

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM 22)

Friday 22 September, 1995, at 6 pm at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney.

i) Members present: Tamara Lavrencic, Marcelle Scott, Julian Bickersteth, Margaret Alexander, Catriona Angus, Sarah-Jane Rennie, Fiona Tennant, Mary Cox, Marion Roubos-Bennett, Ian Batterham, Christine Ianna, Penny Edmonds, Stewart Laidler, Colin Pearson, David Young, David Stein, Colin MacGregor, Malgorzata Sawicki, Donna Midwinter, Philip Venn, Jenny Dickens, Rose Peel, Rosie Freemantle.

ii) Apologies: Grant Collins, Robyn Sloggett, Gina Drummond, Graeme Scott, Stephanie MacDonald

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of AGM 19

Res 93/1 J.Baillie/I.Cook

2. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM 21

Res 95/1 S-J Rennie/ M Cox

3. President's Report

The President's Report was delivered by Tamara Lavrencic.

The past year is one that AICCM members can take pride in, distinguished by activities which featured a strong collaborative ingredient and an emphasis on raising awareness of materials conservation in the wider community.

At the Divisional level, the National Council level, and within the Special Interest Groups, there has been greater involvement by groups of people, rather than having just a few individuals trying to undertake projects.

Achievements have included:

The production of a **strategic plan**. While not finalised, this document has benefited from the in-pur of many members of AICCM. It is to go next to Special Interest Groups and State Divisions for comment. This document finally records AICCM's priorities and the many activities that it is involved in. It is the result of years of refining and will be of great assistance to National Council in budgeting for annual activities.

The Victorian Division of AICCM produced two excellent brochures, updating the available information about AICCM and conservation in general. Congratulations to the many people who participated in the process, and in particular, Robin Hodgson, who actively encouraged involvement from AICCM members. Jeavons Baillie has offered to mount these brochures, along with AICCM information sheets on the State Library of Victoria's home page.

The joint New Zealand Professional Conservators group and AICCM meeting in Wellington last year really set the tone for collaboration co-operation, and gave many Australian delegates new insight into the meaning of bi-culturalism.

Having launched the **Conservator of the Year Award** in 1994 to celebrate 21 years of operation, AICCM was proud to present the first award this year, here at the Art Gallery of New South Wales this very night, to Colin Pearson for his outstanding contribution to the conservation profession over the past 25 years.

Australia now has a **National Conservation and Preservation Policy** for movable cultural heritage, the result of many contributions from people demonstrating their commitment to the preservation of Australia's diverse cultural heritage. AICCM members played a significant role in developing and refining this policy.

The Sculptures, Monuments and Outdoor Cultural Materials (SMOCM) Special Interest Group has had a particularly successful year in raising the profile of conservation in the wider community. So much so, in fact, that two grants have been awarded, enabling the employment of a part-time project officer, Julie Potts, and the establishment of a data-base incorporating images. The goal is the creation of a national Inventory of Sculptures, Monuments and Outdoor Cultural Material. Three pilot projects have commenced in NSW at Bathurst, Queanbeyan and Randwick. Working parties consisting of local government employees, councillors and community representatives have been formed to identify material for the inventory.

In all, it has been a very active year for the AICCM at all Levels. Given that those members active on councils, sub-committees and special interest groups have their own work demands as well, the achievements made in this year are a credit to them and the profession.

Res 95/2 J Bickersteth/ M Scott

4. Secretary's Report

No report was delivered at the meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Julian Bickersteth and questions from the floor were satisfactorily addressed.

Res 95/3 S-J Rennie/D Stein

A formal request was made from the floor that the Secretary should write to Australian Archives to thank them for a donation of teaching fees earned by Archives staff at the University of Canberra.

6. Conservator of the Year Award

In recognition of the AICCM's 21st Anniversary in 1994, National Council launched a perpetual competition to recognise a Conservator of the Year and the AICCM. The inaugural award was presented to Dr Colin Pearson, at a ceremony at the Art Gallery of New South Wales immediately preceding this meeting, for his outstanding contribution to the conservation profession over the past 25 years.

7. Election of Office Bearers

Only one nomination was received for each of the following positions and the nominees were deemed duly elected.

President	Robyn Sloggett
Vice President	Marcelle Scott
Secretary	Margaret Alexander
Treasurer	Julian Bickersteth
Publications Officer	Gina Drummond
Ordinary Member	Tamara Lavrencic
Ordinary Member	Jeavons Baillie
Ordinary Member	Johann Alcock
Ordinary Member	Graeme Scott

Nominations were called from the floor for further Ordinary Members and the following members were elected:

Sarah Powell, Stewart Laidler, Rosie Peel.

Res 95/5

In Robyn Sloggett's absence a message from her, accepting the Presidency offering her congratulations to the outgoing committee and discussing her vision for the future was read to members.

First my apologies for not being here. Vacancy seems a rather inauspicious start for a Presidential term - but for Heaven's sake I might have come all that way (delayed out of Melbourne because of congestion on the third runway, three hours circling Sydney - we all know what it's like), and not been elected. But if this is being read out, and not consigned surreptitiously to a rubbish bin in the corner of the room, then you know and I know that I'm it for the next twelve months.

There are several reasons why I was convinced to stand for President, but the two arguments that persuaded me were that the AICCM is in solid shape with most of the office bearers from the last year being prepared to continue in their roles (even when they found out who was standing for President - their commitment in the face of obvious adversity is noted), and the important times ahead for the AICCM.

The Committee has done an impressive job in consolidating the role of the AICCM at many levels within the profession and in the wider public and potential arena. Tamara's report from the last general meeting highlighted some of the wins and gains of the organisation. The Draft Corporate Plan is a major development, securely locating the aims and goals of the AICCM. Other initiatives such as the Conservator of the Year, and Student of the Year

program provide important focus and recognition. The strength of the Special Interest Groups within the AICCM marks the maturing of the profession, and also highlights the fact that conservators now increasingly represent a professional critical mass that enables us to extend our interest beyond our institutions and workplace. My thanks to the previous Committee and especially to Tamara for the work they have done on behalf of the profession.

I think in very organisation in Australia people are saying "the next five years are going to be really important for us". I therefore don't want to appear trite when I say "the next five years are going to be really important for us" but there are several key initiatives which have developed or are being developed for this period. The National Conservation Policy for Moveable Cultural Heritage, which was endorsed at the April meeting of the Cultural Minister's Council, and which is shortly to be launched by Minister Lee, is a major opportunity for us to put in place some important long term strategies. The opportunity to host the IIC Conference in Melbourne in 2000 is an exhilarating and exhausting thought, as is our participation in the 1998 ICOM Conference to be held in Melbourne. The work of the Heritage Collection Committee continues to have critical importance to the profession. Other important issues for the future include our relationship with Museums Australia, professional accreditation, our public and professional advocacy role, and our ongoing financial viability.

The conservation profession has matured to a point of strength at government, institutional and public levels and with a dedicated, hardworking committee (you know who you are) I look forward to doing my best. To make a strong contribution to the profession over the next year (and don't forget - you'll all be found a job to do!).

8. Appointment of Auditor for 95/96

Members agreed that Murchison Services be appointed auditors for 96/96

Res 95/6

J Bickersteth/C Pearson

9. Other Business

9.1 Tamara Lavrencic, as outgoing President thanked the previous Council members for their good teamwork and for the many tasks they have successfully undertaken. Marcelle Scott (Vice President) also thanked the outgoing committee and acknowledged the particular contribution of the previous President, Tamara Lavrencic.

9.2 Julian Bickersteth put a motion that the Accreditation Committee be asked to change the title of Professional Members from Associate to Fellow. His reason was that there appears to be some misunderstanding that Associate membership is the lowest category of membership instead of being the highest. The motion was seconded by Tamara Lavrencic. Colin Pearson also strongly supported the motion.

Discussion followed with some members speaking against the title Fellow as being sexist and suggested Professional Member as an alternative. Marcelle Scott and Penny Edmonds spoke against the motion because the title Fellow was normally a very high honour bestowed on members who have made outstanding contributions to their profession and which cannot be applied for.

Julian Bickersteth amended his motion "that the Accreditation Committee investigate an alternative term for Associate Membership. The motion was seconded by Graeme Scott.

The motion was agreed to by members present.

- 9.3 Donna Midwinter took the floor and discussed progress of SMOCM. Grants of \$30,000 have been received and a part-time staffer has been engaged to work on the data base. The Art Gallery of NSW is giving significant support along with many other organisations. The group has a handbook in draft form and there are three pilot projects going on in NSW (one of them in Queanbeyan). A training program is in place in Randwick. Victoria is also active with grants and has taken on a full time employee.

Donna sought more active support from AICCM than the present level and agreed to provide a report for each National Council meeting. She appealed for co-operation between groups with similar aims and the avoidance of duplication of effort.

10. Date and Venue of next AGM in 1996:

To be advised.



Auditors Report to the Members of the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material Incorporated

I, James Ronald Murchison of 44 Hampden Road, Artarmon NSW 2064, hereby certify that I have examined the books and financial records of The Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material Incorporated.

In my opinion the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the organisation and the result of its operations for the year ended 30th June, 1995 in Accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

J.R.Murchison, 22 September, 1995
Murchison Services Pty Ltd

**Balance Sheet
As at 30th June 1995**

	1995 (\$)	1994 (\$)
Current Assets		
Cash	67 625	34116
Total Current Assets	<u>67 625</u>	<u>34116</u>
Total Assets	<u>67 625</u>	<u>34 116</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors & Borrowings	27 500	600
Total Current Liabilities	<u>27 500</u>	<u>600</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>27 500</u>	<u>600</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$40 124</u>	<u>\$33,516</u>
Accumulated Funds		
Retained Surplus At Beginning of Year	33 516	35 265
Surplus/(Loss) Current Year	6 609	(1 749)
Total Funds	<u>\$40 125</u>	<u>\$33 516</u>

Breakup of Creditors and Accruals

Audit fees accrued	1 000
SMOCM accrual	22 500
Grant accrual	4 000
	<u>27 500</u>

**Income and Expenditure Statement
For the Year Ended 30th June 1995**

	1995 (\$)	1994 (\$)
Income		
Advertising	1 600	1 430
Conference	3 619	-
Subscriptions	34 684	31 400
Donations	1 081	2 088
Grant received - DCA	9 000	5 000
Workshops	-	341
Summer School	10 500	12 301
Professional Administration	281	394
Paintings Group	11 045	750
Interest Received	1 055	988
SMOCM	23 130	-
Textiles SIG	134	-
Publications	251	632
	<u>96 380</u>	<u>55 324</u>
Expenditure		
Accounting & Audit Fees	1 095	650
Bank Charges	217	238
CAMA Newsletter	-	3 000
Conference/Workshops	2 806	1 738
Grant Payable	4 000	-
Equipment Purchases <\$300	296	-
Paintings Group	9 331	-
Postage, Printing & Stationery	4 884	3 346
Prizes	100	100
Publications - Newsletter	5 832	5 891
Publications - Bulletin	5 623	15 292
Secretariat	11 000	10 500
SMOCM	22 900	-
State Capitation Fees	3 929	3 778
Summer School Expenses	13 673	8 913
Textile Special Interest Group	143	-
Travel Fund	1 394	751
Travelling expenses	2 548	2 876
	<u>89 771</u>	<u>57 073</u>
Surplus/(Loss) for the Year	<u>6 609</u>	<u>(1 749)</u>