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Te Kahu Rolleston

Te Kahu Rolleston is spoken word poet, mental health worker and educator from the tribe of Ngaiterangi in Tauranga. He has been called ‘The Taniwha of Poetry’. His work often honours his ancestors, the land, and the ongoing Māori struggles for Tino Rangatiratanga. His poetry speaks to what it means to be Māori, combining mythology, history and modern politics. Te Kahu was the 2014 winner of The National Slam Poetry Competition. In 2015 Te Kahu was invited to attend The Banff Centre’s Indigenous Writing Programme alongside Witi Ihimaera. He won the world pacific poetry slam at Festpac 2016. Te Kahu is extremely passionate about the power of words, and the actions they can trigger.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 9:50-10:25am: Keynote: Te Kahu Rolleston, Ngai Te Rangi-born Wordsmith/Jester (Live, In-person)
Anahera Morehu

Anahera Morehu (BMIM, RLIANZA) is a descendant of Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa, Te Aupōuri, Ngāti Kahu, and Ngāti Whātua iwi. To date, her library career is a long and illustrious one with a particular focus on Māori and Indigenous issues. She has presented at many Indigenous fora. Anahera is the current Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa (LIANZA) President and Kaiārahi at the University of Auckland’s Faculty of Business and Economics. Anahera is the National Coordinator for the Mātauranga Māori programme within New Zealand libraries, Ngā Kaiwhakahau member (National Council) of Te Rōpū Whakahau, Governing Group of Ngā Upoko Tukutuku, on the LIANZA Professional Registration Board, and past Tumuaki of Te Rōpū Whakahau.

Selected publications and creative works:


Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 10:30-10:55am: Keynote: Anahera Morehu, LIANZA President / Kaiārahi at the University of Auckland's Faculty of Business and Economics (Live, In-person)
Lisette Scheer
Lisette Scheer works for the Latah County Library District as a System Administrative Specialist. She is also the current president of the Koha-US user’s group. During her free time, Lisette enjoys puzzles, games, and spending time with her partner and their cat.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 11:25-11:50am: 46 Libraries, 15 Groups, 1 Consortium – So now what? - Lisette Scheer (Pre-recorded, Online)

The Valnet consortium has 46 individual libraries across 15 hierarchical groups. We use jQuery to customise a variety of pages to fit the needs of individual libraries and groups within the consortium. This presentation will focus on troubles faced by consortium and how we solve them.

Day 3, 11:30-11:40am: Koha-US: Life since Portland Kohacon 2018 – Lisette Scheer (Pre-recorded, Online)

An update on what Koha-US has been up to since Portland Kohacon 2018.
William Tuttiett

Hi I'm William and I am the Web and Digital Content Coordinator at Horowhenua District Council / Libraries Horowhenua. 1 part Koha superhero sidekick, 1 part graphic designer and 3 parts geek. 2 years into the job and I am proud to be the defending champion of the "prestigious" 2019 Happy Chappy award. I am still eagerly learning about all that KOHA has to offer and hope to be doing so for many years to come!

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 11:55 – 12:20 From zero to hero: A beginners guide to OPAC survival - William Tuttiett, Horowhenua District Council (Pre-recorded, Online)
Mengü Yazıcıoğlu

Mengü was born in 1972 in Ankara, Turkey. He has a B.Sc degree in Mathematics Education and a M.Sc degree in Science and Technology Policy Studies from the University of METU.

After working for many companies, including the IT Center of METU, he moved to Devinim and is now CEO, but his hands are still on the computer. He spends most of his time in Free/Open Source Software including Linux, Mysql/MariaDB and Koha.

Online presence

- Twitter https://twitter.com/MenguYazicioglu
- LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/in/meng%C3%BC-yaz%C4%B1c%C4%B1o-%C4%9Flu-75759432/

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 12:25-12:50pm: Koha as central catalog - Mengü Yazıcıoğlu, Devinim (Pre-recorded, Online)

We’d like to share how we use Koha as central catalog, especially for small libraries and share bibliographic data between our system and with their Koha.
David Nind

I am from Wellington, New Zealand. While I don't use Koha in my work, I love libraries, reading, learning, and free software. For the Koha community, I currently look after the @kohails Twitter account, Zotero bibliography, and am a member of the documentation team.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 2:20-2:45pm: From a manual to a documentation portal...what’s the future for Koha’s documentation? - David Nind (Live, In-person)

Everyone likes using documentation – from helping to solve immediate problems, to tutorials and guides, to learning how to do something new. However, it is challenging to organise, write, translate, and keep up-to-date. How can the Koha community improve our documentation to support and keep up with the needs and expectations of our worldwide community, now and in the future? This session will share what the documentation team is doing now, and planning for the future.

Day 2, 3:40-3:50pm: Working with messy data - David Nind (Live, In-person)

A quick introduction to using OpenRefine for tidying up messy data and getting it ready to import into Koha. (http://openrefine.org/)

Day 3, 2:30-2:40pm: Wikidata – What libraries need to know about Wikidata, the Wikipedia project you’ve probably never heard of - David Nind (Live, In-person)

A quick guide to what it is, how to edit it, and some practical uses for libraries (https://www.wikidata.org/)

Day 5: Workshops, 11:00am-12:25pm: Documentation - David Nind (In-person, Thorndon Room)

A hands-on practical session to get you started contributing to Koha’s documentation:

- The easy way to edit: A hands-on step-by-step walk through of the process using just a browser.
- Working with a local repository: Setting up a local content development environment overnight.
- Working out what to work on: Identifying and selecting documentation tasks.
- It’s not just writing: Other ways to contribute to the documentation.
Jessica Zairo

Jessica has both graduate and undergraduate degrees in Library Science; receiving her MLIS from the University of South Florida. Her previous experience as a Law Librarian and as Member Services Coordinator for an 18 county library consortium in Florida provided her with the opportunity to work and train with libraries of all sizes and types. Her primary professional interests are advocacy, outreach and training library staff on everything from technology to project management and customer service techniques. In her spare time she is an avid runner, traveler, outdoors lover and crafter.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 2:50-3:15pm: What's missing: Koha from a marketing perspective - Jessica Zairo and Adam Brooks, ByWater Solutions (Pre-recorded Talk with Live Q&A, Online)

While everyone at Kohacon20 already knows that Koha is the premier ILS on the planet, there are still thousands of libraries not yet convinced. As hard to believe as that is, the perspective from the sales side of Koha can help all of us understand what libraries are looking for as they change systems. Focus will be given to what potential partners ask about, don't believe and ask for as developments. Marketing of Koha to the masses can be much better, but how do we do that? Shout it from the mountain top – Koha is amazing.

Day 2, 3:00-3:10pm: Support isn't just tickets: Marketing to the believers - Jessica Zairo and Adam Brooks, Bywater Solutions (Pre-recorded Talk with Live Q&A, Online)

As a support provider, we obviously provide solutions and troubleshooting for all of our partners as our most important role, however, there are umerous ways we can further market Koha to enhance our partners’ experiences, and often make our support efforts easier. Learn how one support company is making and sharing news about Koha and other open source projects to hepl improve how libraries use those products.

Day 3, 2:45-3:10pm: Teamwork: We have your back! - Kelly McElligott and Jessica Zairo, ByWater Solutions (Pre-recorded, Online)

Kelly and Jessie took the question, how to continue to educate Koha users as the software grows and flourishes each and every upgrade? In what way/s can learning Koha be fun and educational? Solution: Monday Minutes! Jessie and Kelly created a weekly tutorial video and blog post called Monday Minutes with Jessie and Kelly. This has been very successful with our partners. Our goal was to break down one thing in Koha, demonstrate it, talk about use cases, and do this in less than 10 minute videos for users to watch. In this presentation, we will tell you how we created educational, fun, short videos to train Koha users. Through teamwork – we can make it easier and more enjoyable. Isn't work fun with another fellow colleague in the trenches with you? Turn to Jessie and Kelly for help – we present our making of tutorial videos about Koha and so much more.
Adam Brooks

Adam has an M.L.I.S. and a BA in Psychology from Kent State University. He worked in public libraries for over 15 years, working up from reference to director. He has worked in both rural and major urban libraries. During his library career, he migrated 2 different libraries to Koha, and encouraged several others to do the same. Prior to his career as a librarian, Adam worked jobs ranging from busboy to labor market analyst. In his free time, he enjoys running and triathlons, fishing, camping and the Incredible Hulk.

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Joy Nelson

Joy Nelson is the President of ByWater Solutions Koha Division where she supports a staff that works to provide the absolute best possible ILS and exceptional service to libraries. After spending many years in libraries and various software development firms, she knows what makes for great code development and database management—and it's open source. It's about connecting with librarians and leveraging their skills and knowledge to make Koha better with each release.

Joy received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and her Masters in Information Science from the University of North Texas. She has been active in the Koha community since 2011 and most recently was the Release Maintainer for 19.11 version and sincerely hopes she did not introduce any 'unintended features'.

When Joy's not at work or in the library, you can find her painting water colors, traveling, and/or enjoying a dirty martini – gin, never vodka.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 1, 3:50-4:15pm: Creative problem solving - Joy Nelson (Pre-recorded, Online)

Creative problem solving is more than simply brainstorming ideas. It is a critical skill that everyone needs in any field. We'll review the four part methodology of creative problem solving and explore ways this process can be applied to virtual teams, software communities, and diverse groups. Everyone is capable of creating innovation solutions to problems.
Rachel Hamilton-Williams

Kia ora, I'm the founder of Katipō Communications, leader of the team who convinced Horowhenua Library we could write an open source library system, starting this whole crazy fun. Katipō still hosts the Koha mailing lists (and maybe a couple of Koha), and I help lost souls find the resources they need. Having spent the last 3 years being a contract project manager for a local City Council, I think there is definitely room for more open source in Local Government, and would love to hear from anyone whose Council is working on an Open Source ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning system).

I'm the Chair of Tohatoha Aotearoa Commons (tohatoha.org.nz), a not for profit which grew out of creative commons, and now we're running multiple programmes, and working to prioritise education to prevent the spread of disinformation and misinformation online. One of our missions is to work towards a carbon neutral internet.

Having been Covid-d out of my last contract, so I'm looking for new opportunities.

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/rachel-hamilton-williams/

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 9:00-9:25pm: The 1999 Koha project team – Rosalie Blake, Rachel Hamilton-Williams, and Chris Cormack (Live, In-Person)

Three of the original project team members reflect on how we got here.
Rosalie Blake

Rosalie was with Horowhenua Libraries from 1981 until her retirement in 2009. She served several terms as Regional and National Councillor for LIANZA. Rosalie was also heavily involved with the revamp of the Public Library Statistics, and the 1995 edition of the Public Library Standards for New Zealand Libraries.

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Three of the original project team members reflect on how we got here.
Chris Cormack
Kāi Tahu, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha.

Chris is a senior developer at Catalyst IT, and is one of the original developers of the Koha Open Source Library management system. He is also a passionate enthusiast of using Open Source and Open data for the betterment of Te Iwi Māori and Aotearoa in general.

Catch me at Kohacon20

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Sonia Bouis

Sonia has been the head of the library's documentary software service, Jean Moulin - Lyon 3 University since 2011. She has been working for 19 years as a system librarian in several academic libraries, and before, for a ILS provider. Sonia is the chairman of the French association KohaLa, which aims to promote Koha ILS and the open-source tools diffusion, since 2015.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 9:30–9:55am: Dealing with personal data in Koha: From legal requirements to statistic necessity. GDPR: Welcome on board - Sonia Bouis (Pre-recorded, Online)

In Europe, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) had been implemented in May 2018. A lot of new enhancements had already been added to Koha, but libraries could be in difficulty with the obligation to provide statistics asked by state institutions. That could have an impact with the financing they benefit from the state. Kohala (French Koha non-profit group) was asked by its members to finance developments regarding anonymisation. I would like to raise several questions. What is anonymisation and what are the technical possibilities to achieve it?

Online presence

- [https://bu.univ-lyon3.fr/sonia-bouis](https://bu.univ-lyon3.fr/sonia-bouis)
- [https://www.linkedin.com/in/sonia-bouis-7400649b/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/sonia-bouis-7400649b/)
- [https://twitter.com/SoniaBouis](https://twitter.com/SoniaBouis)
Kathryn Tyree
Project and Account Manager – Libraries, Catalyst IT

Kathryn has been managing Koha services at Catalyst for nearly 10 years. She loves Koha because it's open source and comes with a wonderful community. Kathryn lives by the beach, and enjoys cups of tea, the arts, and being with her whānau.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 10:00-10:25am: Koha Community Video – Kathryn Tyree (Live, In-Person)

Hear from people within the Koha community from all over the world.
Caroline Cyr La Rose

Caroline Cyr La Rose didn’t always know she wanted to be a librarian, but it was written in the stars. As a young girl, she didn’t play house, or teacher, but library instead. After trying out different things (nursing, science, linguistics) and after doing various orientation tests (in high school, she was told her best bet was to become a crane operator), she finally graduated with a master’s degree in library science from the École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l’information (EBSI) at Université de Montréal in 2009. She worked as a children’s librarian in a public library for several years and joined the inLibro team and the Koha community in 2017. At inLibro, a Koha support company, she is responsible for data migrations, training and support. In the Koha community, she is part of the documentation team and the French-Canadian translation team. In her free time, she likes to cuddle with her cats, knit, read and drink tea (not at all stereotypical!).

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 11:00-11:25am: Cataloguing plugins - Caroline Cyr La Rose (Live, Online)

Discover the Koha plugin catalog: Its purpose, its use, and how you can contribute

Online presence

- @caroline or @caroline_catlady on IRC
- https://www.linkedin.com/in/carolinecyrlarose/
Kristina Hoeppner

Kristina is the project lead and community facilitator for the open source Mahara ePortfolio project. She has been working on the project at Catalyst in Aotearoa New Zealand for ten years, having found her way to the software in 2008 while still in Europe. She is keen to connect community members to learn from each other and share their ideas with the rest of the community to foster the portfolio pedagogy and practices not just within our community but also the wider education one and also find ways to connect other tools to establish a learning environment where it is easy to exchange information.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 11:30-11:55am: Stronger through integration - Kristina Hoeppner, Catalyst (Live, In-person)

Koha is an impressive integrated library management system that can also be used creatively, for example to inventory media devices at a school. However, it cannot be all the things to everyone, and it can be beneficial to integrate it with other systems. In this session, I would like to brainstorm integration ideas with the audience to connect Koha to a learning management system, an ePortfolio system, and others. How can we harness the rich data that is in Koha and make it available in other systems? Are there any common scenarios that people have asked about in the Koha community or that have been discussed at organisations working with Koha? At Kohacon we have the chance to brainstorm these ideas and maybe even develop them further during the workshop days.
Sher Afzal Khan

More than 14 years of professional experience in the field of information sciences, knowledge management, information communications technologies, open source technologies, research & development lead trainer and consultant open source technologies. He is also a member of the Board of Trustee and Vice Chairman Reed Pakistan, founder of “Koha Pakistan”, winner of IEEE, Emerald and other international awards winners. He has in-depth command on supporting consulting open source software and has successfully completed more than 40 open source software projects both nationally and internationally. He is also Country Ambassador for DSpace OS software by MIT University USA for Pakistan, has conducted more than 100 workshops and training sessions, and has been invited guest speak at many international conferences in places such as Uzbekistan, UEA, USA, Philippines, Greece, Germany, and many more countries. Professional skills: Knowledge management, automation and digitization, information literacy, open source software specialist, data conversion, customization of WordPress technologies and HTML 5, proposal writing, and citation management.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 12:00-12:25pm: User perceptions and experience with Koha Integrated Library Management System adoption: An experience from Pakistan - Sher Afzal Khan (Live, Online)

This study aims to find out the reasons for adopting Koha ILS, determines the problems faced by libraries during its implementation, and gets the perceptions of librarians about the performance of Koha in Pakistan. The result will be discussed with the international community regarding the adoptions of Koha in Pakistan. The study will comprise all Pakistan librarian and libraries which are currently using Koha ILS in libraries. The main issue will be highlighted regarding the option of Koha ILS. The research will provide a brief picture of libraries' perceptions about Koha adoption and satisfaction levels. The selection, implementation, and usage of the Koha software in their libraries.
Myka Kennedy Stephens

Myka Kennedy Stephens is Seminary Librarian at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, United States. She initiated the library’s migration to Koha in December 2014 and actively seeks to integrate strategic planning for library and information services with open source adoption and development. Since migrating to Koha, Lancaster Theological Seminary has also adopted open source solutions for library guides, digital archives and exhibits, as well as digital asset management and internal records. Myka is a strong advocate for open source software and has enjoyed learning new skills and participating in the Koha community. Although often caught up in the work of “doing” open source, she writes about and presents on her open source experiences with some regularity.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 2, 2:00-2:25pm: A patron, a librarian, and a developer walk into a bar: The conversations and relationships that fuel Koha development - Myka Kennedy Stephens (Pre-recorded, Online)

It takes multiple perspectives and a variety of expertise to build a successful open source library system. As the Koha community looks toward the future, it must continue keeping the needs of libraries and their patrons at the forefront of development. How does this actually work? How do these relationships form, and how are they maintained? How does the patron experience influence development? This talk will explore the communication flow between patrons, librarians, and developers in the Koha community. It will also share a case study from one Koha library showing how an integrated library planning process has helped contribute to the Koha development cycle.

Online presence

- “The Power and Promise of Koha’s ILL Module,” Koha-US Conference 2019, https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vTmGXgEN0xjRrr5qgPt9gtiVe_klm7a5lxg1W2uJNMiwD5hDz5kl4Zcq8IG7scRABgHrISdk-OqxpMv/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000 (slides)
Ari Mäkiranta

Ari Mäkiranta is a CEO at Koha-Suomi Ltd. He has been involved in open source projects in Finnish public libraries since 2010. He led the project that resulted in the first Finnish public library to go live with Koha (Joensuu public library June 2014). He now leads Koha-Suomi Ltd. The company is owned by about 100 Finnish municipalities. The company provides maintenance and development services for public libraries in those municipalities.

Catch Me At Kohacon20

Day 2, 2:30-2:55pm: Unique Koha co-Operation - Ari Mäkiranta, Koha-Suomi Ltd and Esa-Pekka Keskitalo, National Library Of Finland (Pre-recorded, Online)

This presentation will demonstrate co-operation between the libraries that use Koha in Finland. The co-operation covers all library sectors: national, academic, and public. Koha-Suomi Ltd is owned by almost 100 municipalities and purpose of the company is to organise Koha services to public libraries. The academic libraries have the organisation of their own. This organisation and Koha-Suomi Ltd have a keen co-operation relationship to develop Koha for Finnish libraries. For example, the system developers communicate daily and have meetings together at least once a week. The presentation will also describe how the co-operation works at the different levels of the organisations (library directors, admin, and library staff).
Esa-Pekka Keskitalo

Esa-Pekka Keskitalo is an IT Systems Manager at the National Library of Finland. He was there when the National Library and a number of other academic libraries switched over to Koha in 2019. Now he leads the team that provides Koha maintenance and development services for those libraries. Esa-Pekka is also responsible for CRM and software development environment at the National Library. His previous experience includes digital preservation, institutional repositories, support services for research data management as well as open science and open access policy issues.

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Janet McGowan

I'm Janet McGowan, now Director of Operations at PTFS Europe. I've worked with the company since 2011 and have a background as a systems librarian in a UK university library. I like cats and books, my favourite colour is green, and my favourite New Zealand sweet is the Perky Nana!

Catch Me At Kohacon20

Day 2, 3:55-4:20pm: You say tomayto, I say tomahto – Janet McGowan, PTFS Europe (Pre-recorded, Online)

This presentation will demonstrate co-operation between the libraries that use Koha in Finland. The co-operation covers all library sectors: national, academic, and public. Koha-Suomi Ltd is owned by almost 100 municipalities and purpose of the company is to organise Koha services to public libraries. The academic libraries have the organisation of their own. This organisation and Koha-Suomi Ltd have a keen co-operation relationship to develop Koha for Finnish libraries. For example, the system developers communicate daily and have meetings together at least once a week. The presentation will also describe how the co-operation works at the different levels of the organisations (library directors, admin, and library staff).
Ian Beardslee
Catalyst Open Source Academy Coordinator, Catalyst IT

Ian has been at Catalyst IT for just under 15 years, cursing at computers in different roles over that time. Although at times regrets not having trained in professional macramé, he does usually enjoy working with people and computers. In his spare time he likes hurting himself while not skiing, not getting hit by people and alternating between watching the vege garden grow and ripping the weeds that weren’t actually veges out.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 3, 11:00–11:25 Catalyst Academy - Ian Beardslee, Catalyst (live, in-person)

Piloted in 2011, the Open Source Academy is a Catalyst initiative designed to provide training and work experience for young technologists. The creation of Catalyst’s Arduino Academy soon followed in 2013. Through a combination of classroom sessions and hands-on project work, Ian and his fellow tutors and mentors work with students to show them how to participate in open source projects and the wider community. Both Academies attract a large number of interested and enthusiastic applicants.
Julius Serrano
Accessibility Consultant, Catalyst IT

He has been working in accessibility for 14 years, and has performed tests and audits for agencies such as ACC, NZDF, Electoral Commission, MOH, MOJ, and DIA. Julius has conducted accessibility trainings and workshops in NZ and Asia, and has trained more than 200 people on accessibility and assistive technology.

Outside work: Julius is a motivational speaker and a practitioner of NLP (Neuro Linguistic Programming).

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 3, 9:00-9:25am: Keynote: Web Accessibility for Your Online Libraries – Julius Serrano, Catalyst (Live, In-person)

What is accessibility? It is the practice of making web content accessible to people with disabilities, and the degree to which people with disabilities can use and access content. The benefits of accessibility include: more people can access your online libraries, compliance with accessibility standards, improved usability and SEO, and opportunity to demonstrate social responsibility. People with disabilities use the Internet in various ways, such as screen readers, screen magnification, keyboards, and visual information. Julius will outline five steps to make your online library more accessible – descriptive images, keyboard accessible elements, accessible forms, sufficient colour contrast, and correct semantic structure. Julius will leave us all with a call to action.
Rebekka Pilppula

I've worked as a director of libraries in Turku since 2018. Earlier I worked as a director of Joensuu Regional library (2005-2017). I have been a member of the board of the Finnish Library Association (2006-2011) and a member of IFLA's Public Libraries section's standing committee (2010-2013). I was the deputy chairman of the Council for Public Libraries 2009-2011 and the chairman 2013-2017. I've been the Chairman of the Board of Koha-Suomi Ltd since the foundation of the company (2016).

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 3, 9:30-9:55pm: World’s best libraries - Rebekka Pilppula (Pre-recorded, Online)

Finnish public libraries are efficient and innovative libraries that are highly respected around the world. All the public libraries use progressive library systems and use of automation is common. Almost 80% of all Finns use annually public library. Loans per capita last year were 15,4. Total amount of the loans was almost 85,000,000. The presentation will describe the story behind the success. The presentation will also point out the meaning of the library system to the efficient library work and the quality of customer service.
Jacinta Osman

I lead the management of the library digital platform at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, a vocational education institution based in Aotearoa/New Zealand. I’m passionate about using technology to enhance and enable people’s access to information and resources. In 2018, we merged our two existing library systems into Koha, and at the same time implemented the EBSCO Discovery System Koha plugin, and the result was a library system that was easy for both staff and students to use, as well as reflecting our uniquely Kiwi values.

I enjoy watching cricket, walking on the beach, pottering in the garden and building large LEGO sets with the help of my eight-year-old son.

Pronouns: She/her.

Catch Me At Kohacon20

Day 3, 10:00-10:25pm: Data, data, cup of tea - Success factors for a successful Koha implementation - Jacinta Osman and Lee Rowe, Toi Ohomai Institute Of Technology (Live, In-Person)

In July 2018, Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology went live with Koha, hosted and supported by Catalyst. This followed a four month implementation project. The project team needed to migrate data from two different ILS (Voyager and Liberty) into Koha, integrate the EBSCO EDS plug-in, implement SSO, integrate with Ozone for patron data, configure our specific requirements, carry out comprehensive UAT, and much more. The project was highly successful, with Toi Ohomai senior leadership commenting that this was the smoothest IT project they had ever been involved with. This presentation will cover what made the project so successful from both a relationship and technical perspective. It will include the groundwork involved, including, communication between project members, unified policy development, and technical expertise. As with any project, there were lessons to be learned, and these will also be explored. Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology was formed on 1 May 2016 as the result of a merger of Bay of Plenty Polytechnic and Waiairiki Institute of Technology. Toi Ohomai is the largest tertiary provider in the Bay of Plenty and is one of the largest regional ITPs in New Zealand. Toi Ohomai is home to more than 14,000 students, more than 1000 staff, and offers more than 150 programmes ranging from certificate to postgraduate level. Toi Ohomai’s five main campuses are in Rotorua, Taupo, Tauranga, Tokoroa, and Whakatane. We teach from more than 68 delivery sites around the Bay of Plenty and South Waikato. There are two campus libraries, 23 library staff, 80,000 physical items, and an extensive collection of online resources.
Lee Rowe

Ko Manuao Kakau nō Ngāti He me Ngā Pōtiki, raua ko Wiremu Te Kanawa, nō Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Pūkenga, ōku kaiwhakaako te reo Māori.

Nō Ireland, Scotland, Cornwall, Wales, England ōku tīpuna.

I whānau mai ahau i Ōpunake, ki Taranaki.

Kei Tauranga e noho ana ahau, ināianei.

E noho ana ki te awa Waipapa.

Ko Ngāti Pākehā te iwi.

Ko Lee Rowe tōku ingoa.

I work in the vocational education sector managing library services at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology. Our library migrated to the Koha ILS in 2018 after an evaluation found it was the best system to meet the needs of our learners. It was also the one most closely aligned to Toi Ohomai's aspiration to be awakened and inspired by learning and to ensure our people, communities and region continue to prosper and flourish. Together with Koha we also make use of the EBSCO Discovery System Koha plugin to provide one search for all physical and electronic library resources.

I like spending time with my family, cycling, bush-walks, op-shopping, reading and playing the piano.

Pronouns: she/her.

Twitter: @leerowe

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Ian Beardslee
Catalyst Open Source Academy Coordinator, Catalyst IT

Ian has been at Catalyst IT for just under 15 years, cursing at computers in different roles over that time. Although at times regrets not having trained in professional macramé, he does usually enjoy working with people and computers. In his spare time he likes hurting himself while not skiing, not getting hit by people and alternating between watching the vege garden grow and ripping the weeds that weren’t actually veges out.

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Day 3, 11:00–11:25 Catalyst Academy - Ian Beardslee, Catalyst (live, in-person)

Piloted in 2011, the Open Source Academy is a Catalyst initiative designed to provide training and work experience for young technologists. The creation of Catalyst’s Arduino Academy soon followed in 2013. Through a combination of classroom sessions and hands-on project work, Ian and his fellow tutors and mentors work with students to show them how to participate in open source projects and the wider community. Both Academies attract a large number of interested and enthusiastic applicants.
Saima Qutab

Saima is a PhD student of Information Systems at the University of Auckland. Saima is investigating the governance mechanisms for sustainable crowdsourcing practices in the GLAM sector.

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Day 3, 2:00-2:25pm: A timeline of Koha Pakistan: What went well and what went wrong - Saima Qutab, Farasat Shafi Ullah, and Asif Waheed Kokhar (Live, In-person)

The Koha journey in Pakistan started in April 2007 with a discussion among a few IT passionate libraries on PakLAG Yahoo group. There has been no turning back since then. Pakistani library professionals joined hands to learn, customise, adapt, and implement Koha in libraries. There were numerous challenges to adopt the open source solution, such as poor ICT infrastructure, lack of IT skilled libraries, lack of trust in open source solutions, and budgeting. Some selfless learners became volunteer mentors to other libraries for Koha training and implementation. Over the yars, now more than 50 libraries are using different modules of Koha. However, several Koha training, intengration into formal LIS education and acceptability does not reflect the large-scale implementation of Koha in Pakistan. This presentation will throw light on the Koha journey in Pakistan, and outline what went well and what went wrong. The study will show guidelines for developing countries like Pakistan, and the Koha community to understand the challenges of adopting Koha and how to avoid pitfalls. It will also guide national strategy to lead a successful transition to open source ILS solutions.
Farasat Shafi Ullah

An experienced professional with more than 18 years of work experience with proven expertise in managing and leading university libraries, special libraries, and community libraries. He is passionate about volunteer support towards LIS professionals, and has successfully conducted many sessions on library automation, open source, and free ILS (i.e. Koha, WinIsis and LIMS) adoption in libraries. He has been working with Pakistan Library Automation since 2000. He has special skills in library data conversion from non-marc to marc21 using different tools like MarcEdit, Bibdata, MS Access and MS Excel. He has some international publications and conference presentations on his credit.

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Day 5: Workshops, 2:00pm-3:25pm: Playing with MarcEdit: Harvesting, editing, and recycling of Open MARC21 data into Koha - Farasat Shafi Ullah (In-person, Thorndon Room)

This workshop will provide professional experience sharing of data migration from software like WINISIS, Excel data, SirsiDynix to Koha ILS data migration testing, and a hands-on session to participants to understand the metadata editing challenges, strategies, and techniques. It is anticipated that through this workshop, participants will be able to cope with the metadata management and editing challenges during data migration, data updating for ILS/discovery tool, preparing MARC data for bulk import and the difference between mrk and mrc files.
Asif Waheed

Asif Waheed is a librarian with the Government Punjab Public Library (established in Lahore, Pakistan in 1884), where he has been since 2007. An expert in various integrated library systems, Asif was instrumental in the library’s 2018 Koha migration, a project that included approximately 204,000 bibliographic records in Arabic, English, Persian, and Urdu.

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Kelly McElligott

Kelly is energetic and personable which makes her perfect for her role as an Educator with ByWater Solutions. Kelly’s background is in the Public Library sector starting with Technical Services and then moving towards a Systems oriented librarian. Although her degree is from the University of Arizona, she is an East Coaster all the way through! Currently, she resides in Maine, works from home and travels to libraries assisting with their migration to Koha. In addition to educating new libraries in Koha, she creates a weekly podcast with Jessie Zairo about Koha. The topics Kelly and Jessie cover in the podcast, Monday Minutes, range from upgrade features, contributing to the Koha community and cool unknown system preferences.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 3, 2:45-3:10pm: Teamwork: We have your back! - Kelly McElligott, ByWater Solutions and Jessica Zairo, ByWater Solutions (Pre-recorded, Online)

Kelly and Jessie took the question, how to continue to educate Koha users as the software grows and flourishes each and every upgrade? In what way/s can learning Koha be fun and educational? Solution: Monday Minutes! Jessie and Kelly created a weekly tutorial video and blog post called Monday Minutes with Jessie and Kelly. This has been very successful with our partners. Our goal was to break down one thing in Koha, demonstrate it, talk about use cases, and do this in less than 10 minute videos for users to watch. In this presentation, we will tell you how we created educational, fun, short videos to train Koha users. Through teamwork – we can make it easier and more enjoyable. Isn't work fun with another fellow colleague in the trenches with you? Turn to Jessie and Kelly for help – we present our making of tutorial videos about Koha and so much more.
Grant McLean
Grant McLean is a senior developer and trainer with Free Software specialists Catalyst IT. He has developed and contributed to a number of Open Source packages in Perl, Ruby, Python and Javascript. He is active in the Wellington user group community and a somewhat regular speaker at tech meet-ups and conferences.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 5: Workshops - Thorndon Room, 9:00-10:25am: Unicode and Perl: There is no escape - Grant McLean, Catalyst IT (In-Person, Thorndon Room)

If you've ever been frustrated or confused by encoding problems in Perl, this session is for you. We'll start by building a shared understanding of what Unicode is and how Perl's functions and modules deal with Unicode data. Then we'll explore some common pain points and look at tools you can use to deal with them. Areas we'll explore will include: encoding conversions; importing and exporting data; HTML, XML, and JSON; implications for web servers and databases.
Jonathan Hunt

Jonathan Hunt is a Senior Web Developer at Catalyst IT with an interest in open data and cultural heritage. His recent linked data experience includes the University of Canterbury QuakeStudies archive, and implementing aspects of the Records in Context ontology for Archives Central.

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Day 5: Workshops, 10:30am-12:00pm and 1:30-4:00pm: Linked data 101 (In-person, Pipitea Room)

A gentle introduction to linked data concepts (see also semantic web for knowledge graphs). What is linked data and why is it relevant? How does it work and who is using it? How can I query a knowledge graph? How is Wikidata relevant to libraries, and what applications should I know about? Participants will benefit from an internet connected device with web browser, with some exercises involving some light typing. No programming is required. The workshop is not Koha specific.
Avin Lee Shinn Hwa

Avin has business development and marketing experience and has worked for FE Technologies for many years, so he has a high level of product knowledge. Avin has worked for FE Technologies both in Asia and Australia in operational, sales and development roles. Avin’s key focus is the NZ, CHINA, NSW and SA market. Avin is fluent in Mandarin and spends time in China working with partners developing strong relationships with our parent company, Invengo.

Catch me at Kohacon20

Day 5: Workshops, 9:00-10:25am: RFID solutions amid COVID-19 - Avin Lee Shinn Hwa, FE Technologies, with Christopher Kellermeyer, Altadena Public Library, and Spencer Smith, McKinney Public Library (Online)

FE Technologies is a leading global supplier of library RFID products and we have over 1000 sites installed to date. A relative newcomer to the US market, our team based in Texas is rapidly growing as our customer base expands, and to date we have a large range of libraries as customers here, including McKinney Public Library, Payson City, Hennepin County, Virginia Beach, Altadena, Euless, Benbrook, Deschutes and many more.

American libraries are fast discovering that FE Technologies delivers a unique solution that is specifically designed in conjunction with libraries – to improve patron experience and encourage return visits to the library, increase circulation rates, and improve productivity with self service solutions and the most comprehensive suite of returns solutions available. Our business is entirely dedicated to library RFID products and services and we’re here for the long haul, with a dedicated local support team and an outstanding service reputation. Our product range includes the following:

- A range of Self Check solutions to suit every budget and library architecture
- Staff circulation tools that allow full integration with the ILS for multiple item check in and check out
- Returns chutes and a Smart Bin that automatically and instantly check in items
- The innovative Sort Assistant software that uses onscreen color-coded bars to conduct a detailed sort of returned items and automatically printed hold slips and transit slips
- Security Gates with a range of installations options to suit all types of entranceways
- The fastest inventory device on the market that can also update the ILS live
• Mobile applications including the ability for patrons and staff to check out items using a cellphone
• Automatic Sorters and all componentry.

FE Technologies has recently doubled its US office size and team size with recent spate of new hires with specialist library and ILS experience, ready to help your journey to a library RFID solution that suits your unique requirements.
Christopher Kellermeyer

My lords! My ladies. And everyone else here not sitting in an office chair!
Today…today….you find yourselves equals. For you are all equally blessed. For I have the pride, the privilege, nay, the pleasure….of introducing to you an I.T. guy sired by I.T. guys. A computer expert who can trace his lineage back beyond ARPANET. I first met him atop a mountain near Jerusalem, praying to Kubric's Monolith, asking Its forgiveness for the A.I. blood spilt by his code. Next, he amazed me further still in Singapore when he saved a fatherless Intel microchip from the would-be ravishings of its dreadful AMD uncle. In Greece, he spent a year in silence….just to better understand the sound…of a whisper. And so, without further gilding the lily and with no more ado, I give to you, the Seeker of Serenity, the Protector of processors, the Enforcer of Kubric's Monolith, the one, the only, SIR Chrrrristopher Kellermeyer!!

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Spencer Smith

Spencer is the Director of Libraries for the city of McKinney, Texas. He joined the McKinney team in August of 2015. Prior to that, he was Library Director for the town of Little Elm, and before that a knowledge manager for a venture capital firm. He has been working within the Koha community since 2012.

McKinney Public Library system consists of 2 branch libraries with 49 fulltime equivalent staff serving an exurban community of 195,000 people. The libraries, working under the division of building relationships and impacting lives through discovering, learning, and fun, saw recent circulation volumes surpass 1.6 million checkouts per year, or just under 5 checkouts per visit.

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