

## Summary

Administration &amp; governance

Programs, products and services

Advocacy &amp; relationships

Branch committee and chapter network

Further details

Finances 2010 and budget 2011

**SUMMARY**

- The branch experienced an **improved financial position in 2010**, mainly as a result of increased revenue of nearly 30% from membership fees, cost savings in a number of areas and increased voluntary effort from branch committee and executive officer.
- Branch programs revolved around **bursaries** to the national conference, presentation of the **IMAGinE awards** in partnership with Museums and Galleries NSW, Public and Regional Galleries NSW and Museums Australia ACT Branch, production and distribution of ***Museum Matters***, and the presentation of **tours and talks** in Sydney.
- In the past 12 months, we have **stepped up advocacy efforts**, particularly through dialogue with the Minister of the Arts and Arts NSW and preparation of associated material. We continue to seek funds for a comprehensive survey of community and regional museum needs or one limited to ICT and digitisation needs as a guide to future association strategy.
- The presentation of the symposium, ***Place, Space & Identity: New Directions for NSW Museums***, aligned with development of strategic plan for the visual arts and museum sectors by Arts NSW, called upon a significant effort by the branch & symposium committees, particularly during the past three months.
- We were pleased to **see strong activity in a number of chapters**, largely as a result of the commitment of chapter coordinators and office bearers in the regions. And we note, with sadness, the death of Lachlan Chapter coordinator, Glen Johns, whose annual *Working Spaces* workshops for volunteers made such a significant contribution to the association and the sector at large.

## ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

<p><b>Plans</b></p>	<p>The branch strategic plan 2009-2011 and a number of supplementary have guided its work during the past year. We will be reviewing and updating the plan in the latter half of 2011.</p>
<p><b>Finances</b></p>	<p>The branch achieved an operating surplus in 2010 of \$1,580.57 (income \$23,371.04; expenditure \$21,790.47) after having budgeted for a \$5950 loss. The following factors contributed to the surplus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased membership revenue of nearly 30% (up from \$16,281 in 2009 to \$20,872 in 2010).</li> <li>• Savings were made by reduced expenditure on the 2010 representatives meeting, a limited take-up of the chapter administrative subsidy, delayed publication of the December issues of Museum Matters, and increased voluntary effort by the executive officer, branch committee and symposium committee.</li> </ul> <p>The Branch cash reserve at 31 December 2010 was \$17,541.05</p> <p>A deficit budget of \$3000 has been approved for 2011, subject to a mid-year review, and based on the following assumptions and recommendations: priorities in the branch strategic plan will be adjusted; the projected membership income of \$21,000 proves to be well founded; continued allocation of funds for national conference bursaries for NSW members, financial support for the IMAGinE awards, continued publishing of two printed issues of Museum Matters; and pursuit of other strategies outlined in a separate financial plan.</p> <p>The branch acknowledges with appreciation the financial support it has received from Arts NSW, the Powerhouse Museum, museum suppliers and the Museums Appreciation Society to present the 2011 symposium <i>Place, Space &amp; Identity: New Directions for NSW Museums</i>.</p> <p>See further financial details in appendix 1.</p>
<p><b>AGM</b></p>	<p>The branch held its 2010 AGM at Parramatta Heritage and Visitor Information Centre on 18 March 2010.</p>
<p><b>Facilities</b></p>	<p>The branch operates out of the home office of the executive officer. Historical records are currently stored in a number of locations, mainly the Powerhouse Museum, which has been generous in providing temporary housing of branch records 1969-2000, pending their transfer to a suitable repository.</p>

## PROGRAMS, PRODUCTS, SERVICES

<b>Chapter reps' conference 2010</b>	The conference, <i>Regional Museums in an Online Future</i> , about online systems, standards and strategies, in March 2010 also included presentations on government policy and funding, the work of M&GNSW, RAHS, LGSA, Records NSW, and RPGNSW.
<b>State symposium 2011</b>	The symposium <i>Place, Space and Identity: New Directions for NSW museum</i> , at Macquarie University on 18-19 April 2011 is aligned with the development of a new strategic plan for the visual arts and museums sectors by Arts NSW. The symposium incorporates the branch AGM and annual chapter representatives' meeting.
<b>National conference</b>	The branch allocated \$2000 for bursaries to the 2010 Museums Australia National Conference in Melbourne.
<b>Tours and talks in Sydney</b>	The 2010 program included visits to Elizabeth Farm, NSW Schoolhouse Museum, Australian Museum new research and collection building, Art Gallery of NSW remote storage facility, and Mary MacKillop Museum. Our 2011 program kicks off with a tour of the Powerhouse Museum Conservation Lab on 2 March. Other 2011 tours lined up include the Museum of Freemasonry, May Gibbs' Nutcote, State Library of NSW and Royal Botanic Gardens.
<b>Website &amp; publications</b>	Following improvements to the website by the national office, the branch has added branch publications and documents and used the site to manage registrations for the April symposium. The NSW Branch group on the association's social media site Manexus now has 38 virtual members. We encourage NSW members to sign up to both the Manexus site and the NSW group on Manexus. A Twitter account has been set up to promote events such as the NSW Symposium. We published two issues of <i>Museum Matters</i> in 2010, one featuring regional museums in an online future and the other looking at exhibitions. The Museums Australia national council publications committee, led by Andrew Simpson and with the involvement of the NSW Branch executive officer, are reviewing online and printed publications.
<b>IMAGinE awards</b>	With partners, the MA ACT Branch, M&GNSW and RPGNSW we presented the 2010 awards at the Museum of Contemporary Art on 22 October. Planning is underway for the 2011 awards.



## ADVOCACY & RELATIONSHIPS

<b>Advocacy plan</b>	Plans are outlined in the Branch <i>Advocacy Plan 2010-2011</i> , which is available from the NSW Branch web pages.
<b>Government relations</b>	In 2010 the branch stepped up its dialogue with the NSW Government. Letters were sent to the Minister for the Arts and Arts NSW about the closure on the Collections Council of Australia and the Collections Australia Network, particularly as regards the lack of information flowing from these decisions. The branch also raised

	<p>concerns about an apparent decrease in the level of funding for regional and community museums. We subsequently discussed the issues with Arts NSW. Jointly with Regional and Public Galleries NSW, we sent letters to each of the major parties in NSW ahead of the elections seeking clarification of their policies on NSW museums and galleries.</p>
<b>Infrastructure inquiry</b>	<p>The branch submission was acknowledged in NSW Parliament's <i>Report on the Development of Arts and Cultural Infrastructure Outside the Sydney CBD</i>.</p>
<b>ICT development</b>	<p>A proposal for a survey of regional and community museums needs, or one targeting ICT development, was completed and funding of \$10,000 sought from Arts NSW to enable the survey to be completed. We will be updating the proposal and continued to seek funding.</p>
<b>NSW strategic plan</b>	<p>A draft response prepared about the Watts report on MGNSW will be incorporated in our submission to the consultants developing the new strategic plan for the visual arts and museum sectors in NSW.</p>
<b>Individual museums and projects</b>	<p>In 2010 and 2011, the branch represented the interests of members in relation to the Parramatta Convict Female Factory, Orange Regional Museum and Fairfield Museum and Gallery through letters to appropriate bodies, media releases and media appearances.</p>
<b>Liaison with other bodies</b>	<p>The branch has an official representative on the Museums and Galleries NSW museums and volunteer museums reference committees.</p> <p>In 2010, we worked closely with Regional and Public Galleries to advance mutual interests and will be seeking to continue this relationship in 2011.</p> <p>Our relationship with other institutions and organisations is reflected in the composition of the Branch committee.</p>

## CHAPTERS

<b>Chapter plan</b>	<p>The <i>Chapter Plan 2010-2011</i> outlines strategies for streamlined governance and administrative processes and supporting the development of the chapter network. In October 2010, guidelines re chapter by-law templates and administrative tools were distributed for discussion at the 2011 chapter reps meeting.</p>
<b>Chapter activities</b>	<p>Branch chapters continue to present workshops and other activities across the state. There has been renewed interest in Sydney and Central Tablelands chapter programs. The South East chapter is being wound up.</p>
<b>Additional information</b>	<p>Additional information will be published in <i>Chapter Reports 2011</i> following the NSW symposium at Macquarie University</p>

 Andrew Simpson NSW President	 Paul Bentley NSW Executive Office
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15 April 2011

<p><b>NSW Branch committee 2009-2011</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Simpson, (President) Macquarie University</li> <li>• Rebecca Pinchin (Vice President), Powerhouse Museum</li> <li>• Susan Sedgwick (Secretary) Historic Houses Trust</li> <li>• Ally Halliwell (Treasurer) Macquarie University</li> <li>• Bronwyn Alcorn Historic Houses Trust</li> <li>• Geoff Barker Powerhouse Museum</li> <li>• Suzanne Bravery Museums and Galleries NSW</li> <li>• Marea Buist Port of Yamba Museum</li> <li>• Maree Clutterbuck Sydney University Museums</li> <li>• Gay Hendriksen, Parramatta Heritage &amp; Visitor Information Centre</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chapter network contacts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trevor Pascoe, President Central Tablelands</li> <li>• Marea Buist, Chapter Co-coordinator Far North Coast</li> <li>• Barbara Moritz, Chapter Co-ordinator Golden West</li> <li>• Julie Baird, Chapter Coordinator Hunter</li> <li>• Betti Punnett, Acting Chapter Coordinator Lachlan</li> <li>• Liz Gillroy, Chapter Coordinator/Secretary Mid North Coast</li> <li>• Murray Riverina [contact: Paul Bentley, NSW Executive Officer]</li> <li>• Robyn Rogers, President/Coordinator New England North West</li> <li>• Tamara Hynd, Chapter Co-ordinator Southern Highlands &amp; Illawarra</li> <li>• Karen O'Donnell-McGrane, President Sydney</li> </ul>
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Further information

<http://www.museumsaustralia.org.au/nsw>  
<http://manexus.ning.com/>

**APPENDIX 1: BUDGET 2011**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Budget 2010</b>	<b>Actual 2010</b>	<b>Budget 2011</b>
Membership	\$16,100.00	\$20,749.26	\$21,000.00
Subscriptions	\$120.00	\$122.27	\$120.00
<b>Total Main Income</b>	<b>\$16,220.00</b>	<b>\$20,871.53</b>	<b>\$21,120.00</b>
Other Income			
Museum Methods	\$600.00	\$989.99	\$600.00
National conference - Seed/Share	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Metropolitan workshops	\$1,500.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
Regional workshops	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
Other income	\$500.00	\$9.52	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$3,100.00</b>	<b>\$2,499.51</b>	<b>\$3,800.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$19,320.00</b>	<b>\$23,371.04</b>	<b>\$24,920.00</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Budget 2010</b>	<b>Actual 2010</b>	<b>Budget 2010</b>
<b>Administration</b>			
Adjustment to membership transfer	\$400.00	\$23.64	\$50.00
Chapter admin subsidies	\$750.00	\$390.00	\$750.00
Meetings	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Postage	\$100.00	\$51.78	\$100.00
Stationery/Office Supplies	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$370.00
Sundries	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Telephone	\$400.00	\$199.82	\$250.00
Travel and Accommodation (general)	\$500.00	\$347.97	\$500.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$2,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,013.21</b>	<b>\$2,270.00</b>
<b>Employee Expenses</b>			
Salaries/Wages including leave	\$12,620.00	\$12,655.87	\$12,650.00
<b>Total Salaries/Wages</b>	<b>\$12,620.00</b>	<b>\$12,655.87</b>	<b>\$12,650.00</b>
<b>Projects/Programs/Events</b>			
MA Conference bursaries	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
MANSW awards	\$2,100.00	\$2,090.91	\$2,000.00
State conference/chapter reps meeting	\$3,500.00	\$1,594.87	\$3,500.00
MANSW metropolitan events	\$100.00	\$450.00	\$500.00
MANSW regional events/ dvmt	\$750.00	\$504.55	\$500.00
<b>Total Projects/Programs</b>	<b>\$8,450.00</b>	<b>\$6,640.33</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>
<b>Publications</b>			
Museum Matters printing/distribution	\$1,600.00	\$1,481.06	\$4,500.00
<b>Total Publications</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,481.06</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$25,270.00</b>	<b>\$21,790.47</b>	<b>\$27,920.00</b>
<b>Operating Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-\$5,950.00</b>	<b>\$1,580.57</b>	<b>-\$3,000.00</b>