

Labour 100 Archives Project

Emma Kelly

Tēnā koutou – my name is Emma Kelly and I am the Archivist for the Labour 100 Project from September 2016 until September 2017. This is a collaboration between the New Zealand Labour History Project and the NZ Labour Party. My task is to encourage past, present and future members of the Labour Party to rummage through their attics and cupboards to find photos, papers and stories of the oldest political party in Aotearoa New Zealand.

I have worked as a digital and physical image archivist at the *NZ Herald*, as a paper records archivist at KPMG and I wrote my PhD on Jonathan Dennis and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision (formerly the New Zealand Film Archive). That work was published as a book, *The Adventures of Jonathan Dennis: Bicultural film archiving practice in Aotearoa New Zealand* (John Libbey Press, UK, 2015).

The Labour 100 project does not intend to create a new archive, but instead desires to promote an understanding of archiving practice to encourage the deposit of appropriate materials in archives, museums, ngā puna o maumahara or libraries in each region. My role is to support people's learning about archiving processes, to talk about what they have to ensure things go to the right places, and to liaise with repositories on behalf of those who would like to deposit materials. The focus is

"Today we went to Mission Bay then I took the kids up the Michael Joseph Savage memorial on Bastion Point. He was the first Labour Prime Minister and was worshipped by many people. We had a photo of him on the wall in the living room. In 1940 when he died, he was taken to Auckland by train. Mum took me down to the station to see the coffin. I remember it was in a wagon with the side open so people could 'pay their respects'. Many thousands of people were there (I have learned since)".

**John Kelly (born 1936)
Auckland, New Zealand September 2016**

grass-roots and branch level records and we hope to encourage people to continue seeking materials even after my role has finished by advising them about archival practice and process. I will be travelling the regions over the coming year to teach the basics of archives and the processes of deposit.

Our aim is not to create expectations that everything people find will be archived, but to encourage an understanding of the basics of preserving various photos, recordings, papers and ephemera. Part of my job is to liaise between the public and the repositories to ensure that the archivists within the institutions are not overwhelmed with duplicates, mouldy photos and materials which are of little interest to future archive users. I will also ensure an understanding of the ownership of materials so that the authority to donate has been clarified prior to approaching each institution.

I will create an umbrella digital record on the online Community Archive NZ so that these records can be easily found in the future. I look forward to working with you all on this wonderful project and I welcome your feedback and ideas.

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