

President's Report

2006, was a year full of Governance matters, 'conflict of interest' deliberations, strategic review recommendations and organisational planning for the future, yet the Museum's original vision has remained intact.

Throughout 2006, the operations of the Living Museum continued, with our staff, Director Peter Haffenden proactively seeking out projects, funding and partnerships while Operations Manager Janine Hill, managed the growing demand for hire of the venue, amongst a myriad of other tasks, all with the assistance of our accountant Ron Angwin,

Kerrie Poliness, produced quarterly Newsletters, the Annual Report and maintained the Museum website while Gavin Somerville continued to develop Talks and Tours in Pipemakers Park for various school and community groups.

I would particularly like to thank all members of the Committee of Management for their individual contributions to the sustainability of the Living Museum during 2006.

Recent management changes at Parks Victoria in 2006 meant Pipemakers Park returned to the control of Brimbank Park under the supervision of Ranger in charge, Libby Jude, which has led to a number of constructive outcomes. We welcome back some of the familiar Rangers' faces and look forward to a continued co-operative partnership at Pipemakers Park in the future.

The Arts and Culture staff of the City of Maribyrnong, particularly Nick Matteo, took a renewed interest in the Museum in 2006 as a significant cultural organisation and gave a good deal of their time in strategic planning discussions.

Spirit West Services contribution as Work for the Dole sponsors for projects including maintenance of the historic buildings precinct, helping with Living Museum activities and environmental works throughout the Park.

I would like to also thank Brett Hosie for his outstanding contribution and commitment to the Living Museum and Pipemakers Park, particularly the work on The History of the Land Gardens, the Plant Nursery and the wetlands in the park. The noticeable improvements are evidence of this ongoing work from 2001 - 2007 and of the partnership between Parks Victoria, Spirit West Services, the Work for the Dole crews, and the Friends group.

On behalf of the Committee of Management I wish to also acknowledge those who have gone before who have had the foresight to establish this organisation and the persistence to keep it running for 22 years, and the passion to make it a place that continues to remain relevant and interesting.

Libby McKinnon
Acting President

Melbourne's Living Museum of the West is a community museum which actively involves the people of Melbourne's west and others in documenting, preserving and interpreting the richness and depth of the region's social, industrial and environmental history.

Statement of Financial Position

2005		2006
	Current Assets	
39986	Cash	20601
72129	Debtors / Prepayments	10040
	Investments	
112115	Total Current Assets	30641
	Non-Current Assets	
119757	Plant & Equipment	119126
8824	Stock	8770
128581	Total Non-Current Assets	127895
240697	Total Assets	158536
	Current Liabilities	
9012	Creditors	10100
9333	ATO - GST Payable	5194
	Grants in Advance	11773
	Other	
18344	Total Current Liabilities	27066
	Long Term Liabilities	
99851	Funds in Advance - Project/Consult'y	12066
	Other Grants in Advance	
32556	Employee Provisions - LSL	33032
132407	Total Long Term Liabilities	45097
150752	Total Liabilities	72163
89945	Net Assets	86373
	Equity	
60671	Reserves	89981
28000	Capital Grant	
1274	Current Earnings	-3608
89945	Total Equity	86373

Staffing

Museum Director
Peter Haffenden

Office Manager:
Janine Hill
Associates

Libby McKinnon, Kerrie Poliness, Brett Hosie, Larry Walsh, Gavin Somerville, Colleen Marion, Alarna Gray, Sofia Xinopoulos, Steve Croci

Volunteers

Marie Earle, Mark Allen, Geoffrey Dent, Lorraine Ratcliffe, Mark Armstrong-Roper, Lenore Frost, Chris Laskowski, Margaret Rice and many others.

Student Placements

Secondary - Igor Beres, Darren Conti, Nathan Conti, Tertiary - Cory Sinclair-Robb, Tim Best, Christina Jovanoska, Kenneth McKenzie, Margaret White

Partners

- Parks Victoria
- City of Maribyrnong
- City of Moonee Valley
- Quang Minh Temple
- Delfin/Lendlease
- Newmarket Re-Union Committee
- Western Region Reconciliation Committee
- Western Region NAIDOC Committee
- Gathering Place
- Friends of Maribyrnong Valley
- Scouting Movement
- INMAGIC user Group
- Little Lorikeets Parents Group
- Victorian College of the Arts
- Victoria University
- Footscray City Secondary College
- New Hope Foundation
- Maribyrnong Refugee Week Committee
- Western Region Group of Historical Societies
- West Bourke Historical Association
- Royal Historical Society of Victoria
- Australian Vietnamese Women's Welfare Association
- Spirit West Services
- Friends of the Black Powder Mill
- Probus
- Maribyrnong River Cruises
- Museum of Victoria
- Koorie Heritage Trust
- Burundi Community Association
- African Women's Association
- GAGA Productions
- Melbourne water

Main Funding Sources

Arts Victoria, Parks Victoria, City of Maribyrnong, VicHealth, National Library, Victoria University, Department of Justice.

Committee of Management (from April 2006 AGM)

President

Michelle McDonald, Libby McKinnon (acting from November)

Senior Vice-President

Libby McKinnon, Tony Le-Nguyen (acting from November)

Junior Vice-President

Tony Le-Nguyen

Hon. Secretary

Stacey Lynn

Hon. Treasurer

William Garrigos, Aneeta Krishna (acting from October)

Community Representatives

Gorkem Acaroglu, Lydia Kaulzaric, Aneeta Krishna and Margaret Rice.

Co-opted Members

Mark Armstrong-Roper (Victoria University)

Brett Hosie (Friends of Pipemakers Park)

LibbyJude (Parks Victoria)

City of Maribyrnong Representative

Gill Savage, Lisa Arnott and Nick Matteo

Western Region Group of Historical Societies

Representative

Elaine Brogan

Ex-officio

VALE LYDIA

It is with sad regret that we inform members that Committee Member Lydia Kaulzaric died late 2006. Lydia was a former mayor of the City of Moonee Valley and a much loved active member of the local community.



Visitor Centre: Pipemakers Park, Van Ness Avenue, Maribyrnong. Melway Map 28 B10
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info@livingmuseum.org.au
www.livingmuseum.org.au



Annual Report 2006

Profit + Loss

2005	Income	2006
5042	Admin. Service Charge	4536
5557	Donations	1989
100000	Grants - Arts Victoria	100000
11500	- City of Maribyrnong	11655
	- Aust. Gov GVEHO programme	1800
356	Interest - Bank	353
2140	Interest - Term Deposits	528
865	Membership	740
1168	Sales - Publications	985
1560	Other Professional Services	609
473	Seminars/Tours	514
5025	Expense Reimbursement	1584
45303	Project Grants/Expense Reimb.	46210
1675	Consultancy - Fees for Service	1560
2361	Venue Hire	4614
183025	Total income	177677
2005	Expenditure	2006
3000	Accounting & Audit Fee	3000
221	Advertising & Promotions	1334
	Bad Debts	
200	Bank Charges - General	
23	Bank Charges - Investments	33
	Casual Work	
1691	Cleaning	1716
425	Computer Aids	1071
4700	COS - Books	55
2273	Depreciation	5442
3037	Electricity	3438
648	Equipment	988
287	Equipment - Hire	904
8055	Exhibition Materials	
52	Freight/Delivery	47
3338	Gas	4585
4900	Insurance - General	2697
	Insurance - Other	
729	Internet Charges	1675
	Job Cost Overruns	
	Lease	611
186	Legal Fees	1316
6370	Materials	3007
32	Photographic - Materials	
591	- Services	
845	Postage	757
	Presentations	746
570	Printing - General	343
3887	Photocopier	3125
36033	Professional Services	41160
484	Publications	291
6577	Refreshments/Entertainment	5060
796	Repairs & Maintenance	1819
960	Staff Amenities	1187
3760	Stationery/Office Supplies	2058
1758	Subscriptions/Registrations	1718
563	Security	798
1574	Seminars	646
172	Sundry Expenses	
	Talks and Tours	854
5400	Telephone	4884
269	Training	150
2539	Travel/Accommodation	2683
60	Venue Maintenance	368
	Waste Management	165
4556	Provision - Annual Leave	5587
2391	Provision - Sick Leave	1425
1024	Provision - Long Service Leave	74
705	Insurance - Workcover	758
5681	Super'n Guarantee Contrib'ns	6537
60389	Wages & Salaries - Gross	66173
181751	Total Expenditure	181285
1274	Surplus/Deficit	-3608

Cover: Audience at the 'Meet the Neighbours' concert in October 2006.



www.livingmuseum.org.au

Director's Report

You can see from the pictures in this Annual Report that things were very lively in 2006. Chinese lions leaping about in the bluestone building, plays about frogs in the Visitor Centre, exhibitions appearing in the Victorian Parliament and Buddhist temples. The Living Museum was very alive in 2006.

The exhibition, 'Pobblebonk' acted as a kind of catalyst for a number of other projects and events that evolved throughout 2006. The exhibition began touring early with a stint at the Quang Minh Buddhist Temple in January where 20,000 people gathered for Vietnamese New Year. This appearance inspired a later project that influenced the cultural style of Buddha's birthday celebrations in May. Respect for animals is an important element of Buddhist practice.

The exhibition, 'Pobblebonk', also featured importantly in a new partnership with the School of Education at Victoria University to begin channeling information from the Living Museum archives into the local school system by developing curriculum notes relating to information that can be found in the Resource Centre. Schools are once again being encouraged to draw on local knowledge to teach a wide range of concepts. This is a significant step in the Museum's role in the community.

Such a step requires an effective Resource Centre and Operations Manager, Janine Hill, spent a good deal of time during the year attending seminars and networking to upgrade the archive systems. Part of this work was helped by a grant from the National Library to fund the digitisation of many of the Museum's early audio and visual recordings which have been in danger of deteriorating in their earlier form. The maintenance of the collection is an ongoing challenge.

Another ongoing challenge, although a newer challenge, has been to encourage use of the bluestone buildings by more individuals and organisations. It is a great space and everyone who sees it comments on the ambience or feel of the place. This year the building was a temporary dormitory for more than a hundred young scouts on a local jamboree, a theatre set for a group of students from the VCA, and a venue for hundreds of students and others who came to see a diverse range of cultural groups perform stories, songs and dances about animals in an event called, 'Meet the Neighbours'.

Once again this Museum, which wholeheartedly embraces the participation of its local community, has surprised us all, even the people who run it.



The Abbot of the Quang Minh Temple the Venerable Thich Phuoc Tan and Museum Director Peter Haffenden



The outcomes of a special project to develop curriculum notes focussing on the issues in the exhibition, 'Pobblebonk' about the Maribyrnong river estuary were presented in a special Showcase event at the Museum in August. The research project was developed in partnership with the School of Education at Victoria University and Footscray City Secondary College.



This group (above) presented a slide show of the history of the Maribyrnong River.

Left - Frog puppets from a show about endangered species.



The Chinese Youth Association performs the Lion Dance at an event called, 'Meet the Neighbours', which was a concert of stories, songs and dances celebrating animal stories in different cultures. The event was put on in partnership with the Maribyrnong Refugee Week Committee.



The Dambai Dancers from Sudan perform their sacred cow dance at the 'Meet the Neighbours' concert.



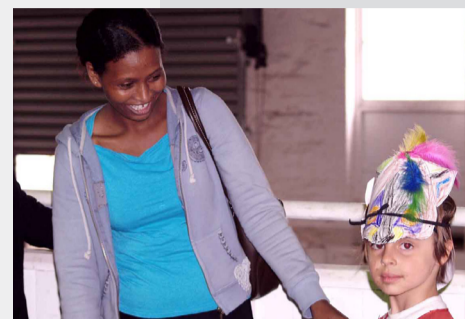
These boys were part of the audience at 'Meet the Neighbours'; they asked to have their photo taken.



'Meet the Neighbours' - Women from the Karen Association explaining the significance of the frogs on their flag.



Aboriginal Dance Group, 'One Fire', mingles with the crowd of kids at the 'Meet the Neighbours' event. One Fire performed dances about indigenous animals such as the kangaroo and emu.



A mask workshop of indigenous animals was held during the 'Meet the Neighbours' concert. A woman in the audience admires the mask decorated and worn by this young girl.



The new exhibition, 'Pobblebonk'; about animals of the Maribyrnong River Estuary, made its first touring debut at the Quang Minh Temple for Vietnamese New Year on January 28th. The exhibition was seen by thousands of visitors.



The bluestone building was totally transformed for this theatre production of 'Aviary', directed by Victoria College of the Arts student, Louise Morris. The production crew showed us new potential for the building with the whole upper storey and some of the lower floor being turned into a 'stage' for this innovative show.



It was a proud moment to see the Maribyrnong River estuary on show at Queen's Hall in the Victoria Parliament beautifully presented by the exhibition, 'Pobblebonk'. This was great promotion for the Museum courtesy of the Speaker of the Victorian Parliament and member for Essendon, Judy Maddigan MP.



A special project to help newly arrived migrants learn about their new home through familiarisation with the indigenous animals and their habitat was developed in partnership with the New Hope Foundation. The project was a remarkable success and led to the idea of the concert, 'Meet the Neighbours'. Here Martha Gaba from the African Women's Association explains Pobblebonk to a group of Sudanese women.



In early March more than 120 cubs spent a Saturday night in the bluestone building. Gavin Somerville helped with the development of a new environment badge based on things that could be found at Pipemakers Park which led to an overnight mini jamboree.



A project developed from a partnership with Footscray City Secondary College, the Quang Minh Buddhist Temple in Braybrook and the Living Museum came to fruition at the Temple on May 7th, Buddha's birthday. The project was for secondary school students, to build nesting boxes for local indigenous bird life to be placed around the Temple and the surrounding area. As Buddhism strongly supports and celebrates animals the project launch was a feature of the Birthday celebrations and a variation on the traditional form of animal involvement in the ceremony for Buddha's Birthday.