

# Beyond Our Campuses

## REGIONAL OUTREACH

Museum Victoria engaged Victoria's regional communities through a variety of activities:

- Over 50,000 school students from regional Victoria participated in Museum Victoria education programs (8,176 visiting Scienceworks with the support of the Government's Star 6 program).
- Scienceworks toured its 10th Birthday programs to regional centres.
- Museum Victoria's *Museum in a Van* program reached over 21,000 people in schools, kindergartens, senior citizens clubs and other community groups in regional and metropolitan areas.
- Museum Victoria's Roving Curator Program supported regional Aboriginal communities.
- Travelling exhibitions toured regional Victoria or featured regional Victoria in Museum Victoria venues.
- Museum Victoria's Production Studio documented on video 'conservation rescue' work being carried out in regional locations.
- The Museum's websites provided significant access for regional Victorians to Museum resources.

## MUSEUM VICTORIA TOURING EXHIBITIONS

### *Thookay Ngaweeyan* – *Young Voices of Victoria* Various regional art galleries

A colourful and vibrant exhibition of artwork by Koori children is touring regional art galleries from Melbourne Museum. The exhibition will return to Melbourne Museum for display in 2003.

### *Spirit Country (selected works)* Brisbane City Gallery, 18 April – 16 June 2002

Selected works from the Gantner Myer Aboriginal Art Collection, comprising of paintings, sculptures and weavings, by contemporary artists practising in art centres in the Central District region, the Kimberley and the 'top end' of Australia were displayed.

## MUSEUM IN A VAN

The Outreach program, which presents Museum Victoria product to regional communities, increased its audience by 29% compared to the previous year, reaching 21,314 people throughout Victoria. The number of sessions presented by the Outreach program increased by 17% from 611 in 2000/01 to 716 sessions in 2001/02. The Outreach program was also presented a one-week session at Knox Shopping Centre, promoting the Museum to approximately 6,000 people. For many of the attendees this was their first contact with Melbourne Museum since its move to Carlton Gardens.

## MUSEUM VICTORIA WEBSITES

Overall, 1.6 million individual user sessions were recorded for all Museum Victoria websites, which is a 26% increase on the previous year, with the average visit length 8–9 minutes. Online visitors came from metropolitan and regional Victoria and many overseas countries.

The highlight of the year was the redesign and launch of the new Melbourne Museum website in June 2002. The Museum Victoria website was also redesigned and prepared for launch in August 2002. The number of web pages served grew by 42.2%, reflecting the continued expansion of new educational content and programs.

Online projects published included:

- *Coins and Medals*.
- *Forest Secrets*.
- *A History of Museum Victoria*.
- *Koori Children's Art* online gallery.
- The addition of Mammals and Lizards data-sets to the Bioinformatics site.
- Redesign and update of *Melbourne Planetarium*.
- *Remembering the War* screensaver for Imagining Australia.
- A new image database for *The Biggest Family Album in Australia*.

### **MELBOURNE'S GOLDEN MILE HERITAGE TRAIL**

Melbourne's Golden Mile, launched in December 1999, celebrated its 50,000th walker in May 2002.

As Melbourne's key heritage trail, it is now included in all major street directories, tourist maps and tourist literature. Independent walkers purchased almost 8,000 copies of the Golden Mile Guide this year alone.

Guided tours are now offered in a variety of languages three days a week, and are growing in popularity. It is expected that interest will further increase when Federation Square opens, with tours commencing from that location every day of the week.

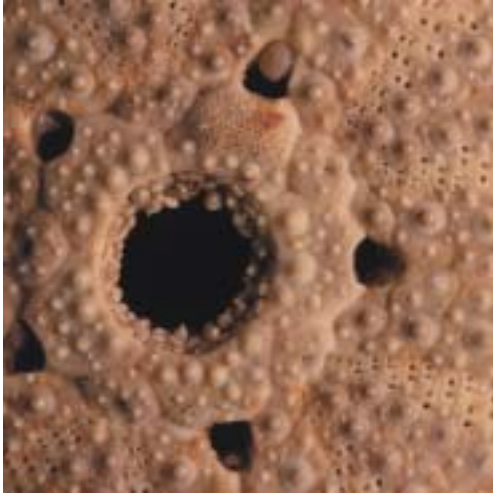
A quarterly newsletter for supporters, heritage sites and businesses along the trail was launched in April 2002 by the Minister for Tourism, the Hon John Pandazopoulos MP.

### **REGIONAL SERVICES (RASMACH)**

The Board's Regional and Specialist Museums Advisory Committee (RASMACH) ran two workshops during the year involving Museum Victoria staff and Heritage Victoria representatives. These workshops identified strategic issues for regional and metropolitan museums and clarified collaborative processes to support them. RASMACH continued to investigate options to fund support for smaller museums. Museum Victoria continued to provide accommodation for Museums Australia (Vic) as a way of supporting its outreach to regional museums.

# Tim O'Hara

Senior Curator of  
Marine invertebrates



I investigate what marine animals occur in the waters around Australia, and discover why those animals live where they do. My favourite aspect of this role is communicating the excitement of discovery to others.

