



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Sovereign Hill Museums, Ballarat, Victoria
18-19 October 2012**

ATTENDEES

NAME	MUSEUM/ORGANISATION
Ms Margaret Anderson	Director, History South Australia
Mr Pierre Arpin	Director, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory
Dr Dawn Casey	Director, Powerhouse Museum
Ms Kate Clark	Director, Historic Houses Trust of NSW
Mr Alec Coles OBE	Executive Director, Western Australian Museum
Prof. Graham Durant AM	Director, National Science and Technology Centre
Ms Linda Ferguson	Assistant Director, Branch Head, Public Programs deputising for Ms Nola Anderson A/Director, Australian War Memorial
Dr Patrick Greene OBE	Chief Executive Officer, Museum Victoria
Mr Frank Howarth	Director, Australian Museum [<i>Friday only</i>]
Mr Jeremy Johnson	Chief Executive Officer, Sovereign Hill Museums Association
Prof. Suzanne Miller	Director, South Australian Museum [<i>by telephone link items 20 to 23</i>]
Mr Andrew Moritz	Acting Director, Brand Delivery, Queensland Museum and Director of The Workshops Rail Museum, Ipswich deputising for Mr Ian Galloway, Director, Queensland Museum
Mr Michael Parry	Director, Commercial and Operations, deputising for Mr Tony Sweeney, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Centre for the Moving Image
Mr Andrew Sayers AM	Director, National Museum of Australia
Mr Kevin Sumption	Director, Australian National Maritime Museum
Mr Anthony Wright	Director, Canterbury Museum

APOLOGIES

NAME	MUSEUM/ORGANISATION
Ms Nola Anderson	Director, Australian War Memorial
Mr Alan Brien	CEO, Scitech Discovery Centre, Perth
Mr Bill Bleathman	Director, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
Mr Roy Clare CBE	Director, Auckland War Memorial Museum
Dr Ian Galloway	Director, Queensland Museum
Mr Michael Houlihan	Chief Executive, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
Mr Richard Mulvaney	Director, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery
Mr Shimrath Paul	Director, Otago Museum and Discovery World
Mr Tony Sweeney	Chief Executive Officer, Australian Centre for the Moving Image

IN ATTENDANCE/PRESENTERS

NAME	MUSEUM/ORGANISATION	Agenda item
Dr Meredith Foley	Executive Officer, CAMD	All
Ms Ruth Pearce	Assistant Secretary, Public Diplomacy and Information Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Friday, Items 25-26

DAY ONE: Thursday 18 October 2012

1. WELCOME

CAMD Chair, Patrick Greene (Museum Victoria), opened the meeting welcoming delegates to the 2012 Annual General Meeting of the Council of Australasian Museum Directors. He noted the thanks of delegates to host Jeremy Johnson and the staff at Sovereign Hill.

Members

Patrick welcomed Linda Ferguson, Andrew Moritz and Michael Parry who were deputising for the Directors of their respective museums.

He noted that Dr Brendan Nelson is to become the new Director of the Australian War Memorial (AWM) in Canberra from early December. A letter of welcome and encouragement to continue the association of AWM with CAMD will be sent to Dr Nelson.

It was noted that Major-General Steve Gower had retired in August after 16 years in his position as the Director of the Australian War Memorial; a role in which he made a great impression. The death of his wife Heather last month was also noted with sadness. Margaret Anderson (Director, History SA) attended Heather Gower's funeral in Adelaide as a representative of CAMD and our condolences have been conveyed to Steve.

In New Zealand, Mr Shim Paul has resigned as Director, Otago Museum and Discovery Centre to take up a position as Chief Executive of a Centre of Excellence for cancer which is also the hub for a network of hospitals for cancer treatment in South-east Asia. CAMD has conveyed best wishes to Shim in his future position. Best wishes were also sent to Ms Michelle Hippolite, who has been a frequent participant in CAMD meetings in her capacity as Kaihautu of the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. She will be taking up a new position at the end of November to become the new Chief Executive of Te Puni Kokiri, Ministry of Maori Development.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The last CAMD Meeting was held at the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, 26-27 April 2012.

Resolution:

1. That the minutes of the CAMD General Meeting held at the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, 26-27 April 2012 be accepted.

Carried

Business Arising

Alec Coles, Executive Director, Western Australian Museum noted that he hoped to forge ahead with the working party on raising the profile of museums. Meredith apologized for the delay on this initiative but noted that she had been keen to get the website finalised as a first priority.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

In commenting on his first year as CAMD Chair, Patrick Greene noted that CAMD's role and authority in its dealings with government departments and agencies continued to grow. He acknowledged the energy Margaret Anderson, former Chair, invested in ensuring this situation. It was also due, in no small part, to the input of various members on a wide range of issues. The recent changes made to the Australian Research Council Discovery grants were a case in

point; the potential for a rethink coming only after active lobbying by CAMD and individual members of the Minister and the Chief Scientist. The movement of the Visions of Australia program funding from the Office for the Arts to the Australia Council had also given rise to concern but reassurances have been received that the breadth of recipients will be maintained. Patrick urged members to respond to requests for input and evidence in support of the many submissions and reports prepared by CAMD and thanked Meredith for her work in their preparation.

CAAMD

Patrick reported on a recent lunch with Tony Elwood, Director of the National Gallery of Victoria and Chair of the Council of Australian Art Museum Directors (CAAMD). Mr Elwood indicated interest in developing closer relations between CAMD and CAAMD with the possibility of coming together on specific issues.

ABC

Patrick also met briefly with Katrina Sedgwick, the new Head of ABC TV Arts. She indicated an interest in receiving more information from museums for use across the various ABC arts media. This could take the form of news, editorial engagements, longer stories, the mining of archives etc and could result in some exciting collaborations. The ABC was particularly interested in significant exhibitions touring different parts of Australia. Patrick undertook to maintain this liaison with Ms Sedgwick and keep members informed.

Graham Durant, Director, National Science and Technology Centre, reported that the ABC Science Unit would be having its 50th anniversary in 2014.

Fauna Field Guide App

Patrick reported that Museum Victoria and partners (the Australian Museum, Queensland Museum, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Western Australian Museum, South Australian Museum and Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery) had been successful in attracting \$390,000 in funding from the Federal Government under the *Inspiring Australia* strategy. Patrick acknowledged the assistance of Graham Durant in securing this funding which will go towards expanding Museum Victoria's Field Guide app to cover fauna in every Australian State and Territory. Patrick noted that there had already been 40,000 downloads of the Museum Victoria app and evidence of its use by a wide range of people including outback tourism operators.

Dawn Casey, Director, Powerhouse Museum, commented on the need for this type of support for humanities apps eg for historic houses, stories, dress, vessels, farming equipment etc.

Action: It was agreed that a Humanities app working party be established to explore this idea. Margaret Anderson agreed to convene the group which would include Dawn Casey, Kate Clark and Kevin Sumption.

4. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The CAMD Treasurer, Jeremy Johnson (Chief Executive Officer, Sovereign Hill Museums Association) noted that CAMD did not have any uncleared liabilities and that a pool of money existed which could be put into specific projects if desired. He presented the CAMD Budget 2012-13 and suggested that if members thought they had moved from one class of membership to another to please let him know.

Resolution:

That CAMD accepts the Treasurer's report and the budget for 2012-13.

Carried Greene/Casey

Jeremy was thanked for his sterling efforts as CAMD Treasurer.

5. **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Meredith Foley reported that she had focussed over the last period on finalising the new CAMD website (www.camd.org.au) which will provide an opportunity to publicise CAMD activities and to share news and views quickly on the member's site. The website will also serve to showcase individual and collaborative initiatives in the museums sector. The site will also be a repository for comparative statistics and analysis which may assist members in their own advocacy work.

Over the last six months, responses have been prepared to a number of Government policy announcements and discussion papers including the Australian Heritage Strategy; Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan and the transfer of the Visions of Australia program. The reorganisation of the industry, innovation, science and tertiary education portfolio under a new Minister resulted in some changes which concerned CAMD members. A campaign was organised in response to the new guidelines for ARC **Discovery grants** which excluded museum research staff from lead positions and the Discovery Early Career Researchers Awards (DECRA's). Action was taken to provide advice on a new National Research Investment Plan and on the National Plan for Environmental Information (NPEI) initiative and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

Meredith thanked the Chair and Executive for their continued support and sound, tactical advice.

In discussion, members welcomed the announcement of a new organisation to replace the Australian Business Arts Foundation (AbaF) noting that it had been difficult to get traction for museums under the current organisation.

6. CAMD SURVEY AND REVIEW

Survey Review

Meredith Foley reported on the recommendations from the CAMD survey review which were aimed at reducing the size of the current survey exercise and increasing the usefulness of the data gathered. She noted that recommendations from the survey review had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members were asked to discuss this with staff involved and send any comments to Meredith.

In the discussion members agreed on the need to prune back the annual survey. The data for questions which are dropped can always be chased up through a quick one-off survey if required.

In order to maintain continuity of information, the next CAMD Survey will seek information about both 2010/11 and 2011/12 and utilise any changes decided at this meeting.

Public Value of Museums

Members also discussed the need for further and broader work to better establish the public value of museums and made the following points:

- Dawn Casey noted that there is a need to capture achievements using the survey eg the Harry Potter exhibition at the Powerhouse brought \$46m into the economy;
- Kate Clark emphasised the need to have ways to measure the economic impact and public values of museums using 'killer facts', reviewing existing value studies and commissioning new research to cover the gaps;
- Patrick Greene pointed out that there was useful material provided by members in their annual reports to the AGM which could be used alongside the survey material;
- Graham Durant suggested CAMD consider producing questions for political parties about the cultural sector (as done by science groups);
- Alec Cole mentioned the NMDC UK Museum Manifesto as a good model. He emphasised the usefulness of CAMD preparing a similar Manifesto.

Consideration was given to the idea carrying out further research to be followed by a validating meeting and then a one day conference. It was noted that some of this work could be done in conjunction with CAAMD.

Social Media

Meredith raised the question of whether and what we should try to capture about social media using the survey. Members provided a brief outline of some activities in this area:

- Patrick Greene noted that Museum Victoria was recruiting adult audiences through social media and building up databases using such devices as competitions alongside big

exhibitions. It had QR codes on some paintings but was baulking at cost of digitising scientific journals. With exhibitions such as Mesopotamia, visitors were able to post their comments;

- Kevin Sumption (Director, Australian National Maritime Museum) described the use by the museum of YouTube and also Flickr in engaging the public. The museum is running quarterly training sessions and nominating staff to tweet on behalf of the museum. This area is quite complex as staff have to differentiate between their own personal views and those of the museum and have to be prepared to harness comments and opinions in a positive manner.
- Anthony Wright (Director, Canterbury Museum): Canterbury is using google analytics and has a Facebook page;
- Margaret Anderson (Director, History SA): has different Facebook pages for different programs and noted that a few members from curatorial and marketing were authorised to tweet on behalf of the organisation. Photos were also utilised on Flickr, Instagram and Pictogram. She was interested in how to measuring activity in this area eg by number of items sent out, number of recipients, number of followers, retweets etc
- Jeremy Johnson: Trip Advisor had to be monitored as it usually attracted those who had the best and the worst time during visit;
- Andrew Moritz (Acting Director, Brand Delivery, Queensland Museum and Director of The Workshops Rail Museum): indicated Queensland Museum followed similar processes to those above with authorised tweeters etc;
- Alec Coles (CEO, Western Australian Museum): outlined the Western Australian Museums customer relations management policy. He noted that they had a list of 40,000 databased with whom they could communicate and staff managing the system to enable them to be more effective on social media
- Dawn Casey (Director, Powerhouse Museum): had digital trainspotting contest which has drawn over 30,000 international and national entrants. Facebook used when has logjam at Young Bloods Market;
- Andrew Sayers (Director, National Museum of Australia): commented on [The Human Brochure](#) established to bolster tourism in the ACT. It put out a call for the social media active to come to Canberra and 24,000 applied;
- Linda Ferguson (Assistant Director, Public Programs, Australian War Memorial): Facebook is driving traffic to the website; have Blogs. The Memorial uses YouTube for film clips and currently has draft social media policy out for consultation. Recently had Wikipedia photographers visit;
- Graham Durant (Director, Questacon): only recently authorised to engage with social media. Activities include high definition film, mobile app tour, Questacon puts stories on [Science Alert](#) which has 2.8m members and on Facebook. Accessing and monitoring public comment is challenging.

- Michael Parry (Director, Commercial and Operations, ACMI) said that they had a system to mine social media and compare ticket sales etc. ACMI also finds it useful to include a competition or make content to share with visitors eg making food inspired by video games. He noted that there are companies which will monitor third party platforms about their organisation. ACMI has also started a wider conversation with staff about communication and the channels to be use.
- Kate Clark (Director, Historic Houses Trust NSW) noted that the diversity of applications meant that museums had to consider what this meant for one's core website: Where do we put our limited resources?

7. CAMD WEBSITE LAUNCH

Meredith outlined the content of the new CAMD website - www.camd.org.au - which will go live following the meeting. A new host was being sought to speed up the site. Google Analytics would be used to monitor the performance of the site. Alerts were currently being handled manually to gauge need. She noted that the content of the site has been targeted in the main at CAMD members, the media, Ministers, their advisors, bureaucrats and others in the cultural sector. As a secondary function, the public site should also be a source of general advice for interested members of the public. Meredith was thanked for the hard work which had gone into creating the site and writing all content.

8. NEW ZEALAND REPORT

Anthony Wright (Director, Canterbury Museum) provided a report on current issues and challenges for CAMD's New Zealand members noting that:

- New Zealand were not yet facing the looming cuts being experienced in Australia although there had been a blow-out in the work required to rebuild Christchurch;
- the New Zealand directors meeting now includes the art museum directors;
- Otago has commenced the search for a new CEO in the wake of Shimrath Paul's resignation. The museum is bringing a large exhibition from Shanghai which will be available to CAMD members;
- Canterbury Museum has almost fully reopened however tourism numbers are hugely down in the South Island as Australians are concerned about the threat of further quakes. A new media campaign has been launched. Canterbury will be providing Quake City, a temporary exhibition.
- The Canterbury Art Gallery probably has two more years of work before it reopens as it has to be raised because of sinking foundations;
- Canterbury Museum has a plan to earthquake strengthen the whole museum to ensure collection is secure.

9. PROTECTION OF CULTURAL OBJECTS ON LOAN

Meredith Foley updated members on the progress of Australian and New Zealand protection of cultural objects on loan (formerly referred to as immunity from seizure) legislation which is to make loans for exhibitions from overseas institutions immune from lawsuits.

Australia

The Minister for Arts announced the introduction of Australian legislation in July 2012, in the process acknowledging CAMD, CAAMD and ICOM for their assistance in developing this measure. Current advice is that a draft copy has been returned to the State/Territories for a further round of consultation.

New Zealand

CAMD recently provided a response, at the invitation of the NZ Ministry for Culture and Heritage, to a NZ discussion paper on similar legislation.

Members agreed that since shows travelling to the region can be shared between Australia and New Zealand, it seems appropriate that the two countries produce similar legislation as soon as possible to strengthen the power of museums to attract high quality exhibitions from overseas. Following discussion it was agreed that:

Resolution:

2. That CAMD call on the Australian and New Zealand Governments to effect a swift passage of legislation to protect cultural objects on loan from overseas so that museums can continue to attract high quality cultural loans and exhibitions from other countries to the Australasian region.

Carried

10. VISIONS OF AUSTRALIA

Members discussed the need for further action in relation to the transfer of the Visions of Australia grant program to the Australia Council. CAMD wrote to the Chair and CEO of the Australia Council offering museum expertise to assess applications. A letter in response from the Chair, Rupert Myers, suggests that all grants are in the process of being reviewed which will delay further action at this time.

11. NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

Meredith Foley reported that that appears the policy lacks the commitment of sufficient funding at this stage. The release date is likely to be before the end of the year.

12. AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE STRATEGY

Kate Clark noted that the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities had recently released a 'Summary of Public Submissions' received in response to the consultation paper. She noted her concern that the definition of heritage used by the policy developers was overly narrow. She also suggested that CAMD keep as a headline that museums are a primary site for public engagement with and access to heritage.

13. COPYRIGHT REFORM

Meredith Foley reported on the release of the Australian Law Reform Commission Issues Paper, *Copyright and the Digital Economy*, on copyright reform. CAMD intends to respond to the paper which asks how the current copyright framework is affecting both commercial and creative/cultural enterprises and how current exceptions and statutory licences are working in the digital environment. Members suggested that the existing exceptions should be broadened. It was also noted that in responding CAMD needed to be aware of a museums need to both release and protect its assets. Meredith noted that she had attended forums organised by the [Australian Digital Alliance](#). Pierre Arpin (Director, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory) and Michael Parry offered their assistance in the preparation of a response. Dawn Casey also suggested that Meredith liaise with Paula Brady at the Powerhouse Museum.

14. CHARITY REFORM

Jeremy Johnson updated members on the current reform agenda for not-for-profit organisations and charity reform noting that the definition of 'charity' was still to be determined. While debate on the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Bill 2012* and related legislation has been deferred, an Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) public education program has been launched. The Australian Tax Office will rule on each individual charity and the range of activities they are undertaking. Anthony Wright reported that New Zealand has had a charity commission for five years and that it has worked well although reporting can be onerous. Patrick Greene commented on the recent tightening up in relation to charities in the USA and the taxation authorities views in relation to the tax-free nature of endowments to museums.

15. MUSEUMS METADATA EXCHANGE PROJECT

Meredith Foley reported on an evaluation of the Museums Metadata Exchange Project (MME) which was currently underway. She noted that use of the MME was growing and academics have commented favourably on its potential to open up new avenues of research and to encourage cross disciplinary work.

16. **NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

Patrick Greene updated CAMD members on the work of the National Cultural Heritage Committee of which he is Chair. He noted that Tim Sullivan had been recently appointed to the Committee. One of the large acquisitions this year through the National Cultural Heritage Account was the National Library's purchase of the *Sydney Morning Herald/Age* photographic archive with much of the funding actually expended on digitisation. Patrick thanked members for providing more names from which the NCHC can appoint expert advisors.

17. **ILLEGAL ANTIQUITIES**

Patrick Greene updated members on recent issues which have arisen in relation to illegal antiquities. Members discussed whether it would be useful for CAMD to release a statement from this meeting to stress our support for the measures to combat the trade in illicit antiquities to be in tune with the UNESCO convention. It was agreed that members should check their own policies and exchange notes at this stage rather than make public comments.

Alec Coles commented on a recent decision by the Western Australian Minister for Mines who has refused to grant a licence to an applicant believed to be trying to expropriate geological specimens. He indicated that the decision could become a model for other States.

18. **MEMBERS' ANNUAL REPORTS**

Members provided the following information and comments on their annual reports:

Michael Parry, **ACMI**

- Coming to end of Game Masters exhibition which has performed well. It was the first major internally curated exhibition from ACMI and was part of the Winter's Masterpieces. A Broadband-Enabled Innovation Program (BEIP) was launched as part of *Game Masters* which new ways to engage with the exhibition and expand audience reach. A new website, games, ebooks and video conferencing were built as part of the project. It will go next to Te Papa.
- The Victoria and Albert Hollywood costume collection will be coming to ACMI.

Frank Howarth, **Australian Museum**

- Working with the Hermitage Museum to bring out the Alexander exhibition.
- Jurassic Park Lounge proving popular with 10,000 free entries.
- Research areas include applied DNA work. The museum hosted a conference on bird strikes. Provides example of how to show value of museums: 'making air travel safer'.

- Science collections are coming under even greater pressure to show how the information in their collections can be applied. The museum is doing an increasing amount of forensic work with ACQUIS and the NSW Police.

Linda Ferguson, **Australian War Memorial**

- There have been several changes in senior personnel;
- Plans are underway for the WWI centenary with 6 working boards on commemoration of the first landing at Gallipoli. Some additional funding has been provided by the Department of Veteran Affairs for centenary projects;
- Staff have made collection development trips to Afghanistan to collect oral history and collection items;
- The implementation of electronic records management has led to a big culture change.

Pierre Arpin, **Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory**

- Under the new Government the former department has been disbanded and Hugo Lessing appointed acting CEO of the new Department of Arts and Museums.
- The report on the controversial Papunya Boards is about to be released. Pierre noted the challenges of dealing with secret, sacred collections.
- The museum is moving towards being a statutory authority.

Graham Durant, **Questacon**

- Questacon is currently facilitating discussions about technology education. Work is underway on a STEM Teacher Institute for Canberra and to pull Canberra institutions together to provide more systematic support for teachers.
- Questacon will turn 25 towards the end of 2013 and is planning a program of activities and celebrations in conjunction with Japan, our founding partners
- The national science week grants have been caught up in the current freeze and it is not known when the next round will open.
- Questacon is busy on the international engagement front with 14 projects underway in different countries.

Andrew Sayers, **National Museum of Australia**

- New lakeside café created which leaves more room in the entrance of the Big Objects exhibition. Moves also afoot to free up other display spaces in the building.
- The museum is about to complete its long-term staff restructure. An attempt is being made to integrate the Research and Curatorial sections
- Museum will be active in celebrating the Centenary of Canberra next year.
- A conscious decision has been made to make more use of the museum's own collections and less of overseas exhibitions. Next year's Old Masters exhibition will be followed by one on Aboriginal bark paintings

Dawn Casey, **Powerhouse Museum**

- Deep budget cutting underway with the museum required to find massive savings on salaries. A change management plan is in operation with voluntary redundancies on offer.
- The position of CEO is to be internally advertised.
- There have been major changes on the board.
- Best numbers ever for Harry Potter exhibition with 450,000 visitors.
- Keen to use more of own collections.
- New entrance almost finished with café and shop to follow.

Alec Coles, **Western Australian Museum**

- Approval has been granted for the new museum building and negotiations are underway with Treasury. \$420m has been allocated. The process is expected to take 6-8 years.
- The Premier attended the WA Science Awards at which he acknowledged the important role of collections to the community.

Kate Clark, **Historic Houses Trust of NSW**

- Sydney Open is on again in a few weeks and the Stadium exhibition opens tonight.
- The HHT has been transferred from Arts to the Environment and Heritage portfolio.
- A rebranding exercise is underway and money allocated to do a business model review. Some staff positions have gone to address a budget hole.
- Some capital funding has been provided for Rouse Hill
- The National Trust of NSW is close to bankruptcy and has sold Juniper Hall.
- Government House is to return to its original role as a residence.

Andrew Moritz, **Queensland Museum**

- Queensland Museum has been celebrating its 150th anniversary and for first time surpassed one million visitors (2011-12) despite closures for renovation. Over 200,000 visitors to the mummy's exhibition from the British museum.
- There has been a staff restructure followed by the creation of two new divisions.
- Executive search about to start for replacement for Dr Galloway who is scheduled to retire in May 2013.
- The museum has been transferred to the new department of industry, technology, innovation and science. The Minister has shown a particular interest in the IT side of the portfolio.
- Large scale retrenchments planned for Queensland public sector. It would appear that the seconded teacher program will cease.

Tim Sullivan, **Sovereign Hill Museums Association**

- The museum has experienced a difficult year; although attendances have been good, commercial yield has been down across all services.
- Sovereign Hill has increased its engagement with China with the opening of an office in Shanghai. There were 70,000 visitors from mainland China last year.
- Relationships with all three levels of Government are intense. Attempting to get some integration for in-bound and interstate tourism. The new local council elected has replaced a council which was well across tourism issues. Council has invested \$500,000 in the collection centre under construction.
- Sovereign Hill is looking at ways to raise qualifications of volunteers.
- Ballarat Aust History Network created.
- Working with University and partnering with local mechanics institute to share ten postgraduate placements.
- Habitat studies underway at Narmbool with emphasis on new carbon future for people on the land.

Margaret Anderson, **History South Australia**

- All cultural institutions affected by deficits. The Government has started a sustainability review.
- In middle of mini-restructure to encourage closer integration but also to resource online team.
- Theoretical master planning exercise on North Terrace area underway. No funding allocated but it includes a Museum of Adelaide.
- National Trust of South Australia facing bankruptcy with 300 properties on their books.

Kevin Sumption, **Australian National Maritime Museum**

- Has just finished first 8 months as Director.
- The strategic plan has been redone and an organisational restructure undertaken with executive recruitment underway for three positions.
- The museum is working towards a six year redevelopment especially in relation to the waterside. It is looking at the Royal Australian site for a possible education facility and interpretation centre for the Endeavour.
- A major exhibition, 'East of India' is planned for 2013.
- Work is underway on a five year plan for the Endeavour. The programming for the Endeavour is heavily resource intensive with a circumnavigation costing \$3.5m plus staff costs.

Members discussed various maritime projects currently being advocated by enthusiasts and the need to ensure Government is aware of the ongoing costs of such projects.

Anthony Wright, **Canterbury Museum**

- Canterbury is working on plans to earth-quake strengthen the museum by doing a base isolation using rubber, steel or lead. This will entail demolition of some of the modern parts of the site but the retention of heritage buildings. It is hoped that this will happen within the next five years.

Patrick Green, **Museum Victoria**

- A restructure is underway as the museum needs to save \$3.5 – 4m. The grant has not increased for seven years and this has been impacted by a further \$1.5m cut to the budget. There will be no indexation for the next two years.
- The Museum has shed one executive management position with four positions remaining: Public Engagement, Collections, Research and Exhibitions and Corporate Services.
- Staffing has been reduced by nearly 50 jobs across the organisation using a targeted restructure rather than voluntary redundancies which has caused disputes with the unions.
- The Discovery Centre is going online.
- The audit office has looked at the museums and a number of other cultural organisations with Museum Victoria coming out well.
- Smart Bar is doing well and making money. All publicity is via social media.
- Afghanistan exhibition coming up; Patrick acknowledged the excellent support provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- Field work is being undertaken for the Department of Sustainability and Heritage.
- The First People's exhibition is to open in July next year.
- \$20m has been allocated by the Federal Government for work on the Royal Exhibition building.
- The work of Museum Victoria on pests and diseases for [PADIL](#) has been expanded to New Zealand.
- Patrick is chairing a leadership group of arts agencies to look at sharing services. Margaret Anderson noted that there may be figures from SA endeavours in this direction which would assist the Victorian process.

Public Value

In discussion, it was agreed that we needed to publicise more examples of museum impact ('elevator speeches') of the type described by Frank. For example, the Western Australian Museum through its study of the impact of ballast water was 'keeping coastal waters clean' etc. Pierre Arpin said that his five natural science curators were working on externally driven projects which raised questions for him about the museum's core objectives. Frank noted that applied knowledge helped improve services to the public. Alec Coles commented on the Western Australian Museums new DNA laboratory which has been paid for by Rio Tinto. It will generate

research for responsible conservation of the environment and the collections generated would be there in perpetuity.

DAY TWO: Friday 19 October 2012

19. ATLAS OF LIVING AUSTRALIA

Suzanne Miller (Director, South Australian Museum) reported that the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) had some money to carry forward and is now eligible for Collaborative Research Infrastructure Scheme (CRIS) funding for 2013. The general assumption is that there will be a budget announcement in May in relation to 2014/15. The ALA is not building new tools but is adding data. Negotiations are underway with the University of Adelaide to have it manage research funding to carry through to 2014/15.

Suzanne was thanked for her work as CAMD's representative on the ALA management committee.

Patrick Greene noted that Museum Victoria continues to work on the [Biodiversity Heritage Library – Australia](#) (BHL-Au) which is the digital literature component of the ALA. Ely Wallis has been elected chair the governing body of BHL-Au.

20. SCICOLL

Suzanne Miller reported that there has recently been a hiatus in activities of the Scientific Collections International (SciColl). While she was in Brussels for the inaugural meeting of the SciColl Executive Board, Australia is still to sign up; \$30,000 commitment is required. SciColl will be a networking organisation which will facilitate the sharing of information by different discipline collections eg microbial linking to human migration. Suzanne has submitted a report to the department and it is now up to it to decide on Australia's involvement.

In response to a query by Margaret Anderson Suzanne noted that there was interest in non-science collections such as history and ethnology.

The major restructure of the federal science department was noted.

21. RESEARCH FUNDING AND PLANNING

Suzanne Miller commented on the following initiatives:

Discovery and Linkage Grants

The CEO of the Australian Research Council (ARC) has agreed that museums and herbaria should be listed as eligible for ARC Discovery Projects. The most probable mechanism to achieve this will be to have a list of eligible museums and herbaria particularly the State

museums. A list will be circulated for comment. Suzanne was thanked for her determined advocacy.

Australian Research Investment Plan

Suzanne noted that the existing research committees have been disbanded and all responsibilities have been moved to the Australian Research Committee (ARComm). Heads of departments, include Anne-Maree Schwirtlich on behalf of collections, are on smaller working parties to review science research activity. John Le Salle is also on the collection group. Patrick suggested that he would speak with Anne-Maree on this issue.

22. TOURISM

Suzanne Miller reported on the Tourism and Transport Forum (TTF) lunch held at the South Australian Museum. She noted that the Minister for Arts, Simon Crean, threw up a few challenges, telling institutions that they could not assume the Office for the Arts would continue the funding status quo. The Minister mentioned funding for cultural projects in the region, the introduction of the protection of cultural objects on loan legislation in the next sitting and a new emphasis on cultural diplomacy. Frank Howarth reported that the Minister wanted to hear more about the forward programs of cultural organisations. He noted that Mr Crean also suggested that the museum sector did not collaborate well. Members commended the TTF's acceptance that the arts and culture are significant components of tourism although some noted that the joining fee was prohibitive.

Jeremy Johnson and Patrick Greene had attended the Tourism Industry Council which was held on this occasion at the Melbourne Museum. The Federal Minister for Tourism, Martin Ferguson, attended and appeared to be across tourism as a new growth industry.

Public Diplomacy

Suzanne Miller commented on the challenge which existed in relation to public diplomacy; particularly in gaining an overview of the plans of other institutions. Frank Howarth suggested that perhaps CAMD could keep a simple calendar of impending events/initiatives in this area. Andrew Sayers saw a role for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in facilitating cross-pollination in the cultural sector in the area of cultural diplomacy. He noted that this had been discussed by the Office for the Arts and DFAT. Meredith Foley said that the Australia International Cultural Council (AICC) should be working towards this end.

Meredith was asked to keep Tourism on the agenda as a standing item.

23. NATIONAL PLAN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION & NAGOYA PROTOCOL

Meredith Foley reported on the recent review of Australian Government Environmental Information Activity with the ultimate aim of developing a National Plan for Environmental Information. Members agreed that CAMD write to the Minister noting that museums had not been consulted.

CAMD's letter on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Genetic Resources was noted.

24. INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Ms Ruth Pearce (Assistant Secretary, Public Diplomacy and Information Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) joined the meeting and members shared information with her in relation to the international engagements of their respective museums.

[This advice was subsequently collated and sent to Ms Pearce for circulation within DFAT. A copy is at *attachment A* to these minutes].

Patrick Greene commented on the keenness of CAMD museums to ensure that their international engagements integrated well with public diplomacy initiatives on the part of DFAT and the Government. He noted that there were problems with some members with funding and receiving sufficient notice of international initiatives. He pointed out in particular that neither CAMD nor its member museums were within the Australia Council.

Ruth Pearce congratulated members on the impressive nature and breadth of their international engagements. She agreed that more funding was required for public diplomacy efforts and that there was a need for more 'people to people' (rather than 'Government to people') engagements. She urged members to carefully consider the recommendations within the forthcoming White Paper on the Asian Century which should be out before the end of the month. She noted that a review of the Australia International Cultural Council (AICC) was underway with the idea of making the themes and focus countries for each year more widely known and to find key partners for collaborations. Patrick pointed out that the AICC currently limited itself to arts and culture when there were also collaborations which could be harnessed around science and education.

Ruth noted that the focus countries would be as follows:

- 2013 Vietnam
- 2014 Indonesia
- 2015 Turkey
- 2016 Brazil

She anticipated that the Department would align priorities across Government and then seek ideas from the sector. They would outline key themes and target audiences. She acknowledged

a need to get into the younger contemporary audiences – the Millennials – as AusFest has done for the year of India. AICC would have \$1m per year to invest in various activities.

Andrew Sayers noted that he had been a member of the AICC for a couple of years. He was concerned that funding was often committed to Australia Council initiatives before AICC members met for discussion. He also noted that the many different types of activity undertaken by museums around the table would not be picked up by the 'year' focus. Dawn Casey suggested that Australia needs to look more closely at the range of things produced in areas such as design, digital, gaming and medical science and ensure they are introduced to focus countries.

After discussion with Ruth, it was agreed that CAMD should write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Bob Carr, and to Simon Crean, outlining the work of museums in the area of international engagement and seeking a role in the new AICC. Meredith is also to send Ruth a copy of CAMD's submission to the National Cultural Policy. She is also to consider how best to keep DFAT and the AICC abreast of impending museum international activities

25. NAME AND TOURING EXHIBITIONS

Meredith Foley reported on the response by the Network of Australasian Museum Exhibitors (NAME) to issues raised at the last CAMD meeting in relation to the recent deep sea exhibitions. Members noted that information about the exhibitions had been shared and the emphasis of the two exhibitions was quite distinct.

NAME also sought comment from CAMD in relation to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS). Patrick Greene noted that Museum Victoria was concerned to manage hazardous substances in collections. This could be a particular problem with mounted specimens using potentially toxic preservation chemicals. MV is employing an Industrial Hygienist to sample specimens. Members agreed that this type of information should be shared.

26. MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA

Andrew Sayers, the current National President, Museums Australia (MA), updated members on MA's activities. He noted that he was encouraging a 'back to basics approach' which focused on membership and in simplifying the process by which members could join up. He wanted the MA to be leaner and more focussed. A new approach is to be taken from the 2013 financial year when institutional memberships will no longer incur benefits for all staff of those institutions. There will be some simplification of special interest groups. A general meeting at the end of the Adelaide conference had discussed the format of conferences and what members wanted from them. Members indicated that they were keen to see the conference model changed. The Canberra conference in 2013 will have all plenaries on the Saturday and a more rigorously shaped program. Andrew encouraged CAMD to meet alongside the conference in order to demonstrate sectoral solidarity.

Andrew noted that members seemed less interested in advocacy from MA and more in professional development, training and networking. There is discussion of possibly making the magazine digital as the published form is expensive to produce.

Patrick Greene noted that the American Alliance of Museums now allows members to vote for topics they were interested in hearing about at conferences and this was to be taken into account by the program committee.

CAMD members agreed that they would endeavour to meet prior to the MA National Conference and attempt to stay for the plenary sessions.

27. ICOM AUSTRALIA REPORT

Frank Howarth (Chairperson, ICOM Australia) spoke to members about the forthcoming INTERCOM (ICOM's International Committee on Museum Management) conference in Sydney from 25-29 November 2012. Members were asked to promote the program to staff. The ICOM Triennial conference will be in Rio de Janeiro in 2013.

28. ELECTIONS

It was noted that the rules were silent on the term limits for Treasurer. Members acknowledged their gratitude that Jeremy Johnson was agreeable to continue in this role. Three other positions were due for election. A call for nominations was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

3. Resolution: That the following members are declared elected to the CAMD Executive position/s: Dawn Casey; Bill Bleathman and Pierre Arpin.

Carried Greene/Anderson

29. GENERAL BUSINESS

WWI Centenary

Linda Ferguson (Assistant Director, Public Programs Australian War Memorial) reported that a WWI Centenary Advisory Board had been set up by the Government. The board will report to the Government at year's end on the application of funding.

Next Meeting

The next **General Meeting** of CAMD will be held in Canberra (Centenary of Canberra) prior to with the National Museums Australia conference to be held on 17-20 May.

Next AGM

Member's noted Ian Galloway's generous offer to hold the Annual General Meeting at Queensland Museum in the latter part of the year. As Ian is retiring and also to meet our

obligation to visit New Zealand every two years it was suggested that Te Papa be asked whether they would be willing to host the 2013 AGM.

Conservation

Alec Coles raised the issue of re-examining conservation standards. Pierre Arpin said that the National Gallery of Victoria had produced a graph demonstrating savings from relaxing conservation standards. It was noted that Julian Bickersteth from AICCM had been involved in looking at this issue. It was suggested that CAMD facilitate a meeting of climate control experts within museums to discuss the potential for reducing costs in relation to conservation.

Patrick Greene thanked Jeremy Johnson and Sovereign Hill for hosting the conference and providing excellent extra-curricular activities. The meeting closed.

Attachment A



AUSTRALIAN MUSEUMS AND INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

A snapshot of the international work of CAMD's museums in 2011/12.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR THE MOVING IMAGE

Programming

ACMI engages broad audiences through culturally diverse programming. This allows our visitors to enrich their view of, and connection to, other cultures and societies from across the world, while celebrating what is unique about the Australian identity.

Visiting Delegations and Embassies

ACMI regularly hosts foreign dignitaries as part of its events, festivals and programs. We have strong relations with many embassies and consuls. In the past year we have worked directly with the British Council, Goethe Institute, Italian Institute of Culture, the Japan Foundation and the US Embassy. We have hosted US Consul-General Frank Urbancic; Boon Hui Tan & Khairuddin Hori from Singapore Art Museum; Her Excellency Ms Koleka Mquilwana, High Commissioner for the Republic of South Africa; US Ambassador His Excellency Jeffrey Bleich; Nicholas Coutts, Manager - International Media Museum Qatar; Mr Hidetsugu Yamano, Head Curator at the National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto; Eva Lin - Art Taipei; Piers Handling, Director & CEO - Toronto International Film Festival; as well as a large delegation from the Beijing Film Academy.

Institutional Relationships

A large part of ACMI's programming is developed in conjunction with organisations from around the globe. In the past 12 months ACMI has met with or developed long term plans with a wide variety of organisations including **Europe:** National Media Museum, British Film Institute, Barbican Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum, Tate Modern, Cinematheque Francaise, Art Basel, Venice Biennale, EYE Film Institute Netherlands. **North America:** Dreamworks Pictures, Corcoran Gallery of Art Washington, American Art Museum, Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, LACMA, Museum of Modern Art, Museum of the Moving Image, Bell Lightbox, **Asia Pacific:** Singapore Art Museum, Artscience Museum, Marina Bay Sands.

Cinema Programs

In 2011/12 we presented 58 foreign films screened in 21 different languages from 22 different countries including Azerbaijan, Israel, Columbia, Chile, Iran, Austria, and India. Our 16 partner film festivals complement our own program.

Our regular **cinema programming** features a diverse international focus. Recent programs include: *Winds of Spring: New Egyptian Cinema* (Egypt); *Focus on Bertolucci* (Italy); **Asia Pacific Screen Awards Winners Circle** (Asia Pacific); **Focus on Raj Kapoor** (India); 'Purdah' a regular series of films from the Middle East.

Our regular Film Festival partners included Cinematheque (**World Cinema**), Hola **Mexico** Film Festival, **Japanese** Film Festival, **Korean** Film Festival, **Indonesian** Film Festival, **Iranian** Film Festival, La Mirada (**Spanish Cinema**), *Filmoteca* (**Latin America**) and the **Chinese** Film Festival. This is in addition to the rich international programming occurring as part of the Melbourne International Film Festival and the Melbourne International Animation Festival.

Exhibitions

William Kentridge: Five Themes which originated from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), was presented exclusively in Australia at ACMI. The exhibition featured over 60 powerful works tied to the social and political environment of Kentridge's home country, **South Africa**.

Game Masters: Featuring 125+ playable games, *Game Masters* is a world premiere exhibition curated by ACMI that celebrates the work of over 30 game designers. Partnerships were formed with many international video game companies across Europe, USA and Japan. This exhibition will go on to tour New Zealand, Canada and other European and North American venues.

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

Visiting Delegations and Embassies

Work with international embassies in Australia includes attendance at **US** Embassy concert event at US embassy and tour of Canning Stock Route exhibition for US Embassy representatives by Indigenous staff; liaison with the **Russian** Embassy and Consul General's offices; meetings and exhibition tours with **Korean, Chinese** and other visiting foreign dignitaries including ambassadors.

Exhibition programs

- *Alexander the Great: 200 Years of Treasures*, the largest exhibition ever seen in Australia from The State Hermitage, **Russia**, has been in negotiation for over two years and is due to open on the 23 November. Includes commercial work on licensed products relating to the exhibition in collaboration with the State Hermitage, St Petersburg.
- The Australian Museum's *Frank Hurley, Journeys to Papua* exhibition toured to the Buffalo Museum of Science in the **USA** in January 2012.

- In collaboration with the Museum of **New Zealand** Te Papa Tongarewa and Museum Victoria, the Museum is negotiating for an Aztec exhibition sourced from **Mexico**.
- In negotiation with **Beijing** Natural History Museum and several North American museums in relation to a possible dinosaur exhibition. Discussions are also underway to develop partnerships for the international touring of the Australian Museum's giant dinosaur puppet program to **China**.
- Early stage discussions are underway for either the touring or exchange of exhibitions with cultural institutions in **Turkey**, around the time of the 100th anniversary of Gallipoli commemorations but focussing on areas other than the conflict.

Capability and Relationship Building

Frank Howarth is in discussion with the Directors of Te Papa and museums in Hawaii and California on building the capabilities of first peoples in the **South West Pacific** to conserve and research their cultural collections, many of which are facing various threats. He has also recently visited Singapore and Hong Kong to strengthen the museum's relationships in East and South-East Asia.

Research and Fieldwork

The Museum maintains a large research program, particularly in the natural sciences, which involves collaboration with academics and academics world-wide. Most recently, the Museum sent over 20 scientists and collection managers to Timor Leste in a multi-stage expedition to study land and marine fauna. The fieldwork project has been one of the largest surveys in the Museum's history and has the potential to form the basis for conservation planning and a Protected Area Network in one of the world's youngest nations.

See: <http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/Timor-Leste-Expedition>

Cultural Collections

- Late in 2011 the AM hosted a week-long visit by Lady Fielakepa, a member of the **Tongan** Royal Family and a recognized authority on Tongan intangible heritage, to provide advice on our collections and to participate in cultural events with members of Sydney's Tongan community.
- In October 2012 the Australian Museum is hosting materials conservation scientists from Harvard University studying the fixatives used in traditional bark paintings.
- In October 2012 the Australian Museum's cultural collections team participated in Sydney's **Fiji** Independence Day Celebrations, attended by over 15,000 people. Australian Museum staff held a stall to showcase the collections and an object from our collections, a tanoa or kava mixing bowl, featured in the opening ceremony. This is just one example of many **Pacific** diaspora events the team has been involved in.
- Many tour groups, through organisations such as the **Japanese** Travel Bureau, are taking advantage of the Museum's Indigenous Education Programs for cultural awareness purposes.

Learning Services

- Hosting or sending overseas delegations - Indigenous Education staff hosted UN Education Delegation; Exchange of information, research and advice on use of digital technology in education/learning situations in the Australian Museum, including video conferencing, interactive screens, table tops and iPads with Fellowship holder from Getty Museum in **USA**.

- **Research projects and fieldwork** undertaken with overseas countries - Collaborative project with AM Learning and Sydney University SMART Services presented at **USA** Conference.
- **School links and exchanges** - Learning Unit hosting intern from **Korean** museum studies course for 7 months.
- **Video-conferencing** - 2 video conferences held with students in **Korea** (translated with help of Korean intern) and with students in **Alaska**.

International Leadership

- The Australian Museum has members on several international boards, sector organisations and peak bodies including members of the INTERCOM board and its committees and organisations; Advisory Board of the New Media Consortium Horizons Project; Editorial Board for the Visitor Studies Journal and member of the Visitor Studies Association; and member of CECA and ICOM organisations (education staff). The Director of the Australian Museum, Frank Howarth, is President of ICOM Australia.

International Conferences

The Museum is hosting and presenting at the INTERCOM conference in November 2012, INTERCOM is an international committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). It focuses on ideas, issues and practices relating to management of museums within an international context. The Museum provided an invited keynote speaker to the DREAM conference (**Denmark**), sent staff to participate in the European Learning in Museums Network Conference (**Finland**), ICTOP conference (**Canada**) and the future of learning in natural history museums in Washington DC.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

International Delegations and Relationships

As well as playing host to a wide variety of formal international visits, the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM) has a close relationship with the USA through a unique trans-Pacific cultural program. The museum conducts research and presents exhibitions on the maritime links that bind America and Australia, two seafaring nations on opposite sides of the Pacific. The USA Gallery at the ANMM is a bicentenary gift from the people of America to all Australians. It shows a great diversity of exhibitions on this shared maritime history. The gallery also serves as a meeting place for trans-Pacific business networks and cultural institutions. The ANMM also provides the ANMM USA Gallery Fellowship, open to eminent scholars and museum professionals, to foster professional relationships with key American cultural institutions and develop synergies between the National Maritime Collection and respective US collections. The museum has also recently joined the European Maritime Consortium.

Research and Fieldwork

Since 1999 the ANMM has been involved in a marine archaeology project searching for the remains of HMB Endeavour in Newport Harbour, Rhode Island, USA. The search is led by American archaeologist, Dr Kathy Abbass, Director of the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project (RIMAP). The ANMM director has

been invited to join the board of the Foundation for the Preservation of Captain Cook's Ships, a USA organisation providing administrative and fundraising support for RIMAP's work. The museum is committed to further collaboration with RIMAP in this research, subject to obtaining the necessary funding support.

The ANMM is also involved in a University of Sydney project exploring Australia's trade links with India. A Memorandum of Understanding has been negotiated with the Ministry of Culture in India to run workshops with maritime archaeologists from India as well as a program of research in relation to early trade routes.

Exhibitions

The ANMM, in association with National Museums Liverpool, UK, has produced a poignant exhibition called *On their Own – Britain's Child Migrants*. The award-winning exhibition has toured widely in Australia and is now showing in Canada en route to the United Kingdom.

In 2011 the museum showed *Scott's Last Expedition*, to commemorate the centenary of the expedition and celebrate its achievements. The exhibition was a collaboration between the Natural History Museum, London; Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand; and the New Zealand Antarctic Heritage Trust.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Visiting International Delegations and Embassies

The Australian War Memorial (AWM) is the site of numerous international visits, including Heads of State, Heads of Government and Guests of Government. We liaise with Prime Minister and Cabinet, DFAT and various embassies in coordinating and arranging such visits. For example Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall will visit the Memorial on the eve of Remembrance Day this year.

We work closely with the Diplomatic Corps who attend the national commemorative ceremonies on ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day.

Collections

Loans of collection material to and from international venues: for 2012-13 the Long Tan Cross has been loaned to the Memorial by the Dong Nai Museum and the Ministry of Culture, Socialist Republic of **Vietnam**. This is part of the commemoration of 40 years of diplomatic ties between Vietnam and Australia.

We are currently negotiating the loan of the Menin Gate Lions to a **Belgian** institution for 2017. In both instances, the relevant embassies have been closely involved in discussions.

Tours

The Memorial conducts regular commercial battlefield tours to Turkey and the Western Front (France / Belgium). We partner with an Australian travel company to deliver the tours, and also draw on historical experts overseas. We have built up long-standing relationships with experts, accommodation houses, etc over 15 years of conducting these tours.

In May/June 2012, we undertook a staff study tour to Gallipoli, in conjunction with the Imperial War Museum, UK. Staff from both institutions were required to research an aspect of the campaign and present their findings to the tour participants.

Staff Exchanges

Earlier this year, the Memorial's Education Manager took part in a staff study exchange to the US, organised by the ACT Government and National Capital Attractions Association (NCAA). It is planned that staff from the Smithsonian will come to Canberra next year for the second half of this exchange.

Fieldwork

The Memorial has an active program of collecting materials from active defence zones. We currently have two staff collecting material in **Afghanistan**; earlier in the year, staff were sent to the **Sinai** to conduct oral histories with Defence personnel there.

We also commission artists, photographers and filmmakers under the official war art scheme. In recent years this has seen commissions to **Afghanistan**, the **Middle East**, **Timor-Leste** and the **Solomon Islands**.

HISTORIC HOUSES TRUST

Visiting delegations or embassies

Visit from Guangxi Department of Culture, **China**

Staff exchanges

Two annual exchange programs – one with the National Trust in the **UK** and one to support staff on a project that relates to the work of HHT. Recent visits have included **US**, **Paris**, and the **UK** and others.

Video-conferencing

One program with Lancashire, UK.

Conferences

HHT Director, Kate Clark, presented a paper at Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles.

HISTORY SA

Visiting delegations and embassies

Through the Migration Museum in particular History SA hosts regular visits from ambassadors, consular officials and trade delegations.

Cultural Awareness

The Migration Museum also offers cultural awareness training throughout the SA Government. It is a site for regular community celebrations and ceremonies.

Professional Development

One of our Education Officers conducts regular professional development workshops in Korea. The Director, Margaret Anderson, recently worked on a collaborative project with colleagues from the **US, Europe, Scandinavia** and **Finland** that resulted in a conference in Helsinki last year on Museums presenting difficult histories. A book is forthcoming.

MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Visiting delegations and Embassies

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) receives numerous foreign dignitaries, consuls generals and ambassadors. For example, a few weeks ago, we received His Excellency Mr Michael Small, Canada's High Commissioner to Australia; last week, we received His Excellency Mr Michael Teo, Singapore High Commissioner and in November, we will receive His Excellency Dr Damri Arnaut, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Exhibitions

MAGNT stages the annual Telstra National Indigenous and Torres Strait Island Art Awards, now in its 29th year. Next year, the best of the collection will be touring overseas including to New York.

Capability Building

- Curator in Timor Leste working on care of collections
- National science curators in Papua New Guinea

Research

Current international collaborative research projects in the field of taxonomy include work with academics and their institutions in The Netherlands, Singapore, Taiwan, Wales and the USA.

MAGNT is a participant in a project to update knowledge of marine biodiversity in the South China Sea. The South China Sea Cooperative Project is constituted under the ASEAN-China Declaration on the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea (2012-2014).

Since 2010, MAGNT scientists have also contributed to WoRMS, the online World Register of Marine Species, an authoritative list of names of marine organisms

MUSEUM VICTORIA

Visiting Delegations

Museum Victoria (MV) hosts a wide range of formal visits and works closely with the Victorian DFAT office. Most recently, Melbourne Museum hosted the Premier's reception for the consular corps.

Exhibitions

MV has been a key partner in the development of *Kaladham*, a purpose built museum in Southern **India** which will interpret the Hampi World Heritage site when it opens in October 2012. MV provided the main content for the new museum from its exhibition *Ancient Hampi* shown at the Immigration Museum in Melbourne from 2008-10. The new museum near the Hampi site includes an immersive 3D installation developed as a partnership between Museum Victoria, the iCinema Centre of the University of NSW, Epidemic, **Paris** and ZKM Karlsruhe, supported by Australian Research Council funding.

Jointly with the National Gallery of Victoria, MV is currently showing an exhibition of Papunya art at the Musee de quai Branly in **Paris**. The exhibition, which celebrates 40 years since the first contemporary Aboriginal artworks were created by Anmatyerr, Pintupi and Luritja people in Central Australia will be the first show wholly developed in Melbourne to appear in Paris. It is expected to be viewed by as many as 1.6 million people.

The MV has organised a tour and will be hosting the exhibition ***Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures*** together with Queensland Museum, the Western Australian Museum and the Art Gallery of NSW. The support of DFAT and the work of the Ambassador was critical in this instance. The exhibition opens March 2013.

MV is in the process of negotiating an MoU with the Museum of Science and Technology in **Shanghai**.

A relationship has been developed between MV's Immigration Museum and the **Chinese** Department of Ethnic Affairs with two exhibitions, *Costumes* and *Masks*, staged at the Immigration Museum so far.

A Day in Pompeii exhibition developed by Museum Victoria toured to **New Zealand** and **Singapore**.

An exhibition marking 40 years of **Turkish** migration to Australia was developed for the Immigration Museum in partnership with Victoria's Turkish community and subsequently toured to Turkish cities.

Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia and *Wallace and Gromit's World of Invention*, were both exhibitions from the **UK** staged at Melbourne Museum and Scienceworks respectively in 2012.

Research and Fieldwork

MV has developed with partners and now hosts the PaDIL site, which provides high quality biodiversity and biosecurity images and Information tools. The site is now being adopted by a number of other countries.

Fieldwork in **Sulewasi** resulted in the discovery of new mammal species.

International scientific partnerships, eg participation in surveys of marine organisms in Antarctic waters.

Capability Building

Joint development of website with **Fiji** Museum, hosted by MV, and training of staff in collection management.

MV offers international internships.

Conferences

The CEO of Museum Victoria, Dr J.Patrick Greene, will be a speaker at the 2013 American Alliance of Museums conference in Baltimore (and spoke at 2009 and 2011 AAM conferences).

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

In the last two years the National Museum of Australia (NMA) has specifically engaged with the DFAT agenda in **China**, but at the level of staff exchanges and diplomatic visits there have been many more links (person-to-person with institutional backing).

In March 2010 we signed an MoU with the National Art Museum of **China**, Beijing, to exchange exhibitions. *Out of the Desert: Painting from Papunya* was shown at the National Art Museum of China, in 2010. It was part of DFAT/Chinese Ministry of Culture's 'Year of Australia in China'. The exhibition was opened by the Governor-General, an indication of high-level engagement.

In 2011 a reciprocal exhibition, *A New Horizon: Contemporary Art from China* was shown at the NMA, as a part of the DFAT/ Chinese Ministry of Culture's 'Year of Chinese Culture' in Australia.

In 2012 a National Museum team assisted the **Vatican** Museum of Ethnography with an exhibition in association with the sainthood of Mary MacKillop.

We are working with a number of cultural agencies in **PNG** to assist skills-development and professional training.

POWERHOUSE MUSEUM

Over the last two years, the Powerhouse Museum has developed a special relationship with **Korea**. In October 2011, the Museum staged an exhibition of Korean metal craft in order to mark 2011 as the Year of Friendship between Australia and the Republic of Korea and to celebrate 50 years of bilateral relations between the countries. *Spirit of jang-in: treasures of Korean metal craft* spanned Korean national treasures from the Bronze age through to contemporary pieces made by practising artists in Korea and Australia. The exhibition was supported by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, National Museum of Korea, POSCO, Korea Foundation and the Korea Tourism Organisation and involved staff exchanges. The relationship led to the signing of MoUs with the Design Museum in Seoul.

The Powerhouse is now working on building its relations with **China**.

In 2011 the museum hosted 46 mayors from Indonesia studying sustainability measures.

The museum cooperated with the USA on a Mars experiment which was verified with NASA.

The Museum will host the *Access to Life* exhibition, a powerful photographic exhibition created by Magnum Photos in partnership with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The exhibition will run from late November for World AIDS Day 2012. Access to Life features the work of some of the world's best photographers from the global agency Magnum Photos, world-renowned for interpreting and chronicling people and personalities, global issues and events, in a compassionate and meaningful way. For the first time, a series of new photos from Papua New Guinea will be added to the exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum, taken by acclaimed British photographer Chris Steele-Perkins. They will join the photographic case studies from Russia, Swaziland, India, Haiti, Vietnam, Mali, South Africa and Peru.

QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

Exhibitions

Queensland Museum has recently finished showing the *Mummy: Secrets of the Tomb* exhibition which featured more than 100 ancient objects including mummies from the British Museum's internationally Egyptian collection. A forthcoming exhibition will look at Afghanistan.

Research

In addition to a range of research collaborations around environmental issues, the museum is also now part of an international effort to date and coordinate fragments of the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. Other parts of this extensive manuscript are held by the British Museum, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and several smaller institutions (University Library of Amsterdam, the Redwood Library, Newport and a private collection in Stockholm).

The museum has a relationship with the Smithsonian to exchange staff.

Capability Building

With the assistance of grants from ICOM, the museum has been addressing the collection management needs of the Solomon Islands National Museum.

QUESTACON – NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE

Japan

Renewal of MoU with Miraikan - On 24 August 2012, Questacon and Miraikan, the Japanese National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, renewed their Memorandum of Understanding, which is an agreement of collaboration and cooperation between the two centres, for a further five years. This is the second renewal of the MoU, the previous terms of which were 2002-2007 and 2007-2012.

Australia - Japan Joint Science and Technology Committee - Questacon representatives attended the AJJSTC meeting in Tokyo from 22-24 August, as part of the DIISRTE delegation.

Science Circus Tour of Japan - April-May 2014. This tour will focus on the tsunami-affected areas of northern Honshu. It is a special event for Questacon's 25th Anniversary in recognition of Japan's contribution to the Centre's establishment and our ongoing close collaboration with Japanese science centres. This initiative requires external funding - attention is being given to securing sponsorship.

Indonesia capability development program - November 2012. Planning is underway for the pilot phase of a three-year, trilateral capability development initiative between Questacon, the Exploratorium (San Francisco, USA) and PP-IPTEK (an Indonesian Government national science centre located in Jakarta). There are two pilot workshops in this program:

- Science Centre Capacity Building workshop - this will take place at PP-IPTEK in Jakarta from 19 to 30 November 2012. The program schedule has been finalised and preparations are underway.

- Secondary science curriculum unit - this is a pilot study in collaboration with the Australian Academy of Science and SEAMEO QITEP, to be held in Bandung commencing in March 2013. AusAID has provided major funding to build on seed funding from Questacon.

These pilot workshops will be fully evaluated and, if successful, the initiative will be developed through matched US Government and Australian Government aid support.

Vietnam, Feb/March 2013 - Planning is underway for a proposed April 2013 exhibition tour of Vietnam to celebrate the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Vietnam. Questacon is working with DFAT to develop the *Fascinating Science on the Move* exhibition tour of 3 locations in Vietnam (Hanoi, Danang and Ho Chi Minh city) with associated shows and professional development workshops. Program details and staffing, dates and venues are being finalised in consultation with DFAT.

Southern Africa Science Circus Safari - Planning is underway for a Questacon/ANU international science circus safari to tour **South Africa, Botswana, Zambia** and **Malawi** from September to November 2013. This tour aims to draw attention to the need for developing the science centre sector in that region, as part of Questacon's commitment to the Cape Town Declaration of the 6th Science Centre World Congress. This initiative requires external funding - attention is being given to securing sponsorship.

International Impact Study - This study of science centre impact is led by Heureka Science Centre, **Finland**, and is a joint project between 15 science centres worldwide, including Questacon, and led by researcher John Falk of Oregon State University. It will take place from September 20th to April 2013.

Other Current and Upcoming Events

- Questacon's *Science on the Move* travelling exhibition and science shows are currently being featured at the **Abu Dhabi** Science Festival (10-20 October 2012).
- Questacon's Measure Island travelling exhibition tours to **Brunei** Oil and Discovery Centre (Oct 2012- Feb 2013).
- **China** Science and Technology Museum (CTSM) Internship - three CSTM staff will join and study the Shell Questacon Science Circus on tour on North Queensland (31 October -12 November).

Recent and Upcoming Visiting Delegations

- July 2012 - Week-long visit from Paul Doherty of the **San Francisco** Exploratorium (renowned science communicator and head of the Exploratorium's Teacher Institute)
- August 2012 - Sony Science Teachers Association 2012, **Japan**
- 11 September 2012 - National History Museum of **Taiwan**
- 2 October 2012 - Science communication and education professionals from **Botswana** and

Zambia

- 3 October 2012 - Visit by representatives from the Governing Council of **Chilean** Universities (CRUCH) (Hosted by Austrade).
- 5 October - Visit by **South African** Department of Science and Technology representatives as

follow-on from Joint Science and Technology Committee meeting

- 15 October - Visit by the incoming Cooperation and Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of **France**
- 24-25 October 2012- Gwacheon National Science and Technology Centre, **Korea**.
- 19 October – **US** Embassy Busking.

SCITECH, PERTH

- In September 2012 we hosted a member of the University of **Botswana** who was seeking advice on more interactive science engagement opportunities for secondary school students to encourage more of them to pursue STEM at University.
- Also in September 2012 two Scitech science communicators travelled to **China** where they presented the Scitech chemistry show “Ignite Your Curiosity” as part of the Beijing Science Festival. The show is quite unique as it is performed in silence (so language barriers are not an issue).
- In May 2012 we hosted four employees from the Science Centre in **Kuala Lumpur** for a 7 day attachment training program. The employees experienced the full range of Scitech activities and business support from our City West experiences through to our Outreach programs and our back of house services.
- In March 2012 two Karratha high school students, presented their research projects at the **Beijing** Youth Science Creation Competition after winning the 2011 Scitech Rio Tinto science competition which is designed to give enthusiastic science students from regional areas an opportunity to team up with a Rio Tinto supervisor and create a research piece on their chosen subject of interest.
- And in 2011 Scitech CEO, Alan Brien was invited to **China** to discuss future partnership opportunities with Zhejiang Science Museum and the Provincial Government which is a WA sister-state relation, and Science Programs Director, Andrew Hannah attended an international planning workshop for a family museum project in **Qatar** and provided a science centre view of interactive museums and the role they can play in child and family dynamics.
- Also, our planetarium manager, Carley Tillett, regularly offers her specialised skills and knowledge in developing real-time visualisations to the Imiloa and Mauna Kea Observatories in **Hawaii** and the Macau Science Centre, **Macau**.
- Scitech’s nine travelling interactive science exhibitions are continually being rented by science centres and museums across the world. In the coming months we will have exhibitions appearing in **Estonia** and **Denmark**, and over the past couple of years have had our exhibitions tour **to Kuwait, Brunei, the Netherlands, Norway and New Zealand**. Each exhibition is premiered at Scitech in Perth before becoming available to rent. Rental periods are generally 6 months and Scitech staff travel to the host centre to both assist with the installation and removal of the exhibition. Scitech was also named as a finalist in the recent WA Industry and Export Awards in the Education and Training Category.

SOVEREIGN HILL MUSEUMS

- Participation in two super-delegations to **China** and **India** with Victorian Government in 2012 promoting heritage tourism and other tourism opportunities in Victoria. The relationship with China is now 20 years or more and whilst the immediate focus is on building tourism business the potential for this transitioning into cultural program exchange is growing steadily. Sovereign Hill has opened an office in **Shanghai** to take a position in the China tourism market in our right but liaising with other operators and government.
- Contribution to the Victorian exhibition as part of the cultural program associated with Expo events in **Shanghai** in 2010.
- Partnering in the first regional Confucian Classroom in Australia at Mt Clear College, Ballarat with particular links to **Nanjing** — 2009 to the present.
- Exchange of objects for travelling exhibitions with the National Museum of Science and Nature, Tokyo, **Japan**: travelling to four prefectures in Japan in 2007.
- Since 2009, intensive engagement with and participation in collaborative research and knowledge exchange with the museums sector in UK and Europe, particularly the Museums Association **Scotland** (Keynote Speaker at 2011 Conference , Edinburgh), European Association of Outdoor Museums (**Sweden, Denmark, Slovakia, England** – conference paper presentations on numerous occasions) and participation in a **European Union** funded 'Grundvik' research project in lifelong learning, volunteering, social capital and Outdoor Museums; participation in the ICOM **Russia** Intermuseum Festival 2012 in international collaboration to share ideas and knowledge on regional tourism and conserving industrial heritage.
- Participation in the League of Historic Cities with the City of Ballarat Board meeting in Hue, **Vietnam**, 2012.
- The Sovereign Hill Board and Senior Management Team visited the major outdoor museums in north eastern **USA** (Colonial Williamsburg, Old Sturbridge Village and Plimoth Plantation) in September 2011 for a cultural tourism training and information sharing exercise with corresponding Board and senior management staff members there at each institution.
- The Sovereign Hill senior management team was asked by the Shanty Town Museum in Greymouth **NZ** to advise it on the conceptual development of a new outdoor museum presentation there , based on inclusive use of hi-tech and IT solutions. This involved a site visit and meeting with key identities involved in that multi-million \$NZ project .
- Sovereign Hill has hosted key Museum sector personnel visiting Australia from international destinations over the past year , including from **Denmark, NZ , UK** and **USA**.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

International Delegations and Embassies 2010-12

Ms Huong Doan, Deputy General Director of the Department of Fine Arts, Photography and Exhibition, Vietnam

Mr I Gusti Ngurah Arjana and Mr Darwin Tampubolon, both from the National Secretariat of History and Archaeology, Directorate of Museums, Indonesia

Delegation from the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security in China

His Excellency Mr Noel White, Ambassador of Ireland

His Excellency Mr Michael Small, High Commissioner of Canada

His Excellency Mr Rui Quartin-Santos, Ambassador of Portugal

Her Excellency Ms Koleka Mqulwana, South African High Commissioner

His Excellency Mr Omar Metwally, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt

His Excellency Mr Abelardo Curbelo Pardon, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba

Mr Shim Byung-sub, Director of International cooperation, CHUNGCHEONGNAM-DO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

His Excellency Mr David Martin Daly, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the commission of the European Communities.

His Excellency Mr Vincencije Biuk, Ambassador of The Republic of Croatia

His Excellency Mr. Tom MacDonald, Consul General of Canada

His Excellency Mr. Gian Ludovico DE Martino di Montegiordano, Italian Ambassador to Australia

His Excellency, Mr Didier Robert, President, La Reunion, His Excellency Mr Jean Francois Sita, Vice President, La Reunion, His Excellency Ambassador Michel Filhol and Deputy Head of Mission, Mr Marc Trouyet

His Excellency Mr Antonio Cosano, the Ambassador of Spain, Mr Joaquin Artacho-Peralta, The Honorary Consul of Spain to South Australia.

The following exhibitions and projects all involve at the very least information sharing with the relevant Australian diplomatic mission and/or DFAT. Many projects involve South Australian Museum (SAM) staff representing Australia on a policy level.

Exhibitions

- Collaboration on *Opal* exhibition with the Natural History Museum Vienna, **Austria** – in discussion for 2013/2014. Negotiations also underway to tour exhibition to Vietnam, Smithsonian, Natural History Museum London and the Crown collection.
- In discussion regarding possible international touring exhibition *Iridescence* from SA Museum to **China** and **Japan**.

- **France:** Cooperative exhibition and public programme regarding the natural history (volcanos and turtles) of **La Reunion**. Coordinated through the Conseil Régional de la Réunion, Direction des Affaires in conjunction with Kelonia Observatory of Marine Turtles and Maison du Volcan.
- **France:** Current exhibition of Central Australian Aboriginal shields at the Musee Quai Branly, Paris.
- **Italy:** In negotiations regarding an international touring exhibition from Italy to SA – *The Treasures of St Nicolas*.
- In discussions regarding possible tour of exhibition on *Muslim Cameleers* to **India**. The exhibition has been toured to the Islam Arts Museum of **Malaysia** (IAMM) and negotiations are in play with IAMM regarding reciprocal arrangements for touring exhibition.
- **Netherlands:** The SA Museum curated *Yuendumu Doors Unhinged* exhibited at the Aboriginal Arts Museum in Utrecht and the Smithsonian.
- **Spain:** SA Museum hosted the exhibition: Expediciones Españolas – Spanish expeditions to the South Pacific in the 16th – 18th centuries. Coordinated by the State Corporation for Spanish Cultural Action Abroad. Exhibition opened by His Excellency Mr Antonio Cosano, the Ambassador of Spain, attended by Mr Joaquin Artacho-Peralta, The Honorary Consul of Spain to South Australia.
- *Image of the Interior* exhibition toured to various Spanish venues
- Exhibition collaboration with the Royal Academy of Arts.

Projects

- **Italy/Russia/Switzerland/England/USA:** Spencer and Gillen (ARC-funded anthropology) project has involved collaboration with and documentation of seven European museum collections holding relevant ethnographic collections: Pigorini Museum of Ethnography, Rome & Museum of Ethnography, Florence and Peter the Great Museum, St Petersburg, Geneva Museum of Ethnography & Anthropology Museum of Zurich, British Museum, Pitt Rivers Museum, Manchester Museum, Field Museum, Chicago & American Museum of Natural History, New York. In negotiation regarding possible touring exhibition, joint research projects and joint web site. Current negotiations regarding possible touring exhibition, joint research projects and joint web site.
- Collaboration with museums in the **UK** on the repatriation of Aboriginal human remains.

Research

SAM has an active research program on areas including natural science, mineralogy, ore processing, materials sciences, evolutionary biology, palaeontology, taxonomy, biodiversity, evolutionary genetics, genomics and Antarctic research involving collaborative research projects with academics in Brazil, Canada, China, Fiji, France, Germany, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the USA.

- Collaboration through Scientific Collections International (an OECD GSF initiative) with the Institute Fiocruz, **Brazil**, the Royal **Belgian** Institute for Natural Sciences, Natural History Museum **Berlin**, the **French** Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, **Spain's** Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Academia Sinica, Taipei, **Taiwan**, the Smithsonian, **USA** and institutions in **Korea** and the **Netherlands**.
- Collaborative research project with the **Islamic** Institute of Architecture.

- Continuing association with the **Netherlands** National Museum of Ethnology in Leiden: commitments to two joint publications: a book based on SAM's 2005-7 collaborative exhibition with Leiden, involving a total of 700 ethnographic objects and associated archival documents, photographs, film, etc. and, secondly, a publication on the history and background of the Leiden collection of Australian Aboriginal objects. This illustrated book will be published by the Leiden Museum in 2013.
- **Papua New Guinea:** Collaborative research project on Upper Sepik-Central New Guinea cultures, in partnership with PNG National Museum. Hosting US Fulbright scholar Dr Christopher Robertson transcribing and analysing songs of the upper Sepik, PNG.
- **Italy:** Agreement with Universitat Politecnica del Marche to take students and young researchers for work experience in Australian scientific research projects. Current.

Capability Building

- Provision of advice to PNG National Museum re digitisation of their collections
- Advice on, and contribute to a 2013 symposium involving discussion of approaches towards conservation of ethnographic collections, organised by Fr Nicola Mapelli of the Vatican Museum of Ethnography.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

Australian – Dutch Heritage

The Western Australian Museum has an ongoing relationship with the Dutch Government and in particular the Dutch Embassy in Canberra and the Centre for Heritage Studies in The Hague: this is linked in particular to the Dutch shipwrecks off the WA Coast and our Maritime Archaeology Team. The Director of the Western Australian Museum, Alec Coles, will be chairing the Australian Dutch Heritage Symposium in Canberra on 1 November. The symposium has been organised by the Netherlands Embassy in Canberra in collaboration with the CIE - Centre for International Heritage Activities.

Middle East and East Africa

Our Maritime Archaeologists have been advising and working off the coast of Madagascar and Oman through ARC Linkage Projects.

Indian Ocean Networks

We are partners in a whole range of Indian Ocean Network Projects with a number of Australian and International Universities and with the British Museum.

Pearling Projects

We are working on projects with some of the same partners (notably the British Museum) on developing a Pearling Exhibition.

Timor Leste

WAM has created an exhibition entitled *Debt of Honour*, which will tour (if Visions of Australia funding is forthcoming). It is about Australia's 2/2nd Commandos in East Timor (Timor Leste) in WWII and their close relationship with the Timorese people. As part of the exhibition we received DVA funding to bring two Timorese curators over on placement for a ten week period. A dialogue is ongoing with Kirsty Sword Gusmao.

South Korea

We have an MoU with the South Korean Academy of Maritime Archaeology and we exchange staff with them every year.

Turkey

We have been approached over the possible signing of an MoU with a Museum in Turkey over our relationship with the AE2 Submarine.

Indonesia

We have also been approached over an MoU with a Maritime Museum in Jakarta.

Sri Lanka

Advisory work for the Sri Lankan Government.

United Kingdom

Established touring exhibition relationships with the British Museum (Five-Year relationship) and Victoria & Albert Museum: hosting exhibitions from both this year.

New Zealand

The WAM Director participated in the National Working Group on re-locating the Treaty of Waitangi.

United States

Investigating joint projects around the themes of American Whaling vessels lost off the WA Coast.

The Commonwealth of Nations

Created, with the British Museum, a bespoke Exhibition, *Extraordinary Stories*, for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Perth last October. The Museum also hosted the Foreign Minister's Dinner for the same event.

Africa Down Under

The Museum recently hosted the prestigious dinner for the mining conference, Africa Down under.

Israel

The Museum was chosen as the only cultural and educational institution in WA to send a member of staff, fully funded by the Israeli Government, to Israel to participate in a two week learning event around the Holocaust.

Research Projects

WAM scientists are collaborating in particular on a wide range of zoological projects with academics in Austria, Brazil, Croatia, France, Indonesia, Italy, Iraq, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Tanzania, the UK and the USA.

WAM participates in an Australia-South Africa Joint Science and Technology Committee which organises research collaborations between Australia and South Africa, leading to the initiation of scientific research projects and exchange programs

WAM is also part of the Joint-Working Group on the Implementation of the ASEAN-China Declaration on the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea (Biodiversity of the South China Sea project) with partners from a wide range of European and South East Asian countries.