

COUNCIL OF AUSTRALASIAN MUSEUM DIRECTORS
ANNUAL MEMBER REPORTS submitted to the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville
2009

PERIOD: 2008/2009

Overview of the 2008-2009 Year for Council of Australasian Museum Directors AGM

Auckland Museum

In 2008-9, the Museum introduced and embedded a new set of values that provide direction and meaning for the development of its visitor programmes:

- **Relevancy:** The Museum strives to become a vital civic and social player aligned with regional cultural, social, economic and political goals
- **Connectedness:** The Museum creates connections between itself and communities, and between communities and communities
- **Innovation:** The Museum works to be a leader in new thinking, new media, and the application of new ideas in practical ways that enrich social and cultural discourse
- **Inspiration:** The Museum inspires real and virtual visitors of all ages, fostering the next generation of Aucklanders to become leaders

These values were articulated in a set of workstreams that defined our activities for the year:

- **Museum as Forum**
Helping Aucklanders participate in the global conversation, build social capability and cohesion and contribute to the cultural, social, economic and environmental progress of the region
- **Re-Telling the Museum**
Improving quality of experience for visitors with an emphasis on getting maximum value from renewed galleries and public spaces, and exhibitions and installations derived from our rich collection
- **Lifelong Learning Laboratory**
Fulfilling the goal of becoming a centre of learning for all peoples of all life stages while still retaining our specialist schools service
- **New Media Broad and Narrow-casting**
Connecting the Museum with people and communities, promoting accessibility, enhancing visitor interactions with exhibits and collections, and engaging in the new digital ecologies of

participation and collaboration

- **Foundations of the Museum**

Operating at peak efficiency while new themes, projects, and initiatives are undertaken; respecting our core pillars of War Memorial, Auckland, Natural History, and *Te Korahi Maori*

- **Business/Commercial**

Becoming a responsible economic enterprise by strengthening partnership ties and creating a commercial offering that contributes to the economic well-being of the region

As a result of activities within these workstreams and a new focus on building a cross-functional, team-based organisation, we were able to offer a robust set of visitor activities, summarised here:

Exhibitions:

- *Secrets Revealed* – over 200,000 visitors in 9 months, making it the most successful major exhibit in the Museum's modern era
- *A T. rex named Sue* – travelling exhibit from the Field Museum in Chicago; 69,284 visitors in 4 months.
- *Hillary's Axe* – exhibit to commemorate first anniversary of Sir Ed's passing; closes end of November
- *Alan Preston Jewellery* - no visitor data, on display for 3 months.
- *Falls the Night* – a sculptural memorial to Passchendaele, by artist Helen Pollock, November to February
- *War in Paradise* – travelling exhibit for Wellington Museum of City and Sea, April to August
- *In Memory* exhibit and associated DVD and website – WWI installation and collateral, produced under the nationwide *Coming Home* theme for Armistice 2008
- *Sonic Museum* – a Museum-wide installation of music composed as inspiration and interpretation for our galleries.

Public Programming:

- *Night at Auckland Museum* - 2,550 visitors over 5 sessions
- *LATE* (series of 6) - Over 4,000 visitors
- *ANZAC (illuminate)* – an evening event, 400 visitors
- *ANZAC Day* - 6,790 visitors. *ANZAC* web pages – 14,865 unique page views
- *Battle of Britain Commemoration* – 200 visitors
- *Armistice* - 520 visitors, a modern record for the morning commemoration
- *Fazioli Series* (4 per year) – 800 visitors for the series
- *Sleepovers* – 840 visitors
- *Vincent Ward Forum* – 75 visitors
- *Heritage Festival* - 250 visitors
- *Orakei School/ Todd Foundation Performance* – 120 visitors

- Live Shark autopsy seen live by 4000 people and online by over 68,000 people
- *School Holidays Programmes* – 300 visitors average over each 2 weeks period

School programmes:

- 48,945 school students visited in organised groups. Of these, 20,351 students participated in LEOTC programmes
- 3,560 children visited for Early Childhood Education programmes
- 8,507 students and 3,103 accompanying adults visited Stevenson Discovery Centre *Weird & Wonderful* as part of organised school visits
- 5,986 children participated in weekend Discovery Centre programmes
- Two new educators trained in programme development and delivery
- Some 20 programmes related to Museum galleries and collections redeveloped and realigned to the new New Zealand Curriculum
- Four new curriculum aligned programmes developed and delivered for Early Childhood Education groups
- 404 children participated in DIY Museum school holiday programmes (Christmas and April 08)

New Media

- 264,694 unique visits to the Auckland Museum website, compared with 165,235 in 2007-08
- 28,624 unique page views to redeveloped Education web pages, compared with 13,316 in 2007-08 – an increase of 118%
- *LATE at the Museum* talks downloadable from Museum site
- Necropsy of Great White Shark streamed live globally
- Podcast research project undertaken in partnership with Te Ara Poutama at AUT for Matatiki II students. Produced podcasts will be made available from the Museum’s website and, potentially, as onsite audio visual features within Maori galleries.

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Australian Museum

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Frank Howarth

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

Visitation

Onsite	321,954 visitors including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 33,400 school students ▪ 4,607 students participated in Science in the City
Website	14.4 million user sessions

Offsite See Outreach under **4 Education & Research**

Public Programs

Onsite

The new *Dinosaurs* and *Surviving Australia* exhibitions, opened in 2007/08, continued to attract many new visitors this year. Five other long term exhibitions and three activity centres were offered; *Indigenous Australians*, *Skeletons*, *Chapman Mineral Collection*, *Planet of Minerals*, *Birds and Insects*, *Search and Discover*, *Kidspace* and *Education Centre*.

Five major temporary exhibitions were offered, including *When Mammoths Roamed*, *Papunya Painting: Out of the Desert*, *Climate Change: Our Future Our Choice*, *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* and *Frank Hurley: Journey in Papua*.

Website

Website visitation fell during the year. The past exponential growth has always been regarded as an unsustainable attribute of the initial phase of website's lifecycle. Completion of the new website in June 2009 is expected to drive increases in online visitation into the future through new content and greatly enhanced user interactivity.

Offsite

See Outreach under **4 Education & Research**

Collections

Improving access to collections and scientific data continues to be a priority. During 2008/09 there was particular emphasis on increasing access to the Museum's collections ranging from digitization of publications and Pacific collections, to community access and repatriation.

400 Pacific cultural objects were digitised in Phase 1 of content for the Virtual Museum of the Pacific project will enable the Museum collections to be accessed by Pacific communities in NSW and globally.

In September and October 2008, research and collections staff moved into state-of-the-art laboratories, workspaces and collection storage in the newly completed Collections and Research building. The Mineralogy and Palaeontology Section moved into re-furnished offices and collection areas in the Parkes-Farmer wing of the Museum.

All science research published by the Australian Museum is being digitized, with the intention to make it freely accessible online. The project was 80% complete at June 2009.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

Eureka Prizes	\$200,000 in prizes More than 16 million reached via media in Australia
Members	> 12,600 Members > 2400 people attended Member events
Volunteers	163 community volunteers working front and back-of-house

Most volunteered at least once a week
Approximately 49,800 hours contributed

The Museum's venues attracted over 15,000 people to 214 functions. BugWise for Schools extended biodiversity research work by Australian Museum entomologists to schools across NSW, and Museum Morning Teas, a social inclusion project in conjunction with The Salvation Army's Oasis Centre, has seen homeless parents participate in the under 5's programs to build parent-child relationships and parenting literacy.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

The Museum's governing legislation the *Australian Museum Trust Act 1975* was amended with an expansion in the number of Trustees from nine to eleven.

This year saw the formal completion, on time and on budget, of the new Collections & Research Building, the first major new building to be constructed at the Museum for 20 years. Providing safe, modern laboratories and offices for up to 90 staff, the new building also brings together much of the Museum's zoology collection in a purpose-built storage facilities for 10 million scientific specimens.

Substantial upgrade work has occurred in 2008/09 at the Australian Museum Lizard Island Research Station located at the Great Barrier Reef. Loomis House was rebuilt and extended and the aquarium was extended.

Planning commenced for some potential new facilities on the eastern end of the College Street site, including a DNA research facility and an Indigenous cultural centre. Planning also commenced for new permanent Aboriginal Australia and Pacific galleries.

Progress against the Corporate Strategic Plan 2009-2012 included:

- new visitor programs and displays were developed to support the *Dinosaurs* and *Surviving Australia* exhibitions,
 - progress was made against new branding and licensing initiatives, and
 - the Museum completed the rebuild of its website, which was re-launched in June 2009.
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4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

Outreach

Visitation >15,000 visitors to touring exhibitions
 Around 69,000 reached by *Museum in a Box*
 About 6,500 reached by off-site science communication programs

Research

Descriptions of 86 new species were published in Records of the Australian Museum and other scientific publications. Research and Collections staff published 170 journal articles, books and book chapters, abstracts, published conference papers, web publications, commissioned reports, and films, of which 65% were publications in refereed scientific journals.

Other Museum Publications

The Museum published four editions of the *Explore* magazine.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

Potential changes to the role and funding base of Collections Council of Australia may impact on services available to the sector as a whole.

The Australian Museum's operating costs, particularly salaries, continue to climb against a background of flat recurrent funding from the NSW state government. CAMD should lobby governments at all levels regarding the value of the Museum sector.

The Commonwealth Government is currently completing a major biodiversity conservation strategy for 2010-2020. CAMD should lobby the government to ensure that the role and value of scientific collecting institutions is adequately recognised in this strategy.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009 Financial year

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Australian National Maritime Museum

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Mary-Louise Williams

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

Attracted 436,484 visitors on site (from estimate of 403,200) and 2,451,653 interactions by visitors/users (from estimate of 2,251,000). The number of visitors on site is slightly less than the previous year at 458,012

Voyaged the replica of Cook's HM Bark *Endeavour* to Brisbane, Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie and Newcastle, securing 196 paying berths and 17,952 in-port visitors

Toured five traveling exhibitions to 10 venues around Australia with 169,903 visitors

Acquired *The Charlotte Medal*, an important and rare 1788 artwork from the First Fleet, with assistance from the National Cultural Heritage Account

Re-housed documents and small paper items from Solander boxes to archival storage as part of continued improvement of storage of paper-based materials

Welcomed the exhibition *Vaka Moana – Voyages of the ancestors*, from the Auckland Museum in New Zealand

Marked Charles Darwin anniversaries with the exhibition *Charles Darwin – Voyages and ideas that shook the world* and a major international seminar

Developed and displayed the following temporary exhibitions:

- *Trash or Treasure? Souvenirs of travel*
- *Great White Fleet – US sea power on parade 1908*
- Kathleen darling... *Jack Earl's voyage around the world 1947–48*
- *The Last RoRos into the Port of Sydney*

Developed the exhibition *Exposed! The story of swimwear* for display at ANMM and a national tour, with a grant from Visions of Australia

Celebrated anniversary milestones of our historic vessels *Spirit of Australia* (world's fastest boat) and HMAS *Vampire* (Daring class destroyer)

Expanded the museum's online presence into social media (blog, Flickr, YouTube, MySpace and Facebook), a monthly HTML newsletter, online exhibition *American Warbrides*, and a volunteers website

Progressed the digitisation of the National Maritime Collection for public access via ANMM's eMuseum program with 1517 objects available for public access

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

Expanded the *Sail Away* travelling exhibition program for regional and remote Australia with *Joseph Banks and the flora of the Australian eastern coast* and *The Great White Fleet: US Seapower on Parade 1908*

Awarded \$100,000 to 19 heritage projects under the Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme (MMA PSS) for communities in every Australian state

Hosted two interns from the Norfolk Island Museum and the Royal Perth Yacht Club

Developed new access programs for visitors with disability, in conjunction with temporary and travelling exhibitions

Unveiled 1,949 new names on five panels on The Welcome Wall, our tribute to migrant Australians, in two unveiling ceremonies attended by some 3,500 visitors

Logged 886 museum volunteers 525 on site and 361 in regional ports – associated with *Endeavour*

3. **MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:**

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

Achieved \$6.923 million in self-generated revenue (against a budget of \$6.750 million)

Prepared and tabled the 2009–2012 Strategic Plan

Achieved Maritime NSW survey for operational vessels, while completing and implementing Vessel Management Plans

Improved access to the museum's eastern basin by constructing a public performance deck

Improved facilities at Wharf 7 Maritime Heritage Centre by constructing new workshop and office annexes

Improved security and waste management by constructing new facilities on the main museum building's north face

Met high standards for the display and storage of heritage material by improving conditions in both the Exhibition and Wharf 7 buildings

Undertook a major capital works programs to replace cathodic protection on our two main fixed wharves

Negotiated a new staff Collective Agreement for 2009–2010

Continued to develop the museum's Site Masterplan with architectural plans for significant improvements to the eastern wharf-side face; and to prepare a New Policy Proposal for a new exhibition building

4. **EDUCATION & RESEARCH**

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

Led a successful maritime archaeology expedition to locate the wreck of Philip Parker King's ship of exploration, HMCS *Mermaid*, on the Great Barrier Reef in a partnership between a high school in Bega, a philanthropist, the Queensland Museum and the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Published *In the wake of the Beagle – science in the southern oceans from the age of Darwin* in conjunction with UNSW Press

Collaborated in Australian Research Council Linkage projects with University of Sydney, Australian National University, Screen Australia, University of California

Increased the number of heritage entries on the Australian Register of Historic Vessels by 93 vessels

Hosted the first USA Gallery Fellow, from the New Bedford Whaling Museum, to research US-Australian whaling histories

Sent staff shipwright on a study and working visit to Mystic Seaport in the USA

Continued development of an exhibition/on line program about 20th century child migration with National Museums Liverpool in the UK with proposed venues in Glasgow and London

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

Negotiate a new, more difficult system of approvals for capital works under revised Commonwealth agency requirements

Win support from Government for the construction of a new exhibition building

Obtain approval for major site capital works – create an interactive educational facility, rebuild harbourside restaurant, Members and volunteers facilities

Overhaul and upgrade the museum's ICT system

Increase financial support from the private sector

Deal with lower income from government through the efficiency dividend and diminishing appropriation

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008-09

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Australian War Memorial

NAME OF DIRECTOR: S. Gower

1. ACCESS AND VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions and visitor trends (locals and tourists); use of websites and enquiry services]

After a previous strong year for visitation which included the opening of the new *Conflicts 1945 to Today* galleries and the tremendously successfully *Lawrence of Arabia and the Australian Light Horse* his year with the economic downturn has proved more difficult. Total access figures were 3.77 million (this figure includes visitation to the main site, school programs, events and activities, travelling exhibitions and use of website).

Following a change in the system measuring website usage from July 2008, a decrease in website visitation is being reported. The previous manual based system was proving too-time consuming to continue with, and a change was made to Google *Dashboard* system.

A major exhibition of First World War aerial combat featuring CGI by international producer Peter Jackson was opened. The five aircraft on display were fully restored, the German ones using authentic fabric, the specialist fitting and treatment of which was assisted by members of the Memorial Flight, France. The exhibition has been a major drawcard in ANZAC Hall, which now features four "object theatre" interpretations.

Two temporary exhibitions were on display – *Icon and Archive: Photography and the World Wars* and *Advancing to victory, 1918* to coincide with the 90th anniversary of the war's end.

Much preliminary work has already taken place for the 100th anniversaries associated with the First World War, especially Gallipoli. This coming financial year will see a refurbished Hall of Valour (to a Richard Johnson design) and half-life refurbishment of the Second World War galleries.

Research Centre staff answered over 15,000 enquiries during 2008-09 and approximately 1,140 research enquiries were answered by Military History staff during the year.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

[eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops]; indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural and other affiliated societies and partnerships]

In excess of 250 volunteers involved in some aspect of the collection and its interpretation: 200 front-of-house voluntary guides.

Access to the conservation facility is offered to University of Canberra students undertaking conservation courses and the Head of Collection Services is involved

with the University of Melbourne conservation course. The annual conservation course developed and run by Memorial staff for Service museum curators continued.

The Summer Scholar program continues where three history graduates undergo a program of research in January/February each year.

The staff indigenous liaison officer continues with a program of talks and broad community involvement. He is the focus of the development of a public database including people and collection items.

Research in conjunction with Australian Research Council grants continued with the University of Melbourne (the law reports series on Australia's post-Second World War war crimes trials), Australian National University (conservation applications of short-pulse lasers) and Macquarie University (completing the Gallipoli story: researching Turkish archives for a more comprehensive history). The official history of South East Asian conflicts is now completed and the official history of Peacekeeping and humanitarian operations is well underway.

Staff continue their active involvement in a multitude of bodies such as ICOM, Museums Australia, tourism bodies etc.

3. MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works]

The 2% efficiency dividend has had an associated staff and activities impact, as would be expected. Ab initio sponsorships are more difficult in the prevailing economic climate, although \$25,000 sponsorship support remains possible. The interest rate drop has affected the return on investments, although e-Business and Shop takings are up.

Our major Enterprise Content Management (ECM) project is expected to yield major efficiencies in data base, web content and record/document retrieval management. Accordingly, the possibility of an organisational change to "knowledge", "access" and "support (especially revenue generation)" branches was considered, but put aside. There are insufficient clear cut efficiencies to warrant such a change. The ECM project has proven to be a challenging one, essentially because of contractor problems. However, solutions to Digital Asset Management and Electronic Document and Records Management have been workshopped successfully, leaving Web Content Management outstanding.

The underground car park and new café, designed by Richard Johnson, are well underway. There have been no problems; we have an excellent contractor; and work should be finished by March 2010.

4. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

[eg education and research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

The staff research program continues, along with previously mentioned tertiary institution links.

A series of curator-written books on collection aspects (rather than military history) is underway, following major books on the art and photographic collections. Aircraft, artillery and vehicles are current topics and Dr Janda Gooding has completed her book on Bean's 1919 historical mission to Gallipoli with Lambert and Wilkins, and the effect its work had on public perceptions. Other publications are planned to follow.

Over 200 public presentations, talks and lectures were given by staff around Australia. Bring in your Memorabilia workshops were associated with some travelling exhibitions in New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia.

The schools' visit program continues to be curriculum-based and ongoing liaison continues with education authorities.

One major, fully subscribed, Military History conference was held, attracting scholars from the United States of America (Yale University), the United Kingdom (Imperial War Museum) and Australia. The previous year's proceedings (Peacekeeping) were published.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three-four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

Money!

Money!!

Money!!!

Money!!!!

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: **CANTERBURY MUSEUM**

NAME OF DIRECTOR: **ANTHONY WRIGHT**

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

The Museum continues its year-on-year improvements on almost all fronts, despite the constraints of inadequate visitor services and circulation, and ageing facilities and building services. The Board is determined to pursue a significant redevelopment of the Museum to resolve these issues and provide for continuing growth in community service and capacity.

We're delighted to report a new record 653,800 visitors to Canterbury Museum over the past year, a 14% increase on last year's (then record) attendance. A visitor satisfaction rating of 95.5% having a good, very good or excellent experience led to a new record of over \$159,000 in visitor donations. This is particularly pleasing, since almost 34,000 people paid to view the *Da Vinci Machines* exhibition; pay-for exhibitions have a significant negative effect on door donations. The *Da Vinci* show returned some \$90,000 of income to the Museum.

Fred & Myrtle's Paua Shell House has celebrated its first birthday with a Paua Cake and over 150,000 visitors. The excellence of this attraction, from the high standard of display, through ground-breaking security provisions, to outstanding interpretation in the film theatre pre-experience won the Annual Museums Aotearoa Innovation Achievement Award.

We were pleased to re-open the Robert McDougall Gallery at Canterbury Museum to 15,000 viewers of two special exhibitions, the second *New Zealand Glass Invitational* – showcasing the best of contemporary Glass Art, and *Bank's Florilegium*, in association with the Garden City Festival Trust as part of the Eilerslie International Flower Show support programme.

Towards year end, we began the roll-out of the first major refreshment of the Museum Brand in ten years. The arrival foyer has had a complete make-over, with visitors commenting favourably on the simpler, clean look and greater sense of space. Wayfinding signage throughout the Museum has been upgraded and simplified. The core landmark is being supplemented for the first time with a series of key collection images under the Real Experiences header.

In addition to the major exhibitions noted above, a further 18 temporary shows from the longstanding Canterbury Potters annual exhibition to *Walk the Plank: Children's book illustrations* were staged. Insertions to refresh longterm galleries continued with a new tarantula terrarium in *Discovery* and an interactive ride-on Skidoo in the Antarctic Gallery.

We continue an active programme of acquisitions, with 4,394 objects added to the permanent collection. Highlights include a range of costumes, props and archives

from the Christchurch Drama Centre, a scarf made for Sir Edmund Hillary for the 1955-58 Trans Antarctic Expedition, a sea chest brought out to NZ on the *Charlotte Jane* by Dr AC Barker, Apsley Cherry Garrard's sledging flag from Scott's British Antarctic Expedition, and thanks to the generosity of the Friends of Canterbury Museum, a monumental Doulton vase exhibited at the 1906 New Zealand Exhibition.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

53 volunteers gave over 10,400 hours towards improvement to collections management and assisting with school holiday programmes. Research Fellow, Peter Johns, received a civic Volunteer Recognition Award for his outstanding contribution to the development of the invertebrate collection.

The Museum continues to work closely with the Antarctic Heritage Trust on a number of fronts, including managing their collections database. In addition, we hosted two Trust conservators working on their Reserve Collection, now housed at the Museum.

The Museum is actively represented on over 35 national and community organisations with whom we collaborate; in addition staff provide one-on-one advice and support to thousands of others in our home community.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

Over the past year the establishment staff has remained stable.

A significant increase in training and development of staff saw over 3,700 hours achieved. 8 members of the Museum Management Team qualified with their National Certificate in Museum Practice. At the Annual Museum Aotearoa Awards we received a second honour – the ATTTO Excellence in Workplace Training Award in acknowledgment of the investment made in staff development.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

38,000 children took part in education programmes presented by the Museum, with a further 11,000 school pupils using the Museum independently for curriculum related learning.

Cliff, the gecko mascot of the Children's Discovery Club celebrated his tenth birthday with a party for 300 squealing youngsters – who danced the night away to the strains of ABBA!

Over 20,000 individuals from all stages and walks of life enjoyed a wide range of public programmes – activities, performances, lectures, trails, tours and school holiday programmes.

In a new initiative, one of our special exhibitions from the *Conversations Across Time* series was toured to each of the Districts that help fund the Museum and was viewed by over 50,000 people in Rangiora, Leeston and Cheviot.

Staff research resulted in the publication of 18 peer-reviewed papers in academic journals and a range of popular publications; it also contributed to exhibition and public programme development.

The Mason Foundation gave its largest ever grant of \$50,000 towards a collaborative research programme on the Wairau Bar tupuna (ancestors). Rangitane Iwi, the University of Otago and the Museum undertook a major investigation of the koiwi tangata (human remains) prior to their return to Rangitane and reburial at Wairau Bar.

An emotional journey home for the tupuna commenced with ceremonial in the Nga Taonga Gallery at the Museum on 14 April. A large contingent of Rangitane, preceded by taiaha-wielding warriors arrived to uplift the four large wakatupapaku (coffins) bearing the ancestors. Supported by Ngai Tahu, representatives from the Museum joined Te Hokinga Mai – the journey home – via overnight stays on Takahanga Marae (Kaikoura) and Omaka Marae (Blenheim). The tupuna were re-buried at Wairau Bar on the morning of 16 April.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

The Museum has completed a busy and productive year, meeting or exceeding the vast majority of its objectives. The year-on-year growth in performance has occurred despite no new staff positions for several years, and the majority of staff are at or beyond capacity. The Board will need to make a conscious decision either to invest in modest staff increases to maintain this growth, or accept a reduction in growth of programmes.

The ongoing need for a major redevelopment of buildings and plant remains and quiet preparations continue. Local Government funding of \$22.5m has recently been committed to this project.

HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Margaret Anderson

1. Access and visitor statistics

1.1. Visitor numbers

The trend in visitor numbers varied substantially between sites this year. There was a pleasing increase in numbers at the Maritime Museum, a small decrease at the Motor Museum and a larger decrease at the Migration Museum – the latter probably reflecting a fall off in international tourist numbers. Overall numbers showed a small decrease, to a total for site visits of 323,793. An additional 41,758 visited one of six regional touring exhibitions.

Total visitors: 365,551.

1.2. Visitor demographics

Tourists, both interstate and international, continue to be a major part of our audience, although the makeup differs substantially between the three museums. A survey conducted by UniSA this year suggested little change from previous years. The Migration Museum attracts the highest proportion of overseas visitors, (about 50%).

Socio-economic and gender profiles conform to the norm for museums globally, with the exception of the Motor Museum, which attracts a higher than average proportion of men (60%) and a greater percentage of visitors from lower socio-economic groups. Perhaps ironically, shop takings are also highest at the Motor Museum, but that probably reflects the fact that this museum also has a higher proportion of adult visitors than the others.

1.3. On-line services

We have completed the first stage of a strategic planning process to redevelop our on-line services, and had hoped that a consolidated budget bid submitted by Arts SA might deliver some much needed funding. It proved to be the wrong year for such projects! We are still attempting to do as much as we can from existing resources and will try again next year.

1.4. Exhibitions and public programs

New long-term exhibitions

- *Model behavior* -an exhibition of a significant collection of model vehicles at the Motor Museum.

New temporary exhibitions

- History Trust
- *Children of the Empire* (with SA Museum and Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Centre)
- National Motor Museum
- *Shades of Green* –motor vehicles and green fuel and design options.
- Migration Museum
- *Evidence of Survival: The Impact of World War Two in Documents*

- Four community exhibitions in the *Forum* gallery.
- SA Maritime Museum
- *Quest for the South Magnetic Pole* (with the SA Museum – *Visions* exhibition)
- *Pirates* – a participative exhibition and holiday program for small children

Touring exhibitions

- National Motor Museum
- *Off the Beaten track: a journey across the nation* (Adelaide to Darwin through the Centre. *Visions* exhibition).
- History Trust
- *Blue Jeans & Jungle Greens: revisiting the 60s and 70s.* (regional SA)
- *Vote Yes: the 1967 referendum* (regional SA)
- *With Courage and Humanity* (regional SA)
- SA Maritime Museum
- *The River – Life on the Murray Darling* (with Australian National Maritime Museum)
- Migration Museum
- *They took our lands and then our children: the 1923 Ngarrindjeri petition* (regional SA)

Major events

- History Trust
- *SA History Week* May 2009. (10 day program of events. 60,000+ participants)
- National Motor Museum
- *Bay to Birdwood* (veteran and vintage car rally) September 2008
- *Rock'n Roll Rendezvous* – April 2009
- Migration Museum
- *Who do you think you are?* (A comedy program -part of the *Come out Festival*)

2. Community involvement

The Migration Museum and Community History Program of the History Trust have a particular focus on community projects, but all museums include community partnerships as an important component of their work.

Highlights this year included:

- *SA History Week* 22-31 May 2009. The program included 246 organisations presenting a total of 337 events and attracted about 60,000 participants. All regions of the state were represented. The program continues to grow from year to year, to such an extent that continuing to fund the program booklet is now a major issue for us. There is growing demand to increase the time span of the event to a fortnight or a month.

- *State History conference August 2008*. Held in 2008 in Adelaide, but alternates between a metropolitan and a regional location. The annual conference is held over the first weekend in August, and brings together academic, professional and community historians in a unique combination. In 2008 the conference attracted 171 delegates.
- Community access exhibitions – *Forum* at the Migration Museum (four exhibitions annually); *Club Space* at the National Motor Museum (6 exhibitions) and Access gallery at the SA Maritime Museum (? exhibitions).
- Community Museums Program and South Australian History Fund distributed \$185,000 in grant funds to community museums, historical societies and community archives for 54 projects.
- Community Museum Program staff also completed a revised edition of their *Community Museums Handbook*, incorporating material addressing the new national standards. This was distributed free to all registered and accredited museums within the Community Museums Program and is on the web site. It was supported by a busy program of regional workshops.

3. Management and funding

We were lucky to be spared a cut to operational funds this year and even gained partial compensation for inflation. That said, some of the gain was offset by the continuing imposition of efficiency ‘savings’ – the most irritating a reduction in electricity funding, although the actual cost of electricity continued to escalate alarmingly. Although our overall usage has decreased, the cost at one site rose 47%, reflecting a requirement to meet government mandated ‘green’ energy targets. While we support this policy in principle, its implementation will ultimately be disastrous for our budget if compensation is not forthcoming. The government has also foreshadowed significant actual cuts to budgets in most areas for 2009/10, which is a major concern.

Two capital building projects, one of which will continue into 2009-10, addressed urgent conservation problems with heritage buildings at the Motor Museum and Maritime Museum.

4. Education and research

Education programs

- There were 41,832 booked school visits.
- New education programs at both the Migration Museum and South Australian Maritime Museum included additions to the popular community *Celebrations* series, a ‘history through music’ program, and an MP3-based tour of the Maritime Museum and Port Adelaide. The Migration Museum also continued to present the historical component of cultural awareness programs to state and local government agencies.

5. Major challenges

- Funding – especially for exhibitions and public programs (including on-line services), but also minor works.
- Storage – Arts SA is coordinating a budget bid for a shared storage facility, which is desperately needed. Our current storage is well below acceptable standards.
- On-line development. We have completed a strategic planning process to guide development of comprehensive on-line services. The challenge will be to find

the financial and staff resources to do everything we want to do.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory (MAGNT)

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Anna Malgorzewicz

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service]

During the reporting period, total visitation to all MAGNT venues exceeded 330 000.

Public program highlights included:

Launched the jointly presented exhibition between MAGNT and the National Directorate of Culture, Timor-Leste, *Husi Bei Ala Timor Sira Nia Liman: From the Hands of our Ancestors*, featuring significant works from the National Collection of Timor-Leste, the Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, the Australian Museum and private loans. Published *Husi Bei Ala Timor Sira Nia Liman: From the Hands of our Ancestors* comprising four scholarly essays and a full-colour catalogue of the exhibition (162pp.).

Delivered the 25th *Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award*, featuring the works of 117 contemporary Indigenous artists from around Australia. Launched the 25th *NATSIAA* online exhibition using html and flash gallery sites as well as audio recordings of artists' statements. This provided timely access to the Award exhibition for national and international audiences including the art industry and students, and further promoted local access.

Launched *Supercrocodilians: Darwin's ultimate survival story*, a scholarly and popular natural science and history exhibition.

Launched the second in the triennial series of exhibitions *Arafura Craft Exchange: trajectory of memories, tradition and modernity in ceramics*, which in 2008 featured contemporary craft of three Indonesian artists and internationally renowned guest curator Sudjud Dartanto.

Showcased 45 students' artworks for the exhibition *Exit Art: Contemporary Youth Art of Northern Territory Year 12 Students 2008* at MAGNT. The exhibition presents the developing visual arts practice of Territory students and the project facilitates their tertiary pathways into professional practice. The exhibition consisted of 47 artworks and 17 extension projects.

Delivered Otto Tshirn exhibition in the Museum of Central Australia gallery.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

MAGNT continued to foster museum-to-museum relationships within the immediate Southeast Asian region through the following initiatives:

- Delivery of a training program to members of the Yogyakarta Museums Association (*Badan Musyawarah Musea*) and Gadjah Mada University in *Disaster Preparedness Planning and Collections Management Procedures* at the Sonobudoyo Museum, Yogyakarta, (*Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta*), Java, Indonesia. This program was an initiative of the Australian International Cultural Council and focused on the preventive care of collections in this earthquake prone region of Java.
- Delivery of a training program to staff of regional museums on Care of Wooden and Bamboo Artefacts at the Provincial Museum of Eastern Indonesia, Kupang (*UPDT Museum Daerah, Propinsi Nusa Tenggara Timur, Kupang*). Further training and support was also provided toward the refurbishment of the museum's textile store and collection. This project was supported by the Australia-Indonesia Institute.
- Delivery of a training program to staff of Fundasaun Alola, Timor Aid and the National Directorate of Culture in the rolling and storage of textiles at the National Directorate of Culture, Timor-Leste, Dili in April 2009. This was an initiative of MAGNT and supports the establishment and care of textile collections within the nation.
- Curation of the exhibition *The Art of Futus From Dark to Light: Arte Futus Nian Husi Naroman ba Nakukun* following curatorial documentation and research into the Fundasaun Alola and Timor Aid textile collections. This exhibition featured textiles from these two collections and was presented at Casa Europa, the headquarters for the European Economic Commission in Dili, Timor-Leste. A catalogue was published with support from United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- Convening of a seminar *Back from the Brink: The Art, Culture and Heritage of Timor-Leste* at MAGNT with presentations by Timor-Leste, Portuguese and Australian scholars, curators and cultural workers. The keynote address for the seminar was delivered by Mr Virgilio Simith, Secretary of State, Culture, Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

Commenced a community engagement program with the Unmatjere community to identify rights to cultural material held at the Strehlow Research Centre, and undertook consultations with the Western Arrernte community regarding the repatriation of secret/sacred objects from the collections.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

Anna Malgorzewicz returned to the role of Director on 13th May 2009 following almost one year's absence. Ms Malgorzewicz returned to the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport in February 2009 and spent three months working on the \$11.5 M Defence of Darwin Museum proposal, including the development of a Scoping and Content Report and the Visitor Experience Brief.

Professor Marcia Langton was appointed Chair of the Museums and Art Galleries Board of the Northern Territory following the resignation of the previous Chair, Ms Anita Angel. The Board currently comprises seven members: Professor Marcia Langton (Chair), Ms Libby Beath, Ms Kathleen Brown, Mr Steve Eland, Ms Pip McManus, Mr Alastair Shields and Mr John Waters QC. The new Board held its first meeting on Monday, 25 May 2009 following a hiatus of some months. The previous meeting of the Board was in October 2008.

The former Minister for Arts and Museums requested the Chair of the Board form a Working Group to discuss necessary legislative amendment and prepare drafting instructions for Parliamentary Counsel. The intention is to ensure the number of Members of the Board can be increased from seven to up to ten members, and to bring the Act up to date with other jurisdictions and for it to be consistent with similar legislation for other cultural institutions in Australia.

New Departmental administrative arrangements also came into effect in April 2009. Under these arrangements the Herbaria North and South and the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens were transferred to the Museums and Art Galleries of the NT. In Alice Springs the Strehlow Research Centre and the Museum of Central Australia share joint management and both entities are now part of the Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory.

Michael Cawthorn commenced on 6th May 2009 as Deputy Director South with responsibility for the new combined Strehlow Research Centre and Museum of Central Australia. Mr Cawthorn is well acquainted with the programs and priorities of the Strehlow Research Centre having been employed as the Anthropologist at the Centre for many years.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

Incorporated a large number of primary type specimens of newly named species into the Natural Science Collections. These included eight holotypes (Crustacea, Polychaetes, Porifera, Arachnids, and Pisces) plus 47 lots of paratypes (Crustacea, Polychaetes, Insecta, Arachnids, and Pisces).

Published *Yalangbara: Art of the Djang'kawu* with CDU Press, presenting over 100 artworks with six essays and artists' biographies'.

Published Volume 24 of *The Beagle*, consisting of 13 academic papers including descriptions of new plants, butterflies, beetles and fishes.

Made significant discoveries at the Alcoota fossil deposit, including the cranium of a large specimen of the extinct crocodile, *Baru darrowi*; an exceptional example of a skull of the relatively rare 'marsupial tapir' *Palorchestes planei*; and exceptional cranial material of the giant flightless bird *Dromornis stirtoni* [up to 2.7 m tall and 750 kg in weight]

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

The Chair of the Museums and Art Galleries Board of the Northern Territory will convene a Working Group to develop and progress a Ten Year Plan for the museum sector in the Northern Territory.

The continued development of the Defence of Darwin Museum proposal.

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences

ACHIEVEMENTS 2008-09

Visitor numbers

Highest overall visitor numbers to the Museum's sites (719,265) since 1994-95.

Highest overall visitation to the Powerhouse Museum (over 565,409) since 1996-97.

Exhibitions and programs

Star Wars: where science meets imagination ran at the Powerhouse from December 08 to April 09 and attracted 216,600 visitors, the highest exhibition attendance ever at the Museum for a paid exhibition.

The closing day of the exhibition was the busiest on record for a fee paying exhibition with 4,173 visitors. It also generated the busiest April school holiday period on record with 61,779 admissions.

The Powerhouse launched *The Magic Garden: MBF Foundation Healthy Kids Unit*, an interactive play space for children aged two to eight where they can learn lifelong healthy eating and activity habits, in September 2008.

In 2009 the Powerhouse Discovery Centre expanded its educational program offering with the launch of a range of tailored secondary school visits focussed on the History, Technology and Applied Sciences, and Engineering syllabuses.

Powerplay is a new program specifically designed for 3-6 year olds at the Powerhouse. *Powerplay* aims to build on the audience visiting *Zoe's House* and introduce a range of different objects and exhibitions by providing activities, songs and stories based around Museum themes.

Over 260,000 participated in public and education programs at the Powerhouse Museum.

Regional Services and Outreach

The Australian Dress Register, an online database for recording the significant examples of dress in collections across NSW, will have great impact on how regional collections are valued, documented and accessed. It will eventually include an array of online resources and workshops to support a network of regional volunteers acting as local coordinators for the project.

The Museum presented *Behind the Seams* - a seminar for regional museums and galleries designed to support those working with small and large collections to better document and interpret their dress collections.

Travelling exhibitions went to eight regional NSW and four interstate locations, attracting over 215,000 visitors.

Short term displays of Museum collection objects were held at 3 locations – Taralga, Maitland and Tooraweenah

Seven Internships were provided to staff from organisations in Ballina, Arakoon, Alstonville, Wagga Wagga, Millthorpe, Glen Innes, and Tweed River

Advice sessions, meetings and skill development forums held in over 40 regional NSW locations

Total number of regional NSW organisations engaged - 59

Off site activities such as lectures, presentations, site visits workshops etc engaged over 29,000 people, a rise of 69% on the previous year.

The Museum answered over 45,500 enquiries.

Online Access

Our websites attracted over 12 million unique users.

Our Photography collections are being made accessible on the Commons on Flickr. The Powerhouse was the first museum in the world to make its historical photography collections publicly available in this way. Over one million views on our account on just over 1200 images. The community engagement, citizen research and innovation that have happened with our images that has significant impact and value adds to our collections and connections with our new audience.

A *YouTube* series, *Inside the Vault*, takes the Powerhouse Museum Collection out onto the Net and unveils extraordinary stories behind objects from the Collection with curators speaking about them. Three episodes have been produced so far.

We launched a 'mobile' version of our website trimmed down to fit the smaller screen size and, most importantly, different user behaviours that occur when the web goes mobile. The mobile version reduces the bulk of information around visiting to a single screen with quick links to current exhibitions and our collection search.

Awards

The NSW Migration Heritage Centre's *Objects Through Time* –online Migration History Timeline - won the 2009 National Trust Heritage Award for Interpretation and Presentation in the Corporate/Government category. *Objects Through Time* was recognised for showcasing migration heritage collections held by communities across NSW.

The Migration Heritage Centre and Tweed River Regional Museum also won in the category of Cultural Heritage (Community Groups) for their work in documenting their culturally diverse community in the book *The Other Side of the World – Migration to the Tweed 1940s to 1960s*.

The Powerhouse Museum was awarded Vision Australia's *Making a Difference* Award in recognition of supporting people who are blind or have low vision, through the exhibition *Living in a sensory world: stories from people with blindness and low vision* and associated programs.

Processes and the workplace

In the last year we have installed 2 new innovative software products:-

Jira - Issue management tool - Since its implementation a little over a year ago, Jira has facilitated the management of over 7,000 issues and numerous projects (including *Star Wars*). It has been customised to meet the varying needs of each department, including a 'dashboard' of operational and project progress, and unprecedented managerial oversight;

and,

Confluence - An organisational wiki - provides the ability for improvements in staff collaboration through the sharing of pages, documents and rich content. In addition to its ability to improve teamwork it has the dual advantage of reducing the impact of excessive duplication and the need for expensive IT resources and infrastructure.

The launch of JSTOR (short for Journal Storage), an online archive of important scholarly journals containing over 1.8 million full text articles across 47 disciplines, with desktop access provided for staff and volunteers across the Museum.

The majority of the Museum's servers have been converted from a physical server into a virtual server, and now run on new equipment which performs the work of over 20+ servers previously. This results in a performance increase across all server applications, but also reduces the amount of hardware the Museum needs to purchase and support. Power and cooling bills are reduced, and subsequently our contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.

A much improved version of the Museum's collection information and management system, EMu, is almost ready to be rolled out to staff. It contains 396,879 object records, with new records always being added. Over 4,000 new object records and 9,000 new images were added to the system this year.

Partnerships

A partnership has been established with the Foundation for Public Education in NSW to provide ten *Astronomy for Girls* scholarships. Sydney Observatory will provide expertise, training and access to the Observatory for the winners.

UTS was the exclusive University partner for the *Star Wars* exhibition. UTS and the Museum collaborated to present a range of programs to promote engagement with science, robotics and mathematics. These included the *SPARK - Ensuring Australia's SciTech Future* symposium that explored contemporary practice in science education and communication. In partnership with *The Magic Lab* at UTS, the Museum celebrated the close of *Star Wars* with a live robot demonstration.

In 2008 Alcatel-Lucent and the Museum collaborated to develop a series of upper secondary school workshops in connection with the *Star Wars* exhibition. The program was developed and delivered around the theme of physics and specifically "the World Communications" section of the Year 11-12 science and technology curriculum.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Museum Victoria

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Dr J Patrick Greene

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

(eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

In 2008–09, Museum Victoria enjoyed a record-breaking year. Attendances at our museums and the IMAX Melbourne Museum totalled over 1.6 million people. IMAX recorded outstanding results for *Star Trek*, during the opening two weeks of which IMAX Melbourne was the highest grossing cinema in Victoria and second highest in Australia, and *The Dark Knight*. Over five million visited our website. The Discovery Program attracted over 85,600 people and the Royal Exhibition Building over 390,000. Memberships totalled 10,247, equating to more than 35,000 individual members.

The Discovery Centre at Melbourne Museum and at the Immigration Museum welcomed 99,121 and 24,460 visitors respectively and the enquiries service logged 11,402 queries, which represents a 23% increase from the previous year. A new feature added to Museum Victoria's website allows users to post comments online about Discovery Centre info-sheets. The Discovery Centres have also established a blog and have been posting links, information and announcements to a Twitter account. The Immigration Discovery Centre launched a new project titled *Your Questions*, which enables research enquiries to be answered on the Museum Victoria website.

In early 2009, a new online ticketing system was implemented for all Scienceworks shows, including the *Star Wars* exhibition, and for the *A Day in Pompeii* exhibition at Melbourne Museum. This will continue for exhibitions and special events.

Exhibitions included *Dinosaur Walk*, the first exhibition of the Science and Life Gallery redevelopment at Melbourne Museum and *A Day in Pompeii* as part of the 2009 Melbourne Winter Masterpieces; *Star Wars* at Scienceworks; and *Ancient Hampi* in the Immigration Museum to mark its 10th anniversary.

Collectish (<http://collectish.com>), a free-access website to help people organise and share their collections and explore collections from around the world, was launched in March 2009. Enhancement of our other online experiences included the addition of podcasts, video, and staff-authored blogs while to extend our reach, Museum Victoria also contributes to and participates in sites such as Twitter, YouTube and Facebook.

Thirteen new education kits and audio-visual teaching resources were published on Museum Victoria websites, including downloadable bilingual programs in Italian and French. Online content has been provided for projects by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and The Le@rning Federation, which are creating resources to be used by Australian and New Zealand schools.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

The Immigration Museum presented community exhibitions and festivals in conjunction with the Cambodian, Indonesian and Tuvalu communities, former residents of the Enterprise Hostel and migrant women trailblazers. Forums relating to identity and race, an exhibition celebrating the Centre for Multicultural Youth's 20th anniversary exhibition, and a project where Victoria University TAFE students produced films focusing on narratives across cultures were also delivered.

Bunjilaka, the Aboriginal Cultural Centre, welcomed the Chooky Dancers from the Northern Territory to sell-out performances at Melbourne Museum in March and collaborated with Blakfella Films to present the Victorian showing of the National Indigenous Film Festival, hosted the *2008 Songlines* music festival and worked with local elders and Northland Secondary College to stage their performance of *Birrarung*, Yarra River creation stories.

Six items from the Indigenous Cultures collection were loaned to the Shepparton Art Gallery for the exhibition *MALKA: Protecting our culture*, which explores contemporary Aboriginal life in the region through stories about local culture and heritage.

Museum Victoria and the University of Melbourne jointly developed the exhibition *Ancestral Power and the Aesthetic*, which opened at the Ian Potter Museum of Art in June 2009. This is the first exhibition to focus on extraordinary bark paintings by Yolngu artists from the Donald Thomson Collection, managed by the Donald Thomson Collection Administration Committee.

Museum Victoria continued participating in the Return of Indigenous Cultural Property Program, funded by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. A fixed-term Repatriation Program Manager was appointed to conclude some longstanding negotiations with Victorian communities regarding the repatriation of ancestral remains, and to commence discussions about the identification of secret-sacred objects. An expert in the skeletal biology of Indigenous Australians was also appointed to undertake studies on unprovenanced ancestral remains from Victoria.

In partnership with the Collections Australia Network (CAN), Museum Victoria presented a one-day seminar, *Collections and the Web*, in November, which was supported by the Victorian Cultural Network and Community Support Fund. Seventy participants from cultural organisations across Victoria learned about best practice, latest trends and future directions.

Museum Victoria is continuing to implement MV Images, a digital asset management system for our image collection which complements the EMu collection management system, enabling Museum Victoria to manage digital image collections and orders associated with them.

A total of 481 volunteers contributed 52,131 hours in 2008–09, three of whom reached the remarkable milestone of 10,000 hours of volunteer service. Celebrations were held for International Volunteers Day and National Volunteers Week as part of the volunteers' recognition program.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

A new process was implemented for the development of the 2009–10 budget in order to review existing activities as well as identify and resource new activities that will contribute to the priorities in the 2008–13 strategic plan. A positive operating cashflow position was maintained primarily due to strong visitation at all museums and grants from external sources.

Museum Victoria was successful in receiving more than \$10.6 million of non-recurrent funding. This included \$4 million from the State Government for exhibition renewal, \$3.4 million from State Government entities for restoration works associated with the Royal Exhibition Building, \$120,000 from the National Plant Biodiversity Cooperative Research Centre for a project related to the biodiversity of Barrow Island, and \$113,000 from the Yulgilbar Foundation to increase the capacity of the Immigration Discovery Centre. In all, 63 projects attracted funding. Funding was also secured through Consumer Affairs Victoria from the Victorian Property Fund for re-establishment of the historic German Garden in the Royal Exhibition Building western forecourt, which will include an archaeological excavation and installation of infrastructure for capturing and storing roof water run-off to be used to sustain the health of trees in the World Heritage site.

Museum Victoria has continued to focus on the development of staff through a structured and diverse corporate training program including Aboriginal cultural awareness training, and the Visitor Experience Training (VET) which provides a creative approach to training customer-facing staff and volunteers to provide a consistent level of knowledge and skill across all venues to provide visitors with great experiences. An innovative program of peer learning and support was also established for the Leadership Team, and a short-term exchange program for two horticultural staff with the Royal Botanic Gardens was undertaken through the year.

Museum Victoria partnered with the not-for-profit organisation URCOT in a research project investigating the elements that make an organisation an employer of choice for Indigenous staff. Consultation sessions took place with our Indigenous staff and the results will feed into the development of a new Museum Victoria Indigenous employment and career development strategy.

Our environmental performance has continued to improve, with a further reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 3.3%, or 764 tonnes of CO₂. Initiatives undertaken during the year to reduce Museum Victoria's impact on the environment included water re-use at Melbourne Museum to nurture trees of heritage and environmental significance stressed by climate conditions; installation of infrastructure in the Melbourne Museum carpark to reduce lighting demand; introduction of 100 desktop and 50 notebook Energy Star-compliant computers; and purchase of an eWaste recycling bin to dispose of obsolete computer equipment. Staff initiatives such as the introduction of an office recycling program and Ride to Work Day, Earth Hour and World Environment Day were supported.

Museum Victoria's information, communication and technology (ICT) storage and server infrastructure was replaced to meet the increasing requirements of digital storage and to ensure continued high performance. The enhancement of air conditioning services to the core data centre, significantly reduced the risk of a major failure of our ICT systems.

During the year, project planning was supported by risk assessment and mitigation strategy workshops, with the results used to develop plans to manage and minimise risks. Risk management and good governance also included development and implementation of a compliance framework; review of the formal instrument of delegations; development and implementation of a comprehensive internal audit program; and establishment of a risk management framework.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

In 2008–09, Museum Victoria's education visitation increased by 4% on the previous year and our online education resources received more than 440,000 page views.

A workshop about sustainable exhibition design, organised by Museum Victoria and Questacon, was hosted at Scienceworks in April. The workshop brought together exhibition designers and producers to share information between museum and science centre organisations about environmentally responsible and sustainable practices. It included an excursion to Melbourne Museum to view examples of sustainable design in exhibitions like *Dinosaur Walk* and *A Day in Pompeii*, which underwent a life cycle assessment that ensured all elements of the environmental impact of these exhibitions were identified and managed and sustainable design principles developed as part of this process. The *Tuvalu* exhibition at the Immigration Museum was used to trial the production of carbon-neutral exhibitions.

In February 2009, Museum Victoria launched a new software product called Plant Biosecurity Toolbox (PBT), which contains detailed information about a number of high-profile exotic pests and diseases. In June, it was approved as the sole point of distribution for all nationally endorsed pests and diseases protocols.

A research project team to examine human-induced changes, caused by loss of habitat and fragmentation, in the genetic structure of frog populations north of Melbourne has been working with local Landcare groups in the Kinglake, Glenburn and Flowerdale areas, collecting frogs for the study. A new survey has commenced to determine the impact of the fires on frog populations and to what extent there has been a loss in genetic diversity.

During the year, researchers produced 167 refereed journal papers, reports, books and other publications, and presented 196 lectures and talks. Student supervision comprised 4 honours, 6 masters and 29 PhD students. Funding for research was received from a number of government agencies and philanthropic organisations, and Museum Victoria became involved in four new Australian Research Council Linkage Grants.

Notable publications during the year included *Melbourne: A City of Stories*, a 114-page guide to *The Melbourne Story* exhibition, and *A Day in Pompeii*, a 59-page souvenir book.

Dr John Long won the 2008 Australasian Science Prize for his discovery of the 'mother fish' *Materpiscis attenboroughi*. A team led by Dr Long also announced its latest discovery concerning fossil fishes from Gogo, in Western Australia. Studies on specimens of the placoderm fish *Incisoscutum* led to new knowledge about the origin of internal fertilisation in vertebrate animals, which was published in *Nature* in 2009.

New research confirmed that champion racehorse Phar Lap ingested a lethal dosage of arsenic just before his death. Researchers from Museum Victoria and the University of South Australia detected traces of arsenic in samples of Phar Lap's hair and found that it

was possible to distinguish this ingested arsenic from that used during the taxidermy process. This conclusion is consistent with evidence in a horse tonic recipe book used by Harry Telford, trainer and part owner of Phar Lap.

Museum Victoria hosted a conference of the Victorian arts agencies to discuss possible collaborative initiatives for the 'Black Saturday' bushfires, which identified four streams of endeavour for the agencies - humanitarian, documenting, restoration/recovery, and securing collections into the future. Staff members are liaising with government and community organisations to develop the collection; interviews are being held with individuals personally affected by the fires; and items are being acquired from their destroyed homes. Museum Victoria is also acting as a delegate for the National Museum of Australia to assist in acquiring material for its collection. A Museum Victoria specialist team from construction company, Grocon Pty Ltd, dismantled a seven-metre-high brick chimney from 'The Uplands', a burnt-out homestead at Kinglake, which will form part of a new installation in Melbourne Museum's Forest Gallery, commemorating 'Black Saturday'.

Other acquisitions during the year included a late 19th-century drawing by Victorian Aboriginal artist Tommy McRae titled *Hunting the Emu*; an ichthyosaur fossil skull discovered during fieldwork in Queensland; the polar axis from the Great Melbourne Telescope, which is one of the last remnant pieces of the telescope built in the 1860s; and a collection of 120 items relating to the 1880 International Exhibition, donated by the Twycross Family under the Cultural Gifts Program.

During the 2008 calendar year, more than 5,400 teachers subscribed or renewed their membership to the MVteachers online subscription program for Victorian educators, a 35% increase on 2007. Staff participated in three National Curriculum Board consultative forums in Melbourne, and a National Curriculum Forum in Canberra.

Melbourne Museum held the first ever public dissection of a giant squid by museum scientists in July. Marine biologists dissected a 5.5-metre female and the event was streamed live online, attracting more than 25,000 viewers on the day from Australia and overseas.

Inspiring Science 2008, a National Science Week program of activities, was presented at Melbourne Museum, Scienceworks and throughout regional Victoria and was enjoyed by approximately 14,500 participants.

A paper about organisational change and the development of an online strategy and framework was presented at the *2009 Museums and the Web* conference in Indianapolis, US. Museum Victoria is one of only a handful of museums internationally to have developed a comprehensive whole-of-organisation approach to online program delivery and our approach has attracted national and international attention.

More than 900 natural science and social history presentations were delivered as part of the *Museum in a Van* program which included presentations delivered to Churchill and Traralgon South preschools as part of Museum Victoria's contribution to the 'Black Saturday' bushfire relief. The Discovery Program also provided activities for families on themes ranging from insects to dinosaurs at Victorian regional and community events, attended by 30,000 people. Five thousand people participated Victoria-wide in science-related activities delivered through six library networks for National Science Week 2008.

Museum Victoria staff joined a University of Ballarat researcher to investigate the largest collection of megafauna footprints yet discovered in Australia, dating from 120,000 years ago and found in a recently dried-up lake bed on a farm near Colac in western Victoria. The discovery featured in an ABC Catalyst story in April 2009.

A total of 43 secondary and 49 tertiary students participated in Museum Victoria's Vocational Education program in 2008–09. As part of Museum Victoria's agreement with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for the 2009–11 triennium, Melbourne Museum is participating in a project to support secondary students with Indigenous backgrounds to think broadly about their vocational pathways to the future.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD]

- Funding opportunities and support from State and Federal Government for Museum Victoria projects and facilities including the world heritage listed Royal Exhibition Building.
- Establishing a digitisation centre to effectively capture and manage images and other research data.
- Expanding ways that people can access our collection online, through enhancements to the Museum Victoria website, sharing of collection data with other institutions and developing relationships with the online collecting community.
- Development pathways to education and employment for Indigenous people through partnerships with schools, the education sector and Indigenous community organisations.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008-09

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA (NMA)

DIRECTOR: CRADDOCK MORTON

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

The 2008-09 visitation total for the NMA was 937,314. This compares favourably with the previous three years:

Financial year	Visitation
2005-06	770,601
2006-07	945,210
2007-08	1,007,856
2008-09	937,314

Gallery closures scheduled as part of the National Museum's Gallery Development process affected visitor numbers at the Museum during the year. For example, the new *Australian Journeys* (formerly *Horizons*) permanent exhibition gallery was officially opened by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts in January 2009 after being closed for the first half of 2008-09.

The NMA's Web visitation total in 2008-09 was 2,533,138, compared with 1,521,926 the previous year.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

National outreach Programs in 2008-09 included:

- **Workshops for volunteers:** in early November 2008, the NMA was a partner in a weekend of workshops for museum volunteers organised by Museums Australia - sessions included, 'Curate a temporary exhibition', 'We've got a disaster plan', and 'Winning volunteers and friends'. Presenters included current and former Museum staff. Volunteers from over 30 museums participated in this successful event that does much to promote best practice in small museums.
- **The Dora Fay Davenport Show — How to Achieve Domestic Bliss:** the *Dora Fay Davenport Show* (a theatrical collaboration between the Museum and NDS Productions) explores domestic life in post-war Australia. The show had two major tours during the year. The first, in December 2008, was to western New South Wales (Wagga Wagga and Dubbo) where 14 shows were presented to more than 725 people. The second tour saw the show presented at four venues in metropolitan Sydney, (Tumbi Umbi, Epping, Campbelltown and Bondi),
- **The Chifleys of Busby Street:** The Museum also provided a grant of \$40,000 to enable completion of *The Chifleys of Busby Street*, a film produced by Ronin Films that explores popular memories of Ben Chifley in Bathurst. The film was released into cinemas in May 2009.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING

Financial outcome for 2008–09

In 2008-09, the Museum's financial statements disclosed an operating surplus of \$0.004 million compared with the 2007–08 operating surplus of \$0.171 million. The Museum's revenue from government for 2008–09 was \$40.275 million. The Museum also received an equity injection of \$1.089 million in 2008–09, which related to the implementation of the Review of Exhibitions and Public Programs 2003.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Education

Middle and upper primary groups continue to comprise 70 per cent of all school visits to the Museum in Canberra. The average of approximately 85 000 students was maintained last year. The Museum continued to play a leadership role in the development of the national curriculum.

Print and web-based curriculum resources developed during the year were:

- *First Australians: Plenty Stories*: comprising 18 books for primary schools exploring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories through the Museum's collections, is nearing completion. The third Australian History Mysteries for secondary schools is also nearing completion.
- Three inquiry-learning units were produced for the *Studies of Society and Environment* magazine with themes focussing on the Museum's new *Circa* theatre, the 2008 *Behind the Lines* political cartooning exhibition and the new *Australian Journeys* permanent gallery.
- *Snapshots of Remote Communities*, an outreach program for regional and remote primary school communities, worked with schools in the Mackay region.
- Digital content for 100 National Historical Collection objects was produced for The Le@rning Federation's Scootle.

Research

The Centre for Historical Research is achieving the aspirations held for it. Figures collated for the annual report show that its members have had a very fertile year in 2008-09, producing over 75 products of all kinds (including papers, chapters, articles and several books), a quantity greater than anticipated.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD

The major challenges facing the Museum in the years ahead are:

- continued implementation of the recommendations in the *Review of the National Museum of Australia: Its Exhibitions and Public Programs* following acceptance by Council of the Museum's exhibition brief for the new *Australian Journeys* and *Creating a Country* permanent galleries

- resolve long-term storage needs of the Museum
- centralise staff located within the Museum's building on Acton Peninsula by extending the Administration building, which will free up further exhibition space elsewhere in the building.

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Queensland Museum

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Dr Ian Galloway, CEO

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

Queensland Museum South Bank

Gallery visitors 501,615 / Group visitors (schools) 64,115
Venue Total 565,730

Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville

Gallery visitors 91,974 / Group visitors (schools) 5,313
Venue Total 97,287

Cobb+Co Museum, Toowoomba

Gallery visitors 35,071 / Group visitors (schools) 4,544
Venue Total 39,615

The Workshops Rail Museum, Ipswich

Gallery visitors 96,084 / Group visitors (schools) 6,771
Venue Total 102,855

The Queensland Museum's website attracted 575,038 visits, a decrease from last year. Approximately 20% of visits to the website were from outside Australia. New additions included creating the Inquiry Centre Question of the Month feature, producing two digital stories and an interactive game for National Science Week 2008, developing the Queensland Historic Shipwrecks Trail and introducing an e-newsletter for each museum. Based on research conducted into its usability, the website redevelopment project began during the year and is due for completion in 2009-10.

The Inquiry Centre responded to an average of more than 17 enquiries a day via telephone, email, in person and the web – over 6,500 in the year. Since launching the new Inquiry Centre Question of the Month feature on the website, 6,493 page views were recorded on that page, successfully turning one to one enquiries into one to many.

The Workshops Rail Museum delivered its seventh consecutive year of growth attracting 102,855 visitors, including 6,771 school students. The major events program continued to attract visitors with over 70,000 people visiting as part of an event program, representing a 7% increase on last year.

A record 97,287 people visited the Museum of Tropical Queensland this year, growth of 27% over last year and the highest annual total since 2000 when the current building opened. Sixty-six percent (64,130) took advantage of the Council Community Pass initiative giving residents of Townsville, Burdekin and Charters Towers regional councils free entry to the Museum. International visitor numbers grew by 12% over last year.

Cobb+Co Museum attracted 39,615 visitors, an increase of 3% over the previous year. School group visits increased by 23%. More than 65% of visitors were local residents who were admitted free of charge through an agreement with Toowoomba Regional Council that was expanded in July to include all residents of the newly created Toowoomba Regional Council area. Heritage trades workshops continued to grow in number and type with 179 participants attending 30 workshops. More than 2,100 children –18% more than last year – took part in school holiday programs.

Queensland Museum South Bank, which incorporates the Sciencentre, attracted 565,730 visitors, 64,115 of whom were school students. Staff presented 1,345 live Sciencentre Shows, 187 more than 2007-08, to a total audience of 56,901. A highlight of the year was the redevelopment of the dinosaur garden that was relaunched as Energex Playasaurus Place in April.

The project to amalgamate 26 collection databases into one central management system was completed. The Queensland Museum State Collection of over 1.2 million objects and specimens is now managed using the Vernon Collection Management System, providing more easily accessible information and supporting collection care.

Over 16,000 collection records are now linked to identification images, more than double last year's number, and work is underway to link this to a web-based browser to enable wider access to the collection.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

The Museum Resource Centre Network, operated in partnership with Arts Queensland and local councils, provides support to collecting organisations across the State. Based in Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton, Noosa, Ipswich and Toowoomba, the network is staffed by six Museum Development Officers. The role of the Museum Development Officers is to identify significant cultural heritage collections and assist regional communities to document, preserve, interpret and make these collections accessible in their regions. The Museum Development Officers continued the state-wide thematic mapping surveys of heritage collections. A total of 284 collections have been surveyed and many organisations are now undertaking a process of significance assessment. Seventeen statements of significance have been completed with many more community groups working on others relating to their collections. A Q150 grant was received to develop a virtual exhibition on regional festivals. This project is the culmination of work on contemporary collecting that the Museum Development Officers have been undertaking with heritage collecting organisations from across the State.

The Museum's Geosciences Program continued its support and mentoring of regional community organisations to establish museum-standard conditions and practices to ensure the safe-keeping of dinosaur fossils discovered in those communities.

The Queensland Museum Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across the State are involved in exhibition and public program development relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences and perspectives.

The Museum adopted a QM Statement of Reconciliation that is now being embedded in Museum planning and activities. Cultural awareness training for staff has also been carried out. This is being supported through the QM Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy, completed in June. A comprehensive program of returning Ancestral Remains and Secret Sacred Objects to the relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities continued. During the year, two previously unprovenanced Secret Sacred Objects and 15 associated burial goods were returned to Traditional Homelands. Two Ancestral Remains were de-accessioned to Traditional Owners and held by the Museum on behalf of communities. Approximately 20 people from two communities visited to pay their respects to Ancestral Remains and Secret Sacred Objects and to conduct family and community research.

Partnerships with local councils in Toowoomba and North Queensland continued to allow locals free entry to Cobb+Co Museum and the Museum of Tropical Queensland.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

Revenue earned from fundraising decreased with a 44% drop in donations, sponsorships and in-kind support and a 46% decline in pledges for the year.

The QM South Bank Site Optimisation and Capital Maintenance Program identified the direction of future assets and facilities. Funding submissions to advance these works will remain a top priority. Stage Two of the Site Optimisation Plan to identify the long term infrastructure requirements of QM South Bank, including developing a business case, will continue throughout 2009–10 .

QM completed a seminal independent study to better understand and increase the awareness of the cultural, social, intellectual and economic benefits and values of the Museum to the state. The results of this study will be communicated in 2009-10.

The Australian Valuation Office completed a comprehensive valuation and verification of the State Collection, which was re-valued at \$371.5 million (excluding the Queensland Museum library and image library). The major addition to the State Collection was the addition of insect types to the value of \$80.7 million.

Planning for expansion of The Workshops Rail Museum is on the agenda following the release of the Ipswich Regional Centre Strategy, which identified North Ipswich Railyards as having potential for further museum and tourism development.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

Priority themes provide the basis for research, collections and public programs: Queensland Stories; Sustainable Queensland; Ancient Ecosystems; Customs, Culture and Country; Science and Technology in Society; and Connecting Queensland: Reaching the World. Of the Queensland Museum's 60 Biodiversity and Geosciences projects, 19 are new and more than half (34) are predominantly funded from external sources.

The Queensland Museum embarked on a new collaboration with the University of Utah to collect and analyse marine invertebrates for bioactive compounds, funded by the United States National Institutes of Health, International Conservation and Biodiversity Grants Scheme. Samples from Australia's deep sea and coral reefs have revealed a rich source of new chemical compounds of potential interest to the pharmaceutical industry, in addition to discovering a multitude of species not previously known to science.

Scientific staff delivered 166 lectures, seminars and other learned presentations at various national and international forums. The Biodiversity Program continued to work on collaborative research projects with external organisations including the American Museum of Natural History New York, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles, Smithsonian Institution, University of French Polynesia, University of Papua New Guinea, Australian Institute of Marine Science and North Carolina State University. Biodiversity staff held cross-appointments with

The University of Queensland, Griffith University and James Cook University. Together with adjunct appointments of other Biodiversity and Geosciences staff in the tertiary sector, this created more opportunities for students to participate in Museum research activities. Over the year Museum staff supervised or co-supervised a total of 26 students enrolled in Honours, Masters, PhD and Postdoctoral studies, with four PhD students submitting theses in 2008-09. Reciprocally, the Collection Manager (Entomology) was seconded to the University of New South Wales for three months to gain further experience in illustrating tiny, complex structures under compound light microscopy and digital micro-imaging systems.

The Cultures and Histories Program, in partnership with the University of Queensland, continued work on *The Queensland Historical Atlas: Histories, Cultures, Landscapes*. This project is funded by the ARC will provide a unique perspective on the interaction between environmental and cultural forces that shaped Queensland's history.

The Museum's *Wild Guide* series continued to underpin publishing returns. Work continued on a new edition of *Wild Guide to Moreton Bay*, scheduled for publication in late 2009, to be followed by a revised edition of *Wild Places of Greater Brisbane* in early 2010. The *Wild Guides* have been selling continuously for 14 years and, with regular revision, this series is projected to sell for at least another decade.

The 'pocket guide' series, launched in May 2007 to complement the larger *Wild Guides*, continued to expand with the release of five new titles and significant new partnerships with two major regional councils established. In October 2008, the Museum, in a continuing long-term partnership with Brisbane City Council, released four new titles: *Frogs of South-east*, *Backyard Insects*, *Spiders of Brisbane* and *Birds of Brisbane*. The Museum also published its first cultural heritage 'pocket guide', *Mephisto*, based on the Museum's iconic World War 1 German tank which generated international interest.

Two volumes of the *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum* were produced this year together comprising 962 pages. The *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum, Nature*, Volume 54, Part 1 was a special issue on the 'Proceedings of the 13th International Marine Biological Workshop'. The *Marine Fauna and Flora of Moreton Bay, Queensland*, Volume 1, reported on 53 new species, six new genera and one new family from Moreton Bay. The *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum, Cultural Heritage Series*, Volume 4, Part 2, was also a special issue entitled 'Gelum's Homeland' concerning the archaeology, social history and anthropology of Mua Island in Torres Strait. Back issues of all the *Memoirs* published since 1912 were scanned in digital format for delivery via the Queensland Museum website. A new series of technical publications commenced production, designed specifically for online publication. Typesetting of three volumes of the *Technical Reports of the Queensland Museum* was completed.

Queensland Museum's Regional Services Program received a Q150 grant was to develop a virtual exhibition on regional festivals. This project is the culmination of work on contemporary collecting that the Museum Development Officers have been undertaking with heritage collecting organisations from across the State.

The Museum's Loans Service distributed 5900 learning kits from 30 regional education centres across the state. These kits were used by 622,258 people, mainly students.

The Museum Magnet Schools project, a collaboration between Queensland Museum, the Smithsonian Institution and Education Queensland, develops curriculum based learning resources and delivers professional development opportunities across the State. During the year, the Magnet Schools Coordinator completed nine new *Science in a Box* kits and delivered teacher in-service programs to support these resources to encourage the use of science and technology resources in the classroom.

Queensland Connections, a series of free talks covering aspects of cultural heritage and the natural environment, were held throughout the year.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

While international trends oblige Museums to invest in major new exhibitions every 5-6 years, the majority of QM's signature exhibitions are in excess of 6 years old across all campuses. QM is seeking an investment strategy over 5 years for the development of QM public programs. Failure to invest will lead to a reduction in numbers and reduced revenue across regional campuses. A reduction in visitations to some campuses can already be attributed to a lack of new public program activities.

QM South Bank

Redeveloping the Queensland Museum South Bank site to cater for future demand remains a priority. We have examined a number of options that include both redeveloping and extending the existing site and moving to a new, purpose-built site. We involved key stakeholders in these discussions and in the coming year, we will initiate further strategies to progress the redevelopment plans. While planning for QM South Bank site optimisation is well underway, the long term nature of this project requires ongoing investment in exhibitions and public programs which, in the current climate, will present a major challenge for QM.

Museum of Tropical Queensland

The Museum of Tropical Queensland has continued planning for *Bug Safari*, a new permanent extension featuring live insects and exhibits to showcase Queensland Museum's unique invertebrate collection. The exhibition will include the construction of a 378sqm extension to the existing Museum facility for the development of a purpose-built habitat-style *bughouse* and exhibition area. Securing funding for *Bug Safari*, both through government and private sponsors, is seen as a priority if the development of the project is to capitalise on the opening in 2010-2011 of the new Breakwater Cruise Ship terminal with its direct tourist board walk link.

Cobb+Co Museum

Work commenced on the development of the National Carriage Factory at Cobb+Co Museum in early July 2009. This followed a funding commitment from the Queensland Government of \$4 million, to add to the \$1.78 million raised through the community via the National Carriage Factory Appeal and \$1 million from the Board of QM. When complete in September 2010, it will position Queensland as the national centre for Cobb+Co vehicles and heritage trades. The National Carriage Factory will provide an interactive regional hub for the region's residents and visitors and include:

- Increased gallery space for the Museum's extensive collection of horse-drawn vehicles, travelling exhibitions and community displays including interactive experiences;
- Research and visitor facilities and community meeting rooms, including community workshops;
- Expanded indigenous centre for indigenous and multicultural displays;
- Accredited and non-accredited heritage training programs;
- Workspaces for the manufacture and repair of heritage items including horse-drawn vehicles and production of items for the equine industry;
- Expanded retail outlets for regionally branded heritage trades and craft merchandise produced on site and throughout Southern Inland Queensland.

The Workshops Rail Museum

Queensland Museum will contribute to ongoing plans and feasibility studies for the development of the Workshops Rail Museum in the master planning for the North Ipswich Railyards.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: **Questacon – The National Science and Technology Centre**

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Professor Graham Durant

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[e.g. building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

Visitor numbers to Questacon's exhibitions and programs in Canberra, across Australia and internationally remain strong as shown in the following statistics:

- Total visitors to Questacon in 2008-09 were 419,000, compared with 406,140 in 2007-08.
- School visitors 113,183 school children from 2,045 schools across Australia visited Questacon as part of a school group compared with 109,711 in 2007-08.
- The *Excited Particles* performed 2,963 shows, talks and puppet shows and outreach programs during 2008-09, to an estimated audience of more than 194,521 people.
- Q by Night 16,343 students and teachers participated in *Q by Night* school visits.
- Q Club Memberships increased by 30% to 4,868 memberships – a total of 17,623 people (3,738 memberships and 14,285 members in 2007-08). A new Members Lounge was opened during the year.
- Visitor satisfaction remains high (93% satisfied or very satisfied) and an independent survey has confirmed that most visitors are extremely satisfied with their visit (98% satisfied and very satisfied).

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

- 8,051 hours were contributed by 95 Volunteer Explainers during the year. The *Volunteer explainer Program* is now in its 29th year. Questacon runs a schools volunteer training program which comprises a series of training modules and includes 40 hours volunteering in Questacon's galleries as science explainers. The program provides training in science communication, presenting, teamwork and customer service. Thirty four students participated in the program in 2008 with a further 28 due to complete the program in October 2009.
- Questacon's commitment to tourism was recognised with awards at the Canberra and Capital Region Tourism Awards in the category of *Tourist Attraction and Best Tourist Attraction* at the Australian Hotels Association 2009 Hospitality Awards.

- Questacon hosted the Australian launch of the International Year of Astronomy by Chief Scientist Professor Penny Sackett in January 2009. Over 100 guests attended the launch which featured a talk by the Chief Scientist, live links to the Anglo Australian Observatory at Coonabarrabran and the Gemini telescope in Chile.
- Questacon hosted the 2009 Budget stakeholder briefing on behalf of the Minister and Department in May.
- Questacon hosted a social event for Canberra diplomats and their families in June attracting representation from 47 countries.
- Questacon continues an Indigenous education program through the Shell Questacon Science Circus.
- Questacon staff have been involved in team-building and training sessions for some Government Departments and agencies at various times throughout the year.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[e.g. trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

- 2008-2009 has been an excellent year for Questacon and the organisation is growing even stronger through the support of DIISR, the Minister's Office and the hard work of staff and volunteers.
- The 2008 Review of Questacon '*Stepping up to meet national needs*' has been considered by the Minister's Office and some additional support for outreach activities and capital improvements was achieved in the 2009 Federal Budget. This extra funding is \$1.8m annual funding for outreach and \$3.7m for minor asset renewal for 2009-2010. In terms of governance it has been decided that Questacon will remain a Division with the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. Questacon's expansion options remain under review.
- For the year ended 30 June 2009, the total cost of running Questacon was \$24.8 million which included an agreed operating loss of \$4million. This operating loss was made up of \$1.8m covered by the Department, a write-off of assets to the tune of \$0.7m and a Departmental adjustment of capital works accounting treatment covering work-in-progress amounting to \$1.5m. Excluding the operating loss, the total revenue for the year was \$20.8m comprising appropriation of \$11.125m, one-off Departmental funding for new items of \$650k and earned income and sponsorships amounting to \$9m. Q Shop revenue rose to \$1.6 million an increase of 12.7% on 2007-08
- Questacon employs 226 staff in full-time, part-time or casual positions. The Questacon workforce is both culturally and professionally diverse. Questacon people have expertise in science, customer service, design, construction, theatrical presentation, education, facilities, marketing, communication, finance, planning, IT and public administration. Questacon employs 127 staff in full time or part time positions, with another 99 employed on a casual basis.
- Questacon's Facilities Team has an ongoing program to reduce CO₂ emissions and cost by improving the efficiency of air-conditioning, lighting and ventilation equipment,

and by reducing levels of waste and consumables. These measures have resulted in approximately 16% savings in electricity use during the 2008–09 financial year.

- External landscaping work is underway between Questacon and the National Library of Australia. Two roads have been closed and a new coach access route has been created to help form a safer approach to the Centre as part of the Humanities and Science campus works in the Parliamentary Zone.
- Questacon continued its program of capital improvements as part of the ongoing maintenance program in response to the need to ensure a safe building for the maximum visitor capacity. Capital improvements during the year included refurbishment of administrative areas on Levels 2 and 3, replacement of the waterproof membrane on the front terrace, renewal of glazing seals, various gallery improvements and the Japan Theatre 1 upgrade.
- There has been some internal re-structuring of Questacon staffing in response to changing roles and responsibilities and budget pressures.
- The Questacon Circle of Friends comprising prominent individuals in the fields of science and education, former Questacon directors and former Questacon Advisory Council members continues to grow.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

- Visitor numbers to outreach programs were 230,448, compared with 305,723 in 2007-08. This reduction is due to a lower number of touring teams and time-tabling of tours over the calendar year.
- Outreach presentations were delivered in 1,367 schools compared with 1,716 schools in 2007-08.
- Questacon's outreach programs include the Shell Questacon Science Circus, now in its 24th year, the Tenix Questacon Maths Squad, the Smart Moves innovation program, the Science Play early childhood program and the Sydney Science Squad.
- More than 18,021 children and carers have participated in our newly developed early childhood education program, *Science Time* during 2008- 09 and demand continues to grow.
- Travelling exhibitions attracted 475,688 visitors to 9 travelling exhibitions located in 15 venues across Australia and overseas.
- www.questacon.edu.au 1,001,866 visitor sessions to Questacon's website. The web-site architecture has been significantly re-developed and new content added during the year. New tools for monitoring web-site usage have resulted in a lower figure being reported but allow much greater analysis.
- Digital outreach trials have been well received. Planning is underway for a permanent, purpose-built studio and program to be established at Questacon in 2009-10.

- During 2008-09, nine exhibitions toured 15 venues, including international tours to South Korea and New Zealand, and attracted 475,688 visitors.
- Partnerships with the Shell Companies in Australia and Tenix have enabled Questacon to continue to take outreach programs to communities all over Australia on a regular three to six year cycle. The partnership with Raytheon has enabled the touring of the '*Imagination Factory*' exhibition. The NRMA has ended the long-term partnership associated with the '*Roadzone*' exhibition and program.
- Questacon has a number of current enabling partnerships with Government agencies such as the National Water Commission, Emergency Management Australia, the National Measurement Institution and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- Questacon staff have presented a number of talks and lectures to conferences and student courses throughout the year.
- Questacon continues to work closely with the The Australian National University (ANU) on a range of projects. Questacon and the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Vision Science, based at the ANU, developed the Ames Room for the '*Perception Deception*' exhibition.
- Questacon and Scitech cooperated on the joint development of a web-site and educational resources for the Square Kilometre Array project. The Questacon Director has been asked to Chair the Education Advisory Group of the SKA project.
- Questacon continues to maintain strong links to international science centre networks, including the Association of Science-Technology Centers and the Asia Pacific Network of Science and Technology Centres. Questacon is contributing to the development of the program for the next World Congress to be hosted in South Africa in 2011, and to the future format and purpose of subsequent World Congresses.
- Questacon developed the *Science Play* early childhood education program, which has received an overwhelming responses by the community. Currently developing this further to deliver this as an Australia – wide program through major broadcasting agencies.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

- The Government has been considering a response to the 2008 Review of Questacon 'Stepping up to meet national needs'. This resulted in Questacon receiving S11.3m in the 2009-10 Federal Budget, \$3.7m for minor asset renewals and \$1.8m annually in core support for outreach programs. In terms of governance has been decided that Questacon will remain a Division within the Commonwealth Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. Questacon will be seeking alignment of its programs with Departmental priorities. The case for expanding the Questacon remains under consideration by the Government. Although this support is welcome it does not fully address the structural deficit in funding. Budget pressures have required Questacon to assess all its programs and prioritise its activities in line with core business priorities. The result has been the cessation of some programs and

reduction in scope and reach of other programs. Questacon is currently reviewing its exhibition production and exhibition touring models.

- The next 12 months will be another year of significant challenge and opportunity for Questacon as in addition to the normal work of the organisation, Questacon has been asked to assume responsibility for the Departmental SCOPE program. This means that Questacon is now responsible for the effective delivery and monitoring of National Science Week and the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science. Other programs that have received funding from SCOPE include the Ultimo Science Festival, Science in the City, the Eureka Prizes, the Harry Messel International Science Summer School, the National Youth Science Forum, the Science and Maths Olympiads and International Year of Astronomy activities. Questacon has had to undertake some internal re-structuring to accommodate this additional responsibility. SCOPE funding lapses next year and Questacon has been asked to design a program to replace SCOPE. This has created the opportunity to look at a more coordinated approach to national science communication activities as well as reward and recognition programs for scientists and teachers. This will involve the strengthening of existing partnerships, the creation of new partnerships and the alignment of the work of many organisations and individuals to work effectively together supporting a critical national need. Museums and science centres are key parts of the Commonwealth and State-funded national infrastructure of relevance to science communication activities alongside, the ABC, CSIRO and the universities. More coordinated program activity, better linked web resources and strategic direction could help make effective use of existing resources. Questacon will be coordinating and managing a more strategic approach.
- Questacon is currently undertaking a range of trials of new media communication involving the AARnet link. Live links to research institutions and science centres in Australia and internationally into theatre-based events have been tested in the recent past. There is an ongoing program of trials of delivery of live interactive programs into regional schools. Questacon and the schools involved are learning how to best use this enhanced capability which offers potential for reinforcing relationships built up through face to face programs. The opportunities for linking some museum and science activities are worth further exploration. Web-based delivery models are also under review.
- Questacon remains internationally engaged. It's 20th Anniversary as Australia's National Science and Technology was celebrated throughout the year with a program of events developed with a range of Japanese organisations to acknowledge the key relationship. Questacon hosted eight Japanese science performers as part of the Japan Australia Science Performers Exchange, encouraging a sharing of ideas, styles and demonstrations. A program of exhibits from Japanese research agencies highlighted some collaborative Australia-Japan research endeavours. A Gala Dinner allowed Questacon to consolidate its relationship with Japan and acknowledge the organisation's founders. As well as receiving recorded or spoken messages from the Prime Ministers of both countries, Questacon received a special commendation from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In November, Questacon was honoured to welcome Master Shobei IX, the last remaining Karakuri Master who ran a Karakuri Mechanics Workshop for Australian primary school students and a public lecture showcasing traditional Karakuri technologies. Questacon staff members continue to participate at a number of international conferences including: the Asia Pacific Network of Science and Technology Centres (ASPAC) in Taiwan, ECSITE in Italy and Association of Science and Technology Centres (ASTC) in the USA. In collaboration with the Centre for the Public Awareness of Science at The Australian

National University and AusAID, Questacon was pleased to welcome 8 delegates from South Africa and Lesotho for a 2-month program covering the development and management of science centres. Questacon hosted a social function for diplomats and their families with representatives from 47 countries attended, 22 at ambassadorial or high commissioner level. Questacon also received visits from several other important delegations. This international activity by Questacon and other Australian science centres and museums is an important component of Australian cultural diplomacy.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: **SAM**

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Prof. Suzanne Miller

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

Total On-site Visitation: 764,242 – best ever visitor figures

Visitation represents an even split between SA, interstate and international visitors

Web visitation:

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

SAM continues to enjoy a strong relationship with its local community.

Travelling exhibitions: Muslim Cameleers, Ngurrara – the great Sandy Desert Canvas, Policeman's Eye.

Permanent exhibitions off-site: Borough (mega fauna) & Coober Peedy (Opalised fossils) & Kangaroo Island (Palaeontology)

Outreach events (road shows etc): Road shows to Port Augusta, Coorong, Metropolitan Adelaide

123 SAM-affiliated societies

Initiated a new Volunteer induction and training programme. Recruited 50 new volunteer guides.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

Recurrent (State) Funding: \$7.988m
Overall expenditure: \$14.075m

Increasing reliance on external funding for all programmes – research, outreach, education, exhibition, etc.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

\$3.68m in external research income, 2009-10
>3000 hours of tertiary teaching supplied by SAM staff
Partnerships with 43 external institutions/organisations
124 scholarly publications
192 talks & workshops

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

Delivery of the new permanent exhibition “Biodiversity of South Australia” – due for completion Feb 2010.

Securing external funding for programmes.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: The Sovereign Hill Museums Association

NAME OF DIRECTOR: Jeremy Johnson, CEO

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service]

Attendances

465,000 visitors to the Outdoor Museum represented a slight decrease on the previous year, but above budget by 3% and slightly above our long-term averages. The Gold Museum attendances were 175,000 and *Blood on the Southern Cross* just over 70,000.

New Underground Mine Developments

The installation of the Inclined Tramway access into the Quartz Mine has added significantly to the underground mine experience and its integration with the Steam Operations. All mine visitors are now able to enter the mine through an inclined (or underlay) shaft which replaces the old walking track to the portal. A 1907 Walker Bros steam engine has been completely refurbished to working order by our in-house steam operations team as part of the winding mechanism for the tram vehicle.

The ratio of visitors entering the Outdoor Museum and taking an underground mine experience rose from the long-term average in the mid-30s% to consistently over 50%. At the same time, capacity has increased from a planned 1500 per day to almost 2,000 per day. The experience is now also available for school bookings.

There are three separate experiences in the mine, with a fourth in development telling the story of the disaster in the New Australasian No 2 Mine near Creswick when 22 miners suffocated underground whilst trapped by an inrush of water from adjoining abandoned workings. The exhibit is well-advanced towards a soft launch in September to allow running in before a major campaign for Christmas/New Year and Easter 2010. The new experience will be the richest sound and visual media experience we have developed and will incorporate an innovative use of projections onto three-dimensional media.

The campaign will link with programs delivered by the volunteers at the Creswick Museum, and with tours to the mine site, the Museum and the memorial obelisk in the cemetery.

Outdoor Museum Development

The Victoria Theatre will be fully refurbished in the last quarter of 2009. The new colour scheme is based on intensive research of the decorative treatments of theatres in the mid-19th century. The control and electrical systems have been refurbished and the auditorium is now climate controlled.

A new project, the itinerant photographer, will extend one of our most popular visitor experiences—a photo in 1850s costume. This time, visitors will have Sovereign Hill's Outdoor Museum as the backdrop—not a painted studio scene. Using wireless digital technology, we will be able to recreate the experience of so many travelling photographers who pioneered photography of the goldfields.

The kiosk will be refurbished to provide our visitors with much improved service and facilities, and a greater range of options for catering for events, for *Blood on the Southern Cross* and other programs. The building will be a contemporary design with vastly improved

internal efficiencies back-of-house, a more flexible arrangement of service points, and a much improved ambience and dining environment.

The adjoining landscape around the dam will be enriched by providing interpretive tracks and access to the water in the dam. The aim is to provide a relaxing 'active rest' area, drawing on the ways in which Lake Wendouree increasingly became a place of leisure activity by the end of the 1850s and into the 1860s.

A concept for a mining-themed playspace for our younger visitors, particularly the pre- and early years school aged children, will provide a rich environment for creative play in a skilfully conceived interpretive experience, with the opportunity to provide programs for the early years audiences in literacy, numeracy and social learning.

Planning began to refurbish and install Davey Paxman demonstration engine donated by the University of Ballarat. The engine was designed as a teaching engine, incorporating cutaway sections and access ports to teach engineers about the mechanics of steam engines. Early concepts are to develop interpretive material around the engine.

Each exhibit building along Main St has now been refurbished over the last three years. The collection inventory of all the Outdoor Museum's exhibit buildings is almost complete, and through documentation has been produced to inform better conservation management of our distributed collection items.

In partnership with caterers, Delaware North Companies Australia, our new program "A Night in the Museum" grows well, providing visitors with a unique immersion experience in costume, including an authentic 1850s banquet, accommodation in Steinfeld's and *Blood on the Southern Cross*.

Gold Museum

The Gold Museum celebrated its 30th anniversary in November 2008. Recent capital improvements have reinstated the temporary exhibition space in the Clarke Gallery, and the carpet has been replaced throughout the Museum gallery spaces. An exciting capital plan for rejuvenation of the Museum will see modernised spaces for collection management and conservation, extended collection storage areas, and rejuvenated public spaces.

Another rich year of community and travelling exhibitions included a celebration of Zonta's 30th anniversary in *Walking in Their Shoes: Zonta Empowering Women Worldwide*, the 70th anniversary of the Ballarat National Theatre in *Entertaining Ballarat since 1938*, and a centenary of scouting in *A Golden Century of Scouting: Ballarat and region 1908-2008*. And for the Gold Museum's 30th 'Community Connections: 30 Years of the Gold Museum'.

We conducted our largest international loan with more than \$1 million worth of gold specimens, including the fabulous *Goldasaurus* nugget and others from the Langton Collection, for a travelling exhibition by the Japanese National Museum of Nature and Science. In reciprocity, we received a priceless jade pendant and other iconic minerals from Japan to display, complemented by other minerals from Museum Victoria's collection.

Important acquisitions included gold nuggets and adding to our collection of rare books and maps on the goldfields and Ballarat with the support of the Bolte Trust. Donations included the Erclidoune Collection of station accounts, journals and photographs; material from the Ballarat City Croquet Club; the business archives of John Valves on its closing; rare 19th century sheet music; and the Cox collection of rare gold mining and military history.

The BHS *Capture the Vision* project to extend the collection of Ballarat photographs with historic images and contemporary material has produced 15,000 new images for the collection since 2006.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

Affiliation with the University of Ballarat

The Sovereign Hill Museums Association and the University of Ballarat entered into an affiliation which will provide opportunities for high-level collaboration and strategic planning to promote programs and activities which will benefit the regional community, staff and student development, and open pathways to accessing programs of mutual interest in research, skills development and education.

Partnerships

Through the Gold Museum, the Association plays an important leadership role in the conservation of the region's heritage. We were delighted to see the Ballarat Historical Society (BHS) celebrate its 75th anniversary. For more than 30 years, Sovereign Hill has enjoyed a mutually rewarding partnership with the BHS. Sovereign Hill's Gold Museum provides a home for the BHS collection and work areas for the members. Sovereign Hill has access to a remarkable collection for public exhibitions and research work, and together the knowledge of our shared heritage has been expanded beyond what we might have been able to achieve individually. It is a remarkable model of cooperation.

The Association's museum assets (the Outdoor Museum, Mining Museum and Gold Museum) are partners in the Public Records Office (Victoria) initiative to create the Ballarat Collections Network, with signatories in the Memorandum of Understanding undertaking to support partner collecting institutions in responding to a disaster.

We were pleased to work with the Chinese Australian Cultural Society Ballarat in our Chinese New Year program. And under the MOU with the local Indigenous community, support was provided for the training of education staff by our Indigenous Education Officer.

There was support for a range of local special events including the Central Highlands Historical Society Expo featuring volunteering and photographic collections, the Gold King Festival, a special Chinese New Year program for visitors travelling from China, Ballarat Heritage Weekend, and the AFL's Eureka Match between Richmond and North Melbourne.

Gold Museum Society

The Gold Museum Society volunteers contributed more than 5,000 hours of volunteer support in collection management, research and inquiries, and in guiding.

Volunteers undertook more than thirty projects including the transcribing of JB Humffray's remarkable diary; scanning more than two thousand slides and photographs; adding 1500 new catalogue records; repacking the costume collection; sorting and transcribing the postcard collection; sorting and indexing the research files; cataloguing the Peter Cox collection, as well as the *Capture the Vision* photographs.

Friends of Sovereign Hill

The volunteers in the Friends of Sovereign Hill (FOSH) contributed approximately 21,000 hours in programs in the Outdoor Museum in the past 12 months.

FOSH members undertake interpretive activities ranging from musical performance, cooking, horse riding and grooming, assaying gold, gold panning, bonnet making, demonstrations on problems in physics and geology and climatology, cheese-making in the Post Office kitchen, guided tours of specialist interest and so much more. FOSH in our education programs provide orientation tours for the visiting students in the costumed schools, and support our teaching staff with activities in the Outdoor Museum.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

It has been a challenging year with the global financial crisis, Swine 'flu and devastating bushfires affecting the domestic and international markets simultaneously, with particular severe impacts on regional dispersal and tourism. This has put pressure on the capacity to generate a surplus sufficient to feed the capital works program. Fortunately, these events have occurred during a period when our major capital works programs are fully-funded with significant support from the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund.

There is a major project underway to convert the large number of casual employees to permanent part-time to promote better staff training outcomes and a saving on employee costs which are at around 60%. This will be reduced to 55% in this financial year.

The introduction of named accounts to support the Sovereign Hill Foundation has been an outstanding success and generated \$500,000 in additional capital for our Foundation.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

Our public program for members, teacher members and the general public included talks and workshops on the Inclined Tramway and mining in the latter part of the 19th century in Ballarat, new research women on the goldfields, goldfields cultural diversity, a walking tour of Narmbool including the artefacts of its farming and agricultural history, the Catholic heritage in Ballarat in partnership with St Patrick's Cathedral and showcasing exquisite items from our collections and the Cathedral's, and programs in History Week and Science Week for schools and families in the Outdoor Museum and at Narmbool.

Our programs were extended by the involvement of students from the School of Mines Ballarat and the Arts Academy of the University of Ballarat. These are important partnerships on which we can together build excellence in the use of theatre as an interpretive medium. This year, the performance was "Happy Darwin Day"—an interpretive theatre piece about Darwin's life and imagination.

Education

Slightly more than 90,000 students visited Sovereign Hill in 2008-09.

The implementation of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (the VELS curriculum) has been followed by the process to create a national curriculum. The four initial subjects are History, Mathematics, Science and English.

The Sovereign Hill Education team have been deeply involved in working groups with the National Curriculum Advisory Board consultation process and the Museums Australia National Education Network in responding to framing papers on History and Science.

There is a pressing need for professional development of teachers to extend the breadth of their content knowledge and teaching strategies in delivering on the expectations of the national curriculum; and in the best use of the museums, galleries, libraries and science centres across the country and in communities to capture the interest of students and to support teaching using artefacts and out-of-school, non-text-based experiences.

The History and Science curriculums will both require that areas of study are contextualised, i.e., that historical events and observed phenomena should not be taught in isolation, but in a context that will help students connect ideas together to develop richer frameworks for thinking about life on Earth. In studying History, there are exciting proposals to provide

bridging units between studies in depth, and most importantly of all, introducing international perspectives as comparative frameworks of study. This is in response to the dry parochialism that has frustrated students and teachers in studying Australian History. When added to the identified need to engage students in real world experiences and increasing familiarity with the artefacts of human experience, museums will become even more important in supporting learning in schools and in lifelong learning.

Our program of professional development has focused on providing resources and support for teachers in our region to respond effectively to the new curriculum ideas, and particularly to create supportive networks amongst teachers in our region in promoting effective teaching in History, Geography and Science. The History Learning Circle is supported by local History teachers sharing experience and ideas and resources, and workshops have been of particular value to new teachers.

Our Teacher Member program now has more than 1,000 members with whom we can communicate directly in promoting opportunities for PD and student programs. Events in collaboration with the Children's Book Council of Australia and the School Library Association of Victoria support literacy learning activities: the ability to read is an essential platform for learning and we are proud to work with our partners in promoting reading in young children. We were also delighted to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs to host the launch of the new Prisoners of War Kit, and pleased that representatives of Ballarat's new national POW Memorial were able to join a large group of teachers exploring the experience of the POWs.

We were delighted to be a host for the Victorian component of the World Catholic Youth Conference held in Sydney. Pilgrims from all over the world enjoyed experiencing Sovereign Hill and the generosity of the local Ballarat Catholic community.

Sovereign Hill is a major partner in the development of the first regional Confucian Classroom in Ballarat which will deliver programs on Chinese culture and language.

Two student teachers from Beijing studying teaching Chinese as a second language were part of our team in 2008 and 2009. Both contributed new ideas and opportunities in using the Chinese Camp to teach Chinese language and cultural awareness.

Narmbool

Bookings for the Narmbool Environmental Discovery Programs were very strong through 2008 and into 2009-10. The Education team has revised the program to work in modules that focus on areas of greatest interest in schools in studying biodiversity and environmental sustainability. The Andrew and Robin Ferry Arts Centre will be an important new facility for the programs.

The Narmbool Bug Blitz™ program provided local schools with opportunity to work alongside environmental and science specialists in learning about biodiversity and the richness of insect life Narmbool. The support of Museums Victoria and Zoos Victoria, and the Hugh DT Williamson Foundation in the Narmbool Bug Blitz™ program is very much appreciated in providing an exceptional learning experience for students.

The popular Mini-Bug Blitz™ for Sovereign Hill members and staff, and combined with an Open Day was very successful and will be repeated in the last quarter of 2009.

The first Regional Environmental Toolbox was held at Narmbool in a partnership between Sovereign Hill and Greening Australia. More than 120 delegates, mainly classroom teachers, found the keynote speakers inspiring in painting a big picture of Australia's faunal history, and the workshops in providing resources for more effective communication and learning in the classroom.

We enjoyed having the Diploma of Education students from University of Ballarat undertake development sessions with us at Narmbool, and staff of the University of Ballarat's

Environmental Management Centre and Earth Science have provided research support and advice in building understandings of Narmbool's landscape and environment.

Sovereign Hill Schools

More than 6,300 children from 277 schools attended our four schools—the Red Hill National School, the St Peter's Denominational School, the St Alipius Diggings School and the Ballarat Benevolent Asylum Ragged School. The latest addition to our Schools, St Alipius, is already booked out more than a year in advance.

One of the most powerful aspects of the Sovereign Hill costumed school experience is the emotional engagement of the students in their learning. It is a memorable experience not just because of the unique immersion in costume, the 1850s curriculum and the life of an 1850s schoolchild, but because of the resilience and courage they so often find in themselves in dealing with a new situation with new rules. A research project with UB in 2009-10 will describe the attributes of success in affective learning in the program.

The School celebrated its 30th anniversary with its stakeholders and former staff in 2009, providing many moments of reflection on the wonderful stories of—and from—so many students and teachers who have been enriched in our costumed schools program.

Sovereign Hill and UB Arts Academy

Discussions have begun to examine the potential to establish a Centre of Interpretive Theatre in the UB Arts Academy in partnership with Sovereign Hill.

Tourism Futures

Sovereign Hill collaborated with UB's Tourism School to do a project on the future of tourism in 2030. Futures project; and with Monash University's Tourism Research Unit on evaluating the experience of Chinese-speaking visitors to Sovereign Hill and consequent improvements in guide training and experience development.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

Recovery from the financial crisis with a massive injection of interest-free capital in major projects has meant that demand for builders in regional areas is greater than supply and so capital costs are already showing signs of creeping out in a period when earned income will be under greatest pressure.

Recovery in the international tourism markets. Continuing to develop important relationships with government (especially local and state) in supporting tourism promotion and infrastructure development.

The Building the Education Revolution has focused on buildings and infrastructure simultaneous with an economic stimulus. The success of the proposed national curriculum will depend on the people in the classroom and the quality of investment in them. Museums represent great value learning experiences for students and resources for teachers.

The opportunity to develop a centre of excellence in emerging technologies which will engage museum audiences as partners and extend the goals established for CAN.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: **Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery**

NAME OF DIRECTOR: **Bill Bleathman**

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

2008-2009 was a record year at TMAG. Over 384,000 people visited our institution. This is the fifth consecutive year that visitor numbers have exceeded 300,000.

Approximately 45% interstate and overseas, 55% local.

The newly completed TMAG website is not delivering the required outcomes and is the subject of an interdepartmental review.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2008–2009 saw the further expansion of community programs associated with our major Tasmanian Aboriginal exhibition ningenneh tunapry. The exhibition won the Tasmanian Tourism Award for Indigenous tourism.

TMAG will shortly open a major Indigenous exhibition titled Tayenebe (exchange) featuring historical and contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal baskets. This project is the second major cultural retrieval project undertaken by TMAG in the last three years and has been undertaken in partnership with the National Museum of Australia and Arts Tasmania.

TMAG has been successful in gaining a major education and community outreach sponsor. The Detached cultural organisation provides the museum with \$250,000 per year to run education programs associated with its collections. A major focus is on contemporary culture and a component targets communities in low socio-economic areas.

The museum is also partnering with schools in Alaska to develop an ice e-mystery project based on polar environments.

During the year the masterplan for the total redevelopment was released. Community acceptance of the project is currently running at 94%.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING

Recurrent Budget

The museum has been severely cut in the budget. \$795,000 out of \$5.5 million or 14.5%. Five staff have taken voluntary redundancy, three positions have been abolished, and programs have been wound back, exhibition programs reduced from 18 to 6. We are currently awaiting advice from our Minister as to whether reduced opening hours will be an option. Further cuts are anticipated for the next financial year.

On 30 June our Department was abolished. TMAG is now part of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts. The same department we left eight years ago.

Redevelopment Budget

The State Government has committed \$30 million over four years to implement stage one of the TMAG redevelopment.

Architects are currently being interviewed to develop the concept plan for the total redevelopment and the detailed design and drawings for the funded amount. The museum is also speaking to the Commonwealth and to private donors for assistance.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Over 26,000 students participated in organised education activities at TMAG during the year. This represents almost 28% of the total school population or given that 80% of our students are primary age, this relates to 39% of the total primary school population.

The Learning and Discovery unit now incorporates a number of Tasmanian Aboriginal Sharers of Knowledge within the program.

Our curatorial staff delivered over 52 major and refereed papers and publications on a range of issues as well as speaking at national and international conferences.

During the year we continued to undertake a number of significant digitisation programs including the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, the Magistrates Records Project, Atlas of Living Australia, Australian Virtual Herbarium, Flora of Tasmania and Australian Zoological Collections on line.

There have also been a number of major additions to the collection. In all the collection has grown by about 41,380 objects through the full range of curatorial areas. We acquired the collection of Herbarium specimens from the Australian Antarctic Division which is internally recognised as one of the most significant collections of Antarctic and Subantarctic botanical material in the world.

Two museum publications received national design awards under the Museums Australia multimedia and publication design awards 2009.

- Collection: winner of major museum publication award
- Anne Ferran: winner of small exhibition catalogue.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Survival. The sheer magnitude of the budget's current cuts is causing major problems for both Trustees and staff.

Despite the above work continues on the redevelopment which is really appreciated but an incredibly difficult balancing act between the haves and the have-nots.

All other problems are just that: problems and not catastrophes.

CAMD MEMBER'S REPORT to ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PERIOD: 2008/2009

NAME OF INSTITUTION: **Western Australian Museum**

NAME OF DIRECTOR: A/Executive Director, Ms Diana Jones

1. ACCESS & VISITATION

[eg building collections; exhibitions & visitor trends (locals & tourists); use of websites & enquiry service)

COMPARATIVE ATTENDANCE FIGURES 2007-2008 AND 2008-2009

	Totals
Western Australian Museum - Perth 2008-2009 2007-2008	321,038 330,906
Maritime Museum Victoria Quay and Submarine 2008-2009 2007-2008	156,283 159,404
Shipwreck Galleries 2008-2009 2007-2008	104,436* 153,148
Fremantle History Museum and Samson House 2008-2009 2007-2008	38,781 38,671
Western Australian Museum - Albany 2008-2009 2007-2008	80,395 78,116
Western Australian Museum - Geraldton 2008-2009 2007-2008	43,537 44,041
Western Australian Museum - Kalgoorlie - Boulder 2008-2009 2007-2008	82,299 87,560
Western Australian Museum Annual Totals 2008-2009 2007-2008	Totals 714,577 891,846

**Due to a recalibration of the door counts at the Shipwrecks site this year's figure and the previous year's figure are no longer comparable.*

VISITORS PLACE OF ORIGIN

2008 – 2009 (Note: Figures are estimates derived from visitor satisfaction survey 08/09)

SITE	ORIGIN			
	Perth Metro	Regional WA	Overseas	Interstate
PERTH	129,057	14,447	140,615	36,919
FREMANTLE HISTORY	17,762	1,474	13,496	6,049
SHIPWRECK GALLERIES	22,454	6,266	40,417	35,299
MARITIME	47,510	8,908	57,668	42,196
ALBANY	11,898	41,484	15,838	11,175
GERALDTON	9,447	14,091	7,678	12,321
KALGOORLIE/BOULDER	21,809	15,143	17,200	28,147

COMPARATIVE WEBSITE VISITOR FIGURES

2007 - 2008 AND 2008 – 2009

VISITOR SESSIONS

	2007/08		2008/09	
	Visitor Sessions	Increase / Decrease vs previous year	Visitor Sessions	Increase / Decrease vs previous year
July	202,240	148%	151,456	-25%
August	173,149	93%	116,880	-32%
September	126,131	53%	102,045	-19%
October	126,495	44%	109,099	-14%
November	116,199	36%	97,335	-16%
December	108,986	13%	87,659	-20%
January	133,657	31%	101,242	-24%
February	122,791	24%	95,448	-22%
March	188,733	53%	105,760	-44%
April	228,762	96%	109,151	-52%
May	200,158	59%	124,855	-38%
June	133,821	-18%	128,753	-4%
Annual	1,861,122	48%	1,329,683	-29%

UNIQUE VISITORS

	2007/08		2008/09	
	Visitor Sessions	Increase / Decrease vs previous year	Visitor Sessions	Increase / Decrease vs previous year
July	47,248	93%	90,092	91%
August	48,265	55%	57,026	18%
September	39,877	50%	53,131	33%
October	44,877	53%	51,654	15%
November	42,976	47%	48,786	14%
December	37,354	26%	45,212	21%
January	45,452	32%	52,283	15%
February	47,508	43%	48,541	2%
March	64,173	67%	55,678	-13%
April	57,165	54%	51,607	-10%
May	67,048	64%	52,366	-22%
June	72,138	70%	49,022	-32%
Annual	396,986	63%	90,092	91%

Exhibition	Loaning Institution	Site	Dates
ANZANG: Nature and Landscape Photographer of the Year	ANZANG	Albany	20/11/08-20/02/09
Great White Fleet	Australian National Maritime Museum	Albany	15/11/08-22/02/09
Centennial Melbourne Cup	National Gallery of Australia	Albany	08/12/08-07/01/09
A Turkish View	Australian War Memorial	Albany	23/03/09-22/07/09
Great White Fleet	Australian National Maritime Museum	Fremantle History Museum	13/02/09-28/06/09
A Turkish View	Australian War Memorial	Geraldton	24/07/08-07/09/08
Nganhungu Wangga – Our Languages	WA Museum	Geraldton	04/07/08-14/09/08
Sunshine Festival	WA Museum	Geraldton	25/09/08-09/11/08
Camera Club	The Geraldton Camera Club	Geraldton	07/11/08-05/12/08
Howzat! Western Australians and cricket	WA Museum	Geraldton	04/12/08-15/03/09
Centennial Melbourne Cup	National Gallery of Australia	Geraldton	09/01/09-20/02/09
Toys – Science at Play	Scitech	Geraldton	02/04/09-24/05/09
Annual Clem Burns Heritage Award	WA Museum	Geraldton	28/05/09-21/06/09
Toys – Science at Play	Scitech	Kalgoorlie	04/07/08-19/10/08
Centennial Melbourne Cup	National Gallery of Australia	Kalgoorlie	01/09/08-10/10/08
A Turkish View	Australian War Memorial	Kalgoorlie	30/10/08-08/03/09

ANZANG: Nature and Landscape Photographer of the Year	ANZANG	Kalgoorlie	07/05/09-28/06/09
FotoFreo – Australian Minescapes	FOTOFREO	Maritime	05/04/08-02/08/08
Journeys of Enlightenment	WA Museum	Maritime	16/10/08-09/10/09
Just Add Water: Schemes and Dreams of a Sunburnt Country	National Archives of Australia	Perth	29/05/08-27/07/08
Centennial Melbourne Cup	National Gallery of Australia	Perth	20/10/08-26/11/08
Experimenta	Experimenta Arts Media	Perth	14/11/08-27/01/09
ANZANG: Nature and Landscape Photographer of the Year	ANZANG	Perth	09/10/08-11/11/08
Feast	Awesome	Perth	16/11/08-23/11/08
Out of the Dust: Life in Afghanistan	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Perth	19/01/09-16/03/09
WAMI	Perth Centre for Photography	Perth	23/04/09-28/06/09
Nick Cave: The Exhibition	The Arts Centre, Melbourne	Perth	22/05/09-19/07/09

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

(eg building community capacity to manage collections (internships; training; conservation workshops); indigenous collaborations; volunteer members; cultural & other affiliated societies & partnerships)

The Conservation Department staff assisted in the overall care of the WA Museum's collections via object treatments, the application of preventive conservation practices at all WA Museum sites, including the regional areas and applied research programs that are targeted at improving conservation treatment and storage options.

The Museum Assistance Program (MAP) provides leadership and strategic support and information to museums located in regional areas throughout WA. During the year MAP conducted workshops and presentations to clients in Yarloop, Bunbury, Busselton, Donnybrook, Albany, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Goldfields.

The Museum's Anthropology Department's research programs are focussed on developing relationships between departmental researchers and Aboriginal communities, in ensuring cultural knowledge collected over decades is retained by communities, and in encouraging artefact production that links to community sustainable economic programs. During this year, the Anthropology Department were involved in the return of Ancestral Remains to Capel for reburial and the return of secret-sacred items to Tjuntjuntjarra as part of the Museum's repatriation program.

The History Department facilitated the viewing of two skin rugs, made by Noongar woman Emily Farmer in the 1920s, by family members of the maker. Emily's great granddaughter, and UWA researcher, is writing a biography of her great grandmother. This has been of dual benefit – assisting the researcher's work and adding knowledge to the Museum's collection.

The Geraldton community are keen to see the Point Moore lighthouse lens re-installed at Geraldton. The Maritime History Department is working with the Geraldton Museum Site Manager to have the lens erected with the assistance of volunteers and sponsorship.

The Conservation Department staff assisted in the overall care of the WA Museum's collections via object treatments, the application of preventive conservation practices at all WA Museum sites, including the regional areas and applied research programs that are targeted at improving conservation treatment and storage options.

3. MANAGEMENT & FUNDING:

[eg trends in financial support; organisational change; capital works.]

The New Museum project has been significantly wound back as the new government has assessed capital works priorities over the next forward estimates period. Funding for a new museum is not now available in the timeframe the Museum had initially been working to, and work is now progressing on the development of a revised business case to deliver a new museum in the future.

The WA Museum has been required to reduce its budget by 3% from 2009-10 and provide government with details of how it will achieve these savings. Initiatives adopted include

closure of all public sites for one day per week, aggressive management of leave liability growth and identification of enhanced revenue opportunities through commercial activity. It appears likely that, given global financial circumstances, the Museum will be required to achieve higher levels of savings in future years.

We are embarking on a full Zero Based Budget process for the 2009-10 budget in an effort to demonstrate the full cost of operating the Museum and the gap between this cost and current appropriations from government. The Museum is committed to meeting savings targets imposed and continues to meet the challenges of managing a large, diverse, complex and state-wide organisation with ever diminishing funding allocations.

The closure of the Fremantle History Museum in July 2009 and moves to transfer property holdings to other organisations (the Finnerty Street workshop property to the Fremantle City Council and Samson House to the National Trust) are in line with the Museum's commitment to rationalising its property portfolio and focus its resource allocation to core activities and service delivery.

Changes in the structure of capital works development in the State have resulted in the establishment of the Building Management and Works Department, under the umbrella of the Department of Treasury and Finance. It is anticipated that this new structure will provide considerable assistance in progressing maintenance issues across all of our buildings and facilities, including much needed maintenance and management of heritage buildings. Works of this nature are currently difficult to progress and are carried out in an ad-hoc and piecemeal manner and are restricted by inadequate budget allocations.

4. EDUCATION & RESEARCH

[eg education & research programs; partnerships; publications; regional outreach; talks, workshops, lectures; education via website]

COMPARATIVE ATTENDANCE FIGURES SCHOOL GROUPS 2007 – 2008 AND 2008 – 2009

	School Groups
Western Australian Museum - Perth 2008-2009 2007-2008	17,963 27,301
Maritime Museum Victoria Quay and Submarine 2008-2009 2007-2008	9,986 9,327
Shipwreck Galleries 2008-2009 2007-2008	10,101 10,738
Fremantle History Museum and Samson House 2008-2009 2007-2008	4,646 4,396
Western Australian Museum - Albany	

2008-2009 2007-2008 Western Australian Museum - Geraldton 2008-2009 2007-2008 Western Australian Museum - Kalgoorlie – Boulder 2008-2009 2007-2008	3,937 4,601 2,495 2,191 2,163 1,698
Western Australian Museum Annual Totals 2008-2009 2007-2008	School Groups 51,291 60,252

**COMPARATIVE ATTENDANCE FIGURES PUBLIC PROGRAMS
2007 – 2008 AND 2008 – 2009**

	Public Programs
Western Australian Museum - Perth 2008-2009 2007-2008	17,794 9,962
Maritime Museum Victoria Quay and Submarine 2008-2009 2007-2008	18,465 18,912
Shipwreck Galleries 2008-2009 2007-2008	5,650 8,369
Fremantle History Museum and Samson House 2008-2009 2007-2008	2,217 2,500
Western Australian Museum - Albany 2008-2009 2007-2008	10,872 9,849
Western Australian Museum - Geraldton 2008-2009 2007-2008	4,204 3,148
Western Australian Museum - Kalgoorlie - Boulder 2008-2009 2007-2008	1,460 3,124

Western Australian Museum Annual Totals 2008-2009 2007-2008	Public Programs 60,712 55,923

Conservation

The Conservation staff conducted presentations and workshops on the care management of collections, including:

- Introduction to Conservation Issues Related to Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites at Flinders University, South Australia
- Preventative conservation weekend workshops at Edith Cowan University
- Application of FT-IR spectroscopy to the analysis of archaeological bone and ivory at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- A series of public lectures and presentations to Senior Colleges and High Schools in Tasmania on the application of chemistry to materials conservation and the preservation of historic buildings in the Antarctic
- Plenary lectures at the Gordon International Corrosion Conference in New London, New Hampshire USA.
- Presentations of 3 papers at the International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation Triennial Conference in New Delhi, India.

Perth – Education

- A new suite of programs for the 2009 school year was introduced following analysis of visitation trends and program delivery methods, as well as a review of new curriculum support materials (Scope & Sequence). The new programs and resources also aim to strengthen links to the collection. The development of these programs and related resources is ongoing.
- Partnership with the Museum's Perth Education team, the Department of Education and Training and ArtsEdge was strengthened through several new initiatives, including the *Nick Cave Fashion Project* (linked to the temporary exhibition), a unique exhibition where secondary students were challenged to use fashion as a way to interpret the works and worlds of iconic Australian musician Nick Cave, and to have the opportunity to have these garments displayed in a Museum environment.
- The Museum's Perth Education Team initiated a new professional Learning opportunity 'Thinking Inside the Triangle - Reshaping your perception of Cultural Centre excursion venues' in collaboration with the Art Gallery of Western Australia and the State Library of Western Australia, again in partnership with DET and ArtsEdge. This program aimed to promote the links between the collections in each venue, the educational opportunities available in each venue, and the proximity of these venues to each other.
- A range of other Professional Learning opportunities for teachers were trialled at Perth site, including the Aboriginal culture focused *Katta Djinoong – the First Peoples of Western Australia* which had strong links to the Museum's Katta Djinoong gallery and related education programs.
- 'Careers in Science at the Western Australian Museum' was held during Science Week 2008. This program aimed to promote the Museum's role in science and research, and to encourage secondary students to find out options for further studies that can lead to science-related careers.

Research Programs

WA Museum staff work in the following departmental areas. Each department has staff with specialist, often internationally regarded, expertise.

- Anthropology/Archaeology
- Aquatic Zoology
- Conservation
- Earth & Planetary Sciences
- History
- Maritime Archaeology
- Maritime History
- Terrestrial Zoology

During the year, WA Museum staff undertook:

- 145 research projects
- 80 research projects in collaboration with partners
- 40 field trips

The extensive fieldwork and research resulted in the formal description in scientific journals of:

- 25 new animal species identified
- 2 new animal genera
- 27 new meteorites
- 2 new fossil species

New species discoveries include

- Two new species of frogs, the Tiny Toadlet (*Uperoleia micra*) and the Kimberley Froglet (*Crinia fimbriata*), were discovered in the northwest Kimberley.
- The tiny spider *Micropholcomma linnaei* is only known from the forests of south-western Australia. Males have a shield on top of the abdomen, whereas females have small spots, giving them a distinctive appearance.
- The wolf spider *Artoria linnaei* is restricted to forests and woodlands of south-western Australia, and is quite common in the Perth region where it hunts for small insects at night.
- The amphipod *Kruptus linnaei* lives in subterranean habitats in the Fortescue River region of the Pilbara. These small pale crustaceans lack eyes and spend their entire lives underground.
- The spider-hunting wasp *Eremocurgus linnaei* lurks in forests in southern WA where they hunt for and paralyse spiders to provide food for their developing larvae which feed on them.
- The leafhopper *Gunawardenea linnaei* occurs only on Barrow Island where they feed on vegetation. They move in sharp bursts by jumping.
- The shell *Callucina linnaei* occurs along the coast line of Western Australian from Houtman Abrolhos to the Dampier Archipelago.
- The sponge *Chondrilla linnaei* occurs in shallow waters in southern and Western Australia. It occurs on heavily shaded rock faces, under jetties and in caves and is rare.

Publications

Staff published:

66 papers in peer-reviewed research publications

163 unpublished reports, conference papers and popular publications.

Lectures

Staff and research associates presented 281 lectures, talks, workshops and presentations during the year.

The Conservation staff conducted presentations and workshops on the care management of collections, including:

- Introduction to Conservation Issues Related to Underwater Cultural Heritage Sites at Flinders University, South Australia
- Preventative conservation weekend workshops at Edith Cowan University
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Collections

In 2008-09, 62,078 items were added to the collections and 5,922 items were loaned from the Museum collections to other institutions.

The Museum formally received two significant collections this year

- The Edith Cowan University Museum of Childhood was officially handed over to the WA Museum in a ceremony in March 2009
- FotoFreo commissioned the internationally renowned Edward Burtynsky to photograph Australian mine sites. Through the generosity of FotoFreo and Edward Burtynsky, 28 magnificent photographic images of *Australian Minescapes* were donated to the WA Museum. This significant exhibition is now travelling to other Australian States and throughout the WA Museum's regional venues.

Reports

In this reporting period Museum staff responded to 2,504 requests for information from government and private sector on biodiversity and culturally significant areas.

Public programs

The strong collaboration between the exhibition and design team and curators continued to bring a diverse range of home grown and national exhibitions into the organisation's temporary exhibition galleries at all sites. The Museum's *Journeys of Enlightenment – French Exploration of Terres Australes* opened in October 2008 with guest speaker, Henri de Saulces de Freycinet, the great, great, great grandson of French explorer Louis-Henri de Saulces de Freycinet.

Partnerships

The Museum launched WA's first Marine Bio-resources Library, providing assistance to bio-discovery researchers in their research into cures for cancer and other diseases. One of only three in Australia, it is a library of frozen samples taken from marine species and extracts which will be available for use by State, national and international organisations to provide new research opportunities for industry. This project is an initiative of the WA Museum's Aquatic Zoology Department, AIMS and the Department of Fisheries (WA), with funding from the Western Australian Marine Science Institution.

After two full years of operation, the Desert Fireball Network of All-Sky Cameras established

in the Nullarbor has successfully recovered a photographed meteorite fall. This project is the Museum's collaboration with Imperial College London and the Ondrejov Observatory in the Czech Republic, has immense implications for the planetary sciences. The recovery of three masses of meteorite from the photographed fall (now named Bunburra Rockhole) and the determination of its orbit is the first in the southern hemisphere. The result is exceptional from many aspects. It is the fifth predicted meteorite fall in history, and the first one based only on data from dedicated instruments. Without the Camera Network the fall would be completely unknown. It is the first known meteorite from Aten type orbit (a group of asteroids orbiting in the inner solar system), and the first achondrite with a known orbit. It is the first meteorite recovery based on data from the new generation of autonomous Desert Fireball Cameras. Finally, it is the first documented meteorite fall from a relatively small meteoroid, which produced a not so bright fireball with a terminal height of 30 km.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Please list the three – four major challenges for your museum for the year ahead (or further) which might be addressed by CAMD.

1. Challenges of collecting and maintaining very large artefacts

Like a number of other museums, the Western Australian Museum has a collection of nationally and internationally significant artefacts representing Australia's gold mining history. Some of this material is very large but also now very rare and rapidly disappearing. This category of material culture presents a real challenge for museums to house and maintain. Some material falls outside the usual purview of museum collections but neither is its protection covered by other agencies. For example, significant buildings from gold mining sites cannot remain in situ, protected by built heritage agencies and legislation, as mining superpits increasingly swallow up above ground structures, and museums are not resourced to care for such material. The issue of significant big collection items and how they are preserved needs to be addressed by museums and governments.

2. Management Issues

- a. Management of the organisation with such significant budget restrictions, and achieving the levels of savings the government is likely to impose in future years;
- b. Loss of important corporate knowledge and Museum-specific history from the retirement of senior staff. This is a widespread problem as the age of the working population increases. We estimate that 35-50% of the staff currently working at the Museum will retire or otherwise leave before construction of a new museum is completed;
- c. The ability to properly maintain and preserve some large objects in the Museum's collection is severely hampered by constraints in the Capital works budget. The Museum has large objects, such as mining equipment (including headframes etc.), a submarine, a classic motor vehicle collection etc., which require considerable funding to properly maintain and manage.
- d. ICT delivery to the Museum is provided through the Department of Culture and the Arts (DCA). The systems and infrastructure are aging and, in some cases, inefficient. The Museum is developing an ICT strategic plan, but will be challenged on delivering any strategic outcomes of this plan, which will impact on the management of a new Museum into the future, because of lack of funds and lack of capacity of the DCA-IS team.

3. New Museum

Development of a business case for government to achieve the goal of construction of a new museum that will meet the State's needs in the future. It expected that this would be a ten to twelve year project.