

# [ Museums ] [ Australia ]

Australian Capital Territory

## Annual General Meeting 23 March 2011

### Annual report

for year 1 Jan 2010 - 31 Dec 2010

(Version 1.1)

#### 1. Summary

---

The Branch Strategic Plan 2009-2012 provided the direction for the focus and activities for the year.

The Branch enjoyed a calendar of professional development and recreational events, starting off with a great tour of the French Masterpieces exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia and included a particularly well-attended Christmas party at the National Portrait Gallery.

The Branch presented Robyn Archer AO, Canberra Centenary Creative Director, with a Gold membership to Museums Australia in recognition of the important role she is playing in Canberra over the next few years.

MA Council approved the proposal from ACT Branch to host the national conference in Canberra in 2013, the year of Canberra's centenary.

Communication with ACT Branch members continues to use e-Bulletins and web pages.

Time pressures on the volunteer time of committee members remains an issue.

Finances remain sound, although there was a commitment by this committee to spend some of the accumulated funds on members and activities this year.

#### 2. ACT Branch

---

##### 2.1 Committee

I extend a vote of thanks to the Branch Committee for its support and activity during 2010. Volunteering on top of heavy professional work commitments continues to place increased demands on Committee members. In this environment their energy has been essential to the success of the year.

In this my first year as President I would particularly acknowledge and thank the support I have received from the outgoing President Roger Garland in steering me and providing me with much needed encouragement.

The Branch Committee for 2010 was comprised of:

**Office holders:**

Carol Cartwright (President)

Roxanne Lambie (Vice President)

Lyn Beasley (Secretary) to December 2009

Kassandra Hobbs (Secretary) December 2010 to present  
 Luke Cummins (Treasurer) to May 2010  
 Glenda Smith (Treasurer) May 2010 to present

**Ordinary members:**

Alex Marsden  
 Roger Garland  
 Tristan Hoffmeister  
 Clare Baddley  
 Gabrielle Hyslop (Conference 2013 planning)

Particular thanks to Luke for his work as Treasurer and Lyn for her work as Secretary.

I would also like to acknowledge the institutions that the committee members work for and the support they show to the ongoing functions of MA ACT by allowing their staff to work (voluntarily) – particularly The Australian War Memorial, the National Museum of Australia, National Portrait Gallery and the Museum of Australian Democracy at OPH.

**2.2 Strategic plan**

The ACT Branch plan identifies four strategic priorities:

1. Undertake advocacy and communication
2. Develop business practices, infrastructure and resources
3. Enhance members' programs; and
4. Plan for the national conference 2013

**2.3 Business priorities 2010**

Business priorities for 2010 for each strategic priority were developed and acted upon. The outputs and outcomes are recorded below.

**Strategic Priority 1 Undertake advocacy and communication**

Business priority	Outputs	Outcomes	Comments
1.1 Enhance the relationship with Museums Australia national office and support their national issues advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice on National Office submissions and programs</li> <li>• Advice on National strategic plan</li> <li>• Signed MOU for national conference in Canberra in Sept 2013</li> <li>• Regular meetings with MANO staff</li> <li>• Participated in the selection of a Professional conference organiser for the next three years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive and engaged relationship between ACT Branch and Museums Australia National Office</li> </ul>	The selection of a POC was initiated by National Council; the intention is to contract a PCO for the next three years to deliver the Adelaide, Canberra and Tasmania conferences, so we took the opportunity to be involved.
1.2 Support the IMAGinE awards in association with Museums and Galleries of NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representation at IMAGinE awards meetings</li> <li>• Sponsorship payment \$2200</li> <li>• Kassandra Hobbs represented the ACT as a judge on the awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic alliance with MGNSW</li> <li>• Publicity and association with IMAGinE awards</li> </ul>	The third year of the awards; an initiative of Museums & Galleries NSW, developed in collaboration with Museums Australia NSW & ACT, and the Regional Galleries Association of NSW. The awards provide an opportunity to honour the achievements of the NSW & ACT museum and gallery sector and those who work within it.

<b>Business priority</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.3 Represent ACT perspectives to Museums Australia National Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representation at National Council teleconference and face-to-face meetings through-out the year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledgment and favourable image of the work of the ACT Branch</li> </ul>	

**Strategic Priority 2 Develop business practices, infrastructure and resources**

<b>Business priority</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2.1 Employ part-time assistance for the development of Branch events, programs and member focussed activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This action has not been progressed this year.</li> </ul>		Limited progress due to staff changes at MANO and changes in committee; to be pursued in 2011.
2.2 Develop a membership development plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice on national membership programs</li> <li>Alex Marsden represented the ACT in the development of member programs</li> </ul>		In progress; to be further pursued in 2011.
2.3 Develop a strategic and business plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Plan 2009-2012</li> <li>Business Priorities 2010</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced focus for the ACT Branch Committee</li> </ul>	More outputs and outcomes to be produced in 2011.

**Strategic Priority 3 Enhance members' programs**

<b>Business priority</b>	<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Comments</b>
3.1 Maintain and deliver a calendar of members' events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive calendar of events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged and supportive members</li> </ul>	For detail see appendix. The engagement of paid assistance will help develop and deliver programs.
3.2 Continue the development of the Museums Australia ACT website as a resource for members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular updates to web site</li> <li>Contributions to whole of site development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informed members</li> </ul>	This year we trialed booking online for events with support from MANO and some success – the system has a couple of glitches which we are addressing.
3.3 Continue regular contact with Museums Australia ACT members using electronic bulletins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E-bulletins issued on a needs basis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informed members</li> </ul>	
3.4 Negotiate and promote the provision of members benefits including free entry for members to a wide range of ACT museums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited development</li> </ul>		The program awaits discussions with MANO.

Business priority	Outputs	Outcomes	Comments
3.5 Develop Centenary of Canberra 2013 program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nomination of MA ACT to host the 2013 MA National Conference, MOU entered into and venue booked.</li> <li>Call for people to nominate themes, speakers and streams for consideration.</li> </ul>		Gabrielle Hyslop leading the coordination resulting in good organisation.

### 3. Museums Australia National Office

---

Relations with the National Office remain on very good terms. Thanks go to Bernice Murphy (National Director), Lee Scott (Manager *Administration and National Operations*), Stephanie Hamilton as well as President Darryl McIntyre for their contributions.

### 4. Museums Australia National Conference

---

MA Council approved the proposal from ACT Branch to host the national conference in Canberra in 2013, the year of Canberra's centenary.

The National Convention Centre has been booked for the conference and trade show from Monday 9 September till Wednesday 11 September. The Regional and Remote day will be held on Sunday 8 September. The national cultural institutions and local museums will be given an opportunity to showcase their venues with workshops, programs and events.

### 5. Branch challenges for the year ahead

---

- Maintaining the calendar of events
- Undertaking a membership drive
- Engaging members through MA nexus and social media
- Furthering the 2013 conference organisation
- Coordinating interest across the Canberra sector in preparation for the Canberra Centenary activities in 2013.

I would like to thank you all for coming and supporting the committee at this AGM, thank you for your enthusiasm and let you know if you wish to join the committee there is always room for more to spread and lighten the load, particularly as we plan for 2013 activities and conference.

We are very pleased tonight to be having a special viewing of the *Not just Ned: Irish in Australia* exhibition, and I thank Director Andrew Sayers and Roger Garland for the arrangements.

Carol Cartwright  
President  
Museums Australia  
ACT Branch

23 March 2011

## Appendix

### 2010 events summary

Date	Event
24 Mar 2010	<b>AGM &amp; tour</b> –Masterpieces from Paris exhibition at National Gallery of Australia
18 May 2010	<b>International Museums Day</b> <b>Viewing</b> MOAD at Old Parliament House, celebrate International Museums Day, and farewell to Patricia Sabine (Past national President)
26 Aug 2010	<b>Seminar</b> – NMA/MA joint professional workshop re development of interactive table at the Canning Stock Route exhibition
Sept 2010	<b>Conference</b> – MA national conference, Melbourne
22 Oct 2010	<b>Awards</b> – IMAGinE awards a joint project of Museums & Galleries NSW, Regional & Public Galleries of NSW, MA NSW and MA ACT presented at Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
26 Oct 2010	<b>Feedback</b> re national conference and viewing of refurbished SWW galleries at Australian War Memorial
18 Nov 2010	<b>Conversation</b> Director NMA (Andrew Sayers) on the Couch at CMAG
8 Dec 2010	<b>End of year and Christmas celebration</b> - event featuring <i>Close Up</i> exhibition at National Portrait Gallery and Robyn Archer AO Creative Director, Canberra Centenary.