

2017 ARLIS ANZ NSW Chapter Report and National Executive Report

2017 has been a quiet year for the NSW Chapter, with a single meeting held early in the year, and a dinner in September.

As the NSW Executive is also the current National Executive, much of our time was spent recovering from the 2016 conference.

NSW Executive

Elizabeth Little continued as Chair, Barbara Rendall as Secretary, Steven Miller as Treasurer and Vivian Huang as Website Editor (with assistance from Barbara Rendall).

Chapter Meetings

We have held one Chapter meeting: 19 April 2017 at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. The meeting's attendees were Ross Bruzzese (NIDA), as well as Barbara Rendall (SIT Enmore), Elizabeth Little, Lana Ryles, Sue Olive (NAS), Claire Eggleston, Vivian Huang, Steven Miller (AGNSW). Following the meeting several members attended the Andy Warhol exhibition at AGNSW.

A NSW Chapter dinner was held on Friday 8 Sept, with members eating at Spice Alley, Chippendale. Attendees included: Lana Ryles, Sue Olive, Barbara Rendall, Steven Miller and Vivian Huang.

Our final meeting, in mid-December 2017, will also include our AGM.

The NSW Executive continued on as the National Executive.

National Executive Report

The National Executive is:

- Elizabeth Little, Chair
- Barbara Rendall, Secretary
- Steven Miller, Treasurer
- Vivian Huang, Assistant Treasurer and Website Manager

The National Executive has continued to work on issues with the website – specifically membership renewals, conference payments, website upgrades and maintenance.

Membership

During the financial year 2016-17 there were in fact 73 individual members of the Society, though only 52 renewed. QLD now has the second largest membership of ARLIS. Of the 20 ACT members, 8 renewed their membership, of the 20 NSW members 18 renewed, of the 14 QLD members 11 renewed, of the 11 VIC members 7 renewed.

ARLIS/ANZ Conference in Sydney, 2016

The 2016 was held in Sydney at the Art Gallery of New South Wales: 30 November - 3 December 2016. Conference Theme: Persistence of the Real.

The conference committee included: Barbara Rendall, Elizabeth Little, Steven Miller, Vivian Huang and Claire Eggleston. Additional help was provided by Margaret Blackmore and Joye Volker.

The conference theme proved to be a popular one, with presenters applying from Australia, New Zealand, India, and North America. Final delegate numbers were lower than expected / hoped. Final numbers were 57. While more than New Zealand in 2014, this is significantly less than attended the 2012 conference in Melbourne.

Welcome drinks at the O Bar and the conference dinner at Otto were both very successful events. Delegates also enjoyed the opening of the Graduate Show at the National Art School in the grounds of the historic Darlinghurst Gaol.

Keynote speaker Benjamin Law spoke about his writing and research, and about his family and the 'personal' archive of materials that his mother had kept. These two areas intersected, and he talked movingly about researching his family's immediate past through newspaper archives in Brisbane.

International/ Non Australian/New Zealand speakers included: Kim Allen Scott (US), Laura Schwartz (US), Karen Stafford (US), Mark Pompelia (US). Unfortunately three other international speakers had to pull out of the conference – Tim Jones (NZ), Ramesh Gaur (India) and Carl Schmitz (US).

Conference papers have been uploaded to the ARLIS/ANZ website, and are available here: <https://arlis.org.au/item/arlis-anz-annual-conference-2016>

Sponsorship for the conference was obtained from Art Gallery of NSW (Principal venue), Sothebys (welcome drinks at O Bar), Fig Group / Restaurant Otto (Conference dinner). We express our gratitude to all of the sponsors of the 2016 conference.

The next conference will be held in the ACT in October 2018.

Elizabeth Little
NSW Chapter Chair
19 September 2017