

Regional and Remote Case Study

Victorian Collections: the Community Collections Management System

Museum Victoria



Image: Museums Australia (Victoria)

Supporting Local Stories

Museum Victoria, Museums Australia (Victoria) and the Victorian Department of Business and Innovation are shortly to launch a free online cataloguing system for small metro and regional collecting organisations in the state of Victoria. *Victorian Collections* is a free, easy to use, online cataloguing system that is available to all types of collecting organisations throughout Victoria, including community museums, galleries, historical societies, keeping places, sporting clubs, church, military and other service groups.

Local history collections are spread across the state, with an estimated 1.5 million objects cared for by volunteer-run organisations. There are over 740 heritage collecting organisations in Victoria, about two-thirds of which are located regionally. With collections established and managed by volunteers, these organisations hold a wealth of significant cultural material, however many do not have training in museum practice. Victorian Collections assists users in learning cataloguing, research and computer skills

The cataloguing fields are based on the widely-used *Small Museums Cataloguing Manual* and the easily searchable system will allow the general public to browse collections from across the state. Victorian Collections will work to provide skills to volunteers, record Victoria's valuable cultural heritage, help to identify significant objects and promote collaborative discussion within the state's collecting community. It will also help store records securely and permanently online. Free metropolitan and regional training and advice from Museums Australia (Victoria) staff is available to collecting organisations.

See <http://beta.victoriancollections.net.au>

<http://www.mavic.asn.au/services/victorian-collections>