

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

CHS 51

CIRCULAR HEAD ARTS FESTIVAL COLLECTION

Art Festivals, Circular Head

INTRODUCTION

THE RECORDS

- 1. Legal Records*
- 2. Minutes of Meetings*
- 3. Correspondence*
- 5. Programs, Entry Forms*
- 6. Scrapbooks*
- 7. Photographs, Video*
- 8. Posters*
- 9. Miscellaneous Records*
- 10. Miscellaneous Items*

INTRODUCTION

The Circular Head Arts Festival (CHAF) was first held in 1976 to promote and encourage arts and crafts in the district. One of the main instigators and organisers was Mrs Meg Close, committee secretary from 1976 to 1980.

Dame Enid Lyons opened the first festival on 7 September 1976 in the Stanley Town Hall. During the ceremony Dame Enid read a proclamation declaring Stanley a historic village. The festival, staged after only a few weeks organisation, was extremely successful, with more than 50 artists and crafts people taking part. A special holiday was granted to the district to mark the occasion, a tradition which continued up to and including the 1993 festival.

In 1977 the festival, occupying four venues, and featuring a songwriting contest, the first for Tasmania, and a \$400 art purchase, was a huge financial success. The following year the competitions included an inventor's competition, another Tasmanian first, which attracted a number of entries from around the State. Competitors for some sections came from interstate.

A variety of entertainments, many catering for children, musical performances, book launches, fashion parade, Nut fun run and even camel rides were features of succeeding festivals. A separate literature festival was held from 1991 to 1993.

A constitution was adopted in 1981, and in 1985 the CHAF became an incorporated body.

In 1984 the festival, the biggest and best-known week long event of its kind in Tasmania, was visited by 7,500 people. Each year it made a substantial contribution to the Tasmanian tourist industry.

The Van Diemen's Land Company Store, first used as a venue for displays in 1984, was leased from the Municipality of Circular Head in 1986. After Lyons Cottage was leased in 1987, it was used for some displays. The 1989 festival attracted 800 entries, the 26 categories and awards making administration a major task.

The festival continued to remain profitable, but by the early 1990s attendances were dropping and sponsorship decreasing. The 1994 festival was postponed until March 1995, to take advantage of the better weather. The 1995 festival format, changed due to the small number of people to organise the event and limited funds, was a success. But due to an insufficient number of members, the CHAF committee went into recess in July 1995.

The Circular Head Council ran a successful new look CHAF held from 24 to 26 May 1996, but it proved to be the last festival.

The collection was donated to the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in February/March 1997.

1. Legal Records

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|-----|---|------|
| 1/1 | Circular Head Arts Festival Incorporated, certificate of incorporation of an association | 1985 |
| 1/2 | Circular Head Arts Festival Incorporated, articles of association (rules) | 1985 |
| 1/3 | Lease Agreement between Municipality of Circular Head and Circular Head Arts Festival Committee Inc. for Van Diemens (sic) Land Store | 1986 |

2. Minutes of Meetings

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|-----|--|-----------|
| 2/1 | Minute book of committee meetings, 19 August 1976-22 January 1979 | 1976-1979 |
| 2/2 | Minute book of committee meetings, 28 February 1979-7 October 1981 (includes minutes of annual general meeting, 27 October 1981) | 1979-1981 |
| 2/3 | Minute book of committee meetings, 17 October 1981-5 November 1985 (includes minutes of annual general meetings, 16 November 1982, 15 November 1983, 6 November 1984) | 1981-1985 |
| 2/4 | Minute book of committee meetings, 3 February 1987-4 June 1990 (includes minutes of annual general meetings, 9 December 1986, 1 December 1987, 22 November 1988, 9 January 1990) | 1987-1990 |
| 2/5 | Minute book of committee meetings, 18 June 1990-29 October 1992 (includes minutes of annual general meetings, 14 November 1990, 27 November 1991) | 1990-1992 |
| 2/6 | Minute book of committee meetings, 8 February 1993-5 October 1995 (includes minutes of general meetings, 27 June 1995, 4 July 1995) | 1993-1995 |
| 2/7 | Circular Head Arts Festival Advisory Committee meetings, 25 January 1996-15 May 1996; Circular Head Council, minutes of Arts Festival meeting, 30 September 1996 | 1996 |

3. Correspondence

3/1	Circular Head Arts Festival, inward correspondence	1984, 1990-91
3/2	Inward correspondence	1992-1996
3/3	Outward correspondence	1991-1996
3/4	Correspondence book (record of inward and outward correspondence)	1991-1992
3/5	Correspondence book (record of inward and outward correspondence)	1993-1995

5. Programs, Entry Forms

5/1	Circular Head Arts Festival programs, 1978-1996; Literature program, 1991-1993; Circular Head Council Festival Events Program, 1996; Circular Head Arts Festival entry forms, 1978-1995	1978-1995
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6. Scrapbooks

6/1	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings etc, September 1976-September 1980	1976-1980
6/2	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings etc, March-September 1982	1982
6/3	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings etc, March 1983-January 1985	1983-1985
6/4	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings etc, April-December 1985	1985
6/5	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings, nd, May-June 1987	1987
6/6	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings etc, March-September 1988	1988
6/7	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings etc, March 1994-July 1996	1994-1996

7. Photographs, Video

7/1	Photographs of exhibits	1976
7/2	Photographs of exhibits	1977
7/3	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1978
7/4	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1979
7/5	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1980

7/6	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1981
7/7	Photographs of exhibits	1982
7/8	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1983
7/9	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1984
7/10	Photographs of exhibits, etc.	1985
7/11	Black and white photograph of Morrie Hjort; Black and white photograph of Francis (sic) Shields; A number of colour photographs of unidentified people and exhibits; A number of unidentified negatives	[1980s?]
7/12	'Circular Head Arts Festival in Historic Stanley Tasmania', video	[198-?]

8. Posters

8/1	Circular Head Arts Festival advertising posters <i>Oversized item</i>	1977-1991
8/2	CAST advertising poster: 'Forgetting', performed at Circular Head Arts Festival, Launceston and Hobart <i>Oversized item</i>	1995

9. Miscellaneous Records

9/1	Circular Head Arts Festival, Stanley Town Hall, 7-12/9/1976, record book of first exhibits	1976
9/2	C H Arts Festival Awards, Stanley Town Hall, 3-10/9/1978, record book of awards	1978
9/3	Circular Head Arts Festival, 3-10/9/1978, diary of activities during festival	1978
9/4	Circular Head Arts Festival, 2-9/9/1979, record book of awards, entries, activities etc	1979
9/5	Record book of sales or display	1982?
9/6	Record book of working displays and stalls	1987
9/7	Record book of Festival stock at October 1987	1987

9/8	Record book of antique bazaar at V D L Co. Store, 14-16/4/1988	1988
9/9	CHA Festival, record book of entries	1988
9/10	Arts Festival, record book of Redline deliveries	1991
9/11	CHAF record book of Redline deliveries	1993
9/12	Literature Festival, record book of entries (A); record book of main festival entries (B)	1993
9/13	Record book of entries, awards	nd
9/14	Record book of entries etc	nd
9/15	Record book of sales	nd
9/16	Record book of school student entries	nd
9/17	Record book of Festival contacts	nd
9/18	'Port of Stanley in Focus' mural project by Jim Marwood, description of project mounted on 2 masonite panels; reports 31 May, October 1987 etc; <i>Sunday Tasmanian</i> 12/10/1986 account of project (which was sponsored by CHAF)	1986-1987
9/19	Miscellaneous records relating to Circular Head Arts Festival, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995	1985-1995
9/20	Circular Head Arts Festival application for financial assistance to Circular Head Council 1995/1996	1995
9/21	Circular Head Arts Festival, media package	1995
9/22	Circular Head Council report on 20 th Circular Head Arts Festival	1996
9/23	<i>Circular Head Arts Festival: the future is their future</i> (summary of 1996 festival)	1996
9/24	Lists of addresses	nd
9/25	K P Fitzgerald V Waratah Towage Pty Ltd, summons to produce documents in Compensation Court of NSW	1991
9/26	Judges' comments	nd

9/27	List of artists and their exhibits	nd
9/28	Press release re antique bazaar	nd
9/29	Circular Head Arts Festival writing paper; invitation cards; award card; business card; membership card	nd
9/30	Sirpa Alalakkola, sketch book (Sirpa was an exhibitor at festival)	1995

10. Miscellaneous Items

10/1	<i>Circular Head Sesquicentenary Celebrations 1826-1976</i> (program)	1976
10/2	National Festival Forum, Brisbane, list of participants (includes Meg Close) etc	1978
10/3	<i>A travellers' guide to Cape Country, Tasmania's beautiful north-west</i> 3 rd edition, Burnie, c1982	c1982