



Image courtesy of The Melbourne Athenaeum Incorporated CHG2022/049N

2022 CHG FINAL PROJECT REPORTS

The information has been provided by recipients of 2022 Community Heritage Grants

COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANTS

Table of Contents

Significance Assessments	1
NSW – Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children – CHG2022/008N	1
NT – Alice Springs Town Council – CHG2022/014N	2
VIC – Australian Gliding Museum Inc – CHG2022/029N	2
QLD – Bundaberg Regional Council - Hinkler Hall of Aviation – CHG2022/031N	3
NSW – Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation – CHG2022/041N	4
QLD – National Trust of Australia (Queensland) Limited – CHG2022/047N	5
VIC – Melbourne Athenaeum Incorporated – CHG2022/049N	5
QLD – Queensland Braille Writing Association (Braille House) – CHG2022/051N	6
VIC – National Trust of Australia (Victoria) – CHG2022/059N	7
SA – Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Adelaide – CHG2022/066N	8
QLD – Ninth (9 th) Battalions Association Inc – CHG2022/068N	8
ACT – The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc – CHG2022/070N	9
SA – Flinders Palaeontology – CHG2022/074N	10
Preservation Needs Assessments	11
NSW – St Thomas Anglican Church – CHG2022/001R	11
NSW – Lithgow City Council Libraries – CHG2022/005N	12
NSW – National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) – CHG2022/009R	12
NSW – Shoalhaven Historical Society Inc - CHG2022/013N	13
QLD – The Royal Historical Society of Queensland – CHG2022/014R	14
VIC – Carmelite Memorial Library of Spirituality and Mariology – CHG2022/027R	14
ACT – Australian Academy of Science – CHG2022/034R	15
VIC – Nhill and District Historical Society Inc – CHG2022/035R	16
NSW – Shoalhaven City Council – CHG2022/038R	16
QLD – Emu Park Historical Museum Society Inc – CHG2022/040R	17
TAS – Royal Society of Tasmania – CHG2022/042N	17
VIC – Montsalvat – CHG2022/044R	18
WA – Anglican Parish of Swan – CHG2022/046N	19
NSW – Australian Railways Historical Society NSW Division – CHG2022/054R	19
WA – National Trust of Australia (WA) – CHG2022/057R	20
NSW – National Trust of Australia NSW – CHG2022/061R	21
Collection Management and Conservation Activities	22
NSW – Moore Theological College Council – CHG2022/005R	22
TAS – Roman Catholic Trust Corporation of the Archdiocese of Hobart – CHG2022/008R	22
ACT – Village of Hall and District Progress Association – CHG2022/010R	23
VIC – Melbourne Holocaust Museum – CHG2022/020R	24

VIC – Trafalgar Holden Museum Inc – CHG2022/024R.....	25
NSW – Tamworth Regional Gallery – CHG2022/025R	25
WA – Royal Western Australian Historical Society Inc – CHG2022/030R.....	26
SA – Peterborough History Group SA Inc – CHG2022/032R.....	26
NT – Charles Darwin University Art Gallery – CHG2022/033R.....	27
QLD – Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd – CHG2022/037R.....	28
ACT – Manning Clark House Incorporated – CHG2022/038N	28
QLD – University of Southern Queensland – CHG2022/046R.....	29
ACT – Faculty of Arts and Design, University of Canberra – CHG2022/050R	30
NSW – Stanton Library – CHG2022/051R	30
NSW – Georges River Libraries – CHG2022/055R	31
VIC – Talbot Arts and Historical Museum Inc – CHG2022/056N	32
WA – City of South Perth – CHG2022/058R.....	33
Training.....	34
VIC – Australian Gliding Museum Inc – CHG2022/001T.....	34
VIC – PMI Victorian History Library Inc – CHG2022/002T.....	34
WA – Northcliffe Pioneer Museum Inc – CHG2022/004T	35
NSW – National Trust of Australia NSW – CHG2022/005T.....	36

Significance Assessments

NSW – Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children – CHG2022/008N

Project: Significance assessment of the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children archives
Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children (RIDBC), trading as the NextSense Institute, is one of Australia's oldest charitable organisations. Established in 1860, it has a long history of providing education for deaf and blind children. Over the years their services have expanded to support adults, and there are currently twenty NextSense sites across Australia providing a range of services to children and adults with hearing and vision loss.

The findings of the Significance Assessment confirmed their belief that the archival material held does have significance and provided suggestions for future use and preservation. They would like to digitise documents and make them available through Trove, and the Significance Assessment could be used as a supporting document when applying for future funding to undertake this work. This could be through the Community Heritage Grant process or from private donors. They were happy with the report and the relationship with the consultant, Anne-Maree Whitaker. It covered all the material in the collection and was well-researched and professionally presented.

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Significance Assessment

NT – Alice Springs Town Council – CHG2022/014N

Project: Significance Assessment of the Alice Springs Collection

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Alice Springs Public Library falls into the Community Development Directorate at Alice Springs Town Council. The Alice Springs municipality covers an area of approximately 330km², with a resident population of 26,500, and is the service hub for 260 remote communities across an area of 550,000 km². Located in the Alice Springs's business district, the public library is a popular facility and the largest of its kind in Central Australia, recording over 120,000 visits per year.

The Significance Assessment, that was undertaken by Dr Robyn Gregory, established that the Alice Springs Collection is of Territory and highly likely National significance, for its research and interpretative potential, and for its spiritual, social and historic values.

The Alice Springs Public Library's Alice Springs Collection (ASCOLL) is a critical part of Central Australia's cultural heritage. The ASCOLL is a rich and comprehensive collection, reflecting the long-standing policy objective to include a copy of every book, periodical, CD, DVD, map, and other material about Central Australia, or produced by a Centralian. As a result, the Collection now comprises a unique record that captures and reflects the history, culture, geography, socioeconomics, and physical environment of the region. The ASCOLL is the jewel in the library's crown, and is a major part of the library's contribution to the cultural life of Alice Springs, especially in partnership with other cultural organisations.

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VIC – Australian Gliding Museum Inc – CHG2022/029N

Project: Significance assessment of the Australian Gliding Museum Collection

Grant Funds: \$5,700

The Australian Gliding Museum was formed in 2000 to preserve the history of gliding in Australia by gathering significant aircraft and artefacts. By 2023 the Museum has established a collection of sixty-seven aircraft and conducted an active program of refurbishment. This collection is housed at the Bacchus Marsh airfield in Victoria, which is also the site of three active gliding clubs.

A Significance Assessment of the Museum's early collection was previously undertaken by Ms Emma Russell in 2007. Since then, the collection has acquired 60 gliding aircraft which would otherwise have been destroyed or left to decay. The gifting of such a large number of aircraft and associated items far exceeded expectations.

In 2022, the Committee had concerns that the collection process may have lacked discipline and was not meeting the standards of *Significance 2.0*. Accordingly, it was considered that

Significance Assessment

an appraisal of the most valued gliders would confirm whether they were applying significance standards appropriately.

The project has:

1. Confirmed to the Museum Committee that the entire extended collection has been broadly successful in meeting significance standards;
2. Provided them with a greater understanding of these standards, which will ensure that future acquisitions are appropriate; and
3. Assisted identification of previous acquisitions, which do not align with the collection policy.

After an initial review, Ms Russell recommended to the Museum Committee that the project should not be restricted to ten or so gliders but expanded to an assessment of the collection as a whole. The Museum Committee agreed to this recommendation and provided additional reference material to cover the entire collection.

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QLD – Bundaberg Regional Council - Hinkler Hall of Aviation – CHG2022/031N

Project: Significance Assessment of the Hinkler Hall of Aviation Memorabilia Trust Collection
Grant Funds: \$5,510

Hinkler Hall of Aviation is operated by Bundaberg Regional Council and is located in the Bundaberg Botanic Gardens. The museum celebrates the life and achievements of local pioneer aviator Bert Hinkler and houses over 5,000 items in the collection store.

The Hinkler House Memorial Museum and Research Association Inc is an organisation whose committee administered the Memorial Museum from 1983 until 2008 when the Hall of Aviation was officially opened.

They were very fortunate to have Elspeth Hocking from Queensland Museums visit the facility to view the museum collection. Elspeth conducted a significance assessment on the collection, compiled a detailed report and presented it to the Hinkler Hall of Aviation. This report highlighted areas of improvement within the museum and key recommendations to further enhance the collection. Elspeth highlighted items of significance in the collection and offered advice and support to further preserve and care for these items.

The feedback that Elspeth has provided is an invaluable tool with regards to the collection and items within it. She has recognised some challenges that are presented and some of the complexities arising from the relationship with the association. She has also offered praise for all the Museum's work and congratulated them on their commitment to maintaining museum standards, which means a lot to the staff at Hinkler Hall of Aviation. This has been a very positive and engaging experience and the Museum has developed an ongoing relationship with Elspeth as a contact in the museum network.

Significance Assessment

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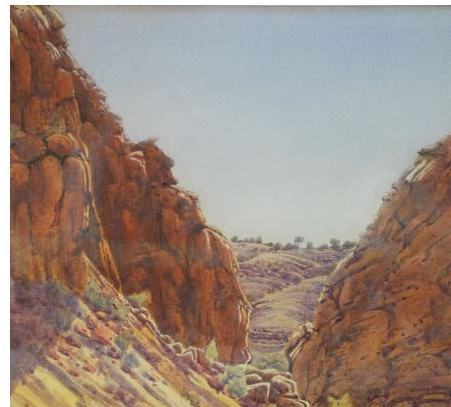
NSW – Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation – CHG2022/041N

Project: Significance Assessment of Ngurratjuta Art Collection
Grant Funds: \$9,607

Originally incorporated to receive and distribute royalties to communities affected by the Mereenie and Palm Valley oil and gas pipelines, Ngurratjuta has over the past nearly forty years acquired, developed and divested businesses and properties. Through investments and service delivery under contracts, Ngurratjuta reinvests into community development. Ngurratjuta has invested in a significant portfolio of art by Indigenous Central Australian Artists, ensuring these artworks are returned to or stay in Central Australia and remain accessible.

Ngurratjuta Art Collec

A significance assessment under the Community Heritage G



The process of undertaking the Significance Assessment of Ngurratjuta's Art Collection has been a valuable learning experience for Ngurratjuta's management team, especially Ngurratjuta's Indigenous Artistic Curator and Business Manager, both of whom have been heavily involved in the research into provenance of the collection. The knowledge of the collection content Ngurratjuta's staff holds has been greatly enhanced by the project.

Ngurratjuta believes that the resultant Significance Assessment Report is of excellent quality and provides a compelling argument for the assessment of its collection of Albert Namatjira artworks as nationally significant.

Undertaking this process has highlighted the importance of securing details conservation and provenance records for any future purchases. It has also inspired the team to continue to search through four decades of archives to try and identify further detail regarding provenance of existing items.

The relationship with the consultant, Paul Johnstone, proved very effective and positive and Ngurratjuta is keen to continue to work with him in the future, particularly as Ngurratjuta intends to apply for the second stage of Preservation Needs Assessment.

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Significance Assessment

QLD – National Trust of Australia (Queensland) Limited – CHG2022/047N

Project: Significance assessment of the Cooktown Museum Collection

Grant Funds: \$6,851

The National Trust of Australia Queensland (NTAQ) celebrate cultural heritage through Indigenous heritage and immigrant history that has shaped our modern multicultural society. The Cooktown Museum and most of the National Trust heritage listed properties are home to a collection of artefacts and stories significant to the region's history and its inhabitants. NTAQ is committed to connecting people to places through history, the environment and our diverse cultures to enable a rich and sustainable future.

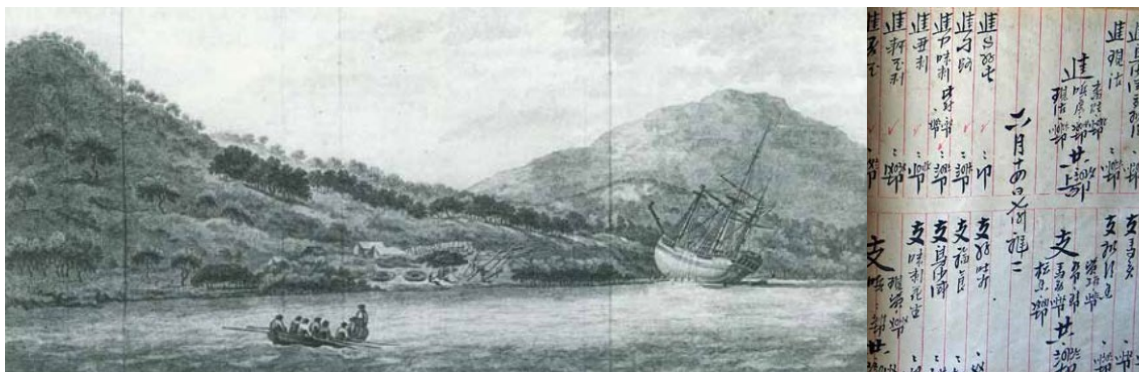
This project supported a significance assessment and recommendations for the Cooktown Museum Collection, prepared by consultant Gordon Grimwade. The recommendations will be addressed in a project plan that will form part of the ongoing visitor experience work being undertaken at the Museum funded through grants.

They are looking forward to completing the next stage of the process and applying for the Preservation Needs Assessment in 2024 to further identify conservation needs of the museum.

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VIC – Melbourne Athenaeum Incorporated – CHG2022/049N

Project: Melbourne Athenaeum Archive Preservation and Significance Survey

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Melbourne Athenaeum is a non-profit, cultural institution, which includes two theatres and a library reading room. Founded in 1839, the organisation enriches Melbourne's cultural and educational life by fostering public engagement with our history and culture and by supporting creativity. The institution offers diverse events, encouraging engagement with the library and archival collection, developing cultural sector partnerships, and promoting Victoria's heritage.

Significance Assessment

The project was incredibly successful, providing the capacity to engage a professional cultural heritage expert, Susie Shears from Jonah Jones and Associates, to review the collection, assess its significance and make recommendations for future management. Based on the very practical and informative report, a suitable cataloguing system was recommended, the first of the outcomes sought from the project.

The next two desirable outcomes identified were collection care recommendations and the necessary practical improvements to make the collection more accessible. The project has provided the foundation to re-establish a volunteer program; re-establish community access and profile; re-connect with appropriate cultural heritage, theatre and library networks; move towards new policies around collecting practices; the preservation of collection material and preventative care of the archives; and plan for future digitisation projects.

The institution has established and maintained a very effective relationship with Susie and has engaged their next consultant based on her recommendation. They have also engaged Susie to speak to their members and guests as part of the National Trust Australian Heritage Festival on 1 May.

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QLD – Queensland Braille Writing Association (Braille House) – CHG2022/051N

Project: Significance Assessment of the Braille House Collection
Grant Funds: \$5,400

Braille House is a free leading library and transcribing organisation that transforms text materials into alternate tactile formats, including braille and ebraille, maps and other accessible formats such as large print. Since 1897, Braille House has focused on providing access to braille to everyone, to empower people of all ages who are blind or have low vision, through literacy. For 126 years, Braille House has been producing and providing high quality transcription and braille production.

The Significance Assessment provided Braille House with a clearer and more detailed picture of the entire collection, inclusive of those items beyond the library collection. It further improved physical access to significant items in the collection, as well as increased knowledge of collection content. Importantly, the Significance Assessment is a detailed compilation and reflection of the unique nature of the collection; its breadth and scale, and its significance in terms of history, libraries, braille writing, assistive technologies, tactile collections, heritage and works of art.

The project built stronger networks within the cultural heritage sector, and an increased commitment from staff or volunteers towards the older and more significant collection items. Braille House staff and volunteers have developed an effective relationship with the consultants (Lisa Jones and Christine Ianna) and their staff, together with an appreciation of the report they produced.

Significance Assessment

This comprehensive report will no doubt assist with collection management and hopefully future funding proposals, alongside numerous other benefits. This includes assisting with identifying requirements to maintain the integrity of the collection's items of significance.

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VIC – National Trust of Australia (Victoria) – CHG2022/059N

Project: Significance Assessment of Mulberry Hill Collection

Grant Funds: \$5,500

An independent community organisation, National Trust of Australia Victoria (NTAV) has been actively conserving and protecting Victoria's heritage for over 65 years. NTAV is the custodian of Melbourne's landmark attractions, including The Old Melbourne Gaol, Como House and Garden, Rippon Lea Estate, Labassa and the Polly Woodside, historic regional properties such as Mulberry Hill, Barwon Park, The Heights, Dow's Pharmacy and Lake View, landscapes and a significant Art and Heritage Collection.

The significance assessment, by History at Work consultants, highlighted and confirmed the 'national threshold' importance of the Mulberry Hill Collection for its intactness, association with Daryl and Joan Lindsay (a leading artistic and literary couple), insights into 20th Century Australian political and cultural life and for the in situ art collection. It identified that the collection is rare because it is intact and in its original setting, and this strengthens its significance. This finding is validation for increased collection care and support.



The historical significance is largely dependent on the collection's relationship to the house, and to Daryl and Joan Lindsay. The writing room and studio, where Daryl and Joan Lindsay worked, are of particular interest. This has highlighted the importance of further, targeted research and the wider dissemination of information and storytelling.

The significance assessment process and final report has provided invaluable tools to assist in securing support and funding to develop and protect this important collection and site, and to enable greater public access and engagement with this significant property. Comparative benchmarking has shown NTAV that Mulberry Hill is a significant artist house/studio collection and the significance of the art collection warrants an assessment by a specialist art historian and improved site security.

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Significance Assessment

SA – Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Adelaide – CHG2022/066N

Project: Significance Assessment of the Church Office archives collection

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Anglican Church has existed in South Australia (SA) since 1836 and the Diocese of Adelaide was created in 1847. Today, the Diocese stretches across the Adelaide Plains to the Barossa Valley and is comprised of 56 parishes with thousands of worshipping members. Anglican ministry and social service occur in churches, schools, prisons, hospitals and elsewhere. The diocesan archive preserves the permanent records of Anglican church life and contributions to community, townscapes, culture and life in SA and beyond.

The project has achieved a careful professional assessment of the national heritage significance of the collection. As part of that process, they have had the opportunity to increase knowledge and awareness of the ways in which the collection relates to themes of national significance, and to identify further items of particular value within the holdings. The process entailed a significant commitment from both staff and volunteers, and they hope and expect that the resulting report will be valuable in increasing their capacity to lobby for resources and to engage in important preservation of significant parts of the collection.

They enjoyed a very effective relationship with the consultant (Andrea McKinnon-Matthews) and are confident that her report expresses the value of the holdings, from a national perspective to the best extent possible.

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QLD – Ninth (9th) Battalions Association Inc – CHG2022/068N

Project: Significance Assessment of the 9th Battalions War Memorial Museum collection

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The 9th Battalions Association collects, documents, preserves, and displays historical items related to the history of Australian Army Infantry Units, identified by the numeral Nine. It manages the 9th Battalions War Memorial Museum at Enoggera in Queensland and was formed in 1949 from current and former members of Australian Infantry 9th Battalions.

The 9th Battalion has a significant history with lineage going back to 1867. As part of the grant program, the association completed a Significance Assessment report for the collection which was undertaken by Brian Rough. The Significance Assessment articulated the community and historical importance of the collection, while making recommendations which will be pivotal in guiding future collection management and development.

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Significance Assessment



ACT – The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc – CHG2022/070N

Project: Significance Assessment for the Father Brian Maher Collection

Grant Funds: \$6,425

The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra is a voluntary organisation that provides resources and support for people researching their family history. The library holds several manuscript collections that are of significance to the heritage of the ACT and the Limestone Plains.

The significance assessment was a valuable exercise for the organisation. It was known that the collection was useful for genealogists and local historians, but it was uncertain as to its national value. The consultant was able to provide an independent assessment of the collection and articulate why the collection was significant in the national heritage landscape.

Recommendations by the consultant, Dr Alenandra Dellios will help the organisation lobby for increased resources to improve their collection management processes and increase the awareness of their collection amongst libraries and archives. The volunteers enjoyed working with Dr Dellios and the process has rekindled volunteer enthusiasm for the project to digitise and index the collection.

The Significance Assessment report featured heavily at the Annual Father Brian Maher lecture and has enabled the organisation to raise their community profile and build new relationships with potential users and researchers. The process has helped to develop stronger networks with other local groups in the cultural heritage sector and they look forward to working with these groups in the future. It was both a pleasure and enlightening to work with Dr Dellios and the organisation are very happy with the report provided.

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Significance Assessment

SA – Flinders Palaeontology – CHG2022/074N

Project: Significance Assessment of the Flinders University Vertebrate Collection

Grant Funds: \$7,250

Flinders Palaeontology is Australia's largest centre for palaeontological research. They offer the only named degree in Palaeontology in the country and are committed to promoting palaeontology, encouraging scientific collaboration and engaging the public with research and collections through the Flinders University Palaeontology Society, the James Moore Memorial Prize, lectures, displays, events and outreach in South Australia and interstate. They also have one of the highest media profiles of any group based at Flinders University.

Erina McCann from Tiaki Objects Conservation undertook a significance assessment of Flinders Palaeontology's 'Flinders University Vertebrate Collection' (FUVVC). The assessment report provided documented evidence of the FUVVC's significance as a whole, of specific objects within it and of multiple layers of significance.

One example is the southern hairy-nosed wombat skull collection, which is significant because it provides multiple examples of a single species, most from within the Brookfield/Blanchetown area, so they reflect variation within a population. They were collected by Professor Rod Wells when he was carrying out his seminal research on the physiology and behaviour of these wombats and a number of them were collected between 1971 or 1972 during the earliest days of the establishment of the Brookfield Conservation Park.

Being volunteer run, they know the high significance of the FUVVC which gives a sense of pride and justification of the time and effort put into looking after it. It has also provided the opportunity to learn from and develop a professional relationship with the consultant.

Finally, understanding the uniqueness of the FUVVC compared with other Australian collections will lend support to future funding applications and inform how they manage collection accessibility.

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Preservation Needs Assessments

NSW – St Thomas Anglican Church – CHG2022/001R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of St Thomas' Anglican Church Collection

Grant Funds: \$5,950

St Thomas' Anglican Church Port Macquarie represents the foundation and establishment of the Anglican Church on the north coast of colonial Australia and is now part of the Anglican Diocese of Grafton. It is the fifth oldest church in NSW, and one of the few remaining in use to be built by convict labour. Built between 1824-1828, the Church operates under 'The Constitutions Canons and Rules of the Anglican Church of Australia'.

The role of both an Archivist and Curator has been an on-the-job learning experience over the last seven years. Finding that the church collection is assessed as Nationally Significant, this Preservation Report has been vital in understanding the methodology of preserving it correctly for future generations. With the help of the Regional Museum, they will begin digitising the collection next year. The report has identified that policy statements need revision or in some cases need to be written.

Being a small team of one plus two new recruits, Julie McCarthy PMAICCM, the Conservator, has left clear directions for the way forward. Much has been learnt much from the time together with Julie and they are keen to make the changes recommended. Julie has specifically identified the need for the photographs and original artworks to be framed properly with conservation grade photographic board and they are hopeful of applying for funding next year for this. It has been a rewarding journey and thankful that, as a community organisation, they were able to apply and be supported by the CHG program.

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Preservation Needs Assessment

NSW – Lithgow City Council Libraries – CHG2022/005N

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of the Lithgow Library Local History Collection

Grant Funds: \$6,193

Lithgow City Council Libraries are a regional public library service servicing a population of approximately 21,000 people. In addition to providing exceptional public library services, Lithgow Library has a nationally significant local history collection which highlights Lithgow as the cradle of Australian industrial history and forms a chapter in the economic growth of a nation.

The Preservation Needs Assessment provided an overall assessment of the Lithgow Library local history collection. Results show that most of the collection is in good condition, with a small number of items in fair to poor condition.

Recommendations from the assessment are for the library staff to continue to audit the collection to gain a better understanding of its scope, rehouse in appropriate archival storage, monitor the storage area climate and to investigate and work towards better storage facilities such as archival shelving and compactus to better house the collection.

This assessment has reaffirmed the library's current project of ensuring all the collection is catalogued and where possible digitised so that there is a better focus going forwards. The library will be looking at further funding options to carry out the preservation and storage recommendations provided in the report. The consultant, Tegan Anthes was very good to work with and has provided very specific recommendations that will be easy to work with.

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NSW – National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) – CHG2022/009R

Project: Miss Porter's House Preservation Needs Assessment

Grant Funds: \$6,351

Miss Porter's House is the only National Trust property in Newcastle. It is a free-standing terrace house built in 1909 and contains a closed collection of over 5,000 objects, including a documentary heritage collection inscribed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Australian Register. The Porter family lived in the house from the time of its construction until the house was bequeathed to the Trust by Hazel Porter in 1997.

A comprehensive Preservation Needs Assessment was completed by Tegan Anthes from Collect Preserve. The report has identified strategies which can be implemented immediately to help preserve the collection and longer-term projects and activities that will further care for the collection.

Preservation Needs Assessment

Training and skills development for the volunteers who manage the house have been identified and implementation plans are underway. The major issue of storage for the collection will be the focus over the coming 12 months. They are working in partnership with the Newcastle Museum to provide off site storage as there is no capacity to increase storage at Miss Porter's.

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NSW – Shoalhaven Historical Society Inc - CHG2022/013N

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of the Shoalhaven Historical Society's Collection
Grant Funds: \$6,600

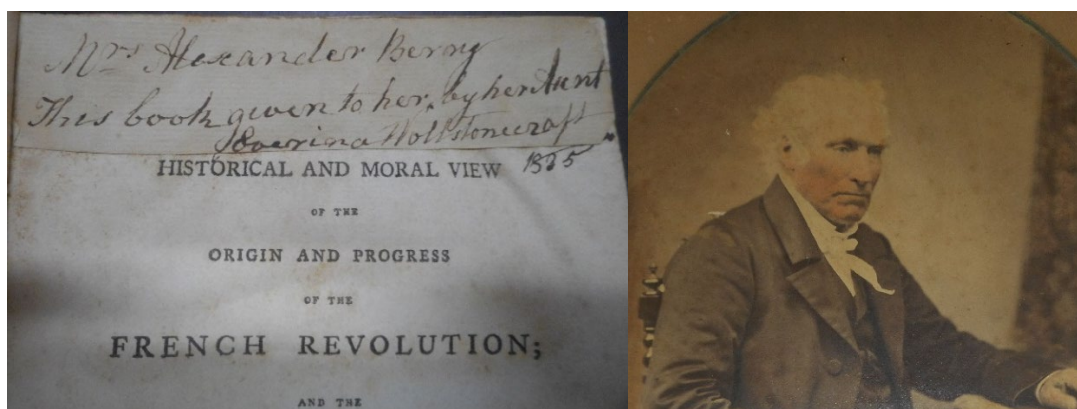
Shoalhaven Historical Society was formed in 1967 and has from that time has managed a museum. In 1980 the Nowra Museum was established and at present there are 91 members - it is totally volunteer run and funded. They publish an average of one book a year on the history and heritage of the Shoalhaven, conduct walking, bus and museum tours and assist official and individual organisations with research. The collection consists of over 20,000 items.

Following on from a previous Significance Assessment, this grant has enabled the engagement of an expert (Tegan Anthes) on collection preservation to assess the collection. The subsequent Preservation Needs Assessment report has focussed attention on areas done well and areas for improvement. At present the Society is studying the report and drawing up a document outlining the priority needs as identified by the assessor.

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Preservation Needs Assessment

QLD – The Royal Historical Society of Queensland – CHG2022/014R

Project: RHSQ Museum Collection Preservation Needs Assessment

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland (established 1913), the peak history body for Queensland, is a member based, not-for-profit organisation established to promote interest in and the study of Queensland history. Membership is currently 513, drawn from Queensland, interstate and overseas. The Society maintains an expanding collection including art works, artefacts, print, and approximately 21,000 photographs. E-hive affords community access to the collection. All material in the Welsby Library is accessible to the public.

This project has enabled the Society to contract Maïté Le Mens (Studio 204) to review the preservation needs of the collection. The final report has provided a firm basis on which to apply for heritage funding for items in the collection.

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VIC – Carmelite Memorial Library of Spirituality and Mariology – CHG2022/027R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of the Carmelite Rare Books Collection

Grant Funds: \$5,000

The Carmelite Library is Australia's finest specialised collection in Christian spirituality and mysticism. The Library serves two main constituencies, researchers and the general public. Operated and resourced by the Carmelite Friars, an institution with more than 800 years of continuous history. The Carmelite Library holds over 50,000 volumes and 800 of these are rare books, of these 523 volumes were published before 1850.

The project has provided the Carmelite Library with a crucially needed, comprehensive and immensely valuable Preservation Needs Assessment report. This Report, completed by Peter Mitchelson (Grimwade Conservation Services) has informed our decision to plan Phase 1 of the Conservation Management project, to be implemented as soon as practicable. Phase 1 will address the Report's highlighted priority collection condition issues. The Report's full set of recommendations will inform future actions.

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Preservation Needs Assessment

ACT – Australian Academy of Science – CHG2022/034R

Project: Fenner Archives Preservations Needs Assessment

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Australian Academy of Science provides independent scientific advice, promotes international scientific engagement, builds public awareness and understanding of science, and champions, celebrates and supports excellence in Australian Science.

The Academy is home to the Basser Library and Fenner Archives, whose objective is to collect material documenting the history of science in Australia and to promote related research. The archive collection was established in 1962 and named for microbiologist Professor Frank Fenner in 2011.

The Australian Academy of Science received funds for a Preservation Needs Assessment of the Fenner Archives manuscript collection and related collection components, to be undertaken by Kim Morris of Art and Archival Pty Ltd. This project has improved the understanding of Academy facilities and storage conditions and led to an enhanced appreciation for collection content, value, strengths and vulnerabilities among staff and stakeholders. It has assisted in identifying vulnerable collection material for potential digital preservation and in prioritising material for greater public access or reduced handling depending on its condition.

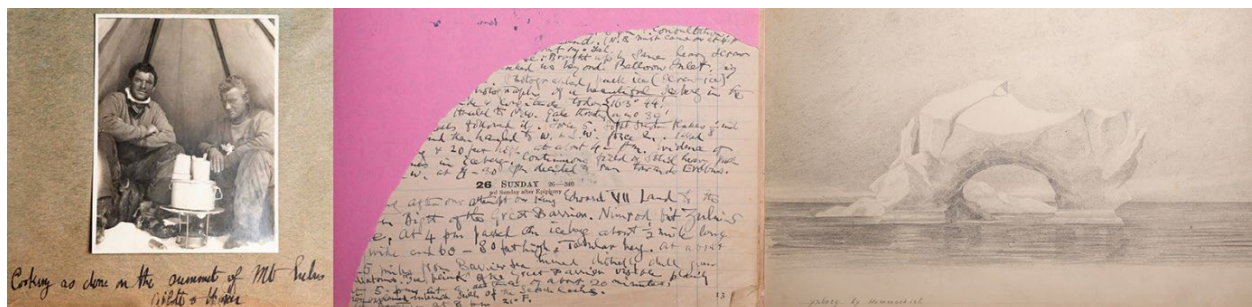
The resulting report evaluates current archive management practices and policies, provides individual assessment of sub-collections deemed to be of national or international significance and includes a series of short, medium and long-term recommendations that will be incorporated into strategic planning for the Academy Library and Archive.

Academy staff are very pleased with the consultant's work. The completed Preservation Needs Assessment, and the recommendations contained within, will be key in guiding strategic planning, policy development, collection access and management decisions and related fundraising efforts well into the future.

Contact: Clare McLellan, Archivist

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Preservation Needs Assessment

VIC – Nhill and District Historical Society Inc – CHG2022/035R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment

Grant Funds: \$6,353

Nhill and District Historical Society has a domestic collection and an archive of photographs and newspapers. The collection includes household goods, linen and clothing including day wear, evening gowns, wedding dresses and the John Shaw Neilson display. The Archive contains photographs, records of past and present community clubs, newspapers of Nhill Free Press from 1882 through to today, which are all used for family research to the public.

The consultants (History at Work) completed a Preservation Needs Assessment Report which achieved the objectives of skills development, preservation of collection material, knowledge of collection content, building and collection storage conditions, capacity to lobby for increased resources and commitment from staff or volunteers.

Contact: Kay Scott, Project Manager

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NSW – Shoalhaven City Council – CHG2022/038R

Project: Preservation needs assessment of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection

Grant Funds: \$5,500

Shoalhaven Regional Gallery is the Regional Gallery for Shoalhaven City Council, hosting a wide range of exhibitions and programs across each year and caring for the Shoalhaven City Art Collection. The Gallery was opened in 2004 and now has over 30,000 visitors per year, engaging with both touring and locally generated exhibitions supported by a wide range of public programs and events.

Conservator Kim Morris was engaged to assess the Shoalhaven City Art Collection, including more than 300 works by colonial artist Samuel Elyard. The Preservation Needs Assessment supports increased knowledge and understanding of the collection needs and how to best ensure the ongoing preservation and conservation of this significant regional collection.

Through the targeted action list and the advice supplied in the report, Shoalhaven Regional Gallery will be able to allocate general funding and seek additional funding to undertake necessary works as well as providing staff with a greater awareness and understanding of how to care for the collection.

Contact: Bronwyn Coulston, Manager - Arts and Culture

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Preservation Needs Assessment

QLD – Emu Park Historical Museum Society Inc – CHG2022/040R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of the collection

Grant Funds: \$6,353

The Emu Park Historical Museum collects, documents, preserves and displays items pertaining to all aspects of the history of Emu Park and surrounding districts for the benefit of future generations, and assists researchers in the use of the collection. The Society provides visitors and local residents with an opportunity to experience the past in a local context and conserves all itemised collections and affect repairs and ongoing maintenance where necessary.

Through a constructive working cooperation, the Society pointed out the aims and hopes for the collections, while the conservator (Amelia O'Donnell) has supplied recommendations relevant to the collections and business operation. The Society needs to concentrate efforts to make the collection more relevant to their mission statement.

Contact: Trevor Bird, Secretary/Treasurer
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TAS – Royal Society of Tasmania – CHG2022/042N

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of the Royal Society of Tasmania Art Collection

Grant Funds: \$11,328

The Royal Society of Tasmania (RST) was established in 1843 and is a not for profit organisation run by volunteers. The art collection contains over 940 mostly colonial works on paper, housed at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. It also includes a library with over 3,000 'old and rare books' held at the Morris Miller Library, University of Tasmania.

Although housed in museum standard conditions, the collection requires conservation. The project has enabled the society to contract a qualified conservator to advise on the best strategic use of funds and restoration priorities, as well as complete a statement of significance which will help with future grant applications and other fundraising endeavours.

The RST has completed a major project over the past three years to research the provenance and history of the collection. Before the grant, this information was only available in an Excel spreadsheet in house. The grant will enable the use of museum and gallery standard software (eHive) to make the collection available to researchers, other galleries and the public. It has allowed instruction for a group of volunteers on how to use eHive and to populate the site. The consultants have been enthusiastic about the collection and have exposed the society to a new network of people who can assist with the collection.

Contact: Anita Hansen, Honorary Curator
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Preservation Needs Assessment



VIC – Montsalvat – CHG2022/044R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of the Montsalvat Art and Archive Collections
Grant Funds: \$5,500

Montsalvat is Australia's oldest continuous artist colony. Established from 1934 onward by the Jorgensen and Skipper families it features galleries, an art and archive collection, studios, open gardens, birdlife and a ceramic centre. Situated in Eltham, Montsalvat's buildings are crafted from local stone, wood and clay, with many structures designed by Justus Jorgensen and later by Alistair Knox. The art collection features tonal paintings by Jorgensen and his students from the 1920s-2000.

The Preservation Needs Assessment (PNA) achieved a thorough assessment of the condition of the collection which is housed in two storage areas as well as being exhibited in buildings across the twelve-acre heritage listed property. This was the first assessment completed by a trained conservator; with two prior assessments by art historians David Thomas and Caroline Field that had a primary focus on visual art and significance.

The conservator, Helen Gill, visited Montsalvat over a period of months and checked storage areas which have undergone partial upgrades through a Regional Collections Access Program grant. The PNA process and report has paved the way for further collection conservation and advocacy for preservation of Montsalvat's cultural heritage. Helen's time at Montsalvat aided capacity building for arts team members in the field of collection care, preventative conservation and identifying risk around storage facilities. For example, the Creative Co-ordinator, Visual Art and Exhibitions received mentoring in correct storage techniques and was able to leverage off the PNA project to win a competitive place in a seminar on Condition Reporting hosted by the National Gallery of Victoria. Further to this, colony artists and interns also assisted with movement of several collection items after receiving object handling training.

Contact: Matthew Jones, CEO
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Preservation Needs Assessment

WA – Anglican Parish of Swan – CHG2022/046N

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment of contents of All Saints Anglican Church and the cloisters and graveyard, Henley Brook

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Church of England, later the Anglican Church, was the established church of the colonial government of the Swan River colony. The Parish of Swan was one of the first settlements with the All Saints Church completed in 1841. It is the oldest continuous place of worship in Western Australia. The sister church, St Mary's Middle Swan, is on the site of an earlier octagonal church.

The consultant, Vanessa Roth, was able to provide advice on how to conserve large wooden items and wooden and metal liturgical objects. She recommended the creation of a Collection Policy for the overall Swan Parish collection and the research, cataloguing and identification of items in the collection. This will enable the application for the next stage of the grant program.

Contact: Mike Brown, Operations Manager
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NSW – Australian Railways Historical Society NSW Division – CHG2022/054R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment

Grant Funds: \$6,276

Australian Railways Historical Society (ARHS) is a not for profit public company limited by guarantee, which started in 1933 and was incorporated in 1967. The Society's main objectives are to promote the association of persons in the history and operations of railways, study the operations of Australian railways, develop and maintain an archive collection and produce books and periodicals of railway interest. The society has a bookshop that sells relevant publications.

The Preservation Needs Assessment (by Kim Morris) reviewed the current arrangements for the housing and management of the archive maintained by ARHS. It assessed the preservation risks under storage space and furniture, building drainage and sealing, pest management and succession training and identified short-term, medium-term and long-term preservation needs and solutions, in a prioritised action plan. The project has provided the organisation with an independent and professional understanding of the risks relating to the ongoing management of the archive and the steps needed to ensure the long term integrity of the collection.

Contact: Paul Holding, Board member and Treasurer
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Preservation Needs Assessment

WA – National Trust of Australia (WA) – CHG2022/057R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment – Strawberry Hill/Barmup, Albany

Grant Funds: \$6,591

The National Trust of Western Australia works to raise knowledge, awareness, understanding and commitment to Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage. The National Trust achieves this through the conservation and interpretation of the heritage places managed on behalf of the community and WA State Government, through learning and education programs, community consultation and engagement.

Claire Rowson, Conservation Manager ICS, worked with National Trust staff to undertake the assessment at Strawberry Hill, Albany, as well as at the collection store in Perth. Building a relationship with Claire, the Perth based ICS manager will provide longer term benefits to the National Trust in seeking conservation advice, given that there are limited professional conservators providing services in Western Australia.

The report prepared by ICS supports the insitu display of provenanced objects at Strawberry Hill, as this constitutes best practice within the Australian heritage sector and supports the National Trust's mission to connect communities to the value of Western Australia's diverse natural and cultural heritage.

Together with the significance assessment of the collection, also funded under the program, the report has raised awareness of the importance of this collection within the organisation and has provided practical advice crucial to its preservation and ongoing management.

The report will be used to inform and allocate funding to the preservation of this collection within our organisation. It will also be used to support funding applications for a conservation program aimed at conserving the historic house at Strawberry Hill, in order to improve the conditions in which the collection is displayed.

Contact: Sarah Murphy, Manager Interpretation and Collections

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Preservation Needs Assessment

NSW – National Trust of Australia NSW – CHG2022/061R

Project: Preservation Needs Assessment for Bedervale Homestead Collection

Grant Funds: \$6,440

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) is the oldest and largest independent conservation organisation in Australia. The movement was established in New South Wales in 1945 by Annie Wyatt who, along with a group of other citizens, raised community consciousness of widespread destruction of the built and natural heritage in Sydney.

The project was to assess the preservation needs for the Bedervale Homestead collection. Bedervale was built by Captain Coghill in 1842, and much of the collection dates from his ownership. The collection is an in-situ house museum which includes paintings, maritime instruments, books of exceptional quality, domestic and technology items. The collection has survived in-tact and in-situ and is in relatively excellent condition.

The completion of a Preservation Needs Assessment Report (by Tegan Anthes) has provided a clear pathway forward with the care and management of the collection. It has provided a framework for prioritising conservation works and the consultant has provided clear guidance and reachable goals that will be achievable.

Contact: Rebecca Pinchin, Collection Manager

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Email: info@nationaltrust.com.au



Collection Management and Conservation Activities

NSW – Moore Theological College Council – CHG2022/005R

Project: Digitisation of the Reverend Frank Cash Negative Collection

Grant Funds: \$4,973

Moore Theological College, of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney, is an Australian University College. It was founded in Liverpool, New South Wales, in 1856 with a bequest from pastoralist Thomas Moore and relocated to Newtown in 1891. The College teaches theology, biblical studies, mission, ministry and church history from certificate to PhD level. The Donald Robinson Library is the largest theological library in Australia.

Film negatives, which contain photographs of the Sydney Harbour Bridge construction, were digitised by Pascoe Digital. For each image, a 'TIFF' preservation master file and a 'jpeg' access file was created and ingested into the Ark Repository. This repository uses Preservica digital preservation software for long term storage and access. This project has brought the digitisation and online availability of Reverend Frank Cash's entire photographic oeuvre to completion.



Reverend Cash's extensive photographic documentation of the Harbour Bridge construction is now available online for researchers and the public to access via the Moore Theological College Council website. The images are also available on JSTOR in the college's community collection: <https://www.jstor.org/site/moore-theological/cash-photographs/>

The remaining funding provided archival quality enclosures for the remaining photographs and slides in the Deaconess Mary Andrews collection. They have been rehoused and are now more accessible for viewing and future digitisation.

Contact: Erin Mollenhauer, Senior Archivist and Special Collections Librarian

Phone: 02 9577 9891

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TAS – Roman Catholic Trust Corporation of the Archdiocese of Hobart – CHG2022/008R

Project: Archival storage for de-framed photographs

Grant Funds: \$3,992

The Archdiocese of Hobart Archives and Heritage Collection is the central repository for the documents and objects belonging to the Catholic Church in Tasmania. The collection consists of paper records, textiles, metal objects, photographs, sacramental (baptism, marriage and death) records, architectural drawings, newspapers and books.

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

This project has allowed the removal of historically significant photographs from inappropriate and damaged framing, to now store them in a new BAC map cabinet. The de-framed photographs will be enclosed in Mylar/photographic sleeves, before being placed in the new cabinet. This will ensure the long term preservation of these photographs and will also make for much more efficient use of limited storage space.

Contact: Eloise Armstrong, Archivist
Phone: 03 6231 4740
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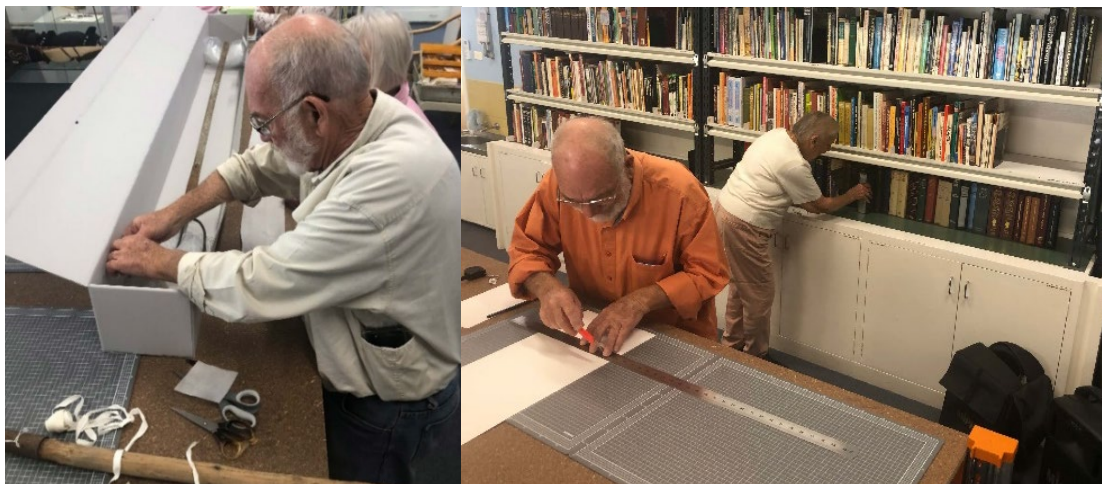
ACT – Village of Hall and District Progress Association – CHG2022/010R

Project: Priority Conservation measures for the Gillespie Collection at Hall School Museum
Grant Funds: \$10,619

The Hall School Museum, now the Hall Heritage Centre, began at the school in 1961 but grew significantly after the school closed in 2006. In 2015, the Centre accepted the complete and diverse Gillespie Collection, donated by the son of local historian Lyall Gillespie.

Museum volunteers have been able to purchase conservation materials and received excellent training (by Kim Morris) in how to use them. The storage room has new blinds to reduce light damage and a number of special items have been professionally housed. Volunteers can now confidently work with the conservation materials for years to come.

Contact: Dr Ken Heffernan, Curator, Gillespie Collection
Phone: 0410 381 293
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Collection Management and Conservation Activities

VIC – Melbourne Holocaust Museum – CHG2022/020R

Project: Preservation of Holocaust survivor testimony

Grant Funds: \$13,630

Founded in 1984 by Holocaust survivors in Melbourne, the Melbourne Holocaust Museum is dedicated to the memory of the six million Jews murdered during World War II. An accredited museum, our preserved collection includes photographs, artefacts and oral history recordings with immense cultural value within Holocaust and Australian history. The mission of the Museum is to educate the public 'to combat antisemitism, racism and prejudice in the community' and is evident in the highly regarded school education program.

FATS Media Lab were engaged to expertly digitise high priority Mini DV tapes. They have processed, cleaned and digitised 344 MiniDV tapes into both a preservation (ProRes) and distribution formats (H.264).

The tapes were original testimony recordings which were collected between 2011 and 2016 by Holocaust survivor and volunteer, Phillip Maisel. They have not previously been digitised for preservation and the only digital versions were low resolution copies from DVD dubs off camera. The tapes contain significant recordings of testimonies by Holocaust survivors from the Melbourne community. The total data storage required was 30 terabytes and the process took close to four months to complete.

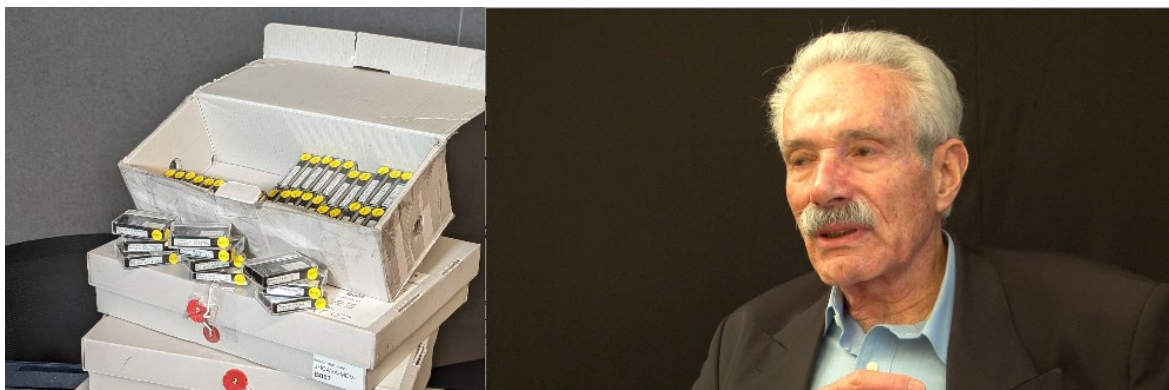
The oral history collection at the Melbourne Holocaust Museum is internationally renowned for its video testimonies of Holocaust survivors talking about their experiences, most of whom migrated to Melbourne. As the world is fast approaching the post-survivor era, the Museum is increasingly relying on its audio-visual testimonies for content that is used across the organisation.

Mini DV masters that were used in the filming of many testimonies were transferred by amateurs and consequently not at an adequate standard. Most importantly, these testimonies are now preserved for educational and research purposes in the future.

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Phone: 0411 488 506

Email: lorelle.lake@mhm.org.au



Collection Management and Conservation Activities

VIC – Trafalgar Holden Museum Inc – CHG2022/024R

Project: Storage requirements for the Trafalgar Holden Museum

Grants Funds: \$13,025

The Trafalgar Holden Museum opened in 2014. The Holden-related exhibits spans over 160 years of Holden history, from when it commenced in 1859 making and selling horse-related tack and other equipment up until the recent closure of General Motors Holden. The museum is run entirely by volunteers, generally numbering sixty at any one time.

The project enabled the museum to purchase a number of items to help preserve objects in storage. This has been an important first step in ensuring the collection meets museum standards. To assist, the Melbourne Museum's Scienceworks and Melbourne Cricket Club's Australian Sports Museum, were called upon for their expertise and visits undertaken. From these visits and discussions, the museum has identified the most appropriate items needed to improve the preservation of stored objects. This is the first step of many, as the museum progressively enhances its preservation requirements.

Contact: Mick Bourke OAM

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NSW – Tamworth Regional Gallery – CHG2022/025R

Project: Collection re-housing and storage for the Utopia Silks

Grant Funds: \$11,574

The Tamworth Regional Gallery offers a distinctive connection to place and a curatorial agenda that creates meaningful art experiences for all. The gallery collection exists for audiences to comprehend the past, to navigate the present, and as a potent avenue for imagining the future. The purpose of the gallery is to provide access to the arts in a regional centre that focuses on artistic vibrancy, social and cultural impact, cultural tourism and an arts ecosystem.

The funds from the grant have enabled the Tamworth Regional Gallery to purchase a much needed largescale freezer. This will enable all fibre and textile works to be frozen when they are return from loan or alternatively when any new textile acquisitions are acquired for the collection. This is a crucial addition to ensure that pests are not introduced to the collection store and to help maintain the textile collection. The freezer will be particularly useful in caring for the Navigator artwork by Julie Gough and the Utopia Collection.

Through the grant the gallery has also been able to purchase a custom textile rack. This has enabled the gallery to rehouse over a dozen rolled works that were laying on a flat surface, which is not ideal housing for such works as it was slowly causing creasing and distorting the works. This movement of these rolled works to the new textile rack not only allowed gallery staff to ensure they were properly labelled and recorded, but also stored correctly on the racks, so that they are easily accessible and preserved for the future.

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

Contact: Bridget Guthrie, Director
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WA – Royal Western Australian Historical Society Inc – CHG2022/030R

Project: Disaster Preparedness Plan

Grant Funds: \$5,500

The Western Australian Historical Society was founded in 1926. The society is a non-profit organisation supported by membership subscriptions, general fundraising, private donors and occasional sponsorship and project grants.

It has accumulated a rich reference library of Western Australian historical documentation and a large collection of historical photographs. It also has a significant museum collection of heritage items including artefacts, costume, textiles and artworks.

Claire Rowson (International Conservation Services) produced a much improved disaster plan, with a review of our disaster bin and supplies and plans to organise training in the future.

Contact: Vanessa Roth, Curator/Collections Manager
Phone: 08 9386 3841
Email: admin@histwest.org.au

SA – Peterborough History Group SA Inc – CHG2022/032R

Project: Digitisation and Archival Storage for the Peterborough Times Printing Office Collection

Grant Funds: \$11,919

The Peterborough History Group is a not-for-profit volunteer organisation, dedicated to collecting, preserving and promoting the history of the local district for the current and future population. The History Group are the custodians of the local historic printing workshop, which is a complete printing shop with working machinery and all artefacts required for a printing business. Volunteers are currently documenting the unique collection of 25,000 job dockets, digitising contents of dockets on a data base.

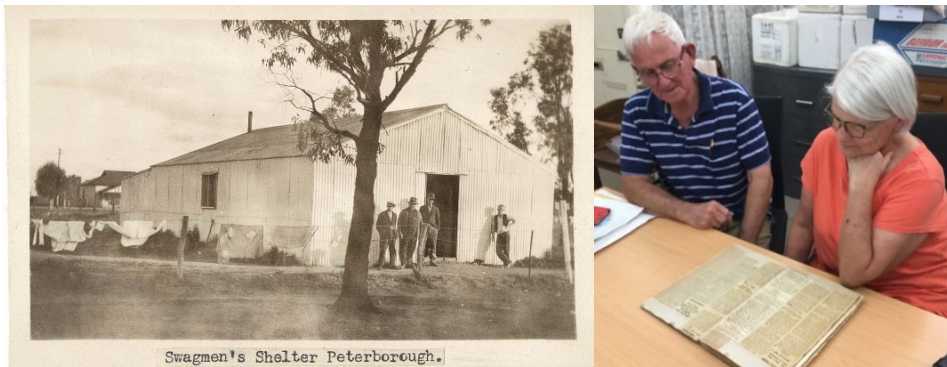
Developing skills and maintaining them is high on the list of achievements for the society volunteers. These include learning how to document the collection, unpack and re-pack using preservation methods and materials. These activities build knowledge of the collection content, which is vast, and builds commitment through increased interest in the history of our town/district.

Volunteers are involved in understanding storage requirements and conditions, such as temperature and light and the protection successive layers give to the paper collection. The society now has a regular weekly segment on the local community radio sharing recorded

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

interviews collected many years ago and sharing research into events mentioned on them. Volunteers promote the richness of the Job Dockets, Trove and the National Library at every opportunity.

Contact: Judith Evans, Secretary
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NT – Charles Darwin University Art Gallery – CHG2022/033R

Project: Preservation and storage assessment of the CDU Art Collection
Grant Funds: \$8,233

Charles Darwin University (CDU) Art Collection comprises approximately 3,500 artworks, which are displayed at the Art Gallery and through the on-campus art display program across university campuses. Artworks are also accessible via publications and approximately 25% of the collection can be viewed online. The CDU Art Gallery presents exhibitions, internally curated from the CDU Art Collection, as well as touring exhibitions together with complementary public programs.

The project has identified the strengths and weaknesses of the current storage arrangements of the CDU Art Collection based at Casuarina campus, Darwin, Northern Territory. The project identified potential improvements that could occur at the exiting storeroom (Orange 12 building) in terms of how artworks are stored. It identified a potential schematic setup for storage of the collection in a soon to be extended storeroom and work area of condition reporting, viewing and photographing the CDU Art Collection.

The Preservation Needs Assessment (PNA), undertaken by Kristin Phillips (Artlab), has also identified next steps in terms of staff training including Disaster Preparedness, to increase the capacity to care for the collection and mitigate against risk. A list of recommendations was presented (short term, medium term and long term) to assist in the gradual implementation of the PNA report recommendations. Activities were undertaken in box-making and mechanisms for textile storage, numbering and display which were most helpful.

Contact: Dr Joanna Barrkman, Curator
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Collection Management and Conservation Activities

QLD – Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd – CHG2022/037R

Project: Conservation and collection management activities

Grant Funds: \$9,480

The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland (RGSQ) is a not-for-profit organisation established in 1885 with the object of promoting and stimulating the study of geography.

The project has resulted in the preservation of specific significant items from the RGSQ collection that had deteriorated and had been in poor condition. These included seven books and six maps dating from the period between 1886 and 1928.

The conservation work on the books has involved cleaning, repairing endleaves, rebacking, repairing leather spines, refurbishing covers and paper leaves, interleaving to preserve plates, repairing loose sections and providing protective fitted boxes. For maps, it involved humidifying to relax the paper, surface cleaning, lining the maps and infilling areas of loss with Japanese paper, and providing protective fitted polyester sleeves with archival board insert.

Contact: Robert Cook, Collections Committee Chair

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ACT – Manning Clark House Incorporated – CHG2022/038N

Project: Environmental Management Manning Clark House

Grant Funds: \$7,169

Founded by scholar, linguist and advocate for Indigenous justice Dymphna Clark, Manning Clark House aims to carry forward the cultural and scholarly activities of the house during the lives of her and historian and public intellectual Professor Manning Clark. The organisation has the leading role in the conservation and public presentation of the house,

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

grounds and collection. It promotes public debate on broad cultural and public issues, music and poetry performances, and occasional art exhibitions.

Enhancement of the preservation of the paper based collection in the house and the timber-based flooring and furniture have been completed. The project has made a major contribution to the environmental stabilisation within the house through a low-impact 'passive' approach to the management of light, UV and heat degradation in priority conservation areas of the house, viz the living room/dining room/kitchen spaces and the upstairs study of Professor Clark.

The project consisted principally of (a) the installation of powerful but barely noticeable UV- and heat-resistant window film in the priority areas, and (b) the installation of block out curtains for the north windows of the study. The committee intend to monitor the effects of the treatments in those areas at various times of the year. Separately, they have also adopted protocols on the closing and opening of the curtains, and the existing heavy curtains in the living room, to minimise extremes and variations of light, heat, the effects of UV in those areas.

The advice and collaboration of the consultant, Kim Morris, was central to the framing of the project and its implementation.

Contact: Prof Nicholas Brown, Committee Member & Chair of Heritage Subcommittee
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QLD – University of Southern Queensland – CHG2022/046R

Project: The Chronicle Archives Collection Conservation Project
Grant Funds: \$13,556

The University of Southern Queensland is a young, dynamic university dedicated to providing quality programs and degrees in a flexible and supportive environment. UniSQ has become a prominent teaching and research institution providing education worldwide from three regional locations, Toowoomba, Springfield and Ipswich. The historical archives preserve the memory of the University and ensures that it is able to build its significant achievements through maintaining collection, of local and national significance, of the University's history.

The freezers and archival storage have been purchased as part of the project, enabling the archive to store and freeze the most at risk negatives to pause the deterioration process until they proceed with digitisation in the future.

Contact: Monica Casavieja Muniz, University Archivist
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Collection Management and Conservation Activities

ACT – Faculty of Arts and Design, University of Canberra – CHG2022/050R

Project: Conservation treatment of at-risk works in the Indigenous Art and Artefact Collection
Grant Funds: \$12,095

The Faculty of Arts and Design has a strong interdisciplinary and inclusive research and teaching culture in the disciplines of design, architecture, and applied arts. The faculty has a strong history of heritage and materials conservation education with an emphasis on teaching Indigenous cultures and ways of knowing of which this collection plays an important role.

The project has achieved success in the conservation of identified at risk works. After consultation with the conservation team from Art and Archival, the bark painting and collection of jewellery have been treated and stabilised. It was agreed upon that no major interventive or aesthetic treatments were to be undertaken to respect the First Nations makers, as such only treatments that stabilized the objects were undertaken.

The bark painting has been rehoused with proper supports that would ensure that the painting is stable and no longer at risk of further damage. The collection of jewellery has also been rehoused and secured. The archival consumables are being used to rehouse the rest of the collection and the work is ongoing.

Contact: Hakim Abdul Rahim, Laboratory Assistant
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NSW – Stanton Library – CHG2022/051R

Project: Conservation and collection management project for the Luna Park framed artworks
Grant Funds: \$7,700

Stanton Library opened on 8 February 1964 with 10,000 books. The library is now a community hub for author talks, special interest groups, events and exhibitions. Stanton established a Local History collection in 1974, which now includes North Sydney Council and Community archives, objects, artworks, oral histories, images and research files. The North Sydney Heritage Centre provides access to these resources and responds to public enquiries. Stanton also manages two community museums, staffed by volunteers.

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

There were numerous outcomes from the project, which was led by conservator Tegan Anthes, including:

- Increased skills development in condition reporting, photography and conservation cleaning; staff can assess other artworks; skills are transferable to other collection items.
- Preservation of significant Luna Park collection - condition and consultant reports provide clear priorities for treatment and reframing, in addition to recommendations for future storage and display. Conservation cleaning was undertaken, such as removing acidic mats and backboards, has been an important step in improving preservation.
- Improved public access – identified treatment priorities will assist in establishing a schedule of conservation, ensuring that artworks previously unsuitable for display will be conserved for exhibition. In addition, conservation and reframing will reduce risk of damage during access.
- Condition assessments were completed for 45 significant framed Luna Park artworks; template and glossary applicable to other collections.
- Basic level of conservation cleaning of those works completed.
- Collections management tools to aid staff in ongoing collections management: condition report template, glossary of terms, digitisation checklist, framing recommendations for works on paper, acquisition/accession draft workflow.
- Consultant's report included prioritised recommendations for remedial conservation and framing, handling, storage and display, including improvements to art store conditions.

Contact: Kelly Mitchell, Historical Services Curator

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NSW – Georges River Libraries – CHG2022/055R

Project: Preservation and digitisation of oral history audio tape collection

Grant Funds: \$13,392

The Georges River Libraries is the local public library service, with five locations, two district and three branch libraries and offers books, special collections, online resources, creative workshops, literacy programs and a Local Studies collection. The Local Studies collection holds a variety of materials from books, maps, microfilm, photographs and oral histories.

The purpose of the project was to preserve and digitise the Oral History collection and to increase the accessibility of this collection for the community. The specific outcomes included a comprehensive inventory of the collection; the preservation of collection items (conservation treatments to stabilise condition, baking and mould treatment); the digitisation of the audio recordings to digital file standards (archival WAV file and accessible MP3 file); preservation and access, WAV files archived in Council's record management system and the MP3 files catalogued in the libraries' management system). The public can now download listen to the files.

The library has successfully joined the State Library NSW Amplify program to aid with transcription. Amplify is a crowdsourcing platform where libraries can temporarily place

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

digital audio materials from their collections paired with machine-generated transcripts to engage people in the community to help correct any errors in the transcripts. The first training sessions for staff was held in early November before populating the library's profile.

Contact: Steph Gildaly, Coordinator Library Operations
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VIC – Talbot Arts and Historical Museum Inc – CHG2022/056N

Project: Cataloguing and collection management software upgrade

Grant Funds: \$3,124

Talbot Museum was established with the goal of “saving the past for the future.” Key objectives are to promote the study, appreciation and research of local and family history and provide facilities for collections, research and displays. Family history requests received from across Australia and overseas, because of the influx of people from around the world during the gold rushes, together with collection management and display, form a significant part of our volunteers’ workload.

Access to the museum’s physical and digital collections has been greatly improved by upgrading their computer catalogue software to the current version and adding a second user license to allow dual access to the database. The museum can now make use of enhanced features in the software and they have two users simultaneously performing data input or searching the records. This has significantly improved the speed of both activities and made the historical research and collection management tasks more efficient. User training for volunteers has developed their skills in using the new multi-user catalogue and improved access to the catalogue records, which will help with knowledge of the collections and interpreting them for visitors.

The museum’s new computer network has provided the operating speed and reliability of two new business-standard PCs together with storage for the catalogue data on a shared drive, with an automated backup routine. This has allowed the museum to make the maximum use of the new catalogue and to ensure the security of databases.

Collection Management and Conservation Activities

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WA – City of South Perth – CHG2022/058R

Project: City of South Perth Art Collection management, display and conservation initiatives
Grant Funds: \$13,392

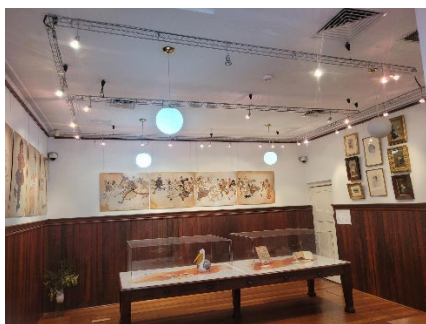
The City of South Perth is an inner-city local government with responsibility for an area approximately 20km². The city has population of 43,600 residents in seven suburbs: Como, Karawara, Kensington, Manning, Salter Point, South Perth and Waterford. A key function is to oversee arts and cultural development for the community, which includes provision of cultural buildings and spaces; community /cultural events; public art; cultural projects; managing art collections; conserving and promoting cultural heritage.

A series of minor exterior and interior works at Heritage House, where the May and Herbert Gibbs Collection is stored and displayed, has been achieved. Two initiatives have also been achieved by addressing environmental controls at this cultural venue aligned with recommendations in the Preservation Needs Assessment report:

1. replacement of track-lighting and the installation of an air-curtain at the gallery entry
2. purchase of specialised catalogue software, to publish the city's art collection online

The lighting upgrade allows for high conservation need works to be displayed under correct lighting levels and will extend the duration they can be publicly accessible. Overall lighting improvement has made the exhibition space a more desirable space and able to attract new exhibitors and lending institutions. The new gallery space has been reinvigorated, and this has seen an increase in commitment from volunteers. Seven new volunteers have been recruited including committee members, who have expertise in digitisation and have begun work digitising the South Perth Historical collection. The purchase and publishing of the Art Collection Management Software for the City of South Perth's Art Collection will allow for greater accessibility to the wider community.

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Lighting upgrade before



Lighting upgrade after

Training

VIC – Australian Gliding Museum Inc – CHG2022/001T

Project: Training in the application of Significance 2.0 Standards

Grant Funds: \$2,850

The Australian Gliding Museum was formed in 2000 to preserve the history of gliding in Australia by gathering significant aircraft and artefacts. By 2023 the Museum has established a collection of sixty-seven aircraft and conducted an active program of refurbishment. This collection is housed at the Bacchus Marsh Airfield, Victoria which is also the site of three active gliding clubs.

The project established a Training Manual for the application of Significance 2.0 Standards. This Manual will be an important resource for both current and future Committee members to ensure there is an ongoing understanding of Significance 2.0 and its application to new aircraft acquisitions.

The original scope of this project was to provide a short training program to the current members of the Museum Committee. During the first project (CHG2022/029N) for the assessment of selected aircraft in the Museum collection, the consultant Emma Russell, acknowledged that the Museum Committee already had a reasonable knowledge of Significance 2.0. Consequently, Ms Russell recommended to the committee that it would be of more enduring value if the project was altered to focus on the development of a Training Manual for undertaking and applying Significance 2.0.

The Committee agreed that a training manual would provide a long term resource for the benefit of future Committee members, as well as the current Committee.

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VIC – PMI Victorian History Library Inc – CHG2022/002T

Project: Training in Disaster response and recovery

Grant Funds: \$2,642

The Prahran Mechanics' Institute (PMI) Victorian History Library is community owned and run and specialises in the history of Victoria. It is committed to promoting and preserving the multifaceted voices contributing to the history of Victoria. Established in 1854 with more than 40,000 items, the library is a destination point for research into all aspects of Victoria including towns, regions, churches schools' families, first nations, history, politics and sport.

The project achieved its objectives by developing the skills of staff and volunteers to help prevent disasters, preserve materials and action disaster plans.

Training

The workshop, delivered by Artifact Conservation, taught the library how to preserve various collection materials and to understand which collection items are prone to damage/ loss and how to prevent damage in case of disaster. A new understanding of the importance of library conditions in terms of humidity and temperature has been actioned with humidity sensors installed and being monitored.

Skills were improved by learning how to respond in a disaster, what to do first, to implement the disaster plan and finally how to conserve precious library materials. Theory was reinforced by practice when staff learnt how to dry books and create wind tunnels. Staff and volunteers assembled disaster kits together, to help learn what would be needed in case of an emergency. The commitment of staff and volunteers was demonstrated by the attendance of all library staff members, volunteers and representatives from all the associated organisations housed in the PMI building. Networks were strengthened by working together collaboratively to protect the contents of the library. The consultants were professional, engaging and easy to work with. The workshop was carefully tailored to suit the specific needs of the organisation.

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WA – Northcliffe Pioneer Museum Inc – CHG2022/004T

Project: Preventive Conservation Training for the Northcliffe Butchers Collection 1926-1985
Grant Funds: \$3,564

The museum begun in 1975 and will shortly consist of five heritage buildings and 11 rooms, dating from 1926 to 1950. The final building will be the unique 1926 Munro Group House. The museum collections have items of state and national significance. The metal items within the computerised collection of over 2,000 items, have recently been undertaken by the Training Workshop and a future working area is being prepared.

Training

Excellent knowledge has been gained to allow the museum to learn how to care for the precious artefacts, some of which are of national significance. The relationship with the consultant (Vanessa Wiggin, Museumly), is brilliant and helps the volunteers with future museum responsibilities. The Training Workshop has given the museum volunteers the confidence to meet regularly, with the aim of retaining and improving skills development.

The new knowledge gained in the science of metals, has allowed the volunteers to appreciate the value of metal artefacts and what is needed for their care for future generations. Another important skill learnt, is how to ascertain when a collection item needs to be removed from the collection or not.

With the future gift of a handsome donation from members, with the confidence gleaned from the recent workshop, the museum is considering devoting part of this gift to an artefact storage and preparation room to ensure the museum display items are kept in the best possible way. In other words, the recent CHG 2022 training was extremely effective.

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NSW – National Trust of Australia NSW – CHG2022/005T

Project: Collections Care Workshops
Grant Funds: \$11,546

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) is a community-based, non-government organisation, committed to promoting and conserving the state of New South Wales' natural, built and cultural heritage. The Trust cares for heritage gardens, galleries and house museums across New South Wales, while also providing services to councils and public organisations in bushland management.

The Collection Care training program was delivered to volunteers spread across New South Wales. There were two strands, a webinar program delivering general information about collection care in historic houses and a practical hands-on workshop program focused on care of paper and photography collections.

The webinar program attracted registrations from volunteers associated with the National Trust properties: Saumarez, Miss Porters' House, Grossmann, Old Government House, Experiment Farm Cottage, Lindesay, Retford Park, Woodford Academy, Cooma Cottage, Bedervale, Riversdale, Golden Vale, Harpers Mansion and members from several regional branches of the National Trust.

The webinars targeted volunteers, new to collections work, and those who wished to refresh their knowledge and registrations from other volunteers with historical societies and regional Councils. Over seventy people attended the three online events and each participant was sent a transcript and web recording of the event, along with a selection of resources and further readings.

Training

The workshops were also popular with nearly sixty people attending the hands-on practical sessions. These were delivered as two half day workshops at three venues, which was delivered in Armidale, Blue Mountains and Goulburn. The content varied as each day focused on the collections of the host organisation and scenarios discussed for specific collections.

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