

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 1977/78

Members are reminded that their membership renewals for 1977/78 are due before 31 December 1977. To date only 50% of members have responded. Please assist the ICCM. We want not only your membership fee but also your participation in the activities of the Institute.

NOTE: The address of the Secretary is now:

School of Applied Science
Canberra College of Advanced Education
PO Box 1
Belconnen
ACT 2616

Dr C. Pearson
Secretary, ICCM

INSTITUTE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CULTURAL MATERIAL (INC)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, PERTH, 8 SEPTEMBER 1977

Present: E. Allen, A. Bos, D. Briegel, U. Broeze, D. Butcher,
J. Carter, F. Ellis, R.W. Ellis, M.L. Florian,
D. Gilroy, D. Hallam, D. Hick, R. Mills, N. North,
C. Pearson, F. Sawday, D. Tilbrooke, R. Van der Merwe.

1. Opening

As neither the President, Senior Vice President or Vice Presidents were present

77/1 That Mr R.W. Ellis be elected to chair the meeting.

C. Pearson/F. Ellis
Carried

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.15 pm.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

W. Ambrose, J. Caldwell, I. Cook, M. Upton, E. Virili,
S. Walston.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM

77/2 That the minutes of the AGM held on 13-14 May 1976
in Canberra having been published in the ICCM Bulletin
be declared a true and accurate record.

J. Carter/C. Pearson
Carried

4. President's Report

Due to absence overseas, there was no President's Report.

5. Secretary's Report

GENERAL: Since the last AGM held in Canberra in May 1976 the ICCM has slowly increased in strength. As a national body we have not been very active. However, on the local scene conservation is being spread through the activities of the Regional Divisions. Two Council Meetings have been held, and the Workshop on the Conservation of Rock Art in Western Australia from 10-20 September 1977 is under the auspices of the ICCM.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership has increased from 131 ordinary and 12 institutional members in 1976 to 191 and 31 members respectively as of September 1977, i.e. those members financial at June 1977 and new members. Although this may not appear to be a large increase, 31 ordinary members in 1976 have been removed from the membership book due to non-payment of fees.

We now have a revised membership brochure/application form and all members are urged to assist in enrolling new members to the ICCM.

COUNCIL MEETINGS: Two Council Meetings have been held. The first immediately followed the ICCM AGM in Canberra in May 1976, and the second, also in Canberra in January 1977. The actions of Council will be mentioned in the different sections of the General Meeting.

PUBLICATIONS: The ICCM Bulletin has been published on a regular quarterly basis. This has been achieved by the energy of W. Ambrose who is to be congratulated on his efforts. However, the Bulletin cannot function without input from members and articles are urgently required.

DIVISIONS OF THE ICCM: In addition to the ACT Division, one has now been established in Western Australia. Investigations are also being carried out into the establishment of Divisions in South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR UNESCO: The ICCM has provided information to the Australian National Advisory Commission for UNESCO on the involvement of Australia with the International Centre for Conservation in Rome, also it has made recommendations on the proposal for a Conservation Workshop to cover the Southeast Asian and Oceanic regions.

CONFERENCES: The 650 copies of the Proceedings of the National Seminar on the Conservation of Cultural Material have all been distributed.

The 1976 Conference in Canberra, 'Conservation in Australia' was a big success and Sue Walston has prepared the Proceedings which are now in the hands of the printer.

The Workshop on the Conservation of Rock Art will be held in Perth in September 1977. There is good representation from overseas and interstate following generous support from the Aboriginal Arts Board and the Western Australian Museum. The Proceedings of this conference will shortly be available.

ARCHIVE AND LIBRARY CONSERVATION SEMINAR: A one-day seminar on archive and library conservation was held by the School of Librarianship, University of New South Wales. This apparently was well attended and it is encouraging that it was instigated by the School.

CONCLUSIONS: It is obviously difficult to hold the AGM of a national organisation in Western Australia as there is little representation from other states. It therefore means that the future AGM's will probably all be in the East. It has been proposed that the AGM is held biennially - this will be raised later in the meeting.

I would like to thank Sue Walston, President and in particular David Tilbrooke for their support during the past year. David in the next office to me I am sure regrets the small communication window through which so much work is passed.

77/3 That the Secretary's Report be accepted.

D. Tilbrooke/U. Broeze
Carried

The meeting expressed its appreciation for the work of the Secretary over the past year.

6. Auditor's Report

The Auditor's Report was presented by the Treasurer and is detailed in Appendix 1.

The books were transferred from Canberra in August 1976. A thorough check of the accounts showed a discrepancy of 45¢ which, on audit, has been shown to be an error in accounting for postage stamps transferred.

The accounts as received from Canberra show a prepayment of \$807 for 67 copies of the Canberra ICCM Conference Proceedings. This figure should be \$804 and, with a further entry discovered when checking the books - a total of 68 copies have been prepaid at a value of \$816.

The audit has also shown a book deficit of \$10 made good through an addition to the Petty Cash. This has proved to be a cheque entered twice as it did not come directly to the Institute, but through a third party. In addition, the balance of account includes \$6,400 towards publication of the Canberra Conference Proceedings and hence the balance appears higher than would normally be expected. Uncommitted funds at present, therefore, amount to \$4,805.39.

77/4 That the Auditor's Report be accepted.

D. Tilbrooke/F. Ellis
Carried

7. Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Period 24 January - 30 June 1977

<u>Credit</u>		<u>Debit</u>	
Opening Balances		Branch Refunds - WA	64.00
		ACT	84.00
Cash at Bank	11,251.55		
Cash in Hand	16.62	Stamp Duty - Interstate	
		Cheques	0.80
Subscriptions		ICCM Bulletin -	
		Postage	79.60
Ordinary	452.10		
Institutional	210.00	ICCM Bulletin -	
Rock Art Conservation		Stationery)	
Conference	3,020.00	Bulk Postage)	176.83
Registration Fee -		Proceedings 1976 -	
Conference	10.00	Postage	45.19
Interest		Typesetting	635.00
		Cover Design	50.00
Current Account	149.97	Petty Cash	16.06

Investment Account	13.80	Cash at Bank	2,918.02
WA Building Society	18.17	Investment Account	1,013.80
		WA Building Society	10,038.17
		Cash in Hand	20.74
	<u>\$15,142.21</u>		<u>\$15,142.21</u>

The increase in the Institute's funds over the period under review is the result of prepayments of \$3030.00 towards the Workshop on the Conservation of Rock Art and interest on investment and current accounts of \$181.94.

The major expenditure over the same period is composed of \$148 branch refunds, \$256.43 postage and stationery for distribution of the ICCM Bulletin and \$730.19 for postage of the Canberra Conference abstracts and preparative work on the Canberra Conference Proceedings. The latter is set off against the publication fund of \$7,216.00 and thus leaves a balance of \$6485.81 available for publication of the Proceedings.

Uncommitted funds at present therefore stand at \$8,656.40.

77/5 That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

F. Ellis/M.L. Florian
Carried

8. Election of Officers and Councillors of the ICCM

Due to problems with the publication of the ICCM Bulletin in which a notice was included concerning nominations for the election of officers at the AGM in September, members did not receive this notice until after the 'closing date' for nominations. In addition it was not possible to include the membership list as of June 1977. Council members were approached about this matter and it was agreed that the elections be postponed. In the September issue of the bulletin a new call for nominations for Officers and Councillors of the ICCM will be made. In addition the membership list as of June 1977 will be published. The elections will be held by postal ballot in November 1977. Any nominations received from the first call will still stand.

77/6 That Councils Action in postponing the election of Officers be ratified.

C. Pearson/U. Broeze
Carried

9. Appointment of Auditor

The Treasurer raised the problem of delays in having the accounts audited due to the Auditor, Mr K. Malcolm, acting in an honorary capacity. As it was not possible to produce details of the likely costs involved in paying for the audit to be carried out, this matter was deferred.

77/7 That Mr K. Malcolm be appointed as Honorary Auditor of the ICCM for 1977/78.

F. Ellis/U. Broeze
Carried

77/8 That the ICCM Council investigate the audit requirements of the ICCM, following incorporation.

C. Pearson/M.L. Florian
Carried

10. Remuneration for servants of the ICCM

There were no remunerations given to servants of the ICCM.

Special Business

11. Constitution and Incorporation

A report on incorporation of the Institute was received and read on behalf of Ian Cook.

The processes for incorporation are now well underway. During the past twelve months a number of meetings have been held with the Institute's Solicitor, formerly Mr Richard Refshauge and now Mr Steve Thompson of Macphillamy Cummins and Gibson. In connection with incorporation the Constitution Revision Standing Sub-committee has also met on several occasions for final drafting of the Constitution for examination by the ACT Companies Office.

The constitution has now been submitted to the Companies Office and as yet no requests have been made for any changes.

A notice of intention to apply for incorporation has been submitted to the Companies Office and also advertised in The Canberra Times on 27.7.77 in accordance with the initial procedures of incorporation.

A formal application for incorporation has now been prepared together with a statutory declaration which will be promptly forwarded to the Companies Office by the Solicitor.

Within 14 days after Incorporation, the formal appointment of the Public Officer of the Institute is required. The Public Officer must then lodge within three months after incorporation a copy of the rules of the Institute together with a statutory declaration.

The latest information was that the certificate of incorporation will be issued in a few days.

77/9 That the report of the Public Officer be accepted.

J. Carter/D. Hallam
Carried

The Chairman raised the point that at the last Council Meeting, held in January 1977, it was resolved that 'The Public Officer and the Solicitor be empowered to prepare the final draft of the Constitution'. This draft was not available for the meeting. As there was the possibility that changes to the known Constitution may be made during the meeting, this matter was deferred until the end of the meeting, item 21.8.

12. ICCM as a supporting body of the IIC

Approaches will be made to the IIC when the ICCM has become incorporated.

13. Policy on Regional Activities of the ICCM

The ICCM supports the establishment of regional Divisions and in addition to the one in ACT, another has been established in WA. Efforts are also being made to establish Divisions in the other states. The persons to be contacted concerning these Divisions are:-

Australian Capital Territory	Heather Mansell, National Library of Australia, Canberra
New South Wales	David Newell, Mitchell Library, Sydney
Queensland	Dan Robinson, Queensland Museum, Brisbane
South Australia	Graeme Pretty, South Australian Museum, Adelaide
Tasmania	Merv Reed, Commonwealth Archives, Hobart
Victoria	Hayden Downing, Science Museum of Victoria, Melbourne
Western Australia	Ulli Broeze, Western Australian Museum, Perth.

The importance of the work of the local Divisions was stressed and that local members should make every effort to get together. Concern was expressed about the low level of financial support for the Divisions considering the funds held by the ICCM. This is a difficult matter to resolve as in the future the ICCM will need to pay for the publication of the Bulletin. In the interim it was moved

77/10 That a special grant of \$1 per financial member be made to each operating Division of the ICCM, if requested, to assist with the management of the Division.

F. Ellis/D. Hallam
Carried

14. Prospectus

The revised prospectus has been in circulation for 12 months.

15. Stationery

The ICCM stationery uses archive text and has the ICCM logo at the head. At the bottom in small print is: 'This paper is alkali buffered (ph 8) to ensure its long life through maximum chemical stability'.

16. Working Parties

To quote the resolution passed at the 1977 Council Meeting, that 'Working Parties be disbanded due to their demoralising moribund condition'.

This is because there has been very little action by any of the Working Parties established in Perth in 1973. The only Working Parties maintained were:

1. Conservation of Maritime Archaeological Material -
Convenor C. Pearson.
2. Conservation of Rock Art - Convenors C. Pearson and
J. Clarke.

The reason for this was essentially to report on the two international conferences being held in these fields in Perth, September 1977.

77/11 That Councils decision to disband Working Parties be ratified.

C. Pearson/D. Tilbrooke
Carried

17. Conferences

(a) Workshop on the Conservation of Rock Art

This Workshop will be held in Western Australia from 10th-20th September 1977, commencing with a one-day seminar, followed by a 10-day field trip. It will be opened by the State Minister for Education, Cultural Affairs and Recreation, the Hon. P.V. Jones M.L.A.

To date there are approximately 60 delegates registered for the seminar and 35 for the field trip, including 5 overseas speakers and representation from throughout Australia.

(b) First Southern Hemisphere Conference on Maritime Archaeology

The First Southern Hemisphere Conference on Maritime Archaeology was held in Perth from 3rd-8th September 1977 and was considered to be very successful. Eighty delegates attended the main sessions and 38 attended the two day section on conservation which was restricted to the specialised problems of treating waterlogged wood and underwater iron. The proceedings of the Conference will be published.

(c) 1978 ICCM Conference

The next ICCM Conference is scheduled for August 1978 in Sydney, the convenor being Sue Walston. The theme will be the Conservation and Restoration of Library and Archive Material. Following the 2-day conference, 1½ days will be devoted to the presentation of case studies by ICCM members covering any aspect of conservation.

Further details will be announced when available.

18. Survey of Surveys of Collections

Mr Ambrose reported to the 1977 Council Meeting that to date nothing had been done. A report of the recent Australian Picture Survey carried out by the Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Melbourne has been prepared by Ian Jack and was tabled at the Meeting.

At the Council Meeting it was resolved that 'Mr Ambrose obtain information on the staffing needs and facilities required for conservation in the various institutions housing cultural material'.

At this stage Frank Ellis raised the question of the follow up by the Federal Government to the Pigott Report. It was resolved

77/12 That the ICCM draw the attention of the Federal Government to the continuing deterioration of the nation's collections and to give urgent attention to the report 'Museums in Australia 1975'. Also that the intentions of the Government in this field should be made public, particularly regarding the practical aspects of conservation.

F. Ellis/D. Tilbrooke
Carried

This resolution is to be forwarded to the news media.

19. Honorary Life Membership

Bill Boustead, Garry Thomson and Tony Werner have all accepted honorary life membership of the ICCM with great pleasure.

20. Venue for AGM, 1978

The AGM for 1978 will be held in conjunction with the 1978 Conference in Sydney. Details will be announced later.

21. Other Business

Membership: A report from the Constitution Revision Standing Sub-Committee was tabled at the meeting.

(a) Procedure governing the acceptance and rejection of applicants for membership. It was moved

77/13 That the following procedure for dealing with application for membership be adopted.

- i) applicant nominated and seconded by members of the Institute
- ii) Secretary receives application and if no objection notifies applicant of provisional acceptance as member
- iii) if Secretary objects to applicant a ballot (by post if necessary) is taken among all Council members
- iv) Council considers persons provisionally accepted as members at each meeting and endorses or rejects such applicants by majority vote
- v) persons accepted as members are notified of Council's confirmation of membership through the Bulletin

- vi) applicants rejected as members, together with their nominator and seconder are notified of Council's decision by letter with reasons; rejection is not mentioned in the bulletin.

C. Pearson/D. Tilbrooke
Carried

Concern was expressed that reasons were to be given for refusing a membership, in addition, there is no provision for appeal if membership is refused. Moved

- 77/14 That the need for reasons for refusing membership and the provision for appeal against such a decision be referred back to the Constitution Revision Standing Sub-Committee.

F. Ellis/A. Bos
Carried

- (b) Membership for small institutions.

The Sub-Committee recommended:-

There shall be two categories of institutional members

category A Government and business organisations

category B non-profit and voluntary organisations

The rate of annual subscription for category B institutional members shall be equal to the rate of subscription for ordinary members.

The meeting was concerned about this definition, particularly when bodies such as the National Trust and Sovereign Hill, Ballarat would qualify for category B. However, it was decided that the Council should be given the power to allow smaller institutions to pay the rates for ordinary members.

- 77/15 That the Council may allow certain institutions and organisations to join the ICCM at the rate applicable for ordinary members.

F. Ellis/J. Carter
Carried

- (c) Family Membership.

The Sub-Committee considered that it was not worthwhile providing a separate family membership subscription.

The Meeting agreed with this recommendation.

- (d) Student Membership.

The Committee considered that only full time materials conservation students (i.e. those studying full time at

the CCAE or other similar courses or overseas and not in receipt of a salary) should be allowed membership at half the normal subscription rate. The purpose of this was to offer every encouragement to students of conservation to join ICCM. The Committee recommended that this concession should not be extended to other kinds of full time students.

The Meeting felt that such students, which anyway would be few in number, were being given special treatment and it did not encourage other students who might be interested in a career in conservation.

It was moved

77/16 That the annual subscription rates for bonefide full time tertiary students will be three-quarters of the rate for ordinary members.

D. Hallam/A. Bos
Carried

This requires an addition to the constitution as follows.

77/17 6(13) Bonefide full-time tertiary student members will pay an annual subscription of three-quarters the rate for ordinary members.

D. Hallam/A. Bos
Carried

(e) New Members.

The list of new members enroled since January 1977 was read. It was moved

77/18 That new members be accepted.

D. Tilbrooke/J. Carter
Carried

21.2 ICCM Bulletin

It is probable that in the near future the ICCM will have to pay for the full cost of publishing the Bulletin. It was moved

77/19 That W. Ambrose obtain details on the cost of publishing the Bulletin and that until further notice the annual subscription rate be \$10.

N. North/F. Ellis
Carried

21.3 Travel Funds

The ICCM Council recommended the following, which was amended to

77/20 That subject to the availability of ICCM funds the President, Secretary and Treasurer may receive financial assistance to attend Council and General Meetings to a limit of economy return air fares.

C. Pearson/U. Broeze
Carried

21.4 Division of Responsibility for the Publications of the ICCM

The Sub-Committee tabled the following:

- i) The Constitution now provides in clause 24c for a publications officer who must be a member of Council. The publications officer is the editor of the ICCM Bulletin. The clause concerning the publications officer reads:
 - 24 (1) The Council shall consist of -
 - (c) A publications officer who shall be an officer or other member all of whom shall be elected at the annual general meeting.
- ii) The Committee recommends that the words 'who shall be an officer or other member' should be deleted because as the clause stands a separate election for publications officer would be needed once it was known who was on the Council. This is a problem when postal voting is involved. The effect of removing these words would be to add another member to Council who would not be on the Executive.
- iii) At the Council meeting held in January 1977 the fact that ICCM publications other than the Bulletin might not be in the hands of the publications officer was not discussed. Such publications include conference proceedings and the proposed disasters handbook. There was concern that the Institute's publishing programme should be co-ordinated and that standards for things like quoting references should be adopted.
- iv) The Committee recommends that a Publications Sub-Committee of Council should be established consisting of the publications officer and two other Councillors. The Sub-Committee should be asked to report to Council on standards for methods of presenting ICCM publications including referencing and the use of acid free paper. The Publications Sub-Committee should also be responsible for recommending to the Council, editors for publications being contemplated and also possible publications. No constitutional change is required.

- 77/21 That the words 'who shall be an officer or other member' be deleted from clause 24(1)(c) of the Constitution.

F. Ellis/R. Van der Merwe
Carried

- 77/22 That Council appoint a Publications Sub-Committee consisting of the publications Officer and two other Councillors.

D. Hallam/U. Broeze
Carried

- 77/23 That a publication fund be established, the amount to be decided by Council.

F. Ellis/D. Tilbrooke
Carried

21.5 Biennial General Meeting

The Sub-Committee reported the intention of placing before the 1978 AGM in Sydney the recommendation that the Annual General Meeting be changed to a Biennial General Meeting. The feeling of the Meeting did not support this recommendation.

21.6 Australia - ICOMOS

Details of the recently established Australia - ICOMOS were given by the Chairman. Membership application forms were made available.

21.7 Tax Exemption

The ICCM is not eligible for cheque stamp duty exemption or Federal Sales Tax Exemption with the exceptions of printed matter. Tax deduction is not available for ICCM members who are not professionally employed in conservation.

21.8 Constitution (deferred from item 11)

As two more changes in the Constitution have been made and as the final draft of the Constitution was not available to the Meeting

- 77/24 That the final draft of the Constitution, including

the revisions according to resolutions 77/17
and 77/21 be circulated to all members and
that a Special General Meeting be called within
3 months to consider the final draft for adoption
by the ICCM.

F. Ellis/N. North
Carried

22. There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.35 pm.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF ICCM

HELD AT THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER, 1977 AT 4.30 pm

Present: S. Walston (President), A. Byrne, A. Bermingham, A. Bos,
P. Gill, M.P. Mlakar, M. Millar, G. Marsh, H. Mansell,
R. Pachucki, D. Keany, I. Cook, D. Tilbrooke, A. Lloyd,
C. Pearson, P. Whitlock, J. Varley.

Apologies: J. Caldwell.

Business

To consider the final draft of the Constitution for adoption
by the ICCM.

I. Cook and the Secretary outlined the changes in the
Constitution from those adopted at the AGM held in Canberra in
May 1976. It was then resolved:

That the Constitution as circulated to members be adopted.

G. Marsh/H. Mansell
Carried

There being no other business the President closed the
meeting at 4.35 pm.

S. Walston
President

ELECTIONS

1. ELECTION OF ORDINARY COUNCILLORS OF THE ICCM FOR 1977/78

The results of the postal ballot are as follows:-

From a total of 216 ballot papers sent to members, 112 were returned of which one was spoilt. The votes recorded were as follows:-

A. Bermingham	65	D. Newell	90
C. Brewer	85	G. Pretty	98
J. Caldwell	93	M. Reed	97
I. Cook	103	D. Robinson	98
B. Ellis	104	P. Townley	96
I. Jack	92	M. Upton	89

Therefore, the following are declared elected as ordinary Council members of the ICCM for 1977/78.

J. Caldwell, I. Cook, B. Ellis, I. Jack, D. Newell, G. Pretty, M. Reed, D. Robinson, P. Townley, M. Upton.

C. Pearson
Secretary

2. 1977 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Following the election of officers and ordinary council members of the ICCM, the following have been elected:-

PRESIDENT:	Miss Susan Walston, Head, Conservation Department, The Australian Museum, Sydney.
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Mr Wallace Ambrose, Senior Research Officer, Research School of Pacific Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra.
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Mr Allan Byrne, Conservator, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.
	Mr Francis Bafmatuk, Papua New Guinea Museum, Port Moresby, PNG.
SECRETARY:	Dr Colin Pearson, Head, Department of Material Conservation and Restoration, WA Museum.

- TREASURER: Mr David Tilbrooke, Assistant Curator,
Department of Material Conservation and
Restoration, WA Museum.
- COUNCILLORS: Ms Jill Caldwell, Archivist, 86 Rivett Street,
Hackett, Canberra.
- Mr Ian Cook, Conservator, National Library of
Australia, Canberra.
- Mr Bob Ellis, Head, Aboriginal and Historic
Relics Preservation, South Australia.
- Professor R. Ian Jack, Department of History,
University of Sydney.
- Mr David Newell, Conservator, Mitchell Library,
Sydney.
- Mr Graeme Pretty, Senior Curator of Archaeology
and Anthropology, South Australian Museum.
- Mr Mervyn Reed, Officer in Charge, Australian
Archives, Hobart.
- Mr Dan Robinson, Curator of History and
Technology, Queensland Museum.
- Miss Patricia Townley, Conservator, The
Australian Museum, Sydney.
- Mr Murray Upton, Assistant Curator, CSIRO
Division of Entomology, Canberra.

The new Council commences office as from 12 December 1977.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA DIVISION NEWS

Since the publication of the last WA Division News in the June Bulletin, three further meetings have been held; a lecture on the 'Conservation of Rock Art' by John Clarke, WA Museum; a workshop on the 'Restoration of Ceramics and Glass' by Rodney van der Merwe, Department of Material Conservation and Restoration, and another lecture about the 'Care and Refinishing of Antique Furniture' by Carl Semczak, Pacific Regional Conservation Centre, Honolulu, Hawaii, who is temporarily working in the Department of Material Conservation and Restoration.

This was the fifth and last meeting for the year 1977 and it was combined with the WA Division's AGM. Elections of officers and councillors were held at the AGM and those elected are:

President: John Clarke (WA Museum)
 Secretary: Ulli Broeze (DMCR)
 Treasurer: David Butcher (WA Art Gallery)
 Councillors: David Hallam
 Wendee Sobon
 Fairlie Sawday
 Greg Mills
 David Briegel

Within the AGM the President Dr Colin Pearson announced his resignation to take up a new position in Canberra.

In the meantime the intended newsletter has become a reality and is circulated to members after each meeting with an abstract of that meeting and the announcement of the following meeting.

Ulli Broeze
Secretary

CONFERENCES

1. FIRST SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE CONFERENCE ON MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY

The First Southern Hemisphere Conference on Maritime Archaeology was held in Perth, Western Australia, from 3rd-11th September 1977, under the auspices of the Western Australian Museum. It was opened by the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon. Sir Charles Court OBE. Eighty delegates attended the main sessions and 38 attended the 2-day section on conservation which was restricted to the specialised problems of waterlogged wood and underwater iron. Speakers at this section included Lars Barkman from the Wasa Museum, Stockholm; Mary Lou Florian, Canadian Conservation Institute, Ottawa; Carl Semczak, Pacific Regional Conservation Centre in Honolulu and Neil North, Colin Pearson and David Tilbrooke from the Department of Material Conservation and Restoration of the Western Australian Museum.

In addition to the formal papers a session was set aside for a discussion between the conservators and maritime archaeologists which proved to be very fruitful.

The remainder of the Conference included a visit to the Fremantle Museum, Departments of Material Conservation and Restoration and Maritime Archaeology of the WA Museum, also a 4-day field trip to the Abrolhos Islands to inspect the wreck sites of the *Batavia* (1629) and *Zeewijk* (1727).