

## 2017 CHG FINAL PROJECT REPORTS



Sadie Macdonald's Florence Nightingale medal, awarded in 1953, the Queensland Women's Historical Association (CHG recipient 2015)

### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**Australian National Museum of Education**, based at the University of Canberra, received \$2,570 for a preventive conservation project.

The preventive conservation project has addressed the recommendations as stated in the preservation needs assessment and those outlined in the application through the purchase of conservation material and an environmental monitoring system which will help preserve and care for the collections. This grant has helped achieve: conservation treatment of fragile documents; rehousing and treatment of mould-infected school registers, and preservation of the Mowbray House School Admissions Register; rehousing of 19<sup>th</sup> century textbooks; storage of class rolls, lesson registers and school uniforms etc; and the purchase of environment monitoring and pest monitoring kits.

In addition, a policy document, to be presented to the Board for approval, has also been written. This will act as a guide for future staff and volunteers in the preservation and care of the Museum.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Hakim Abdul Rahim, Curator  
Australian National Museum of Education  
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**Faculty of Arts and Design, University of Canberra** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art & Artefact Collection.

The assessment by Art and Archival has been well received by the Faculty, and has completed another aim in the ongoing strategic plan for the management of the Indigenous Collection. Art & Archival, whose expertise and experience in working with Indigenous collections privately and in institutions such as the National Museum of Australia, has produced a very thorough assessment of the conservation needs of the Faculty's collection. The report has highlighted the various issues associated with the collection and has provided constructive recommendations to alleviate these issues. These recommendations will be acted upon in the coming year ahead.

This report, together with the significance assessment previously undertaken, will greatly aid the Faculty in lobbying for resources in the continued care and management of this collection, which is significant to the University and the region.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

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## **NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Albury City Council – Albury LibraryMuseum** received \$4,230 for conservation treatment of Uiver Collection items.

Three objects from the Uiver Collection, a parachute, parachute piece, and fuel can, previously identified as nationally significant, were transported to Preservation Australia, Sydney NSW, for treatment. They were successfully treated, rehoused and returned to the LibraryMuseum.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Emma Williams, Museum Curator  
Albury City Council - Albury Library Museum  
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**Albury City Council – Albury LibraryMuseum** received \$5,200 for an Integrated Pest Management Workshop.

A pest management training course of two days was completed in February 2018, with members of the LibraryMuseum Museum & Social History Team in attendance. Additional places were taken by LibraryMuseum local studies staff, Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA) staff, and local volunteer-run museum staff and volunteers. Alex Roach of Modified Atmospheres, Erina NSW, presented an in-depth workshop, including demonstrations. Staff are now better equipped to recognise and deal with any potential pest infestation to the Uiver collection and other Albury City collections.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Emma Williams, Museum Curator  
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**Broken Hill City Council** received \$11,690 for a Conservation, Handling and Care of Collections Workshop.

The conservation workshop, held in Broken Hill over a five-day period, was open to more than a dozen museums from Broken Hill and region.

Tegan Anthes from Preservation Australia, Sydney NSW, facilitated the training. Future methods of handling, care, housing, and display were identified, as well as policies and procedures regarding collection preservation and access with minimal handling. Issues such as working in remote communities, equipment and resource availability, were also addressed. Participants were able to ask questions specific to their collections needs and requirements, and also identified a variety of skills amongst local museums' staff and volunteers that can be utilised for maximum benefit across the community. A major benefit of the workshop was its great networking opportunities for the Broken Hill Museum community, and this will continue via regular Museums Group meetings. The final day of the workshop covered disaster planning and recovery, and was an amazing team building exercise. As a result, the group have now formed a network of contacts for future use in disaster recovery and problem solving.

Publicity has included a City Council Media Release dated 30 October 2017, entitled "Grant secured for archive workshop", and a photograph of the workshop in progress.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Tracy Fraser, Library Coordinator  
Broken Hill City Council  
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**Campbelltown City Council Library** received \$2,700 for a Paper Conservation Workshop.

The workshop provided Library staff with a wealth of information about conservation treatment of local studies materials. Tegan Anthes from Preservation Australia, Sydney NSW, provided various samples with conservation issues, such as paper tears, and attendees were trained in how best to treat these problems. Items requiring attention in the Library's collection were also examined, and advice on treatment practices was provided. All staff who attended the workshop gained valuable

experience, and appreciated the relevance of workshop topics to their positions in the Library. Since the workshop, a number of items including rate books have had conservation work applied to them.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Andrew Allen, Local Studies Librarian  
Campbelltown City Council Library  
Phone: (02) 4645 4431  
Email: [library@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au)

**Corowa District Historical Society** received \$5,150 for a preservation needs assessment of the Federation Museum Collection.

Endangered Heritage, Canberra ACT, carried out the assessment, which was thorough and identified many recommendations for current and ongoing preservation of collection items. Volunteers were also provided with a much better understanding of preservation requirements, how to go about preservation and how different objects in the collection can impact on other objects. As a result, the volunteer staff are now more committed and knowledgeable on the preservation processes required to maintain the collection in the optimum conditions.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Heather Hall, Secretary  
Corowa District Historical Society  
Phone: 0407 332 310  
Email: [cdhsinc@inet.net.au](mailto:cdhsinc@inet.net.au)

**Eden Killer Whale Museum** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment (PNA) of the collection.

Kim Morris, materials conservator, Art and Archival, Canberra ACT, undertook the assessment. During the on-site visit, he inspected the building as a whole, how the collection is stored and handled, digital preservation works, as well as lighting and light levels. The on-site visit was also valuable in staff being able to talk over collection issues with a professional conservator. The assessment report will help the Museum seek financial support for short, medium and long-term conservation projects, including specific cultural material conservation projects, as well as collection storage upgrades and new facilities into the future.

Publicity has included a Facebook post, 27 March 2018, regarding the PNA visit <https://www.facebook.com/150565311670940/photos/a.167518389975632/1808016895925765/?type=3&theater> and an article in *Soundings* (quarterly newsletter of EKWM), May 2018, Vol 11(2), p.2.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Jody White, Collection Manager  
Eden Killer Whale Museum  
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**Flying Fruit Fly Circus (FFFC)** received \$4,500 for the purchase of archival storage equipment and materials for rehousing the archives.

The grant has enabled the purchase of a compactus mobile shelving bay, and stationery and enclosures as the needs were identified. Benefits of undertaking the project include: raising the profile and significance of the FFFC Archives amongst the circus's employees, students, board members, extended circus family and community members with a vested interest in the collection; and giving potential donors, contributors and custodians to the collection a strong sense of trust and confidence, that all items within the collection both currently and into the future, will be cared for, valued and loved, but foremost accessible to any organisation or person with an interest in the history of the FFFC. It is envisaged, that with the assistance of volunteers, the initial rehousing of all currently held items, excluding VHS and media, will be completed by the conclusion of 2019.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Richard Hull, Chief Executive Officer  
Flying Fruit Fly Circus  
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**National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA)** received \$12,000 for the digitisation of the Archives' historic transparencies.

One of the major challenges in digitising NIDA's extensive photographic holdings for both preservation and reference use has been its size and extent, with a collection of over 250,000 analogue images and 300,000 digital images. The grant has provided a much-needed investment in the digitisation of a select series of images from the NIDA Archives showcasing NIDA's productions from its first 30 years, and allowing a comprehensive selection of images from the Old Tote Theatre Company. In total 3,800 images have been digitised and described and will be progressively made available to public access either through the NIDA Archives or via the National Library's Trove collection. The project was undertaken by volunteers under the supervision of the NIDA Archivist, and engaged the services of a professional digitisation studio for the digitisation work. The project involved digitisation of (1) NIDA colour transparencies 1973 to 1985 and (2) Old Tote Theatre Company images 1963 to 1978. Each image was listed or tagged, and the relevant information (including description and copyright and production details) recorded/extracted from the Archives' databases.

Publicity has included news of receipt of the grant in *NIDA News*, December 2017 at <https://www.nida.edu.au/about-nida/news/recapturing-history-community-heritage-grant-will-digitise-nida-images> and acknowledgement of the CHG program in all subsequent use of the images.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Julia Mant, Archives and Records Manager  
National Institute of Dramatic Art  
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**National Trust of Australia (NSW)** received \$4,770 for three Integrated Pest Management Workshops.

Three workshops were held in regional and city locations throughout New South Wales. The project achieved a significant level of training for over 60 volunteers and staff associated with the National Trust properties in the state. The consultant, Alex Roach of Modified Atmospheres, Erina, NSW, delivered an exceptional educational program, was very professional at all times, well prepared and able to maintain a high level of engagement by the participants throughout. The workshops were comprehensive, dealing with all aspects of the topic, strategies for managing infestations and mediating damage to collections. He demonstrated how to conduct an inspection, produce a report and make recommendations. There was also a practical session where participants worked in groups to inspect the premises looking for evidence of insects and damage. The raising of awareness was a significant outcome, and resulted in immediate implementation in many of the premises. Pest issues requiring further treatment have been identified at all sites. Currently the National Trust (NSW) is working with the consultant to pilot the use of heat to treat an entire building to combat a long-term borer issue at one of the properties. This pilot will inform future treatment projects needed at other sites.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Rebecca Pinchin, Collection Manager  
National Trust of Australia (NSW)  
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**Royal Far West (RFW)** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the Archive Collection. Ms Deb Gibbons attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The project achieved an enormous amount for Royal Far West, with the most significant outcome being a constructive blueprint for the charity's archival future, providing very useful recommendations. The assessment report, carried out by consultants Virginia Macleod and Dr Judith Godden, professional historians of Sydney, was thorough and valuable, showing the value of the collection to the Board, Management and staff, and the need for optimal archival storage. It highlighted the most pressing needs (ensuring future preservation), and the need for access for prior client families and for researchers. It will be an important asset, giving the organisation increased lobbying power for gaining additional resources and funding.

Other significant outcomes from the project include: definite direct improvement in the preservation of RFW materials; skills in working out what is significant; plans for putting a significant amount of the collection on the RFW website; an improved knowledge of collection content; and a definite increase in commitment from staff and volunteers.

Publicity has included the following Royal Far West Facebook posts:

[https://business.facebook.com/pg/RoyalFarWest/posts/?business\\_id=920697228107207&ref=page\\_internal](https://business.facebook.com/pg/RoyalFarWest/posts/?business_id=920697228107207&ref=page_internal)

<https://business.facebook.com/RoyalFarWest/photos/pcb.1294262530685631/1294257264019491/?type=3&theater>

<https://business.facebook.com/RoyalFarWest/photos/pcb.1294262530685631/1294261784019039/?type=3&theater>

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Deborah Gibbons, PR & Content  
Royal Far West  
Phone: (02) 8966 8500  
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**S.H. Ervin Gallery** received \$13,630 for the purchase of environmental monitoring equipment.

The project resulted from the preservation needs assessment report which identified improvements to the air conditioning system were required in the collection store as an immediate priority. It identified the urgent need for de-humidification as it was at real risk of a mould outbreak if the environmental conditions were not upgraded to museum standard. With the installation of the de-humidifier, recommended by Munters, Sydney, the environment immediately stabilised. As a result, safe access to and use of the gallery store is now possible with conservation work on the artworks now going ahead.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Jane Watters, Director  
S.H. Ervin Gallery  
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**Slim Dusty Museum Trust Fund** received \$4,700 for the purchase of cataloguing software.

The purchase of e-Hive cataloguing software has enabled the beginning of a very long and continuing project to identify, catalogue and describe Museum items in the Slim Dusty Collection. A small team of three volunteers have gained skills in computerised cataloguing, photography, use of the Microsoft Office suite and increased morale. There has been increased commitment by the volunteers and staff to assist methodically on this project.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Michele Atkinson, Centre Manager  
Slim Dusty Museum Trust Fund  
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**Trustee For The Salvation Army (NSW) Property** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory Heritage Centre Collection. Mr Lindsay Cox attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

Professional historian Anne-Maree Whitaker, Edgecliff NSW, undertook the assessment. The report has resulted in improved awareness of the collection's significance and increased commitment to caring for it from senior management and national leaders.

Publicity has included reports in Salvation Army Heritage Newsletters and an article in the monthly publication *Others*.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Lindsay Cox, Territorial Archivist  
Trustee For The Salvation Army (NSW) Property  
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**Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Bathurst** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the collection. Mr Peter Condon attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

Professional historian Anne-Maree Whitaker, Edgecliff NSW, undertook a successful assessment, showing good communication, co-operation and dedicated focus. The exchange of ideas, suggestions and advice was a two-way process which allowed for a more thorough understanding of the Archives collection for both parties.

Recommendations from the consultant's report have been well received within the organisation, and work has begun on the correct storage of vestments. Greater access to the collection is being regularly discussed and progress towards more community awareness of the collection is being made. The employment of the present Archivist, as well as the future engagement of a collection librarian, has meant that a great deal of progress has now been made, and the assessment has opened the gates to a wider network of archivists and collection managers.

The significance assessment process has improved the knowledge and perception of the value and worth of the Archives and its collection within the Diocesan organisation, which will help future financial planning.

Overall, the project has been a positive experience with many benefits. It has resulted in a clearer vision for the continued progress of the Archives and allowed other parties, some unconnected, to become involved and interested in the purpose and operation of the collection.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Peter Condon, Diocesan Archivist  
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Phone: (02) 6334 6464  
Email: [archives@bathurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:archives@bathurst.catholic.org.au)

**Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust on Behalf of Uniting NSW.ACT** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Historical Archives Collection.

Preservation Australia of Sydney NSW, undertook the assessment and has provided a plan and order of activities to take place to preserve and allow access to the collection. The process has facilitated the development of professional links and identified potential contacts within and outside the organisation for the recommended training requirements. The importance of the collection and its needs have now been raised at the highest level of the organisation, and the potential to increase the organisation's profile through publicity and increased services to users has been formalised.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Lindsay Walker, Archivist / Records Management Officer  
Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust on Behalf of Uniting NSW.ACT  
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## **NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation** received \$9,330 for a significance assessment of the Djomi Museum Collection. Ms Michelle Culpitt, Mr Derek Carter and Mr Shemiah Prudence attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

Maningrida Arts & Culture were very happy with the outcome of the assessment project and report on the Djomi Museum collection by Dr Luke Taylor, ACT. Committee members, staff, artists and community members all worked together with Dr Taylor, who has had a long history associated with the region and networks Australia wide and internationally through his positions at the National Museum of Australia and the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. Dr Taylor was able to contextualise the collection within current institutional collections. Benefits resulting from the project have included: increased skills gained by staff in assessing significance and in research; improved engagement with the community, through increased access by all age groups within the community membership; improved access to collection via the internet as a Djomi Museum website is in development, based on some of Dr Taylor's writing and work developed through a History NT grant from the Northern Territory Government; and a dramatically increased knowledge of collection content.

The report has provided the organisation with increased lobbying power for gaining additional resources and will be included as part of an overall business case and feasibility study for a new Djomi Museum to be built in Maningrida.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Michelle Culpitt, General Manager, Arts & Culture  
Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation  
Phone: (08) 8979 6100  
Email: [info@bawinanga.com](mailto:info@bawinanga.com)

**Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Inc** received \$7,440 for a preservation needs assessment of the Yirrkala Museum Collection.

The project has enabled positive knowledge exchange between the consultant Mr Robert Lane of the Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, Melbourne University, Vic. and Corporation staff. A focus on Yirrkala Museum practices and preventive conservation needs has provided a platform to actively pursue ways to improve the storage and display of the collection. This has resulted in two significant preservation projects. The museum received \$93,840 funding from Arts NT Heritage trails to build and fit a showcase to protect the Yirrkala Church Panels. A second grant of \$50,000 from the NT Regional Museums Grant Support Program was received to implement a data storage system for the audio-visual collection, to ensure the ongoing digital preservation of the world's largest Yolngu media library. The ongoing development and protection of the collection will have lasting regional outcomes for Yirrkala.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Joseph Brady, Mulka Project Program Director  
Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Inc  
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Email: [joseph@yirrkala.com](mailto:joseph@yirrkala.com)

**Central Australian Aboriginal Media Associations (CAAMA)** received \$6,630 for a significance assessment of the Video Library Collection. Ms Penelope McDonald attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The project and final assessment report identified the CAAMA archive, including the broader context, content and output of radio and oral history interviews, TV and film production and music, as internationally significant. The report assessed the CAAMA archive and the organisation's role in preserving Aboriginal languages and culture through video and broadcasting, as both internationally and nationally significant. It also provided an assessment on the condition of the collection and a comparison to other Indigenous archives across regional and community areas, with recommendations in the short, medium and long term for addressing preservation issues. The consultant, Dr Joanna Sassoon, Subiaco, WA, provided valuable interaction and information to the organisation during her four-day visit. CAAMA was satisfied and happy with the final report and consultant.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Karl Hampton, Chief Executive Officer  
Central Australian Aboriginal Media Associations  
Phone: (08) 8951 9732  
Email: [ceo@caama.com.au](mailto:ceo@caama.com.au)

**Finke River Mission (FRM)** received \$6,270 for a preservation needs assessment of the Hermannsburg Water Colour Collection.

Consultant, Mr Eric Archer, Geelong West Vic., has produced a very valuable plan for future preservation and training in relation to the collection. A greater understanding of what is needed to repair and preserve the collection has been gained through the process.

There has always been an understanding within the organisation that the buildings in which the collection is displayed are not suitable for long term preservation. The collection has improved access via a temporary gallery where approximately 60% of the collection is displayed in a more controlled and pest free environment. The consultant has made recommendations for a suitable building for storage and exhibition, which will require further future funding to make happen. The significance and preservation needs assessments processes have resulted in a number of benefits to FRM and the precinct: a network of contacts who will be of assistance in the future; an increase in both FRM Services' and the Historic Precinct's profile and publicity in recent times; and an increase in FRM Services' lobbying power, which will be an advantage in the latest NT Government's push for restoration and tourism infrastructure for the Hermannsburg Precinct.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Wayne Beven, Business Manager  
Finke River Mission  
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**Papunya Tjupi Art Centre (PTAC) Aboriginal Corporation** received \$6,610 for a significance assessment of the Papunya Luritja Archive Collection. Ms Vivien Johnson attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

Consultant Ros Russell of Roslyn Russell Museum Services, Canberra ACT, brought experience and competence to the assessment task, and provided the Corporation with a professional report which will provide a clear path forward based on sound external judgement of the collection's importance and vulnerabilities. A comprehensive list of recommendations was included in the report. Benefits resulting from the process include: a more comprehensive and clearly articulated understanding of the scope and extent of the collection; improved knowledge of the building condition, and an awareness of future NT Department of Education plans for the complete refurbishment of the School, and its implications for the location of the collection; the development of a better network of similar organisations with linguistic programs (e.g. Wadeye, Maningrida, Yuendumu), and an awareness of the value of PTAC's unique work in preserving and making accessible the Papunya Luritja Collection, especially the development of a searchable database and portal for community access. Additionally, the organisation gained an increased lobbying power for future funding opportunities, and have confidence that the consultant will provide valuable support to PTAC in its recommended nomination of the collection for the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Joanna Byrne, Manager  
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## QUEENSLAND

**Burke Shire Council** received \$13,080 for two Collection Care Workshops.

Training, assessment and installation for two Queensland communities, (Normanton, in the Carpentaria Shire, and Burketown in the Burke Shire), was provided by Dr Wills and Ewen McPhee from the Queensland Museum.

The first workshop in Normanton consisted of three hands-on days of discussions, collection management discussions, research and applied development sessions. It culminated in a revitalised small display, staff trained in collections and interpretation and with a meeting with Carpentaria Shire Council staff to identify future developments in the heritage arena. The second training sessions were carried out at Burketown Visitor Centre, with the assistance of staff from the Carpentaria Land Council. It involved four hands-on days of collection review, display discussions and practical training while making the collections accessible to the public. The Museum

Development Officers (MDOs) worked with the Centre staff to work out the collection stories and meaning and how to display and interpret them.

Best practice museum standards and sustainable practices were used to inform all training where possible in both workshops. The work culminated in revitalised displays in three visitor spaces making them ready for the seasonal operation of the Visitor Centres. Both councils have been provided with detailed reports outlining strengths of their collections, where improvements can be made and opportunities for future development and maintenance of collections. This includes highlighting what might be considered significant in the collection.

Recommendations have provided each with follow up activities that are aimed at making collections safer, more accessible and that are preserved for future generations. Interest in the collection has been stimulated in both centres, and there is now a much better understanding of content and interpretative potential, as well as management. In both towns, the staff worked closely with the MDOs, developing goodwill, a support network and access to advice and assistance into the future.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Ferne Clarke, Executive Manager, Corporate and Community Services  
Burke Shire Council  
Phone: (07) 4745 5111  
Email: [office@burke.qld.gov.au](mailto:office@burke.qld.gov.au)

**Mareeba Heritage Centre Inc** received \$5,970 for a preservation needs assessment of the collection.

The assessment provided recommendations and guidelines for preserving items identified as having either national or state significance, as well as for managing and monitoring the collection as a whole, in terms of archival storage, display-based preservation and preservation needs of the museum building. The report provided by Sue Valis, conservator from the Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville, QLD, resulted in improved knowledge of the collection, the building condition and ways to continue to improve and build upon the collection management activities. Some recommendations have already been addressed in relation to priority and available funds. The project has increased the Centre's lobbying power, enabling stronger applications for other grants and funding opportunities.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Janet Greenwood, Operations Manager  
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**Museum and Gallery Services Queensland (M&G QLD) Ltd** received \$9,580 for Skills Development Workshop Series in Collection Care and Management, Significance and Disaster Preparedness (Greater Brisbane Region).

The free four-day Skills Development Workshop Series, organised and managed by M&G QLD's Training and Professional Development Team, in significance assessment, collection management, preventive conservation and disaster preparedness was delivered in Brisbane in May and June 2018. The workshops were developed and presented for M&G QLD by four highly experienced consultant trainers: Lisa Jones, Curator, Queensland Police Museum; Christine Ianna, Consultant Conservator;

Josh Tarrant, Queensland Museum Network's Museum Development Officer for South East Queensland; and Lydia Egunnike, Queensland Museum Network's Museum Development Officer for Southern Inland Queensland. The National Archives of Australia's Brisbane Office, Supreme Court Library Queensland and Old Government House at Queensland University of Technology (QUT) provided support to the workshops through partial in-kind venue and equipment.

**Preventative Conservation Workshop** (Christine Ianna) provided 14 participants with a general overview and hands-on experience of preventive conservation principles that underpin the use and preservation of cultural collections.

**Collection Management Workshop** (Josh Tarrant) provided 19 participants with an overview of collection management principles and an opportunity to explore both the theory and practice of core collection management functions.

**Significance Assessment Workshop** (Lisa Jones) covered how 'significance' is used to define the meanings and value of collection items through research and analysis. Twenty-eight participants from 19 organisations attended this workshop.

**Disaster Preparedness Workshop** (Lydia Egunnike), for 18 participants from 14 organisations, covered risk assessment and mitigation, developing and implementing a disaster plan, disaster kits, and hands-on salvage methods instruction.

The workshops were particularly beneficial to the participating organisations where professional development opportunities are limited by access to funding for training, and also the lack of cultural heritage collection training available in Brisbane and surrounds for volunteers and paid staff. By providing these workshops to staff and volunteers of cultural organisations in and around Brisbane, M&G QLD reached new audiences. This program of workshops has increased the organisation's profile and developed new networks, which will be further extended.

The workshop series was publicised widely by M&G QLD through email, newsletters, online channels, social media. A project report on the workshops was also published in June 2018 edition of M&G QLD's publication *Source*, available online at <http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=5022>

The project has been completed and acquitted.

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Museum and Gallery Services Queensland Ltd  
Phone: (07) 3059 9740  
Email: [information@magsq.com.au](mailto:information@magsq.com.au)

**Queensland Maritime Museum Association Ltd** received \$13,540 for the purchase of archival storage equipment and materials.

This grant enabled purchase of archival storage equipment and materials for rehousing part of the Museum collection, in particular the storage of plan diagrams from the WWII warship HMAS DIAMANTINA.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Matthew Rowe, CEO  
Queensland Maritime Museum Association Ltd  
Phone: (07) 3844 5361  
Email: [ceo@maritimemuseum.com.au](mailto:ceo@maritimemuseum.com.au)

**The Queensland Women's Historical Association** received \$4,950 for a preservation needs assessment of the collection.

Conservator, Christine Ianna, Camp Hill, Qld, conducted the assessment, which has presented the Association with a planned approach to conservation of the collection for the future. Recommendations from the report already implemented have included: allocation of volunteer work rehousing fragile material and listing contents in the family files; and assessment of the library collection and the costume collection for relevance and significance of items, and culling where necessary.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Jenny Steadman, Vice President  
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Phone: (07) 3252 2979  
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**University of Queensland – Anthropology Museum** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Museum's Photographic Collection.

The project was successful in gaining specialist advice from the Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, University of Melbourne, Vic, on material preservation of the collection and strategies to enhance access.

The consultant's thorough approach to reviewing the collection as well as the facilities, access management and broader operations has been enormously useful in addressing requirements strategically. From report recommendations and consultant expertise, museum staff have been able to implement immediate improvements to aspects of the storage environment. In the medium term, this advice will be used in co-developing volunteer and student projects over the next six months to provide enhanced training opportunities within the University community. The report recommendations have also informed management discussions on resourcing collection care and reinforcing the importance of preventative systems.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Jane Willcock, Senior Registrar and Operations Coordinator  
University of Queensland – Anthropology Museum  
Phone: (07) 3365 2674  
Email: [jwillcock@uq.edu.au](mailto:jwillcock@uq.edu.au)

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia Inc** received \$3,344 for a Disaster Preparedness Workshop.

The comprehensive two-day workshop, run by Art Lab Australia, Adelaide SA, covered all aspects of disaster preparedness, including prevention, preparation, response, recovery and salvage. It enabled volunteer members of the Embroiderers' Guild Museum and library to prepare a disaster plan for handling common problems, and possible uncommon events. Volunteers now have a clearer

understanding of priorities and what is possible to achieve when a disaster occurs. Changes have been made to the keying of cupboards and availability of materials needed in a disaster. Teams have been organised for first response and clean up. The workshop highlighted problems that had been previously overlooked through familiarity with the area, and there has been increased training of all volunteers. The workshop also gave information on how to initially handle damaged objects in the collection as well as what long term measures will be needed.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Heather McCarthy, Acting Curator  
Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia Inc  
Phone: (08) 8234 1104  
Email: [contact@embguildsa.org.au](mailto:contact@embguildsa.org.au)

**History Trust of South Australia** received \$4,540 for two Making Digital Collections Accessible Workshops.

The workshops, run by David Walker of Digital Barn, Prospect, SA, have had a number of positive results for collecting organisations in South Australia and for the History Trust: the workshops engaged 33 participants from 20 different organisations; and participants gained valuable connections (amongst themselves, other organisations, the History Trust, and digital professionals). Also, there was a complementary benefit for some participants, in that they were also able to attend a second workshop which was being held in between the two History Trust ones (a digitisation workshop run in SA by GLAM Peak (the peak representative bodies of the galleries, libraries, archives and museums sectors in Australia) digitisation session was held in SA and there were some people who participated in both Making Digital Collections Accessible and the GLAM Peak workshop, so there was a complementary benefit from that.

The workshops were offered in two distinct regions of the state, so the value of the workshop has been spread quite widely for a fairly modest cost. Participants have gained useful skills that can be applied to their own collections and assist them to make their collections more known and accessible. The things that participants most appreciated from the workshops was the quality of information provided, the emphasis on practical, hands-on delivery, and forming a network of 'digital able' collecting groups. These are very valuable outcomes for the History Trust's work with community organisations. The workshop has been effective in keeping the momentum going for groups who have previously attended workshops about digitisation process, and for engaging other groups in exploring the potential of their digital collections.

The History Trust has established a strong working relationship with the consultant, and intends to work with David again on digital-collections related training.

Publicity has included publicity flyers sent to groups in the two target regions of Stirling and Clare, social media through the History Trust's channels, and a subsequent Facebook video at <https://www.facebook.com/HistorySA/videos/1917586638546132/>

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Amanda James, Senior Community History Officer  
History Trust of South Australia  
Phone: (08) 8203 9888  
Email: [staff@history.sa.gov.au](mailto:staff@history.sa.gov.au)

**Peterborough History Group SA Inc** received \$12,260 for digitisation and archival storage for the Peterborough Times Printing Office Collection Stage II.

Considerable achievements have resulted from the continued digitisation project: an increase in the number, confidence, skills, interest and commitment of volunteers; more streamlined handling and recording processes; involvement in networking through GLAM Peak sessions and other training via History SA; and an increase in the knowledge and historical value of the collection content in the community.

Increased volunteer commitment is a huge advantage for the History Group, and the community itself. Numbers have increased, as well as hours worked (some have increased their days from one to four per week), some have taken on extra jobs such as filing, recording special interest material, and all are now taking over the end of the Group's four day a week tours of the Print Shop, to explain their role and show interesting examples of docket contents. This part of the tour has, for some tourists, been the most interesting part. Information about this collection adds to the experience of visiting the Print Shop. This in turn has resulted in a higher profile for the Group and the Printing Office in the community (e.g. History teachers and school groups) and with tourists. Some volunteers have also attended technology training days to build their skills in using the internet, Facebook, better presentation of electronic photo recording etc., and then shared these skills with the Group.

In excess of 10,800 *Peterborough Times* print job dockets have now been scanned, photographed and their contents recorded, out of approximately 25,000, since October 2015. Actual database recording is not far behind the manual docket recording. Uploading to the internet will then commence. These dockets cover almost one hundred years of records of significant community events and information, and are often the sole record of these events existing in the district. Publicity of the project has been constant and wide reaching: inclusion in the local tourist guidebook distributed around Peterborough of Print Shop Tour tickets and leaflets; monthly news and updates in the local newsletter '*The Informer*'; regular items on the History Group's and the Community Facebook pages, and a Trip Advisor presence; coverage on the local ABC radio station and features on Adelaide's Channel 7 shown state-wide; and inclusion in a town promotion video.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Judith Evans, Secretary  
Peterborough History Group SA Inc  
Phone: 0408 220 248  
Email: [pborohistory@hotmail.com](mailto:pborohistory@hotmail.com)

## **TASMANIA**

**Maritime Museum of Tasmania Inc** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the collection.

The assessment was performed by consultant Linda Clark of Cultural Heritage Management, Materials Conservation, Exeter, Tas., and a good, friendly, open and respectful relationship with the consultant was enjoyed. It was valuable to obtain an outsider's expert analysis of many conservation and storage issues and also to read the conservator's assessment of priorities. Her report has made many recommendations for the Museum and its collection, as well as pointing out areas for improvement, and has had a major influence on both the Museum's Management Committee (in relation to improving staffing positions) and the Hobart City Council (in relation to the

state of the building which houses the Museum). The report has also inspired a rethink of various aspects of managing the collections, including the need to put more emphasis on training the volunteers in museum procedures and handling objects. Linda's preservation study has definitely provided valuable knowledge to staff, volunteers and Committee members, and has also inspired a greater appreciation of the Museum's collections, their significance and the importance of caring for them.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Rona Hollingsworth, Curator  
Maritime Museum of Tasmania Inc  
Phone: (03) 6234 1427  
Email: [office@maritimetas.org](mailto:office@maritimetas.org)

**Military Heritage Foundation of Tasmania** received \$4,950 for a preservation needs assessment of the Army Museum of Tasmania Collection.

During the assessment process, several days were spent by the consultant, Linda Clark of Cultural Heritage Management, Materials Conservation, Exeter Tas., working with staff and volunteers, including two Directors at the Museum, to gain an understanding of the collections, their storage and conservation needs. This proved invaluable for those who had limited understanding of these needs. The consultant produced a useful and informative report with recommendations for the future of the museum and its collection. The acceptance of these recommendations will ensure improvement to the preservation, storage and display of items in the collection, and several more staff now have a better idea of good practice preservation, storage and display. With improved website skills and volunteer hours, access to the collection will also be improved. The report will provide a strong basis for gaining external support for assistance with additional funding and resources. The report has also highlighted the need to prepare and maintain museum policies and procedures with input and assistance from the volunteers and staff.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Roderick John Macleod, Director  
Military Heritage Foundation of Tasmania  
Phone: (03) 6237 7160  
Email: [johnmacleod@internode.on.net](mailto:johnmacleod@internode.on.net)

**Narryna Heritage Museum Inc** received \$15,000 for the purchase of archival storage materials for the Costume Collection.

The grant allowed the purchase of large textile boxes and archival tissue to rehouse part of the Narryna Heritage Museum costume collection, following on from a CHG-funded significance and preservation needs assessments. Staff and volunteers photographed the individual items as they were rehoused, one to three per box. The boxes were labelled with accession numbers and a copy of the relevant photograph inserted into each prior to being relocated to the collection store. The project has resulted in: improved storage for a nationally-significant costume collection (including a large number of garments being removed from hangers and stored flat); photography of the rehoused costume items; upgraded cataloguing of the rehoused costume items; and an

honorary curator and community volunteer group coming together to support the care of this significant collection.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Scott Carlin, Secretary  
Narryna Heritage Museum Inc  
Phone: (03) 6234 2791  
Email: [Narryna@tmag.tas.gov.au](mailto:Narryna@tmag.tas.gov.au)

**Roman Catholic Trust Corporation of the Archdiocese of Hobart** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Archives and Heritage Collection.

The consultant, Michelle Berry, Heritage Preservation, Moonah Tas., with her appropriate experience, was able to maximise the opportunity of assessing the collection through a focussed approach. She made a number of visits to the Archives and spent time with the staff both seeking clarification and exploring possibilities. The report reflects her wide-ranging investigation: she dealt with the building condition in a way that allows a staged response to the recommendations. The report will certainly provide the lobbying power for resources at the local budget level. Other benefits of the assessment process included: consultant advice on conservation matters as well as contacts with other practitioners who can provide particular conservation and preservation services; and a chance for both staff and volunteers to appreciate what has been achieved, and how this cultural and religious heritage can be preserved for the future.

At the annual conference of the Catholic Diocesan Archivists of Australia, held in Hobart in August 2017, Dr Francis had an opportunity to speak to fellow archivists about the CHG grants program, and its scope and possibilities for Diocesan archives.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Dr Prudence Francis, Archivist  
Roman Catholic Trust Corporation of the Archdiocese of Hobart  
Phone: (03) 6231 4740  
Email: [archives@aohtas.org.au](mailto:archives@aohtas.org.au)

**University of Tasmania** received \$13,630 for the purchase of archival storage materials and digitisation of the photographic collection.

This project has achieved a concrete and direct improvement in the ongoing preservation of the University's Special and Rare Collections. The grant provided the funds to purchase necessary storage materials and to realise the digitisation of many items in the collections which would not have been possible without this grant. Work will be ongoing into 2019 for staff and volunteers to both use these materials to rehouse items selected from the vulnerable collection, and upload and describe the digitised files into the archival management system.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Juliet Beale, Senior Librarian, Collections  
University of Tasmania  
Phone: (03) 6226 2395  
Email: [special.collections@utas.edu.au](mailto:special.collections@utas.edu.au)

**West Tamar Council** received \$4,560 for the purchase of archival storage materials for a preservation needs assessment of the Beaconsfield Mine and Heritage Centre (BMHC) Collection.

The preparation of an assessment is a significant step forward in care for the collection held by the BMHC as it is large and complex for the size and resources of the institution. Caring for the collection while making it accessible and engaging for the public, within resource constraints, requires knowledge, judgement and planning. This task can now be approached with the benefit of expert advice from consultant Mrs Linda Clark of Cultural Heritage Management, Materials Conservation, Exeter Tas. Mrs Clark undertook a detailed inspection of the collection and the BMHC site, and had in-depth conversations with all those involved in the management of the collection, its exhibition and management of the site, including maintenance. The resulting report has provided practical and strategic advice on improving standards of care for the collection, and is both well-grounded in professional practise, but also clearly shows priorities and pathways to defined goals. It has also included advice on planning and systemic improvements that will strengthen the Centre's collection management overall.

The assessment and report have provided real and long-lasting benefit to the organisation's professional development, and will help in seeking assistance to undertake additional projects.

Publicity has included an item in the West Tamar Council's Annual Report 2017-18 (available later this year on WTC website - <https://www.wtc.tas.gov.au/Your-Council/Governance-Law-and-Publications> , the BMHC Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/beaconsfieldtasmania/> and the BMHC Twitter account - <https://twitter.com/beaconsfieldmhc>

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Miss Julieanne Richards, Curator (Collections)  
West Tamar Council  
Phone: (03) 6383 1473  
Email: [Julieanne.Richards@wtc.tas.gov.au](mailto:Julieanne.Richards@wtc.tas.gov.au)

## **VICTORIA**

**City of Ballarat** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the Historic Town Hall Collection. Ms Edith Fry attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The assessment, undertaken by Arts & Culture Victoria, gave an insight into the City of Ballarat's historical collection which, particularly in the case of the material at the Town Hall, the organisation and the community knew very little about. An online survey was completed as part of the project, which for the very first time asked questions about how the community value and would like to see the collections managed. This was critical to show that cultural material is another aspect of Ballarat's heritage and cultural identity that is highly important. The assessment also highlighted several significant items in need of conservation treatment that had not previously been examined.

All of these components were incredibly helpful for the organisation and provide a firm basis for seeking additional resources.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Catherine McLay, Project Officer, Heritage & Cultural Landscapes  
City of Ballarat  
Phone: (03) 5320 5676  
Email: [info@ballarat.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@ballarat.vic.gov.au)

**Civil Aviation Historical Society (CAHS) Inc** received \$4,950 for a significance assessment of the Archives and Airways Museum Collection. Mr Roger Meyer attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The assessor, Mr Mike Jones of Flemington Vic., did an excellent job. He rapidly appreciated the complex situation of the CAHS, its archives and the physical Airways Museum, which CAHS manages on behalf of and with the support of Air Services Australia. He identified all the areas where known improvements need to be made, and made valuable recommendations. The unique nature of the collection was highlighted in the assessment and this is seen as an important reinforcement of the efforts of the volunteers. The Society is now more aware of the assistance available and have applied for a further grant to enable the hiring of an assistant to perform a task which was identified in the recommendations.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Roger Meyer, President  
Civil Aviation Historical Society Inc  
Phone: (03) 9374 3905  
Email: [cahs@optusnet.com.au](mailto:cahs@optusnet.com.au)

**Freemasons Victoria** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the collection.

The assessment of this highly significant collection was carried out by conservator Alexandra Ellem of Northcote Vic. The recommendations included in her report have been directed towards the most important needs and requirements for the collection to be maintained and supported into the future, whilst also allowing for Freemasons, researchers, historians and students to access it. The report will play an important role in assisting the Grand Master, Board and Senior staff members to gain a deeper understanding of the environmental needs affecting the collection, therefore ensuring that better decisions can be made towards its future.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Samantha Fabry, Collections Manager  
Freemasons Victoria  
Phone: (03) 9411 0108  
Email: [samantha.fabry@freemasonsvic.net.au](mailto:samantha.fabry@freemasonsvic.net.au)

**Jewish Holocaust Centre** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the collection. Dr Anna Hirsh attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The Centre had a collaborative relationship with the consultant, Susan Faine, Malvern, Vic., an extremely skilled and efficient professional, who worked mostly in the Centre and communicated regularly with key stakeholders in the project. Ongoing discussion with project managers has ensured a relevant and useful assessment report, which was comprehensive and will be of great value to the Centre. It will also help the Board of Directors understand the value of the collection and its needs.

Through the assessment process, staff have developed a deeper understanding of the significance of items in the collection, identifying the need for continual preservation of items, as well as a list of priorities for action over the coming years, such as rectifying the limitations of the current building. The process has encouraged the Centre to network with other museums when help is needed, and the report document is a key resource for further grant applications. Working with the consultant has enabled the Head of Collection and Archivist to evaluate the collection and consider its needs. Her recommendations and advice will inspire the Centre to develop an action plan and prioritise work in the Archives Department.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Warren Fineberg, Executive Director  
Jewish Holocaust Centre  
Phone: (03) 9528 1985  
Email: [admin@jhc.org.au](mailto:admin@jhc.org.au)

**Kew Historical Society Inc** received \$4,950 for a significance assessment of the collection. Mr Robert Baker attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The consultant for the project was Emma Russell of History@Work, Northcote Vic, an experienced costume collection assessor. The assessment process enabled Society members to conduct supplementary research, which uncovered significant items, such as the first edition Robert Russell map of early Melbourne. The final report has proven to be very valuable to the Society's needs, and will be used to prioritise future conservation activities and grant applications to relevant cultural organisations. The assessment will prove directly useful as the Society is currently negotiating with the City of Boroondara for new premises that will conform to contemporary Museum standards. It will also be used in applying for a Local Government Grant (Public Record Office Victoria) for conservation of a number of items highlighted in the report.

Publicity has included a lead article in *KHS Newsletter*, No.121, December 2017, pp 1-2, and a proposed two-page article by the consultant Emma Russell on her findings, for the December 2018 newsletter.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Robert Baker, Archivist  
Kew Historical Society Inc  
Phone: (03) 9489 7815  
Email: [info@kewhistoricalsociety.org.au](mailto:info@kewhistoricalsociety.org.au)

**Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV)** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the Heritage Collection. Dr Annette Shiell attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

Consultants Emma Russell, Principal Historian, History@ Work, Northcote Vic., and Carissa Goudey were excellent and worked closely with the Society to undertake the assessment and prepare the report within a tight time frame. The process itself has been beneficial in a number of ways. As Curator, it was both refreshing and a personal learning experience to have the RASV collection assessed by an external expert. The report identified particular strengths and drew attention to the breadth and variety of the collecting areas. It supported the Collection Policy but also highlighted where further work, attention and resources could be directed. The report offered sound recommendations for increasing public access to the collection, and is an invaluable tool for the RASV and its stakeholders to reassess the organisation's history, stories and collection moving forward. At a Heritage staff level, it also provides clarity and greater direction in regard to collection management planning, funding priorities and strategic planning. It is a very useful and substantial tool for lobbying purposes. The process and end result of the assessment have been invaluable.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Dr Annette Shiell, Senior Heritage Curator  
Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV)  
Phone: (03) 9281 7444  
Email: [customer.service@rasv.com.au](mailto:customer.service@rasv.com.au)

**Royal United Services Institute of Victoria** received \$4,950 for a preservation needs assessment of the Library Collection.

The University of Melbourne Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation's assessment has helped the Institute to decide on priorities for the immediate future. Recommendations in the report, relating to storage and book preservation are being addressed. The relationship with the consultant was very good and the organisation will find it useful for future grant applications.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Michael O'Brien, President  
Royal United Services Institute of Victoria  
Phone: (03) 9282 5918  
Email: [secretary@rusivic.org.au](mailto:secretary@rusivic.org.au)

**Shrine of Remembrance** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the collection. Ms Jenna Blyth attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The grant has proven valuable to the Shrine on several levels. The assessment, undertaken by consultant, Dr Megan Cardamone, Museum Consultant, Tarnagulla Vic., validated that the Shrine is collecting in a cohesive manner, within clear policy guidelines, and identified some areas to focus on for future development. The report noted high standards for storage and preventative preservation as well as the impending shortfall for collection storage, and the importance for planning to address future needs.

Dr Cardamone's communication was excellent, with clear instructions and timely requests for additional information. Her independent reflections on the 'personal' significance of the collection reinforced for the organisation that the Shrine collection manifests its philosophies for collecting and

interpretation. Participating in the process enabled Shrine staff to obtain a deeper understanding of the formal significance assessment process. Staff and volunteers benefited alike from an increased understanding of the significance of specific items.

The report benefitted the organisation in a number of ways: its strong and important recommendations for storage, digitisation, and enhanced cataloguing of the collection; its support for future funding submissions in relation to collection management and development; and its firm basis on which to further promote the collection within the industry and the community.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Jean McAuslan, Director, Access and Learning  
Shrine of Remembrance  
Phone: (03) 9661 8100  
Email: [reception@shrine.org.au](mailto:reception@shrine.org.au)

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**Berndt Museum of Anthropology** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Museum's Archive Collection.

The assessment of the archive collection was an informative and successful project for the Museum. There was a smooth and effective relationship with consultant Stephanie Baily, Paper Conservator, Art, Archives & Photographs, Bayswater WA, and staff have gained a more comprehensive understanding of the archival holdings and what they require for their longevity.

The report she produced has given staff a great conservation plan to work through, including: the digitisation process (staff will be trained in how to identify and handle photographic, paper-based materials and audio-visual formats as well as how to do a PAT test); and the rehousing of the photographic and audio-visual materials. Both short and medium-term recommendations will be addressed.

The Museum's Instagram account and Facebook page regularly contains images of projects underway. <https://www.facebook.com/BerndtMuseum/>  
<https://instagram.com/berndt.museum/>

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Natalie Hewlett, Collection Manager  
Berndt Museum of Anthropology  
Phone: (08) 6488 3326  
Email: [Berndt.museum@uwa.edu.au](mailto:Berndt.museum@uwa.edu.au)

**Community Group of Greenough Inc** received \$4,950 for a preservation needs assessment of the collection.

Consultant Stephanie Baily, Paper Conservator, Art, Archives & Photographs, Bayswater WA, provided a very precise, practical report on preservation needs of the Maley Mill and Store document collection. Group members were pleased to find that much of what has been done with

the collection in relation to care of the archives met her approval, and that the suggested improvements are realistically achievable.

Publicity has included articles in the *Geraldton Guardian*, 28 November 2017: "Grant to aid in archive preservation", and the *Community Group of Greenough & Museum Newsletter*, November 2017, p.1.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Gary Martin, Curator Greenough Museum & Gardens  
Community Group of Greenough Inc  
Phone: (08) 9926 1890  
Email: [greenough@westnet.com.au](mailto:greenough@westnet.com.au)

**Cunderdin Museum** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the collection. Ms Michelle Samson attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The assessment by Hocking Heritage Studio, Shenton Park WA, has achieved several outcomes for the museum. The report is a valuable document for the museum as it provides a benchmark for the museum staff to work from in terms of preservation considerations for the collection. The process of preparing for the assessor's site visit uncovered information regarding the significance of some objects that has been overlooked or missed. Preparation for the site visit invigorated interest in the collection and provided an opportunity to acquire additional funds from parent body, the Shire of Cunderdin to improve the collection management as part of the Shire budget allocation process. Recommendations in the report also covered: further improvement of collection policies and care; alternative, more appropriate storage for some items; deficiencies in present collection management processes (cleaning, monitoring and maintenance); and storage facilities issues. The limitations associated with the collection's storage facilities has been an ongoing issue for many years, however, having this identified by the assessor has strengthen the Museum's position for lobbying for more resources to resolve these problems. Other benefits from the process include: upskilling of staff in terms of conservation needs of different objects, and working with the assessor to review the current storage and display areas; an external point of view of methodology and current facilities; opportunities for further funding applications. Another positive outcome was some valuable discussions with local agencies regarding the assessment, resulting in the Cunderdin Historical Society agreeing to plans being put in place to fully transfer ownership of the archives collection to the museum and provide funding to provide for the longevity of the collection.

Publicity has included an article in the *Bandicoot Express*, Issue 20, December 2017 – a local newspaper with a district circulation of 180.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Michelle Samson, Museum Manager  
Cunderdin Museum  
Phone: (08) 9635 1291  
Email: [museum@cunderdin.wa.gov.au](mailto:museum@cunderdin.wa.gov.au)

**Eastern Goldfields Historical Society (EGHS) Inc** received \$1,200 for archival storage of the photographic collection.

The project involved rehousing a large collection, consisting of over 50,000 images in a variety of formats: glass plate negatives, cellulose nitrate negatives (the photographer T. Williams, and Dwyer/McKay Collections), 35mm negatives, slides, photo albums, framed photographs, and individual photographs, previously housed in a variety of non-archival containers and sleeves. Digitisation of the collection was also begun prior to rehousing, with training of volunteers an integral part of the process.

Those items in most critical need of attention were dealt with first - the Williams' glass plate negatives and the cellulose nitrate negatives. These were scanned before rehousing in appropriate acid free storage. Written information relating to their content and storage number implemented by Williams is recorded on the outer envelope using acid free ink. This ensured that the integrity of the content and the photographer's storage system were kept and preserved for posterity.

Also critical was the J.J. Dwyer and Thomas MacKay collections of boxes of large format glass plates and nitrate negatives, which have been scanned and appropriately housed: glass negatives sleeved in Tyvek covers and stored in boxes standing upright; and nitrate negatives sleeved in polypropylene sleeving and stored in acid free cardboard boxes on shelving with air circulating to avoid nitrate decomposition in cramped and warm conditions.

In addition, Society volunteers participated in training to start the scanning and rehousing of the 35mm negatives, consisting of approximately 17,000 images, including photographs from the *Western Argus* and *Kalgoorlie Miner* newspapers and general goldfields images. After scanning, these were transferred to archival sleeving and housed in acid free A4 folders, then stored in dust proof folders. There are also plans in place for future scanning of the slide collection.

All of the digitised images are filed in the EGHS server, backed up daily to an offsite storage provider, and also backed up monthly onto an external hard drive and stored off site. The filing protocol comprises Access Catalogue, Preservation Collection, Print Collection, Thumbnail Collection.

A scanning and digitisation protocol relating to the three collections has now been completed.

This project has been extremely valuable to the Society, and there has been a direct improvement in the preservation of the three very significant collections as a result of the materials grant.

There is now also a greater understanding of the value of protecting the photographic collection, appropriate for research and preservation purposes.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Lucia Pichler, Executive Officer

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Inc

Phone: (08) 9093 3360

Email: [eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au](mailto:eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au)

**Juluwarlu Group Aboriginal Corporation** received \$7, 440 for a preservation needs assessment of their collection. The Corporation advised a delayed building project prevented the delivery of its project within the agreed timeframe, and returned the funds in full to the CHG program.

**Murdoch University** received \$4,500 for a significance assessment of the Library Science Fiction Collection. Mr Daniel Rozas Nunez attended the CHG workshop on behalf of the organisation.

The assessment process was a great learning opportunity for the University Library. There was a good working relationship with the consultant Dr Joanna Sassoon, Subiaco WA, who has significant

and appropriate expertise, with the opportunity for Special Collection and managerial staff to review several drafts of the report before its completion. Joanna identified both the tangible and intangible value of the collection, as well as identifying serious issues with provenance, catalogue records and donor's documentation.

Benefits of the project have included: improvement in library recording and cataloguing systems; creation of awareness of the value, uniqueness, representativeness, and impact of this collection at University, local and national level; strengthening of relationships with key stakeholders of the collection and renewed contact with the WA Science Fiction community; identification of key materials within the collections including unique documents, fanzines, science fiction community history and Australian science fiction fandom items that are of national significance; and identification of key recommendations to improve collection development and collecting policies as well as implementing conservation and preservation policies.

Publicity has included online news and various Facebook and Instagram posts:

<http://murdochlibrarynews.blogspot.com.au/2017/11/murdoch-university-library-is-honoured.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/murdochlibrary/photos/a.10150195172105620.368431.167212035619/10157015568350620/?type=3&theater>

<https://www.facebook.com/MurdochUniversity/photos/a.289047047785948.93058.282495201774466/1756198384404133/?type=3&theater>

[https://www.instagram.com/p/BbA5QPxl\\_rr/?taken-by=murdochlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/p/BbA5QPxl_rr/?taken-by=murdochlibrary)

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr Daniel Rozas Nunez, Coordinator, Special Collections  
Murdoch University  
Phone: (08) 9360 2563  
Email: [library@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:library@murdoch.edu.au)

**Northcliffe Pioneer Museum Inc** received \$5,819 for a preservation needs assessment of the Museum Collection.

The Museum engaged a consultant from Museumly, Warnbro WA, to undertake the assessment, which has resulted in a long list of priority recommendations for the future of the collection, including major presentation and preservation advice, pest control and decontamination, appropriate archival storage, improved maintenance of heritage buildings and attention to light and environmental issues, improved storage areas, and rationalising, proper storage and digitisation of the photograph collection as the main ones. The Museum has found the consultant's report of enormous benefit. She worked with museum members for three days with patience and understanding. As a result, members' confidence and interest has now increased, and they have come to recognise the importance of improving the Museum's digitised collections. The Museum has based the achievements it has already begun and those planned over the next 12 months on the consultant's priority list. Her training and advice have encouraged Museum volunteers' understanding of the need for these important changes, and training in computer skills and tour guiding has been taken up. Further grant applications will result from this important assessment report.

Publicity has included articles in district and local newspapers, and contact with state and federal political members. There has been increased community involvement and visitor attraction as a result of the NLA grant. The Museum plans to have a presence on Trove in the future.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Carole Perry, Secretary  
Northcliffe Pioneer Museum Inc  
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**Royal Western Australian Historical Society Inc** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Museum's Costume Collection.

During three very full days in December 2017, three museum representatives worked with the assessors, Dr Ian MacLeod and Ms Rinske Car from Heritage Conservation Solutions, Como WA, on the examination of 100 costume items (representing approximately 5% of the costume collection), including significant items and those quarantined due to mould issues. The examination also enabled some cleaning and hands-on training of museum volunteers in how to undertake the more minor mould-removal themselves. Working with them on this project has enabled the Society to build a strong relationship with clear ongoing benefits, such as ongoing support and contact with the consultant's own professional contacts.

The report has identified significant storage problems, such as overcrowded costume boxes. The scale used to identify the items in most significant need from among the 100 assessed, will be a useful guide for volunteers' progress with identifying and prioritising the needs of the remainder of the collection.

The recommendation to use three-dimensional digital photography as a cost-effective means of recording the more fragile items in the collection is planned for the future, as well as publicising these images through the Society's website.

The grant brought the needs of the costume collection into high definition with the Society's governing Council, resulting in the decision to direct a recent bequest towards assisting with the major project that lies ahead, starting with the search for an external space and an experienced project leader.

The assessment and the knowledge gained from it provide a strong base for proceeding, with greater clarity and credibility, to more confidently seek funding for storage, 3D digitisation and specialist staff to manage the crucial next period. This was an essential, timely and invaluable stride towards the Society's goal of ensuring proper care of and access to this valuable costume collection.

Publicity has included an article in *History West*, December 2017, p. 3, and various Facebook posts reporting on the project.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mrs Valerie Hutch, Convenor of Museum Committee  
Royal Western Australian Historical Society Inc  
Phone: (08) 9386 3841  
Email: [admin@histwest.org.au](mailto:admin@histwest.org.au)

**Shire of Manjimup** received \$4,500 for a preservation needs assessment of the Energy Collection.

Vanessa Wiggin from Museumly, Warnbro WA, was engaged to undertake an assessment of this former Western Power museum collection, previously in storage in shipping containers, but in the process of being transferred to a new museum opening in late 2019. This gave the consultant an opportunity to record the condition of the collection and storage conditions while the collection was being unpacked and accessed, but also to guide the material handling, packing and moving of part of the collection.

The report documents the significant damage and, in some cases, irreparable damage which items in the collection have sustained in storage, and has made important recommendations for its long-term preservation. The report will be an invaluable document with several purposes including guiding immediate, short and long-term approaches for collection management, seeking funds to support the conservation works, and providing documentation to evidence the condition of the collection when it was received by the Shire of Manjimup.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Miss Jessica Winters, Project Manager  
Shire of Manjimup  
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Email: [:info@manjimup.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@manjimup.wa.gov.au)

**Warmun Art Aboriginal Corporation** received \$13,530 for conservation treatment of the Warmun Community Collection priority items.

The project achieved all stated aims. Minor conservation treatments of 19 items and one major conservation treatment were completed in stages. The first stage involved consultation between the University of Melbourne Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation and Warmun and Warmun Art Centre staff and artists about the treatment approach, testing and demonstration of the methods, and completion of ten minor conservation treatments involving repair and reinforcement of split timber supports and consolidation of friable paint. A subsequent stage involved a further nine artworks received similar minor treatments. The major conservation stabilisation treatment was carried out on the iconic work 'Hector 1981'. This involved removal of mud from the reverse of the painting (due to flood damage) and consolidation of all friable edges and cracks, followed by rehousing in a purpose-built storage/display unit with transparent acrylic lid. The project provided the opportunity to review and assess previous conservation work, confirmed that previous mould remediation work has been successful, and identified the need for annual condition surveys of the highly fragile works. As a result, the Art Centre and Grimwade Centre are looking into the feasibility of annual Grimwade Centre student internships and partnered training programs for Warmun Art Centre staff, with the aim to further the implementation of appropriate, sustainable collection care and management procedures. The relationship with the Grimwade Centre remains a positive one, with demonstrated practical outcomes including improved preservation of, and access to, the Warmun Community Collection.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Ms Stephanie Rajalingam, Manager  
Warmun Art Aboriginal Corporation  
Phone: (08) 9168 7496  
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**Whittington Interceptor Sustainable Agriculture Land Treatment Society (WISALTS) Inc** received \$8,060 for digitisation of historic Harry Whittington (OAM) at WISALTS Collection records.

The project involved digitising the Harry Whittington (OAM) and WISALTS Collection records from 1978 to 2000 for easy access by farmers, researchers and students via Murdoch University's website. It has been an important and vital process for this significant and valuable collection.

The project has been completed and acquitted.

Contact: Mr John Whittington, WISALTS Murdoch Library Collection Legal Representative  
Whittington Interceptor Sustainable Agriculture Land Treatment Society Inc

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