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Australian Lesbian and Gay  
**Archives**



Tommy McDermott performing at Saracen's Head Hotel, late 1950s

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## ***Committee members 2008***

Graham Willett (President)  
Esther Singer (Vice-President)  
Daniel Marshall (Secretary)  
Mark Pendleton (Treasurer)  
Gary Jaynes  
Daniel Vaughan

### ***Cover photo***

***Tommy McDermott Collection held by ALGA, courtesy of Russell***

Saracen's Head Hotel was located at 387-389 Bourke Street, Melbourne until 1958 – on the south side of Bourke between Elizabeth and Queen, later the site of McEwan's hardware store. It is mentioned in a number of ALGA's oral histories, often in connection with a camp performer named Sylvia Brad, whose signature tune was to sing 'Lady of Spain', seated on an upright piano, taking out her false teeth to use as castanets!

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## OFFICE BEARERS' REPORT

### FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 13 DECEMBER 2007

As the Archives approaches its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, we can look back over a year that has been extremely successful by any measure. It has also been a year when new opportunities have presented themselves. In the coming year we want to celebrate what has been achieved, and to explore options for meeting the ever-growing needs of the collection. These are outlined in section 9 below, Futures, and related attachments ('SLV Fact Sheet' and 'Archives 30 Project Plan'). We would very much welcome your feedback on these options in the coming few months.

#### 1. PROFILE AND ACTIVITIES

##### Midsumma 07

In 2007 ALGA hosted its 17<sup>th</sup> history walk since the walks began in 1985, originally the idea of Helen Pausacker. For only the second time the walk was in St Kilda. The 2007 walk was offered twice, attracting good publicity through Joy Radio, and attended by groups of 40 to 50 people. Walk leader Graham Willett dedicated the walks to Ron Philp, who died just before Christmas 2006. Ron was proprietor of Her Majesty's Hotel (aka Maisies) in South Yarra in the years 1956-68 when it was not easy to be a camp man fronting a camp-friendly business. There was a good deal of post-walk feedback from people who had interesting things to tell us about St Kilda and Melbourne camp social history generally. Thanks to all those who made the walks happen – Graham W and Wayne M for the commentary, Helen P and Gary for program notes and research, Graham C for registrations and admin, and our supporter (who prefers to be anonymous) for funding the public liability cover which otherwise would have meant operating the walks at a loss. Thanks also to St Kilda Historical Society, City of Port Phillip, State Library Victoria and Melway Maps for permission to reproduce images .

Contact with St Kilda Historical Society as a result of the walks led to two other activities during the year – an address to the Society's monthly lecture series in June about Gay and Lesbian Life in St Kilda (Wayne M and Graham W), and a display of St Kilda-related queer memorabilia at the St Kilda Library in November.

ALGA's presence at Midsumma carnival was a very positive experience – many visitors to the tent, old acquaintances renewed and new members gained, and good exposure of ALGA bits and pieces. The duplicate book sale and raffle were profitable ventures – and are reminders of our extraordinary volunteer, the late Kym Makkaan – who did so much to store and organise large amounts of our collection (books, videos, posters, badges, theses). Kym was also a volunteer for Melbourne Queer Film Festival – who wanted to reward his efforts in listing their collection with a double Mint pass for the 2007 festival. Typically, Kym figured he could see the films in the course of his MQFF volunteering, and asked MQFF if they would be happy for it to go to ALGA for raffling. So thanks MQFF, and for that and much else, thanks Kym.

Midsumma also marked the launch of *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Material Survey Project Report 2006*, held at State Library Victoria on 9 February 2007. ALGA congratulates the Museum of Victoria and the State Library of Victoria for their initiative in establishing and funding this project, which is a big step in documenting GLBT collections in Victoria held in private and organisational hands. We would

like particularly to express our appreciation for the work of the Report's author and project researcher, Kate Davison. We see this Report and its recommendations as laying the foundations for processes of co-operation between the established state-based institutions such as the Museum and the Library, on the one hand, and the community-based ALGA on the other; processes that would benefit the organisations as well as their wider communities.

### Open days

From 2003 to 2006 ALGA ran working bees cum open days on the last Sunday of the month at VAC – partly as a way of tackling archival maintenance work, but also as an opportunity for people to make contact with the Archives. In 2007 we experimented with a slightly different concept – fewer days (four over the year), more widely promoted, more emphasis on showing people around the archives, and featuring a few special items. A new segment of show-and-tell was added to give people who are engaged in or planning GLBT history work a chance to share their ideas or news, and to get feedback.

After a year of the revamped open days, we're pleased to report good numbers attending (20 to 30 people), and signs that the format is finding increasing appeal among regulars, semi-regulars and (importantly) those just curious.

The four days have varied in content. In March we gave prominence to work done on pre-1970 press clippings, particularly the digitised images from Melbourne *Truth* (c.1940 to 1955), and selected articles from *People* magazine (1950 – c.1957). We also displayed a slide show of images from the Sydney Pride History Group's newly published booklet, *Camp as a Row of Tents*.

In April, Esther and Daniel began conducting guided tours of the Archives for those who've not been before, along with opportunities for people to do archiving activities: photographing, listing and preparing fabrics for storage, identifying people/events in a collection of scene pics from B-News (Melbourne), and going through a collection of *Pix* magazines (1948-55) that had been donated to ALGA on the understanding we could keep what was relevant and sell the rest (thanks Kevin A). Dan Vaughan reported on his research into the history of Queens Birthday picnics as camp celebrations in Melbourne. Publicity in MCV press drew an especially big crowd to this day.

In July, Dan Vaughan presented his DVD compilation of movie footage and still photos on the history of Queen's Birthday picnics (also shown at the Camp Betty festival on Queens Birthday weekend in June) – thanks to Mac Ronan, Dean Pethic and Rodney Burrows for permission to use their images. We screened the homosexuality and cross-dressing segments of the 1970 film 'The Naked Bunyip', which has fascinating footage of Melbourne identity Max Du Barrie. Max, who died in 1972 at the age of 45, is frequently mentioned in ALGA oral histories of the 50s and 60s and is said by the film's producer to have been the only homosexual they could find to go before the camera using his name. July also featured three photograph collections that have come to the Archives in the past two years (now listed and housed in acid free albums) - those of Sydney photographer C Moore Hardy (1970s to the present), the late Tommy McDermott, courtesy Russell G (1940s to 80s), and the late Jonathan Greening (1960s to 80s). The Greening collection has come to ALGA courtesy of Geoffrey Stewardson, who provided detailed contextual information about the collection. It depicts a social network of gay men, Melbourne-based but extending to Adelaide and Sydney, in which the late Jonathan Greening played a central part. We were fortunate to have Russell G present at the July meeting to talk about some of Tommy McDermott's photos (this led to interesting finds relating to the location of a Melbourne branch of the Buffaloes lodge with a sizeable camp male membership in the 1950s). Graham Willett talked about highlights from a conference in London in June (Graham was a co-organiser) to mark 50 years since the Wolfenden Report in Britain. Catherine Barrett reported on her interview project for Vintage Men and Matrix Guild, investigating discrimination in the delivery of aged care services for GLBT people. Catherine also distributed a delightful postcard she produced for the project

depicting the legendary Val of Val's Coffee Lounge fame in 50s Melbourne. Show-and-tell in July also brought to our attention a newly published book by Peter Kelly about the poet Harold Stewart, *Buddha in a Bookshop* (Ulysses Press). Peter Kelly was present to talk about the book, which touches on aspects of Melbourne's homosexual and bohemian social histories.

At the November open day Peter Davis spoke about the making of his radio documentary on the history of St Kilda's Prince of Wales Hotel for ABC Radio National's 'Hindsight' program, introducing an absorbing 20 minute segment about Pokeys and Pennies discos. Peter's program was the catalyst for ALGA undertaking oral histories with people involved in Pokeys, and for one of two separate donations this year of DVD footage of Pokeys shows (thanks to Debra Le Gae). We also screened Nancy Peck's archival film about Monte Punshon, in honour of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Monte's birth in 1882. This event unearthed findings about Monte memorabilia we were previously unaware of. Monte was honoured by the Japanese Government for her work with Japanese people who were put in internment camps in Tatura, Victoria, during World War Two. The Tatura Museum has now mounted a permanent display as a tribute to this work of Monte's. Daniel M spoke about the plans for ALGA's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2008, and there were tributes for the significant contributions to Australian GLBT life of three people who passed away this year – Kym Makkaan, Jeff Hayler and Bruce McNicol.

### **Other activities**

Graham W and Helen P talked on Joy Radio's 'Been There, Done That' interview program in May. One of the interviewers kindly presented ALGA with his DVD footage of Pokeys shows (thanks to Chris Furneaux at Joy). In this 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the start of Pokeys, which ran 1977-1992, we have received two significant donations of movie footage of those remarkable shows (previously we had none).

ALGA assisted the highly successful Camp Betty Festival over the Queens Birthday weekend in Melbourne – contributing to displays, workshops and discussions. Dan Vaughan's DVD compilation on Queens Birthday picnics was a highlight for queer history buffs, along with the lunch time story-telling sessions by Ken Lovett assisted by Mannie De Saxe.<sup>1</sup> Esther, Graham C and Gary did a 'show and tell from the Archives' and the queer history race concept was tried to great acclaim and will make a return appearance some time in 2008.

ALGA president Graham Willett gave a talk in September to Melbourne University School of Historical Studies' public lecture series, The Secret History of Queer Melbourne. The lecture and slide presentation was attended by about 100 people and extremely well received (recording on file)

ALGA contributed two holiday activities over the year for the Rainbow Network (a project for supporting same sex attracted and trans youth). Graham W and Wayne M conducted a customised version of the St Kilda history walk and Daniel hosted a visit to the Archives by a group of 20 young people and five workers from the Network.

ALGA's thesis prize resumed after a two year break. We will be offering three prizes this time for honours theses on GLBT topics submitted in the years 2005 to 2007.

ALGA provided an entry to the National Registry of Audiovisual Collections, in response to a request from the National Sound and Film Archives.

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<sup>1</sup> For text of the two presentations, see Ken and Mannie's website - 'My brushes with Lily Law between 1952 and 1987' at <http://www.zipworld.com.au/~josken/lilylaw.htm> and 'The history of the GSG newsletter' at <http://www.zipworld.com.au/~josken/gsghist.htm>

## 2. WORK ON THE COLLECTION

There has been extensive work done on various parts of the collection this year:

- Listing and re-housing of three major photo collections referred to above (C Moore Hardy, Jonathan Greening, Tommy McDermott) – Esther and Gary. The Tommy McDermott collection has also been digitised (105 images).
- Indexing of *Camp Ink* vols 1 to 3 (1970-73) by Lee J, ongoing. This is about 75% of the *Camp Ink* holdings. We are grateful to David Hilliard for donating many duplicate issues of *Camp Ink* thus giving us backup copies for the duration of the indexing project.

Lee's indexing work over the past five years gives us at least one indexed major publication from 1970 to 2000, starting with *Camp Ink* (1970-73), *William and John* (1972-73), *Stallion/Gayzette* (1973-74), *Campaign* (1975-79), *Melbourne Voice* (1984-85), *Gay Community News/OutRage* (1979-2000)<sup>2</sup>

- Select indexing of feature articles in Melbourne's scene publications now comprises *Klick!* (1979-82, but not all issues), *City Rhythm* (1982-89) and *Focus* (1992-2000).
- Liz R completed a computer listing of 1300 articles and monographs (spanning 1950s to mid 1980s), and is now arranging and computer listing ALGA's records of the eleven national homosexual conferences (1975-1984 and 1986) – currently on the fifth conference (Melbourne 1979) – about 500 records listed so far.
- Select listing of ephemera files for public access – in process (Graham W)
- Digitising of *Melbourne Truth* references on homosexual topics from microfilm at State Library Victoria has continued – now done 213 items in the period 1940-57 (cf 100 items a year ago) If a volunteer is looking for a computer task which could be undertaken at their leisure, and they didn't mind a relatively solitary project, we would be happy to provide guidance.
- Backup of ALGA's electronic data (on PC, CDs and DVDs) to external hard disk. Backup of analogue cassettes is not complete and this is a high priority for the coming year.
- Arrangement and computer listing of acquisitions as they have come in
- Arrangement and listing of material donated by the estate of Jan Hillier – in process (includes re-housing of a photo collection of Pokeys performers and staff)
- re-housing in acid free boxes of a collection of queer fetish artwork donated by Frank and Leonie Osowski
- logging of four oral history interviews (done in 1988, 1990, 2005 and 2006)
- keywording of previously logged or transcribed oral history interviews
- logging of recently published books with gay/same-sex historical references (Rod Anderson's *Free Radical* and Chris Masters' biography of Alan Jones)
- digitisation of Super 8 film footage of 1970s gay social functions – based on advice from the Australian Society of Archivists, of which ALGA is a member
- capture from an archived website of the digital files for the online magazine, *Word Is Out* (the original link now broken)
- photos taken of the recently sold Coriyule property at Drysdale (on the Ballarine Peninsular), built and occupied in 1849 by the 'lady squatters', Anne Drysdale and Caroline Newcomb (sale publicised in the real estate section of the Melbourne Herald-Sun, thanks to Colin B for this tip). Material from Anne Drysdale's diaries is on the SLV website - including refs to Caroline Newcomb, 'my partner, I hope for

life...the best and most clever person I have ever met with...' – see

<http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/programs/events/travelling/add.html> (thanks to Wayne M for the SLV link)

- updating of ALGA's periodicals list to 31.12.2006 by Graham C – now on the website at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/docs/Periodicals2007.pdf>

### **Collection tasks when resources permit**

- devising and implementing a preservation plan for scrap books that are in frail condition (some already acid stained from sellotape)
- digitising the poster collection – hard to access in the plan cabinet; also a space issue since the cabinet is now full and there is no room at VAC for a second plan cabinet
- computer listing of binders of broadsheet size press clippings from 1970s and 80s (not chronologically ordered and hard to access) – also not photocopied, so deteriorating newsprint is a consideration (these pre-date the electronic databases of press clippings)
- indexing a major lesbian-specific periodical (eg *Lesbian Newsletter* or any its successors in Melbourne, such as *Lesbian News*, *Labrys*, *Lesbiana*, or *Lesbians on the Loose* in Sydney)
- scoping of major personal collections located outside of the main storage area at VAC.

### **3. ADMINISTRATIVE WORK**

Behind the scenes, a great deal of administrative work has to be done – and this is taking an ever-greater proportion of our time as we professionalise our operations. In 2007, administrative tasks have included:

- Development of guidelines for visitors to the Archives – now posted on the website at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/visiting.htm>
- Access Agreement for users of the collection (in part to make explicit that the obligation is on the user in all matters of copyright, also requires the user to provide the Archives with a copy of completed work based on research at the Archives) - <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/docs/ALGA%20access%20agreement.pdf>
- maintaining a book to record all visitors to the Archives and the collections used
- development of forms to authorise copying in different circumstances (where the amount exceeds fair dealing and it cannot be readily obtained elsewhere within a reasonable time at an ordinary commercial price; for unpublished theses)
- preparation of agreements for new and past oral history interviews to ascertain interviewees' wishes for confidentiality and access (this task is ongoing for past interviewees – in some cases contact has been lost)
- preparation of agreements for receipt of new acquisitions (to make explicit any conditions relating to ownership and access)
- preparation of agreements with volunteers who are housing parts of the ALGA collection
- review of ALGA's Rules leading to amendments proposed in a Special Resolution at the 2007 AGM
- update of the membership application form, to take account of electronic payment options, privacy laws and the extension of specific purpose donations to include books
- production and mailout of binding sponsor certificates
- production of business cards for ALGA committee members
- liaison with the State Trustees in regard to ALGA property located with the late Kym Makkaan (book and video collections now relocated, ALGA computer data still to be transferred) . We're grateful to Joseph

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<sup>2</sup> Lee's indexing of Gay Community News/OutRage completed the work commenced by Adam Carr (1979-1993).

Chetcuti for assistance in this matter. For the relocation, we are much indebted to Helen P, Graham C and Liz R.

The mainstay of this work has been Gary and we are extremely grateful to him for his efforts. Thanks too to John W for his advice on a range of legal and financial matters, computer questions and for managing ALGA's website.

Thanks to Graham C for his work as periodicals secretary (including the organising of binding and production of the 2007 periodicals list), membership secretary and help with banking.

Gary J won't be standing as an office bearer in 2008 but will be available for handover of the administrative tasks that he has been involved with. Gary hopes to have more involvement in collection work and research.

#### **4. RESEARCH ENQUIRIES**

Research enquiries continue to average three to four per week, peaking at certain points of the academic year. Some of these are answerable by email, others by reference to ALGA's or other websites, but most require a visit to the Archives. We try to help people outside Melbourne as best we can (photocopying or digitising a limited amount of material), but often there is no substitute for a visit to the Archives.

We remind people that ALGA does not always hold copyright on material held in the Archives, and where the request is for publication or broadcast, direct contact with the copyright owner is essential. ALGA's book and video collections are reference collections only – not available for borrowing.

Where interstate visitors have come to the Archives, we have rostered volunteers to provide extended access to the collection.

Samples of the research enquiries this year where ALGA was able to assist include:

- National Museum scoping exercise for a possible exhibition on the work of Fred Asmussen (not being actively pursued at present due to personnel movements, but may in future)
- material for an interstate PhD researcher on Indigenous GLT experiences in Australian capital cities
- contact sought with a gay philatelist (for valuation of a particular collection)
- assistance with finding a same-sex couple available for interview as part of a Melbourne Museum exhibition on suburban life 1950-80
- access to a rare book held at Melbourne University for an interstate researcher (autobiography of Marion-Bill Edwards, c.1907)
- internet listing of Asian gay groups in our region
- Midsumma Festival guides 1989-91
- gaps in the ALSO Foundation's collection of Rawhide and Winterdaze party posters (in return, ALSO via Colin B helped fill gaps in ALGA's poster collection)
- Material about two 1970s anti-discrimination campaigns (Jeremy Fisher and Penny Short) for an exhibition in Sydney on gays in trade unions
- copies of the Monument Newsletter for the Gay and Lesbian Holocaust Memorial Project – for a publication being prepared on the G&L Memorial in Green Park, Sydney
- gay press coverage of a murder in 1991 for a law student's research
- non-copyrighted images for use in an Australian queer magazine *They shoot homos, don't they* (selection of badge and flyer images scanned)



- images of the Laird Hotel (Melb) for a slide show for the last night of the outgoing licensees
- GLBT media coverage of the reception of the film *Brokeback Mountain*
- homosexual law reform in Victoria for a case study of activism and protests during the 1960s and 1970s (undergrad research)
- oral history sources for a research essay on gay and lesbian subcultures in Melbourne, 1900-1950s, focusing on Val's Coffee Lounge
- history of homosexual Jews in Australia (personal research)
- history of attitudes to homosexuality in the medical profession in the 50s and 60s (interstate researcher)
- male homosexuality in World War 2 (interstate visitor over a week, PhD research)
- early issues of *Lesbian Network* (interstate woman researcher)
- history of lesbian separatism in Melbourne (undergrad research)
- etymology of English words relating to homosexuality (undergrad research)
- history of drag kings in Melbourne (undergrad research)
- experiences of GLBTI people in prisons in Australia
- historical background on GLBTI and disability for a forum held in Melbourne this year, 'Under the Radar' (visits from an organiser and a speaker)
- history of the gay media in Australia - access to periodicals collection, plus background and interviews (undergrad research)
- background, interview and images for a Norwegian magazine's feature article on homosexuality in Australia

## 5. ACQUISITIONS

The great bulk of ALGA's collection is donated to us by supporters in the GLBT communities across Australia. Thanks to those who have contributed in 2007 – :

- DVD footage of Pokeys shows from Chris Furneaux of Joy Radio and separately from Debra Le Gae
- DVD footage of 1960s camp social functions (Rodney Burrows via Geoffrey Stewardson)
- Super 8 film footage by Colin Billing of 1970s social functions incl Queens Birthday picnics 1972 and 73, Blades Picnic 1977, and Bay City Guys beach party 1976 – converted to DVD by ALGA
- Photo collection of the late Jonathan Greening via Geoffrey Stewardson
- CD from Pride History Group (Sydney) with images of their booklet about 1950s venues, *Camp as a Row of Tents*
- Unpublished manuscript by the late Ron Gibson – via Beatrice Faust (critiquing AIDS treatment approaches)
- Records of the establishment of a Barwon Regional branch of the Victorian AIDS Council (1985 to 1987)
- Melbourne Gay and Lesbian Chorus selected materials via Chris Friday
- Material re Melbourne and Perth gay scenes, 1970s and 80s from Greg B (includes stories and images associated with Society Five c.1973, and the Gay Olympics in Perth, 1980), plus miscellaneous downloaded CDs of gay historical interest
- Photos of 1982 GayDay and Steamworks (1981) from Kerry Lee

- Miscellaneous periodicals, books, posters and ephemera from Geoff A, Colin B, Mannie De S, Gisella K, Paul K, Ken L, Timothy M, Ian P, Jeff S and Keith S
- Books and 1950s *Pix* magazines by Kevin A (for ALGA to keep or sell)
- 18 books published by Black Wattle press in the period 1987-97 – via Laurin McKinnon
- A collection of camera tape DVDs related to the production of Steven King’s video about the origins of Mardi Gras (The Sequin Revolution; From suppression ... to liberation)
- Material about the history of the Vic Bears from Joe R
- PhD Thesis on 'Queer cinema as a fifth cinema in South Africa and Australia' by Ricardo Peach, University of Technology, Sydney
- Oral histories – Alan Mayberry and Debra Le Gae (Pokeys), Geoffrey Stewardson (re Fred Asmussen), John Graham (re the late Kevin O’Neill), Mac Ronan and Geoff Allingham (history of Queens Birthday picnics in Melbourne), various interviews about camp Melbourne life 1950s onwards (Don P, Barry McK, “Maurice”, Max G and friends), and interviews by Dan Vaughan and Mark Pendleton with patrons on the last night of Q&A.
- Books purchased (all except the last two as specific purpose donations):
  - Peter De Vaal’s 3 volume publication *Unfit for Publication: NSW Supreme Court and other Bestiality, Buggery and Sodomy trials, 1727-1930* (courtesy of Peter Di Sciascio)
  - Encyclopedia of Lesbian Histories and Cultures, ed. Bonnie Zimmerman (courtesy of Chris Friday)
  - Two biographies of DJ Ross: *A Golden String: The Story Of Dorothy J Ross* by Jean Epstein and *DJ Dorothy Jean Ross 1891-1982* by Barbara Falk (donor anon).
  - Alan Marshall’s *The Gay Provider (History of Myer)* – includes photos of Myer window displays reflecting the creative work of Fred Asmussen (donor anon).
  - Paul Baker’s *Fantabulosa: The Dictionary of Polari and Gay Slang* (donor anon).
  - Monte Punshon’s autobiography, *Monte-San; The times between – Life Lies Hidden*, 1987, English edition
  - Marion-Bill Edwards’ autobiography, c.1907, reproduction courtesy of University of Melbourne’s Special Collections)
- Monte Punshon’s autobiography, *Monte-San*; Japanese edition (courtesy of Shomi Yoon)
- *Metropolitan Community Church Melbourne 2004*, 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary (courtesy of Geoff A)

We also thank the many groups which continue to send us complimentary copies of their publications. These are too numerous to mention, but they are apparent from a glance at the periodicals list which is on ALGA’s website - go to [alga.org.au](http://alga.org.au), then click on The Collection.

## 6. MEMBERSHIP

There were 84 financial members at the end of ALGA’s financial year, including 13 new members – compared with 75 the previous two years, and up from about 50 a decade ago.

Once again our members have been exceptionally generous – see financial report below – and in the absence of any major fundraising event this year, members’ donations have undoubtedly sustained the work of the Archives.

## 7. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2006-07

	Ordinary a/c	Gift A/c	Investment A/c	Total
C/fwd from 30.9.06	493.42	6,858.64	10,349.01	17,701.07
Internal transfers	7,000.00	-12,000.00	5,000.00	-
Income	2,667.38	5,719.01	786.62	9,173.01
Expense	-\$7,069.66	-5.00	0.00	-7,074.66
<b>Balance at 30.9.07</b>	<b>3,091.14</b>	<b>572.65</b>	<b>16,135.63</b>	<b>19,799.42</b>
<b>Net change in past year</b>	<b>2,597.72</b>	<b>-\$6,285.99</b>	<b>5,786.62</b>	<b>\$2,098.35</b>

### Notes

1. There is a \$500 pre-commitment for the thesis prizes which are being awarded retrospectively for 2005 and 2006 (as well as \$250 for 2007)
2. There is a pre-commitment of about \$2500 associated with relocation and rehousing of the ALGA book collection (\$1800 for shelving, \$484 for courier, \$150 for boxes)
3. Details of income and expenditure, and comparisons with the previous financial year, are contained in Attachments A, B and C.

Although the year end balance is about \$2,098 better than it was a year ago, the pre-commitments (about \$3,000) mean an effective drop of about \$1,000 in the bottom line.

It cost about \$7,000 to run the Archives in 2006-07, and our total income was just over \$9,000.

Binding is again the largest ongoing expense (\$1430) but storage supplies is an increasing cost as we've had more people available to work on rehousing the collection (\$909, up from \$590). Computer consumables is a new item, \$359 (coloured printing a significant cost now – for ALGA stationery and publications, and printing of periodicals that come to the email account in colour, also for the cost of DVDs and CDs for oral history interviews).

Membership has again been an important income source (\$1383, up from \$1214 in 2005-06), but it is Gift Account income that has kept ALGA afloat in 2006-07: \$5,693 from 53 donors, compared with \$5771 from 57 donors in 2005-06. The remarkably high donation amount per capita is inflated by two donations of \$1000 or more, but still there were 51 donors of amounts up to \$500, totalling \$3193.

**Specific purposes donations** have been an important part of ALGA's fundraising through the binding sponsorship scheme since 2000-01. Under this scheme for donations of \$50 or more, slips are pasted inside the cover of bound volumes to acknowledge the donor's contribution to the binding cost, and a mounted replica of the slip is given to the donor. The scheme has proved remarkably successful, and in 2008 we are extending the scheme to the sponsorship of books.

Most of ALGA's book collection has been built on the generosity of donors, but sometimes there are significant books about some aspect of homosexual life in Australia, past or present, and it is unlikely that we can obtain that work by donation. These might be rare books only available on the second hand market, or newly published reference volumes such as encyclopedia or research works ... or simply

much loved books that people tend not to give away. Sometimes they may be out-of-print works which we can only obtain as photocopies from libraries

The extended scheme is being trialled for 2008 is referred to on the 2008 renewal form.

From time to time, there have been specific purpose donations from members who have made contact to find out what we particularly need funds for. These approaches are of course very welcome, and have enabled us to fund a variety of things: a much needed replacement photocopier three years ago, shelving for off-site storage, a portable PA system for history walks, an emergency bin, the public liability insurance cost without which our 2007 history walks would have run at a loss, and most recently, a digital recording device this year (courtesy of Chris Friday). Donations of this sort are tax deductible – the only constraint on tax deductible donations is that the sole benefit to the donor is the tax deduction (it cannot otherwise materially assist the donor).

### **Property gifts can be tax deductible**

As reported in newsletter 22, ALGA sought clarification in 2006 from the Australian Tax Office about gifts which come to a Deductible Gift Recipient (such as ALGA) as goods rather than money. The ATO allows tax deductible gifts to a DGR to be money or ‘property’ (but not services). Property is defined broadly – it’s not confined to real estate, and it effectively means any material items.

There are obligations on the donor and the DGR as far as record-keeping is concerned if the gift of property is to be claimed as a tax deduction – these are set out at on ATO’s website at <http://www.ato.gov.au/content/downloads/n3132-07-2006.pdf> - see especially p57 and p78 to 83.

ALGA will issue a Property Gift receipt which states the nature of the gift and the basis of our valuation of it (for example a receipt for a gift of a book or video). In 2007, there were six property gifts totaling \$568.

### **Thanks to our donors**

The Archives gratefully acknowledges the following people for making donations in 2007:

KWA	WB	Gregory Barrett	Colin Baskerville
Laurie Bebbington	Tallace B	Colin Billing	Matthew Blackmore
Leigh Boucher	David Bradford and Michael Williams		Paul Caulfield
Dau-Chuan Chung	Peter Collingwood	David Conolly	Christopher Cutler
Julie Daley	Michael Davies	Ken Davis	Mannie De Saxe
Peter di Sciascio	BF	Chris Friday	Robert Gibbs
Ian Gould	HIBA Pty Ltd	David Hilliard	Leigh Keen
Liebs	KL	Lola Lindley	HMcC
Nan McGregor	Pippa M	K O’L	Phyllis Papps
Richard Peterson	Ian Purcell	Ken Rathbone	Dr Mac Ronan
Jeff Slingsby	Geoffrey Stewardson	Keith Stodden	Richard Stone
Rohan Storey	Trevor Sutherland	AT	Alison Thorne
GW			

**ALGA thanks the Victorian AIDS Council for its generosity in continuing to house ALGA in the Claremont Street basement.**

## 8. GRANTS

ALGA successfully applied for an \$8000 publication grant from the City of Melbourne. This will be used to publish a book on gay and lesbian Melbourne, which will be largely based on the development of material used for queer history walks. The grant is for publishing costs only (not labour) and the book will be produced in 2008.

ALGA has applied for a grant for \$8,000 to employ a part-time administrative support person (8 hours per week until 30/9/08) from the Commonwealth Government's Grants to Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations program (Department of the Environment and Water Resources). The outcome is expected to be known in March 2008.

We were unsuccessful in an application to the Victorian State Government's Local History Grant program.

## 9. FUTURE

A year ago we we said: 'The challenge is to not overload those who are already giving as much as they reasonably can, whether that be time or money. We know there is a lot of goodwill towards the Archives – the task now is to test our belief that there is a broader base of support than we have harnessed to date.' The Archives has built an extraordinary collection – relying almost entirely on its membership and volunteers. The question is whether this can continue to be the case. The collection has now seriously outgrown its space and the demands on volunteers' time continue to expand. These are, of course, signs of success, but unless we find ways to address these needs, it is not clear how the Archives can continue to do its work.

We are now committing ourselves to exploring two options for the future.

### **State Library of Victoria**

The first comes from the State Library of Victoria, which has flagged an interest in housing the collection should that be the wish of the community. This idea was raised by Shane Carmody, Director of Collections and Access at the SLV, at the launch of the *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Material Survey Project Report 2006*, in February 2007. Since then a number of meetings have been held with Jock Murphy, Manuscript Librarian, to clarify the possibilities here. Broadly speaking the SLV would be willing to take ownership of the collection, or to take it on loan; it would take the collection in whole or in part; in one donation or in a series of donations over time. (A Fact Sheet has been prepared setting out the results of these discussions to date [attached]).

### **Archives 30**

Partly in response to the discussions within the Archives about the SLV offer, a second option has been developed – to explore whether there is sufficient community support for maintaining the Archives as an independent, community-based organisation. This will require an active effort to meet certain clear targets in terms of money and space and, secondarily, more members and volunteers. The Archives' 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year offers an opportunity to highlight our achievements – and to bring our needs to the attention of the wider community. An Archives 30 Project Plan [attached] has been developed. It includes measurable targets – to be reviewed by the Committee in March 2008 and at the 2008 AGM – and a series of activities designed to help us achieve these targets.

**Graham Willett**

**President**

**9 December 2007**

<b>Attachment A</b>			
<b>ALGA Ordinary Account</b>			
1 October 2006 - 30 September 2007			
	<b>2006 / 2007</b>	<b>2005 / 2006</b>	<b>Notes on 2006 / 2007 income, expenditure and transfers</b>
<b>Carried forward from previous year</b>	<b>30/09/2006</b>	<b>30/09/2005</b>	
<b>Sub-total carry forward</b>	<b>493.42</b>	<b>961.78</b>	
<b>Internal transfers</b>			
Transfer of \$2000 from investment account	2,000.00		Transfer to Ordinary a/c for operating expenses
Transfer of \$5000 from Gift Account to Ordinary account	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	Transfers to Ordinary a/c for operating expenses
	<b>7,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	
<b>Income</b>			
Archival services	200.00	700.00	Income for archival services provided to organisations
Correction		109.85	
Interest	5.88	4.76	
Memberships	1,383.00	1,214.00	83 memberships paid in 2006/07 (13 new) cf 69 in 2005/06 - see notes 1 and 2 for comparison with previous years
Photocopying income	109.50	260.00	
Proceeds from History Walk	610.00	885.00	Partly offset by \$532 history walk expenses - see Midsumma costs below
Proceeds from Midsumma bucket collection		194.20	
Proceeds from raffle at Midsumma	180.00		Prize donated to ALGA by Melbourne Queer Film Festival courtesy of Kym Makkaan
Sales - badges	19.00	24.00	
Sales - publications	160.00	212.00	\$150 from sale of books at Midsumma Carnival plus \$10 for Mardi Gras history x2
<b>Sub-total - Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,667.38</b>	<b>\$ 3,603.81</b>	
<b>Expense</b>			
Acquisitions	397.46	40.00	Main expenses were \$200 for 3 vol work of Peter de Waal (Unfit for publication) and \$123 for Encyclopedia of Lesbian Histories and Cultures (offset by donation)
Audio visual consumables	13.00		
Audio visual services	133.00		Digitisation of super 8 film footage
Aust Soc of Archivists membership	165.00	150.00	

	2006 / 2007		2005 / 2006		Notes on 2006 / 2007 income, expenditure and transfers
Bank fees - FID					
Bank fees - GDT	5.00				Dishonoured cheque
Binding	1,430.00		1,305.00		See note 3 for comparison across years
Computer consumables	359.45				\$200 once-off charge for colour printer consumables (to cover misc colour printing - letterheads, business cards, periodicals sent by email, extra copies of History Walk program). The rest is largely CDs and DVDs for digitisation of oral histories (incl copies to interviewees)
Consumer Affairs lodgement fee for public officer's report	37.60		36.70		
Honoraria	100.00		112.90		Honorarium for volunteer to cover miscellaneous expenses incurred in storing ALGA material
Hospitality			10.70		
Internet costs	76.95				Domain name registration (alga.org.au) and upgrade of email a/c
Midsumma costs - current year	784.00		554.85		See note 4 for breakup and comparison with previous years
Midsumma costs - prepayment for next year	155.00				2007 history walk event registration
Office equipment	1,179.98		223.65		Major item were \$700 for digital recorder (offset by donation) and \$355 for 500GB external hard disk
Photocopier expenses	314.67		238.35		Annual maintenance fee for photocopier, more than previous year due to 3622 more copies, also rise in copy cost (up from 1.8c to 2.1c per copy plus GST)
Photocopying expense	116.35		73.50		Includes \$82 for photocopying of out of print rare books
PO Box rental	102.00		95.00		
Postage (general)	371.75		288.35		Included \$153 for mailout to members of the 2006 annual report, \$68 for mailout of the 2006 newsletter, the rest for miscellaneous postage (for members receipts, binding sponsor certificates, CDs to oral history interviewees etc)
Printing			573.40		History walk program printing expense counted as a Midsumma cost in 2007
Repairs & maintenance	50.78		408.58		Fire extinguisher and fire blanket for off-site storage location
Software	12.25				Software upgrade for digital audio recorder to allow joining and splitting of recordings
Stationery	356.22		370.67		Various including photocopying paper, envelopes, labels, etc

	2006 / 2007		2005 / 2006		Notes on 2006 / 2007 income, expenditure and transfers
Storage supplies	909.20		590.52		Various acid free materials including 2 binders, pockets and mounting for photos (\$100), extra polypropylene pockets for photos (\$38), extra mounting corners and mounting card for photos (\$35), standard size archive boxes x100 (\$138), A3 storage boxes x6 (\$114), folders x100 (\$50), tissue for poster housing (\$49), pH neutral paper clips (\$19, \$23, \$21), plastic foldback clips x2 pkts (\$36), CD storage cases (\$8), document repair tape (\$27), post-it flags, CD cases, holt melt glue gun & inserts
Thesis Prize					Thesis prize was deferred in 2006 (allow 2 x \$250 precommitments for deferred prizes from 2005 and 2006)
<b>Sub-total - Expense</b>	<b>7,069.66</b>		<b>5,072.17</b>		
<b>Year end balance = C/fwd + Internal transfers +</b>					
<b>Income - Expense</b>	<b>3,091.14</b>		<b>493.42</b>		
<b>Reconciliation with bank account</b>					
	<b>30/09/2007</b>		<b>30/09/2006</b>		
Bank balance at year end	1,865.99		1,214.27		
Adjustment for delayed 2006/07 internal transfers	2,000.00				\$2000 transfer from investment a/c reached Ord a/c 3/10/07
Add 2006/07 income not banked by year end	20.00				
Less cheques not presented at year end	794.85		720.85		Chq 273 \$155, chq 274 \$620 processed in Oct 07
<b>Adjusted bank balance</b>	<b>3,091.14</b>		<b>493.42</b>		
<b>Notes</b>					
1. Membership income was \$1383 in 2006/07 cf \$1214 in 2005/06, \$1251 in 2004/05, \$1001 in 2003/04, \$950 in 2002/03, and \$833 in 2001/02					
2. 83 people paid for membership in 2006/07 (including 13 new) compared with 69 in 2005/06.					
At 30/9/07, there were 84 members (including one life member) of whom 9 have paid to 30/9/2008.					
3. Binding expenses were \$1430 in 2006/07, cf \$1305 in 2005/06, \$1380 in 2004/05, \$720 in 2003/04, \$785 in 2002/03					
There were 27 volumes bound in three batches (cf 30 vols in 2005/06) plus specially made boxes for housing 'Blue' magazine and the					
3 volume work by Peter de Waal (Unfit for Publication).					
4. Midsumma 2007 costs (\$784) comprised \$132 for history walk event registration, \$250 for public liability cost for history walk (offset by specific purpose donation),					
\$150 for History Walk program printing, and \$252 for Midsumma tent cost					



	2006 / 2007	2005 / 2006	Notes on 2006 / 2007 income, expenditure and transfers
NB nil public liability cost for 2007 Carnival due to previous year's payment covering both 2006 and 2007 carnival dates			
Comparisons with previous years' Midsumma costs are as follows:			
Midsumma 2006 costs (\$450) comprised \$220 tent hire, \$130 event reg'n, \$100 for public liability at Carnival			
Midsumma 2005 costs (\$239) comprised \$120 tent hire (paid 2004/05) and \$119 event reg'n (paid 2003/04); nil cost for public liability at Carnival as covered by previous year's payment for a calender year.			
Midsumma 2004 costs (\$195) comprised \$85 public liability, \$110 tent hire (nil event registration because history walk inadvertently omitted from program).			
Midsumma 2003 costs (\$395) comprised \$85 for public liability, \$110 for tent hire, \$200 for honorarium 2003 for history walk guest presenter.			
Midsumma 2002 costs (\$640) were \$357 tent hire, \$82.50 event registration and \$200 honorarium for history walk guest presenter.			

<b>Attachment B</b>					
<b>ALGA Gift Account</b>	<b>2006 / 2007</b>	<b>2005 / 2006</b>	<b>Notes on 2006 / 2007 income, expenditure and transfers</b>		
1 October 2006 - 30 September 2007					
<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>30/09/2006</b>	<b>30/09/2005</b>			
Account balance carried forward	\$6,858.64	\$4,073.40			
<b>Internal transfers</b>					
Transfer of \$7000 from Gift Account to investment account	-\$7,000.00	-\$2,000.00			Gift a/c funds transferred investment account to maximise the rate of return. NB \$2000 of the \$7000 transferred to the investment a/c was transferred to the Ordinary a/c late in the financial year
Transfer of \$5000 from Gift Account to Ordinary account	-\$5,000.00	-\$1,000.00			Transfers to Ordinary a/c for operating expenses
<b>Total internal transfers</b>	<b>-\$12,000.00</b>	<b>-\$3,000.00</b>			
<b>Income</b>					
Donations	\$5,693.00	\$5,771.00			See notes 1 to 4 for the number and type of donations
Interest on donations	\$26.01	\$14.24			
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$5,719.01</b>	<b>\$5,785.24</b>			
<b>Expense</b>					
Bank fees - GDT	\$5.00				Dishonoured cheque
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>Year end balance = C/fwd + Internal Transfers + Income - Expense</b>					
	<b>572.65</b>	<b>6,858.64</b>			
<b>Reconciliation with bank account at</b>					
	<b>30/09/2007</b>	<b>30/09/2006</b>			
Bank balance at year end	\$572.65	\$6,858.64			
Add income not banked by year end					
Less cheques not presented at year end					
<b>Adjusted bank balance</b>	<b>572.65</b>	<b>6,858.64</b>			
<b>Notes</b>					
1. There were 53 separate donations in 2006/2007 compared with 57 in 2005/06, 46 in 2004/05, 32 in 2003/04, 33 in each of 2002/03, 2001/02 and 2000/01, and 22 in 1999/2000					
	<b>2006 / 07</b>				<b>Compared with 2005 / 06</b>

2. The spread of donations was as follows:					
	Count		\$	Count	\$
\$20 or less	20		\$253.00	15	\$182
Most of the binding sponsor donations here	\$21 to \$50	17	\$680.00	24	\$1,034
	\$51 to \$100	9	\$780.00	11	\$955
	\$101 to \$500	5	\$1,480.00	5	\$1,100
\$501 to \$1000	1		\$1,000.00	1	\$1,000
Over \$1000	1		\$1,500.00	1	\$1,500
	<b>53</b>		<b>\$5,693.00</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>\$5,771</b>
3. Binding sponsor donations in comparison with other years is as follows:					
	No. of sponsors		\$		Total donations income
2006/07	29		\$3,825.00		\$5,771
2005/06	30		\$3,844.00		\$5,668
2004/05	17		\$1,892.00		\$4,762
2003/04	13		\$1,235.00		\$1,977
2002/03	16		\$1,270.00		\$2,555
2001/02	17		\$1,200.00		\$1,697
2000/01	10		\$740.00		\$1,080
1999/2000 (before binding sponsorship started)					
4. There were two specific purpose donations other than for binding (\$1000, mostly used for digital voice recorder, balance for an encyclopedia of Lesbian Histories and Cultures, and \$250 for public liability cover for the 2006 Midsumma history walk).					
5. There were six property gifts to the value of \$568 (one for a DVD of 'Hidden History of Homosexual Australia', six copies of 'Blue' magazine (which ALGA has been unable to receive on a complimentary basis), two acid free photo albums, eight copies the out-of-print 'Living out loud' by Graham Willett, which ALGA is able to sell, and six books for the ALGA collection).					

<b>Attachment C</b>				
<b>ALGA Investment Account (cash management account with Goldman Sachs JBWere)</b>				
1 October 2006 - 30 September 2007				
	<b>2006 / 2007</b>		<b>2005 / 2006</b>	<b>Comments for 2006 / 2007</b>
<b>Carried forward</b>				
Account balance carried forward	\$10,349.01		\$7,878.11	
<b>Internal transfers</b>				
Transfer of \$7000 from Gift Account to investment account	\$7,000.00		\$2,000.00	Gift a/c funds transferred investment account to maximise the rate of return.
Transfer of \$2000 from investment account to Ordinary account	-\$2,000.00			\$2K transfer in Sep 07 from investment a/c to Ordinary a/c to purchase shelving for relocated books
	\$5,000.00		\$2,000.00	
<b>Income</b>				
Interest - Goldman Sachs JBWere Securities Cash Trust 1/10/06 - 30/9/07	786.62		470.90	
	786.62		470.90	
Annual return (% pa) on investment	5.1%		4.8%	See note 6
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Nil				
	30/09/2007		30/09/2006	
<b>Year end account balance</b>	<b>16,135.63</b>		<b>10,349.01</b>	
<b>Notes</b>				
1. Original investment was \$5,000 from Estate of Walter Hillbrick with CBA Term Deposit from 29/9/98.				
2. The investment was withdrawn from CBA term deposit 29/4/01 and invested with JB Were Securities Cash Trust from 8/5/01.				
3. The principal was supplemented by \$1000 income from Pride Foundation in July 2001 (G Willett's work in co-curating Centenary of Federation exhibition).				
4. An additional \$2000 was deposited in the investment account 2005/06 transferred from the Gift Account.				
5. A net transfer of \$5000 was deposited in the investment account in 2006/07 from the Gift account				
6. The flat rate of return in 2006/07 of 5.1% understates the real rate, since the \$5000 net internal transfer was not invested for the full financial year.				
The quarterly rates of return in 2006/07 were 5.4%, 5.5%, 5.5% and 5.7% (compared with 4.2%, 4.6%, 4.8% and 5.1% in 2005/06)				

## Archives 30: A New Future for Our [or Australia's] Queer Past

### Background

2008 marks the 30th anniversary of ALGA. During this year the Archives will mark this anniversary under the tag 'Archives 30: A New Future for Our [or Australia's] Queer Past'. This will involve a range of public events celebrating our achievements – but will also involve a public discussion of the future of the Archives – especially our need to find a bigger home. This will involve new strategies for attracting members and volunteers, donors and other sources of financial support.

We are now committing ourselves to exploring two (not mutually exclusive) options for the future.

### State Library of Victoria

The first comes from the State Library of Victoria, which has flagged an interest in housing the collection should that be the wish of the community. This idea was raised by Shane Carmody, Director of Collections and Access at the SLV, at the launch of the *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Material Survey Project Report 2006* in February 2007. Since then a number of meetings have been held with Jock Murphy, Manuscripts Librarian, to clarify the possibilities here. Broadly speaking the SLV would be willing to take ownership of the collection, or to take it on loan; it would take the collection in whole or in part; in one donation or in a series of donations over time. (A Fact Sheet has been prepared setting out the results of these discussions to date).

### Archives 30

Partly in response to the discussions within the Archives about the SLV offer, a second option has been developed – to explore whether there is sufficient community support for maintaining the Archives as an independent, community-based organisation. This will require an active effort to meet certain clear targets in terms of money and space and, secondarily, more members and volunteers. The Archives' 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year offers an opportunity to highlight our achievements – and to bring our needs to the attention of the wider community. An Archives 30 Project Plan has been developed. It includes measurable targets – to be reviewed by the Committee in March 2008 and at the 2008 AGM – and a series of activities designed to help us achieve these targets.

### Measuring Success

Clear targets underpin this project plan. At the heart of the plan is the aim of establishing a solid financial base from which the Archives can fund accommodation for the collection and some paid staff time, freeing up volunteer resources to focus on collection development and dissemination. A preliminary exercise has established that it would cost approximately \$20,000 p.a. to lease sufficient space and \$400,000 - 650,000 plus fit-out to buy a space.

The 'Archives 30' campaign is intended to test the extent to which this might be possible and has set targets for 2008:

Targets	2008
Revenue	\$100,000
Committee Membership	2 new active members
Volunteers	10 new active volunteers
Membership	50 new members

### **Project Outcomes**

Outcomes in terms of revenue, committee membership, volunteers and general membership will be reviewed at the March Committee meeting.

### **Budget**

A budget to support the activities associated with Archives 30 will be discussed at the AGM and at a subsequent Committee meeting pending quotes for promotional materials.

### **Other activities**

As well as activities organised around revenue, committee membership, volunteers and general membership, 2008 will see other changes.

### ***Paid Admin Worker and Handover***

The employment of a paid administration worker will provide the opportunity for a handover of activities currently carried out by volunteers – especially in the areas of secretarial and treasuring tasks. The Committee and the paid worker will collaborate to develop an Archives “manual” to contain handover information. This will be carried out in close cooperation with those who have been carrying on this work and are most familiar with its elements.

### ***Our relationship with the State Library of Victoria***

The option of developing a relationship with the SLV will be dealt with by further liaison over the course of 2008. An SLV Fact Sheet summarising discussions to date has been prepared. Outstanding issues will be followed up. The exact nature of our relationship/partnership will be discussed at the end of 2008 as part of a review of the outcomes of the Archives 30 strategies.

### **Key Activities 2008**

Strategies to address each of the key activities are under development. The immediate priority areas are:

#### **Donor Strategy and resources**

We have

- reviewed recent data relating to donors and donations
- identified strengths and opportunities and
- prepared a series of recommended actions

#### **Media and Promotion Strategy and resources**

We have prepared a series of recommendations for action beginning almost immediately

Promotional work includes our Midsumma activities:

- ‘Archives 30’ leaflet to be produced to announce campaign (draft attached)
- Midsumma events are in place and a list of proposed activities for 2008 has been drafted

#### **Further Priority areas for action in early 2008 are**

- Volunteer strategy
- Membership Strategy

Draft Working Papers on each of these areas are attached. Feedback is most welcome.