

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### PROFILE

An innovator, project manager, collection manager, networker and, communicator with highly developed inter-personal, resource and gallery/museum curatorial skills:

- ❖ A career spanning 25 years in the gallery/museum environment. This has included diverse experience as director, curator, educator and project manager
- ❖ Service management and implementation involving resources that range from 1 employee to 17 (9 full time 8 part-time) with operational budgets from \$30,000 - \$700,000 and services including gallery, tourism information, library, archives, education, collection, merchandise shop and coffee shop.
- ❖ Business planning skills
- ❖ Marketing planning and promotional skills
- ❖ Project management skills
- ❖ Strategic skills
- ❖ Development of nationally significant projects
- ❖ Participation in local and state strategic committees - Museums Australia NSW, Museums Australia, Sydney chapter
- ❖ Collection Management Skills

### CAREER HISTORY

#### Director, The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services 2013 to the present

##### Core Responsibilities:

- ❖ Partnership in heritage and cultural services business including museum consultancy, research services and tours
- ❖ Project work including research, museum collection cataloguing and assessment, curatorial, education, and tours

#### Curator, Acting Manager, Project Coordinator, Parramatta Heritage Centre – Parramatta City Council

#### Curator 2000 -2013

##### Core Responsibilities:

- ❖ Upgrades and maintenance of permanent interpretive exhibition of social and environmental history
- ❖ Parramatta Heritage and Visitor Information Resource Centre exhibition programming and collection management. Development and implementation of temporary exhibition and public programming of art, social history and environmental history; research and publication development; grant applications; insurance; copyright; exhibition installation; contracts
- ❖ Collection management for art, archaeology and social history
- ❖ Business, organizational and community partnerships
- ❖ Efficient budget forecasting, allocation and expenditure
- ❖ Digitisation of collections for web
- ❖ Collection cataloguing
- ❖ Customer Service – Library and Archives
- ❖ Staff and contractor engagement and supervision; administration

#### Acting Director 2003-2004

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Operating and project budgets
- ❖ Management of the cultural and heritage resource, tourist information centre, shop, library, archive and gallery complex
- ❖ Staff management
- ❖ Implementation of business plan
- ❖ Strategic business and community partnerships
- ❖ Efficient budget forecasts; allocation and expenditure
- ❖ Identification of OH&S issues and implementation of solutions
- ❖ Change management - supervising the Centre through significant change in computer systems, Civic Place City Development project museum inclusion considerations.

#### Project Management 2000-2011

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Forty-two exhibition projects developed and implemented – concept development, research, object identification, loans; administration; budgets; venue identification, negotiation, insurance, staff management, partnership management, volunteer management, contract management

- ❖ Project management - development and implementation of the touring exhibition projects - 3 times award winning *Women Transported – Life in Australia’s Convict Female Factories; Drawn Together – the drawing lives of Norah Heysen Judy Cassab and Margaret Woodward and Inside Looking Out*. Partnerships developed and maintained with 3 universities, major Australian artists, arts organisations (e.g. Big Draw), historical organisations, Department of Education and training, regional teachers, artists and crafts workers. Responsible for the implementation milestones and acquittal of 5 Visions of Australia grants for exhibition development and touring total \$255,000; concept development; research; object identification; loans; administration; budgets; venue identification, contract negotiation, insurance, 3 tour programs, totalling 23 venues involving tour preparation and tour manual, promotions; copyright; writing; publications; CD and public programs.

#### **Director, Mindgarden Art Services, Sydney 1995 - 2000**

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Business management and the following consultant services: curatorial, education and catalogue writing for the private and public sector including Local Government.
- ❖ Collection cataloguing
- ❖ Customer Service

#### **Teacher, Western Sydney Institute of TAFE, Sydney 1995 - 2000**

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Program development and delivery to tertiary students in the areas of contemporary art, professional practice, Australian art history, Aboriginal art history, cultural productions and Western art history.

#### **Manager/Curator, National Trust of Australia NSW, Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum 1993-1994**

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Management of the site, building conservation and maintenance, development of museum policies, budget, reporting and promotion
- ❖ Efficient budget allocation and expenditure
- ❖ Initial development of a business plan, strategic planning
- ❖ Collection care and management
- ❖ Education, exhibition and outreach programs
- ❖ Liaison with membership
- ❖ Staff and contractor engagement and supervision
- ❖ Daily administration and security of the 32 hectare site
- ❖ Volunteer supervision
- ❖ Collection and archive cataloguing
- ❖ Customer Service – Library
- ❖ Setting up a Bequest library

#### **Curator, Penrith Regional Gallery and Lewers Bequest - Penrith City Council 1989 – 1993**

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Assistant management of the gallery complex including acting director as required
- ❖ Site management, building conservation and maintenance for 2 historic buildings (1957 and 1870)
- ❖ Development and maintenance of exhibitions; contemporary and historical art
- ❖ Collection management
- ❖ Public and education programs
- ❖ Identification and achievement of grant funding
- ❖ Daily administration and security of the site
- ❖ Promotion
- ❖ Staff and volunteer training and supervision
- ❖ Collection cataloguing
- ❖ Customer Service
- ❖ Setting up a Bequest library

#### **Director, St George Regional Museum 1988-1989**

##### Responsibilities:

- ❖ Successful establishment of the museum, including fit out
- ❖ Service Management
- ❖ Collection management
- ❖ Budgets
- ❖ Volunteer management and training

**Director, Tongarra Museum, Shellharbour Municipal Council 1987 – 1988**

## Responsibilities:

- ❖ Successful establishment of the museum, capital grant management, building coordination and fit out
- ❖ Management, strategic planning, secession planning
- ❖ collection development and management
- ❖ Daily operations
- ❖ Budgets
- ❖ Promotion
- ❖ Volunteer management and training
- ❖ Collection cataloguing
- ❖ Customer Service

**CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS****Project Manager/Curator****Women Transported - Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories**

Developed the concept in partnership with Carol Liston. The learning for all ages resource DVD won the national Museums Australia design award for content and navigation, 2009. The exhibition won Museums Galleries NSW award for excellence in exhibitions 2009 and NSW Local Government and Shires Association award for cities over 60,000 people for excellence in programming, partnerships and collaborations 2010. It achieved 2 DCITA grants totalling \$133,500 with an additional \$25,000 to extend the 11 venue tour to a 12 venue tour over 5 states. Responsible for budgets, contractors, consultants, institutional contracts, insurance, logistics, staff. Included over 100 colonial and contemporary artworks and objects from the National Library of Australia, Australian War Memorial, National Maritime Museum, Historic Houses Trust of NSW, Powerhouse Museum, the artists and private collectors. Also included were: exhibition interactives, 21 education and public programs - seminars, public conference, teacher in-service, workshops in writing, research, arts and crafts, CD and merchandise. Marketing results included Time Magazine, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian, Art and Australia, Canberra Times, ABC radio (3 separate programs), ABC online, 2 commercial radio stations, lifestyle magazines and regional television, radio and newspapers. It has received record visitation to date including National Archives highest visitation on the opening weekend and highest public program attendance.

**Drawn Together – The drawing lives of Nora Heysen, Judy Cassab and Margaret Woodward.**

Developed the concept, worked with the artists, achieved 2 DCITA grants totalling \$93,000 to develop and tour the exhibition to 11 regional galleries over 3 states, responsible for budgets, contractors, consultants, institutional contracts, insurance, logistics, and staff. This included over 90 artworks from the National Library of Australia, Australian War Memorial, National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of NSW, Kedumba Drawing Collection, Hamilton Regional Gallery, the artists and private collectors. Also included were oral histories, exhibition interactive, photo-essay, education programming, catalogue, education kit, CD and merchandise. It attracted over \$50,000 worth of promotion including The Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian, Art and Australia, ABC radio (4 separate programs), lifestyle magazines and regional papers. It has received record visitation in 3 of the venues. The education kit and publication was developed using a new museum model.

**Journeys of the Spirit – recent refugee experience**

Developed the concept, worked with the artists, community members and migrant resource centre staff - Involving 28 participants from 13 different countries and language groups. This was a significant community cultural development project for the region. It also provided professional training opportunities in exhibition development and installation for these recent refugees.

**Pemulwuy Dilemma – Aboriginal Art of the Sydney Region**

Developed the concept, worked with the artists, and achieved a \$6,000 grant from NSW Ministry for the Arts (Arts NSW). This was a partnership with Darug and other regional Aboriginal communities. It was the first time Darug had been spoken for 150 years and first message stick in the same time frame was sent to Oodgeroo of the Noonuccal. Catalogue, education kit and programming was included. I was given the honour of being made a sister of the Darug as a result of this exhibition.

**Inaugural Curator/Manager****Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum**

The site was under long time site caretaker. I was responsible for development of museum practices, collection development, library and archive management, programming, staff engagement and management, liaison with volunteers and business planning within the context of the National Trust.

**St George Regional Museum** Development and implementation of St George Regional Museum service including: building redevelopment from historic building (bakery) to museum, programming, volunteer organisation development and business planning.

**Tongarra Museum** Development and implementation of Tongarra Museum service including: building construction, programming, volunteer organisation development business planning and secession planning to fit with Councils goal for a self-sufficient museum.

## EDUCATION HISTORY

- ❖ **Master of Arts (Visual):** Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga 1999 – 2002
- ❖ **National Teaching and Learning Program:** Western Sydney Institute of TAFE 1997
- ❖ **Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts):** College of Fine Arts, Sydney 1983 – 1986
- ❖ **Art Diploma:** South Thames College, London 1980
- ❖ **Bachelor of Arts (Drama):** University of NSW, Sydney 1976 - 1979
- ❖ **Other professional development education includes:** staff management and recruitment, project management, software programs, collection management, conservation

## SELECTED PUBLISHED WORK

### Publications and Education Resources

- ❖ *Memory of Trees* 2012
- ❖ *Meet Mr and Mrs Macquarie at Parramatta* 2010
- ❖ *Connecting Cultures – Parramatta Clay Cultures past and present* 2010
- ❖ *Breaking the Shackles, Historic Lives in Parramatta’s Archaeological Landscape* 2009
- ❖ *Women Transported – Life in Australia’s Convict Female Factories* 2008
- ❖ *Drawn Together – the drawing lives of Norah Heysen, Judy Cassab and Margaret Woodward*, 2005
- ❖ *Undercurrents – a River Story*, 2003
- ❖ *In the Garden – historic survey of gardens in the Parramatta Region*, 2001
- ❖ *The Pemulwuy Dilemma*, 1991

### Papers

- ❖ Museums Australia Conference - *Myth and Reality*, Women Transported – Life in Australia’s Convict Female Factories 2010
- ❖ Museums Australia *Community Participation in Museum and Gallery Programming*, 2003
- ❖ Museums and Galleries Symposium - *Outside In: Activating Audiences and Community Support*, 2003
- ❖ Museums Australia Directors Conference, *Diverting Disaster*, The Australian Museum, 1994
- ❖ C.O.M.A. Conference, Queensland Art Gallery and Museum, *The Pemulwuy Dilemma*, 1991

### Articles

- ❖ *Convict Female Factory Women*, Blue Mountains Council of heritage Organisations Journal
- ❖ *Doing time: Convict female Factories, a history and a place sent to solitary*, National Trust of Australia Heritage Magazine
- ❖ *Convicted or conviction – finding your female factory convict ancestors online* Thompson-Reuters
- ❖ *Blood-lines and Heart-lines – Australia’s Irish Convict Female Factory Women*, Irish Echo