

[Employment – Archives New Zealand](#)

## **Directory of Community Archives**

<https://archives.govt.nz/directory-of-community-archives>

The community archives directory is a tool to help researchers explore the treasures of our past and present held within local community collections across New Zealand. It includes small local organisations, through to larger national institutions.

## **NZ History Online**

<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/>

New Zealand history website produced by professional historians and the Ministry of Culture and Heritage for a general audience. The section on the first world war includes the following article [New Zealand Army Nursing Service in the First World War](#)

## **New Zealand History Federation Inc.**

[NZ History Federation Inc – Fostering interest in NZ History](#)

Lists member historical societies from around the country with contact information  
[Our Members – NZ History Federation Inc](#)

## **Te Ara: The Encyclopedia of New Zealand**

<http://www.teara.govt.nz/en>

Nursing history may be found at this link:

[Nurses and midwives – Te Ara Encyclopedia of New Zealand](#) and the names of significant nurses may be searched in the Dictionary of NZ Biography under the Biographies tab.

## **Local Libraries**

[Directory of New Zealand Libraries | National Library of New Zealand](#)

Public libraries often have heritage collections or information about local history and people. Many library catalogues can be searched online.

## **Other resources**

Regional hospitals and nursing schools may have historical information on their websites with links to useful resources. Local museums and genealogy websites are also helpful research tools.

**NZNO Library** – [www.nzno.org.nz/resources/library](http://www.nzno.org.nz/resources/library)

**Email:** [library@nzno.org.nz](mailto:library@nzno.org.nz)