

2020 Small Museums Conference Speaker Details (details correct at 14 September 2020)

Programme subject to change due to COVID safe restrictions

Conference will be held outdoors but undercover due to COVID safe plan

FRIDAY 16th October 2020

8.00 Registration

8.45 Welcome

9.00 Tour of Ormiston House – TBC (subject to COVID Safe restrictions)

10.00 Morning Tea

10.30 Sharing Content Online

**Julanne Neal, Reference Archivist, Queensland State Archives
Democratising Access: The Organic Growth of Q-Album**

Q-Album has been launched as a tool for small to medium cultural organisations to present their digitised content. Q-Album gives these organisations the capacity to develop a web presence with easy to use, mobile first technology that is free, ready to use and does not require technical expertise.

Q-Album originated in early 2017 when Queensland State Archives (QSA) decided to participate in the Testing Within Government (TWiG) programme initiated by Advance Queensland. The brief for the programme was for government agencies to set out a business problem for the tech sector to solve.

The seed of the business problem QSA pitched was to develop for users across the state an innovative digital approach to explore our heritage collection. In the initial stages the problem was about us, a focus on amplifying our collections that was ultimately inward-looking, but we dug our hand in the bag and threw the seed out there.

Gaia Resources were the tech experts chosen to help us grow our seed into a functional product. Our seed started to germinate and grew into a seedling we called Discovering Queensland. It was a small and interesting little seedling that still had a long way to go, but it was enough for us to contract with Gaia to continue to support and nurture it. Over the next 2 years we worked with Gaia to develop and grow our seedling. At the same time, internal culture changes

10.30 Telling difficult pasts

**Pekeri Ruska and Elisabeth Gondwe, North Stradbroke Island on
Minjerribah
Walking Together**

This paper explores the ongoing journey of the North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah to decolonise our systems, protocols and exhibitions. We share our current project of representing Quandamooka history and stories in the museum. The Museums biggest challenge is how we go about facilitating First Nation representation, including First Nation ontology and sovereignty, to move beyond a settler colonial national story. We try and explore the lack of visibility of First Nations history and culture. Our Walking Together program is our way of addressing this lack of inclusion in our museum.

**Dr Katie McConnel, Historian and Curator, Old Government House
Acknowledging the silences: Telling difficult stories at Old Government House**

At the beginning of this tumultuous year, we at Old Government House (OGH) started planning for an overdue revamp of our museum displays, content, and the location of our museum entrance. Professionally and personally, this has led me on an interesting and challenging journey.

OGH, as the official home of Queensland's first eleven colonial governors, is an enduring and potent architectural symbol of British colonialism. As the historian

shifted our vision from an internal, inward-focussed view to an outward facilitative view to support and empower small to medium cultural organisations and democratise their access. Our seed is now a flower bud – what kind we’re still not sure but we hope it will be spectacular.

This talk will present the lessons learnt in the development of Q-Album, unpicking the potential of collections and organisations in a digital world and empowering them to share content. The vision for Q-Album is about democratising access to customers, technology, and a wider network of support for small to medium cultural organisations.

Kirsten Murray, Supreme Court Library Queensland Community Education Coordinator, Brisbane Living Heritage Network Director
Podcasting: Share Your Museum’s Story

Podcasting is an incredibly popular medium. Podcasts can educate, inspire, tell stories, inform and entertain. They offer heritage institutions a cost-effective platform to share their unique stories with new and existing audiences. But, how do you podcast?

In 2019, Brisbane’s Living Heritage Network (BLHN) launched a podcast—My favourite item: unravelling Brisbane’s history piece by piece as a way to share our member organisations’ stories about Brisbane’s rich and unique cultural heritage and social history. Learn about the challenges, surprises and benefits of podcasting, the podcasting process and the free tools available to create your own podcast.

Ross Bower, Redland Museum
5 Years’ Experience With eHive - What We Have Learned

Redland Museum has now been using eHive for five years. We adopted eHive because our previous MS Access database was fast becoming unworkable. We needed a system that was fully technically supported, cloud based, very accessible, simple to use, and would publish our collection on the Internet. And of course, it had to be affordable.

and curator of the House for over a decade, I have always endeavoured to tell the stories of everyone who had worked and lived in the building. On reflection, I can now see gaps in that narrative.

There is no doubt that museum practices have changed radically in the last 20 years, not only through how content is displayed but also in whose stories are presented. There are still areas of silences though, and at the heart of these silences there can often be a reluctance to confront the difficult and frequently violent experiences that colonial history brought upon Indigenous Australians. And how, once confronted, was I to tell these difficult stories in a way that respectfully gave voice to those who had been previously excluded? And how to do it in a way that generated understanding, conversation and debate?

This paper considers these questions and challenges that have, and continue to present themselves in relation to telling the complete story of OGH.

Dr Robert Mason, Senior Lecturer and HDR Convenor, Griffith University
Historic Homes and Narratives of Community Inclusion

Abstract TBC

So, did it turn out to be all we hoped and expected?

This presentation covers lessons we learned with our implementation of eHive and the benefit we've achieved, how we made the transition from our previous system and what we got wrong, the weaknesses of eHive and what we have learned.

12.00 Lunch

1.00 Dr Louise Floyd, Associate Professor of Law & Barrister, Supreme Court of Queensland

The Law and Museums – dusting off the cobwebs and discussing emerging legal issues that may affect the museum sector.

While their main mission is to preserve and showcase important aspects of our lives and history, museums engage workers and generally people recognise them as an important part of our society. Consequently, there are a number of legal issues which are relevant to them. In this one hour presentation, Dr Louise Floyd canvasses some of the key emerging legal issues affecting museums, such as:

- *Volunteer workers and responsibilities of managers.*
- *Legal problems arising from internet use* – if a museum establishes a website, all sorts of opportunities may open up, but what can be said of freedom of expression and possible problems such as cyberbullying and defamation?
- *Covid 19* – what lessons have we learned from and what laws are relevant as a result of the restrictions invoked from that terrible disease?

2.00 Guide talk on Chapel – TBC (subject to COVID safe restrictions)

2.45 Afternoon Tea

3.15 Working with volunteer-staffed organisations (Q&A panel discussion – bring your questions for an open panel discussion)

- Jennifer Garcia, Communications & Programming Manager, Newstead House
- Mara Basanovic, CEO, Volunteering Queensland
- TBC

4.00 Heritage Tourism and landscapes/community

Dr Jessica Stroja, Adjunct Fellow, Griffith University Centre for Social and Cultural Research

Heritage Tourism: Are we utilising heritage tourism to its full potential?

Heritage Tourism is one of the latest buzz words in the tourism sector, yet our heritage sites and museums don't always 'fit' into the standard tourism marketing programs provided by local and state tourism bodies. Recent reports

4.00 Sustainable Galleries

TBC

Abstract TBC

Redland Art Gallery

Abstract TBC

show the Heritage Tourism 'subcategory' of the tourism sector has huge potential, but how do we know if we are utilising heritage tourism to its full potential?

In this paper Jessica will discuss how to find your place in the tourism sector without losing sight of our overall aims as museums and heritage sites. Learn how to get the most out of the tourism programs offered to museums and heritage sites, and for a practical session, don't forget to come to Jessica's 'Marketing your Museum' Workshop on Sunday!

**Dr Celmara Pocock, Association Professor and Director of Centre for heritage and Culture, University of Southern Queensland
South West Queensland Indigenous Cultural Trail**

Abstract TBC

5.00 Tea/Coffee

SATURDAY 17th October 2020

8.00 Registration

**9.00 Amanda Pagliarino, Coordinator, AICCM Environmental Guidelines Project, Head of Conservation and Registration, Queensland Gallery of Modern Art
AT THE INTERSECTION – Sustainability, Climate Change and Collection Care**

Over recent years Conservators and Collection Managers working in the Museum & Gallery sector have seen significant changes in the way in which cultural heritage collections are managed. New national collection care guidelines have been published – Environmental Guidelines for Australian Cultural Heritage Collections (Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material, 2019), and past guidelines have been revived – Guidelines for Environmental Control in Cultural Institutions (Heritage Collections Council, 2002). The recent adoption by the Council of Australian Art Museum Directors of the Bizot Green Protocol for loans (International Group of Organizers of Major Exhibitions, 2015) has precipitated a collaborative review of the way in which national and state galleries exchange cultural heritage objects, focusing on a more sustainable, open and pragmatic approach to access. Collection conservation and preservation activities are being examined through a 'green' lens and new protocols for the use of consumables and materials, and for waste disposal and recycling are being embedded in collection care practices.

In our work as museum and gallery practitioners we frequently hear the words sustainability, carbon footprint, energy efficiency, and green targets. In the context of our changing work practices and a changing climate we need to understand what impact these issues have on the sector and what actions we can take to adopt new ways of working that will make a positive change.

10.00 Morning Tea	
10.30 Funding for small museums and galleries (Q&A panel discussion – bring your questions for an open panel discussion)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisha Walker, Training and Professional Development Program Officer, Museums & Galleries Queensland • Louise Denoon, Public Libraries and Engagement Executive Director, State Library of Queensland • TBC 	
11.30 Buildings and Environment	Preservation and Conservation
<p>Chris Brauns, horticulturalist and head of garden management, Historic Ormiston House Managing Heritage Gardens</p> <p>Abstract TBC</p> <p>Brian Maxwell, Heritage Plaster Restoration Specialist and James Love Churchill Fellow Working with Heritage Buildings and the Need for Sustainability</p> <p>Abstract TBC</p>	<p>Dr Geraldine Mate, Principal Curator – History, Industry and Technology, Cultures and Histories Program, Queensland Museum Communities and the legacy of an exhibition</p> <p>At first glance, the Anzac Legacy Gallery at Queensland Museum, a 600m2 permanent exhibition that opened in November 2018, seems an unlikely topic for a small museums conference. But the minutiae of exhibition development is the same the world over.</p> <p>It has been almost 2 years since the Anzac Legacy Gallery opened, and there has been time to reflect on the project and its’ impact, the connections made to Queensland communities, and the opportunities presented by this project to conserve an important element of Queensland’s past.</p> <p>In this paper Geraldine explores the importance of keeping collections sustainable by building connections between the collection and Queenslanders, and the imperative to continue growing those connections and build on previous work. The immense effort that goes into understanding the stories of each and every object, and tracking down connections between objects and people, yields a legacy of collecting and knowledge that recognises the cultural value of museums in communities.</p> <p>Conserving and displaying these objects and connecting them with Queenslanders today is only the first (albeit large) step in an ongoing story.</p> <p>Robyn Wallace, Secretary, Queensland Women’s Historical Association Looking Ahead– The Changing Face of Conservation for a Heritage House</p>

	The Queensland Women’s Historical Association was formed seventy years ago in 1950. In 1966 the Association purchased Beverley Woods, (now Miegunyah House Museum) as a place to show and store the collection of items given by various members since its inception. This talk will trace the stages of conservation of both the House and the QWHA collection, looking in particular at the changes in strategy as the Association looks to the future of heritage in a digital world.
12.30 Lunch	
1.15 Professor Ruth Kerr, Historic and Adjunct Professor, University of Queensland Reflections on working in Queensland’s diverse heritage – more than just buildings	
Abstract TBC	
2.15 Bus arrives for tour – TBC (subject to COVID safe restrictions – tickets must be purchased separately and are not included in the conference registration fee)	2.15 Assemble for garden tour of heritage gardens in the Historic Ormiston House grounds (tickets must be purchased separately and are not included in the conference registration fee)
2.30 Bus departs for tour – TBC (subject to COVID safe restrictions – tickets must be purchased separately and are not included in the conference registration fee)	2.30 Garden Tour (tickets must be purchased separately and are not included in the conference registration fee)
4.30 Bus returns from tour – TBC (subject to COVID safe restrictions – tickets must be purchased separately and are not included in the conference registration fee)	
SUNDAY 18th October 2020	
9.00 Registration and Morning Tea	
10.00 Workshop (included in conference registration fee) Dr Robert Mason, Senior Lecturer and HDR Convenor, Griffith University and Dr Celmara Pocock, Association Professor and Director of Centre for heritage and Culture, University of Southern Queensland Doing Oral History: Implications and Practicalities for Museums	10.00 Workshop (included in conference registration fee) Dr Jessica Stroja, Jessica Stroja Heritage and Public Relations Consulting Marketing your museum
Abstract TBC	One of the biggest questions I am asked by clients is ‘how do we “get our message out there” when we’re a volunteer-run museum and don’t have a big marketing budget?’. While a healthy budget is the dream of every small museum, you don’t always need a mega budget to successfully market your museum! Come to this practical workshop to find out how to market your museum and increase the reach of your organisation’s message. Learn about good quality, freely available tools, when it’s time to allocate a budget to

	marketing and public relations, and how to leverage existing tourism platforms for your benefit.
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12.00 Lunch; Historic Ormiston House and gardens open for viewing until closing time (included in registration fee)