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CULTURE, RECREATION, ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Culture is essential to a shared sense of quality of life, and takes many forms. At a national level these forms range across cultural heritage, creative and performing arts, film and video, radio and television, sports and games, language and religious practice, adult education, active attachment to custom and place, and activities around the conservation and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Tourism is closely bound to cultural life. Cultural venues and events attract visitors; events and institutions are linked both to tourist patronage and to support from local populations, while a general perception of cultural vitality is an important factor in drawing visits from overseas.

This chapter reviews cultural activity supported by the Commonwealth and its agencies, and by national non-government cultural agencies.

Statistics on travel and tourism, complementing the monitoring and promoting role of government, are also included.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Australia's heritage is drawn from cultural environments, both built and natural, in all their aspects. The built environment includes Aboriginal sites of all types—from cave paintings to fish-traps and carved trees. Historic places such as old residential and commercial buildings, shipwrecks, parks and gardens are also included. The natural environment ranges from national parks, nature reserves, habitats of endangered species and wilderness areas, to outstanding geological features and landscapes. Sites and objects of scientific, archaeological and social importance are also included.

The functions of identifying, cataloguing, surveying, conserving and protecting the national heritage are shared between governments and statutory authorities, with assistance from community organisations, such as the national trusts in each State, and individuals.

Consolidated statistics relating to cultural heritage are not available, although information on specific funding programs, such as the National Estate Grants Program, and discrete activity by individual organisations is published in various annual reports and, for broader sectors, through the reports of special inquiries.

The Register of the National Estate, compiled and maintained by the Australian Heritage Commission, is an inventory of national heritage. It encompasses monuments, assemblages, sites and objects, all of which have been recognised for their intrinsic value to the nation.

Governments support delineation and conservation of heritage material through the funding of public collections, the establishment of statutory authorities charged with providing

policy advice and undertaking or sponsoring research, and administration of grants in support of heritage related activity.

While the Commonwealth Government works in partnership with State and Territory governments, it also undertakes heritage activities on its own account where implications of these actions go beyond State or local boundaries; for example the nomination of sites for world heritage listing, and the protection of Aboriginal heritage. The former function is administered by the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, the latter by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

History

Aboriginals have lived in Australia for at least 40,000 years. As pre-settlement Aboriginals left no written records, deduction from archaeological and anthropological evidence is the principal process in amending and advancing new theories about their history.

Aboriginals are generally thought to have originated on the south-east Asian mainland and to have come to Australia over an island network that existed during the last Ice Age. The sea was then much lower and the distance between islands probably only 60 kilometres. The sea travel that was undertaken by these early migrants is believed to be the earliest evidence of sea navigation by humankind.

Some scientists suggest, on the findings of early human skeletal types, that there may have been two or more migrations of different peoples who eventually merged to become what are now termed Australian Aboriginals.

For tens of thousands of years Australia was isolated from the island archipelagos to its north. In this time the Aboriginals developed a materially simple but highly complex culture.

Aboriginals lived as hunter-gatherers, often moving in a seasonal pattern between permanent or semi-permanent encampments. The types of foods hunted and collected varied widely but studies of Aboriginal foods have concluded that traditional diets were often highly nutritious and well balanced.

Groups of people who spoke a common language held hunting rights and religious sanction over particular areas. The size of the pre-colonial Aboriginal population is not known with accuracy, but estimates range from 300,000 to more than one million. At the start of the colonial period there were about 200 languages and many more dialects.

Despite their linguistic diversity, Aboriginals shared central themes in their traditions. They saw humankind as part of nature. They identified, in a variety of forms, great creatures, heroes of a creation era generally referred to as the Dreamtime, which travelled through the land giving it form.

Although groups were bound to their local environment by systems of belief expressed in oral tradition, art, songs, dance and social relationships there is evidence of long distance travel. Aboriginals had disciplined societies with complex kinship structures. Authority within small groups was held by older people who had earned the right to enforce laws.

Archaeology

Australian archaeology has surged since the 1960s. Of some 30 Ice Age sites already discovered, that comprising 9,000–15,000 year-old graves of 40 individuals at Kow Swamp in northern Victoria is described by archaeologist Dr Josephine Flood of the Australian Heritage Commission as 'the largest single population of the late Pleistocene epoch found anywhere in the world'.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies was established by the Commonwealth Parliament in 1964. Its functions are to promote Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies in areas such as the arts, education, languages, health, history, archaeology, sociology and anthropology.

Based in Canberra with a staff of 57, the Institute's affairs are conducted by a 22 member council, while day to day business is directed by the Principal.

The Institute is now central to Aboriginal studies research. It is the largest library resource centre for information about the traditional and contemporary cultures and life styles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Tapes, pictures and photographs which are unique records of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture are preserved in environmentally controlled vaults.

The Institute supports research through the provision of grants and the employment of research staff, including visiting research fellows, and publishes some of the works resulting from the research and material from other sources. It publishes books on all aspects of Aboriginal studies: microfiche, musical recordings on disc and cassette, a twice yearly journal, an annual bibliography of material accessioned into the library and an annual report.

The Institute's film unit has been responsible for producing or sponsoring a wide variety of ethnographic films. The unit has also expanded into video production.

Aboriginal heritage protection

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission has responsibility for the administration of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*.

The Act preserves and protects places, areas and objects of particular significance to Aboriginal tradition. Initially enacted as interim legislation in June 1984, the Act was amended during 1986 to remove the clause relating to its expiration two years after enactment. The Act was amended in 1987 to incorporate provisions for the preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria.

The legislation complements existing State and Territory laws, and is intended to be used only as a last resort where those laws do not provide effective protection from injury or desecration for significant areas and objects.

Aboriginal art

Australian Aboriginal art represents possibly the oldest living continuous art tradition in the world and is the product of a culture which has developed over a period in excess of 40,000 years. Traditionally art was, and is, integrated with community life and the spiritual beliefs of Aboriginal people. The various forms of artistic expression, the visual arts, music, song and dance are inextricably connected and often serve to represent and enhance sacred stories and beliefs about the spirit ancestors who created and shaped the land and who gave to their descendants all sacred law, customs and ritual.

While the past 200 years has seen the erosion of much of the traditional fabric of Aboriginal lifestyle, a large and rich body of artistic heritage has survived and in parts of Australia continues to develop in traditions unbroken for thousands of years. In many communities the arts remain an integral part of social and religious life but have also acquired the new emphasis of reinforcing Aboriginal identity and asserting traditional values in the face of an encroaching wider community. For many artists and craftspeople, the arts also provide an important and culturally relevant means of income.

The Aboriginal artists are perhaps still best known for a Northern Australian tradition of painting with natural ochres on prepared sheets of eucalyptus bark. However this is just one aspect of the rich and varied forms of expression in the visual arts and crafts which

include ceremonial body decoration, ground painting and sculpture, wood carving and fibre crafts.

In recent years there has been increased adaptation and use of non-traditional media by Aboriginal artists in remote tribal communities as well as by a growing movement of urban and rural based artists. For example, paintings on board and canvas, print making and adapted batik techniques have become important media for expression in the visual arts for numbers of artists in Central Australian communities.

Similarly the traditional performing arts which include music, complex song cycles, dance and mime, vary considerably in form throughout Australia. However all the traditional arts present a unique spirituality which gives a distinctiveness to Aboriginal cultural expression.

In recent years there has been wider community interest in and appreciation of the Aboriginal arts in Australia and overseas. This has extended to both the work of traditional artists often working in remote tribal communities as well as an emerging movement of urban based Aboriginal artists. Within the urban movement visual and performing artists are practising in all forms and media.

The Government is committed to the encouragement and recognition of Aboriginal arts. Since 1973 assistance has been provided through the Aboriginal Arts Board of the Australia Council which has established a wide range of programs to assist Aboriginal initiatives. The Board has an all Aboriginal membership.

National Estate

The Commonwealth Government, in conjunction with States and Territories, actively seeks the protection of Australia's national estate.

National Estate Grants Program

The Program is designed to help the States and Territories, and organisations within them, to conserve national estate. It is a Commonwealth Constitution 'Section 96' scheme operated under the provisions of the *Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act 1974* and under agreements between the Commonwealth and each State and the Northern Territory.

The Program is coordinated by the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories in liaison with State and Territory authorities. The Australian Heritage Commission provides professional and technical advice to the Commonwealth on aspects of project selection, and uses consequent documentation in its compilation and maintenance of the Register of the National Estate.

Under current arrangements, State and Territory governments have the primary responsibility for developing and administering their respective programs.

Project work is carried out by State and Territory government departments and authorities, local government bodies, academic institutions, national trusts, professional and community organisations as well as by individual consultant firms working for them.

Australian Heritage Commission

The Australian Heritage Commission, established under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*, advises the Federal Government on the protection of the National Estate. In summary, its responsibilities are to:

- prepare and maintain a register of national estate places;
- advise the Minister of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories on all matters relating to the national estate;
- develop policies and programs for research, professional training and public education.

The Australian Heritage Commission consists of a part-time chairman and up to six part-time commissioners with interests in the natural and cultural environment. The Commission is supported by a secretariat located at Casey House, Canberra.

In 1988–89, the Commission's appropriation was \$2.6 million, with a human resource allocation of 28 staff years.

The Commission's major task is the development of the Register of the National Estate.

The term 'national estate' is a very broad-ranging concept. In the legislation, the national estate is defined as:

. . . those places, being components of the natural environment of Australia, or the cultural environment of Australia, that have aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance or other special value for future generations as well as for the present generation.

It thus consists of all those places which have been identified as worth keeping and handing on to future generations. Such places include wildlife habitats, natural ecosystems, landscapes of great beauty, grand buildings and structures, humble dwellings, work places, ruins, sites of historic events and Aboriginal places such as dreaming tracks, rock art sites, ceremonial and archaeological sites. Portable objects, such as paintings and works of art are not included.

At 30 June 1988, the number of places in the Register of the National Estate totalled 8,513. Another 361 places were included in the Interim List.

A major undertaking during 1987–88 was the updating and refinement of the criteria upon which the Commission assesses nominations to the Register of the National Estate and decides whether or not to list them.

During the year, the Commission allocated almost \$200,000 under its own small research program, the Australian Heritage Research Program. It also spent \$250,000 on its community relations program which is designed to increase public awareness of National Estate issues. Activities under the latter program included educational resources, publications, film production, workshops and seminars, the establishment of a national bibliographical database, HERA, and the operation of a small specialised library.

National trusts

The national trust bodies were set up to further the conservation of lands, buildings, works and articles which are of heritage importance because of educational, aesthetic, historic, architectural, artistic, scientific, cultural or other special interests.

The first trust, the National Trust of Australia (New South Wales), was formed in 1945. Since then, trusts have been formed in each State, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

Membership of the national trusts is open to all individuals and organisations. Total membership throughout Australia is approximately 80,000.

About 300 properties are owned or controlled by the trusts. These properties include houses, nature reserves, gardens, two paddle steamers and an iron barque, an historic hamlet, and buildings which were formerly a telegraph station, a stock exchange, a powder magazine, a market, an inn, a police station, a court house, a gaol and a joss house.

The various trusts have established heritage registers which collectively list more than 23,000 places throughout Australia including buildings, urban areas, landscapes and industrial sites.

For Australia's Bicentennial Year, the National Trust Movement and AMATIL Limited formed a partnership to present 'A Gift to the Nation' which has enabled the restoration of 13 major heritage projects in all States and the Northern Territory. The National Trust

also received sponsorship from the Commonwealth Bank for the restoration of six properties.

Historic shipwrecks

Around Australia's coastline lie many old shipwrecks of historic value. The oldest recorded shipwreck in Australian waters is that of the *Tryall* (1622), an English whaling vessel which sank off Western Australia.

Vessels which navigated oceans to reach Australia for trade, commerce and transport carried all the necessities to sustain life for the voyage. Many such vessels were wrecked and have been preserved to a greater or lesser degree in the seabed environment and are thus time-capsules revealing the customs and skills of an earlier age.

Notable examples are the old Dutch wrecks off Western Australia, the *Batavia* (1629), *Gilt Dragon* (1656), *Zuytdorp* (1712) and *Zeewijk* (1727) and the British ships HMS *Sirius* (1790), wrecked off Norfolk Island and the *Pandora* (1791), wrecked on the Great Barrier Reef.

Shipwrecks provide direct evidence of the exploration of Australia, of the first industries such as sealing, whaling and trading, and of the perils facing convicts and migrants who voyaged to Australia. Relics of international maritime heritage are worthy of protection, conservation and study. Their importance for education, recreation and tourism is recognised by the Commonwealth *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976* which applies to the coastal waters off all Australian States and Territories. Under this Act, any person finding the remains or relics of a previously unreported ship must notify its location to the Commonwealth Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories. If the wreck is declared as being 'historic', the Minister is empowered to pay the finder a reward not exceeding \$50,000.

Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Objects

The *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986* provides safeguards for the retention of important elements of national cultural heritage by requiring export permits for all objects of cultural significance which owners wish to send or take out of the country.

One category of objects, the loss of which would cause irreplaceable damage to Australia's cultural heritage, will not be allowed to leave, namely objects of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage comprising bark and log coffins, human remains, rock art, and carved trees.

Objects that may be exported (temporarily or permanently) at the discretion of the Minister of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories include:

- Aboriginal objects;
- archaeological objects;
- objects of geological, scientific or technological interest;
- military objects;
- pieces of decorative art, fine arts, books, film and sound recordings;
- numismatic and philatelic objects;
- objects of social history.

National Collections

The Commonwealth has maintained extensive collections since Federation. The establishment of the Historic Memorials Committee in 1911 and the establishment of the Australian War Memorial and the Australian Institute of Anatomy in the mid 1920s signalled acceptance by the Commonwealth Government of its role to acquire, display and

maintain national collections. The collections of the Parliamentary and National Libraries had a similar early start.

Almost all government institutions since Federation have maintained collections in recognition of the nation's development and cultural identity and of the value which future generations would place on them. Even comparatively new institutions such as the Australian National Gallery, the National Museum of Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive have origins going back some considerable time.

Australian War Memorial

The Australian War Memorial commemorates Australian servicemen and women who died as a result of wars or war-like operations, from the Sudan campaigns to Vietnam. The Memorial building opened in Canberra in 1941.

The commemorative area includes the glass-mosaic Hall of Memory, cloisters containing bronze panels of the Roll of Honour bearing 102,000 names, and the courtyard in which there is a Pool of Reflection and the Eternal Flame. The names of the 30 main theatres of war in which Australian forces served are inscribed around the courtyard. The national Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services attended by the Governor-General are held at the Stone of Remembrance in front of the building. Other wreath-laying ceremonies are also conducted at the Commemoration Stone in the courtyard.

The Memorial also fulfils its commemorative role by being a significant museum, art gallery, and centre of research into Australian military history. It also houses one of Australia's finest military bookshops. The Memorial's vast and varied collections include over 50,000 war relics ranging from aircraft to commemorative badges, 12,000 works of art by leading Australian artists, including Nolan, Dobell, Streeton and Lambert, and 8,000 posters, as well as extensive valuable official and personal documents and audio-visual records. The Memorial houses 43 Victoria Crosses, the largest such collection in the world. The War Memorial and its surrounds were entered in the Register of the National Estate in 1981, and attract approximately one million visitors each year.

Australian National Botanic Gardens

The Australian National Botanic Gardens occupy a 90 hectare site on the lower slopes of Black Mountain in Canberra. Over 40 hectares of this site are developed at this stage. Officially opened in 1970, they comprise the largest living collection of Australian native plants with over 7,000 species in cultivation. The associated herbarium houses over 193,000 specimens. An annexe of approximately 80 hectares was established at Jervis Bay in 1951 for research to cultivate frost tender plants under more favourable conditions than those prevailing in Canberra, and to establish a collection of native plants representative of the flora of the Jervis Bay region. There are over 400,000 visits to the Gardens each year.

An information centre containing displays, leaflets and a bookshop, educational facilities and the Banksia Centre, with its special garden and activity programs for disabled people, are part of the community services offered by the Gardens to international, interstate and local visitors.

Horticultural, botanical and biological research is an important aspect of the Gardens' activities and special emphasis is placed on the study and cultivation of endangered species. The Australian Cultivar Registration Authority is also based at the Gardens.

Australian National Gallery

The Australian National Gallery in Canberra was established in 1975. The building was officially opened in 1982. The Gallery's aim is to acquire, conserve, research and make accessible a national collection of works of art for the benefit and enjoyment of all people. To fulfil this aim the Gallery's acquisitions follow two key principles—works of art are selected on the highest aesthetic standards to show the art of Australia against

the art of the rest of the world; and the Gallery's international collections are to complement existing public collections in Australia.

Australian art

The entire upper floor of the Gallery has a permanent display presenting the history of Australian art. The display incorporates Aboriginal art, paintings and sculptures, decorative arts, illustrated books, prints, drawings, watercolours, photographs and mural decorations.

International art

The Gallery began its collection of international art in 1972 and in a comparatively short time has acquired a range of masterpieces, including a component of European works from antiquity to 1900, and a more representative collection from 1900 on with very comprehensive collections from 1950 to the present.

The collection contains paintings, an important group of sculptures of many kinds, and important print and photography collections.

National Museum of Australia

The National Museum of Australia was established under the *National Museum of Australia Act 1980*. In 1983 the developmental plan was accepted in principle by the Commonwealth Government which also selected a site of 88 hectares in Canberra. On current planning the museum is expected to open in 2001.

The Museum is a unique concept as a museum of national history which will have three main themes: the history of the Australian Aboriginal people, the history of non-Aboriginal people and the interaction of people with the Australian environment. Planning of the Museum's long-term development and its exhibition and acquisitions programs in particular have reflected the essentially inter-related and complementary nature of these themes.

In September 1986 the Museum's Visitor Information Centre was opened to the public. A discovery trail has also been developed along a scenic part of Lake Burley Griffin adjacent to the Museum site. For further details on the National Museum of Australia see the special article within this *Year Book*.

Australian National Maritime Museum

In June 1985 the Commonwealth Government announced plans to establish a National Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour, Sydney. The Museum will collect and display material reflecting all aspects of Australia's maritime history including facets of prehistory. The major exhibition themes are the discovery of Australia, immigration by ship, commerce (including safety at sea), the Navy, and leisure and recreation. In addition, a permanent gallery, as a result of a Bicentennial gift from the United States of America, will explore two centuries of United States-Australian maritime contact.

An exhibition building is under construction in Sydney and is expected to be open to the public late in 1989.

Archives and Records

While general interest in archives in Australia was aroused following the celebration of the centenary of the colony of New South Wales in 1888, it was not until the twentieth century that measures were taken for the preservation, storage and servicing of original records. Initially, major libraries throughout Australia undertook the collection of historical records from both official and private sources. Today, archives and records organisations exist for government records at Commonwealth and State level. Some State and Territory archives were established, since 1961, as separate authorities (New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory). Others remain as archives sections within State libraries.

In addition, archives have been established by some churches, business corporations, universities and city councils. The Australian War Memorial collects private material

concerning Australians at war and is also a custodian of certain official Commonwealth records relating to wars or war-like operations. Other corporate and private records continue to be collected by some of the State archives offices, libraries and universities.

Many of these bodies in the archives or records field are members of the Australian Council of Archives which provides a means of promoting cooperation on issues of common concern.

Australian Archives

The need for a Commonwealth archival agency was recognised in 1943 when the Curtin Government appointed both the Commonwealth National Library and the Australian War Memorial as provisional archival authorities. In 1952, the Commonwealth National Library became the sole Commonwealth archival authority, and in 1961 the Archives Division of the Library was reconstituted as a separate agency known as the Commonwealth Archives Office. At this time, the Archives Office became responsible for the evaluation, disposal and preservation of Commonwealth records, for taking into custody all records no longer required for immediate reference and for regulating access to those records by research workers and other members of the public. In 1974, the Commonwealth Archives Office was renamed the Australian Archives and a Director-General was appointed in 1975. By 1974 regional offices had been established in all State capitals and in Darwin and Townsville. Services to government agencies and the public are available from this regional network. The central office of the Australian Archives is located in Canberra.

The *Archives Act 1983*, which came into effect on 6 June 1984, provides the Archives with a statutory basis for its operations and institutes arrangements for the management and proper disposition of the vast body of records created by Commonwealth agencies, past and present. The Act provides for the gathering and provision of information about Commonwealth agencies and their records; the means by which the disposal of records is authorised; and for the storage and preservation of records.

By providing a legislatively based system of public access covering Commonwealth records more than 30 years old, the Archives Act complements the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. Together, these two Acts provide a comprehensive system of public access covering all classes of Commonwealth records.

The Records Information Service (RINSE), a database of information about the structure and function of government agencies and their records, is held on the organisation's computer and forms the basis of its finding aids. Information held on the database is accessible on-line (to Archives staff) and in computer-output-microfiche format. The microfiche forms the body of the first part of the Australian National Guide to Archival Material (ANGAM I) which serves as the main public finding aid and supports the separate ANGAM II covering the access status of records.

Work continued during 1987-88 on the loading of information about the War Memorial's holdings for presentation in the microfiche ANGAM III, which will complement ANGAM I. Investigations about the possible extension and enhancement of the database were also initiated. A computerised Physical Control System (PCS) was implemented nationally during the year. PCS documents and provides a range of management information on the quantity, type, location, retrieval activity and destruction of records transferred to the Archives' custody.

At 30 June 1988 Australian Archives' holdings throughout Australia totalled 444,390 shelf metres of records, including 176,800 metres of permanent value material. In 1987-88, 1,505 official reference inquiries from agencies were received, 401,937 items were lent or returned to departments and authorities and 258,990 were consulted by officials in the repositories. During the same period 7,380 public reference inquiries were received and 31,656 items were consulted by the public in search rooms. At 30 June 1988, Australian Archives had 401 full-time operative staff.

National Film and Sound Archive—NFSA

The National Film and Sound Archive was established by the Commonwealth Government in April 1984 and is located in the former Institute of Anatomy building in Canberra. The NFSA collects and preserves the moving image and recorded sound heritage of Australia, and provides a range of access services to the media industry, researchers, educators and the public.

The NFSA collection includes: 680,000 radio and gramophone discs; 40,000 film and television productions; 600,000 posters, still photographs, documents and related items; 50,000 film, radio and television scripts; 19,000 phonograph cylinders; 30,000 audio tapes; 11,000 piano rolls. The NFSA presents exhibitions on various themes related to the collection. Exhibitions are promoted interstate and there are regular screenings of films from the collection.

For further information on the National Film and Sound Archive see the special article within this *Year Book*.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Commonwealth supports a range of library services in areas not otherwise served by State systems. These include a concentration of functions appropriate to the national reference, curatorial and bibliographic services provided by the National Library of Australia, and more specialised services provided from other government departments.

National Library of Australia

The National Library in Canberra was formally established under the *National Library Act 1960*, which came into effect in March 1961. It was previously part of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library. The National Library maintains and develops a national collection of library material from Australia and overseas. Emphasis is given to areas of the world of major significance to Australia's own political, social, economic and technological development. The Library has a particular responsibility for assembling a comprehensive collection of library material relating to Australia and the Australian people. In fulfilling its functions, the Library seeks to preserve books, periodicals, newspapers, government publications, pictures, prints, manuscripts, maps, music scores and other materials. Under the deposit requirement of the *Copyright Act 1968*, a copy of all printed material published in Australia is delivered to the Library.

The Library has also been enriched by the acquisition of such notable collections as the Petherick collection of Australiana in 1911, the Cook manuscripts in 1923, the Mathews ornithological collection in 1959, the Ferguson collection of Australiana in 1970, the Tooley collection of rare maps of Australia and South East Asia in 1973, the Harold S. Williams collection of western language material on the opening up of Japan to the west in 1979, the McLaren/Human collection on Korean history in 1982, the Luce collection on Burma in 1984 and the O'Neill collection of Australian juvenile literature in 1986. In 1987 the Library received some notable collections of manuscript material, including the papers of the playwright and screenwriter David Williamson and the Geoffrey Dutton collection. Currently the Chris Sullivan collection of field recordings of folk music is being progressively acquired. The Library has a vigorous exhibition program in which regular exhibitions of paintings, prints and other historical material selected from its various collections are presented. The Library's Bicentennial exhibition, 'People, Print and Paper', is the latest of those which have been sent interstate for display.

The National Library's collection of Australian and overseas material contains over four million volumes, including microform equivalents; 39,400 paintings, drawings and prints; 501,700 photographs; 6,900 shelf metres of manuscripts; 370,000 maps; 563,800 aerial photographs; 133,000 music scores; 22,000 films and video cassettes; and over 35,000 oral history and folklore tapes.

These materials may be used in the Library's reading rooms and many of them are also available through the national interlibrary loan service, in which the Library is a major participant. The Library operates a film lending service to organisations in Australia. The Library also provides reference services and access to computer based information, both in Australia and overseas, including the MEDLINE Network and the OZLINE Network which provides access to a number of major Australian information retrieval databases including APAIS/AGP/ANB. The Library in cooperation with other institutions provides for the development and coordination of library services for the disabled.

Australian Bibliographic Network—ABN

The National Library achieves cataloguing economies on a national scale through the provision of centralised services. The ABN, a national on-line shared cataloguing system launched by the National Library in November 1981, now has over 6 million records for Australian and overseas material and 7.5 million holdings contributed by 348 Australian libraries. It provides bibliographic records in machine readable form or as catalogue cards. The Network has over 800 libraries subscribing to its services, of whom 139 are full service users contributing original cataloguing. Through its cataloguing-in-publication program, the Library supplies cataloguing data to Australian publishers in advance of publication so that this information can be included in the book when it appears. In this way the book and its cataloguing data are available simultaneously as a benefit to libraries, booksellers, bibliographers and the general book buying public.

National Union Catalogue of Australia

The compilation of what is collectively known as the National Union Catalogue of Australia is another example of a cooperative bibliographic activity. It is a series of specialised union catalogues for monographs, serials, non-book materials, newspapers, manuscripts, music, oriental language materials and library materials for people with disabilities. The union catalogues are managed by the National Library. Increasingly the current data is cooperatively maintained on-line and accessible through ABN. The series of catalogues is described in the *Australian Interlibrary Resource Sharing Directory 1988*.

The Library is a major partner in, and coordinator of, the Australian Joint Copying Project, which microfilms records relating to Australia, held in Great Britain and Australia.

Australian Council of Libraries and Information Services—ACLIS

A significant development during 1988 was the establishment of a new peak council to represent the views of all types of libraries in Australia. The new body, ACLIS, is governed by an elected National Council and is serviced by a secretariat provided by the National Library of Australia. The Director-General is an ex-officio member of the National Council. Its role will be to present to governments at all levels a unified view on the importance and value of library and information services in Australia. The new body came into existence on 1 July 1988, and has taken over many tasks formerly carried out by the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographic Services (AACOBS) and the Australian Libraries and Information Council (ALIC). Both of these bodies were formally disbanded by 30 June 1988, and their assets and ongoing commitments largely passed to ACLIS.

Other Commonwealth Libraries

Patent Office Library

The library of the Australian Patent, Trademarks and Designs Office in Canberra contains approximately 14,000 books and a wide variety of periodicals and other literature relating to science, technology, industrial property (patents, trademarks and designs), law and practice. The collection dates back to 1904, ensuring that its holdings of patent gazettes, journals and specifications are reasonably comprehensive. Patent specifications of inventions are received from the principal countries of the world. Present holdings are over 15 million with an estimated 600,000 patent specifications received annually. Document back-up is available through the sales centre.

Australian and some foreign specifications and related material are also available at sub-offices in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart.

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization—CSIRO

The Information Services Unit (ISU), a component of the Corporate Services Department, was formed in 1988 by the amalgamation of the central library and information service with other information and communication services. Its objectives are to provide enhanced library, information and communication services for CSIRO scientists, and to contribute to improving the scientific and technical information services available in Australia.

The ISU complements and extends information programs in the CSIRO research divisions and is also the coordinating centre for the CSIRO library network of over 40 libraries in divisions located Australia-wide.

The activities of the ISU are reported with all other units in the Annual Report of the Corporate Services Department. This publication supersedes CILES' Report.

The Australian War Memorial Research Centre

The Centre preserves the documentary and pictorial records of Australia's participation in armed conflicts. Printed, audio and other material includes over 80,000 volumes (books and bound periodicals); thousands of unbound periodicals, leaflets, souvenir and microfilm items; a large collection of military maps; newscuttings and newspapers; 500 hours of sound recordings; war posters; postage stamps; and currency. Official records and personal papers occupy 5,000 metres of shelving. Official war photographs covering World War I, World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars number over 800,000, and there are about 600 kilometres of cinefilm. Facilities exist for reference and research.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Library

The Library provides comprehensive information and research services to the Commonwealth Parliament through the Legislative Research Service and the Library, Reference and Information Service. The Legislative Research Service comprises groups staffed by subject specialists who prepare analyses and interpretations of specific issues with which the Parliament is or may be concerned. The Library, Reference and Information Service answers questions and provides information from printed and other published sources in all areas relevant to the duties of a Parliamentarian. The Library collection is concentrated on topical material, supported by a wide collection of standard references; it totals some 150,000 volumes, including 9,000 serial titles. The Library publishes the *Commonwealth Parliamentary Handbook*, which is a standard reference work, topical annotated reading lists, general research papers from the Legislative Research Service, digests of bills and, in alternate weeks the *Index to Current Information* and *Select List of Acquisitions*. Extensive use is made of computer and on-line services, particularly in such areas as economic and electoral statistics and in the provision of information by librarians. Access to the Library is restricted to Members of Parliament and their staff, and to Parliamentary staff.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Library

The ABS Library in Canberra has a complete set of ABS publications published since Federation and many State and colonial official statistics. It also has a large collection of material on statistical methodology as well as year books, census reports and statistical bulletins from many countries and international agencies, covering periods in some cases from the turn of the century. The Library is available to the public by prior arrangement. A smaller Library exists in each State office.

Departmental libraries

Each government department has a library or information unit to service its departmental needs. Some of these libraries are available for public use.

Other Libraries

State and municipal libraries

Most municipalities and shires have libraries funded by the local council with some State government assistance. A detailed description of libraries funded directly by the States is given in the respective *State Year Book*.

Children's libraries and school libraries

Children's libraries exist in all States, usually as branches or extensions of State or municipal libraries. School libraries exist in many schools funded by State governments and by the efforts of parent and school bodies.

University and college libraries

The Commonwealth Government has, since 1957, supported the development of university and college of advanced education libraries.

CREATIVE ARTS

The arts in Australia receive considerable financial support from the Commonwealth Government. This support is complemented by State, Territory and local governments. Governments provide funds for virtually all aspects of creative artistic life. Major arts facilities have opened in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide and Darwin. The number of regional art museums and performing arts centres has increased in recent years. In the past decade the number of major international art exhibitions touring capital cities has increased. Community and folk arts have gained recognition, and the Australian film industry is emerging once again as a major contributor, in economic and artistic terms, to Australian cultural life.

The activity of governments in encouraging and supporting culturally important activities is complemented by non-government sponsors, organisers, entrepreneurs and patrons of the arts. Private and corporate investment in the arts is being encouraged, and joint ventures between government and corporate sponsors for large scale events, tours or exhibitions are not uncommon.

National Activities

The Commonwealth Government formulates policy guidelines for the support of the arts generally and allocates funds annually to the national cultural institutions under its jurisdiction. Commonwealth-State consultation on cultural matters takes place through the Cultural Ministers Council.

Cultural Ministers Council

The Cultural Ministers Council is the ministerial forum on cultural activities in Australia.

The Council, established in 1984, provides a forum for the exchange of views on issues affecting cultural activities in Australia. It consists of the Commonwealth, State and Territory ministers responsible for the arts and cultural heritage. New Zealand and Papua New Guinea ministers with responsibility for the arts are invited to attend meetings as observers.

For the purposes of the Council, cultural activities are defined as: creative arts; performing arts; cultural heritage, including collecting institutions; libraries and information services; and film.

Working Groups have been established by the Council to undertake various studies. These are the Statistical Advisory Group; Working Group on a Framework for Cultural Development; Orchestras' Working Group; National Information Network Committee; and Working Group on Devolution.

Joint Committee of Cultural and Education Ministers—JCCEM

The JCCEM was established in 1985–86 by the Cultural Ministers Council and the Australian Education Council to examine ways to improve the status of arts education in Australia.

The function of the Committee is to encourage increased coordination and cooperation between education and cultural authorities throughout Australia. Areas of focus include support for the development of the arts; arts curriculum development; and the planning and operation of arts/education facilities.

Australia Council

The Australia Council is the Commonwealth Government's chief funding body and policy adviser for the arts. Established as a statutory authority in 1975, its responsibilities are detailed in the *Australia Council Act 1975*. Broadly speaking, the Council's brief is to formulate and carry out policies to help raise the standards of the arts in Australia, to enable and encourage more Australians to become involved in the arts and to enable Australians and people in other countries to become aware of Australia's cultural heritage and achievements. Artists and arts' organisations are assisted financially by the Council through its specialist artform boards.

In May 1987, the Government announced changes to the structure of the Australia Council in response to the Report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Expenditure Inquiry into Commonwealth Assistance to the Arts (the *McLeay Report*), to revitalise arts support mechanisms and policies for the next decade. Under the new arrangements, the Council consists of fifteen members made up of the Chair of Council, all chairs of Boards, arts practitioners and representatives of the broad public interest, and Council's General Manager as an ex-officio member. The number of artform boards was reduced from eight to four, which cover literature, visual arts and craft, the performing arts and Aboriginal arts. A Design Committee of Council replaced the former Design Board.

Community cultural development

A new Community Cultural Development Unit was formed in July 1987 to elevate the Council's community arts focus and provide for integration with the activities of the artform boards. The functions and funding role of the former Community Arts Board were transferred to the new unit which has a broader brief to foster community cultural development. The Council now has ultimate responsibility for community arts development, and assists community involvement by encouraging the closer integration of arts practice into everyday life and growth of an independent culture that reflects the diverse composition of Australian society.

The Community Cultural Development Unit also administers programs in support of Multicultural Arts, Youth Arts, Touring and Access, and Art in Working Life.

**ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR PROGRAMS, BOARDS
AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AUSTRALIA
COUNCIL, 1987-88
(\$'000)**

<i>Support for Artform Development</i>	
Aboriginal Arts	3,044
Community Cultural Development Unit (CCDU)	4,656
Design	501
Literature	3,285
Performing Arts (a)	27,206
Visual Arts/Craft	5,426
<i>Total Boards and CCDU</i>	<i>44,118</i>
<i>Support for General Arts Activities</i>	
Arts Information	289
General Council Programs	618
Policy and Research	183
International	14
<i>Total Programs</i>	<i>1,104</i>
Total Support for the Arts Administration	45,222 6,596
Total appropriation	51,818

(a) Includes \$4,719,000 for The Australian Opera; \$2,258,000 for the Australian Ballet and \$2,056,000 each for the Sydney Philharmonic Orchestra and State Orchestra of Victoria.

Aboriginal arts

The Aboriginal Arts Board supports activities involving the preservation and continuation of traditional cultural practices and their associated artforms, as well as the generation of new artistic expression among Aboriginal people in urban and country areas.

Literature

The Literature Board encourages all forms of Australian creative writing through direct grants to writers, and the subsidising and promotion of the resultant works. More than half of the Board's annual expenditure goes in grants to writers to meet travel, research and other expenses.

Performing arts

The Performing Arts Board facilitates consideration of issues common to all the performing arts such as training, performance venues and administration. The board also continues to encourage and support the development of music in Australia and the promotion of Australian music and musicians overseas, and the development of performance, content and production of dance, drama, puppetry, mime and young people's theatre, which stem from and relate to the Australian experience.

Australia has eight fully professional orchestras managed by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, namely a symphony orchestra in each State capital city and two orchestras, the Elizabethan Sydney Orchestra and the State Orchestra of Victoria, predominantly engaged in work with the Australian Opera (Sydney) and the Australian Ballet (Melbourne). The Board provides continuing support for some 80 drama, dance, puppetry, mime and youth companies and provides opportunities for professional theatre people to develop their skills, encourages growth in theatre attendance and promotes community involvement in live theatre.

Visual arts/craft

The Visual Arts/Craft Board has been designed to link related, but distinct artforms. The Board provides assistance to individuals and organisations working across a wide spectrum of the visual arts in Australia, from painting and sculpture to musicology. Programs include grants to individuals, the commissioning and placing of works of art in public places, research and writing on the visual arts, support for artists in residence and the acquisition, exhibition and conservation of works of art.

In the area of crafts, the Board encourages continuing improvement in the quality of crafts practised in Australia, and provides greater opportunities for craftspeople to further their professional development. It fosters wider community access to the crafts and promotes an awareness of Australian crafts overseas and of work of other countries in Australia.

Other Commonwealth Schemes in Support of the Arts

Artbank

Artbank is a unit of the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, set up to encourage young Australian artists through the purchase and public display of their work, thereby complementing other Commonwealth art support schemes. Since its inception in 1980, the Artbank collection has grown to more than 5,000 works, including paintings, artists' prints, sculpture, photography, Aboriginal art, and craft. Approximately 1,500 artists are represented in the collection.

Taxation incentives for the arts

The Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme came into operation on 1 January 1978 under section 78 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*. The scheme encourages the donation of gifts in kind to public art galleries, museums and libraries by allowing donors a taxation deduction.

Historic Memorials Committee

The Historic Memorials Committee was established in 1911 to secure portraits of distinguished Australians who took an active part in Federation. Later the Committee decided to obtain portraits or other representations of all Governors-General, Prime Ministers, Presidents of the Senate, Speakers of the House of Representatives, Chief Justices of the High Court of Australia and other distinguished Australians. In addition, the Committee has commissioned paintings or other representations to record special events connected with the Commonwealth Parliament and, more recently, the High Court of Australia. The collection is located in Parliament House.

Commonwealth indemnification of exhibitions

In 1979 the Commonwealth introduced a scheme under which national and international touring exhibitions could be approved for Commonwealth indemnity against loss or damage of the works involved. The scheme ensures that the Australian public has the opportunity to see major international and Australian touring art exhibitions which would be uneconomic without indemnity due to the prohibitive cost of insuring such major works. The scheme also covers Australian exhibitions travelling overseas, sponsored by the Australia Council, for which indemnity is not available from the host country and which could not proceed without Commonwealth indemnity.

Thirty-seven exhibitions were indemnified by the Commonwealth between 1979 and 1987. During 1988 a special Bicentennial program of 14 exhibitions received Commonwealth indemnification. This program, including a number of historical Australian exhibitions specially curated for the Bicentenary and a range of exhibitions from overseas, will tour State museums, art galleries and regional centres.

International Cultural Corporation of Australia Limited—ICCA

ICCA was established by the Commonwealth Government in 1980 as a non-profit public company, to arrange and manage exhibitions and events of art and culture.

Its principal activities are three-fold. Firstly, working in close collaboration with Australian and overseas galleries and museums, it manages significant exhibitions of artistic, cultural and historical interest. Secondly, it works with the Australian Government to send Australian exhibitions overseas. Thirdly, it offers consultancy and advice to Commonwealth, State and overseas governments, and to galleries and museums.

To date, the Corporation has managed 31 exhibitions and events, among them, 25 major touring exhibitions. Total audiences have exceeded 3.5 million.

The Australian Government provided seeding funds totalling \$1 million between 1980 and 1983, but since then the Corporation has been self-supporting. ICCA has attracted \$10.6 million of sponsorship support from 35 companies in the corporate sector and 14 public sector sources.

ICCA works in close collaboration with the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories through which it is a manager of the Australian Government's indemnity scheme. ICCA also works with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other government and cultural agencies in Australia and overseas. Its continuing contractual partners in exhibition activities are the Australian galleries and museums.

Public Lending Right Scheme

The Public Lending Right Scheme, established by the Commonwealth Government in 1974, makes compensatory payments to Australian authors and their Australian publishers for the use of their books in public lending libraries. Eligible books must be created by Australian citizens and residents and meet certain eligibility criteria. The *Public Lending Right Act 1985*, placing the Scheme on a statutory basis, began operation on 1 July 1987.

The scheme aims to resolve the apparent conflict between providing a free library system and ensuring that Australian writers, editors and other creators receive a fair payment for the use of their books.

The scheme's annual payments amount to approximately \$2 million. Payments to authors and publishers are based on annual sample surveys of bookstocks of public lending libraries throughout Australia.

Other Arts Organisations

Arts Council of Australia

The Arts Council of Australia is a national federation of community arts based Arts Councils. Each State Division is funded through the Australia Council and their respective State Government.

The Arts Council of Australia is administered through the State office in which the Federal President resides. (For 1988-89 the Federal Office is with the Victorian Arts Council.)

The Council acts as a coordinating body for the activities of the States. These programs cover a wide range of community arts activities initiated by local Arts Councils, an extensive program of professional performances in schools and tours by major theatre companies to towns and cities outside the capitals.

There are now about 300 Arts Councils around Australia. Each local Arts Council initiates its own program of activities which are supported by the State Offices.

Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust

The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, established in 1954, was originally formed to present drama, opera, ballet and puppetry throughout Australia. Full autonomy has been accorded to most of the performing companies established by the Trust. The Trust's major functions are to administer the Elizabethan Theatre Trust Orchestras; to act as entrepreneur in the touring of theatre features from overseas and Australian sources; and to provide general services, including tax deductibility for donations, for theatre organisations.

The Trust receives annual grants from the Australia Council and State and local governments. Its revenue is supplemented by subscriptions, donations and its own activities.

The Australian Ballet

The Australian Ballet, established in 1961 as the national classical ballet company of Australia, first performed in Sydney on 2 November 1962 and was registered as an incorporated company in 1970.

Fifty-eight dancers perform on stage backed up by 42 artistic, music, production and theatre staff and 28 marketing, publicity, administrative and finance staff—a total of 128.

The Australian Ballet gives about 185 performances every year in the Australian cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth and has toured overseas regularly. Tours since 1965 are listed below.

1965	Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London and Baalbeck, Lebanon
1967	North and South America
1968	South East Asia
1970–71	United States of America
1971	Singapore and Philippines
1973	USSR, Eastern Europe and London
1976	New York, Washington, London and Philippines
1978	Jakarta
1979	Greece, Israel and Turkey
1980	The People's Republic of China
1981	Mexico
1987	Japan and China
1988	USSR, London and Athens

The Commonwealth and State governments of Australia provide yearly grants to the Australian Ballet, contributing 22 per cent of its total income, but its main source of revenue is ticket sales which bring in more than \$6 million. Many businesses and commercial organisations provide sponsorships which total in excess of \$1 million. Operating costs exceed \$10 million per annum. Orchestras for Australian performances are funded by government grants and conducted by the Australian Ballet's music director and guest conductors.

Festivals

Festivals devoted solely or partly to the arts now total about 400 a year. The two biggest are Adelaide's biennial and Perth's annual festivals, both of which last several weeks and present overseas artists as well as leading Australian companies.

Many country centres now have arts festivals which attract performers and artists from a wide area. Seminars, arts workshops and community participation programs are increasingly popular.

The Australian Opera

The Australian Opera is the largest performing arts organisation in Australia, employing more than 200 permanent staff including 31 principal artists and 50 chorus. In addition

it employs more than 500 casuals each year, including a number of celebrated international singers, directors and designers. The projected budget for the Opera in 1988, excluding the cost of orchestras, was more than \$23 million, derived from the following sources—59 per cent box office and other earned income, 26 per cent Government subsidy and 15 per cent private contributions. The Opera, with headquarters in Sydney, tours annually to Melbourne and frequently visits other centres. In 1989 it will give 232 performances on Australian opera stages. Opera performances in the parks and on television are being increasingly utilised by the company to provide all Australians with access to opera.

Musica Viva

Musica Viva Australia is Australia's national chamber music entrepreneur. A non-profit company founded in 1946, it presents concerts mainly of chamber music but also of other types of fine music by Australian and overseas artists.

Musica Viva receives subsidies from the Performing Arts Board of the Australia Council and several State governments, with the balance of its income coming from ticket sales, sponsorship and donations.

It also manages tours by Australian artists overseas, often in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, operates an extensive program in education, and commissions new music from Australian composers. In 1988, Musica Viva presented over 2,000 concerts throughout Australia and overseas.

Film and Television

Encouragement of the Australian film industry is a firm policy objective of the Commonwealth Government. The following funds were allocated to film-related organisations in 1987-88:

- Australian Film Commission—\$19.6 million;
- Australian Film, Television and Radio School—\$23.0 million (including capital allocation for construction of new premises for the School);
- Australian Children's Television Foundation—\$0.54 million.

Australian Film Commission

The Australian Film Commission is a statutory authority established in 1975 to encourage the development and growth of an indigenous film industry.

The Commission addresses this responsibility by managing the expenditure of over \$28 million on film production and financial assistance to independent film makers, by offering a legal, business and marketing advisory service, and by producing films for government departments and programs in the national interest.

The Film Development Division, through the Script Office and various funds (Creative Development, Special Production, No Frills, and Women's Film Funds), provides financial support to individuals for script development and production, and offers financial facilities for projects entering production. In addition to these responsive funds, specific programs have been introduced to target particular industry needs. These programs concentrate on developing skills with a select group of film makers. They include a Documentary Fellowship, a Producer Support Scheme and a Comedy Fund.

National film production, excluding documentaries, comprised 42 features, 33 telemovies and 19 mini-series produced outside the television networks in 1987-88 for approximately \$207 million.

In 1987, cinema admissions amounted to 30.4 million attendances. Australian films claimed a 10 per cent share of the gross box office in capital cities.

Film Australia Pty Limited

Film Australia, the Government's film and video production body, has been re-established as a wholly Commonwealth-owned company to operate as far as practicable along commercial lines. Originally established in 1911 as the national film production house, the new company, known as Film Australia Pty Limited, was incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory on 24 May 1988 and commenced operations on 1 July 1988.

Film Australia's role in the community and film industry is to make films and videos which reflect aspects of the Australian way of life and Australia's relationship with the world. It also offers new filmmakers the opportunity for production experience in a professional environment, and allows established film makers the chance for experimentation and the practical development of ideas and techniques.

Film Australia produces approximately 100 film and video titles a year. It maintains the largest Australiana stock-shot library in the world, with around two million metres of film, including archival material.

Australian Film Finance Corporation Pty Ltd

On 25 May 1988 the Government announced its decision to establish the Australian Film Finance Corporation. Officially incorporated as a company on 12 July 1988, and with a budget allocation covering the next four years, the Corporation is to invest in feature films, documentaries and television dramas, including mini-series and telemovies. Special attention will be given to children's television.

Taxation Incentives for Films Scheme

The scheme which is embodied in Division 10BA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* was established in October 1980 to encourage private investment in Australian films. The scheme allows taxation concessions for private investors in qualifying Australian films which have been issued with a certificate to that effect by the Commonwealth Minister for the Arts and Territories.

Qualifying Australian films are feature films and films of a like nature for television (telemovies); documentaries; and mini-series of television drama. Further they must be produced principally for public exhibition in cinemas or on television, be substantially made in Australia and have a significant Australian content.

In May 1988 it was announced that the tax concessions would be reduced from 120 to 100 per cent of the investment in qualifying Australian films.

Australian Children's Television Foundation

The Australian Children's Television Foundation was incorporated in Victoria in March 1982. Its aim is to improve the quality and quantity of children's programs on Australian television. It has actively pursued this objective by investing in script development and program production and by undertaking related educational and informational activities. The Foundation receives assistance from Federal, State and Territory governments (with the exception of Queensland). In 1986-87, \$0.5 million was provided by the Commonwealth with a matching contribution sought from the other participating governments on a State/Territory per capita basis.

Film censorship

The Commonwealth's censorship powers derive from section 51(1) of the Constitution which enables the Commonwealth to regulate trade and commerce under the Customs Act. Section 50(1) of the latter Act provides that the Governor-General may, by regulation, prohibit the importation of goods into Australia. The Customs (Cinematograph Films) Regulations, which establish the Film Censorship Board and define its legislative role and functions, flow from that section.

The Board is a full-time statutory body located in Sydney. Regional censorship officers, with limited power and functions, are located in Canberra, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. The Board is part of the Office of Film and Literature Classification, created in April 1988.

Under the Customs (Cinematograph Films) Regulations, the Board examines imported films and videotapes to determine whether to register or to refuse to register them for public exhibition. It also examines film advertising. The Regulations direct the Board not to pass films or advertising matter which in its opinion are:

- blasphemous, indecent or obscene;
- likely to be injurious to morality, or to encourage or incite to crime;
- undesirable in the public interest.

The Board's State functions in relation to cinema films, including classification, are performed by virtue of formal agreements with the various States. Decisions on matters arising under the Regulations and on classification under State/Territory legislation may be appealed to the Films Board of Review.

Feature films

In 1987, 535 cinema feature films were processed. Nine feature films were refused registration and deletions made in one. There were 12 appeals, of which 8 were upheld and 4 dismissed. Of the 535 features, 52 were classified For General Exhibition ('G'), 116 Parental Guidance ('PG'), 262 For Mature Audiences ('M') and 74 For Restricted Exhibition ('R'). Permission to import for use at film festivals was granted to 160 films, and 21 were passed subject to special conditions.

The principal countries of origin were the United States of America (204 films), Hong Kong (88 films), Australia (51 films), the United Kingdom (37 films) and Japan (34 films).

While the 'M', 'PG' and 'G' classifications are advisory, persons who have attained the age of two years and who have not attained the age of 18 years are excluded by law from seeing 'R' rated films.

Videotapes

The Board examined 1,930 video features for sale or hire in 1987. There were 10 appeals, 6 of which were upheld and 4 dismissed. 592 feature titles were classified 'G', 341 'PG', 554 'M', 286 'R' and 129 'X'. Twenty-eight were refused classification. The 'X' classification is applied only to videotapes in the ACT and Northern Territory which contain non-violent explicit sexual material. Such material is prohibited in the States.

Professional Training in the Arts

Professional training in the arts in Australia covers a broad range of resources. Training is available through formal educational programs in TAFE, advanced education and university level courses. There are also a number of on-the-job training programs available in the arts and many organisations offer in-house training programs for staff. Very few national institutions deal specifically with professional training in the arts.

National Arts Industry Training Committee Limited—NAITC

The Committee was established in 1986 as a national organisation dealing specifically with vocational training needs in the arts industry. NAITC is not a training organisation in itself, but aims to ensure that training meets present and future needs of those involved in the arts. The Committee undertakes a number of activities to achieve its aims. NAITC encourages dialogue within the arts community about training needs and develops programs based on these discussions. It acts as an important resource centre on information regarding

available training in Australia. NAITC undertakes a series of research projects to examine specific training needs in different sectors of the arts industry. These have included the investigation of training for industrial design, live theatre technicians and management skills training for the rock industry. NAITC liaises with State and Federal governments, educational institutions and others involved in policy making for arts training and so acts as an advocacy body. NAITC is a tripartite organisation, consisting of employers, employees and Federal Government representatives. Membership includes organisations involved in film, television, literature, design, crafts, performing and visual arts. The Commonwealth provides funds for NAITC through the Department of Employment, Education and Training. Additional funds in the form of financial contributions and in-kind support from the arts community supplement government grants.

Australian Film, Television and Radio School

The School was established in 1973 as an Australian Government statutory authority. It is responsible for providing advanced education and training for industry professionals, as well as the development, through its full-time and short courses, of new and emerging talent.

The School undertakes, coordinates and disseminates research in connection with the production of programs. Training needs are assessed and employment trends in the industry are evaluated. The School maintains an extensive library of print and non-print material related to film, television and radio.

National Institute of Dramatic Art—NIDA

The Institute is Australia's national training school for young people who wish to enter the profession of theatre, film and television as actors, directors, designers or stage managers. The Institute's courses are designed to meet the needs of the arts entertainment industry by assisting students to develop the craft skills, cultural background and personal discipline required for successful careers in their chosen field.

The Institute's students number approximately 130 and it has a staff of 30 full and part-time teachers. Each year, some 50 new students are enrolled from over 1,500 applicants from throughout Australia.

RECREATION, FITNESS AND SPORT

The Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories has a general responsibility in the national sphere for recreation, fitness and advice on sport policy.

All State governments have also established agencies with special responsibilities for recreation and sport. Increasing numbers of local government authorities are employing recreation workers who are responsible for planning the use of recreation facilities, and for devising recreation programs.

National Activities

The Sport and Recreation Ministers Council (SRMC) provides the major mechanism for liaison between the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments on matters concerned with sport and recreation in Australia. The Council is a forum for consultation and cooperation between the respective governments, and its membership comprises the ministers with prime responsibility for sport and recreation. Both New Zealand and Papua New Guinea have observer status on the Council.

The SRMC is assisted by the Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport (SCORS). The Department provides secretariat support to the Council, the Standing Committee and its subcommittees.

Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport—SCORS

The Standing Committee comprises representatives from the Commonwealth, State and Territory departments or agencies responsible for sport and recreation. It has established two permanent subcommittees; the Subcommittee on Fitness and the Consultancy Fund Subcommittee.

The objectives of the Subcommittee on Fitness are to:

- provide a mechanism by which the Commonwealth, State and Territory departments can support and assist each other in developing fitness programs;
- provide advice to SCORS on:
 - matters relating to fitness;
 - areas of cooperation in planning, implementing and evaluating fitness programs, facilities and services;
- undertake specific tasks in the area of fitness as directed by SCORS;
- initiate, in conjunction with other agencies where appropriate, approved projects relating to fitness.

The Consultancy Fund Subcommittee is generally responsible for advising SCORS on the operation and management of the SRMC Consultancy Fund. The Consultancy Fund has been established jointly by the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments to enable the council to undertake, on a cooperative basis, projects of common interest.

The Consultancy Fund Subcommittee is responsible for:

- advising SCORS on an annual program to be funded from the SRMC Consultancy Fund;
- implementing projects in accordance with the approved funding program;
- monitoring the progress of projects and presenting reports and recommendations;
- advising SCORS on the dissemination and publication of the results of such projects.

Projects recently funded from the Consultancy Fund include: a study into the employment potential of recreation, sport and fitness in Australia; a study into the social, economic and sporting benefits of hosting specific major international sporting events in Australia; the preparation of a report on the financial viability of public sports facilities in Australia; and the preparation of a sports administrators' resource book.

SCORS has also set up several ad hoc working parties to provide advice on matters of specific concern in the area of sport and recreation.

Recreation and fitness program

In 1987–88, a total of \$1.843 million was allocated to the Government's recreation, fitness and water safety programs to enhance the opportunities for all Australians to participate in healthy, safe and satisfying leisure activities. Of this amount, \$608,000 was provided for a range of projects which aim to increase participation in safe recreation and fitness activities.

Recreation projects

A major aim of the Commonwealth Government's Recreation and Fitness Program is to disseminate recreation and fitness information as widely as possible. In 1988 the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories produced a fourth edition of the Australian Recreation Directory, commissioned a further survey in the series of Recreation Participation Surveys, and produced for national distribution three issues of the newsletter *Participation*.

Other recreation projects undertaken in 1987–88 included: *Backyard Play*, a project aimed at providing information on safe play equipment for backyards; *What's Age Got To Do With It?*, a reprint of a highly successful booklet on fitness and recreation activities for older adults; and *A Bush Experience for Young Migrants*, a manual on bush-based

recreation activities for children new to the Australian bush. A survey of recreation education was also commenced, with the aim of improving the relevance of tertiary recreation studies to the needs of recreation workers in the field.

Following the success of the *What's Age Got To Do With It?* booklet, feature stories on this and other projects undertaken by the Department relevant to recreation and fitness for older adults were contributed to 'Going Strong', the Special Broadcasting Service television program aimed at Australians aged 50 years and over. Two video programs intended for wider distribution as resource material for recreation workers were also commissioned from Film Australia, *What's Age Got To Do With It?*, based on the booklet, and *What Business Are You In?*, an examination of the nature of recreation and desirable ways of providing recreation opportunities for older adults.

Towards an national action plan for community fitness

Following on from surveys of the physical activity and recreation patterns of Australians conducted by the Department between 1984 and 1987, which identified factors associated with active and inactive Australians, a major national conference was held in November 1988. The National Physical Activity and Lifestyle Conference provided a new focus for fitness and health promotion in Australia and developed a national action plan to improve the fitness, health and well-being of the community.

The Conference was attended by invited representatives from all levels of government, academia, professional and commercial fitness interests.

Promotion of physical activity

In 1987-88 the Department produced a number of publications and other material aimed at increasing opportunities for Australians to participate safely in a range of physical activities.

Among these publications was a booklet on back-care called *Straight Facts about Backs* which was later condensed into a supplement for *New Idea* magazine. Another supplement, *Safe Exercises for Older Adults*, was produced in an earlier issue of *New Idea*.

The Department also produced an any-year exercise and fitness diary aimed at encouraging people to integrate exercise into their everyday life. To encourage high levels of competence in professional fitness leaders, a *Fitness Testing Guide* booklet and video were published. This package is designed to assist professionals in the accurate assessment of fitness levels and the design of appropriate exercise programs.

The Department also contracted a consultancy firm to examine how the media might be better used to promote physical activity. The goals of the consultancy are to develop a national strategy for using the media to promote physical activity, to recommend approaches for different target groups and to produce a resources manual for use at a State and local level.

Fitness award scheme for children

During 1987-88 the Department provided grants to organisations to encourage safe participation in regular physical activity.

The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER) developed, with a grant of \$30,000 from the Department, a national fitness award scheme for Australian school children. The scheme is designed to provide an incentive for Australian children to participate in regular activity, thereby increasing their fitness, health and physical performance.

The Department also provided a grant of \$12,500 in support of ACHPER's activities in relation to Physical Education Week. The week is a national schools and community event that has been developed by ACHPER to maintain interest generated by the UNESCO First

World Week of Physical Fitness and Sport for All, which was coordinated by the Department.

Assistance for water safety organisations

In 1987–88 the Department provided financial assistance totalling \$1.235 million to the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia, the Royal Life Saving Society—Australia, and Austswim. These grants encourage the development of safe water-based activity programs for many Australians.

Recreation for People with Disabilities

The National Committee on Recreation for People with Disabilities provides advice to the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories on matters relating to recreation for people with disabilities, and makes recommendations on the allocation of funds under the Program of Assistance for Recreation for People with Disabilities. In 1987–88, \$209,000 was allocated for activities which provided opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in recreational activities of their choice. Organisations receiving grants for specific projects included national and State organisations for people with disabilities and local government authorities. The Committee undertook a national consultation in 1988 to consider the future direction of the Program and to determine strategies for action in 1988–89, including target areas for funding.

Australian Sports Commission—ASC

Following an announcement in September 1987, the ASC and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) have now merged. Those sports functions previously administered by the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories have also been incorporated into the new organisation. The *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* thus created a single authority to plan and coordinate Commonwealth assistance to sport.

The Australian Sports Commission is a statutory authority providing leadership and long-term direction for Australian sports development. In 1988–89, the Commonwealth Government provided \$12.5 million for the Sports Commission's programs and administrative expenses, exclusive of the allocation for the AIS. Slightly more than \$7.1 million of this was for sports programs. The Sports Development Program provides opportunities for increased participation in sport, and promotes the development of Australia's high performance athletes. It also assists with Australia's international standing in sport. Women's and children's sports are supported through the Sports Commission's Women's Sport Promotions Unit and the AUSSIE SPORTS program. Disabled and veterans' sports are also assisted.

The AIS, a Division of the ASC, provides high performance athletes with coaching in international standard facilities and with access to scientific and medical support. About 300 athletes were given scholarships in 1988 in basketball, canoeing, cricket, cycling, diving, gymnastics, hockey, netball, rowing, rugby union, soccer, squash, swimming, tennis, track and field, water polo and weight-lifting. Athletes at the AIS undertake either regular employment or pursue secondary or tertiary education.

In 1988 the AIS had 173 staff, including 51 sports coaches. Its headquarters are located at Bruce in the Australian Capital Territory. Units have been set up in Perth for hockey, Brisbane for squash and diving and Adelaide for cycling and cricket. Canoeing facilities are at Maroochydore, while rugby union, to be administered from Brisbane, will be available in Sydney and Canberra. In 1988–89 the Government is providing about \$14.5 million of the Institute's \$18 million budget for its operational, development and facilities costs. In addition to the residential sports program, the AIS also provides the National Sports Program which offers athletes the use of AIS facilities, resources and

expertise. These assist with national selection trials, team training, talent development programs, coaches' seminars and workshops for sports officials.

Assistance to national sporting associations

The ASC provides financial assistance to national sporting associations. This includes employing national executive directors and coaching directors, contributing to international competitions, administrative support and development projects.

Sports Talent Encouragement Plan

The scheme provides direct financial assistance to world-ranked Australian individual athletes and teams and to athletes demonstrating a capacity to achieve world rankings. The assistance contributes towards the costs of training and competition. Assistance is also available to coaches.

Applied Sports Research Program

The Commission provides funds under the Applied Sports Research Program which enables national organisations to utilise tertiary institutions to carry out research related to their sport.

Children in sport

Assistance is provided to national sporting bodies to assist junior sports development. In addition, the Commission has established the AUSSIE SPORTS program to improve the quality and variety of sport for primary school children.

Equity and access

The Commission is also concerned to increase participation in sport among groups which have not had sufficient access to sporting opportunity. A Women's Sports Promotion Unit was established in 1987 to encourage women's participation and achievement in sport.

Drugs in sport

Funds have been provided to the National Program on Drugs in Sports Committee. This has enabled the employment of a full-time coordinator and the preparation of educational material. Drug testing programs are also being developed.

Australian Coaching Council

The Commission funds the position of Australian Coaching Council Director responsible for the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme and for the development of resource materials. The position reports directly to the Coaching Council, which is funded by the Commission.

Sport for people with disabilities

In 1987-88, \$827,000 was allocated by the Government for sport and recreation for people with disabilities. Of this \$617,633 was allocated for sport related projects. In 1988 a review of the Government's assistance to the disabled for sporting activities was completed and a Disabled Sport Program commenced in 1988-89. The objective of this Program is to encourage people with disabilities to participate in sport and to ensure they have the same opportunities as able-bodied people.

SOCIO-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Aside from organised or institutional forms of culture, there is a dimension of social practice which is cultural: most simply described as those activities or forms of activity which people undertake in their own time, unconstrained by immediate material need, social obligation or gain. Typically, these are activities which contribute to personal or social identity, which give meaning and focus to values that people hold, and which do not depend on outside subsidy or encouragement.

Language and religious practice, multicultural events, attitudes to and use of Aboriginal lands, and participation in adult education are all manifestations of socio cultural activity embedded in community life that have begun to attract interest from policy makers. They are indicators of attitudes to community identity in the wake of rapid changes to social composition, as well as simply mechanisms for cultural maintenance. They both anchor institutional forms of culture (which rely on commercial or governmental support) within the society, and provide a bridge to mutual understanding across culturally diverse groups.

Aboriginal and Islander Community

Impact of European settlement

The impact of British settlers from the end of the 18th century was disastrous for traditional Aboriginal society. Although the official policy of the first settlers was to establish peaceful relationships with the Aboriginal inhabitants of the colony, the Aboriginals gradually fell victim to violent confrontations with the settlers, plus alcohol and imported diseases.

The impact of alien diseases, such as measles and syphilis, with which Aboriginal people had had no previous contact and therefore no immune resistance, saw the population dwindle to about 60,000 after the first 100 years. Many tribal groups, languages and dialects died out, and the traditional ecological balance of Aboriginal life was destroyed.

By the end of the 19th century, special reserves, some run by church mission organisations, were set up in an attempt to protect the Aboriginals. Their numbers continued to decline during the 1920s and 1930s and governments were urged to take more positive action.

On the assumption that the European way of life was the more desirable, a policy of assimilation was adopted, particularly for those of mixed descent, who came to be a major group in the Aboriginal community. There was increased government spending on health services, housing, education and training, and by the 1950s the population decline was reversed.

The 1960s marked a fundamental redirection of Aboriginal affairs in Australia—with rejection of the States' and Northern Territory Native Welfare regimes; the development of the modern Aboriginal political movement and the establishment of concurrent Commonwealth responsibility with the States, leading to the establishment of the Council of Aboriginal Affairs and the Office of Aboriginal Affairs.

The 1970s saw a realisation of some of the promise of the 1960s—Federal funding, the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act*, important High Court decisions, the land rights movement and the establishment of new national Aboriginal social and political organisations.

People

At the 1986 Census, there were 227,645 Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders in Australia, or 1.5 per cent of the total population. Less than 25 per cent of them lived in cities of more than 100,000 people. One-third lived in rural areas, over twice the rural concentration of the population taken as a whole.

**ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS: URBAN/RURAL
DISTRIBUTION, JUNE 1986**

<i>Section of State</i>	<i>Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders</i>		<i>Total population</i>	
	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
Major urban (cities with more than 100,000 people)	55,537	24.4	9,817,933	62.9
Other urban (towns and cities with 1,000 to 99,999 people)	95,879	42.1	3,499,012	22.4
Rural	76,229	33.5	2,285,211	14.6
Total	227,645	100.0	15,602,156	100.0

Government policies

Federal government policies aim to preserve the cultural identity of the Aboriginal people and to enhance their dignity and general well-being by achieving a situation of justice and equality where Aboriginal people have sufficient economic and social independence to enjoy fully their civil, political, social and economic rights as Australian citizens.

Funds expended on Aboriginal advancement programs administered by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs increased by 7 per cent in 1987-88 to \$379.0 million. Total spending on Aboriginal advancement programs by Federal Government departments in 1987-88 totalled \$656.2 million, representing a 60.6 per cent increase in real terms since 1983.

Consultation

In December 1987 the Government announced a major restructuring of its Federal Aboriginal organisations.

Following extensive consultation with Aboriginal people the Government established the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) to take over the role and functions of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Aboriginal Development Commission, Aboriginal Hostels Limited and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

The new Commission will, for the first time, formally combine the consultative functions with the administrative functions undertaken by the four government bodies.

Through rationalisation of resources, including field offices, the proposed Commission will result in a more streamlined, efficient and responsive administration of Aboriginal affairs than at any previous time.

Aboriginal Land

The philosophy that secure land ownership is essential to providing Aboriginals with freedom of choice in life style and a means for preserving their traditions, known as 'land rights', has been supported by all major parties at the Federal level of Australian politics.

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act

The *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* came into operation on Australia Day 1977. The Act gives recognition to Aboriginal land rights in the Northern Territory and is based on the recommendation of the second report of the Aboriginal Land Rights Commission.

Under the Act, Aboriginals have been granted title to former Aboriginal reserves and a mechanism has been established for the hearing of claims to unalienated Crown land. Claims are heard by an Aboriginal Land Commissioner who determines whether there are traditional owners to the land concerned and makes recommendations to the Government on the grant of the land.

The form of title provided for by the Act is inalienable freehold, which ensures security of tenure for future generations of traditional Aboriginal owners as the land cannot be sold or mortgaged. Title is held by Land Trusts composed of traditional Aboriginal owners and/or residents of the area.

Thirty-three per cent (448,633 sq km) of the land in the Northern Territory has been granted under the Act. Of this, over half is former Aboriginal reserve or mission land. Another 12 per cent of Northern Territory land is presently under claim.

The Act also provides for the establishment of Aboriginal Land Councils to act as agents for traditional Aboriginal owners on land matters. Presently, there are three Land Councils—the Tiwi Land Council (covering Melville and Bathurst Islands), the Northern Land Council (based in Darwin) and the Central Land Council (based in Alice Springs).

Provision is made under the Act for traditional Aboriginal owners to exercise substantial control over activities on their land, including mineral exploration and mining, and for them to benefit economically from the use of their land.

Where mining occurs on Aboriginal land, the Act provides that amounts equivalent to royalties received by the Northern Territory or the Commonwealth are paid from the Commonwealth's Consolidated Revenue Fund into the Aboriginals Benefit Trust Account (ABTA). Thirty per cent of these moneys is for the benefit of Aboriginal communities affected by mining and 40 per cent is paid to the Land Councils to fund their administrative expenses. The remaining 30 per cent (less amounts needed for ABTA administration and supplementary payments to land Councils for their administration) is available for the benefit of Aboriginals throughout the Northern Territory.

National parks on Aboriginal land in the Northern Territory

In the Northern Territory a unique system is operating for certain national parks located on Aboriginal land. All of the land in the Uluru National Park and some of the land in the Kakadu National Park has been granted to appropriate Aboriginal land trusts, and then leased back to the Director, Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service (ANPWS) for use as national parks under the provisions of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* and the *National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975*.

In Uluru National Park a Board of Management with an Aboriginal majority has been established to manage the Park in conjunction with ANPWS. Similar arrangements are being negotiated between the Northern Land Council (on behalf of traditional owners) and the ANPWS to apply in the Kakadu National Park.

In 1986 the Uluru (Ayers Rock—Mount Olga) National Park was nominated for world heritage listing by the Commonwealth with the support of the Northern Territory. The Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1987. The second stage of the Kakadu National Park was also nominated for world heritage listing in 1987 and was inscribed on the World Heritage List the same year. The first stage of that Park had been listed in 1981.

Similar management arrangements exist in relation to the land in the Gurig National Park which was granted to the traditional Aboriginal owners in 1981 by the Northern Territory Government under the *Cobourg Peninsula Aboriginal Land and Sanctuary Act 1981*.

Aboriginal land in the States

The list below shows the areas of land that have been transferred to Aboriginal ownership or otherwise provided to Aboriginals under secure title through the policies and programs operated by Commonwealth and State/Territory Governments.

Australian Capital Territory: In the Jervis Bay Territory the Commonwealth legislated to provide inalienable freehold title to 403 hectares of land at Wreck Bay for the Wreck Bay Aboriginal community. That legislation, the *Aboriginal Land Grant (Jervis Bay Territory) Act 1986*, came into effect on 16 January 1987. Title to that land was handed over in March 1987.

New South Wales: The *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* created a three-tiered structure of local, regional and State Aboriginal Land Councils which hold freehold title to land totalling approximately 190 square kilometres. Land Councils may make claims to Crown lands that are not occupied and not needed for essential purposes.

The Act also provided for the payment into a fund of 7.5 per cent of the State land tax revenue over the ensuing 15 years. Half of this fund is set aside as capital for future years, with the balance meeting the costs of Land Council administration and land purchases.

Victoria: The *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1970* vested title to the Lake Tyers and Framlingham Reserves (the only remaining Aboriginal reserves in Victoria) in trusts comprised of the Aboriginal residents.

In 1987, following a request from the Victorian State Government, the Commonwealth Government enacted legislation to grant freehold title over the Framlingham Forest and a former reserve at Lake Condah—1,153 hectares in all—to the local Aboriginal communities.

Queensland: Legislation passed in 1984 improved Aboriginal control over reserve lands without granting full title. Transfer of title under Deeds of Grant in Trust (a form of perpetual lease) to major Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island reserves took place during 1986 and 1987. The issuing of deeds to a large number of minor reserves is still under consideration.

Western Australia: Under the *Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act 1972*, Aboriginal reserve land was vested in an Aboriginal Land Trust. In March 1986, following the defeat of an Aboriginal land bill in the Upper House of Parliament, the State Government announced a new program intended to grant Aboriginal communities secure title to land and to provide for services by administrative arrangement without the need for legislation.

Some of the measures included under this program are:

- the granting of 99-year leases to Aboriginal Land Trust land;
- the transfer of other reserves under the control of the State Department of Community Services to Aboriginal control; and
- facilitation of the excision from pastoral leases of living areas for Aboriginals.

South Australia: The Aboriginal Land Trust of South Australia, established by an Act of Parliament in 1966, holds freehold title to former reserves (approximately 5,000 square kilometres). The Trust leases this land to Aboriginal communities.

The *Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Act 1981* vested freehold title to over 100,000 square kilometres, or 10 per cent of the State, in the north-west to the Pitjantjatjara people. In 1984, similar legislation provided for Aboriginal ownership of 76,000 square kilometres of the Maralinga lands in the far west of the State.

Tasmania: In 1986, the Commonwealth Minister for Aboriginal Affairs commissioned a report on Aboriginal land needs in Tasmania. To date the Tasmanian Government has not agreed to transfer title to any historically or archaeologically significant sites.

ABORIGINAL LAND TENURE AND POPULATION: 31 JULY 1988

	<i>Aboriginal population June 1986</i>	<i>As % of total population</i>	<i>Total land area (sq km)</i>	<i>Aboriginal freehold (sq km)</i>	<i>As % of total land</i>	<i>Aboriginal leasehold (sq km)</i>	<i>As % of total land</i>	<i>Reserve mission (sq km)</i>	<i>As % of total land</i>
NSW and ACT	60,231	1.0	801,000	190	0.0	830	0.1	—	—
Vic.	12,611	0.3	227,600	31	0.0	—	—	—	—
Qld	61,268	2.4	1,727,200	5	0.0	27,467	1.6	6,628	0.3
SA	14,291	1.1	984,000	183,726	18.7	507	0.1	—	—
WA	37,789	2.7	2,525,000	28	0.0	42,596	1.7	185,192	7.3
Tas.	6,716	1.5	67,800	2	0.0	—	—	—	—
NT	34,739	22.4	1,346,200	448,633	33.3	24,828	1.8	45	0.0
Australia	227,645	1.5	7,681,800	632,615	8.2	96,228	1.3	191,865	2.5

Homeland centres and outstations

Since the early 1970s many Aboriginal people have made the decision to adopt a more independent and traditional way of life.

They have moved to remote areas where they have established small outstation communities. In early 1986, there were about 500 such communities, mostly in remote areas of Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland. Populations generally varied between 30 and 50 people.

Over the past three years a total of \$16.5 million has been spent in developing 141 outstation resource centres, which provide services for a number of outstations in a particular area.

Aboriginal Cultural Activity**Arts**

A modern resurgence of Aboriginal arts continues rich traditions spanning tens of thousands of years, but incorporates many new forms.

Aboriginal artistic expression ranges across art, music, dance, oral and written literature, graphic design, video and film. Some artistic forms draw heavily on ancient traditions but present a vibrant and living heritage which remains relevant to Aboriginal Australians.

Aboriginal art varies greatly in style and form from one area of Australia to another but retains a spirituality which gives a distinctiveness and common strength to the work. Artists in the tropical north of Australia are well known for their painting with natural ochres on bark but artists from Papunya in Central Australia, for example, express the themes of traditional sand drawings with acrylic paint on canvas and board. In recent times large canvasses have been introduced which help the paintings to reflect the scale of traditional sand designs, and artists have developed their traditional themes with new materials and colours to provide immense contemporary impact. Considerable success is being enjoyed in exhibitions of these paintings in major art centres in Australia as well as in Europe and America.

Aboriginal musicians, whose music ranges from traditional song to rock and country music, are popular both in Australia and overseas. Aboriginal writers, poets and playwrights are also an emerging force in Australian literature.

The Aboriginal Arts Board of the Australia Council has established a wide range of programs to assist Aboriginal initiatives. These include: the Aboriginal and Islander Skills Development Scheme (a theatre and dance school); Inada Holdings Pty Ltd (a commercial art and craft marketing company); the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music; and an association of Aboriginal writers, dramatists and people involved in oral literature.

Broadcasting and telecommunications

The Government has endorsed a strategy for the development of Aboriginal broadcasting and telecommunications which aims to ensure that appropriate broadcasting and communications services are available to Aboriginals, particularly the substantial Aboriginal population living in remote Australia.

This is a new and developing area of government responsibility, and policies in relation to it resulted from recommendations of a Task Force Report on Aboriginal and Islander Broadcasting and Communications titled *Out of the Silent Land*, published in 1984.

The policies were developed in consultation with Aboriginal broadcasters, the Department of Transport and Communications, the Australian Telecommunications Commission, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and the Special Broadcasting Service.

The Government supports financially Aboriginal broadcasting resource groups in urban, rural and remote areas to enable them to produce radio and television material of relevance to local communities. Some of this material is being incorporated into programs for wider audiences, including metropolitan centres.

In 1986–87, more than 30 Aboriginal groups produced about 150 hours of public radio programming per week. In addition, the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association broadcasts through the Australian Broadcasting Corporation high frequency inland service for up to 10 hours a day in four Aboriginal languages.

Implementation of the Broadcasting for Remote Aboriginal Communities Scheme (BRACS) is presently taking place. The Scheme resulted from recommendations of the Task Force Report on Aboriginal and Islander Broadcasting and Communications and was endorsed by the Government in October 1985. The BRACS program provides satellite reception and local re-broadcasting equipment for television and radio services and facilities for local organisation programs for remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities which do not receive any radio or television services.

Language Practices

In the 1986 Census people were asked whether they spoke a language other than English at home. Among those who stated that they did, 405,000 (21 per cent) spoke Italian and a further 267,100 (14 per cent) spoke Greek. These were the two most prevalent responses, with other responses each representing less than 10 per cent. Altogether over 2 million people, most of whom were born overseas, spoke a non-English language at home.

Proficiency in English varied according to age and birthplace. Ninety-two per cent of 5–24 year olds spoke English well or very well, compared with 57 per cent of those aged 65 years and over. The influence of birthplace was evident in the consistently higher level of proficiency in English among those born in Australia: 94 per cent of this group spoke English well or very well, compared with 81 per cent overall.

PERSONS (a) WHO SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME: LANGUAGE BY SEX AND BIRTHPLACE, JUNE 1986

<i>Language spoken</i>	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Australian born</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	per cent	'000	
Italian	206.0	199.0	405.0	20.6	158.7		
Greek	135.2	131.9	267.1	13.6	111.7		
Chinese	65.2	65.6	130.8	6.7	11.0		
German	52.9	56.6	109.4	5.6	21.4		
Arabic/Lebanese	55.2	50.9	106.0	5.4	31.1		
Spanish	35.2	32.5	68.0	3.5	10.2		
Serbian, Croatian	34.4	32.2	66.6	3.4	20.7		
Other Yugoslav	35.5	32.5	68.0	3.5	16.1		
Polish	32.6	33.6	66.2	3.4	9.6		
Dutch	29.4	32.0	61.4	3.1	7.6		
Vietnamese	34.1	25.3	59.4	3.0	1.6		
Maltese	29.7	28.2	57.8	2.9	15.5		
French	24.8	26.6	51.4	2.6	15.5		
Macedonian	22.1	21.0	43.1	2.2	14.1		
Aboriginal languages	18.4	18.6	36.9	1.9	36.7		
Turkish	16.2	15.1	31.2	1.6	6.1		
Hungarian	15.5	15.4	30.9	1.6	5.0		
Russian	9.9	11.8	21.7	1.1	4.0		
Other	141.7	140.9	282.7	14.4	61.5		
Total (b) ('000)	1,022.4	1,000.5	2,022.8	100.0	568.2		

(a) Excludes children aged under 5 years. (b) Includes language not stated responses.

PERSONS WHO SPOKE A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME: PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH BY BIRTHPLACE AND AGE, JUNE 1986

<i>Proficiency in English</i>	<i>Age (years)</i>				<i>Total</i>
	5-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	
	—per cent—				
Total population					
Speaks English:					
Well/very well	92.2	82.1	71.9	57.0	80.7
Not well	6.8	16.4	24.4	28.6	16.3
Not at all	1.0	1.6	3.7	14.4	3.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total (a) ('000)	647.0	667.4	504.2	170.3	1,989.0
Australian born					
Speaks English:					
Well/very well	95.6	94.2	86.1	74.4	94.4
Not well	3.9	5.1	11.6	17.7	4.8
Not at all	0.5	0.7	2.2	7.9	0.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total (a) ('000)	403.2	124.0	32.8	14.4	574.4

(a) Includes proficiency in English not stated but excludes language spoken not stated.

National Policy on Languages

Australia's National Policy on Languages was developed in response to a report of the Senate Standing Committee on Education and the Arts which recommended the development and coordination of language policies at the national level. A special consultant was appointed to coordinate their development. The Lo Bianco Report which resulted was endorsed by the Prime Minister on 26 April 1987 and tabled in the Senate on 4 May 1987.

The Government provided \$15 million in 1987-88, rising to \$28 million in 1988-89, for the implementation of the Policy. These funds were used to introduce five new programs and supplement one existing program in key language areas, and for the establishment and operation of the Australian Advisory Council on Languages and Multicultural Education (AACLAME).

The new programs were the National Aboriginal Languages Program, the Australian Second Language Learning Program, the Adult Literacy Action Campaign, the Multicultural and Cross-cultural Supplementation Program, and the Asian Studies Program. The existing program which was supplemented was the New Arrivals element of the English as a Second Language Program.

National Aboriginal Language Program—NALP

The NALP recognises the unique and important place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages in Australia's linguistic heritage.

Funding for the program was \$0.5 million for 1987-88, rising to \$1 million for both 1988-89 and 1989-90. The funds are intended to support a range of language maintenance and learning projects such as:

- language resource centres;
- bilingual programs;
- translating and interpreting services;
- literacy programs.

Thirty-nine projects were approved for funding in 1987-88 by the Minister for Employment, Education and Training. Some of the factors taken into account when selecting the projects included the state of the language concerned; the degree of Aboriginal support and involvement; and the degree of funding available to an organisation or community from other sources.

Australian Second Language Learning Program—ASLLP

The National Policy on Languages promotes the study of at least one language in addition to English as an expected part of the educational experience of all Australian students. ASLLP, funded under the National Policy on Languages, is intended to provide greater opportunities for this to occur. An amount of \$3.8 million was made available under the program in the 1987-88 budget. This funding, which increases to \$7.5 million in 1988-89 and 1989-90, is to be applied on a calendar year basis.

For 1988, education authorities were free to allocate funds among languages according to locally determined priorities and needs. Authorities were asked, however, to take note of the Federal Government's view that due emphasis should be placed on languages relevant to economic development, trade and tourism whilst recognising the need to improve provision for community languages.

ASLLP provided for activities such as curriculum and materials development; the professional development of teachers; the expansion of existing programs; the trialling of innovative techniques in second language teaching and learning; support for schools offering a specialist curriculum on language studies; and the application of distance technology to language learning, particularly for students in country areas.

Adult Literacy Action Campaign

Funding provided under the National Policy on Languages is additional to existing funding provided for adult literacy activities under the States Grants (Tertiary Assistance) Act and the Non-government Adult Education Program which in 1988 amounted to \$1.089 million and \$1.385 million respectively. The funding provided under the States Grants program is made available to State TAFE authorities for recurrent activities such as the provision of courses, literacy area coordinators, publicity, curriculum and staff development. Under the Non-government Adult Education Program, which commenced in 1977, a range of activities including adult literacy and numeracy instruction were provided by a variety of community agencies outside the formal educational sector. In 1988 literacy activities are a priority under this program.

Multicultural and Cross-cultural Supplementation Program—MACSP

In 1987–88 MACSP provided funds on a submission basis to tertiary institutions and approved organisations to support the introduction and extension of cross-cultural and community language elements within existing professional and para-professional courses and develop curriculum materials for use in such courses.

The professional or para-professional areas targeted by the program include medicine and health, law, accounting and commerce, industrial relations and management, teaching, social welfare, librarianship and archives administration, and tourism.

Asian Studies

The Asian Studies Council (ASC) administers funds of \$1.85 million which were allocated for 1987–88, 1988–89 and 1989–90 under the National Policy on Languages to boost the study of Asian languages and cultures in Australia.

The ASC has negotiated a collaborative approach between State, Territory and non-government education authorities to the development of curriculum and teacher training, with one or more States taking prime responsibility for agreed projects. Project designs include processes to keep all parties informed of developments so that the final products will be mutually acceptable.

The ASC is also funding a major inquiry into the teaching of Asian languages and studies in higher education. The inquiry will review the current situation in higher education and define what changes are necessary in order to meet Australia's requirements for Asian studies into the next century. The inquiry has ministerial endorsement and will run for eight months, with an allocation of \$45,814 from the 1987–88 National Policy on Languages (ESL) budget.

English as a Second Language (ESL) for New Arrivals

Under the National Policy on Languages funding was provided for the doubling, in real terms, of the per student rate of funding payable to education authorities involved in the provision of ESL instruction for newly arrived students from 1988 onwards. The per capita rate is now \$2,057 which will be paid to education authorities in accordance with existing administrative procedures.

In 1987 a total of 14,040 students were assisted as new arrivals under the ESL Program. Based on projected increases in the overall immigration program for both the 1987–88 and the 1988–89 financial years, this number was likely to increase to around 15,000 in 1988.

English as a Second Language in schools

The objective of the English as a Second Language Program is to assist schools and school systems to develop the English language competence of students of non-English speaking background (NESB).

The program has three elements:

- The *general support element* provides approximately \$42 million annually to assist schools and education authorities with the provision of specialist services specifically directed at improving the English language competence of NESB students resident in Australia (including those born in Australia).
- The *new arrivals element* provides \$2,082 per student for intensive English language programs for newly arrived NESB students.
- The *language teaching element* provides \$4.3 million in assistance for specialist and/or 'mainstream' teachers to address the English language needs of NESB students in their classes.

In 1987, 12,316 new arrivals were catered for in intensive classes in government schools and special language centres and 1,790 in non-government schools. Details are not yet available for activities funded in 1987 under ESL program elements. Information in respect of 1986 for five States shows that some 90,000 government school students and 48,000 non-government students benefited from activities funded through the general support element. The per student allocation varied from \$188 to \$2,000 among systems indicating the diverse levels of ESL needs of children participating. Over 2,000 teachers were funded under all elements in government schools and over 400 in non-government schools. Other major items of expenditure involved the salaries of ancillary staff (consultants, bilingual aides, counselling staff), curriculum and other materials and professional development.

Ethnic Schools Program

The major purpose of the Ethnic Schools Program is to help students of non-English speaking background maintain their relevant languages and cultures. A secondary aim is to provide further opportunities for all children to gain access to the different community languages and cultures within Australian society.

The Ethnic Schools Program assists some 700 ethnic community organisations to operate classes in the languages and cultures of their communities. These classes may be held either after formal school hours (after hours classes) or during formal school hours (insertion classes). 'Ethnic' in this context is used to denote languages and cultures other than those of English-speaking peoples. The Ethnic Schools Program does not apply to language and cultural studies provided by formal schools. This Commonwealth funding program has been operating since 1981, and since 1984, groups providing instruction in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and cultures have been eligible to receive funding under it.

In 1987, 209,810 students were funded with 71,056 of these being taught in classes outside regular school hours, the remainder in insertion classes in regular schools.

The number of languages funded in 1987 was 53 with the most popular being Italian (65 per cent of enrolments), Greek (12 per cent), Arabic (5.3 per cent), Chinese (5.1 per cent) and Vietnamese (2.4 per cent). Details of major languages funded and student enrolments in recent years are shown below.

ETHNIC SCHOOLS PROGRAM: ENROLMENTS BY TYPE OF CLASS

<i>Type of class</i>	<i>1985</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>1987</i>
	—No. of students—		
After hours classes	83,916	82,745	71,056
Insertion classes	104,647	140,478	138,754
<i>Total</i>	<i>188,563</i>	<i>223,223</i>	<i>209,810</i>

ETHNIC SCHOOLS PROGRAM: FUNDING TO MAJOR LANGUAGES

<i>Language</i>	<i>1985</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>1987</i>
	—per cent—		
Italian	53.9	60.9	64.8
Greek	15.5	12.6	11.6
Arabic	7.5	6.4	5.3
Chinese	5.5	5.0	5.1
Vietnamese	2.5	2.5	2.4
Spanish	1.8	1.6	1.4
Turkish	1.6	1.5	1.2
German	1.4	1.1	0.9
Croatian	1.6	1.2	0.8
Polish	1.0	0.9	0.7
Hebrew	1.1	0.8	0.7
Macedonian	1.1	0.7	0.7

Adult Education

Adult education is the most decentralised of the education sectors. Courses offered generally do not lead to a qualification. It provides many people with educational opportunities otherwise unavailable, and while it is considered a valuable starting point in encouraging people to go on to award studies in TAFE and higher education, it also fulfils many cultural and recreational roles. The range of providers is enormous: from commercial and private industry, church and cultural groups to professional bodies; from the YMCA, higher education institutions, TAFE and Workers Educational Associations, to various State government departments; from public libraries, museums and galleries to Commonwealth government funded programs.

Throughout the 1980s there has been a significant growth in non-government community based adult education run on a voluntary or semi-voluntary basis. These courses originate from the requirements, demands and initiatives of local communities and are offered by learning centres, community care centres, community schools, education centres (particularly in country areas), voluntary teaching networks, literacy groups, women's education programs, teachers' centres, ethnic networks, discussion centres and a variety of neighbourhood centres. Courses range from general interest, recreational and leisure activities, personal development, social awareness and craft through to vocational, remedial and basic education. Community based adult education constitutes a new trend in education. It is open to all, and non-formal characteristics demonstrate the capacity of the community to develop alternatives to institutionalised education. It is estimated that in 1987 there were nearly 200,000 participants in these courses.

The higher education sector plays an integral part in adult education through programs of continuing education in professional development, preparatory skills, and general education. These courses are offered by institutions in response to industry and government initiatives and are at a level consistent with the general teaching of the institutions. In 1984, enrolments in these programs exceeded 160,000.

The TAFE sector is the largest provider of adult recreational and leisure courses. 1986 enrolments in these courses were 492,032. TAFE also offers the largest program of vocational and remedial courses.

There is at present no statistical system to identify the entire scope and extent of adult education. In particular the number of courses run by associations and the private sector is unknown. However, the 1986-87 National Social Science Survey now gives a better basis for estimating participation rates in adult education. The survey found that about six out of every ten Australians (63 per cent) over the age of 18 have taken at least one course. Men and women are about equally likely to take courses. Overall it is estimated that more than one million Australians participate in adult education each year.

Cultural and Community Activities

Religious affiliation

According to the 1986 Census results, Australians were predominantly Christian. Catholics formed the largest group, representing 26 per cent of the total population, followed by Anglicans, 24 per cent. This reverses the situation in 1976 when the Anglican group dominated with 28 per cent. In 1986 the third largest group was the Uniting Church with 8 per cent. In all, 11.4 million Australians (73 per cent) referred to themselves as being of Christian denomination.

Affiliation with a non-Christian religion was claimed by 316,000 Australians (2 per cent of the population). This was an increase of almost 150 per cent on 1976 when less than 1 per cent claimed non-Christian affiliation. At that time the Jewish group was the largest with 53,000 people. By 1986 the main non-Christian religions were Muslim (110,000) and Buddhist (80,000), while those affiliated with the Jewish religion numbered 69,000.

Almost 2 million Australians (13 per cent of the total population) described themselves in 1986 as having no religion.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, AUSTRALIA

Religion	1976		1986	
	('000)	(per cent)	('000)	(per cent)
Christian				
Catholic (a)	3,482.8	25.7	4,064.4	26.1
Anglican	3,752.2	27.7	3,723.4	23.9
Uniting (b)	—	—	1,182.3	7.6
Methodist—incl. Wesleyan	983.2	7.3	(c)	(c)
Presbyterian and Reformed	900.0	6.6	560.0	3.6
Orthodox	372.2	2.7	427.4	2.7
Lutheran	191.5	1.4	208.3	1.3
Baptist	174.2	1.3	196.8	1.3
Pentecostal	38.4	0.3	107.0	0.7
Churches of Christ	86.9	0.6	88.5	0.6
Salvation Army	63.3	0.5	77.8	0.5
Jehovah's Witness	41.4	0.3	66.5	0.4
Seventh Day Adventist	41.5	0.3	48.0	0.3
Latter Day Saints/Mormon	(d)	(d)	35.5	0.2
Brethren	20.7	0.2	23.2	0.1
Congregational	53.4	0.4	16.6	0.1
Oriental Christian	(d)	(d)	10.4	0.1
Other Protestant	206.2	1.5	199.4	1.3
Christian n.e.i.	236.9	1.7	346.4	2.2
Total	10,644.9	78.6	11,381.9	73.0
Non-Christian				
Muslim	45.2	0.3	109.5	0.7
Buddhist	(e)	(e)	80.4	0.5
Jewish	53.4	0.4	69.1	0.4
Hindu	(e)	(e)	21.5	0.1
Other non-Christian	30.4	0.2	35.7	0.2
Total	129.1	1.0	316.2	2.0
Other				
Non-theistic	(f)	(f)	4.9	—
Inadequately described	51.3	0.4	58.0	0.4
No religion (so described)	1,130.3	8.3	1,977.5	12.7
Not stated	1,593.0	11.8	1,863.6	11.9
Total	13,548.4	100.0	15,602.2	100.0

(a) Roman Catholic and Catholic (non-Roman). (b) The Uniting Church was formed in 1977 from the Methodist, Congregational and part of the Presbyterian churches. (c) People who responded Methodist in 1986 were coded to Uniting. (d) Included in Christian n.e.i. (e) Included in other non-Christian. (f) Not available.

ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

The Australian Constitution does not include a reference to environment or conservation. Commonwealth powers in environmental protection, nature conservation and related fields arise from, or are incidental to, other specified powers. These specific Commonwealth powers include the power to legislate with respect to Territories of the Commonwealth, overseas and interstate trade and commerce, external affairs, corporations, taxation, defence, quarantine and granting financial assistance to States. Effectively the powers relating to environment and conservation are divided among Commonwealth, State and local government. As a practical matter however, most decisions on environmental protection, nature conservation, land use and land management in the States are the responsibility of the State governments.

The *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974* was the first piece of Commonwealth legislation to specifically address environmental issues. The Act defined environment as comprising 'all aspects of the surroundings of human beings, whether affecting them as individuals or in social groupings', and set up procedures to review the environmental impact of development proposals which involved Commonwealth Government decisions.

Since then, the Government has intervened on a number of occasions where environmental values were attracting broad community attention, notably the mining of Fraser Island in Queensland and the damming of the Franklin River in South West Tasmania. Through these and other actions, the Commonwealth Government has been drawn into areas of environmental policy, planning and management not adequately covered by existing State administrative arrangements.

Commonwealth Responsibility for Environment and Conservation

In Commonwealth legislation, environment includes all aspects of human surroundings, whether affecting individuals or social groupings. Thus the environmental responsibilities of the Government relate to a broad range of activities bearing on the protection, conservation and enhancement of environmental quality and amenity. These responsibilities are shared among many agencies of government although a special focus is provided by the Ministry of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories.

The Commonwealth is responsible for the environment of the Territories other than the Northern Territory and the ACT, for the environmental impact of actions and decisions by its agencies operating in the States, and for contributing to international activities and standards for environmental management. The Commonwealth also plays a major role in the national coordination of environmental protection and conservation activities, and contributes substantively to environmental research, environmental education and information exchange.

National Activities

National collaboration on environmental matters is facilitated through Commonwealth and State ministerial councils and other advisory bodies, and through a variety of nationally coordinated activities and programs.

Australian Environment Council

The Australian Environment Council was established in 1972 by agreement between the Prime Minister and the State Premiers. The members of the Council are the ministers responsible for environmental matters in each State, internal Territory and the Commonwealth Government. New Zealand and Papua New Guinea have observer status on the Council.

The Council provides a forum for consultation, cooperation and liaison on matters concerning environmental management and pollution control. These matters have included

the control of emissions and noise from motor vehicles, the use and disposal of hazardous chemicals, noise control, water quality, air pollution, solid-waste management, the economics of pollution abatement policies and environmental impact assessment, coastal management, land use policy, biotechnology and climate changes induced by human activities.

Council of Nature Conservation Ministers

The Council of Nature Conservation Ministers was established in 1974 by agreement between the Prime Minister and State Premiers. It comprises ministers with nature conservation responsibilities in each State, internal Territory and the Commonwealth Government as well as the Commonwealth Minister responsible for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization. New Zealand and Papua New Guinea have observer status on the Council.

The Council provides a forum for consultation, cooperation and liaison on matters relating to the conservation and management of Australia's flora and fauna. Specific matters considered by the Council have included trafficking in native animals and plants, culling of populations of native species, protection of endangered and threatened plants and animals, the control of diseases affecting or likely to affect natural ecosystems in Australia, ranger training, management of national parks, and identification of wilderness areas.

Australian Ionising Radiation Advisory Council

The Australian Ionising Radiation Advisory Council advises the Government on matters such as fall-out over Australia from nuclear weapons testing, health effects of exposure to ionising radiation, radioactive waste management, visits of nuclear powered warships, and licensing and regulation of nuclear activities.

National Conservation Strategy for Australia

Following the international launch of the World Conservation Strategy in 1980, the Commonwealth Government, all States and the Northern Territory agreed to cooperate in developing a National Conservation Strategy for Australia which would aim to achieve 'sustainable development'—that is, harmony between development and conservation of Australia's living resources and supporting ecosystems. After wide consultation with the States, non-government conservation groups, industry and the community, consensus was obtained on a strategy at a national conference held in June 1983.

The Commonwealth Government endorsed the National Conservation Strategy for Australia in June 1984. The Northern Territory and most State governments have also endorsed the Strategy. Victoria and Western Australia have prepared State Conservation Strategies. In various ways, all governments have undertaken nature conservation activities consistent with the aims of the National Conservation Strategy.

National Tree Program

The National Tree Program aims to conserve and establish trees and associated vegetation for community and private benefit throughout Australia. The objectives of the program are to increase selectively rural tree cover, promote coordinated action by individuals, governments and the community generally to conserve, plant and regenerate trees, and to develop public awareness of the value of trees.

Links with the Community Employment Program enabled implementation of several major revegetation projects, particularly in rural areas. A national tree data base (TREDAT) has been established.

Rainforest conservation

The Federal Government agreed to provide \$22.5 million over the two years to 1987-88 for a National Rainforest Conservation Program which included, inter alia, studies of the tourism potential of certain rainforests and funding of interpretative and visitor facilities.

Australian Biological Resources Study

The Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS) was established in 1973 to stimulate taxonomic and ecological studies of Australian flora and fauna through the provision of grants for research and publication. ABRS responsibilities include provision of advice on national taxonomic collections and establishment and maintenance of a national taxonomic data bank. Much of the work of the study is done in State museums, botanic gardens and herbaria which were established during the last century. CSIRO also carries out important research relating to flora and fauna.

Current major projects of ABRS include preparation of a 60 volume *Flora of Australia*, a 10 volume *Fauna of Australia*, compilation of a 70 volume *Zoological Catalogue of Australia* and establishment of data base exchange systems for museums and herbaria for biogeographic and taxonomic information.

Environmental research

The Department undertakes studies into Australian environmental issues and produces annual reports on the state of the environment in Australia. The CSIRO, universities and State environment agencies also carry out studies which contribute to the development of policies for environment protection, conservation and management of natural resources.

INFOTERRA

The Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories is the Australian national focal point for INFOTERRA. INFOTERRA is an international information network, developed by the United Nations Environment Programme, to assist organisations and individuals in locating the sources of environmental information. The Department is also the INFOTERRA regional service centre for South-East Asia and the South Pacific. Its function is to assist countries within the region and to improve their environmental information capability and service.

Control of environmental contaminants

Various programs are concerned with the control of environmental contaminants. Final plans are being made for a national chemicals notification and assessment scheme. The Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act controls dumping of wastes in marine waters. National capacity for monitoring air pollution is being strengthened through a national monitoring, data acquisition and archiving program being implemented in conjunction with the States. Other activities cover codes of practice for activities involving radioactive materials, waste management, monitoring of the marine environment, environmental noise and air pollution control strategies.

Voluntary conservation organisations

The Commonwealth Government makes grants annually to voluntary conservation organisations to assist them in their environmental awareness and education campaigns.

Statutory Authorities

Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service—ANPWS

The ANPWS was established under the *National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975*. The ANPWS is the principal adviser to the Commonwealth Government on national nature conservation and wildlife policies. It works in close cooperation with other Commonwealth authorities and with relevant State and Territory agencies.

The ANPWS is responsible for management of parks and reserves declared under the Act. Most significant of these are Kakadu National Park and Uluru (Ayers Rock—Mount Olga) National Park in the Northern Territory. National parks are also declared on Norfolk Island and Christmas Island and four national nature reserves have been declared in Australian

waters. Ningaloo Marine Park is declared jointly under the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act and Western Australian legislation.

Wildlife conservation and management programs include the regulation and control of trade in wildlife and wildlife products through the administration of the *Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982*; administration of the *Whale Protection Act 1980*; administration of certain international agreements; and cooperative programs with the States with an emphasis on rare and endangered species.

The ANPWS is also charged with the delivery of programs to enhance Aboriginal employment and development opportunities in nature conservation and land management related fields.

In addition the ANPWS carries out and supports research relevant to its charter and delivers public information and education programs on nature conservation issues.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

This Authority was established by the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* which provides for the establishment, control, care and development of a marine park in the Great Barrier Reef Region. The Marine Park covers an area of 344,000 square kilometres representing 98.5 per cent of the region. Management of the Marine Park is a cooperative venture with Queensland Government agencies. The main strategy used in management of the Park is 'zoning'. Zoning plans separate potentially conflicting activities while allowing all reasonable uses and ensuring the long-term conservation of the Reef's ecosystem.

Supervising Scientist for the Alligator Rivers region

Special arrangements have been made for minimising the environmental impact of uranium developments in the Northern Territory. The Commonwealth has appointed a Supervising Scientist who has overall responsibility to ensure the protection and restoration of the environment of the Alligator Rivers region from the effects of mining.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Overseas Travel

Statistics about travellers to and from Australia are classified in the first instance by the actual or intended length of stay in Australia or abroad; this classification distinguishes between long-term and short-term movement.

Statistics of permanent and long-term movement are shown in Chapter 6, Demography.

Statistics of short-term arrivals and departures which are in the nature of travel statistics are given below.

Short-term movement: defined as comprising visitor arrivals and Australian resident departures where the intended stay in Australia or abroad is for a period of less than twelve months, together with departures of visitors and returns of Australian residents who have stayed in Australia or abroad for less than twelve months.

Short-term movement excludes persons who arrive in and depart from Australia on the same ship's voyage or on the same flight (variously called 'direct transit' or 'through' passengers), or who change flights without leaving the airport's transit area; passengers on pleasure cruises commencing and finishing in Australia; and all crew. However, it includes persons who pass through the customs barrier and declare the purpose of their visit to Australia to be 'in transit'. Short-term visitors are more numerous than long-term visitors and have come to be regarded as 'tourists' by many users of the statistics.

SUMMARY OF SHORT-TERM TRAVELLER STATISTICS

	<i>Overseas visitors</i>		<i>Australian residents</i>	
	<i>Arrivals in Australia</i>	<i>Departures from Australia</i>	<i>Departures from Australia</i>	<i>Arrivals in Australia</i>
<i>Annual average—</i>				
1971-75	475,900	479,000	647,600	631,400
1976-80	684,700	655,400	1,077,300	1,062,100
1981-85	998,600	966,600	1,337,600	1,306,000
<i>Year—</i>				
1982	954,700	921,500	1,286,900	1,259,600
1983	943,900	928,900	1,253,000	1,219,700
1984	1,015,100	985,800	1,418,600	1,374,700
1985	1,142,600	1,096,500	1,512,000	1,494,700
1986	1,429,400	1,363,800	1,539,600	1,513,200
1987	1,784,900	1,701,200	1,622,300	1,586,300

In addition to the basic classification of travellers shown above, certain other characteristics are ascertained. These are: sex, age, marital status, country of citizenship, country of birth, intended or actual length of stay, purpose of journey, mode of transport, country of residence or where most time was or will be spent, country of embarkation or disembarkation, State of residence or where most time was or will be spent, and State or country of embarkation or disembarkation.

The categories shown in the previous table are cross-classified by various characteristics listed above and resulting statistics are shown in considerable detail in quarterly and annual publications. Certain unpublished information is available on request. Selected traveller statistics are shown in the following tables.

Short-term travel is subject to marked seasonal variation, December being the peak month for the arrival of overseas visitors and the departure of Australian residents.

SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT: ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS BY MONTH OF ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE, AUSTRALIA, 1987 (persons)

<i>Month</i>	<i>Overseas visitors</i>		<i>Australian residents</i>	
	<i>Arriving</i>	<i>Departing</i>	<i>Departing</i>	<i>Returning</i>
January	139,700	169,100	106,700	186,700
February	147,800	151,600	85,500	110,100
March	145,200	149,200	132,500	102,400
April	132,700	135,700	133,700	111,300
May	120,700	137,600	135,600	110,700
June	116,500	108,600	149,400	107,900
July	142,000	119,900	157,700	156,500
August	140,400	149,900	144,500	149,100
September	128,000	125,900	165,400	156,800
October	165,700	139,700	122,700	183,800
November	183,100	166,500	113,700	122,600
December	222,800	147,500	175,000	88,500
Total	1,784,900	1,701,200	1,622,300	1,586,300
Sea travellers as a percentage of total	0.64	0.65	0.28	0.23

**SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT—DEPARTURES OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS: STATED
PURPOSE OF JOURNEY AND INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY, 1987 (a)**
(persons)

<i>Intended length of stay</i>	<i>Main purpose of journey—</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>Visiting relatives</i>	<i>Holiday, accom- panying business traveller(b)</i>	<i>Con- vention</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Employ- ment</i>	<i>Other and not stated</i>	
Under 1 week	8,200	28,600	4,100	52,100	3,100	7,200	103,400
1 week and under 2 weeks	27,100	258,900	16,000	59,600	2,000	14,400	377,900
2 weeks and under 3 weeks	34,400	213,400	7,500	41,400	1,400	11,700	309,700
3 weeks and under 1 month	35,600	90,100	3,100	21,800	1,200	6,900	158,700
1 month and under 2 months	99,100	145,500	4,300	29,300	2,600	11,100	292,000
2 months and under 3 months	52,300	64,900	900	9,000	1,800	6,300	135,300
3 months and under 6 months	49,900	57,000	400	7,200	3,200	7,500	125,000
6 months and under 9 months	15,300	19,700	*	3,300	2,700	4,600	45,700
9 months and under 12 months	8,400	17,900	*	2,700	6,000	6,700	41,700
Not definite, not stated	2,400	5,800	500	1,200	400	22,700	33,000
Total	332,600	901,800	37,000	227,500	24,300	99,100	1,622,300

(a) Asterisk (*) denotes that figures are subject to sampling variability too high for most purposes. (b) Includes student vacation.

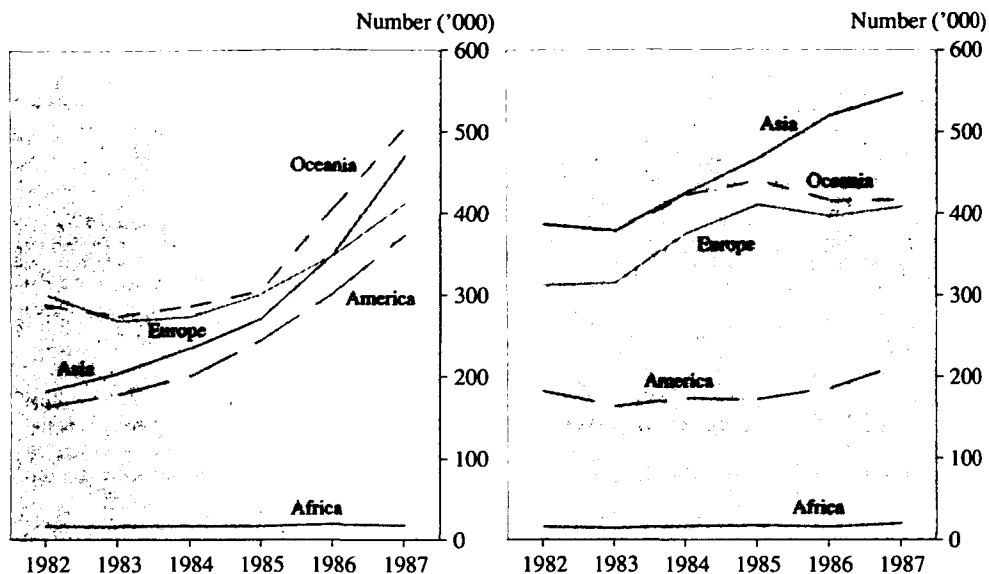
**SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT—ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS: STATED PURPOSE
OF JOURNEY AND INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY, 1987 (a)**
(persons)

<i>Intended length of stay</i>	<i>Main purpose of journey—</i>						<i>Total</i>	
	<i>In transit</i>	<i>Visiting relatives</i>	<i>Holiday accom- panying business traveller</i>	<i>Con- vention</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Employ- ment</i>		<i>Other and not stated</i>
Under 1 week	100,700	19,400	228,300	5,900	70,000	1,400	15,400	441,000
1 week and under 2 weeks	100	38,700	277,900	13,400	61,700	800	17,500	410,100
2 weeks and under 3 weeks	*	53,600	162,900	7,200	27,800	800	13,300	265,600
3 weeks and under 1 month	*	45,500	75,900	2,100	7,400	400	6,600	138,000
1 month and under 2 months	*	98,600	99,000	1,900	14,000	700	10,600	224,900
2 months and under 3 months	*	40,000	33,100	300	4,600	1,200	6,600	85,800
3 months and under 6 months	*	38,200	34,400	*	5,000	3,300	12,400	93,400
6 months and under 9 months	*	29,300	33,400	*	2,000	5,100	8,600	78,600
9 months and under 12 months	*	5,200	9,200	*	1,900	7,200	13,200	36,800
Not definite, not stated	*	1,700	2,900	300	900	300	4,600	10,700
Total	100,900	370,200	957,100	31,100	195,300	21,300	108,900	1,784,900

(a) Asterisk (*) denotes that figures are subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

**VISITOR ARRIVALS, SHORT TERM,
BY USUAL RESIDENCE**

**RESIDENT DEPARTURES, SHORT TERM,
BY REGION OF INTENDED STAY**



In 1987 the majority of Australian residents departing for short-term visits abroad intended to stay for under one month, with 49 per cent intending to stay for under 3 weeks. The majority of short-term visitor arrivals to Australia intended to stay under three weeks, with 48 per cent intending to stay under 2 weeks.

Statistics for Australian residents refer to their total time away from Australia; for overseas visitors they refer only to the Australian portions of their trips.

In the case of both Australian residents departing and overseas visitors arriving, the most common reason for visit was 'holiday', followed by 'visiting relatives' and 'business' as the second and third most common reasons.

**SHORT-TERM MOVEMENT: ARRIVALS OF OVERSEAS VISITORS AND DEPARTURES
OF AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE/INTENDED STAY AND
INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY, AUSTRALIA, 1987**

Country of residence (visitors) and country of intended stay (residents)	Arrivals of overseas visitors— intended length of stay					Departures of Australian residents— intended length of stay				
	Under 1 week	1 week and under 1 month	3 months		Total (a)	Under 1 month	3 months		Total (a)	
			under 3 months	and under 12 months			1 month and under 3 months	and under 12 months		
Africa—										
South Africa	1,600	2,700	3,800	1,500	9,600	2,500	3,900	1,300	7,700	
Other	1,400	2,300	2,600	1,600	7,900	4,500	5,900	2,300	12,900	
Total, Africa	3,000	5,000	6,400	3,000	17,500	7,000	9,800	3,600	20,600	
America—										
Canada	7,400	23,800	14,000	7,400	52,700	6,100	9,500	4,600	20,400	
United States	81,200	172,400	38,500	16,100	309,000	102,400	52,300	17,500	174,100	
Other	2,500	4,200	2,200	2,200	11,300	7,300	8,200	4,700	20,400	
Total, America	91,100	200,400	54,700	25,700	373,100	115,900	70,000	26,800	215,000	
Asia—										
Hong Kong	7,100	25,100	6,800	3,400	42,700	82,900	13,300	5,800	103,300	
India	1,400	2,400	1,800	1,700	7,400	7,200	8,600	4,000	20,000	
Indonesia	4,900	8,900	4,100	3,400	21,500	105,200	8,200	2,800	117,400	
Japan	106,800	93,700	6,100	8,200	215,600	18,800	4,100	2,200	25,600	
Malaysia	10,100	20,800	8,800	7,200	47,100	31,800	11,100	4,000	47,200	
Philippines	2,800	3,900	2,300	2,900	12,200	19,800	10,800	2,300	33,500	
Singapore	15,500	31,000	7,100	3,000	57,000	72,500	6,800	2,700	83,700	
Thailand	2,900	4,600	1,700	1,800	11,200	40,500	5,900	1,700	48,800	
Other	14,900	18,900	9,000	13,200	56,400	31,300	19,900	16,200	67,900	
Total, Asia (b)	166,400	209,300	47,800	44,900	470,900	410,000	88,900	41,700	547,400	
Europe—										
France	4,400	6,300	4,200	2,200	17,100	4,100	8,400	3,300	15,800	
Germany (c)	8,300	15,800	20,800	8,100	53,300	6,900	13,900	5,100	26,100	
Greece	800	1,100	2,000	3,100	7,100	3,500	13,000	16,900	33,900	
Ireland (d)	400	1,700	3,200	4,400	9,800	1,100	4,300	1,200	6,700	
Italy	2,700	6,200	5,900	4,300	19,300	5,100	20,300	14,400	40,100	
Netherlands	2,000	4,400	7,600	3,300	17,300	2,300	7,700	3,800	14,100	
Switzerland	3,800	6,100	7,100	4,300	21,300	2,100	3,800	1,500	7,400	
United Kingdom	19,800	60,200	71,800	46,500	198,900	36,300	115,200	53,900	207,400	
Yugoslavia	500	600	1,500	3,700	6,300	1,000	7,100	9,300	17,600	
Other	7,300	19,900	15,800	18,000	61,400	5,900	20,000	12,800	39,100	
Total, Europe	50,000	122,200	139,800	97,700	411,900	68,300	213,500	122,200	408,200	
Oceania—										
Fiji	3,700	3,800	4,700	4,300	16,500	56,500	2,400	1,100	60,500	
New Caledonia	3,400	8,500	1,700	900	14,400	10,100	400	200	10,800	
New Zealand	104,800	247,200	46,200	27,200	427,300	225,600	32,300	9,000	275,300	
Papua New Guinea	13,000	11,400	6,100	2,200	32,800	15,900	5,700	5,500	27,500	
Other	4,900	4,700	2,800	2,200	14,700	37,800	3,100	1,700	43,200	
Total, Oceania	129,800	275,600	61,300	36,700	505,800	346,000	43,900	17,600	417,400	
Other	700	1,200	700	600	5,700	2,500	1,200	400	13,700	
Total	441,100	813,700	310,700	208,700	1,784,900	949,700	427,300	212,400	1,622,300	

(a) The difference between the sum of the components and the total comprises 'not definite, not stated, etc.' (b) Asia includes countries which are frequently regarded as 'Middle East' countries, for example Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, etc. This inclusion is based on United Nations' classification of world regions. (c) Comprises the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. (d) Includes Republic of Ireland and Ireland, undefined.

Survey of International Visitors—IVS

Surveys of the travel pattern and attitudes of international visitors to Australia have been conducted on behalf of the Australian Tourist Commission for a number of years (annually between 1983 and 1986). No survey was conducted for 1987 but it has been reintroduced for 1988, under the administration of the Bureau of Tourism Research.

Details contained in the survey include the arrival statistics, profile, itinerary, trip satisfaction and expenditure of short-term visitors to Australia (defined as foreign residents staying in Australia for a period of less than twelve months).

Domestic Travel

Information about domestic travel patterns of residents within Australia in 1986–87 was collected in the Domestic Tourism Monitor, commissioned by the Australian Standing Committee on Tourism and conducted by McNair Anderson. The survey results show that the main purposes of trips were holiday or pleasure (42 per cent), visiting friends and relatives (29 per cent), and conference, seminar, business (15 per cent). The main mode of transport used was private vehicle (76 per cent). The mean length of a trip by domestic tourists was 4.6 nights in 1986–87.

The following tables contain data obtained from the survey.

SUMMARY OF PERSON TRIPS AND NIGHTS AWAY, 1986–87

<i>State of origin</i>	<i>Estimated population year ending June 1987 (a)</i>	<i>Person trips</i>	<i>Person trips per person</i>	<i>Nights away by person</i>	<i>Nights away per person</i>	<i>Nights away per person trip</i>
	'000	'000		'000		
New South Wales	4,357.7	14,732	3.4	70,557	16.2	4.8
Victoria	3,280.4	10,850	3.3	50,309	15.3	4.6
Queensland	2,045.3	9,015	4.4	42,967	21.0	4.8
South Australia	1,097.3	3,947	3.6	17,302	15.8	4.4
Western Australia	1,146.7	3,843	3.4	19,156	16.7	4.9
Tasmania	341.8	972	2.8	4,352	12.7	4.5
Northern Territory	111.7	124	1.1	1,179	10.6	9.6
Australian Capital Territory	199.6	1,347	6.7	5,940	29.8	4.4
Total	12,580.5	44,830	3.6	211,762	16.8	4.7

(a) For persons aged 15 years and over.

Source: McNair Anderson, Domestic Tourism Monitor 1986–87

NUMBER OF NIGHTS SPENT IN STATE OF MAIN DESTINATION BY MAIN PURPOSE OF TRIP, 1986–87 (^{'000} nights)

<i>State of main destination</i>	<i>Main purpose of trip</i>				
	<i>All business</i>	<i>Pleasure/ Holiday</i>	<i>Visiting friends/ relatives</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
New South Wales	7,106	35,919	18,917	8,805	70,747
Victoria	3,851	19,272	10,368	4,275	37,766
Queensland	6,815	28,835	11,628	6,163	53,441
South Australia	2,071	8,208	4,226	2,350	16,855
Western Australia	3,428	9,431	4,010	3,179	20,048
Tasmania	755	3,233	1,252	609	5,849
Northern Territory	891	1,856	418	587	3,752
Australian Capital Territory	650	958	1,286	379	3,273
Not stated	—	—	—	32	32
Total	25,568	107,711	52,103	26,380	211,762

Source: McNair Anderson, Domestic Tourism Monitor, 1986–87

Tourism

As a country, Australia offers domestic and international travellers a wide variety of tourist attractions. Its temperate climate and natural features of tropical forests, mountain ranges, pastoral regions and beaches provide a sharp contrast to the isolated outback, desert regions and attractions of an historical nature. Its major cities offer cultural and recreational pursuits and modern accommodation and convention and meeting facilities.

Australia is seen increasingly as an exciting but safe tourist destination in an environment of economic, political and social stability among a warm, friendly and hospitable people.

Economic and social importance

Tourism in Australia is now recognised as an industry and an area of government policy concern in its own right.

The Bureau of Industry Economics Report (BIE 1984) revealed that tourism is of major significance to the Australian economy. It is now estimated that tourism accounts for 6.0 per cent of Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and is responsible for employing 5.2 per cent of the workforce (equivalent to the textiles, clothing, footwear and motor vehicle industries combined). In 1981-82, the gross expenditure by domestic and overseas travellers in Australia was estimated to total almost \$12,700 million. Estimates by the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories put the 1987-88 total tourism expenditure at \$25,500 million, with the level of direct and indirect employment created by this expenditure being estimated at 430,000.

The tourism industry is likely to undergo further expansion in the future, because of factors which include increasing general levels of affluence, increasing leisure time arising from shorter working hours and early retirement, saturation of demand for consumer durables, and improvements in the quality of facilities and services available to travellers.

In the context of these developments, both the Commonwealth and State Governments have become increasingly aware of the importance of tourism as an instrument of government policy and their respective roles in this field have expanded accordingly. Governments have in particular recognised the potential of tourism to stimulate economic growth and generate employment opportunities.

Allocation of tourism responsibilities within the public sector

In broad terms the Commonwealth Government is responsible for international aspects of tourism development and the formulation and implementation of relevant national policies.

The State and Territory governments, in conjunction with local government, bear responsibility for the provision of public infrastructure and facilities and other more specific, localised services and regulations. Other responsibilities with broad implications or significance are shared between Federal, State and Territory Governments.

Commonwealth activity

The Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories has been involved in a range of policy, administrative and consultative activities designed to encourage the efficient development of tourism in Australia in cooperation with the industry and with Commonwealth and State and Territory government departments.

Major functions of the Department include:

- formulating proposals, transmitting advice to the Minister on industry issues, administering the Australian Tourist Commission Act, conducting research into the tourism and travel industries, providing secretarial support to a number of consultative councils and committees, and providing liaison with international tourism organisations.

Specific mechanisms exist to achieve these objectives through consultation and liaison. These include the following:

- The *Tourist Ministers' Council* (TMC), which was established in 1959 and comprises the Commonwealth, State and Territory ministers responsible for tourism.
- The *Australian Standing Committee on Tourism* (ASCOT), which comprises representation from the Department, the Australian Tourist Commission and the State and Territory Directors of Tourism or their equivalent.
- The *Tourism Research Committee* (TRC), which undertakes research as directed by ASCOT, comprises research officers from the Department, the Bureau of Tourism Research, the Australian Tourist Commission and the State and Territory authorities responsible for tourism.
- The *Tourism Advisory Council* (TAC), which is chaired by the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories and includes senior representatives from the tourism industry and trade unions; and
- The *National Tourism Industry Training Committee Ltd* (NTITC), a tripartite body of representatives from industry, union and government, concerned with promoting, developing and coordinating training in tourism.

The Department is also responsible for Australia's bilateral and multilateral tourism relations and contributes to the development of international tourism through Australia's membership of the following:

- The *World Tourism Organization* (WTO), an intergovernmental technical body which examines issues affecting international tourism development with particular attention given to the interest of developing countries. WTO also acts as an executing agency for tourism projects funded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Australia has been a full member of WTO since 1979 and recently (1983–87) chaired WTO's Regional Commission for East Asia and the Pacific.
- The *Tourism Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development* (OECD). The Committee's activities focus primarily on the concerns of developed economies including Australian's major tourism markets. Recent studies have looked at transport, employment, accommodation, investment and profitability of tourism enterprises in light of changing economic conditions.
- The *Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific* (ESCAP), a regional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council concerned with economic and social development (including tourism development) in member countries.

Australian Tourist Commission

The Australian Tourist Commission (ATC) was established in 1967. Following a wide ranging review, the ATC was restructured in 1987 and a new Act, the *Australian Tourist Commission Act 1987*, was passed by Parliament. The ATC is a statutory authority. Its role is to increase the number of visitors to Australia, to maximise the benefits to Australia from overseas and to ensure that Australia is protected from adverse environmental and social impacts of international tourism. The ATC had a staff of 90 world wide and a budget allocation of \$35.5 million in 1987–88.

The Commission engages in a wide variety of marketing activities including consumer and trade advertising, industry seminars and familiarisation visits for travel agents, journalists and photographers, and market research. These activities are carried out in cooperation with the States and the Australian and overseas travel industries. Advertising designed to promote Australia as a friendly, exciting but safe tourist destination, provides a marketing umbrella for States, Territories and industry, and is placed in various tourist source markets at times selected to gain maximum awareness of Australia as a travel destination. Overseas offices of the ATC are located in London, Frankfurt, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Toronto, Singapore, Tokyo, Osaka, Hong Kong and Auckland.

The Bureau of Tourism Research

The Bureau of Tourism Research was established in October 1987. The Bureau is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments and in this regard it represents an extension of the cooperative approach to tourism research which has developed at government level over recent years.

The role of the Bureau is to aid the tourism industry and government by providing statistical and analytical support which is necessary for effectively planned and balanced development to take place.

The corporate mission of the Bureau is to:

- provide a national focus for the collection, analysis and dissemination of tourism and related data.
- undertake research on priority issues, as determined by government policy development needs or by the strategic requirements of the industry and
- promote an understanding and awareness of the role of tourism research in the development of Australian tourism.

Tourism industry

The tourism industry incorporates a wide range of activities. These include, principally, the travel, accommodation, catering, hospitality, retail, and meetings and conventions as well as many other sectors of industry. The industry has been identified as a growth area, offering attractive opportunities for investment in tourism development projects and as a major employer of labour.

Tourism has a higher than average labour intensity at all skill levels. The industry also provides an attractive employment choice for those in decentralised regions and those who cannot, or prefer not to, work conventional hours.

As a way of heightening awareness of the Australian tourism product and to encourage excellence in the industry, an annual series of National Tourism Awards was inaugurated in September 1984.

Tourism Overseas Promotion Scheme—TOPS

The Government announced in the 1987-88 Budget that TOPS, which has provided government assistance to the tourism industry for promotional activities, would be terminated.

Vocational training

The Federal Government has accorded higher priority to the issue of training within the tourism and hospitality industry in recent years. Two major reports have been completed and action is in train to implement recommendations contained in the reports. A labour force survey is being undertaken to qualify the future needs of the industry for trained personnel and significant funding is being provided to expand capacity in TAFE and other educational establishments. Industry is also being encouraged to commit more resources to training.

Major tourism projects

Based on information provided by the State and Territory tourism authorities, the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories has estimated that, at the end of March 1988, there were some \$4,492 million of major tourism projects under construction and another \$5,918 million of projects firmly committed to commence construction within eighteen months thereafter.

Commencements of tourist accommodation and resorts in the year ending March 1988 were valued at \$900 million and it is estimated these projects will provide about 18,945

staff years of employment during construction and, when operational, require employment of around 6,770 permanent full and part-time staff.

Consumer protection

Overseas and domestic tourists are now being given greater consumer protection when dealing with travel agents following the introduction by several State and Territory governments of a licensing system for all travel agents, and the establishment of a National Compensation Fund. Under these arrangements compensation is available to consumers in participating States and Territories through the Fund, which has been established with contributions from travel agents. Licensing criteria cover financial performance, minimum experience/qualifications for managers and defined standards for premises.

Tourist accommodation

Services industries surveys

Data relating to accommodation enterprises has been collected as part of the 1986-87 surveys. Results will be published in *Hotels and Accommodation—Details of Operations, Australia* (8656.0).

Surveys of tourist accommodation establishments

Quarterly accommodation surveys were commenced in the September quarter 1975 and data published from these surveys include room occupancy and takings from accommodation.

The main purpose of the surveys of tourist accommodation establishments is to measure the utilisation of available tourist accommodation. For detailed statistics from the survey see *Tourist Accommodation, Australia* (8635.0).

Domestic tourism monitor

The 1986-87 Domestic Tourism Monitor, which covers travel by Australians, indicated that the main types of accommodation used were homes of friends or relatives (47 per cent), hotels or motels (20 per cent) and caravan parks or camping grounds (13 per cent). The following table classifies the main type of accommodation used by the main purpose of the trip.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION (a)

		March quarter 1987	June quarter 1987	September quarter 1987	December quarter 1987	March quarter 1988
LICENSED HOTELS WITH FACILITIES (b)						
Establishments	Number	1,102	1,095	1,107	1,112	1,111
Guest rooms	"	41,424	41,912	42,779	44,108	44,238
Bed spaces	"	105,057	106,268	109,229	112,621	113,692
Room occupancy rates	%	56.8	52.2	55.9	56.1	55.6
Bed occupancy rates	%	36.2	31.8	34.9	34.9	34.5
Gross takings from accommodation	\$'000	161,364	151,258	173,649	191,318	200,751
MOTELS, ETC (b)						
Establishments	Number	3,052	3,105	3,180	3,199	3,229
Guest rooms	"	80,033	81,452	83,329	83,992	85,386
Bed spaces	"	240,460	246,676	253,847	256,059	260,670
Room occupancy rates	%	57.6	54.2	58.5	55.9	57.0
Bed occupancy rates	%	36.2	32.3	35.9	34.0	35.5
Gross takings from accommodation	\$'000	199,424	193,920	224,446	223,886	239,591

For footnotes see end of table.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION (a) — continued

		March quarter 1987	June quarter 1987	September quarter 1987	December quarter 1987	March quarter 1988
TOTAL						
Establishments	Number	4,154	4,200	4,287	4,311	4,340
Guest rooms	"	121,457	123,364	126,108	128,100	129,624
Bed spaces	"	345,517	352,944	363,076	368,680	374,362
Room occupancy rates	%	57.4	53.5	57.4	56.0	56.5
Bed occupancy rates	%	36.2	32.2	35.5	34.3	35.2
Gross takings from accommodation	\$'000	360,787	345,178	398,095	415,203	440,342
CARAVAN PARKS (c)						
Establishments	Number	1,930	1,891	1,844	1,850	1,844
Powered sites	"	145,367	142,698	139,302	140,292	140,403
Unpowered sites	"	61,875	60,878	59,517	59,470	59,711
Cabins, flats etc.	"	5,384	5,432	5,418	5,566	5,810
Total capacity	"	212,626	208,998	204,237	205,328	205,924
Site occupancy rates	%	30.9	23.0	22.7	24.4	30.9
Gross takings from accommodation	\$'000	51,066	38,202	39,050	45,141	54,411

(a) For the purpose of this survey, a tourist accommodation establishment is defined as an establishment which predominantly provides short-term accommodation (i.e. for periods of less than two months) available to the general public. (b) For definitions see *Tourist Accommodation, Australia* (8635.0). (c) Excludes long-term caravan parks. For definitions see *Tourist Accommodation, Australia* (8635.0)

**NUMBER OF PERSON TRIPS BY MAIN TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION AND
MAIN PURPOSE OF TRIP, 1986-87**
(*000 person trips)

Main type of accommodation	Main purpose of trip					Total
	All business	Pleasure/ holiday	Visiting friends/ relatives	Other		
Hotel/motel with facilities	3,109	3,579	639	883		8,210
Hotel/motel without facilities	388	343	48	142		921
Friends'/ relatives' house	1,459	5,992	11,161	2,497		21,109
Caravan/tent/cabin/camping	272	4,653	330	687		5,942
Rented house/flat	175	1,336	199	140		1,850
Own holiday home/flat	148	1,379	111	294		1,932
Guest house/private hotel	151	350	50	76		627
Other/not stated	1,087	1,181	472	1,499		4,239
Total	6,789	18,813	13,010	6,218		44,830

Source: Domestic Tourism Monitor, 1986-87

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NATIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE

(This special article has been contributed by R.W. Fergie)

Historical significance of moving images and recorded sound

Screen and sound recordings are media which can entertain, inform and influence us.

As entertainment media, moving images and recorded sound reflect the popular culture of their time. Now, through radio and television transmission, they have become the principal means of informing and influencing the community.

Their news component creates a visual and oral record of history as it is happening, unthinkable in former ages. They have proved to be powerful and insidious shapers of public attitudes, at once beneficial and dangerous.¹

As cultural artifacts, recorded sound and moving images represent a rich historical resource which are as valuable as the record preserved in the written word and artifacts of libraries, museums, galleries, archives and historical sites. Properly preserved, they can bring the past to life in a singularly direct and graphic manner.

This revolution in the recording and transmission of information has happened in the last 50 years or so and it has taken some decades for the archival institutions of the world to recognise the need to collect and preserve screen and sound recordings. By then they were being overrun by the rapidly growing but impermanent output. Even now, the effort to preserve and catalogue falls far short of the protection, long taken for granted, of the output of literature, works of art and other historical material.

An awakening cultural perception in Australia

In Australia, archiving of film and sound material was first taken up tentatively around 1936 by the Commonwealth National Library in Canberra. This continued as the National Film Archive and Sound Recording Section of the National Library of Australia.

In April 1984, the Government grasped the responsibility much more firmly when it established the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra as an autonomous office within the then Department of Home Affairs and Environment, absorbing the National Library's film and sound sections. Concurrently, the National Film and Sound Archive Advisory Committee was appointed to plan for the future of the Archive.

Advisory Committee Report

The 1985 Report of the Advisory Committee, *Time in Our Hands* still provides the most definitive statement of the problems and possibilities.

The Report's recommendations envisaged the Archive becoming a major cultural institution, preserving and celebrating Australia's screen and sound heritage. Basic requirements identified were building extension and reequipment to facilitate preservation; cataloguing and presentation operations on a much larger scale; a 5 year development plan for funding and staffing; the creation of a national record of the production of sound and screen media; legislative measures to establish the Archive as an autonomous statutory authority; a charter and policies which define the role, nature and philosophies; and the establishment of an Archive office in each State.

¹ Report of the National Film and Sound Archive Advisory Committee, Department of Arts, Heritage and Environment, published November 1985 as *Time in our Hands*.

Although no comprehensive response to the Report has been made by the Government, development of the film and sound archive system since then has been in general conformity with the Report's recommendations (though not its timetable) within the constraints of a limited budget. At this point, the Archive and its Director remain administratively attached to the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories and are assisted by an Interim Advisory Council appointed by the Minister in June 1987 pending establishment of a Governing Council; it has yet to extend its national office in the former Institute of Anatomy building in Canberra but it has set up offices in Sydney and Melbourne, with an agency in Perth. Its priorities, as detailed in a draft Corporate Plan, focus currently on preservation, acquisition, collection management and the need for public access—and on overcoming immense inherited backlogs in each of these areas.

Vanishing heritage

The heart of the problem of preserving history in sound and film is that much of the prolific output for screen and broadcasting is transitory and of little continuing interest to the producers. Even more so than the printed page, its preservation is dependent on institutional arrangements by government. These will involve intervention at the point at which sound and images are recorded and then special arrangements to ensure the preservation and accessibility of selected material. Television and radio programs, for example, may be wiped soon after broadcasting and even if recordings and films are kept they soon begin to decay. For example, much of the cellulose nitrate film used before 1952 disintegrated or was destroyed (and that which still exists is becoming unstable and is in urgent need of being copied on to more durable film). A parallel problem exists with many of the early sound recordings.

Implications for archiving

The level of effort required to overcome this archiving backlog is currently beyond the resources which governments so far have been ready to commit.

And as the archivists and the public respond to the need to acquire and preserve sound and film material, the problem of cataloguing and providing access is compounded. At present, the need to acquire and preserve is the more imperative but, since the whole object of preserving sound and screen material is to give access to it, the necessarily labour intensive cataloguing must follow. Cataloguing of the Archive's own rapidly growing collections and the establishment of common cataloguing and other technical standards for other repositories needs urgent attention.

Scope of the Archives

The heritage which the Archive is charged to preserve was defined by the Advisory Committee to include, but not to be limited to, the following—

- (a) Recorded sound, film, television or other productions comprising moving images and/or recorded sounds created or released within Australia, or by Australians, or with relevance to Australians, whether or not primarily intended for public release.
- (b) Objects, materials, works and intangibles relating to the moving image and recorded sound media whether seen from a technical, industrial, cultural, historical or other viewpoint; this shall include material relating to the Australian film, television, broadcasting and sound recording industries and fields such as literature, scripts, stills, posters, advertising material, manuscript material and artefacts such as technical equipment and costumes. It also includes such concepts as the perpetuation of obsolescent skills and environments associated with the presentation of these media.

This subject matter is to be encompassed in all of its manifestations, whether as art, communication, historical phenomenon, or otherwise.

The recommended charter, integrating the functions of museum, library, archives and gallery for such a comprehensive range of media is a daunting one. Coherent philosophy, policies, goals and management systems, relating to it have had to be developed 'on the run' in the course of servicing day-to-day operational needs and 'from the ground up' (overseas counterparts have similar functions but usually in respect of one or other of film, television, radio or sound recording, rather than the combination).

Functions

With whatever help it can enlist from the screen and sound industries, it is ultimately the Archive's responsibility to identify, preserve and provide access to this Australian moving image and recorded sound heritage. This means that, in addition to gathering up existing material of historical worth, it must monitor Australian sound and screen production as it occurs and acquire, catalogue and preserve it. To enlist support and interest and to make the material more fully accessible to the public it needs to improve public perception and understanding of the relevance of the screen and sound heritage to our society and national character. There is thus a continuing need to engage in creative research, education and entrepreneurial activity.

Facilities

A major building extension and refurbishment program for the Canberra headquarters (a fine, well located but overcrowded heritage building) has been planned to provide for the necessary staff and technical and presentational facilities, including expanded exhibition areas, a public theatre and other visitor facilities. Meanwhile prefabricated buildings are being used on the site. Storage facilities are at a number of less-than-adequate and scattered buildings in Canberra and Sydney but are being consolidated at the Archive's new repository in the Canberra industrial area of Mitchell.

The necessary contact with both producers and users of archival material in a physically large country like Australia calls for convenient facilities in all States, forming part of an integrated national system. In addition to fixed repository, display and access facilities, there is a need for a roving presence by way of travelling exhibitions—this has naturally been a particular emphasis in the 1988 Bicentennial Year and will be continued. There has also been an effort to take elements of the collection into every home—'The Australian Image', a television series about the Archive and its mission, has been shown nationally.

Institutional arrangements

While national and State libraries enjoy the benefit of mandatory deposits of printed publications for preservation purposes, there is no comparable arrangement in Australia for image and sound recordings—the National Film and Sound Archive must rely on voluntary cooperation (which is usually readily given).

In addition to Government funds, the National Film and Sound Archive actively seeks corporate sponsorship and voluntary support of all kinds. A notable example was the gift of Australia's major cinema newsreel libraries to the Archive by their owners (News Corporation and The Greater Union Group) together with some \$4 million to preserve them through a 5 year project dubbed *Operation Newsreel*.

Special programs

A number of other special programs have been conducted with generous support for the community—the *Last Film Search* has saved for preservation much of what remains of disintegrating nitrate motion picture film. With the help of the Australian Bicentenary Authority and private sponsors the *Slice of Life* project aims to save the best radio and television coverage of Australia's Bicentenary year and involves some 30 television stations or networks and 60 radio stations.

Future directions

The Archive's Corporate Plan to cover the next 5 years is still in draft and incomplete in respect of detailing its action plans. Given present resource limitations in relation to the challenge of its charter, it focuses on the key short term issues in order to identify and set priorities which may be achievable. It considers that the thrust of the report *Time in our Hands* is still valid and urgent but recognises the Archive's dependence on a growing cultural perception of the need to preserve the moving image and recorded sound heritage of Australia on a basis comparable to that accorded to long established sister institutions.



THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

(This special article has been contributed by staff from the National Museum of Australia)

The vision of a National Museum of Australia emerged from the work of the Pigott Committee in 1975 and has since captured the imagination of a wide cross-section of Australians. The vision is not of a conventional museum—but of a place that will reflect what it means to be Australian, emphasizing the environments and cultures which have shaped us as a people.

The Museum will consist of a series of pavilions, in harmony with the landscape, and linked by covered walkways. Visitors will enjoy the diversity of the experiences offered—from indoor dioramas to operating machinery, from outdoor displays to live performances. They will be challenged by high-tech displays with which they can interact; they will participate in 'living history' with museum staff and volunteers.

Visitors to the Museum will learn how the continent was formed and how its particular flora and fauna evolved. The displays will illustrate the history and culture of Australia's original inhabitants—the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders—and show the changes that have occurred since 1788. They will also show the nature of the Australian environment and how it has been affected by human occupation.

Throughout the displays the relationship between these three major themes will be explored and revealed.

This is Australia

Visitors to the Museum will begin their visit in a gallery called 'This is Australia' which will survey what the Museum has to offer. It will contain highlights of the National Historical Collection—objects of exceptional interest or significance in our nation's history.

The span of history will be encompassed—from the great marine dinosaur Kronosaurus, to the preserved heart of Australia's most famous race horse Phar Lap; from Australia II's original Boxing Kangaroo battle flag to the Peace Bus of the 1980s peace movement.

Visitors will be able to enjoy views over the lake as they move along a covered walkway to the other pavilions and facilities. An historic tramway will link this area with the distant parts of the site.

From this introductory pavilion, visitors will have a choice of possible routes through outdoor displays and a series of galleries containing thematic exhibitions.

The Australian People

The Gallery of the Australian People will demonstrate the make-up of the Australian community of today. It will deal with the economic, social and political forces which brought migrants to Australia, and show how they responded to their new cultural and physical environment. The exhibitions will explore the possible origins of Australia's Aborigines, and recount the story of the First Fleet. Historical figures will be identified including those whose efforts contributed to the political growth of the developing nation. Looking to the future, demographic projections will generate images of Australian society in the years ahead.

The Gallery of Aboriginal Australia

The story of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, from their origins in the distant past to the present day, will be told in the Gallery of Aboriginal Australia.

It will focus on their cultural diversity, their relationship to the land and its plants and animals, and their interaction with settlers after 1788. The range of lifestyles of

Aboriginal people in today's Australia will be revealed, while a replica of a Torres Strait village will provide the backdrop to displays of the life and culture of these Island people.

Aboriginal inventiveness and achievements in art, literature and environmental management will be presented in informative displays. Visitors will see the 'Embassy' tent as it stood before Parliament House in 1972, the focal point for the political aspirations of Aboriginal communities across Australia at the time.

Australians at home and work

This gallery will show that the Australian way of life has been built on the necessity for work, in the home and at the workplace. A reconstructed country printing shop will highlight the issues of workers' health and safety, and the often long and irregular hours of work in small businesses. The growth of the trade unions and their struggle for improved working conditions will be told in a series of innovative exhibitions.

The impact of technological change not only on the rural economy but also on the social and political fabric of country life will be explored in a working display of Australian shearing through the years.

Australian aspirations for home ownership, the growth of suburbia and the 'quarter acre block' will be examined and related to the changing structure of the Australian family and the often arduous and under-valued nature of women's work.

Museum of Oz

Children will love the Museum of Oz, designed to entertain and challenge young Australians as they learn about their country. Older Australians too will be able to test their knowledge with interactive displays, performance events and highly innovative displays.

For young visitors, the Museum of Oz will open up another world. They will enter a country town of the 1930s, shopping at a general store and trying the old-fashioned money-sling system. They will glimpse school life as it was in a one-room wooden school building with its old fashioned desks, slates and squeaking pencils. They will meet a stockman in his camp who will yarn to them about the bush environment. The Aboriginal custodians of western Arnhem Land history will tell the story of the Mimi Caves, and how the Mimi and the Aboriginal people lived together in the Dreaming.

Gallery of the Australian environment

Flat-bottomed boats will introduce the 'Millewa Journey', a voyage of discovery through time in a unique Australian environment. They will follow the history of the River Murray (known to Aboriginal people as Millewa) from the distant past when giant marsupials roamed the riverine plains, through the period of Aboriginal occupation prior to European settlement, and on to the period when the paddlesteamers made the river a vital link in the nation's economic growth.

Visitors will learn of the effect of European settlement on the fragile environment, and the problems that have resulted. Issues of soil conservation, irrigation, salinity and pests will be explored along with wildlife and forest conservation. Outside the gallery, kangaroos, wallabies, parakeets and other native species will roam freely in an attractive natural landscape. Nature trails will lead to the edge of the lake where a range of waterfowl can be seen.

Australians at play

The national preoccupation with sport will be illustrated in the Gallery of Australians at Play. There will be displays about Australians' involvement in a range of sports such as cricket, football, boxing, lawn bowls, tennis, netball, yachting, surfing and horse racing. A bar and refreshment room will be close by, and diversions such as wood-chopping, sheep dog trails and boomerang throwing competitions will be presented. Visitors will

see how gambling has often been a significant part of Australian leisure time activity and will have the chance to take the kip and toss the pennies in a reconstructed two-up den.

Informal and individual forms of leisure, especially in the outdoors, will be features, as well as popular entertainments like the movies, the circus, the theatre, festivals and parades, home entertainments, music and crafts, not to forget the social barbecue by the backyard swimming pool.

Collections and notable acquisitions

Over almost fifty years a substantial collection of objects has been acquired as part of this major undertaking. Notable amongst these are the National Historical Collection formerly stored in the Institute of Anatomy and items of national significance such as the 12 metre yacht *Australia II*. In recent months the National Museum accepted the Wedgwood Bowl on behalf of the Australian people to commemorate the Bicentenary and to symbolise Wedgwood's historic links with Australia. The inside surface of the Bowl has a border of wattle and the coats of arms of each State, Territory and the Commonwealth in 24 carat gold. The words 'To commemorate the Bicentenary of Australia 1788-1988' encircle the base. A wave motif surrounds the words, symbolising Australia's ties with Britain and countries around the world. This gift has symbolic importance for all Australians in the motifs featured in its decoration, as well as the occasion of its presentation to the Museum.

PS Enterprise

From September 1988 a Murray River paddlesteamer will be operating as a working exhibit on Lake Burley Griffin. Constructed in 1878 this vessel has been carefully restored to working condition, as it was in 1910 when it was in use as a barge towing vessel. It will be interpreted to the public at major events. *Enterprise* will play a major part in the National Museum's Bicentennial activities. Purchased by the National Museum in 1984, *Enterprise* is an outstanding example of what was once a fleet of over 300 paddlesteamers that served the needs of the colonies of South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. *Enterprise* is now the second-oldest paddlesteamer in Australia and, as one of the oldest steam vessels still afloat anywhere, is a vessel of world significance.

Exhibitions and the Yarramundi Visitor Centre

The Yarramundi Visitor Centre opened on the site for the National Museum in September 1986 and contains a theatre where videos and films are screened, and exhibition area and plans and models illustrating the development of the major project. Since its opening the Visitor Centre has mounted two exhibitions incorporating the three major themes of the National Museum, the history of the Aboriginal people, the history of Australian people since 1788 and their interaction with the environment.

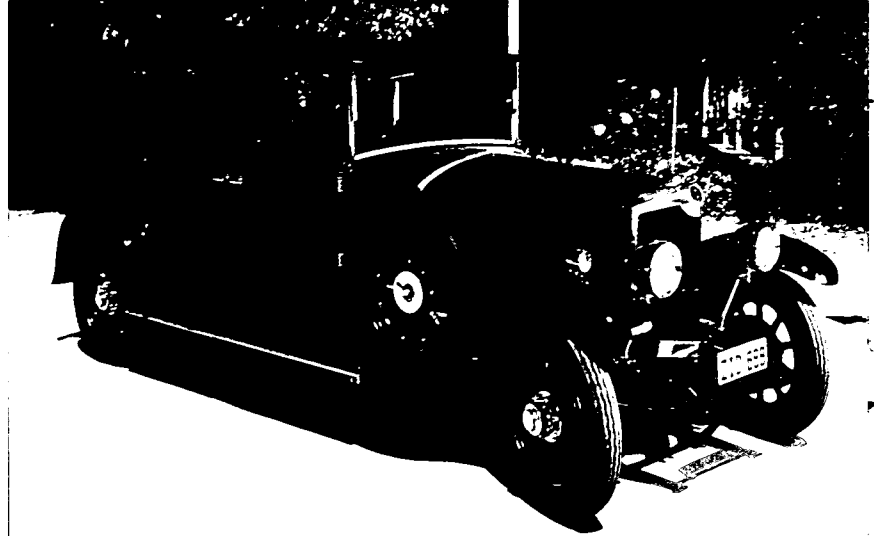
The first exhibition *On the Horizon* gave visitors a glimpse of the planning for this important national project. It also gave some idea of the scope of the Museum's collection and the way in which objects—both early and contemporary—can be used to help us understand the lives and the societies of the people who made and used them. Some of the exhibits displayed included a dugout canoe from Borroloola (NT), a Ferrier Wool Press, Aboriginal carvings and paintings and a 1950s Pinball Machine, which was very popular with children and nostalgic adults.

The second exhibition by the National Museum of Australia titled *Survival*, is intended to give visitors some insight into Australia's cultural diversity. Australia is an ancient continent populated for at least 50,000 years. Although the environment has always changed, and at times dramatically, the last 200 years have seen the greatest change. How have Aboriginal people survived? People from many other countries also have made Australia their home. How difficult has it been? How have they maintained and expressed their cultural and political traditions? And what of our native flora and fauna? How have they survived, and what part do they now play in the Australian landscape?



1926 Crossley Landulette

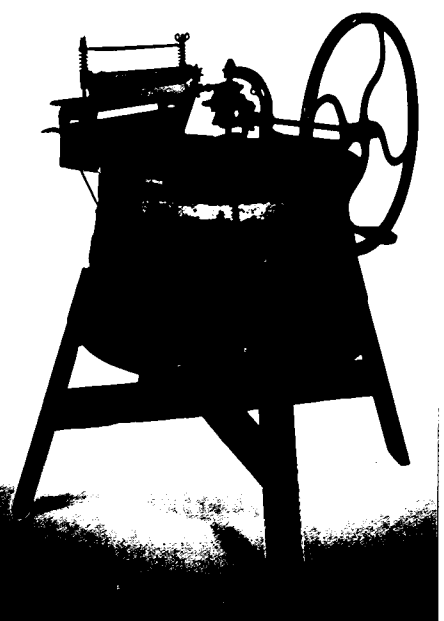
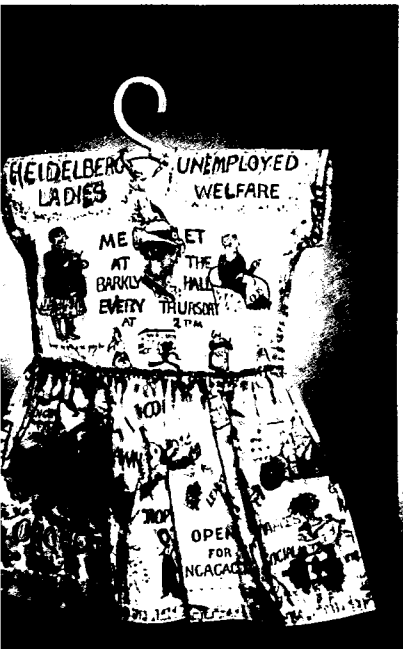
Ferrier's lever woolpress



Spirit figure painted with Mortuary designs.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

Child's dress advertising the Heidelberg Unemployed Bureau.



Austral Wringer and hand operated washing machine.



NATIONAL FILM & SOUND ARCHIVE



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These issues are explored in a dramatic and engaging display which signals the innovative approach to be taken in larger exhibitions of the future.

Future of the major project

Consideration of construction of the Museum complex at the Yarramundi site has been deferred for five years with a view to its opening by 2001 as a fitting celebration of the centenary of Australia's federation. The Museum will be developing arrangements in the interim with State-based institutions to exhibit elements of the National Collection.

