

FROM THE EDITORS

In this issue of the National Newsletter, we present the draft proposal for professional membership of the AICCM. An enormous amount of work has gone into the draft thus far, by the Accreditation Committee and James Elwing in particular. Members should think carefully about this issue in preparation for the AGM in Canberra in September. Any comments forwarded to Margaret Alexander, the National Secretary, will be included in a paper for discussion at the AGM.

This is the penultimate Newsletter from the present editorial committee. In September we hope to pass the Newsletter on to another State committee. The Editor of the Bulletin, Heather Mansell, is also ready to pass on her role at the same time. Members and divisions are encouraged to think seriously about whether they can take on either of these commitments. Both the Newsletter and the Bulletin perform an important function for our professional community, and neither publication should be allowed to lapse through lack of interest.

As with much AICCM work, editing for the Newsletter and the Bulletin is on a voluntary basis. The National Council is making progress towards obtaining funding for one or both of these jobs, but financial assistance for the preparation of our publications may not be forthcoming immediately. While it can be a heavy commitment and will continue to be a labour of love for some time yet, the task is still very rewarding.

For more information about the jobs, contact Debbie Breen on (03) 669 9955 for the Newsletter, and Heather Mansell on (02) 960 1023 for the Bulletin. All you budding editors, writers, graphic artists and critics out there - we're waiting for your call!

Editorial Committee

Debbie Breen, Jackie Millard, Trish Stokes.

COMING EVENTS - NATIONAL

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF CCAE CONSERVATION TRAINING PROGRAMME, Saturday 24 September (Softball Game at Bungendore Oval) and Sunday 25 September (Student reunion at CCAE, 6.00-8.00pm).

AICCM NATIONAL CONFERENCE, 25-28 September, Canberra. After two decades of professional conservation in Australia, the time has come to take a closer look at what we have achieved and consider the future. The AICCM needs to define corporate goals as well as plan for achieving them. It is with this aim in mind that the 1988 AICCM conference is being organised.

The conference will be one of reflection, reassessment and planning. The proposed plan for the conference is to have oral presentations covering the topic of the day, followed by discussion groups which in turn make recommendations in a plenary session.

The three topics selected for the conference so far are: "Achievements in Conservation and the Role of conservators"; "Conservation training" and "Future Directions". Provisional fees are \$80 (Ordinary members); \$45 (Concessional). For further information, please contact: DARA ROME, Australian War Memorial, 4 Callan Street, Mitchell, ACT 2911. Telephone (062) 416 122, FAX (062) 417 988.

New Responsibilities: Documenting Multicultural Australia, 11-13 November, 1988, Melbourne: A national conference on the collection, preservation and interpretation of Australia's multicultural heritage.

The conference will consider the adequacy of collection and exhibition policies in institutions such as museums, libraries, archives and other historical repositories. It will address the need for institutions to develop policies that ensure full and equitable representation of all peoples in Australia.

In particular the conference will address the following issues:

CHANGING RESPONSIBILITIES - are our institutions representative of all Australian people? Speakers will review the current roles, policies and practices of state and national collecting institutions.

Discussion will concentrate on the variety of approaches that are presently being adopted and practised, to do with the collection, preservation and exhibition of material from Aboriginal and immigrant communities.

REPRESENTATION AND ACCESS - why are communities reluctant to donate their collections to institutions? Speakers will select some of the

major issues associated with the collection of material and with the use of collections within institutions of all sizes. Policies on language, exhibitions, access, collecting and training will be examined.

THE FUTURE - how can the situation be improved? New directions for education and training, collection development and interpretation will be considered. Speakers will assess the skills needed to make our institutions more efficient and effective in a multicultural society.

Participation at the conference is open to everyone. Especially welcome will be members of particular cultural communities that are developing their historical collections. Also welcome are practitioners from existing or proposed historical repositories.

For further information about the conference, phone Margaret Birtley on (03) 649 87833.

INTERNATIONAL

ICOM Committee for Conservation, "Control of Museum Climate in Asian and Pacific Areas", 18 September, 1988, Japan.

The meeting will discuss the present situation of climate control in Asian and Pacific museums, and possible solutions to their problems. For more information, please contact: Mr Nobuyuki Kamba, Museum Science Department, National Museum of Japanese History, 117 Jyonai-cho, Sakura, Chiba, Japan 285.

The Parker Library Conservation Conference, 18-21 September, 1988, Cambridge, England.

The conference, at Corpus Christi College, will concentrate on the conservation of manuscripts. It will have special significance and appeal for small libraries. Registration is limited to 150 participants. For more information, please contact: The Parker Library, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge CB 2 1RH, UK. Telephone (0223) 338 025.

IIC 12th International Congress, "Conservation of Far Eastern Art", 19-23 September, 1988, Kyoto, Japan.

The IIC Office has now prepared a provisional list of speakers, and is accepting registrations at their office, 6 Buckingham Street, London, WC2N 6BA, UK. The closing date for registrations is 30 June, 1988. For more information on the programme and costs, please contact the IIC office.

International Conference on Terminology for Museums, 21-24 September, 1988, Cambridge, England.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Museums Documentation Association (MDA) and the Getty Art History Information Programme (AHIP) and will provide a review of recent developments in computer databases and systems within cultural institutions. For more information, please contact: The Museum Documentation Association, Building O, 347 Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge CB1 4DH, UK. Telephone (0223) 242 848.

International Symposium, 'Analysis and Examination of an Art Object by Imaging Technique', 29 September - 1 October 1988 Tokyo National Research Institute of Cultural Properties. For more information, please contact: Mr Sadatoshi Miura, Conservation Science Department, Tokyo National Research Institute of Cultural Properties, 13-27 Ueno Park, Taito-ku, Tokyo, Japan 110.

CANADIAN CONSERVATION INSTITUTE, "Conservation of historic and Artistic Works on Paper", 2-7 October, 1988, Ottawa, Canada.

Papers will be presented relating to the care and preservation of historic and artistic works on paper. These will be relevant to the concerns of conservators, scientists, curators and archivists. For more information, please contact: Symposium '88, Canadian Conservation Institute, 1030 Innes Rd, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M 8, Canada.

UKIC 30th Anniversary Conference "Conservation Today", 10-14 October, 1988, London, England.

The conference will be held at the Commonwealth Institute, London, incorporating lectures on all the disciplines represented by the membership. Areas covered will include conservation in archaeology, ceramic and glass, easel paintings, textiles sculpture and wall paintings. For more information, please contact: Victoria Todd, UKIC, 37 Upper Addison Gardens, London W14 8AJ, UK. Telephone (01) 603 5643.

International Trade Fair and Conference on Restoration and Conservation Techniques, 18-20 October, 1988, Zutphen, Netherlands.

The theme of the conference is "Education and Training in Restoration Principles and Techniques" and will be the meeting point for institutions, conservators, craftspeople and commercial enterprises specialising in the restoration and preservation of historic and artistic works. For more information, please contact: P. Kaper, President, Restauratie, PO Box 80, 7200 AB Zutphen, The Netherlands. Telephone (31) 5750 15100.

TAPPI Paper Preservation Symposium, 19-21 October, 1988, Washington DC, USA.

The conference will present the importance and techniques of preserving books, records, works of art and other cultural materials produced on paper. It will be of interest to archivists, binders, conservators, engineers, librarians, printers, publishers and scientists who produce, disseminate, store and preserve such materials.

Topics discussed will include: optimum storage conditions for books and documents, the manufacture and use of alkaline paper, techniques for deacidifying and strengthening deteriorated and embrittled paper, and the different properties of printing papers that affect preservation. The preregistration deadline for the symposium is 9 September, 1988. Fees for TAAPI members and members of national library, archive, conservation and related societies, are \$US300. Late on-site fees are \$US400. For more information, please contact: Meeting Department, TAAPI Headquarters, Technology Park/Atlanta, PO Box 105113, Atlanta, GA, USA 30348-5113. Telephone (404) 446 1400.

AIC Wood Artefacts Group, "Gilding Conservation Symposium", 26-28 October, 1988, Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The symposium will address the conservation problems associated with gilt wood in all its manifestations, including furniture and decorative arts, architecture, ethnographic and archaeological material. While the craft of gilding is well documented and utilises material and techniques that have remained constant throughout the centuries, the field of gilt wood conservation has, to date, received scant attention.

The goal of the symposium is to assemble a body of knowledge which will inform conservators and other professionals on the care of gilt wood artefacts. There will be three major subject areas: connoisseurship; material characterisation and cause of deterioration; and treatment procedures. For further information, please contact AIC Wood Artefacts Group, AIC National Office, The Klinge Mansion, 3545 Williamsburg lane, NW, Washington DC 20008, USA.

HARPERS FERRY REGIONAL TEXTILE GROUP, "20th Century Materials, Testing and Textile Conservation", 3-4 November 1988, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA.

The conference will address the problems of preserving 20th century textiles of synthetic and natural fibres. Under investigation will be: the use of man-made materials for conservation purposes, the methodology of testing and evaluating these materials, and the types of scientific analyses currently available to the conservator to date, authenticate and document all historic textiles.

Topics to be discussed should include: Conservation and treatment of textiles made from man-made fibres; application of synthetic materials in conserving historic textiles: compatibility and longevity; physical and chemical properties of man-made fibres, including aging and deterioration; practical testing methods for the small laboratory; and advanced scientific analysis available through industry, large museums, universities and private testing facilities. For more information, please contact: Katherine Dirks, Division of Textiles Rm 4131, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, 20560 USA.

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International Conference on Pigments and Colourings, 5-7 December, 1988, Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Orleans-La Source, France.

The conference will be focusing on "Pigments and Colourings - dyes, paints and illuminated prints from antiquity until the end of the 12th century". It will provide opportunities for archaeologists, art historians, chemists and conservators to discuss work which has been done in these areas. New scientific and analytic methods will be studied, and all sessions will be chaired jointly by an historian and chemist. For more information, please contact: M. Bernard Guineau, Secretariat du Colloque "Pigments et Colorants", Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 3B avenue de la Recherche Scientifique, 45071 ORLEANS CEDEX-FRANCE. Telephone 38 63 44 30.

International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property, 20-25 February, 1988, National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, Lucknow, India.

The conference is jointly sponsored by ICCROM and INTACH, and papers will cover the following areas: effect of microorganisms and plant growth; effects of insects and rodents on different materials (eg leather, fur, paper, photographic materials, textiles, metals, paintings); biodeterioration of various restoration materials (eg adhesives, resins, canvas and paper); use of chemicals, radiation and other techniques for control of microorganisms and insects in museums and ecology of biodeterioration of museum materials.

For more information, please contact: The Convenor, Organising Committee, International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property, National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, Sector E/3, Aliganj Scheme, Lucknow 226020, India.

CORRECTION

Just to confuse you, the March 1988 issue of the Newsletter was incorrectly numbered as No 25 on the cover. It should have read No 26 as indicated in the Index.

PEOPLE AND PROJECTS

TASMANIA

QVMAG Staff have been preparing a number of paintings and works on paper for the "Face of Australia" exhibition. **Mieke Loucin**, assisted by **Linda Clark** and **Louise James**, has completed work on a 1954 Cod boat which will be displayed in the new Maritime Museum in Launceston.

Therese Mulford has returned from her study trip to the SCC in Adelaide, sponsored by Australia Council.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WA Museum welcomes **Sarah Murphy**, Local Museums Co-ordinator, and **Brad Manera**, Travelling Curator.

In April, an exhibition opened at WA Maritime Museum highlighting work carried out by the Materials Conservation department. Photographs and artefacts were used to illustrate typical procedures in the conservation of Marine Archaeological artefacts.

Gordon Hudson and **Errol Allen** are busy preparing and assembling the Bicentennial Touring exhibition "Wonderland, the Dream and Reality".

ACT

Australian War memorial staff recently played host to 10,000 visitors who came to view conservation and storage areas on International Museums Day. In the same week, they also had to deal with a flood, but efficient recovery of water-damaged material meant only a small amount of expendable items were lost.

ANG staff are preparing folding stretchers for extra large Arthur Boyd paintings to be shipped to the Venice Biennale. Gallery staff will unfold and reattach canvases on arrival.

Jill Sterrett has left NLA to return to US via Victoria, where she is conducting a workshop on the new Vacuum Table at NGV. We wish her well. **Graham Hinton** has left the National Museum to become the Director of Fairfield City Council Museum in Sydney. **Mark Henderson** has joined the permanent staff at the National Museum.

QUEENSLAND

Alan Phenix, **Robert Wilmot** and **Sarah Slade** from SCC have been visiting QLD Art Gallery to work on pieces from the Great Australia Art exhibition. **Gillian Ridsdale** has accepted a part-time contract to work on Textiles.

Rowena Hill and **Christine Ianna** of QLD Museum are involved in some unusual projects: Rowena is stabilising the "Investigator Tree" from Sweers Island and Christine has just completed the consolidation of rubber tyres from Bert Hinkler's "Auro-Baby" aircraft.

Warwick Perberdy of Australian Archives completed condition reports for records held in Darwin which will be sent to Brisbane for conservation treatment. While there he met **Catherine Millikan**, the new conservator at the Northern Territory Museum.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Tessa Roberts has joined Campbell Conservation after six years at the Textile Conservation centre, Hampton Court, and brief stints at the Powerhouse Museum and Australian Museum.

Cultural Paper Conservation has merged with Campbell Conservation with **Kay Soderlund** and **Sue Everitt** now running the Paper Conservation department.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ICCROM

Report of the 15th Session of the General Assembly, May 1988.

1988 is the commencement of a decade of promotion of world cultural heritage, and ICCROM is at a stage where it can make a significant contribution. With support from 79 member countries, and stabilization of its funding, further development and an increase in heritage activities is ensured.

The report to the General Assembly from Australia covered a number of areas, including information on the "Protection of movable cultural heritage" legislation, development of new museums, the ICOM-CC meeting held in Sydney last year, and Australia's role in SE Asia and the Pacific. Activities which have been made possible by increased assistance to the SE Asia-Pacific region include:

- consultancies on maritime archaeology and painting conservation in Malaysia.
- consultancy on preventive conservation and textile conservation in Indonesia (the latter is a student project through the Conservation training programme at CCAE).
- workshops on conservation of baskets and mats, and on museum curatorship for Pacific countries. The workshops have been run by the Regional Conservation Centre in Canberra, with the generous financial help of UNESCO and ICCROM.

- professional level training for museum conservators from SE Asia at CCAE, with financial assistance from UNDP.

Conservators and institutions in Australia should be encouraged to make more use of the resources of ICCROM – through their training courses, technical assistance programme, documentation and library facilities, and in particular by requesting financial assistance for regional projects.

Dr Colin Pearson
Vice-President, ICCROM General Assembly

SPECIAL REPORT: PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN AICCM

The Council of AICCM presents a draft of the proposal for the professional membership category, for discussion and criticism by members. This was prepared primarily by the Accreditation Panel which was appointed by National Council after the AGM in Adelaide (1986). The panel consists of trained conservators nominated by the Membership and selected by secret ballot of Council. The members of the panel who have participated in the preparation of the proposal are: Anne l'Ons, Bernard Kertesz, Kerry McInnis, James Elwing and John Olive. The present draft was prepared by James Elwing after discussions and amendments at recent Council meetings.

The draft proposal will be discussed at the AICCM AGM in Canberra on Monday 26 September, 1988. The proposal is not immutable, so members are encouraged to send written responses to the draft to Margaret Alexander, GPO Box 1638, Canberra ACT 2601, by no later than 15 August, 1988. The draft and these responses will form the basis for discussion at the AGM.

Introduction: Proposal for Professional Membership Category within AICCM.

When the AICCM was originally set up, there was no professional category of membership included in the Constitution.

Up to this point, this omission had been of no great significance. However, as the membership level and the visibility of the profession as a whole has increased, the following factors have been identified as needs of the profession:

- (1) that there should be a voice within the profession, identified as that of practising conservators, rather than that of a 'general interest' group;
- (2) that the AICCM should establish standards of professional competence.



From left to right at ICCROM General Assembly: Prof Dr Andrej Tomaszewski (Director), Dr Colin Pearson (Vice-President), Mr Jean Cousal (Vice-President), Ms Masschelein-Kleiner (President), Prof Cevat Erder (Retiring Director) and Sir Bernard Feilder (Director Emeritus).

These considerations have previously led to the creation of a code of ethics and also the creation of the Council's Professional Accreditation Sub-Committee.

The following proposals contains the work of that Committee, extended by the decisions of Council.

Essential Structure.

It is proposed that:

- (1) A professional category of membership shall be created within AICCM.
- (2) A Sub-Committee of National Council of AICCM shall be created to examine the credentials of applicants for professional membership of AICCM, and to forward recommendations to AICCM Council.
- (3) This Committee will normally consist of three professional members of AICCM.
- (4) The Committee shall be periodically elected by secret ballot of all AICCM members, for a period of three years, and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (5) The names of candidates for the Accreditation Sub-Committee, together with candidate platform statements in 200 words or less, shall be included along with postal ballot papers, addressing the proposition:
'Within the boundaries of AICCM Constitution by-laws, please describe how you perceive the duties of a Professional Membership Committee member, with emphasis on the standards you would consider acceptable to ensure professional status.'
- (6) The Committee shall meet regularly to facilitate processing of applications within six months of application being made for professional membership.
- (7) That vacancies in the Committee between elections shall be filled by nomination of the National Council of AICCM.
- (8) That the new category of membership should have all rights and duties of an ordinary (existing) member of AICCM.
- (9) That professional members will agree to abide by, and be signatories to, the AICCM 'Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Conservation Practice'.
- (10) That the professional member shall have the right to use the appendix ICCM after his/her name in a professional capacity. (For discussion)
- (11) That the annual membership fee for a professional member of AICCM shall be twice that for an ordinary member.
- (12) If the Accreditation Sub-Committee is satisfied as to the fitness of a proposed professional member, the Accreditation Sub-Committee shall recommend to AICCM Council that he/she be declared elected.
- (13) Upon payment of obligations owing to AICCM incurred prior to the forfeiture of membership and upon payment for current membership dues, any former member whose membership has been forfeited for the non-payment of dues or other obligations owing to the AICCM shall be reinstated in the same class of membership as that held by the said former member. However, if five or more years have elapsed from the date of said forfeiture, a former professional member must re-apply for that status, to the current Accreditation Sub-Committee.

Criteria for Professional Membership of AICCM

- (1) Application for Professional Membership of AICCM may be made by financial members of not less than two years standing who satisfy the following requirements:
 - (a) Graduates of a recognised conservation training programme of three years duration who have had two years additional work experience in the conservation field.
OR
 - (b) Graduates of a recognised conservation training programme of two years duration, who have had three years additional work experience in the conservation field.
OR
 - (c) Persons who have been working *professionally* in the conservation field for a minimum of five years.
- (2) However, the following factors, where applicable, must be examined:
 - (a) The nature and extent of the conservation programme undertaken.
 - (b) The nature and suitability of apprenticeship or in-service training and other alternative training methods.
 - (c) The relevance of work experience in the conservation field.

- (3) The National Council of AICCM, through its Accreditation Sub-Committee shall be the arbiter of these professional standards.
- (4) The applicant must meet the standard of ethical conduct detailed in the AICCM 'Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Conservation Practice', the National Council of AICCM being the arbiter of such standards.
- (5) The professional standing of the applicant (e.g. professional appointments, publications, etc.) may reinforce the validity of an application for professional membership.
- (6) Any person whose application for Professional Membership has been denied by the Accreditation Sub-Committee may appeal to the President of AICCM within thirty days after receipt of such denial. The Council of AICCM shall appoint a Membership Review Panel consisting of five Professional Members, at least three of whom shall be Council Members, and two of whom shall have the same speciality as the Appellant. No member of the Accreditation Sub-Committee shall also belong to the Membership Review Panel. The Membership Review Panel shall review and consider the evidence presented to the Accreditation Sub-Committee and shall uphold such decision unless it shall find such decision arbitrary, capricious, or an abuse of discretion.

Inauguration Procedures

- (1) Constitutional and By-laws changes required to implement the Professional Membership Category must be voted upon at an Annual General Meeting of the AICCM.
- (2) Candidate nominations shall be called for from the membership for the Accreditation Sub-Committee of AICCM.
- (3) Candidates for the initial Committee election must meet the requirements for professional membership. This will be determined by AICCM National Council.
- (4) The Sub-Committee shall be elected by secret postal ballot of all AICCM members for a term of three years.
- (5) Upon election, the three successful candidates will be confirmed by Council as the first professional members of AICCM.
- (6) The Accreditation Sub-Committee shall meet initially at three monthly intervals for the first year and then at six monthly intervals to process applications for professional membership.

Material Required for Professional Membership Assessment

- (1) Completed Application Form.
- (2) *Supporting Material*
Where appropriate, the following documents must accompany the AICCM membership application forms:
 - a. A curriculum vitae
 - b. Certified copies of academic qualifications
 - c. References or names of referees to validate work experience.
 - d. Additional information to support the application (e.g. a description of the nature of the applicant's training and professional standing, a list of published works, offices held in professional organisations).
- (3) Completed forms, together with supporting material must be submitted to the Sub-committee via the National Secretary, for consideration by the Accreditation Sub-Committee.
- (5) The Sub-Committee may need to request supplementary information from the applicant.

TECHNICAL NOTES

How much will that perspex flex: A problem linked with perspex glazing is the depth of spacer required to prevent perspex coming into contact with the picture surface. This is particularly so with large paintings which may be installed into travelling crates in a horizontal position resulting in perspex flexing towards the picture surface.

Technical advisory departments could not provide data on the degree of flex, but a length of fishing line and paper can provide a simple guide. The frame with perspex is placed face down on the table. A length of fishing line is laid across the centre top of the perspex and pulled taut from under the frame. The extent of the flex can then be determined by placing a piece of paper in the centre of the perspex and drawing a line at the level of the fishing line.

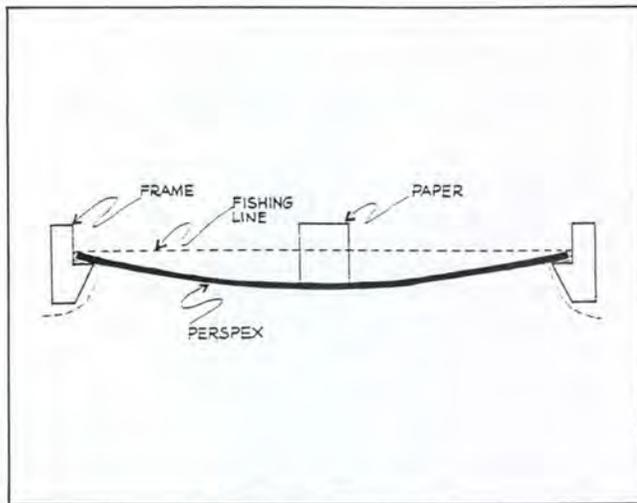


Illustration by Chollie Garcia

I found a 4' x 6' perspex sheet of 4.5mm thickness flexed 9mm. Flex will also depend on the size of the rebate, the size and thickness of the perspex, and the degree of support provided by the spacer.

Therese Mulford
QVMAG, Tasmania

Canadian Conservation Institute has published a description of how to use a camera to measure light levels - useful to know if you don't have a light meter. Contact Christine Ianna at QLD Museum for details. Telephone (07) 840 7681.

Ultrasonic welder

Australian Archives has recently taken delivery of a locally made ultrasonic welder for polyester. The Consonic Ultrasonic Archives Welder Model AWOT-150 has been designed and manufactured by Consolidated Ultrasonics in Sydney to Australian Archives requirements.

The welder is designed for polyester encapsulation or enveloping of documents. It achieves this by generating a strong thin and flat hermetic weld bead inside the edge of 2 polyester sheets stacked on top of each other. The open throat allows for dividing welds inside multi-document encapsulations.

The welding is achieved by state of the art ultrasonic vibration equipment. This consists of an ultrasound generator operating at 40 kHz and a sonic drive carriage and probe which travels along welding silently and effectively by generating frictional heat through the 40 kHz probe vibration.

Advantages of Ultrasonic Encapsulation:

- A. Envelopes can be made up to 1.6m x 1m in size easily with a maximum single weld length operation of 1.6m. Polyester sheets 75 microns to 200 microns can be welded.
- B. Documents are preserved airtight and watertight, hermetically sealed for the maximum possible future life and usage.
- C. Such total encapsulation makes documents resistant to handling, easier to transport and thus more "user accessible".
- D. The ultrasonic weld is small, clear, unobstructive and smooth. This means encapsulated documents lie completely flat when stacked for storage. Documents therefore have no curvature memory maximizing document life, minimizing storage space and saving time in handling.
- E. Envelopes are made to the correct size realising efficient materials usage, efficient storage and tight fitting encapsulation maximising document life.
- F. A neat polyester stub may be left for binding purposes, complete books may be stored leaf by leaf this way.
- G. The ultrasonic method enables encapsulation of many small documents in a larger format by providing dividing welds between documents.
- I. The machine is user easy and safe so consistent envelopes can be made with semi skilled operators, requiring little learning time with literally no machine maintenance necessary.

The price of the Australian Archives welder was approximately \$19,000. Obviously, the price will vary depending on size and other requirements. For further information relating to the design and purchase, contact: Ms Ina Koneczna, Australian Archives, PO Box 34, Dickson, ACT 2601.

Telephone (062) 433 620; Or Mr Alex Belluccini, Consulting Engineer, Consolidated Ultrasonics (NSW) Pty Ltd, PO Box 295, Leichardt, 2040. Telephone (02) 569 5422. For additional information about the performance of the equipment, contact: Colin Webb, PO Box 447, Belconnen ACT 2671. Telephone (062) 421 468.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

New Course on the Conservation of Rock Art: A one-year Graduate Diploma in the Conservation of Rock Art is offered at the Canberra College of Advanced Education, commencing in February 1989. This is a joint project of the CCAE and the Getty Conservation Institute.

The aim of the course is to draw on existing knowledge and experience to provide specialist training in the conservation of rock art. Particular objectives are to:

- provide an understanding of rock art as material culture on a world-wide basis
- provide an understanding of the methods of producing rock art and the causes of its deterioration
- provide training in the theory and practice of recording and conserving rock art, taking into account conservation ethics and the concerns of traditional landowners and custodians
- develop an awareness of the management requirements of rock art sites
- develop an ability to plan applied research in the field of rock art conservation.

Before the course commences in March there will be a month-long summer school in February which will provide an introduction to resource management. In the first semester, students will be introduced to the identification and deterioration of rock forms, basic recording techniques, sample preparation techniques for analysis, and conservation and restoration processes. These will then be put into practice in the winter school (Field Conservation) of three weeks duration in July.

In the second semester, the materials and techniques used in the field, and the samples collected there, will be tested and evaluated, for example, by plotting measurements and photographs and by analysing rock and pigment samples. Conservation and restoration techniques, both those requiring intervention and those that do not, will be evaluated with the help of Aboriginal people. This will lead to a research project on some aspect of the deterioration or conservation of rock art.

The graduate diploma is a one-year full-time course commencing in February 1989, and finishing at the end of November. As the course will not be offered on an annual basis, it is not available to part-time students. The student intake will be limited to fifteen.

For entrance into the graduate diploma applicants should possess a degree or equivalent in a relevant field such as earth sciences, prehistory, anthropological or social sciences, conservation, rock art studies, or cultural or natural heritage management. Since an understanding of materials science is basic to conservation, applicants should have passed chemistry at first-year university level or equivalent.

Applications for admission to the course should include a covering letter giving the applicant's training and experience, and explaining the reasons for wishing to study rock art conservation. Two confidential recommendations in support of the applicant must be sent under separate cover by the two referees. If feasible, all applicants who meet the entry requirements will be interviewed for admission to the course.

The language of the course will be English; overseas students will have to show proficiency in English to be admitted.

Since the College is obliged to charge tuition fees for overseas students, special scholarships will be provided to cover these costs. However, it is not possible to guarantee additional financial support, and all students should therefore seek financial assistance to cover travel costs and living expenses. Additional grants are being sought and these will be announced if and when available.

Applications for the course should be submitted on the official College Application Form and sent to reach the College no later than 19 August 1988. Late applications may be available depending on availability of places.

Further Information is available from the Secretary, Cultural Heritage Science Division, Canberra College of Advanced Education, PO Box 1, Belconnen ACT 2616, Australia. Telephone (062) 522 369; Telex 62267 CANCOL AA and Facsimile Number: National (062) 522 999 or International (61 62) 522 999.

Review Of Courses At Victoria College:

Over the past year Victoria College (Rusden) has been investigating the establishment of a range of additional new courses at undergraduate and post-graduate levels. A proposal for a Bachelor of Applied Science (Museum Science - Conservation) has been reviewed by a course sub-committee and referred back to the Faculty of Applied Science for further assessment. Following the response to the initial proposal it has been decided to review the question of museum training (including conservation) in more general terms. Discussions will be held with members of the museum profession to ensure that course proposals will meet future needs of museums. In relation to the conservation training issue further assessment will be undertaken before any revised proposal is prepared.

The Museum Studies course is now part of the recently formed Department of Heritage and Resource Management. Mr Roger Trudgeon was appointed Senior Lecturer in Museum Studies earlier this year. He can be contacted at the Rusden Campus of Victoria College for further information on course developments. The Department of Heritage and Resource Management currently offers the Graduate Diploma in Museum Studies, a Master's Degree by research and an array of short courses. Bachelor of Applied Science Degrees majoring in Environmental Assessment and Land Use Policy, Earth Sciences and Environmental Management form the core of the department's undergraduate courses.

INFORMATION WANTED

QLD State Archives has three requests: does anyone know of a reversible adhesive for bookbinding or some method to reverse old Staybond 202N? They are also keen to hear from anyone who has successfully consolidated aged (disintegrated) cellulose acetate film. The film is to be copied, but they would like to save the original if possible. Contact: Tamara Lavrencic, QLD State Archives, 162 Annerley Rd, Dutton Park, Q 4102. Telephone (07) 844 3215.

Jose Vergara, currently a Masters student at CCAE is seeking information concerning problems with contemporary prints eg oil aura around image, cockling around image area. Anyone who can help, please contact Jose: C/- Materials Conservation Course, Canberra College of Advanced Education, PO Box 1, Belconnen, ACT 2616.

Queen Victoria Museum is experiencing a serious silverfish problem and a shortage of Pestigas. What are other institutions using for fumigation and does anyone have suggestions for silverfish control? Contact Linda Clark, Queen Victoria Museum, Wellington St, Launceston, TAS 7250. Telephone (003) 371 296.

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Charcoal Cloth Limited are manufacturers of activated charcoal cloth, a high performance activated carbon with the appearance of a woven textile. They claim it is easily handled, can be readily laminated to other materials and may be impregnated for additional catalytic, chemisorbic or bacterial properties.

The cloth has been used at the Tate Gallery to line storage and display cases with the aim of absorbing pollutants which may cause damage over long periods of time. Charcoal cloth is also included in a range of industrial masks for use against "vapours, fumes and dusts in a wide variety of environments". (There is no specific information in the product literature as to which vapours, fumes and dusts).

The cloth is available in 120, 110 and 100 gsm weights and widths of 2.5-90 cm. The manufacturer claims the product has a dynamic adsorption of up to twenty times faster than high quality granular charcoal and is applicable to air, gas or water filtration. They recommend laminating the cloth to a support medium for increased mechanical stability and strength. This does not affect adsorptive performance. Multi-layer sandwiches of the cloth can be made, and it is possible to laminate to some non-textile surfaces.

The general data below indicate some of the properties of ACC.

weight - c. 110 gsm	construction - 1/1 plain weave c. 13 threads/cm
rigidity - 200 mg.cm	air permeability - $5100 \text{ cm}^3/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ @ 10 mm w.g. P.D.
widths - 2.5-90 cm	thickness - c. 0.5 mm per layer

For technical information and samples, contact: Simon McBeath, Technical services Manager, Charcoal Cloth Ltd, 21 Haviland Road, Ferndown

Industrial Estate, Wimbourne, Dorset BH 21 7RZ, UK. Telephone 0202 892217. Telex 847424.

Tanco is pleased to announce that the following products, developed and manufactured in Western Australia, are now available to conservators.

RUSTICIDE: a tannin-based rust convertor for stabilisation of iron artefacts especially formulated to meet the requirements of museum artefacts. When applied over lightly rusted iron or steel surfaces it converts the unstable rust to a hard black iron-tannate. For interior display and storage this tannate layer is sufficient to provide long-term stability. For objects stored outdoors the tannate layer forms an excellent surface pre-treatment for subsequent conventional paints. Available in 250ml refillable spray pack and in 1 litre bottles. Larger packs also available.

BARRIER COAT: a clear transparent lacquer that cures to form an almost invisible film that is highly resistant to moisture penetration. Can be dip, brush or spray applied. Contains selected multi metal corrosion inhibitors that provide additional protection against metal corrosion. Can be applied over all metals to form a virtually invisible protective lacquer against tarnishing and corrosion. When used on timber it provides a water vapour seal which greatly reduces the rate of water loss and uptake from timber, and thus controls the cracking produced by moisture changes in the timber. This product has a good resistance to UV light. The film is resistant to water and to most organic solvents, however, it can be very readily removed if required by wiping the treated surface with methylated spirits. Available in 1 litre packs.

Both products are available retail from FLO-KLEEN PRODUCTS, 216 Balcatta Road, BALCATT. Phone (09) 349 0532 or (09) 349 0122.

For further information on these products and current prices phone TANCO (09) 349 1515 and request a copy of our museum brochure.

Dr. Neil North, B.Sc. Ph.D., Director, TANCO.

POSITIONS VACANT

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES, NSW REGIONAL OFFICE

Conservator 1
\$23,661-\$25,660
PN 2266

Applications are invited from suitable qualified persons for the above position.

Duties: Under direction, carry out the routine aspects of physical conservation and repair of Commonwealth records. Assist in the analysis and conservation of records held in custody.

Other requirements: An appropriate degree or diploma in Materials Conservation, or relevant experience is desirable.

Contact Officer for Enquiries: Dr S. Ellis (02) 296 352; selection documentation may be obtained from: J. McEwan (062) 433 941.

The Australian Archives is an Equal Opportunity employer, and in addition, has a policy promoting a smoke-free work environment. Selection criteria will be used as the basis for filling the vacancy. It is in the interest of candidates to obtain the selection criteria and frame their application accordingly.

Conditions of service include four weeks annual leave, cumulative paid sick leave, assistance with removal expenses, long service leave and a comprehensive superannuation scheme. Applicants should be Australian citizens and be able to satisfy the Public Service requirements as to health and physical fitness. (Note: Permanent residents of Australia may be employed on a fixed term engagement in lieu of permanent appointment).

Written applications quoting duties number, educational qualifications, personal details and relevant experience should be forwarded to:

The Director-General,
Australian Archives,
PO Box 34,
DICKSON, ACT 2602

by close of business 5 August, 1988.

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, INCLUDING THE FACULTY OF ANAESTHETISTS Paper Conservator (Part Time)

A part-time paper conservator is required to undertake a programme of restoration of damaged College and Faculty archival records. The programme is to be conducted over a two year period, at two days per week for the first year.

Remuneration will be subject to negotiation.

Applications including curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be forwarded by 12 August, 1988 to The Archivist, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Spring Street, Melbourne, 3000. Telephone (03) 662 1033.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NEW ZEALAND

Senior Conservator: Flat Sheet Materials

\$36,600-\$48,600 NZ depending on qualifications

(Approx \$32,400-\$43,000 AUS)

Position Identification 6/13/4

The National Library of New Zealand is responsible for major national heritage collections of manuscripts, archives, drawings and prints, photographs and printed ephemera, as well as books. The Library's Conservation Unit wishes to recruit conservators for its growing professional team to work in a well appointed laboratory housed in the Library's new building. The duties of this position include organizing collection surveys, examining and reporting on the items in the collections and performing conservation treatments, educating staff on appropriate handling and care of the collections, advising on the conservation of material outside the library, and supervising staff undertaking routine tasks. [Duties do not include the restoration of bindings.]

Minimum qualifications: Formal or equivalent training in conservation; three years of conservation experience in the treatment of works of art or paper or related material. The capability to make treatment decisions.

Starting date: as soon as possible. To obtain a full job description and/or to apply please send resume and names of three referees relevant to professional qualifications to:

WJH Baillie, Conservation Officer
National Library of New Zealand
Private Bag, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND 6001
Telex: 30076, Fax: 64 4 743 035.

STATE CONSERVATION CENTRE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Employment Prospects

Salary Range \$21,770-\$30,381

The State Conservation Centre is seeking expressions of interest from conservators specializing in the fields of OBJECTS, PAINTINGS, PAPER and TEXTILES conservation for future employment at the Centre.

The State Conservation Centre is a world class conservation organisation with extensive facilities and equipment. At present, there are twenty staff with plans for the further recruitment of additional specialists. Currently the Centre operates five major programmes:

- Objects Conservation
- Paintings Conservation
- Paper and Rare Books
- Scientific and Technical Services
- Textiles Conservation

and services a wide range of cultural organisations, corporations, businesses and private individuals. Client programming is organised in two streams:

- The NORTH TERRACE PROGRAMMES service the following State Government organisations: Art Gallery of South Australia, History Trust of South Australia, Public Record Office of South Australia, South Australian museum and the State Library of South Australia.
- The COMMERCIAL CONSERVATION SERVICE meets the needs of other government organisations, country museums and galleries, businesses, collectors and the general public.

The State Conservation Centre is located adjacent to the University of Adelaide and the South Australian Institute of Technology. Positions at the Centre offer an outstanding opportunity for a professional career.

The State Conservation Centre is located adjacent to the University of Adelaide and the South Australian Institute of Technology. Positions at the Centre offer an outstanding opportunity for professional career development. Furthermore, the Centre is within walking distance of the State's major cultural institutions including the Gallery, Museum, History Trust and State Library.

The South Australian Government is an equal opportunity employer. Starting salaries for positions will be negotiated according to qualifications and experience. In addition, relocation expenses for successful candidates are normally provided.

If you are interested in working at the State Conservation Centre, please write to us and include information on your background, experience and qualifications. If possible we would like to hear from you by 30 August, 1988. All communications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Address all correspondence to:

Ian Cook Director
State Conservation Centre
70 Kintore Avenue
ADELAIDE SA 5000

WESTPAC BANKING GROUP ARCHIVES

Assistant Conservator

\$18,800-\$25,700

From 1/10/88, Westpac Archives expects an Assistant Conservator position to become vacant. The successful applicant would have tertiary qualifications in Conservation or an equivalent. Training or experience in book or photographic conservation would be an advantage, together with an ability to develop and maintain programmes.

Persons interested in the position should contact, in writing: James Elwing, The Conservator, Westpac Archives, PO Box 14, Pyrmont, NSW 2009. Telephone (02) 660 7979.



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Contributions and correspondence should be typed with double spacing and addressed to: The Editors, AICCM Inc. National Newsletter, PO Box 2046 S, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, Australia. Telephone enquiries can be directed to: Debbie Breen, (03) 669 9024. Final deadline for copy for the next issue is August 18, 1988.

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