

Anna Whitehead



Nationality

Swedish/British. Citizen of New Zealand.

Recent affiliation/freelancer recent area of working

Archives New Zealand, Conservator, 2021-present, part time

Education

Hastings College of Arts and Technology, UK, Diploma in Foundation Studies, Art Foundation course, 1994-6

Hastings College of Arts and Technology, UK, City and Guilds Further Education Teachers' Certificate, 1995

Camberwell School of Art and Crafts, UK, Diploma in Paper Conservation (Books and Archival materials), 1981-83

London College of Printing, UK, Certificate in Craft Bookbinding, 1980-81

Previous important affiliations/for freelancers most important clients

Archives New Zealand, Conservator, 2015-2021, full time

Archives New Zealand, Project Conservator, 03-07/2015, National Collection of War Art survey

Archives New Zealand, Project Conservator, 07-11/2014, Active Archives Project

Archives New Zealand, Project Conservator, 09-12/2013, Active Archives Project

Private practice and career break, UK, voluntary work, including Parish Councillor and Tree Warden, 2004-2011

Canterbury Cathedral Archives and Library/Kent Archives Service, UK, Conservation Manager, 2001-04

Private practice, Bookbinding and Book and Paper Conservation, UK. Studios successively at Blackboys, Hastings and Polegate, East Sussex. Clients included private stately homes and National Trust properties all over the southern half of England, 1985-2001

Assistant Archive Conservator, Gloucestershire Record Office, UK, 1983-5

Teaching

Adult Education, Bookbinding, monthly 2020

Adult Education, Bookbinding evening classes, 1995-6

Brighton Polytechnic Bookbinding course, temporary Course Tutor, later External Examiner, 1994

Most important publications

PLOS ONE, 16/01/2019, co-author.

Genetic analysis identifies the missing parchment of New Zealand's founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi.

This is the story of how DNA research helped to prove the authenticity of a piece of parchment which had been cut off the lower membrane of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi). Collaboration between three of New Zealand's heritage institutions (Te Papa Museum, Alexander Turnbull Library and Archives New Zealand) to produce this research and publication, will enable conservators to better evaluate the deterioration of the Waitangi sheet, open the doors to further research and develop conservation strategies for its ongoing care.

NZCCM June 2017 newsletter, co-author.

He Tohu

I coordinated a description of some of the aspects involved in the conservation and exhibition of three of the most iconic documents in New Zealand: the 1835 He Whakaputanga (Declaration of Independence), the 1840 Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) and the 1893 Women's Suffrage Petition. This exhibition is designed to run for 25 years.

AICCM March 2017 newsletter

Plastic Fantastic in the Archives!

This is a write up of a talk I gave at the NZCCM 2016 Conference into an investigation into the plastic used in 1930s storage sleeves, including those that housed He Whakaputanga (the 1835 Declaration of Independence of the United Tribes of New Zealand) until the early 1990s.

Active Member of associations

NZCCM (New Zealand Conservators of Cultural Materials), member 2015-present

NZCCM, Wellington Representative 2017-20

ABC (Association of Book Crafts), 2016-present