

# ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS



This Annual Report has been  
prepared by Staff and Directors.

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## OUR VALUES

- **Valuing heritage:** carrying history and tradition into the future;
- **Integrity:** we are committed to being accountable, responsible and transparent to our members/constituency and ensuring our financial sustainability consistent with our status as a not-for-profit organisation;
- **Inclusion and mutual respect:** we create a friendly welcoming environment which is accessible and inclusive of diversity to benefit all the community;
- **Creativity and innovation:** we are flexible and adaptable to enhance our relevance to the wider community in the longer term;
- **Quality and professionalism** which underpins our credibility; and
- **Lifelong and life-wide learning:** we impart knowledge and promote learning to create a more informed society.

## OUR VISION

is to transform our society for the better through learning.

## OUR MISSION

is to create learning opportunities that inspire, enrich and positively influence civil society.



# OUR PATRON

## The History of Our Patronage

Governor Bourke was an enthusiastic supporter of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts from its earliest stages. In fact, one of the first orders of business of the newly formed School was to thank the Governor formally for his 'kindly interest' and to petition him to become our first Patron (*The Sydney Herald*, Monday, 25 March 1833, page 2).

The SMSA continued to enjoy the unbroken patronage of successive Governors of New South Wales until 1935 when Air Vice-Marshal Sir Philip Game GB GCVO GCB KCMG DSO ceased to be Governor.

In 2008, the Governor of the time, Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO, agreed to resume Patronage in honour of the 175th anniversary of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts.

## Our Current Patron

In 2014, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales kindly consented to become the Patron of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts.

Prior to his appointment as Governor, His Excellency served for 42 years in the Australian Army, concluding his service as the Chief of the Defence Force. His Excellency was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2010 for eminent service to the Australian Defence Force, and a Distinguished Service Cross for his leadership during Operation SOLACE in Somalia in 1993.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has recently announced that His Excellency will become Australia's next Governor-General in 2019, succeeding His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd).

We offer our congratulations to His Excellency, and our sincere thanks for his patronage and support during his term as Governor of New South Wales.



Patron of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales with Mrs Linda Hurley.



Brian Johnston, Secretary of the SMSA; Jane Hathaway, Lucy Ralston and Toby Ralston, descendents of Henry Carmichael's wife; Winsome Allen, President of the SMSA; and Councillor Giacomo Arnott, representing Port Stephens Council, stand in front of the plaque at Seaham School of Arts, commemorating Henry Carmichael and his achievements in Adult Education and as a pioneering settler in the local area.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been my pleasure to serve as President in 2018, a busy and productive year.

In March, the School celebrated its 185th anniversary with several events, including the restoration of Henry Carmichael's family grave at Seaham in the Hunter Valley. Members participated in a bus trip to Seaham for the unveiling of commemorative plaques at the grave site and the Seaham School of Arts. We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. (Toby) Ralston. Although Henry Carmichael has no living direct descendants, the Ralstons are the oldest surviving descendants of Henry Carmichael's wife, Nancy Ralston. They still live on 'Porphyry', the property established by Henry at Seaham in the Hunter Valley.

The following evening members, directors and staff attended a celebratory dinner at the School's former home in what is now the Art House Hotel. The occasional address was given by Mr. Robert Kingston, President of the Mechanics' Institute of Victoria, who spoke passionately about the future of Mechanics' Institutes and Schools' of Arts in the current environment and their importance to a variety of communities across the country.

In November, two directors and I were delegates at Celebration and Survival: Mechanics' Institutes Australia 2018 conference convened by the Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria Inc. in Ballarat where I delivered a paper. It was a pleasure to meet and learn from international and interstate representatives of like-minded organisations. We were delighted that Keynote Speakers, Sian Williams from Wales and Michele Frey from New Zealand, were able to travel to Sydney to share their insights with SMSA members on their own local institutions.

The Board of Directors has continued their focus on strategic planning to ensure the School remains relevant for generations to come. Among the Board's main responsibilities is to make decisions to safeguard the future success and financial viability of the organisation as required by its Act of Incorporation. The School's current position is sound, nevertheless, it is important to plan for its successful longevity, even well beyond the 200th anniversary in 2033!

The School achieved a very pleasing financial result, the best for some time. The details of this and other matters are dealt with in the Treasurer's report.

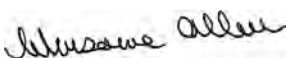
The School's application for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status was endorsed by the Australian Tax Office (ATO), allowing it to receive donations which are tax deductible by the donor. Whilst the School has always operated as a 'not for profit' entity and has been recognised by the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission, it did not previously have this status. At the suggestion of the ATO, the By-laws were amended to accommodate this change.

Membership has continued to grow strongly and as at 31 December was 1683; this is the highest level achieved in recent decades. Our membership data has been transferred to a new Members Register that will allow us better to keep track of items that are relevant to the School, such as Australian honours and service as office bearers, etc. In addition, the register will allow us to develop a much more accurate view of the demographic make-up of members and will support the planning of future programs and activities. It will also prove to be a valuable historic record.

Many dedicated people contribute to the smooth running of the School and the services we offer to members. I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to:

- the SMSA volunteers, many of whom have been with us since the opening of the Tom Keneally Centre in 2011;
- our library team, Kathy Sale, Erika Samonte and the library casuals who are noted for their friendly and professional service;
- Melanie Ryan, who has successfully delivered an interesting and varied events program, assisted by Emily Crocker who joined our staff in December;
- Kylie Campbell, who moved into the Venue Hire role after Wendy Man's departure in August where she continues to provide excellent support to our hirers;
- Michael Ludowici, who brings professionalism and experience to the Accounting role;
- our Secretary, Brian Johnston, whose support, patience and advice is invaluable to me; and
- my fellow Directors for their valuable contributions and commitment to the School and its future.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank our members for their continued support of the School.



Winsome Allen  
President



## OUR DIRECTORS



The SMSA Board and Secretary for 2018.

Standing (L to R): Denis Mockler, Brian Johnston (Secretary), Eugene Stawski, Max Williams, Paul Reid, Geoff Webb, Steve Warren.  
Seated (L to R): Shirley Hunt, Cecile Cornford, Winsome Allen, Anne Devrell, Carole O'Brien. Inset: Mark Brandon and Lesley Scanlon.

### Winsome Allen — President

Elected President 2017.



Winsome is a former Chairperson of the fundraising committees for the Cerebral Palsy Alliance (formerly known as the Spastic Centre of NSW) and the Benevolent Society of NSW for whom she is also a Life Governor. She is Vice

President of AMISA (Association of Mechanics' Institutes and Schools of Arts). Winsome is an active member of Toastmasters International, and has previously served as Area Governor several times and Education Pathways Ambassador. Winsome has owned several successful businesses that have provided her with opportunities for community involvement. A passionate supporter of the SMSA, Winsome enjoys getting to know our members in the Library and at events, and coordinates the volunteer program. Winsome also promotes the School through Outreach talks to community groups about its history, current activities and future.

### Mark Brandon OAM — Vice President

Serving (Elected 2017). Appointed VP 2018



Mark has held senior executive and CEO roles in government programs, private health insurance, accreditation and aged care. He has director and board experience in community and for profit organisations. For example, he is a director of

Aged Care Industry Association, and was previously a director and chair of the audit committee at Macquarie Community College, a director of VETEA Ltd (a training organisation), board member of the Australian Centre for Evidence Based Aged Care at La Trobe University, Treasurer for West Pennant Hills Football Club and Chair of HCI Ltd. Mark has an adjunct appointment in the School of Business at Notre Dame University (Sydney). He is a member of the expert panels of the International Federation on Ageing and International Society for Quality in Healthcare and an elected member of the International Academy of Safety and Quality in Healthcare. Mark was CEO from 2002–2013 of the government's Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency responsible for promoting quality, accreditation and education programs to all nursing homes in Australia. Mark is experienced working with diverse communities. He is a member of AICD, an Associate Fellow of the Australasian College of Health Service Management. He was a mentor in the ACHSM mentoring program from 2010–2015.

### Cecile Cornford — Vice President

Serving (Re-elected 2017). Re-appointed VP 2018.



A former SMSA Librarian, Cecile had previously been a member of the School for many years. Cecile has always worked in Customer Service and related roles in banking, as a medical secretary and an air hostess. Cecile is passionate about the School and, as an avid reader and lover of literature, she is interested in maintaining the quality of good reading that we now have in the Library. Cecile enjoys travel, history, theatre, film, science, cooking and all things French, archaeology, cats and other animals. She has two grandchildren.

### Paul Reid — Vice President

Serving (Re-elected 2017). Re-appointed VP 2017.



Paul is the father of three adult children, as well as the very proud grandfather of four grandchildren. Recently retired, Paul worked as a Training and Educative Services Manager, delivering industrial relations based training to people from diverse educational and employment backgrounds. He is a strong advocate of human rights and has been a past Secretary of an NGO. Paul has served on the Public Sector Industry Advisory Board as Director for over 10 years and has served as a Trustee of the Finance and Governance Committee of Unions NSW for five years. Paul has previously served as President of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts for four years. He is very proud of the history of the SMSA and strongly supports its vision. Paul, along with two of his fellow Directors represented the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts at the Third National Conference of Mechanics' Institutes and School of Arts in Victoria in November 2018. He wants to build even stronger relations with the Institutes and Schools in other States, and is a member of the Melbourne Athenaeum. Paul's other varied interests include theatre, cinema, art, cooking and travel.

### Geoff Webb — Vice President

Re-elected 2018. Re-appointed VP 2018.



Geoff has been a member of the SMSA for over 30 years has served on the Board since 2009, and has been a Vice President for over eight years, being chair of the Building, Membership and Grants committees during that time. He is a professional engineer with broad experience in engineering work, with a particular emphasis on project management and documentation. Geoff is interested in family and local history and enjoys reading science fiction and mystery books. He also enjoys travelling.

### Max Williams — Treasurer

Serving (Re-elected 2017). Re-appointed Treasurer 2018.



Max retired from corporate life after a career in financial services in both the public and private sectors. Prior to retiring, he was engaged in financial management for a large General Insurer and held the role of Company Secretary of a Computer Facilities Management Company. Max assisted the SMSA as Acting Secretary for a period in 2010 and joined the Board of the School in 2013. He has chaired the Building Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and is currently the Treasurer of SMSA. His outside interests revolve around a large family including many grandchildren who provide a very enjoyable distraction.

### Eugene Stawski — Assistant Treasurer

Re-elected 2018. Re-appointed AT 2018.



Before retiring a number of years ago, Eugene was the Financial Controller of Carpet Court Northern. Following his retirement, he held a part-time position with SMSA several years ago as Accounting Officer, making changes, contributions and suggestions for the improvement of the accounting system. His interests include tennis, skiing, canoeing, travelling, reading, family and friends. As director of the SMSA, Eugene focuses on continued success of the School financially.

### Anne Devrell — Director

Serving (Elected 2017).



Anne has been a member of the School for 30 years and has previously served on the board. She has belonged to various organisations in community roles. Currently she is on the committee of the Blue Mountains Family History Society and Blacktown-Macquarie Trefoil Guild. Anne volunteers at the SMSA in the Tom Keneally Centre and works with its ephemera collection.

### Shirley Hunt — Director

Re-elected 2018.



Shirley has been a member of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts for over 16 years and was first elected to the Board in 2012. An avid reader, Shirley enjoys the ambience of the Library and is a staunch supporter. She enjoys meeting other members at SMSA events and regularly volunteers in the Tom Keneally Centre. Shirley's interests include theatre, films, swimming, walking and volunteering.

### Denis Mockler — Director

Serving (Re-elected 2017).



Denis is the principal of a small legal firm and is a former Acting District Court Judge, Arbitrator in the District and Local Courts and Assessor for the Motor Accidents Authority. As a long-standing member of the SMSA and Board member, Denis has held a number of positions including President, Treasurer and Vice President. Denis remains a strong advocate for the library and for the provision of increased services for members of the SMSA. He is also an advocate for strengthening our Governance and working with the Board and staff to ensure that the SMSA can impact on and reach a greater number of people.

### Carole O'Brien — Director

Re-elected 2018.



Carole has been a member of the SMSA since 1982. She previously served on the Board from 1984–2005, has chaired several committees and was President from 1997–2002. Before retiring, Carole worked in a number of companies, mostly supervising record keeping, customer service and accounts. An avid reader, Carole belongs to several municipal libraries as well as the SMSA. Her favourite books are mystery and crime, and she has been a member of the School's Reading Group since its inception. She has volunteered in the Tom Keneally Centre since its opening in 2011. Carole's other interests are going to the theatre and trying to grow things—with moderate success, and her re-homed cat Millie.

### Lesley Scanlon — Director

Elected 2018.



Lesley's extensive knowledge of and interest in educational issues is drawn from over forty years' experience teaching, researching and writing within and about schools, TAFE, colleges and universities. Lesley worked for nearly twenty years in teacher education at the University of Sydney from where she recently retired. As an honorary lecturer of the University, she continues to research and publish on a diverse range of contemporary educational topics. Lesley brings to the Board the knowledge and skills gleaned from extensive participation in committee work in the TAFE and university sectors as both a member and chair of academic and governance committees, and has a deep commitment to lifelong learning and education, and to 'second chance' education. Lesley is a keen participant in the SMSA Mystery and Crime reading group, reads widely in fiction and enjoys travel.

### Steven R M Warren — Director

Serving (Elected 2017).



Steven's background in long-term community development and experience in education, training and events management have given him the skills to make positive contributions to the SMSA in the areas of policy development, management and strategic planning. Steven has previously served on a university Board and Academic Senate, held National Secretary and Executive roles for the Australian postgraduate student body, as well as having served on a range of community based organisations. He has a long-standing commitment to equality in all these roles.

#### Attendance at Board Meetings — 2019

Board Member	Status	Attended
Allen, Winsome	Serving President	14 of 14
Brandon, Mark	Serving	9 of 14
Cornford, Cecile	Serving	12 of 14
Devrell, Anne	Serving	13 of 14
Hunt, Shirley	Re-elected	12 of 14
Mockler, Denis	Serving	13 of 14
O'Brien, Carole	Re-elected	14 of 14
Reid, Paul	Serving	13 of 14
Scanlon, Lesley	Elected	9 of 10
Stawski, Eugene	Re-elected	13 of 14
Warren, Steven	Serving	9 of 10
Webb, Geoff	Re-elected	13 of 14
Williams, Max	Serving	12 of 14



# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

GEOFF WEBB VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIR

The Building Committee was active over the past year, attending to a number of projects affecting the running of the SMSA building. I wish to record my thanks to the committee members for their support in looking after this valuable asset.

Our Building Managers, StrataChoice, through Arthur Alibrandi, have continued to provide excellent advice and service to the School and has helped to maintain the building and provide services to tenants and room hirers.

### Premises

280 Pitt Street (formerly Lincoln House) comprises 11 Levels with the SMSA occupying three floors and leasing out the other floors as Grade 'B' office space. Built in 1924, the building was designed by the architects Spain and Cosh and is listed in both the City of Sydney Local Environment Plan Heritage List and in the NSW State Heritage Register. The façade is of particular importance.

The building underwent a major renovation after its acquisition in 1996. This was completed and occupancy commenced in 1999 with the official opening in 2000. As it is 20 years since the last major renovation of the building, the Board is considering the future of the building. In the meantime the Board is looking at upgrading the disable toilet to current standards.

### Tenants

The building continued to be almost fully tenanted throughout the year and our ratio of leasing to organisations engaged in educational and/or Not-For-Profit activities is substantial. Consistent with the review of rents done last year, our rates are being aligned with current rents in this part of the city.

### Venue Hire

Strong demand continues for our venue hire facilities although the rooms are affected by building noise from nearby construction sites.

### Building Projects

There have been a number of projects undertaken this year to keep the building in good condition and to improve the usefulness of the building to both tenants and room hirers and to save costs. Work carried out included refurbishment of some kitchens.

Planning is well underway to refresh and upgrade the Mitchell Theatre with revised seating and lighting. Planning is also underway to install an accessible toilet on the 1st floor.

Cuthbert's, the members' coffee nook in the Library, has proved to be very popular, leading to it costing significantly more than budgeted and this is a concern to the Board.

#### Tenants as at 31 December 2018

Level	Tenants	Space
LG Suite A	SMSA's Own Use**	0.7%
LG Suite B	National Council of Women of NSW **	0.7%
LG Suite C	ASCCA **	1.6%
LG Suite D	ACR Travel	1.5%
LG Suite E	Far and Wide Migration Services	0.7%
LG Suite F	Animal Justice Party**	0.7%
LG Storeroom	SMSA's Own Use**	0.5%
G Storeroom	Doppio Espresso	0.1%
G Retail	Sydney City Pharmacy	4.8%
1, 2 and 3	SMSA's own use **	30.8%
4	Austop Group	10.4%
5 Suite 1	Positive Recruitment	4.8%
5 Suite 2	First Peoples Disability Network **	2.2%
5 Suite 3	NAATI **	2.4%
6 Suite 1 & 2	Council On The Ageing **	4.6%
6 Suite 3	New Oriental Vision Overseas Cons. Aust.	5.0%
7 Suite A & B	Life Education Australia **	4.5%
7 Suite 1	MIT Institute **	4.8%
8 Suite 1	Fiji Airways	3.2%
8 Suite 2	Castrisos Kanaris and Co	4.4%
8 Suite 3	Health Consumers NSW **	1.5%
9	MIT Institute **	10.2%
<b>Area occupied or under lease as of 31/12/2018</b>		<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Total area occupied by non-profit or education</b>		<b>65.2%</b>

\*\* Denotes not-for-profit organisations and/or those tenants engaged in educational activities.

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

PAUL REID VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIR

The SMSA Governance Committee, in support of the Board as a whole, places the issue of Good Governance front and centre in the minds of all of the School's Directors.

Although the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts by its very nature is categorised as a Not-For-Profit Institution, the need for proper corporate governance is still essential.

The Governance Committee of the Board has a core group of Directors including Paul Reid as Chair, Cecile Cornford, Anne Devrell, Mark Brandon, and Denis Mockler to deal with matters under this portfolio. The current President, Winsome Allen, also attends whenever possible, *ex-officio*.

Other Directors can attend but cannot vote on recommendations of the Committee. The School's other Committees run on the same lines.

We continue to require a completed and signed Declaration of Conflicts of Interests annually from all Directors and staff members. At the commencement of all Board meetings the question is asked, "are there any Conflicts of Interest pertaining to this meeting?"

Some of the matters considered by the Committee over the last 12 months include:

- Input to Strategic Plan;
- Monitoring of Board Performance;
- Recognition and management of appropriate risk oversight;
- Development of new Policies (e.g. SMSA Medal Award Criteria);
- Review of various existing School Policies; and
- Grants.

In relation to Grants, the School receives numerous applications from organisations and individuals each year seeking funding for "educational projects" and the like.

The Governance Committee vets these applications and makes recommendations to the Board to approve funding for some of the projects in line with the School's Grants Policy.

The Governance Committee reviewed and revised the Grant application process so there would be more specific disclosure of expenditure of the Grant.

This year's successful Grants applicants may be viewed on page 17 of this report.

The Sydney Story Factory's Grant application was unsuccessful but they were encouraged to re-apply in 2019.

I thank my fellow Governance Committee members and the Secretary, Brian Johnston for their support and cooperation in the work of this Committee.



Two of the winners of awards sponsored by Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts at the "Celebrate Being an Australian" Australia Day Luncheon held by the National Council of Women (NSW) in January with their academic supervisors and representatives from SMSA. Left to Right: Associate Professor Tracy Rushmer, Rosa Didonna, Cecile Crawford, Winsome Allen, Ashleigh Parkin and Dr. Marina Pajic.



# MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

CECILE CORNFORD VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIR

The Member Services Committee met several times during the year. I wish to thank the members of the committee for their valuable and constructive input and support.

Many thanks, also, to the wonderful SMSA Volunteers who assist in the Tom Keneally Centre, in the Library and, on occasion, provide support for events. We really couldn't do it without you.

I would like to thank the Library staff, consisting of Kathy, Erika, Stephen, Marlene, Phil, Lauren and Kathleen for their assistance, support, and provision of helpful and friendly service to our members.

My thanks also to Melanie, our events and communications manager, who organises a varied and well-attended program of talks and events. Melanie keeps us all up-to-date with what is happening at the School via our website and our enews.

Sincere thanks must also be given to Kylie who assisted with events until August and is now our Venue Hire Coordinator.

Finally, I would like to thank our members for their continued support of the School.

## Membership

The number of members at the end of December 2018 stood at 1683, with the grace period for renewal of membership extending to 31 January 2019. A number of members also purchased extra subscriptions (which increases the number of books they may borrow).

## Subscription Rates

The Board reviews the membership subscription rates on an annual basis, and the fees will remain unchanged for 2019.

Ordinary Membership	\$20
Concession Membership	\$15
Reader's Ticket	\$15 (no voting rights)
Additional Subscription(s)	\$5 flat fee

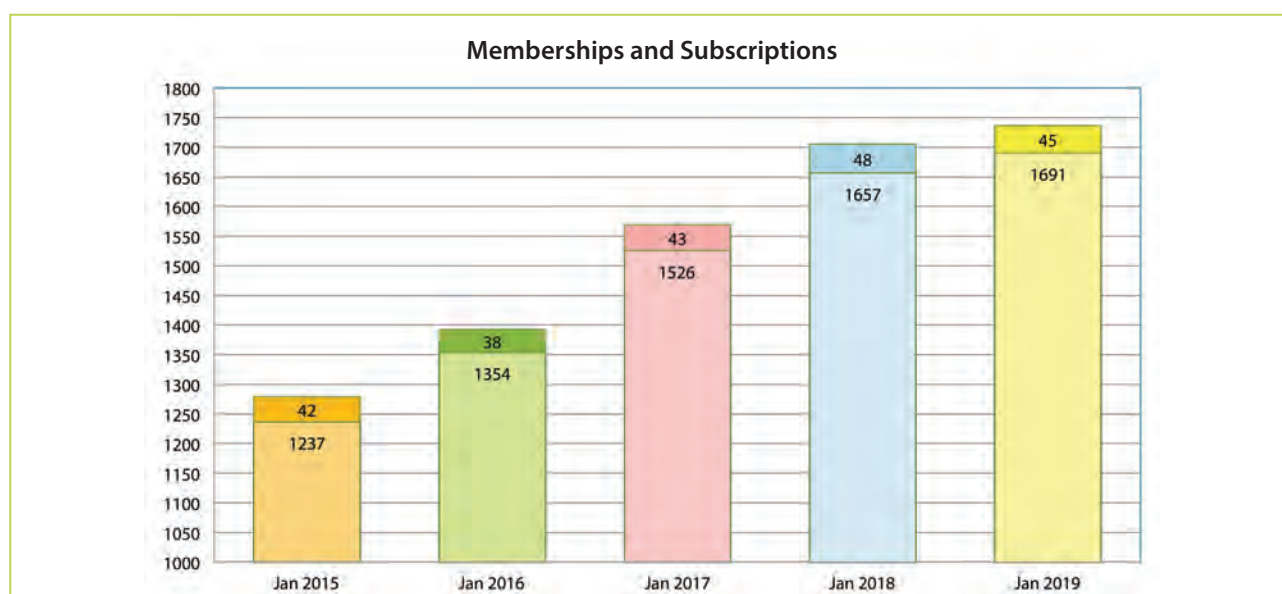
## Member Services and Benefits

When members join the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, they become part of an organisation that has been serving the community in Sydney for over 185 years, since 1833.

SMSA offers an array of services to our members, including borrowing rights at our members' Library and the Tom Keneally Centre, access to our members' activities and events, and our public talks.

It was pleasing to note the establishment of two new members' special interest groups during the year, namely, a chess club and a second mystery and crime readers' group.

Find out more about our services in the What We Do section of this report on page 12.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

MARK BRANDON VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIR

We continue to make progress with the strategic plan at a time when the School operations are robust but we look forward ten (10) years and try to envisage an organisation that can be as much as it can be, meeting the needs of our current membership and attractive to baby boomers whose lives are increasingly driven by technology with information at their fingertips anywhere in the world.

Our committee remains convinced that there is a place for organisations that do not just provide services but create opportunities for learning, comradeship and social exchange.

The focus of our planning has been platformed on the underlying principles set out in our Act of Incorporation 1886, viewed through a 2019 lens.

The schematic below sets out our plan:

The Board has determined that each of the Board Committees will undertake actions linked to the Strategies. Some of those activities include:

- Stewardship of SMSA assets as top of mind at all times;
- Seek third party funding to support school activities;
- Review the use of the building and continue a CBD presence;
- Target the needs of the over 50s community;
- Support formal training to certificate level and informal learning;
- Support multi-cultural events;
- Include 'entertaining/hobby' activities in suite of offerings;
- Develop formal mutually beneficial relationships with like organisations;
- Develop formal mutually beneficial relationships with organisations such as COTA and National Seniors; and
- Manage a Grant program.

### Schematic of Strategic Plan

OUR VISION		
A leading facilitator of lifelong learning that transforms society		
OUR VALUES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value our heritage</li> <li>• Accountable, responsible and transparent</li> <li>• Inclusive and respectful</li> <li>• Value and support creativity and innovation</li> </ul>		
GOAL 1 — FINANCIAL	GOAL 2 — SERVICE	GOAL 3 — COMMUNITY
Commercially effective and sustainable.	Services attractive to current and potential members and non-members.	Engage with organisations that share SMSA vision and values.
<b>STRATEGY 1</b>	<b>STRATEGY 2</b>	<b>STRATEGY 3</b>
Increase revenues by growth in sales and rental income.	Ensure we are offering services that appeal to the over 50s community.	Develop strategic relationships to support SMSA Mission.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

The SMSA was able to report a pleasing surplus for the 2018 year, made possible by high occupancy of our tenanted accommodation and no major building expenses incurred during the year. A proportion of this surplus, however, was a result of the revaluing of our Library book assets and is a non cash item.

In order to take advantage of our additional income, the Board has adopted a strategy that includes longer term investments with the aim of improving our investment income.

In the process of developing a strategic plan for the School the Board undertook a review of its future funding capacity. As part of this review the Board sought advice as to the future income producing ability of our major investment asset, namely our building at 280 Pitt Street Sydney.

The information provided by the consultants was that the property market will continue to favour landlords over the next 2 to 3 years and that we should be able to maintain our rental income during this period.

However from 2019 until 2021, nearly 300,000 square metres of additional office accommodation will come onto the market. This is in addition to space in the 30 plus story building that is under construction at the rear of our building.

If we are to maintain the tenant occupancy levels at the leasing rates we are currently enjoying when this new commercial office space supply comes on to the market, we would need to undertake major refurbishment of the building to be competitive in this new environment.

If we do not undertake this work, our income will fall over time and, coupled with the capital works identified as necessary in future years, the School will have difficulty in funding its operations in the longer term.

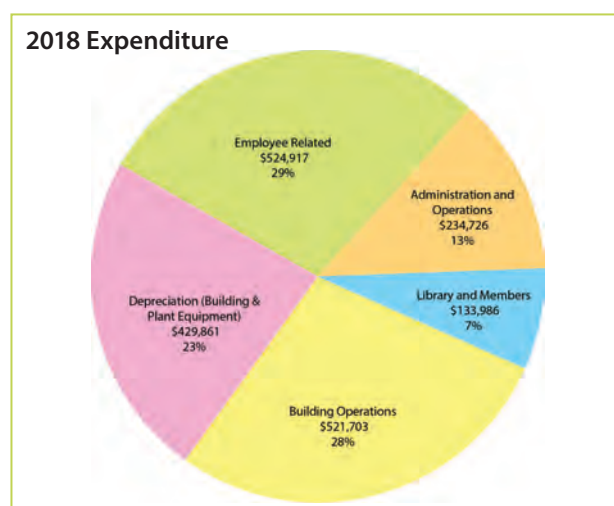
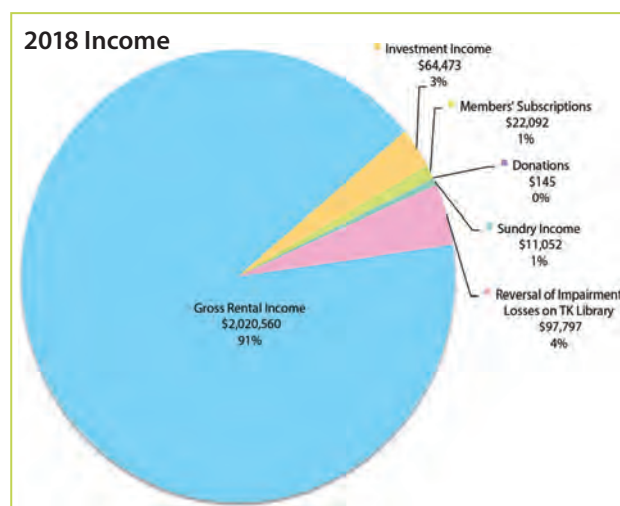
The Board is currently investigating alternative funding options that will enable the SMSA to remain viable into the future.

I wish to compliment our Accountant Michael Ludowici for his efforts over the year in providing accurate and timely financial reporting to the Board. I would also like to acknowledge the work done by our accountant in the implementation of an electronic banking system for payments to creditors. The introduction of the new systems has reduced what was very labour intensive tasks resulting in reduced costs maintaining the accounts.

I would also like to thank Tom Connelley who undertook the review of the School's Assets Register and the development and documentation of the School's accounting policies and procedures.



Max Williams  
Treasurer



# WHAT WE DO

## OUR FACILITIES AND SERVICES

### The SMSA Library

The Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts library is the longest-running lending library in Australia, operating since 1833. It is open Monday to Friday from 8:45am–6:00pm and on Saturdays from 9:00am–1:00pm.

Kathy Sale, Manager, Library Services, leads Erika Samonte and casual library staff, Stephen Elliott, Lauren Kramer, Kathleen Fernandes, Marlene Smith and Phil Jang in providing library services to our members.

### Library Collection

Our collection of over 34,000 books is unique, containing many highly sought after out-of-print books, particularly in our Mystery and Crime section.

New books are also added monthly, and collection management activities have continued in order facilitate this. As in previous years, culled books were made available 'Free to a Good Home' in the Library and on Level 1.

### Electronic Library Services

A greater number of new titles was able to be added to the eBooks and Audiobooks collection throughout the year as a result of reviewing our purchasing practices.

This increased variety has led to a significant increase in electronic borrowing by members.

Our eMagazines are available for members to download on the same day that the print edition is released.

### Members' Computers and iPads

Four members' computers are available in the Library along with a printer for members' use. There is an additional computer for members in the Tom Keneally Centre.

Three iPads are available for members to borrow.



As well as having a great collection of over 34,000 books, the SMSA Library offers plenty of comfortable and welcoming areas to read. Members can also enjoy a friendly game of backgammon or cards, or use the members' computers.



## The Tom Keneally Centre (TKC)

The Tom Keneally Centre is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 10:30am–2:30pm, and is staffed by our dedicated team of volunteers. Everyone is welcome to visit and use the TKC, however only SMSA members may borrow from its collection.

Tom Keneally, after whom the TKC is named, was 'in residence' on a regular basis during 2018, making himself available to talk to book lovers and aspiring authors.

As noted in Venue Hire, the Tom Keneally Centre is available for hire.

## Venue Hire

The SMSA's Venue Hire facilities provide conveniently located, affordable meeting space in the CBD. Hirers use the rooms for a wide variety of purposes—from Annual General Meetings, seminars and training, through to discussion and recreation groups.

Kylie Campbell is the new Venue Hire Coordinator, having moved into the role in August after the departure of Wendy Man.

## Mitchell Theatre

Seating 170 people, the Mitchell Theatre has a full audio-visual set up including a data projector, screen, computer,

lectern, roving microphones, lapel microphones and sound system. With two additional display screens to improve visibility, a hearing loop and a handrail on the stage, the Mitchell Theatre is both accessible and great value.

## Level 1 Meeting Rooms

Our four meeting rooms on level 1 offer the flexibility of folding walls that allow them to be configured according to hirer requirements.

## The Tom Keneally Centre

The Tom Keneally Centre on level 3 offers a unique venue amid the books and memorabilia which form Thomas Keneally's living legacy. Comfortable and cosy, it is a perfect venue for literary events, product launches, training and other special events

## Norman Selfe Room

The Norman Selfe Room on level 3 is perfect for just about any meeting. Its concertina doors allow it to be opened up for use as a breakout room for the Tom Keneally Centre.

## Windeyer Room

The Windeyer Room on the Lower Ground Floor offers an affordable, boardroom-style configuration.

### Books Borrowed in 2018 (by Genre)

Animal Stories	84	0.47%
Biography	832	4.65%
Classics	241	1.35%
Cooking	52	0.29%
Craft	15	0.08%
Gardening	10	0.06%
General Novels	4,796	26.83%
Historical Novels	570	3.19%
Mystery	8,676	48.53%
Non-Fiction	1,315	7.36%
Poetry	46	0.26%
Romance	281	1.57%
Science Fiction and Fantasy	649	3.63%
Travel	310	1.73%
<b>SMSA Library Books Subtotal</b>	<b>17,877</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Magazines Subtotal</b>	<b>2,394</b>	
Audiobooks	850	
eBooks	1,429	
eMagazines	1,168	
<b>Electronic Library Subtotal</b>	<b>3,347</b>	
Biography	3	
General Novels	13	
Non-Fiction	11	
<b>Tom Keneally Centre Subtotal</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOANS</b>	<b>23,745</b>	



The Norman Selfe Room on Level 3 is a versatile meeting room that can also be used as a breakout area for the Tom Keneally Centre.

## PUBLIC PROGRAM (TALKS AND EVENTS)

SMSA's program of events, managed by Melanie Ryan with the assistance of Kylie Campbell until August and Emily Crocker from December, achieved record audiences again in 2018, reflecting the broad range of topics presented during the year.

Suggestions from members are always welcome; we'd love to hear about topics and speakers that you would like to see in the future.

Event photos can be found on page 16.

### Our Most Popular Talks

The 10 most popular talks in 2018 were as follows, being distributed across the various talk categories and topics:

- Kerry O'Brien — A Memoir (176 attendees)
- Walter Mason — Glamorous Paris: Gertrude Stein (163)
- Em. Prof. Brynn Hibbert AM — Fake Science: Crooks, Cranks & Charlatans (153)
- Dominic Knight — Straypedia (148)
- Russell Workman — Sydney in the 60s & 70s (148)
- Seniors Festival Panel Discussion — To Die Will Be An Awfully Big Adventure (148)
- Maeve O'Meara — Magnificent Obsessions (146)
- Walter Mason — Glamorous Paris: Cocteau (143)
- Walter Mason — Glamorous Paris: Collette (139)
- Em. Prof. Robert Clancy AM — Influenza & Australia: Its History & Its Science (138).

### Our Public Program

#### Talkabouts

Talkabouts are our main lunchtime series, held twice monthly on Tuesdays, covering all topics of 'general interest'.

#### Science Talks

Once a month on average, this series focuses popular science and making STEM topics accessible to the general public, with an emphasis on Science, Health and the Environment.

#### The Good Life Series

Targeted to an over 50s audience, this series concentrates on lifestyle topics, covering health, wealth, legal issues, well-being and recreation, and continues to be well-received.

#### Other Informal Talks and Readings, etc.

This covers events that don't fit in our other series, and is slightly more informal, whether its a poetry reading in the Tom Keneally Centre or an 'in conversation' in the Mitchell Theatre.

#### Classic Film Nights

Our Classic Film Night screenings were once again well attended and will continue on the second Thursday of each month. The top films were All About Eve (1950), Out of the Past (1947) and Singing in the Rain (1952).



### Collaboration with the Royal Society of New South Wales

The Royal Society of NSW and the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts (SMSA) collaborated to present two series of lectures during 2018, with the final lectures of the Enlightenment Series and the well-received Great Australians You've Never Heard Of series. The organisations also collaborated to present four well-attended talks for Sydney Science Festival in August.

### Outreach Program

President Winsome Allen continued to promote the SMSA to community groups through our Outreach program, giving a number of talks to community groups about our history and current activities. This initiative is free of charge. If you are interested in booking an Outreach talk or a tour of the SMSA for your group, please contact Emily Crocker on 02 9262 7300 or [admin@smsa.org.au](mailto:admin@smsa.org.au) to discuss dates and details.

### Special Events

#### 185th Anniversary Celebrations

As noted elsewhere in this report, SMSA celebrated its 185th Anniversary with a celebratory dinner at our original premises (now the Art House Hotel) and a bus trip to Seaham for the unveiling of commemorative plaques marking restoration of the grave site of Reverend Henry Carmichael, one of our founders. Photos of the celebration events can be viewed on page 20.

#### 'Airtight Alibi' Mystery and Crime Day

Our inaugural mystery and crime day held in May was very popular, with a Deadly Words panel discussion on crime writing, a talk on the continuing influence of Sherlock

Holmes, a screening of classic thriller *The Maltese Falcon* (1941) and a trivia session. We plan to run a similar event in 2019.

### Members' Christmas Party

Members joined SMSA Directors and staff on Level 1 to celebrate a successful year, with entertainment provided by The Band, a jazz group from St Andrews High School. The School would like to thank Paul Delprat, principal of the Julian Ashton Art School and his wife Sue Delprat for making the wonderful artworks from the Julian Ashton Art School's Annual Staff and Student Exhibition available once again.

### Members' Activities and Events

#### Recreation and Discussion Groups

Due to the immense popularity of our original Mystery and Crime Reading Group, a new reading group was established. The participants have decided to call it 'Murder on a Monday' and it is proving very popular with members.

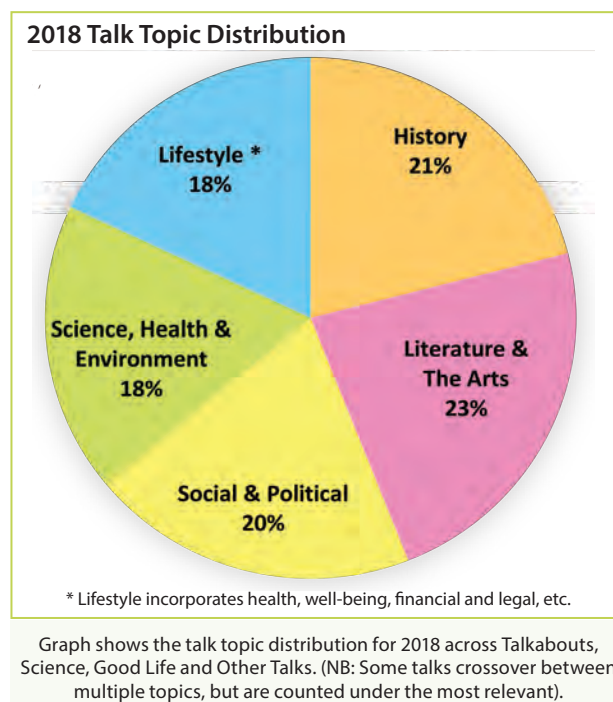
A new Chess Group has also been created in response to members' requests, meeting regularly on Tuesdays.

The Poetry at SMSA group celebrated its 10th year in 2018.

The advanced and beginners Mah Jong groups that meet every Tuesday and Wednesday also continue to be very successful.

#### Teas and Tours

The Library and Admin staff coordinated an afternoon tea to celebrate Library Lovers' Day in February, with an Agatha Christie 'Murder on the Orient Express' theme. Members enjoyed lots of goodies while dressing up with 1930s glamour, or as their favourite sleuth.









## GRANTS, PRIZES AND DONATIONS

### Grants

The Board reviewed and considered several grant applications during the year, assessing each application to ensure it fulfils the criteria set out in the Grants Policy and aligns with the School's values and objectives.

The following Grants were awarded in 2018:

#### **Cementa Inc. — \$10,000**

Cementa Inc is a not-for-profit regional arts organisation based in cement town, Kandos NSW, that runs a biennial 4 day contemporary arts festival called Cementa. Between festivals Cementa Inc. runs a robust program of artist residencies, workshops, special events and projects both in Kandos and other regional towns with the goal of cultivating contemporary art practice in Regional NSW and engaging the community. The grant enabled several successful creative arts workshops to be held with Primary and Secondary students in regional communities.

[cementa.com.au](http://cementa.com.au)

#### **The Julian Ashton Art School — \$6,000**

Established in 1890, the Julian Ashton Art School is Australia's oldest continuous fine art school. Based in The Rocks, their former students include Sir William Dobell, John Olsen, Brett Whiteley, Thea Proctor and many other prominent Australian artists. The grant funds two scholarships.

[julianashtonartschool.com.au](http://julianashtonartschool.com.au)

The Scholars for 2019 (awarded in November 2018) are:

Full-time Scholarship	Phillip Went
Part-time Scholarship	Anna Terrey.

#### **Kyds Youth Development Service — \$5,760**

KYDS Youth Development Service is a free counselling and early intervention service for young people aged 12 to 18 years, and their families, who live across Northern Sydney. Highly qualified counsellors and psychologists work alongside young people, building skills to manage issues as broad as grief, loss, anger, drugs, alcohol, self esteem and body image concerns, study and exam stress, anxiety,

depression, self harm and suicidal thoughts. The funding enabled 5 young people to access high-intensity mental health support with specialist KYDS clinicians over 62 individual counselling sessions.

[kyds.org.au](http://kyds.org.au)

#### **ASCCA — \$5,000**

Australian Seniors Computing Clubs Association (ASCCA) is the National Peak Body for seniors and technology. It is run by seniors for seniors. ASCCA's services are provided by volunteers to assist older and disabled Australians to access technology. Over the last 20 years, ASCCA has become a catalyst to enthuse, encourage, empower and assist seniors to explore the satisfaction and advantages of using technology. The grant supported the preparation of updated educational training material for use by paid and volunteer trainers in seniors' computing clubs.

[sydneystoryfactory.org.au](http://sydneystoryfactory.org.au)

#### **Moorambilla Voices — \$5,000**

Moorambilla Voices is a multi-arts development program that connects talented young people from rural and remote NSW with some of Australia's finest composers, musicians, choreographers and regional artists. The grant supports the Moorambilla Arts Pathways (MAP) initiative in providing senior participants in Moorambilla Voices' MaxedOut program with one-on-one mentoring relationships.

[moorambilla.com](http://moorambilla.com)

#### **Newtown School of Arts — \$5,000**

The Newtown School of Arts was founded in 1899 and its 1916 heritage building at 5 Eliza Street, Newtown is a rare example of an intact School of the Arts, retaining all of its features and fittings and some of its contents. Managed by Trustees, '5 Eliza' offers a much needed home for Sydney's independent performing and visual arts practitioners and audiences. The grant has been put towards the costs of cleaning, preparing and painting the communal areas and repairing broken windows with special attention to preserving the heritage features.

### Poetry in Action — \$5,000

Poetry in Action (PIA) engages some of Australia's most acclaimed actors, writers, directors and poets, touring of four high quality, low cost theatrical performances nationally in order to ignite a deep curiosity about poetry in secondary students across Australia and New Zealand. Through a dynamic mode of theatre that provides a unique merging of poetry, literature and drama in ways never offered before by any other Australian theatre company, PIA transforms the experience of poetry and literature into a relevant and exciting journey that engages and captivates our young audiences. The funding was used to engage a professional writer to develop the script for a new theatrical piece, in consultation with PIA's creative team and Educational Council.

[poetryinaction.com.au](http://poetryinaction.com.au)

### Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria — \$4,000

The Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria (MIV) was formed in 1998. It aims to foster the preservation and restoration of the social, cultural and physical heritage of Mechanics' Institutes through the development of information exchanges and systems of mutual support. In 2000, MIV organised the first Mechanics' Institutes of Australia National Conference, which has been repeated several times since, including in November 2018. MIA 2018 strengthened wider cooperation in the Mechanics' Institutes movement. The grant from SMSA contributed to the costs of funding MIA 2018 to take place and to sponsor the Keynote Speaker to attend.

[mivic.org.au](http://mivic.org.au)

### The National Council of Women (NSW) — \$3,000

The National Council of Women (NSW) is a non-government umbrella organisation with broadly humanitarian and educational objectives that celebrated its 120th anniversary in 2016. The grant has been used to fund NCW (NSW) Australia Day Award scholarships for women who are excelling in their post-graduate studies, often while having to overcome significant hardship.

[ncwnsw.org.au](http://ncwnsw.org.au)

The 2018 recipients (to be presented in January 2019) are:

Saba Vasefi  
PhD Candidate, Department of Media, Music,  
Communication and Cultural Studies, Macquarie  
University

Rosa Didonna  
PhD Candidate, Earth and Planetary Science  
Department, Faculty of Science and Engineering,  
Macquarie University

Ashleigh Parkin  
PhD Candidate, Garvan Institute of Medical  
Research, University of New South Wales

### Little Fictions — \$1,000

Little Fictions Productions is the performance and production side of the multiplatform publishing company, Spineless Wonders which specialises in short Australian stories. Its mission is to produce and showcase the work of Australian authors working in the field of the short story. Apart from publishing books and ebooks, Little Fictions collaborates with artists from other disciplines to produce live performances, podcasts and videos, and will host an annual short film award and festival, the Microflix Film Awards. The funds will be used for an award in the Made on SmartPhone Category. This category aims to encourage low-budget, creative filmmaking by people without ready access to filming and editing equipment, not enrolled in formal study of film or without links to the industry.

[shortaustralianstories.com.au](http://shortaustralianstories.com.au)

### Prizes

In years past, the Board of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts gave sums of money to the University of Sydney, the University of Technology, Sydney and the University of Western Sydney, providing an endowment for prizes to be awarded annually at these Universities.

The following prizes were awarded for work in the 2017 academic year and presented in 2018:

#### University of Sydney

Maxwell E Arthur Prize in Australian Literature  
Claire Moser

#### University of Technology, Sydney

Award in Adult Education  
Bronwyn Crome and Lisa Sweeney

#### University of Western Sydney

Award in Professional Writing  
Idrew Alcantara

Award in Theoretical Studies  
Megan Varley

Award in Humanities  
Rebekah Ward

Award in Social Science  
Lisa-Marie Jackson

Award in Health  
Louise Shanahan

Award in Nursing  
Renee Callins

### Other Activities

The SMSA continues to provide discounted rates for venue hire for qualifying Not-For-Profit and volunteer organisations. This has been a long-standing tradition which benefits both the SMSA and the organisations involved.

# OUR STAFF

## AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2018

Secretary  
Program and Communications Manager  
Accountant  
Venue Hire Coordinator  
Events and Administrative Assistant  
Manager, Library Services

Brian Johnston  
Melanie Ryan  
Michael Ludowici  
Kylie Campbell  
Emily Crocker  
Kathy Sale

Library Officer  
Casual Library Officers

Erika Samonte  
Stephen Elliot  
Kathleen Fernandes  
Phil Jang  
Lauren Kramer  
Marlene Smith



Back Row (L to R): Kylie Campbell, Erika Samonte, Melanie Ryan, Kathy Sale. Front Row (L to R): Brian Johnston, Michael Ludowici (contractor), Phil Jang.  
Not pictured: Emily Crocker, Stephen Elliot, Kathleen Fernandes, Lauren Kramer, Marlene Smith.

We continue to be fortunate with staff of the organisation, who consistently 'go that extra yard' in providing services to members and other who use the School's facilities. There have been several changes.

Michael Ludowici has continued to make a highly valued contribution; he functions with great skill and professionalism. With the able support of Tom Connelley, he has achieved substantial efficiencies and effectiveness in the provision of accounting services.

Melanie Ryan has provided through her endeavours a diverse and stimulating program of events and activities. Our program continues to evolve to meet the expectations of members. This makes for a challenging environment within which to work and provides stimulating opportunities for innovation and growth. There are exciting prospects for the future. Melanie was very ably supported by Kylie Campbell until her promotion later in the year and now by Emily Crocker.

Wendy Man, after more than five years of service, moved on to advance her career with our every good wish for the future. She provided enthusiastic and very commendable service as Venue Coordinator. Her position was taken by Kylie Campbell who moved from her general administration and events assistance position. Kylie has already

proven to be a very able replacement and the School was delighted to make a very smooth transition with this important role.

Kylie's previous role was taken by Emily Crocker who commenced with us in December. She was selected from a very large field of applicants and has already made a positive impact. We look forward to a productive relationship in the years ahead.

The Library team has continued to be very well lead by Kathy Sale, whose title was altered to Manager, Library Services, in recognition of her performance and the expanded role she has assumed. Kathy's responsibilities now include oversight of the Tom Keneally Centre collection. The valuable contributions of Erika Samonte in particular, as well as Stephen Elliot, Kathleen Fernandes, Phil Jang, Venettia Miller and Marlene Smith are gratefully acknowledged. We were pleased to welcome Lauren Kramer as a member of our casual staff replacing Venettia Miller who gained a promotion at her full-time employment at Waverley College. Venettia was a valuable member of staff for some time and will be missed.

The Board is again very happy to record its sincere appreciation for their work on behalf of all members.







# OUR HISTORY

The Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts (SMSA) was established with the objective of the intellectual improvement of its members and the cultivation of literature, science and the arts. It is the oldest operating School of Arts and has the longest-running lending library in Australia.

## Honouring Henry Carmichael

To mark the 185th anniversary of the founding of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts in March, SMSA members braved extreme weather conditions to take part in a bus trip to Seaham in NSW's Hunter region. The trip was in honour of the Reverend Dr Henry Carmichael who was a leading founder of the School, and guided its early years as its first Vice President.

Although the local area was at risk of flooding, we gathered in Seaham Cemetery at Henry Carmichael's grave site which the School had commissioned to be restored for this occasion. Sheltered by umbrellas, SMSA's president Winsome Allen unveiled a plaque in his memory using a Scottish flag to acknowledge him as a proud Scotsman and the origins of the School of Arts and Mechanics' Institute movement in Scotland. As part of the restoration, a plaque was produced recording the engravings on the headstone for all time.

Although Henry Carmichael has no surviving direct descendants, we were delighted to joined for the occasion by Mr Toby Ralston and his family who are descended from Henry's wife, Nancy Ralston. The Ralstons live on part of the farm established by Henry near Seaham, alongside the site the original Carmichael home once stood. Councillor Giacomo Arnott, representing Port Stephens Council, was also present.

Following the ceremony at the grave site, members and distinguished guests reconvened at the Seaham School of Arts where a second plaque was unveiled to commemorate Henry Carmichael as a prominent pioneer settler of Seaham, a national and international award-winning wine-maker in the region, along with his significant contributions to Adult Education.

## Founding the SMSA

Henry Carmichael has rightly been called the SMSA's "guiding spirit". He was a man of many talents and is worthy of much wider recognition than history has accorded him so far.

Carmichael travelled to Australia from Scotland in 1831 aboard the *Stirling Castle* in order to teach at the Reverend John Dunmore Lang's Australian College and boost the



The Carmichael family grave site, before and after restoration. A Scottish flag was used for the unveiling of the plaques to honour Henry Carmichael's Scottish origins. The plaques (inset) record the text on the headstone and commemorate the occasion.

educational standards in the colony. On the voyage, he held classes for 50 Scottish mechanics who were also on their way to Sydney to build the College. The idea of continuing that educational program after arriving in Sydney was a key factor in the establishment of the SMSA. On 22 March 1833, with the enthusiastic support of Governor Bourke, over 200 people attended a public meeting, and the School was formed. Henry Carmichael served as Vice President for the first five years.

### Pioneering landholder

In 1838, Carmichael became a pioneering landholder at Porphyry Point on the Williams River in Seaham, where he was able to pursue another of his passions, viticulture — perhaps an unusual pursuit for a Presbyterian minister? His wine-making at Porphyry won national and international awards and, at one time, he was the President of the Hunter River Vineyard Association.

Somewhat ahead of his time, Henry believed that wine-making was of great importance to the colony's economy. In a speech at the Annual Show in 1846, he said the Hunter region was "particularly well suited to vine culture" and that "from a national point of view he considered the cultivation of the vine of more importance than that of wheat, despite the existing prejudices against colonial wine."

Moreover, Henry's appointment as assistant surveyor in the Hunter region would have helped further to open the local area to settlement and trade. We know, for instance, that he surveyed a road between Paterson and Gresford in August 1850.

### A continuing connection to Adult Education

Even after settling at Porphyry Point, Carmichael maintained a strong link with the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, returning on many occasions to speak at the School. In 1844, he presented the opening lecture of the School's programme for the year. He also continued to support regional institutions, and spoke at the Maitland Mechanics' Institute in the 1850s.

While the Seaham School of Arts was not founded until 1902, well after Henry's death, we feel sure that he would have been extremely proud of its existence in his local town and of the services it provided to the local community, which now continue under the management of Port Stephens Council.

Carmichael's dedication to the Adult Education movement and education in general was life-long. He founded the Normal Institute in Elizabeth Street and, later, a school for local students on his property at Porphyry where he taught agriculture and academic subjects. He was a strong advocate for the introduction of a national school system and was involved in educational policy.

In 2016, the School was delighted that Henry Carmichael was inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame. The award acknowledged his significant contribution to Adult Education, and in particular, his role in founding Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts. The award was accepted on the School's behalf by our former president, Dr Roger Morris, AM. By agreement, the medalion now takes pride of place in the Boardroom.

On his voyage back to England in 1862, Carmichael fell ill and passed away at sea. A newspaper report stated that his remains were taken to Indonesia for cremation, but the records for the cemetery state he was interred at Seaham Cemetery with his wife Nancy Ralston. Nevertheless, Henry's name appears on the headstone that was recently restored with the kind support of Toby Ralston and his family.

### Souvenir Photo Book

The School has created a limited edition souvenir photo book to commemorate our 185th Anniversary celebrations including the Carmichael bus trip and the celebration dinner. The 30x30cm hardcover book features 24 pages of full colour photos of the celebration events; an address from our President, Winsome Allen; and a lovely poem penned by one of our members.



Our limited edition souvenir photo book commemorates our 185th Anniversary celebrations including the Carmichael bus trip and the celebration dinner, and is available from the Library.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
31 DECEMBER 2018

SYDNEY MECHANICS' SCHOOL OF ARTS  
ABN 29 720 771 090

AUDITED BY  
BRIAN WISE  
OF  
WATSON ERSKINE PTY LTD





**Watson Erskine Pty Ltd**  
Chartered Accountants

ABN 44 125 509 015

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E mail@watsonerskine.com.au  
W www.watsonerskine.com.au

### Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Board of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

In accordance with Section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 December 2018, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

*Watson Erskine PL*

Watson Erskine Pty Ltd  
Chartered Professional Accountants

*B. P. Wise*

B. P. WISE  
Director

Dated this 11 day of February 2019

SYDNEY NSW 2000



**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Statement of Comprehensive Income  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

		2018	2017
	Note	\$	\$
Rental revenue		2,019,660	1,737,405
Other revenue	4	98,663	90,522
Reversal of impairment losses on TK Library	6	97,797	-
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	5	(429,861)	(428,526)
Employee benefits expense		(524,917)	(493,086)
Rental outgoings		(521,703)	(533,892)
Other expenses		(368,712)	(324,447)
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>370,927</b>	<b>47,976</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<b>Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</b>			
Net gains from revaluation of TK Library	6	24,659	-
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>24,659</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total comprehensive surplus for the year</b>		<b>395,586</b>	<b>47,976</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Statement of Financial Position****As At 31 December 2018**

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	1,801,600	1,678,105
Trade and other receivables	8	27,336	38,763
Other financial assets	9	1,926,149	1,532,496
Other assets	10	103,345	134,157
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>3,858,430</b>	<b>3,383,521</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	11	24,097,706	24,188,705
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>24,097,706</b>	<b>24,188,705</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>27,956,136</b>	<b>27,572,226</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	12	24,638	35,089
Employee benefits	13	50,218	46,945
Other financial liabilities	14	5,981	2,887
Other liabilities	15	106,812	116,079
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>187,649</b>	<b>201,000</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Employee benefits	13	12,665	10,990
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>12,665</b>	<b>10,990</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>200,314</b>	<b>211,990</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>27,755,822</b>	<b>27,360,236</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	16	10,522,186	10,497,527
Retained surplus		17,233,636	16,862,709
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>27,755,822</b>	<b>27,360,236</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**  
**ABN 29 720 771 090**

**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
**For the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

**2018**

	<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>Asset Revaluation Reserve</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2018</b>	16,862,709	10,497,527	27,360,236
Surplus for the year	370,927	-	370,927
Revaluation increment	-	24,659	24,659
<b>Balance at 31 December 2018</b>	<b>17,233,636</b>	<b>10,522,186</b>	<b>27,755,822</b>

**2017**

	<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>Asset Revaluation Reserve</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2017</b>	16,814,733	10,497,527	27,312,260
Surplus for the year	47,976	-	47,976
<b>Balance at 31 December 2017</b>	<b>16,862,709</b>	<b>10,497,527</b>	<b>27,360,236</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

·4

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Receipts from customers		2,334,944	1,887,388
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,680,209)	(1,554,259)
Interest received		78,818	52,941
Net cash provided by operating activities	21	<u>733,553</u>	<u>386,070</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	11	(216,406)	(118,215)
Net change in investment in other financial assets		<u>(393,653)</u>	<u>317,504</u>
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities		<u>(610,059)</u>	<u>199,289</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net cash used by financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		123,494	585,359
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>1,678,106</u>	<u>1,092,746</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	7	<u><u>1,801,600</u></u>	<u><u>1,678,105</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

The financial report covers Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts ('the School') as an individual entity. Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts is a not-for-profit School, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The principal activities of the School for the year ended 31 December 2018 include:

- the provision of educational and cultural activities;
- the provision of library services;
- running a robust program of talks, readings and screenings; and
- the provision of commercial office space and venue hire.

The functional and presentation currency of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

#### 1 Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of those charged with Governance the School is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

#### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (a) Income Tax

The School is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

##### (b) Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the School and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

##### Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

##### Rental income

Rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over a period of the lease term so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the net investment.

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

#### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (b) Revenue and other income (continued)

###### Subscriptions

Revenue from the provision of membership subscriptions is recognised on a straight line basis over the financial year.

###### Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the School is entitled to it.

##### (c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

##### (d) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Items of property, plant and equipment acquired for nil or nominal consideration have been recorded at the acquisition date fair value.

Where the cost model is used, the asset is carried at its cost less any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Costs include purchase price, other directly attributable costs and the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and restoring the asset, where applicable.

Assets measured using the revaluation model are carried at fair value at the revaluation date less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Revaluations are performed whenever there is a material movement in the value of an asset under the revaluation model.

###### Land and buildings

Land and buildings are measured using the revaluation model.

###### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)****(d) Property, plant and equipment (continued)****Library books**

Library books are measured using the revaluation model. Additional purchases of common use collection books are expensed.

**Depreciation**

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the School, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

<b>Fixed asset class</b>	<b>Depreciation rate</b>
Freehold Land	Not depreciated
Buildings	2.5%
Plant and Equipment	5% to 50%
Library	Not depreciated

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

**(e) Financial instruments**

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the School becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

**Financial assets**

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

*Classification*

On initial recognition, the School classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss - FVTPL
- fair value through other comprehensive income - equity instrument (FVOCI - equity)
- fair value through other comprehensive income - debt investments (FVOCI - debt)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the School changes its



## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

#### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (e) Financial Instruments (continued)

**Financial assets (continued)**  
business model for managing financial assets.

##### *Amortised cost*

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

The School's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

##### *Fair value through other comprehensive income*

Assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income (financial asset reserve). On disposal any balance in the financial asset reserve is transferred to retained earnings and is not reclassified to profit or loss.

Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in OCI.

##### *Financial assets through profit or loss*

All financial assets not classified as measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income as described above are measured at FVTPL.

The School has a number of strategic investments in listed and unlisted entities over which they do not have significant influence nor control. These investments are measured at FVTPL.

Net gains or losses, including any interest or dividend income are recognised in profit or loss.

##### *Impairment of financial assets*

Impairment of financial assets is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis for the following assets:

- financial assets measured at amortised cost
- debt investments measured at FVOCI



**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)****(e) Financial instruments (continued)****Financial assets (continued)**

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial assets has increased significant since initial recognition and when estimating ECL, the School considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the School's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward looking information.

The School uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The School uses the presumption that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the School in full, without recourse to the School to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or
- the financial assets is more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the School in accordance with the contract and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

*Trade receivables*

Impairment of trade receivables have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The School has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Where the School renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

*Other financial assets measured at amortised cost*

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

**Financial liabilities**

The School measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

#### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (e) Financial instruments (continued)

###### Financial liabilities (continued)

The financial liabilities of the School comprise trade payables.

##### (f) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period the School determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where an indicator exists and regardless for indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss.

##### (g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

##### (h) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the School's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

#### 3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Those charged with governance make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information becomes known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments (continued)**

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

An independent valuation of property (land and buildings) carried at fair value was obtained in April 2016. Those charged with governance have reviewed this valuation and updated it based on valuation indexes for the area in which the property is located. The valuation is an estimation which would only be realised if the property is sold.

An independent valuation of the Thomas Keneally Library carried at fair value was obtained in May 2018. Those charged with governance have reviewed and adopted this valuation as at 31 December 2018.

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

#### 4 Revenue and Other Income

##### Revenue from continuing operations

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Sales revenue		
- member subscriptions	22,092	18,247
Finance income		
- other interest received	75,325	71,855
Other income		
- other trading revenue	1,246	420
<b>Total other revenue</b>	<b>98,663</b>	<b>90,522</b>

#### 5 Depreciation of property, plant and equipment

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Depreciation		
Buildings	350,004	350,642
Plant and equipment	79,857	77,884
<b>Total</b>	<b>429,861</b>	<b>428,526</b>

The Board has decided that, in accordance with AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment, the buildings be depreciated from 1 January 2016 prospectively.

#### 6 Impairment of assets

During the year ended 31 December 2018, the Board of the School revalued the Thomas Keneally Library to \$148,324 based on an independent valuation. This resulted in the reversal of previously recognised impairment losses of \$97,797 and an increase in the asset revaluation reserve of \$24,659. The Board will continue to assess the Thomas Keneally Library for indicators of impairment on an ongoing basis and obtain periodic independent valuations when there is deemed to be a material movement in fair value, in accordance with the revaluation model.

#### 7 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	588,334	369,185
Short-term deposits	1,209,603	1,308,354
Other cash and cash equivalents	3,663	566
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,801,600</b>	<b>1,678,105</b>



**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****8 Trade and Other Receivables**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	27,336	38,763
	<u>27,336</u>	<u>38,763</u>

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

**9 Other Financial Assets****(a) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	874,033	-
	<u>874,033</u>	<u>-</u>

**(b) Held-to-maturity investments**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Term deposits	1,052,116	1,532,496
	<u>1,052,116</u>	<u>1,532,496</u>

**10 Other Assets**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Prepayments	42,169	50,268
Accrued income	21,731	25,224
Rental bonds	39,445	58,665
	<u>103,345</u>	<u>134,157</u>

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

#### 11 Property, plant and equipment

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>LAND AND BUILDINGS</b>		
Freehold land		
At fair value	10,000,000	10,000,000
Total Land	10,000,000	10,000,000
Buildings		
At fair value		
At independent valuation	14,000,000	14,000,000
Accumulated depreciation	(934,936)	(584,932)
Total buildings	13,065,064	13,415,068
Total land and buildings	23,065,064	23,415,068
<b>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Plant and equipment		
At cost	1,261,639	1,045,233
Accumulated depreciation	(646,355)	(566,498)
Total plant and equipment	615,284	478,735
Library books		
At fair value		
At independent valuation	1,402,446	1,377,787
Accumulated impairment losses	(985,088)	(1,082,885)
Total Library books	417,358	294,902
Total plant and equipment	1,032,642	773,637
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>24,097,706</b>	<b>24,188,705</b>

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Land \$	Buildings \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Library \$	Total \$
<b>Year ended 31 December 2018</b>					
Balance at beginning of year	10,000,000	13,415,068	478,735	294,902	24,188,705
Additions					
Depreciation	-	(350,004)	(79,857)	-	(429,861)
Revaluation	-	-	-	122,456	122,456
Additions	-	-	216,406	-	216,406
<b>Balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>13,065,064</b>	<b>615,284</b>	<b>417,358</b>	<b>24,097,706</b>

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

	Land \$	Buildings \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Library \$	Total \$
<b>Year ended 31 December 2017</b>					
Balance at beginning of year	10,000,000	13,765,710	438,406	294,902	24,499,018
Depreciation	-	(350,642)	(77,884)	-	(428,526)
Additions	-	-	118,213	-	118,213
<b>Balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>13,415,068</b>	<b>478,735</b>	<b>294,902</b>	<b>24,188,705</b>

**12 Trade and Other Payables**

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Current		
Trade payables	23,071	24,034
Other payables	1,567	11,055
	<b>24,638</b>	<b>35,089</b>

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

**13 Employee Benefits**

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Current liabilities		
Provision for employee benefits	50,218	46,945
	<b>50,218</b>	<b>46,945</b>
Non-current liabilities		
Long service leave	12,665	10,990
	<b>12,665</b>	<b>10,990</b>

**14 Other Financial Liabilities**

	2018 \$	2017 \$
CURRENT		
Amounts received in advance	5,981	2,887
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,981</b>	<b>2,887</b>

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2018

#### 15 Other Liabilities

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Rental bonds	39,445	59,926
ATO - GST	27,139	21,650
Other accrued expenses	40,228	34,503
	<b>106,812</b>	<b>116,079</b>

#### 16 Reserves

The asset revaluation reserve records unrealised gains on the market value of non-current assets.

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Asset Revaluation Reserve		
Land	8,200,000	8,200,000
Buildings	2,297,527	2,297,527
Library	24,659	-
	<b>10,522,186</b>	<b>10,497,527</b>

#### 17 Capital and Leasing Commitments

The Board has approved stage 1 of a refurbishment program for the space occupied by the School in its building. At the date of this report a Development Application with Sydney City Council for this refurbishment program has been approved. The School previously expected to undertake the work in the second half of 2018 however the project was delayed and it is not known when the works will commence. The project will involve improvement of facilities for disabled persons, refurbishment of the Mitchell Theatre and some associated work on the ground floor. Based on consultants' advice, the Board has approved expenditure of up to \$600,000 for these purposes. Apart from contracts relating to the design aspects, the School has not entered into any agreements in relation to this project.

There are no significant capital and leasing commitments as at the date of this report.

#### 18 Members' Guarantee

The liability of a member of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts as required by By-law 8.

#### 19 Auditors' Remuneration

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Remuneration of the auditor Watson Erskine Pty Ltd for:		
- auditing	16,635	14,500
- other services	-	16,173
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,635</b>	<b>30,673</b>



**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****20 Contingencies**

In the opinion of those charged with governance, the School did not have any contingencies at 31 December 2018 (31 December 2017: None).

**21 Cash Flow Information****Reconciliation of result for the year to cash flows from operating activities**

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Surplus for the year	370,927	47,976
Non-cash flows in surplus:		
- depreciation	429,861	428,526
- reversal of impairment losses on TK Library	(97,797)	-
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	11,427	(25,848)
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	19,220	38,244
- (increase)/decrease in prepayments	8,098	(14,162)
- (increase)/decrease in interest receivable	3,493	(18,914)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(10,450)	2,171
- increase/(decrease) in other financial liabilities	3,094	(60,203)
- increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	(9,268)	(27,173)
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	4,948	15,453
Cash flows from operations	<u>733,553</u>	<u>386,070</u>

**22 Statutory Information**

The registered office and principal place of business of the school is:  
 Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts  
 280 Pitt Street  
 Sydney NSW 2000

## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

ABN 29 720 771 090

### Responsible Persons' Declaration

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the School is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes for the year to 31 December 2018 satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.



Winsome Allen  
Director



Max Williams  
Treasurer

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY 2019



**Watson Erskine Pty Ltd**  
Chartered Accountants

ABN 44 125 509 015

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## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

### Independent Audit Report to the members of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

##### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible persons' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 31 December 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

##### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Registered Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Registered Entity's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

##### Responsibilities of Responsible Entities for the Financial Report

The responsible entities of the Registered Entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The responsible entities' responsibility also includes such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.





**Watson Erskine Pty Ltd**  
Chartered Accountants

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## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

### Independent Audit Report to the members of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

In preparing the financial report, the responsible entities are responsible for assessing the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intend to liquidate the Registered Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Registered Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Registered Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.





**Watson Erskine Pty Ltd**  
Chartered Accountants

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## Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

### Independent Audit Report to the members of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*Watson Erskine PL*

**Watson Erskine Pty Ltd**  
Chartered Professional Accountants

*B. P. Wise*

B. P. WISE  
Director

SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dated this 11 day of February 2019

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Compilation Report****For the Year Ended 31 December 2018****COMPILATION REPORT TO SYDNEY MECHANICS' SCHOOL OF ARTS**

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, which comprise of the Detailed Income Statement and Rental Properties Statement for the year ended 31 December 2018.

*The Responsibility of the Board*

The Board of Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

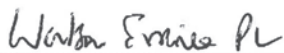
*Our Responsibility*

On the basis of the information provided by the Board we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in the notes to the financial statements and APES 315: *Compilation of Financial Information*.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the notes to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Board who is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

Watson Erskine Pty Ltd



SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dated this 11 day of February 2019

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Detailed Income Statement  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Interest income	75,325	71,855
Member subscriptions	22,092	18,247
Donations	145	4,545
Other revenue	1,245	419
Other income	9,806	2,273
Net rental surplus	1,498,857	1,196,695
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,607,470</b>	<b>1,294,034</b>
<b>Less: Expenses</b>		
Administration and management fees	16,045	13,496
Advertising	5,879	4,058
Auditors remuneration	20,135	30,673
Computer expenses	32,667	25,332
Conference/Seminar costs	5,729	-
Consulting and professional fees	78,999	86,310
Consumables	51,872	61,300
Depreciation	429,861	428,526
Donations	49,854	30,450
Entertainment	6,896	7,345
Insurance	10,328	4,790
Investment manager's fees	17	-
Impairment	(97,797)	-
Lease rentals on operating lease	13,899	11,219
Other employee costs	5,664	3,455
Postage	578	1,126
Printing and stationery	10,717	7,538
Promotion	7,650	8,583
Repairs and maintenance	2,639	3,839
Salaries	452,525	438,004
Security costs	3,893	4,465
Staff training	1,424	3,241
Subscriptions	8,395	7,103
Sundry expenses	26,438	591
Superannuation contributions	42,141	40,199
Telephone and fax	10,592	11,031
Termination benefits	17,637	3,621
Travel - domestic	144	77
Workers compensation insurance	5,526	4,566
Other operating expenses	5,344	5,120
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,225,691</b>	<b>1,246,058</b>
<b>Net surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>381,779</b>	<b>47,976</b>
Fair value adjustments	(10,852)	-
<b>Profit before income tax</b>	<b>370,927</b>	<b>47,976</b>

Note: This Detailed Income Statement does not form part of the audited financial statements.

**Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts**

ABN 29 720 771 090

**Rental Properties Statement  
For the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Rental Income	1,712,981	1,460,837
Facilities Rental	307,580	269,750
<b>Total rental income</b>	<b>2,020,561</b>	<b>1,730,587</b>
Agents commission	-	38,130
Catering	17,796	17,314
Cleaning	87,184	86,488
Electricity and gas	100,670	103,034
Insurance	27,238	28,286
Rates - council	62,327	58,728
Rates - water	8,398	9,325
Repairs and maintenance	136,019	115,184
Security	23,452	17,942
Building management	58,620	59,461
<b>Total rental expenses</b>	<b>521,704</b>	<b>533,892</b>
<b>Net rental surplus</b>	<b>1,498,857</b>	<b>1,196,695</b>

Note: This Rental Properties Statement does not form part of the audited financial statements.



# APPENDIX I MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 12:30PM ON TUESDAY, 20 MARCH 2018

### Present

Winsome Allen	Grahame Marks
Nola Barkl	Jennifer-Robyn Mattock
Jane Biscoe	Raymond McDonald
Ninette Boothroyd	Warwick McDonald
Rosslyne Borth	Denis Mockler
Nola Bramble	Pamela Morris
Mark Brandon	Donald Mulligan
Anthony Brown	Carole O'Brien
Merilyn Bryce	Michael Packer
Herma Buttner	Marcia Peters
Cecile Cornford	Peter Phillips
Michael Corry	Paul Reid
Sarah Davidson	Lesley Scanlon
Laurel Dyson	Sunflower Seagull
Anthony Ellis	Robyn Short
John Ewing	Marlene Smith
Ronald Ferguson	Eugene Stawski
Peter B Fisher	May Steilberg
Marie Fuller	Fadia Sultan
Ken Hall	Thomas Thorburn
Annette Harman	Janet M Timberg
David (Brynn) Hibbert	Steven Warren
Shirley Hunt	Geoffrey Webb
Christine Jennett	Gregory Williams
Colin Kay	Maxwell J Williams
Reginald Lobb	Alister Wong
David Ludowici	Robert York

### Observers (non-voting)

Michelle Hayward

### Guests

Michael Newton                      WEA

### Also in attendance

Brian Wise	Auditor, Watson Erskine Pty Ltd
Simon Orrick	Auditor, Watson Erskine Pty Ltd
Marvel Kung	Auditor, Watson Erskine Pty Ltd
Brian Johnston	Staff
Michael Ludowici	Staff
Wendy Man	Staff
Kylie Campbell	Staff

### 1. Conduct of the Meeting

The Secretary noted that the meeting had been convened in accordance with the requirements. Members were provided with advice as to the conduct of the meeting and personal safety arrangements in the event of an emergency.

### 2. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Members and guests were welcomed to the meeting and the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was held being the Gadigal people of the Eora nation and their elders past and present were acknowledged. The President, Winsome Allen, extended the Board's welcome to those in attendance.

### 3. Apologies

The following apologies were received and accepted:

Joyce Craig	Phil Reid
Anne Devrell	Jan Treharne
Narelle Kay	Robert Treharne
Janine Kitson	Roxana Warning
Astrid Lodens	Sue Webb
Eunice Phillips	Victoria Whitehead
Peter Rainey	Rose Williams

#### 4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

##### 4.1 The previous Annual General Meeting held on 21 March 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 March 2017 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

*Moved Winsome Allen  
Seconded Tom Thorburn  
Carried on a show of hands*

#### 5. President's Address

Winsome Allen spoke to her annual report and commented specifically on the importance of planning for the future. The Board is focussed on a wide ranging review of its strategic directions. She commented on the importance for the School to be proud of its history. However, it needs to ensure not only that its services and activities are appropriate to the expectations of today's society but support the School's long term viability. The School's membership has continued to grow and at year's end exceeded 1600.

The entering into a strategic agreement with the Royal Society of NSW has been very productive for both parties. Hopefully such agreements can be established with other likeminded organisations such as the WEA with which the School has had a long term and productive relationship.

The Board has been pleased to maintain its grants program and support several very worthy causes in the State as well as longer term commitments to the Julian Ashton Art School and the National Council of Women NSW.

In addition, this week marks the 185th anniversary of the School's establishment which is a remarkable achievement that is to be celebrated by a series of events, including travelling to Seaham in the Hunter Valley where Henry Carmichael lived; he played the leading role in the School's establishment. He lived there from 1838 and family links remain in the area. His life is commemorated in the local cemetery in a family gravesite. Pleasingly, Reverend Carmichael was elected to the International Hall of Fame for Adult and Continuing Education in 2016.

#### 6. Treasurer's Address

The Treasurer summarised the results for the year. Whilst pleasing to achieve a small surplus, it did not reflect an adequate return on the assets of the organisation. There had been a six month period when an entire floor was vacant, but this space is now leased. The improvement in rental income was very positive with gains of more than 10% achieved annually. The Board is continuing to explore options to improve revenues. Expenditure on the building maintenance were less than past experiences, but compromises had been made to the range and extent of work undertaken.

#### 7. Presentation of the Annual Report for approval

The President noted the very satisfactory outcomes achieved by the School over the course of the year as recorded in the report. The Annual Report was submitted in its entirety for approval.

*Moved Winsome Allen  
Seconded Geoff Webb  
Carried on a show of hands.*

#### 8. Elections

The President noted that in accordance with the By-laws voting had ceased at 12:45pm. The votes were then counted by the auditors. The following results were noted:

Eight nominations for the five vacancies had been received and the following had been successful:

Shirley Hunt  
Carole O'Brien  
Lesley Scanlon  
Eugene Stawski  
Geoff Webb

The President congratulated those who were successful and sincerely thanked the remaining nominees for their interest and participation.

#### 9. Appointment of Auditors for 2018

The auditors, Watson Erskine, offered themselves for reappointment

*Moved Max Williams  
Seconded Tom Thorburn  
Carried on a show of hands*

#### 10. Guest Speaker: Nola Barkl, National Council of Women, New South Wales

Ms Barkl provided a very interesting and stimulating address on the history of the Council, its historical links to the School, particularly through the Windeyer family. The Council's activities today encompass advocacy on issues relevant to women, its awards program that recognizes and supports younger women who, over the years, have been making very substantial contributions in fields such as science, medicine, nursing, law, commerce, music, social education, astronomy design and history.

In 2010 the Council established the Dame Marie Bashir Peace Awards. They are directed towards young women in years 10-12 at high school who have shown leadership in promoting social justice and harmonious relationships.

The address was very warmly received.

## 11. Vote of Thanks and Close of Meeting

The Secretary advised that no formal notices of motion had been received. The President extended an invitation for those present to raise any relevant issues.

Issues raised included:

- Whether any decision as to the future occupancy of this building had been made? The response was that such an issue was not being actively considered. The finalisation of the strategic plan is of primary importance and will drive any such consideration in the future. In any event, such a matter requires consideration by and a vote of members;
- What was the possible impact of nearby construction work on the School's activities? The Secretary advised that the construction of the new building at 116 Bathurst Street was the most obvious current

issue. There had been some noise disruption affecting both members and the tenants, but these had been of a short term nature and relatively low impact. There were good communication lines open to the Project Manager that had proven to be effective so far. Bulk excavation work is scheduled to commence shortly and the School does have some concerns as to its impact.

- A further issue concerned the construction of the City Metro with tunnelling scheduled to commence in this part of the city this year. Whilst the tunnels will be at some depth below both Pitt and Castlereagh Streets the possible impact on this building is not known.

The President thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 1:35pm.

# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 10:00AM ON MONDAY, 9 JULY 2018

## Present

Winsome Allen (President)	Jennifer-Robyn Mattock
Jane Biscoe	Sandra Marie McCormac
Ninette Boothroyd	Graeme McGregor
Mark Brandon	Raewyn McGregor
Merilyn Bryce	Denis Mockler
Sok Fun Collins	Donald Mulligan
Robert Cooper	Michael Packer
Cecile Cornford	Marcia Peters
Alan Dawson	Eunice Phillips
Anne Devrell	Martin James Phillips
Laurel Dyson	Paul Reid
Shirley Hunt	Reinhard Ronnebeck
Avril Ingram	Lesley Scanlon
David Johnson	Thomas Thorburn
Merilin Jovanovic	Janet M Timberg
Colin Kay	Geoffrey Webb
Maxine Littlefield	Maxwell J Williams
Reginald Lobb	Garry Wotherspoon
Bruno Lovison	Robert York
David Ludowici	

Also in attendance were staff members Brian Johnston, Melanie Ryan and Kylie Campbell.

## Apologies

Joyce Craig	Clare Raffan
John Ewing	Steven Warren
Narelle Kay	Susan Webb
Peter Machin	

## 1. Notice of Meeting

It was noted that notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Act of Incorporation both electronically (email, website and newsletter) and by advertisements placed in two daily newspapers.

Under By-law 24.1 at least fifteen qualified members must be present to vote on the matter. No other business was to be conducted. The number of members present exceeded that required for a quorum.

## 2. Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was reiterated as being the consideration of an addition to the current By-laws. Recently, the Board had sought approval from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) for donations to the School to be tax deductible for the donor. The School is registered as a charity through the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC), but has not had Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status previously. The ATO has advised it would favourably consider this request, but its further consideration would require the insertion of an additional clause into the By-laws.

By-laws have been subject to review regularly over the years and the last occasion was on 1 December 2016.

## 3. Recommendation

The proposal was recommended by the Board to the meeting.

### Resolution

The meeting unanimously approved the amendment of the By-laws by adding the additional following clause:

#### **38. Deductible Gift Recipient Organisation (DGRs) registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC)**

*If the organisation is wound up or its endorsement as a deductible gift recipient is revoked (whichever occurs first), any surplus of the following assets shall be transferred to another organisation with similar objects, which is charitable at law, to which income tax deductible gifts can be made:*

- Gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the organisation
- Contributions made in relation to an eligible fund-raising event held for the principal purpose of the organisation
- Money received by the organisation because of such gifts and contributions.

## 4. Close of meeting

The President sincerely thanked all those present for their attendance and participation and declared the meeting closed at 10:10 am.



## APPENDIX II OTHER INFORMATION

### MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

The School enjoys a number of important relationships with like-minded organisations:

- 2RPH (Radio for the Print Handicapped of NSW)
- ALIA (Australian Library and Information Association)
- AMISA (Association of Mechanics Institutes and School of Arts NSW)
- The History Council of New South Wales
- MIV (Mechanics Institutes of Victoria)
- The Royal Society of New South Wales
- WEA (Workers Education Australia)

### LIFE AND HONORARY MEMBERS

#### Honorary Members

- Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO
- Ellen Elzey
- Judith Keneally
- Thomas Keneally AO

#### Life Members

- Susan Abrams
- Marilyn Bryce
- Alan Creighton
- Margaret Lewis
- Dr Roger Morris AM
- Carole O'Brien
- Thomas Thorburn

### IMAGE CREDITS

**All images are © Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts and are held in the collection of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts unless otherwise specified below:**

Page 1      His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley, AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales, with Mrs Linda Hurley, courtesy of the Office of the Governor of New South Wales, Government House.

We extend our grateful thanks to photographers Michelle Haywood and Russell Workman, both of whom are members, and who have professionally documented several of our events, including the 185th anniversary celebrations, without charge, and kindly allowed us to use and freely distribute the images.

