





Australian Government

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Trading as Museums Galleries Australia

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Museums Australia National Office acknowledges the Ngunnawal people who are the traditional custodians of this land on which we work and pay respect to the Elders of the Ngunnawal Nation both past and present.

Table of Contents

National President's Introduction	4
National Director's Introduction	5
National Council 2017–2019	7
About Museums Galleries Australia	7
Branches & Chapters	11
National Networks	17
National Conference	19
Membership	20
Awards	22
Communications	23
Partnerships	24
Finances	26
Organisational Members	27

National President's Introduction



Dr Robin Hirst PSM National President Museums Galleries Australia

In May I was elected to the office of National President. I have been a long-time member of the professional associations which represent the museum and gallery sector in Australia and internationally. When I was approached to stand for the position, I felt I had much to offer an organisation that has helped me throughout a long career in museums. It is important that we, as an organisation, have a strong and united voice, and one that reflects the views and needs of the membership.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the outgoing National President, Frank Howarth, and the councillors who carried out some excellent reform work prior to the new Council taking up office. One of the changes instigated was the introduction of the trading name of our organisation from Museums Australia to Museums Galleries Australia, to be more inclusive of the membership and better express the intent of the organisation. However, there was some disquiet regarding the change of name and the matter was left to the incoming Council.

The newly elected Executive held a Member's Forum on 16th May during the national conference in Brisbane. Clearly there was work to be done with the membership to resolve not only the issue of the name, but to look more closely as to what the organisation stands for and the way it conducts its business. It became apparent that the organisation would benefit from a strategic review which would consult widely with the membership and our stakeholders. Such a review would give the organisation the confidence to move forward with the general support of the membership. An extraordinary meeting, by teleconference, with the incoming board was held on the 6th June and the proposal for a Strategic Review was endorsed, as was a detailed project plan.

We formed a taskforce of six councillors and the national director and put in train a program of meetings, consultations, workshops and an online membership survey. The online membership survey revealed that there is a lot of agreement about the top priorities that we should be focusing on in 2018. Early analysis of the members survey reveals the following:

For Individual Members, the top three priorities were

- · Increase advocacy for museums and galleries
- Deliver a larger range of training and skills development via different channels
- Make the national conferences more accessible

For Organisational Members, the top three priorities were very similar

- · Increase advocacy for museums and galleries
- Deliver a larger range of training and skills development via different channels
- Provide more advice on funding and other opportunities

However, as we began to conduct the review and develop the strategic plan for 2018-2020, we also began moving quickly to respond to members' needs. The organisational budget for 2018 is investing in increased training opportunities and skills development programs, and more support for participation in the national conference. National Council approved the judicious use of some retained earnings by branches and networks to fund these activities.

In 2018 we will complete the Strategic Review and

National Director's Introduction

deliver a report for the June 2018 meeting of the National Council.

We have a strong national council. I am pleased to be working alongside Simon Elliott (Vice-President), Carol Cartwright (Secretary) and Margaret Lovell (Treasurer) and the other councillors.

I would like to thank our indefatigable Executive Director, Alex Marsden, for what she has achieved for the organisation in 2017, working with her dedicated team in the National office. Thanks also to those in the state and territory branches, both staff and councillors. Your work is so critical in giving us a face and a voice across the nation.

Finally, our job in 2018 is to keep moving forward to best represent our members' needs and interests.



ally hands-

Alex Marsden National Director Museums Galleries Australia

Museums Galleries Australia is a national organisation that has two defining and complementary roles: a membership association and a peak body. As a member-supported body we aim to provide advice, communications and services to enable organisations and workers to thrive; and as a peak body we speak with delegated authority on behalf of the sector with the aim of communicating the value of museums and galleries, advocating for the sector, raising professional standards, and promoting ethical practice.

It has been another very busy and challenging year for our state and territory branches, our national networks and the national council and office. I wrote in last year's annual report that it was my intention in 2017 to continue on the path of more direct action, advocacy and high-profile projects, and the year saw the successful start of two big projects: MGA's Indigenous Roadmap Project; and the Digital Access to Collections Program of regional workshops and state digital access plans, under the auspices of GLAM Peak. Both were made possible through securing grants from a recent and short-lived program of the Commonwealth government, along with significant in-kind support from museums, galleries and other cultural institutions across Australia, as well as a number of technology partners. Both are exemplary national projects involving consultation, research, standards-setting and professional development.

Advocacy on behalf of all our members was a strong focus during the year. We made a number of submissions to Inquiries, such as the Commonwealth government's Digital Economy Strategy, gave interviews, wrote articles and media releases, joined industry training bodies, and strengthened the GLAM Peak collaborative network. At the state/territory and network levels, significant advocacy and collaboration have also strengthened the impact and effectiveness of your association.

Improving how we operate as a member organisation was a key aim for the year – the incoming President, Dr Robin Hirst, guided stage one of an organisational Strategic Review and the national council, office, branches and networks carried out a range of consultations about the organisation's value proposition, name and branding. Part of the work included an online membership survey which provided terrific feedback about what we do (and could do either more or less of) and I was greatly heartened by over 80% of respondents expressing satisfaction with their association.

Part of MGA's strategic review process is to look with fresh eyes at the world we live in, and question many of our current assumptions and assertions. Extensive Australia Council research in recent years demonstrates that the vast majority of Australians report positive impacts of the arts and culture in their lives. Cultural institutions are seen as playing a central role in providing trusted places to engage with others. They are civic forums for exploring what is known about the natural world, art and human history, as well as sharing our social experience, values and identity. However, there are well-founded public concerns surrounding the political will to provide long-term and adequate levels of funding and support to our public institutions. Our organisational branches are concerned with these issues as they affect the range of institutions in their state, as well as exploring how to provide membership services generally with often limited or declining resources.

As an independent national organisation, building resilience is critical. In 2017 we improved financial integration and compliance processes, and looked for a more secure and diversified resource base for the organisation including sponsorships beyond the annual conference. On that front, we were delighted to welcome Panasonic as the inaugural sponsorship partner for the MAGNAs - Museums and Galleries National Awards. We continue to provide secretariat services to ICOM Australia and thank them for their support.

Capacity building and professional development are both part of our service offer and a way of diversifying our resource base. 2017 has seen numerous workshops and seminars developed and delivered by branches and networks, and a highly successful national conference held in Brisbane. My thanks to the team at Museums & Galleries Queensland for their huge support. The annual conference is also an important networking opportunity for members and each year it is the locus for a hive of activity: annual general meetings, awards, network events and seminars, and the Members' Forum.

Networking, communication and collaboration have thus been important themes of the year. Fundamental to the future effectiveness of organisations such as ours is the scale and strength of collaboration and partnerships with other associations, peak bodies, service providers, businesses and philanthropists. Finally, my thanks to the national council and to all our members - for the continued privilege of working as your national director.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES ARE HUGELY TRUSTED SOURCES OF INFORMATION, LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

National Council 2017–2019

Executive

PRESIDENT

Dr Robin Hirst PSM

(Director, Hirst Projects, Melbourne)

VICE-PRESIDENT

Simon Elliott

(Deputy Director, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane)

TREASURER

Margaret Lovell

(Contract Project Manager Canberra)

SECRETARY

Carol Cartwright

([retired] Head, Education & Visitor Services, Australian War Memorial, Canberra)

Ordinary Members

Paul Bowers

(Director, Exhibitions & Collections, Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne)

Dr Mark Crees (Director, Araluen Cultural Precinct, Alice Springs)

Suzanne Davies (Director, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne)

Dr Lynda Kelly (LyndaKellyNetworks, NSW)

Craig Middleton

(Curator, Centre of Democracy - History Trust of South Australia, Adelaide)

Debbie Sommers

(Volunteer, Port Macquarie Historical Society, Port Macquarie)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

Alec Coles (Chair, ICOM Australia), Western Australian Museum

PUBLIC OFFICER

Louise Douglas (National Museum of Australia, Canberra)

About Museums Galleries Australia

Background

Museums Australia Incorporated, trading as Museums Galleries Australia (MGA), was established in January 1994, arising from a planned decision to merge a number of separate museums associations long existing in Australia. A convergent desire emerged in the 1990s to strengthen the museums sector nationally (in its services delivery, policies, programs, training and interface with government): to pursue shared objectives on a collaborative basis through one strong national body, with both organisational as well as individual membership supporting and providing direct expertise and input for the museums and galleries sector nationally.

MGA draws individual and institutional resources as well as significant government and private sector support across some State/Territory jurisdictions (most strongly in Victoria and Western Australia), to support the development of museums and galleries across Australia and the communities they serve.

Scope

Museums Galleries Australia members resource and provide expertise and input to ensure a dynamic national membership, development and services-delivery body. This works through a constellation of eight State and Territory Branches, 18 Chapters, 11 specialist National Networks, and is supported in national administration and coordination by the MGA National Office.

Vision

Our vision is for the arts, natural and cultural heritage to be valued, sustained and communicated as it represents the shared histories, heritage, and creativity, and identities of all Australians.

Purpose

In supporting MGA members and services, to strengthen the museums, galleries and cultural heritage sector broadly through open communication, improvement of industry standards and ethics, influence with government, educators, industry and the community, and collaboration with industry partners.

Our Values

- MGA champions its membership and the museums sector as resources for social development, based on equality of opportunity and support for intellectual, cultural and social diversity.
- MGA promotes an understanding of heritage as including natural and cultural, tangible and intangible dimensions. Heritage is conserved through particular objects and people, sites and places, events and narratives, music and performance, song, dance, scientific research, history and other human activities that convey knowledge and bear cultural meaning.
- MGA affirms that governments and communities share responsibility to support and resource the arts and the conservation and communication of the nation's heritage.
- MGA believes that the distinctive work museums and galleries pursue in conjunction with communities in preservation, research, interpretation, education and public programming is critical to the conservation of the nation's memory.
- MGA recognises Australia's Indigenous peoples as the nation's First Peoples and is committed to ensuring that Indigenous people have control and management of their cultural heritage and are active participants in any interpretation to the wider community.
- MGA supports ICOM's Australian National Committee – as our 'international committee' – which offers important resources for extending the national museum sector's contacts and access to international networks for professional development, partnerships and exchange.

Our Environment

- Commonwealth, State and Local government policy for our sector varies greatly across Australia: from strong support to sometimes minimal provision.
- Government funding for our sector is declining, while non-government resources are potentially increasing.
- Increasing cultural and age diversity across Australia, with our sector generally relying on an often older workforce and an increasingly higher proportion of

volunteers.

- Increasing expectations from Australia's Indigenous peoples for protection of, respect for, and engagement in presentation of their cultural heritage.
- Greater community and government focus on ethical cultural heritage acquisition and collection building.
- Increasing community focus on environmental sustainability and the impacts of climate change.

Our Objectives

- Members and industry practitioners receive high quality services wherever they are in Australia, delivered by MGA or another organisation working in conjunction/consultation with MGA.
- MGA builds and sustains a strong membership base.
- Government at all levels seeks out and respects the views of MGA on policies and programs relating to the museums, galleries and cultural heritage sector.
- The achievements of the museum and gallery sector are recognised and celebrated.
- MGA has a resilient financial base with risks managed.
- The rights and aspirations of Australia's and the world's first peoples are acknowledged and respected.
- The rights of those who created material held in Australia's collections of material culture are respected.
- Digital access to collections and digital technology is supported to benefit all members and the sector.
- Collaboration with other industry bodies advances the interests of and strengthens MGA and the sector.

National Association Funding

The work of the Association is primarily enabled through its members (large and small Organisational Members as well as Individual Members). Membership fees support the Association's activities across all States and Territories. Where possible, grant funding is sought for specific programs, such as the bursary program for the National Conference, funded by the Department of Communications and the Arts. Museums Galleries Australia (Victoria) and Museums Galleries Australia (WA) have been substantially funded through their state governments to provide services to the museums and galleries within their respective states.

Governance Framework and Organisational Structure

The MGA National Council, supported by the MGA National Office (MANO), oversees the development of operations, policies, services, national strategy and advocacy, to advance the agreed aims of the organisation.

Governance of MGA as an Association is conducted in accordance with the Museums Australia Constitution and By-Laws, including some modifications for Museums Galleries Australia Divisions that were adopted in 2004, with subsequent minor amendments by Council in 2008.

National Council Standing Committees

MGA relies greatly on the dedicated support of councillors and colleagues who volunteer their valuable time and expertise, and MGA thanks them all for their contribution.

Active National Council Standing Committees operating in 2017 included:

Management and Governance Committee

Chair: Robin Hirst, National President

Finance and Audit Committee

Chair: Margaret Lovell, National Treasurer

Membership

Chair: Mark Crees, National Council Member

Conference

Chair: Carol Cartwright, National Secretary

Communications

Chair: Lynda Kelly, National Council Member

Professional Development

Chair: Paul Bowers, National Council Member Awards

Chair: Lynda Kelly, National Council Member

Indigenous Advisory Committee

Chair: Mirna Heruc, National Council Member

Collaborative Sector Projects

GLAM Peak

GLAM Peak is a collaborative network established by national peak bodies in the Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Historical Societies, and Museums sector in June 2015. This core group, together with representatives from major institutions already running national infrastructure as well as organisations representing smaller institutions, was united by two convictions: that digital access to Australia's collections is critical twenty first century infrastructure for Australia, and that working together will enable this to happen much more coherently and quickly.

The network has a breadth of representation of the cultural sector that is unprecedented. The network met three times during 2017, during which it was successful in receiving a second Commonwealth Government Catalyst grant of \$294,500 for stage two of an ambitious project to develop and support collection digitisation and digital access initiatives across Australia. A series of workshops in regional parts of Australia was commenced in November 2017 and were very warmly received. A number of technology partners also committed very generous support to this project.

The network continues to grow, and while it is critically focused on the digital access project, the collaboration has led to significant contributions to government strategic initiatives, such as research infrastructure planning and joint advocacy. MGA co-convenes GLAM Peak and shares strategic and project management, as well as secretariat duties, with close colleagues at ALIA and the NSLA.

Indigenous Advisory Committee

MGA's Indigenous Advisory Committee has focused on participating in a broadly-based Indigenous Roadmap Project Advisory Group, which is guiding MGA's landmark project to develop an Indigenous Roadmap for the cultural sector. The collaborative project, funded by the Commonwealth government's former Catalyst Fund for Culture and the Arts, has benefited greatly from the advice given by the Group, which comprises members from museums, galleries, arts and Indigenous organisations from around Australia.

Strategic Review Taskforce

Chaired by National President, Robin Hirst, the Strategic Review Taskforce was established in June 2017 to coordinate consultation with members and stakeholders about the strategic direction of the association, including the name change discussed at the 2017 Annual General Meeting and Members Forum. The Taskforce met regularly from June to December 2017 and oversaw the extensive online membership survey. It will report in 2018.

Management and Accountability

Audit

Museums Galleries Australia conducts an annual financial audit in line with the ACT Registrar-General's Office regulations. The annual audit is facilitated and consolidated by the National Office and the nominated Auditor Mr Anthony Wilson (Accountability).

Ethical Standards

MGA members are bound by Museums Galleries Australia's *Code of Ethics*, and Museums Galleries Australia - especially through its partnership with ICOM Australia - upholds the *ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums* (2004) as the international base-standards code promulgated by the International Council of Museums.

Staff

Museums Galleries Australia National Office

The National Office (located at the National Museum of Australia until February 2017) maintains one full-time and three part-time employees:

National Director Alex Marsden

National Operations Manager Lee Scott

Manager Communications, Awards Coordinator Stephanie Hamilton

Administrative Assistant, Membership Officer Elana Leske

New South Wales

New South Wales branch contracted Dr Andrew Simpson as Executive Officer to support the state branch committee and provide services for NSW members and chapters.

Victoria

MGA (Vic) State Branch (working out of generous office facilities in the Melbourne Museum) supports a dynamic team of full-time, part-time and contracted positions, headed by Executive Director, Laura Miles. MGA (Vic) is responsible for providing various programs and services across Victoria, including the important Museum Accreditation Program and Victorian Collections.

Western Australia

In 2017 MGAWA supported hree part-time staff including Executive Officer, Robert Mitchell.

Queensland

The Queensland branch maintains a 0.1 FTE Membership Officer as a secondment from Museums and Galleries Queensland.

Other States and Territories

All other MGA divisions and sub-divisions are fully operated by colleagues acting as *volunteers* - often serving on a wide array of committees - providing direction for the association's services outreach, national and regional collaboration, events development, and development of all parts of the sector.

Privacy and Records Management

MGA members' personal and financial information is maintained in strictest confidentiality, in line with Museums Galleries Australia's Privacy Policy Statement. MGA does not keep financial information about members on file.

Financial records, including membership transactions, are maintained (electronically and offsite) for at least five years, and human resources records for seven years. MGA's membership database archives are maintained electronically.

Branches & Chapters

Australian Capital Territory

President	Rebecca Coronel	
Vice-President	Rowan Henderson	
Secretary	Kate Morschel	
Treasurer	Kate Armstrong	
Committee members		
Carol Cartwright	Roger Garland	
Vicki Northey	Julia Greenstreet	
Jade Koekoe	Grace Blakeley-Carroll	
Felicity Harmey	Ben Pratten	

2017 was another productive year for the MGA ACT branch. The Committee developed and delivered a plan of monthly activities throughout the year. Attendance at events was steady, and included both regular attendees and new members.

The National Committee approved a change in the operating name of the organisation to Museums Galleries Australia in May 2017. Further consultation regarding a formal name change to the Association is ongoing, and will be put to the national AGM in June 2018.

The 2017 program included 11 events, the details of which can be found on the ACT Branch page of the National website.

Finance and Membership

The MGA ACT branch remains in a strong financial position, and was able to generate a small amount of revenue from events and activities throughout the year. The majority of income was generated through membership fees. The 2017 year ended with \$71,322 in equity available to the branch (an increase of \$8,798 from the previous year). MGA ACT subsidises the costs for most events with members either free of charge or only required to make a modest payment. Nonmembers attend for a fee (with some exclusions) and are always encouraged to join. Overall, across the 2017 financial year, costs for delivering events were offset by membership contributions and participant fees.

MGA ACT is committed to utilizing the available funds to run regular programs in Canberra, and to contribute to attendance at the annual conference through generous bursary assistance. Three bursaries were provided in 2017, two for the national conference, and one for a digital symposium held in Canberra.

The Financial Report outlines the financial position of the branch in more detail.

Membership was steady, and the renewal of several large organisations contributed significantly to the ACT branch financial position. The ACT continues to have a high level of institutional members (22 at the end of 2017), and the committee continues to seek efficient ways to communicate to these members.

Committee

The Committee was active and committed to delivering MGA ACT's programming goals. All committee members are volunteers, and organised events and activities in their own time. The committee met face to face every month at the Museum of Australian Democracy, and finalized program details with a flurry of emails and phone calls throughout the year.

Members from the MGA ACT branch were present at each of the face to face National Council meetings through 2017, and were able to contribute to national discussions regarding funding, programs, advocacy and use of membership funds.

I would like to acknowledge the additional efforts of committee members in supporting broader MGA activities and programs. Carol Cartwright continues to contribute greatly to the planning and delivery of the national conference program, Roger Garland worked to update our web content, and Jade Koekoe helped us develop social media options.

All members of the committee contributed to a redraft of the ACT Strategic Plan, which is in final draft form and will be finalized by the incoming 2018 committee.





New South Wales

President	Rebecca Pinchin
Vice-President	Kay Soderlund
Secretary	Lucy Clark
Treasurer	Emma Best
Committee Memb	ers
Marea Buist	Maree Clutterbuck
Ellie Downing	Jenny Horder
Sarah Haid	Debbie Sommers
Branch officer	Andrew Simpson

The NSW Branch comprises 161 organisational and 170 individual members. The Branch contributed to MGA's

TOP: Condition reporting at *Stitches, Threads & Yarns* Workshop No. 7, September 2017, Mid North Coast Chapter.

BOTTOM: *Stitches, Threads & Yarns* Workshop No. 4, July 2017, Mid North Coast Chapter.

submission to the NSW Upper House Inquiry into Museums and Galleries and kept a watching brief at the Inquiry's hearings in 2016. In 2017 the Branch was again a sponsor of the Museums and Galleries NSW IMAGinE Awards and provided a small number of bursaries to NSW members to attend the Annual Conference held in Brisbane. Two editions of the Branch newsletter Museum Matters were published. A new Branch committee was elected in November 2017 and programming of activities for 2018/19 has commenced.

Central Tablelands Chapter

President

Alison Russell

Marea Buist

Far North Coast Chapter

President

We held two meetings last year. The first was in March, at the Northern Rivers Military Museum, Casino Drill Hall, Casino and included: Demonstration of virtual 3D presentation of museum materials (Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum presentation); and *Engaging our historic heritage – The use of contemporary arts events in reactivating historic places and spaces* (Arts Northern Rivers presentation). The second was in September at the Port of Yamba Museum and included: History Education Network (local initiative); Visions 4 Change Toolkit and Evaluation (Post of Yamba Museum presentation).

Hunter Chapter

President

Boris Sokoloff

Mid North Coast Chapter

President

Debbie Sommers

The Mid North Coast chapter has 18 members, 15 organisations and 3 individual members. During 2017 the Chapter ran a skills development project titled 'Stitches, Threads & Yarns'. This involved 7 workshops covering costume and textile collections documentation including significance assessment and condition reporting, and collection care. The project was funded by the 2016 Community Heritage Grants program. Some 34 workers from 13 museums on the Mid North Coast of NSW participated in the series of workshops, most of them were museum volunteers. Many of the project outcomes can be viewed at https://ehive.com/communities/1099/ stitches-threads-and-yarns.

New England North West Chapter

President

Northern Territory

President	Ilka Schacht
Secretary	Janie Mason

The NT Branch responded several times and participated in various consultative meetings regarding proposals for new NT museums and strategic/master planning for the NT heritage and cultural institutions. The Branch has started planning for the 2019 National Conference, which will be held in Alice Springs.

Sue Singleton

Queensland

President	Emma Bain	
Vice-President	Trudie Leigo	
Secretary	Kate Eastick	
Treasurer	Brian Tucker	
Committee Members		
Josef Hextall	Richard Hunt	

The Queensland Branch was focused on organising and delivering a highly successful National Conference which was held in Brisbane in May (see conference report later in this Annual Report).

A new state committee was elected in November and strategic planning and programming has begun for 2018 and into the future.

South Australia

President	Mirna Heruc	
Vice-President	Pauline Cockrill	
Secretary	Alice Beale	
Treasurer	Melinda Rankin	
Committee Members		
Tony Kanellos	Veronika Petroff	

- 5		
Moira	Simpson	Craig Middleton

Julia Garnaut

In South Australia we had a very good year. We focused on increasing our outreach and encouraging members to participate. To that end we hosted 18 events with a total audience of 479. Our membership increased by 10%. We offered 2 bursaries for the National Conference in Brisbane. With the assistance of the MGA National office we secured funding from the State Government (Arts South Australia) for bursaries for South Australian practitioners to attend the Museum Leadership Course. Our members participated in national debates around Indigenous participation within museums and galleries, visual art representation within the broader field of museums and supported the emerging Professional Network in South Australia. As part of this we awarded a membership prize for the most promising student in the Museum and Curatorial Studies course offered by the University of Adelaide and The Art Gallery of South Australia.

Two highlights for the year need to be outlined here, one being participation of 50 people across the South Australian GLAM sector in the MGA(SA) initiative to march in the Adelaide Pride March 2017. The second is the Visual Art Forum hosted in collaboration with the Regional Galleries Association of SA and supported by the Art Gallery of South Australia, Guildhouse and Arts Industry Council of SA. This event attracted an audience of 80 people working across a variety of organizations within the Visual Art Sector and discussing a range of topics including funding, communication channels and best practice.

Our voluntary committee strives to nurture our thriving cultural sector practitioners and encourages collaborative initiatives.

Tasmania

President	Janet Carding
Secretary	Belinda Cotton
Committee memb	ers
Melissa Smith	Katrina Ross
Helen Whitty	Elspeth Wishart

Programs in Tasmania offered by MGA (Tas) are developed by the volunteer committee in collaboration with industry partners and local organisations. We acknowledge the ongoing partnership with Arts Tasmania that has once again made it possible to offer the Tasmanian membership and broader museums and galleries sector a diverse and high-quality professional development program.

To understand the needs and wishes of the Tasmanian membership, and give insights into building MGA effectiveness at a local level, during May 2017 the Committee undertook a survey which was circulated to all members and completed online. Key learnings included that respondents were happy with the workshops delivered by MGA (Tas); that a range of locations for delivery were preferred as participants preferred to drive less than 90 minutes to an event, and that online and Facebook communication were highly valued. Respondents also supported the development of online PD opportunities by MGA, and put forward ideas for the content of future activities, with exclusive site visits to Tasmanian cultural facilities one of the most popular suggestions.

To support the interest in online communication during 2017, committee member Helen Whitty, produced 29 blogposts to www.matasmania.com which had 1277 page views, with the post reporting on the Hobart GLAM Peak workshop the most popular. Thanks to Helen, the MGA (Tas) Facebook page was also very active with an average of one post per day, and 286 likes by the end of 2017, an excellent 47% increase during the year.

Program of Activity 2017

January: Professional Learning Workshop: Theatre in Museums. Presenter Michael Mills, Heaps Good Production. A joint initiative by Arts Tasmania, MGA (Tasmania) and Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG)

March: Site Visits Bass Strait Maritime Centre including tour by Margaret Griggs, Devonport Regional Gallery, Devonport City Council Lawrence St Storage Facility including tours by Dr Ellie Ray

June: Site Visit to Museum of Everything exhibition at MONA, including conversation with the MONA curators Jane Clark, Jarrod Rawlins and Nicole Durling, and exhibition curator James Brett

July: Curators' Talk on 10 Objects – 10 Stories: Celebrating Community Collections by Veronica Macno and Melissa Smith at QVMAG. A joint initiative by Arts Tasmania, MGA (Tasmania) and QVMAG September: Indigenous Roadmap workshop at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG), Hobart

October: Professional Development Workshop and Site visit at Port Arthur Historic Site with presenters Jody Steele, Gemma Davie, Jake Bradshaw, Maria Stacey and Ann McVilly. A joint initiative by Arts Tasmania, Port Arthur Historic Site Authority and MGA (Tas)

November: GLAM Peak Digital Access to Collections workshop at TMAG in Hobart. A joint initiative by GLAM Peak, MGA (Tas) and TMAG.

December: Christmas event and visit to the First Tasmanians: Our Story gallery at QVMAG. Thank you to QVMAG for their support of this visit.

Victoria

President	Lauren Ellis	
Vice-President	Padraic Fisher	
Secretary	Jim McCann	
Treasurer	Ian Scott (to August 2017)	
Committee Members		
Louis Le Vaillant	Andrew Hiskens	
Samantha Fabry	Lauren Bourke	
Dr Nurin Veis (to December 2017)		
Executive Director	Laura Miles	

2017 was a year of consolidation and planning for the MA (Vic) team. It was the first year of a four-year core funding model under Creative Victoria's updated Organisational Investment Program.

Programming

In 2017 we offered 138 events and site visits to museums. We achieved a metro/outer metro/regional attendance of 60%, 6% and 32% with 2% from interstate or overseas attendees. Total attendance at group training events including site visits at museums and galleries was 1,647.

Highlights included our tours, masterclasses, member events and our first Great Museum Debate in November. We have invested considerable time and resources into planning for the 2018 national conference, which is being organised by the Victorian Branch, with significant cash and in-kind support from a wide range of members and supporters from the private sector, government, tertiary education and philanthropy. The Victorian Museum Awards 2017 were held on Wednesday 26 July at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image. Hosted by comedian Lawrence Leung, the evening featured our special guest Martin Foley, Minister for Creative Industries, who presented newly-Accredited museums –the Grainger Museum and the Shrine of Remembrance – with their certificates. Deakin University's Roslyn Lawry Award and three Victorian Collections Awards were also presented. We are delighted to recognise the significant achievements of our museums and galleries and the extensive networks of supporters contributing to their success.

Exhibition Services

Our expert Manager provided Roving Curator support to four museums seeking to develop their exhibitions to a high standard.

Museum Accreditation Program

The Museum Accreditation Program (MAP) boasts 73 Accredited museums and 24 museums working towards Accreditation. Fifteen museums were Reaccredited in 2017 as part of their ongoing commitment to the *National Standards*.

Green Museum Project

Our Green Museum Project works within MAP to promote and interpret environmental sustainability actions in small to medium capacity museums. We conducted energy audit training in a range of museums in 2016, and selected five regional volunteer-run museums for intensive support in 2017. Our Manager worked with these museums and external sustainability experts on long-term environmental sustainability actions, including thermal performance improvements, LED lighting, and PV solar power installation.

Victorian Collections

Our flagship digitisation project, operated in partnership with Museums Victoria, has 500 participating organisations. These organisations are predominantly run by volunteer staff, who collectively catalogued over 37,000 items in 2017, bringing the total number available online to over 120,000.

Participating groups can opt-in to allow their items to be searched via Trove at the National Library of Australia, and we currently have 52 groups taking advantage of this value-adding feature.

Marketing/Access

We use a range of electronic, online and hard copy communications to inform, connect and share ideas and news with and about our networks. These include INSITE magazine, our weekly e-bulletins, targeted campaigns, flyers, media packs and certificates of achievement.

Our reach on MA (Vic) and Victorian Collections social media is increasing with over 4,500 followers on Twitter, YouTube and SlideShare, over 76,000 views on our YouTube videos and over 910,000 page views.

The MA (Vic) team provides a mix of services for, and with, a rich and diverse network of museums and galleries across Victoria. This combined activity enriches and protects our cultural treasures for today and for future generations.

All of MA (Vic)'s services can be found on their website: www.mavic.asn.au

Western Australia

President	Soula Veyradier
Vice-President	Jane King
Committee member	S
Emma Banks	Rikki Clarke
Christen Bell	Ailin Chen-Vanleeuwen
Erica Persak	Ana Doria Buchan
Alex Kopp	Jacqui Sherriff
Michelle Wylie	Natalie Evans
Executive Officer	Robert Mitchell

During 2017/18 Museums Galleries Australia Western Australia (MGAWA) was supported by three part-time staff and extensive contributions by the volunteers of the management committee.

MGAWA have supported over 500 museums across WA through a program of advocacy, professional development opportunities, and advice.

We advocated on behalf of the GLAM sector in the lead up to the 2017 State election, pressing the political parties to extend transitional funding for MGAWA. A meeting was held with Minister David Templemen



Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts to discuss sector sustainability where he acknowledged the vital role of peak bodies such as MGA. Government support for collecting organisations has been demonstrated through the provision of funding of \$65,000 per annum granted for three years, from 15 April 2018 through 31 December 2020, to deliver regional training to the WA collecting sector. The program will begin in the second half of 2018 and deliver a minimum of 50 museums and 500 objects online by 2020.

We provided advice to over 300 queries over the year on operational issues, governance, training, support for member organisations and exhibition development.

Our regular communications through social media, website, monthly e-zine and e-bulletins have continued with a growing number of subscribers and interactions.

In accordance with the WA State Government focus on economic development and tourism, MGAWA have partnered with Scoop Magazine to deliver a database of museums and galleries as attractions. The database has been used as a test bed for sharing West Australian collections online in accordance with the national program of digitisation for collections via GLAM Peak Digitial Access to Collections.

The MGAWA team have worked hard to promote the database and encourage engagement from members. There are now 128 sites listed on Mapping WA's Museums Scoop website http://museumsaustraliawa. org.au/museums-map/. A volunteer has been working on updating the information and developing engaging text. Alongside this, staff have updated the national website and used every opportunity to cross-promote across the platforms to engage national and local audiences.

Training and professional development continue to be a focus for us. A strong partnership was developed this year with Art on the Move to deliver the 'Telling our Stories' training focusing on significance and exhibitions development. Sessions were delivered in Roebourne, Fremantle and Albany to great success. Short films of these sessions are available on the MGAWA and Art on the Move websites.

MGAWA continues to be involved in national and state projects to support the sector including the Indigenous Roadmap, GLAM Peak Digitisation training, WA Collection Sector Working Group, Regional Arts Partnership Program, the Historic Heart of Perth activities and exhibition furniture recycling program to help small museums and reduce waste.

A key project of the Collections Sector Working Group aims to advance a solution for collections digitisation and sharing in WA. The CSWG have identified the Victorian Collections approach as the most useful and have assisted one of our members, the Army Museum of Western Australia, to place sample portions of its collection on line at the Victorian Collection. Ongoing support for this initiative is provided through core transitional funding. An application through the CSWG process for further development is expected shortly.

Executive Branch have committed to having a face to face presence where possible for our regional members. The team attended six chapter meetings across South West, Peel, Wheatbelt, Mid-West and Pilbara, and the Kimberley regions. It's a great opportunity to share updates and professional development training in each case and hear about the enormous number of projects being undertaken in the regions.

A highlight of the year is our ongoing involvement in 'Remembering Them - A Century in Service' project. The project, a partnership with Royal Western Australian Historical Society and Western Australian Museum, has supported 32 regional towns (over four years) to deliver exhibitions about their community stories relating to World War One. The communities are provided showcases, design support for research, display and interpretation with outcomes beyond the exhibitions including skills development, sense of identity and community promotion. The final exhibitions will open in Wyndham, Kununurra and Broome between May and July 2018. Plans are underway to ensure ongoing connection between organisations participating in the Project and how best to use the resources they now have.

We partnered with the State Heritage Office to deliver the State Heritage and History Conference in 2017. It was a great meeting of minds from across the heritage and collecting sectors and planning has already begun for delivery of another combined conference in 2019.

An exciting project for the coming year is the establishment of a career development taskforce to provide opportunities, activities and spaces for Western Australian museum and gallery professionals to connect, share skills and exchange ideas with likeminded people in the State and across other networks in Australia. A small team of volunteers are driving this with the support of MGAWA staff and Committee members, and in liaison with the Emerging Professionals National Network.

National Networks

National Network Chairs

Debbie Abraham
David Byrne
Andrew Simpson
Rebecca Pinchin
Andrew Hiskens
Penny Grist
Lynda Kelly
Beth Hise
Michelle Stevenson
Michael van Teil
Elizabeth Morgan
Alexander Sussman

National Network Activities

Many MGA National Networks were active throughout 2017. Networks provided members with targeted newsletters, such as Historians' *Timelines*; held conferences or workshops, including IMTALAP and Performing Arts Heritage; ran sessions at the National Conference; funded bursary programs to assist members to attend professional development events; and maintained blogs and other social media.

CAUMAC

The main activity of CAUMAC over the past year was organising the one-day symposium, which was held at the Australian National University on April 6, 2018.

CAUMAC also established a Facebook page and Twitter.

CAUMAC's Deputy Chair, David Ellis, submitted a successful proposal to UMAC (the international subcommittee of ICOM for university museums and collections) to host the UMAC 2020 meeting at the new Chau Chak Wing Museum at Sydney University.

Emerging Professionals

In 2017 the Emerging Professionals National Network Steering Committee successfully delivered several programs at the May 2017 National Conference in Brisbane. These included:

'The Great Debate: Is a tertiary qualification worth it?' where a panel of speakers explored questions around the value and place of tertiary qualifications in the museums and galleries sector;

GLAM style career 'speed dating' at the Career Café which was generously hosted by the Queensland Maritime Museum aboard *HMAS Diamantina*; and,

An in-conference session led by early career professionals which aimed to develop a skills statement for the future.

Penny Grist and Emily Sykes, with editorial assistance from Bernice Murphy, prepared an excellent overview of these events for the MGA Magazine. These programs generated considerable profile for the Network and MGA, enlivened the steering committee and members and sparked important discussion around the future of the sector and its workforce.

Evaluation & Visitor Research

Being a relatively small network, the EVR does not have a formal committee. Any financial decisions are discussed with several long-term EVR members where applicable.

The Network has around 75 members, and 80 e-newsletter subscribers (including colleagues from New Zealand and US).

Members of the network receive a bi-monthly e-newsletter with links, stories and any information about MGA activities.

In 2017 the Network sponsored a keynote speaker for the Brisbane National Conference (Colleen Dilenschneider) as well as managing the conference evaluation.

Dr Kelly is an elected member of the MGA National Council and in this capacity managed the membership 2017 survey, participated in the Strategic Review Taskforce and attended all MGA National Council meetings.

In 2018 the EVR will again be working with the Education and Technology Networks to plan and deliver the MEET day at MGA 2018 conference, bringing together all three networks for a day of talks and workshops. In addition, the Network awarded a conference bursary to Abbie McPhee, the new evaluator at the National Museum of Australia, and will again manage the conference evaluation.

Network members also attended the Visitor Research Forum, held at the University of Queensland, as well as actively promoting this forum to members, given its relevance to their work.

Museum Historians

The Historians Network provided ongoing support for members through bursaries for professional development plus annual bursary for members to attend MGA national conference (covering cost of registration). Two issues of *Timelines* were also produced.

Performing Arts Heritage

The annual conference was held in Adelaide on Thursday 12 October and Friday 13 October. The conference was attended by 30 people and speakers included Professor Julian Meyrick from Flinders University, Professor Joanne Tompkins from the University of Queensland, and Dr. Alan Brissenden, the renowned Adelaide dance critic. A new website was launched in mid-2017 - pahn. org.au. The website has been an ongoing project for some time and is in addition to the page located on the Museums Galleries Australia website. The committee had discussed making the bursary available for 2017 but were unable to proceed for several reasons centred around late planning for the bursary in relation to the conference dates.

Jenny Fewster and Alexander Sussman wrote a short and humorous piece about the upcoming conference which was published in *Stage Whispers*. PAHN is assisting the MGA Strategic Review through facilitating consultation and advice.

National Conference

Museums and Galleries in their Cultural Landscapes (14–17 May 2017, Brisbane)

One of the most important member benefits is the annual conference, offering diverse professional development and networking opportunities to our members and the sector. 2017 saw over 460 delegates gather at the Brisbane Convention Centre to attend the first MGA conference to be held in Queensland since 2005. It was well worth the 12 year wait as Museums and Galleries in their Cultural Landscapes delivered an ambitious and packed program of international and Australian speakers.

Delegates identified their highlights of the conference as being:

Fabulous keynotes!!

John Ryan & Colleen Dilenschneider were particularly interesting, informative and engaging.

The conference delivered strongly with the level of visual arts and Indigenous content included in the program. The performances and films were a welcome inclusion - really good to see

That even the pie in the sky ideas can be scalable and implementable at my smaller regional museum (augmented reality and community engagement particularly).

My key take away was that all institutions are facing similar challenges, but in discussing those challenges openly, we can do great things. Also, I was struck by the honesty of all who I spoke to.

There are some great examples of museums being more inclusive and good resources out there to help all museums become even more inclusive.

The sector is lively. The approach to Indigenous matters is maturing across the sector. They are much more central to discussions.

A reminder that we do work in a vibrant sector that is constantly looking forward and embracing new ways to tell important stories and connect with a diverse audience.

Content was very relevant to what we are doing on a daily basis.

Met lots of interesting people from many different areas who have similar problems/conditions – so networking was excellent.







FROM TOP: Dea Birkett, from the UK's Kids in Museums, was keynote speaker at the Regional, Remote and Community Day. Newly elected National President, Robin Hirst, leads the Members' Forum. Colleen Dilenschneider's keynote presentation Hubs for Human Connection: Data on the Social Role of Cultural Organisations.

. . Membership

Total Membership

Total members	1334
Organisational	637
Individual	697
New members	228
Growth rate	1%
Retention rate	83%

New Members

368

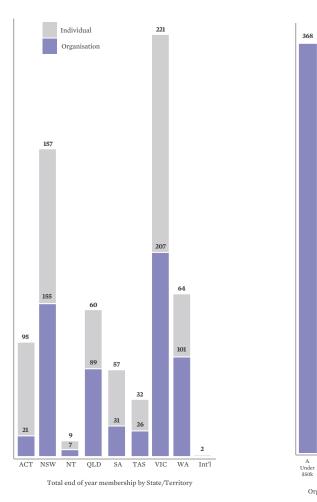
134

94

Museums Galleries Australia warmly welcomes all of our new members who joined us in 2017. New memberships remained evenly spread throughout the year and were significantly up from 2016.

Snapshot of Membership

The below charts visualise various demographics within Museums Galleries Australia's national membership



Organisational membership by category

\$200k \$2m to

to \$2m \$8m \$25m

F Е

Over \$25m \$8m to

B \$50k to \$200k С D based on data supplied by members. These illustrate the diversity of our association, and the museums and galleries sector as a whole. While organisational members each count as only one member, together they represent many thousands of professional and nonprofessional museums and galleries workers.

MGA is excited to be working for and with such a dynamic and knowledgeable community of dedicated professionals and volunteers.

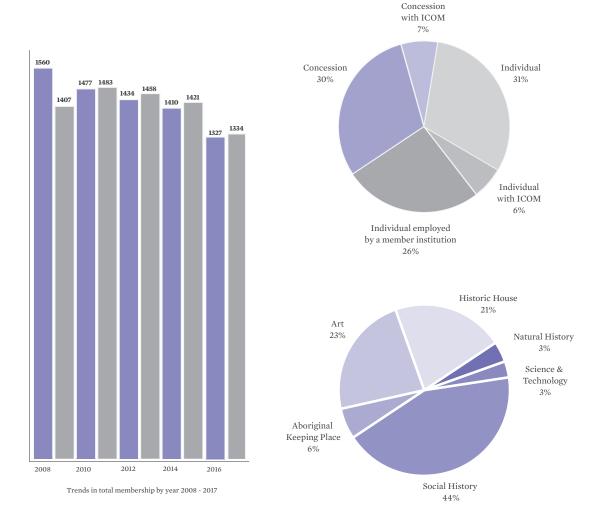
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Total end of year membership by state/territory

Organisational membership by category THIS PAGE:

- . Trends in total membership by year 2008-2017
- Individual members by membership type
- Organisational members by museum type



Museums and Galleries National Awards (MAGNA)

The MAGNAs, an initiative of Museums Galleries Australia, were first realised in 2011. Held annually, the MAGNAs celebrate outstanding achievements in the Australian museums and galleries sector in the categories of exhibition; audience engagement and learning; and Indigenous programs. These awards set out to encourage the continuous improvement and development of Australian museums and galleries; inspire and recognise best practice and innovation in the collecting sector; and enhance the profile of museums and galleries in local and wider communities.

The 2017 Museums and Galleries National Awards were presented at an awards gala night as part of the Museums Galleries Australia National Conference (www. mga2017.org.au), on Monday 15 May 2017 at the Brisbane Convention & Entertainment Centre. With Redland City Councillor and actor, Paul Bishop, as MC, the night incorporated the Museums Australasia Multimedia and Publication Design Awards (MAPDA) and the MAGNAs.

Museums Galleries Australia gratefully acknowledges all of the category judges who volunteered their time and expertise to the MAGNAs.

The 2017 National Winner was awarded to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery for their exhibition, *Tempest.*

The list of shortlisted, highly commended and winning MAGNA entries is available on the Museums Galleries Australia website www.museumsaustralia.org.au. More commentary on the awards can be found in *Museums Galleries Australia Magazine* Vol.25(2) Autumn-Winter 2017.

The 2017 MAGNAs were generously sponsored by Panasonic.

Museums Australasia Multimedia and Publication Design Awards (MAPDA)

2017 marked the 20th Multimedia and Publication Design Awards (MAPDAs). The awards were established to celebrate excellence and quality in design of publications and multimedia produced for the museums and galleries sector. Museums Galleries Australia would like to thank longtime MAPDA sponsors, Australian Book Connection and the judges who generously volunteer their time and expertise.

With more than 180 entries from Australia and New Zealand, ranging from exhibition opening invitations, to blockbuster exhibition catalogues, the MAPDAs exemplify the popularity of print, and importance of excellent design, in museum and gallery communications. Likewise, the electronic categories in the MAPDAs (Multimedia, Institution Website and Program Website) were equally well-represented in the awards and featured outstanding innovation and aesthetics in digital design, interactivity and presentation.

The Best in Show awards (one for print, one for multimedia) went to the Auckland Art Gallery for Gottfried Lindauer's New Zealand - The Māori Portraits, and the Australian Centre for the Moving Image for their Brand TVC.

All of the shortlisted, highly commended and winning entries, including judges' comments, are available to view at www.mapda.org.au. More commentary on the awards can be found in *Museums Galleries Australia Magazine* Vol.25(2) Autumn-Winter 2017.

2017 Victorian Museum Awards

The 2017 Victorian Museum Awards were held on Wednesday 26 July at ACMI (Australian Centre for the Moving Image). The event was hosted by performer, writer, producer, and director, Lawrence Leung, with a special address by Martin Foley MP, Minister for Creative Industries, Katrina Sedgwick, CEO of ACMI, and Andrew Abbott, Chief Executive, Creative Victoria.

Now in their 24th year, the Victorian Museum Awards, celebrate the wonderful achievements of the museum and gallery sector.

This year three individuals and seven organisations were recognised with Victorian Museum Awards.

Please see the awards recipients on the Branch website: mavic.asn.au/awards/awards-winners-2017

Communications

Magazine

Two expanded issues of *Museums Galleries Australia Magazine* were published in 2017. The magazine covers issues in the Australian and international museum and gallery communities.

Upgrade of National Website

Museums Galleries Australia's national website and accompanying membership database has been upgraded and redesigned. The process of transferring both MGA's and ICOM Australia's membership records began in January 2017 and was completed in March.

As with all new systems, there have been many compromises and changes made to our systems and membership processes, however, most issues have been primarily backend-related and the user experience for members is generally satisfactory. The website will continue to be updated, with content generation being an important project, and the issues concerning the database and administrative usibility continue to be worked through with the developers.

Division Communications

Branches and National Networks communicate regularly with their members through printed magazines, e-bulletins and newsletters. The Victorian Branch publishes *INSITE* quarterly for Victorian members. The New South Wales Branch has also begun publishing *Museum Matters* regularly after several years of absence.

Jobs Bulletins

The Jobs Bulletin is one of Museums Galleries Australia's most valued member benefits. The Museums Galleries Australia Positions Vacant page on the website, and the emailed bulletins to members, remains the 'go to' place for sector employment vacancies and one of the reasons many members join MGA.

e-Bulletins

The National Office distributes a monthly News Bulletin, highlighting national and international news items and issues affecting the museums and galleries sector; and a monthly Events and Professional Development Opportunities bulletin outlining relevant upcoming events, workshops, grant opportunities and other useful information for members.

Social Media

Museums Galleries Australia's national Facebook page closed 2017 with over 2.700 followers. Several state branches and networks administer their own social media presences. Check out their member communications or Branch homepage on the website for links.

National Director, Alex Marsden, also tweets regularly @ museumsaust.



THE COLLECTIONS SECTOR (GALLERIES, MUSEUMS, KEEPING PLACES, LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES) IS BOTH A RESOURCE FOR INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY, AND A BASIS FOR LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION ON MANY LEVELS.

Partnerships

Museums Galleries Australia has always sought to strengthen our impact through partnerships and collaboration with organisations across the cultural sector, as well as through industry and government sponsors and supporters. This focus strengthened throughout 2017, particularly as part of the strategic review process.

ICOM Australia

We continued our close association with ICOM Australia (the Australian National Committee of the International Council of Museums).

MGA receives secretariat funding from ICOM Australia, which enables MGA to administer ICOM membership and renewals, and offer reciprocal benefits. 2017 saw close co-operation between the two national governance bodies, with the MGA president and national director attending ICOM Board meetings and strategic workshops as ex officio members and the ICOM national president attending MGA national council meetings. ICOM members also provided valuable advice on the strategic review.

MGA and ICOM Australia also collaborated on a range of submissions, and MGA thanks ICOM for their sponsorships of the national conferences.

CAMD and CAAMD

The Council of Australasian Museum Directors (CAMD) and the Council of Australian Art Museum Directors (CAAMD) are key leadership organisations in the museum and gallery sector, and MGA liaises with them on submissions to government, joint projects and meetings. MGA is grateful for their support of the Indigenous Roadmap project as well as their participation in GLAM Peak workshops and projects.

Gordon Darling Foundation

The Gordon Darling Foundation is a valued and longterm supporter of both this organisation and the broad visual arts sector in Australia, with grants to support MGA's national conference, as well as the very important and influential Museum Leadership Program that takes place every three years. In 2017, the Foundation generously supported the attendance of international speakers at the Museums Galleries Australia conference in Brisbane in May. The session, titled '(Not) Lost in Translation: the art of inclusiveness' included Zoe Butt, Alfredo and Isabel Aquilizan, Alex Wisser, Donna Biles Fernando and Debbie Abraham. This helped strengthen the visual arts stream immeasurably and was extremely well received.

Museums Aotearoa

After the successful Museums Australasia joint conference that took place in Auckland in 2016, MGA and Museums Aotearoa continued to explore collaborative ventures and the exchange of ideas and research. The two association directors jointly convened a very popular panel of international speakers at the national conference in Brisbane in 2017, which has now become a continuing tradition for both countries' national conferences.

Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)

The relationship between MGA and ALIA continued to strengthen throughout the year, most particularly in the shared strategic and organisational management of GLAM Peak, and the co-management of the Catalystfunded digital access projects. Information sharing about a range of cultural and association issues, and collaboration on briefings and submissions, all contributed to strengthening our operations and advice, and communicating a united voice for the sector.

In February 2017, the MGA national office was delighted to move to an office suite in ALIA's building, creating a cultural hub and enabling even greater co-ordination and co-operation.

Arthur J Gallagher

Arthur J Gallagher are part of a group of Australian and international companies providing world class insurance broking and risk management services. Working with Arthur J Gallaher, MGA developed, and have been offering since 2013, a group Voluntary Workers Personal Accident Insurance policy available to our organisation members that is cost effective and tailored to our sector. Arthur J Gallagher also offers discounts on their other insurance needs for MGA members.

Sponsors, supporters and donors

Museums Galleries Australia operates with the generous support of the National Museum of Australia, Museum Victoria, the Western Australian Museum, ICOM Australia, ALIA and Link Digital, as well as individual members who have made donations. We thank the Commonwealth Ministry for the Arts for its continued funding of bursaries to the RR&C Day at the National Conference.

MGA particularly acknowledges the Cartwright Douglas Fund which continues to support the national office and the Emerging Professionals Network, and the private supporter who donated funds for the national director's travel.

We gratefully acknowledge our sponsors, advertisers and supporters of all our national, state and local programs including national and state conferences, awards, workshops and events. We especially thank the organisations that allow their staff members to offer their time and expertise to MGA programs for the benefit of all members and the sector.

THE CREATIVITY INHERENT IN ARTS AND CULTURE HELPS DRIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS INNOVATION AND ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF LIFE.

Finances

Operating Results

The 2017 year resulted in a \$54,759 surplus, substantially turning around the 2016 results of a \$26,903 deficit. The year has seen a growth in equity from \$368,726 at the end of 2016 to \$423,485. The 2017 results have exceeded budget expectations, reported to the 2016 AGM as:

- Net income of \$1.599 million;
- Expenses of \$1.595 million, including \$10k to fund the Compliance/single accounting project;
- Projected surplus of \$3,000.

Review of Operations

During the 2017 year the resources of the Association were directed towards providing services and benefits to members, and advocacy for the museums and galleries sector and cultural industry through engagement with Government and industry associates.

Total income for 2017 was \$1,768,973 which is an increase of \$297,828 over the 2016 amount of \$1,471,145. This is principally due to an increase in grant income of \$273,260, which in part reflects the Catalyst grant funding the Indigenous Roadmap Project, and additional Victorian branch grant funds. As well as securing additional grant funds, Museums Australia Inc has actively been pursuing an income diversification goal aimed at strengthening the financial position of the Association, which is currently heavily dependent on membership, sector recruitment advertising and a surplus generated by the annual National Conference.

Total expenses for the period were \$1,714.214, an increase of \$216,166 from 2016. The increase in expenditure can be attributed to the execution of the additional grant funded projects including increased staffing expenses, both at the National Office and Victoria Branch to man-

ARTS AND CULTURAL SPENDING HAS A RIPPLE EFFECT ON THE OVERALL ECONOMY, BOOSTING BOTH COMMUNITIES AND JOBS. National Endowment for the Arts (USA) age the funded projects and the Association's ongoing programs.

Membership income for 2017 was \$280,426, which is a decrease of approximately \$7,700 on the 2016 membership income of \$283,513. While Membership income was down approximately 3%, member numbers increased slightly for the period. At the end of 2017 there were 637 Organisational Members and 697 Individual Members giving a total of 1327 current Members. During the year there were 228 new members and a retention rate of 83%, resulting in a 1% membership growth.

The National Conference returned a surplus of \$77,900, or 18% of the Conference turnover. This surplus allows the Association to provide additional services and benefits to members. A surplus of \$50,000 (estimated as a 10% return) is built into the budget of the Annual Conference. This greater than budgeted return is primarily the result of increased sponsorship and trade exhibitors. The Conference surplus also reflects the hundreds of volunteer hours generously provided by the members of the organising committee and subcommittees (such as programming), with a focus on sponsorship development and relationship management.

After Balance Date Events

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- 1. The operations of the Association in the future
- 2. The results of those operations in future financial years; or
- 3. The state of affairs of the Association in this or future financial years

Looking forward

A strong focus of the National Council, through the work of the Finance and Audit Committee and Management Committee, is to ensure the legal and best practice compliance and financial sustainability of the Association, including improving internal financial reporting to enable the Council to make timely and confident financial decisions. Supporting a sustainable and resilient Association is identified as a strategic objective in the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan.

Organisational Members

Australian Capital Territory

Air Force History & Heritage - Air Force Headquarters Australian Federal Police Museum Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Australian National Museum of Education, University of Canberra Australian Sports Commission Australian War Memorial Canberra Glassworks Canberra Museum & Gallery Designcraft Discovery - CSIRO Exhibitions Branch - National Library of Australia Museum of Australian Democracy Old Parliament House National Archives of Australia National Capital Educational Tourism Project National Dinosaur Museum National Film & Sound Archive of Australia National Gallery of Australia National Museum of Australia National Portrait Gallery of Australia Parliament House Art Collection Royal Australian Mint - Education and Visitor Services

New South Wales

Abbotsleigh Archives Albert Kersten Mining & Minerals Museum Albury City Cultural Services ARM Management Committee - Rail Journey Museum Art Exhibitions Australia Ltd Art Gallery of New South Wales Art Gallery of NSW Library Australian Aviation Museum Australian Aviation Museum Australian Design Centre Australian History Museum Australian Museum Australian Museum Australian Museum Australian Museum of Clothing and Textiles Australian National Maritime Museum Australian Road Transport Heritage Centre Inc Australian Tennis Museum Barker College Barry O'Keefe Library Bathurst & District Historical Society Inc Bathurst Regional Art Gallery - Bathurst Regional Council Bega Valley Historical Society Inc Berrima District Historical & Family History Society Inc Berry & District Historical Society Bingara District Historical Society Bland District Historical Society Bowraville Folk Museum Inc. Bundanon Trust C. B. Alexander Foundation Camden Historical Society Inc Camden Museum Of Aviation Campbelltown & Airds Historical Society Canowindra Historical Society & Museum Casino and District Historical Society Inc Cessnock District Historical & Family History Society Inc Cootamundra Heritage Centre Corowa District Historical Society Corrective Services NSW Museum Cowra and District Historical Society and Museum Inc. Cultural Collections - University of Newcastle Cundletown & Lower Manning Historical Society Dungog Historical Society Inc Evans Head Living Museum & Community Technology Centre Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome Heritage Aviation Association Fairfield City Museum and Gallery Forbes & District Historical Association Inc Fort Scratchley Historical Society Inc Gallipoli Memorial Club Museum George Hanna Memorial Museum / Bayside Council - Mascot GML Heritage - Interpretation Area Grafton Regional Gallery Great Lakes Historical Society Greek Orthodox Community of NSW Griffith Regional Art Gallery Gulgong Historical Society Inc Harden Murrumburrah Historical Society IncMuseum Harry Daly Museum Hawkesbury Regional Gallery & Hawkesbury Regional Museum Hay War Memorial High School Havball

Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre Henry Lawson Society NSW Inc Hurstville Museum & Gallerv Illawarra Historical Society Inc Ingleburn Military Precinct Association Inc Jervis Bay Maritime Museum Jindera Pioneer Museum & Historical Society Junee & District Historical Society Kandos Bicentennial Industrial Museum Incorporated Kangaroo Valley Historical Society Kiama & District Historical Society Lake Macquarie & District Historical Society Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery Lambing Flat Folk Museum - Young Historical Society Inc Lightning Ridge Historical Society Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc. Maclean District Historical Society Macleay River Historical Society Inc Maitland City Council - Maitland Gaol Maitland Rail Museum Incorporated Maitland Regional Art Gallery Manning Valley Historical Society Inc Mary MacKillop Place Museum Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society Mid North Coast Maritime Museum Inc Millthorpe & District Historical Society Morpeth Museum Morris Hargreaves McIntyre Mt. Victoria & District Historical Society Museum of Ancient Cultures Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences Museum of Australian Currency Notes (Reserve Bank of Australia) Museum of Contemporary Art Australia Museum of Fire Inc Museum of Freemasonry Museum of the Riverina, Wagga Wagga Narrabri & District Historical Society Inc Nepean District Historical Society New England Regional Art Museum Newcastle Maritime Museum Society Newcastle Museum Norfolk Island Museum NSW Hall of Champions

NSW Lancers Memorial Museum Inc NSW Schoolhouse Museum Orange & District Historical Society Ozbadge Parkes & District Historical Society Inc Penrith Regional Gallery & amp; The Lewers Bequest Place Management NSW - Property NSW Port Kembla Heritage Park Port of Yamba Historical Society Precision Dynamics Discovery Shed Preservation Australia Prince Henry Hospital Nursing & Medical Museum Rathmines Catalina Memorial Park Association Richmond River Historical Society Inc Richmond Vale Railway Museum Royal North Shore Hospital Centenary Museum RPA Museum Sacred Spaces Singleton Salvation Army Heritage Preservation Centre SCEGGS Darlinghurst Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society Inc Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, Nowra Singleton Historical Society & Museum Sir William Dobell Memorial Sisters of Charity of Australia Congregational Archives Slim Dusty Centre St. Catherine's School Museum Stanton Library State Library of New South Wales Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Sydney Heritage Fleet Sydney Living Museums - Historic Houses Trust NSW Sydney Tramway Museum Sydney University Museums Tamworth Historical Society Inc Tamworth Regional Gallery & Museums Temora Rural Museum Tenterfield & District Historical Society Inc The Army Museum of NSW The Australiana Fund The Hills Grammar School The Oaks Historical Society Thredbo Historical Society Inc. Thylacine

Tweed Regional Museum UNE Heritage Centre Uralla Historical Society - McCrossin's Mill Museum UTS ART Western Plains Cultural Centre Willoughby City Council Woolpack Inn Museum Holbrook Inc Yanco Powerhouse Museum Yass and District Historical Society Inc.

Northern Territory

Araluen Arts Centre - Araluen Cultural Precinct Batchelor Museum Charles Darwin University Art Collection and Art Gallery Heritage Alice Springs Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame Inc Nursing Museum - Charles Darwin University

Queensland

Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology Inc Artspace Mackay Australian Aviation Heritage Centre (Qld) Inc. Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc Australian Sugar Cane Railway Brandi Projects Bundaberg Regional Galleries Cairns & District Chinese Association Inc Cairns Regional Gallery Caloundra Regional Gallery Central Queensland Military Museum Association Inc Cherbourg Historical Precinct Group Inc Cinemaworks City of Gold Coast City Planning Clermont Historical Centre Cooktown & District Historical Society Inc Diamantina Health Care Museum Discover Eumundi: Heritage & Visitor Centre Dogwood Crossing, Miles Eacham Historical Society Incorporated Fassifern District Historical Society Feather Clubs Association of Queensland Inc

Gab Titui Cultural Centre, Torres Strait Regional Authority Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum GLAM Education Gold Coast City Gallery Gold Coast Hinterland Heritage Museum Inc Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum Hinkler House Memorial Museum and Research Association Inc Historical Woolscour Association Inc Inglewood & District Historical Society Inc Innisfail & District Historical Society Ipswich Art Gallery John Flynn Place Museum Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture Landsborough & District Historical Society - Landsborough Museum Logan Art Gallery Longreach Regional Council Mackay Regional Council Libraries Meandarra ANZAC Memorial Museum Miles Historical Village Museum of Brisbane Museum of Nursing History National Trust of Australia (Oueensland) Newstead House Noosa Museum North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum Perc Tucker Regional Gallery Proserpine Historical Museum Society Inc Qantas Founders Museum Oueensland Air Museum Queensland Ambulance Museums Queensland Dairy & Heritage Museum Murgon Inc **Oueensland Maritime Museum** Queensland Military Historical Society Queensland Museum Queensland Performing Arts Centre Museum Queensland Police Museum Queensland Sports Museum Ltd R.D. Milns Antiquities Museum Redland Art Gallery Redland Museum Inc Rockhampton & District Historical Society Inc Rockhampton Regional Council Royal Historical Society of Queensland

Sarina District Historical Centre South Burnett Regional Council Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Sunshine Coast Council - Cultural Heritage Services Surf World Gold Coast Tanks Arts Centre The Australian Vintage Aviation Society The Beck Museum The Bundaberg & District Historical & Museum Society Inc The Gympie Bone Museum Project The MacArthur Museum Brisbane The Mulgrave Settlers Museum The Queensland Women's Historical Association The University of Queensland Art Museum Tolga Historical Society Inc Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery Townsville Maritime Museum Limited Transport and Main Roads Heritage Centre University of Queensland Anthropology Museum University of Southern Queensland - Historical Archives University of the Sunshine Coast Gallery Warwick Art Gallery Inc Wide Bay Hospital Museum Society Inc Winton District Historical Society and Museum Inc

South Australia

Architecture Museum - University of South Australia Art Museum of Kangaroo Island Establishment Association Artlab Australia Bay Discovery Centre Botanic Gardens of South Australia Embroiderers' Guild of SA Museum History Trust of South Australia Mannum Dock Museum of River History Mary MacKillop Museum Melrose Districts History Society Mill Cottage Museum Murray Bridge Regional Gallery National Railway Museum National Trust of SA - Kingston SE Branch National Trust of SA - Olivewood Estate National Trust of South Australia National Trust of South Australia - Millicent Branch

National Trust of South Australia Goolwa Branch Port Adelaide Aviation Museum Port Adelaide Historical Society Inc South Australian Aviation Museum Inc South Australian Museum The David Roche Foundation The Sheep's Back Museum The Village, Loxton Uleybury School Museum University Art Museums Australia University of Adelaide, University Collections Unley Museum Urrbrae House Historic Precinct Yankalilla District Historical Museum Inc

Tasmania

Academy Gallery Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts Arts Tasmania Bass Strait Maritime Centre Beaconsfield Mine & Heritage Centre Burnie Regional Art Gallery & Museum Channel Museum Circular Head Heritage Centre Devonport Regional Gallery East Coast Heritage Museum Furneaux Historical Research Association Inc Grote Reber Museum Josephite Mission and History Centre Levendale and Woodsdale History Room Inc Maritime Museum of Tasmania Museum of Old and New Art Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery St Helens History Room Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery Tasmanian Wool Centre The Hutchins School The Moorings Museum Ulverstone History Museum University of Tasmania Cultural Activities Committee University of Tasmania Library - Special & Rare Collections

Wesley Hobart Heritage

Victoria

4/19 Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment Unit History Room Alfred Hospital Nurses League Inc Allansford Cheese World Museum Andrew Ross Museum Inc Anglesea & District Historical Society Ararat & District Historical Society Inc Arts Centre Melbourne - Performing Arts Collection Arts Space Wodonga Artspace Realm Maroondah Estate Gallery Australian Centre for the Moving Image Australian Gallery of Sport and Olympic Museum Australian Gliding Museum Australian National Surfing Museum Australian National Veterans Arts Museum Australian Racing Museum Australian Railway Historical Society Aviation Historical Society of Australia Axiell Australia B24 Liberator Memorial Restoration Fund Bacchus Marsh Blacksmiths Cottage & Forge Complex Ballarat Tramway Museum Inc Banyule City Council - Hatch Contemporary Arts Space Barking Spider Visual Theatre Bay Steamers Maritime Museum Ltd Beechworth Honey Discovery Beleura House & Garden - The Tallis Foundation Benalla Aviation Museum Inc. Benalla Historical Society Bendigo District RSL Sub Branch Inc Bendigo Heritage Attractions Berwick Mechanics Institute & Free Library Inc Blessed Sacrament Congregation & St Francis' Church Heritage Centre Bright & District Historical Society Brighton Historical Society Buda Historic Home & Garden Bundoora Homestead Art Centre Bunjil Place Gallery Burke Museum & Historical Precinct Burrinja Camperdown & District Historical Society Inc Casey - Cardinia Library Corporation Central Goldfields Art Gallery

Centre for Contemporary Photography CFC Archives Committee Charlton Golden Grains Museum Inc. Chelsea & District Historical Society Chiltern Athenaeum Trust City of Moorabbin Historical Society and Box Cottage Museum City of Port Phillip Art & Heritage Team City of Whitehorse Co.As.It - Italian Historical Society Coal Creek Community Park & Museum Cohuna & District Historical Society Inc Community Cultural Development - City of Whittlesea Conjoint Museum of RANZCO Counihan Gallery in Brunswick - Moreland City Council Creswick Museum Dandenong Cranbourne RSL Sub Branch Inc Daylesford & District Historical Society Inc Deakin University Art Collection & Galleries Dingley Village Historical Society Doncaster Templestrowe Historical Society Inc Dromana and District Historical Society Dunkeld Museum Inc East Gippsland Historical Society Inc East Gippsland Shire Council Echuca Historical Society Inc Eucalyptus Distillery Museum Federation University Art and Historical Collections Fire Services Museum Victoria Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village Flinders District Historical Society Inc Foster & District Historical Society Inc Freemasons Victoria Friends of Coolart Inc Friends of Kyneton Museum Inc Friends Of The Cerberus Friends of Westgarthtown Inc. Geelong Gallery Geelong Museum Association Inc Geoffrey Kaye Museum of Anaesthetic History George Evans Museum Gippsland & East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-operative LTD Glen Eira City Council Glen Eira Historical Society Glenelg Shire Council Cultural Collection

Golden Dragon Museum Golf Society of Australia Grainger Museum Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation Harry Brookes Allen Museum of Anatomy and Pathology Hastings-Western Port Historical Society Hawks Museum Heide Museum of Modern Art Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum Her Place Women's Museum Australia Heritage Hill Museum & Historic Gardens Horsham Regional Art Gallery Islamic Museum of Australia Jewish Holocaust Centre Inc. Jewish Museum of Australia Justin Art House Museum - JAHM Kiewa Valley Historical Society Inc. Knox Historical Society Koorie Heritage Trust Kyneton Primary School Lake Goldsmith Steam Preservation Association Inc Leongatha & District Historical Society Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak M.A.D.E (The Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka) Maldon Museum & Archives Association Inc Mallacoota & District Historical Society Inc Man From Snowy River Museum Mansfield Historical Society Maritime Museums of Victoria Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre Maryborough-Midlands Historical Society Inc McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park Medical History Museum Melbourne Cricket Club Museum Melbourne Girls Grammar School Melbourne Tram Museum Inc Merrigum Historical Society Mildura & District Historical Society Mildura Arts Centre Mornington & District Historical Society Inc Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery Murtoa & District Historical Society & Community Museum Inc Museum Victoria Museum Victoria

National Alpine Museum of Australia Inc National Sports Museum National Vietnam Veterans Museum National Wool Museum Ned Kelly Centre Limited Nepean Historical Society Inc Nhill Aviation Heritage Centre Nillumbik Shire Council - Arts and Culture Nobelius Heritage Park & Emerald Museum Office of the Governor Old Gippstown - Gippsland Heritage Park Old Melbourne Gaol, Crime and Justice Experience Old Treasury Building Omeo Historical Society Parks Victoria Peterborough History Group Phillip Island & District Historical Society Inc Phillip Island Nature Parks Polly Woodside Port Albert Maritime Museum Inc Port Fairy Historical Lifeboat Station Port Fairy Historical Society Inc Port Melbourne Historical & Preservation Society Port of Echuca Discovery Centre Public Record Office Victoria Puffing Billy Preservation Society Pyramid Hill & District Historical Society Inc Oueenscliffe Maritime Museum Inc R.A.A.F. Museum **RMIT** Design Archives RMIT Gallery Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Library Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc Royal Melbourne Hospital Archives Running Rabbits Military Museum Scout Heritage Victoria Seaworks Foundation Shepparton Art Museum Shepparton Heritage Centre Inc Shrine of Remembrance Slovenian Association Melbourne Sovereign Hill Museums Association

Stanley Athenaeum & Public Room Sunshine & District Historical Society Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery Talbot Arts & Historical Museum Inc Tarrawarra Museum of Art Tatura and District Historical Society The Central Highlands Tourist Railway The Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation The Cyril Kett Optometry Museum The Dax Centre The Duldig Studio The Johnston Collection Town Hall Gallery Trafalgar Holden Museum Inc Trinity College - Art & Archives Victoria Police Museum Victorian Telecommunications Museum Inc Villa Alba Museum Inc. Walhalla Heritage & Development League Inc Wangaratta Art Gallery Wangaratta Historical Society Warracknabeal Historical Society Warrnambool & District Historical Society Warrnambool Art Gallerv Whitehorse Historical Society Williamstown Historical Society Inc Woady Yaloak Historical Society Inc Wodonga Historical Society Inc Wonthaggi & District Historical Society Inc Woods Farming & Heritage Museum Wycheproof and District Historical Society Inc. Mount Wycheproof Community Museum Yackandandah & District Historical Society Yarra Ranges Regional Museum - Shire of Yarra Ranges

Western Australia

AMMPT Western Region Inc Army Museum of Western Australia Foundation Artgeo Cultural Complex Augusta Historical Museum Avondale Discovery Farm Benedictine Community of New Norcia Birdwood Military Museum Inc Bridgetown Historical Society Inc Broome Historical Society Broomehill Historical Society Bruce Rock Museum Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School Bunbury Historical Society Inc Busselton Historical Society Inc Canning Districts Historical Society Inc Carnamah Historical Society Cervantes Historical Society Inc Chapman Valley Historical Society Chisholm Catholic College City of Belmont City of Fremantle Art Collection City of Gosnells Museum - Wilkinson Homestead City of Joondalup City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder City of Melville Museum & Local History Service City Of Stirling - Mt Flora Regional Museum City of Vincent City of Wanneroo / Wanneroo Cultural Centre and Library Collie Heritage & Menshed Group Inc Community Group of Greenough Cunderdin Museum Discovery Bay Tourism Precinct Dowerin District Museum Duyfken Foundation Ex Victoria District Hospital Staff Association Fremantle Prison Freshwater Bay Museum Geraldton Regional Art Gallery Hale School Harvey Districts Historical Society Museum Historical Society of Cockburn Inc History House Museum Irwin District Historical Society Jarrahdale Heritage Society JCG (John Curtin Gallery) Kerry Stokes Collection Kununurra Historical Society Machinery Preservation Club of WA Inc Mandurah Community Museum Mandurah Historical Society Inc Margaret River & Districts Historical Society Inc. McAuley Ministries - Mercy Heritage Centre Perth

Morawa District Historical Society Mundaring & Hills Historical Society Inc Murray Districts Historical Society Inc National Trust of Western Australia Newcastle Gaol Museum Newdegate Hainsworth Museum North Midlands Project Northam Army Camp Heritage Association Inc Northam Heritage Forum Inc Northampton Historical Society Inc. Nyamba Buru Yawuru Old Court House Law Museum Old Kobeelyans' Association Ongerup & Needilup District Museum Penrhos College Perth College Pingelly Museum & Historical Group Plantagenet Historical Society RAAFA Aviation Heritage Museum of WA Rail Heritage WA Ravensthorpe Historical Society Inc Rockingham District Historical Society Royal Western Australian Historical Society (Inc) Scout Heritage Centre of Western Australia Shire of Leonora Shire of Manjimup - Timber & Heritage Park Shire of Sandstone Shire of West Arthur - Edith Brown Museum Sisters of St John of God Heritage Centre Broome South Perth Historical Society St John of God Healthcare Subiaco Museum Swan Guildford Historical Society Inc The Embroiderers Guild of WA (Inc) The Friends of Edenvale Inc The Great Beyond Explorers Hall of Fame The Royal Australian Artillery Historical Society of WA Inc The St John Ambulance Museum The Western Australia Police Historical Society Tuart Place WA Medical Museum Walkaway Station Museum Inc Western Australian Cricket Association (WACA) Museum

Wheatbin Museum Wongan Hills & District Museum and Historical Society Yilgarn History Museum York Residency Museum Young Australia League Inc

Western Australian Museum

JOIN SHARE ENGAGE LEARN **CONNECT INSPIRE PROTECT** IMAGINE THINK SUPPORT CHAMPION PROMOTE EXCEL CONSERVE VOLUNTEER CREATE ENJOY ADVOCATE TEACH PRESERVE EXPLORE

