THE ARTS, LIBRARIES, AND MEDIA

THE ARTS

Ministry for the Arts

With the increase in public interest and participation in the arts in the early 1970s, and with the prospect of increased leisure for most citizens, the Victorian Government decided that a specialist department should be established to assist in the shaping and execution of artistic policies.

The Ministry for the Arts was charged under the Act of 1972 with developing and improving the appreciation and practice of the arts in Victoria; to make the arts more available to the people of Victoria; to encourage and assist in the provision of facilities for the arts to be performed or displayed; and to advise and co-operate with other government departments, municipalities, and public authorities in the promotion and practice of the arts within Victoria. The Victorian Council of the Arts, an honorary body of arts experts, also advises the Minister and the director on matters concerning the arts. The Ministry is headed by a director, and has a number of specialist officers who advise on arts policies. The Ministry is responsible for recommending and administering grants and other forms of support made by the Victorian Government to arts bodies of all kinds and offers a range of services through its branches and agencies.

The Victorian Arts Centre, situated on the south bank of the Yarra River, is being built in three stages. Stage One, the National Gallery of Victoria, was opened in 1968. Established in 1861 and previously housed in inadequate accommodation, the National Gallery of Victoria is the oldest public gallery in Australia with a very fine art collection. Permanent collections include European, Asian, Australian and American art, photography, prints and drawings, and tribal and decorative arts. Until recently, the greater part of the Gallery's collections has been acquired from funds provided by private benefactions. Major acquisitions have been made possible by the loan of money from the Victorian Government, by generous donations and through the fund raising efforts of the Art Foundation of Victoria, set up by the Gallery's Council of Trustees in 1977. Stage Two, the Theatres building and spire, is due for completion in early 1984. Stage Three, the Melbourne Concert Hall, opened in June 1982. With a capacity of 2,600, this symphonic hall has adjustable acoustics which make it suitable for music performances of all kinds. The building also houses the Performing Arts Museum which contains a vast and important historial collection, a coffee shop, rehearsal rooms, and extensive facilities for artists and staff. The Victorian Arts Centre is administered by the Victorian Arts Centre Trust, a statutory authority which also manages the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, operates the BASS computer ticketing franchise in Victoria, and has an entrepreneurial function. (See also page 688.)

The Victorian Government allocates funds for the development of public libraries through the Library Council of Victoria. The Library Council manages the State Library and co-ordinates and funds public libraries run by municipal councils and regional library authorities throughout Victoria in partnership with local government. The work of the Library Council has met with considerable success—99 per cent of Victorians now live in a municipality served by public library. (See also pages 694-7.)

The State Film Centre offers to the community of Victoria a wide range of audio-visual resources. The Centre operates three theatres, a free film/video lending library, and a free public reference and information library. It offers film purchasing, equipment, and technical services advice to government departments, instrumentalities, and community groups. As well, the Centre conducts special community film screenings and assists other organisations to present special film projects.

The Victorian Film Corporation was established under an Act proclaimed in 1976 and amended in 1980 to make it a full statutory authority. With a board of seven members, the Corporation was not established as a production company but as a body to encourage and promote the production, exhibition, and distribution of films, television programmes, and related areas. The Corporation has assisted in the finance of feature films, documentaries, television features, script development, government films, and associated activities. Support staff are available to offer advice and direction to potential film makers. The Melbourne Film Studio which opened in May 1980 provides Australia with its only world-class film production stage. The Victorian Film Corporation assisted the development of the Studio by undertaking a long-term lease of the major sound stage, which the Corporation lets back to the industry at current rates. Legislation proclaimed in 1982 to amalgamate the Victorian Film Corporation, the State Film Centre, and the Audio-Visual Resources Branch of the Education Department into a new statutory authority known as Film Victoria, has since been revised to restore the autonomy of the agencies. The Victorian Film Corporation has, however, retained the name of Film Victoria.

The Victorian Tapestry Workshop was established by the Victorian Government through the Ministry for the Arts early in 1976 to encourage the development of a centre for the traditional art of tapestry weaving with the stimulus and focus being a State subsidised workshop. Following short-term occupation of temporary premises, the Workshop moved to an historic Victorian building in the Emerald Hill area of South Melbourne. The Workshop maintains an educational role through exhibitions in all States of Australia and overseas, the production of audio-visual material, and the training of tapestry weavers and teachers. During the past six years, more than sixty tapestries have been woven for a wide range of clients including banks, hotels, universities, businesses and corporations, governments, galleries, and private collectors.

The Meat Market Craft Centre was officially opened in November 1979 as an art craft centre for crafts of Australian origin. The Centre is housed in the historic Metropolitan Meat Market building, purchased by the Victorian Government in 1977. The Centre aims to provide a focus for the crafts in Victoria, to encourage excellence and improvement of craft skills and to promote active participation in craft. Planned activities to give effect to these objectives are access workshops, individual workshop space for craftsmen, the maintenance and display of the Victorian State Craft Collection, a changing exhibitions programme, craft retailing, provision for meetings and conferences, a craft resource centre, and special projects and ancillary services.

The St Martins Theatre site was purchased by the Victorian Government in 1977 to be redeveloped as Australia's first major Youth Arts Centre. Incorporated in 1980 as a company limited by guarantee, the St Martins Youth Arts Centre is run by a board of directors and a professional permanent staff. Officially opened in 1982, St Martins now consists of an Administration Centre, a Rehearsal/Dance Studio, a Car Park and a Performing Arts Centre comprising two theatres and a performance gallery. As well as performance projects, St Martins offers workshops to young writers and technicians, as well as skills workshops in dance, mime, music, and theatre for youth in the 12-25 age group. The facilities are made available to outside hirers when not in use by resident companies.

Purchased by the Victorian Government in 1980, the Heide Park and Art Gallery property comprised a house/gallery, 5.8 hectares of land, and over 100 selected works from the collection of John and Sunday Reed, early patrons of modern art in the 1930s and 1940s. Established as a company limited by guarantee, a board was appointed in 1980 followed by a director in 1981. Modifications and renovations were made to the house and grounds and cataloguing and conservation of the collection commenced prior to the official opening in November 1981. While Heide Park and Art Gallery is keen to develop

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programmes to cater for the entire community, its importance undoubtedly lies in the position it holds as a centre for Australian Modernism.

The National Museum of Victoria is the State's museum of natural history and anthropology. Collections in these fields are used for both research and educational purposes. In addition to developing research programmes, the Museum has temporary displays to supplement the permanent exhibitions and education programmes which are offered to schools.

The Science Museum of Victoria has a statutory function of collecting and preserving artefacts with relevance to the technical and scientific history of Victoria. The Museum has for many years undertaken the task of collecting historical items especially those relating to social history. The Science Museum also encourages research and education programmes and has a temporary exhibitions programme.

The Ministry carries out, through its specialist liaison officers, surveys of the requirements of all bodies concerned with the arts in Victoria and recommends to the Victorian Government where financial and other assistance is considered desirable. The Ministry for the Arts oversees the development of regional art galleries (of which there are now sixteen) and the thirteen performing arts centres. The Ministry is also responsible for the operation of the Royal Exhibition Building.

Arts Resources and Planning

In January 1982, the Arts Resources and Planning Unit was established within the Ministry for the Arts, offering services to complement the Ministry's function of grant allocation. The new unit incorporated and expanded the Ministry for the Arts' activities and resources in the areas of public relations, information, special projects, research, and fund raising. The project staff are co-ordinating the arts component of Victoria's 150th Anniversary Celebrations and the Australian Bicentenary and are responsible for future Arts Victoria projects. The unit has responsibility for publicity and promotion, the collection and dissemination of arts information, and specialised research projects.

Victorian Arts Centre

The aim of the Victorian Arts Centre, now in the course of construction, is to provide a place where the arts can be displayed and performed at highest international standards.

The Centre is situated in the South Gate area of St Kilda Road, Melbourne, just south of the Yarra River. The first stage, the National Gallery of Victoria, was opened in 1968, and attracts nearly 500,000 visitors each year. The building has galleries on three floor levels around three courtyards, and excellent natural and artificial light in which to display what is widely regarded as Australia's finest art collection. Other features include the Great Hall, used for banquets, concerts, and receptions, with its outstanding stained-glass ceiling, the education section for children, and a restaurant looking onto the relaxing surroundings of the Russell Grimwade Garden. At the south end of this garden area is the School of Art of The Victorian College of the Arts. This school will eventually be relocated on the College campus directly to the south of the National Gallery.

The second stage of the Centre, the Theatres building, is now undergoing fitting and finishing for opening in 1984. This includes the State Theatre of 2,000 seats, for opera, ballet, and other large scale productions; the Playhouse, an 850 seat drama theatre; and the Studio, a flexible theatre seating up to about 400 persons for the presentation of new work in the performing arts. An open spaceframe spire, dramatically lit at night, rises over the Theatres building to a height of 115 metres.

The third stage, the Melbourne Concert Hall, is at the Princes Bridge end of the site and commenced performances in June 1982. The auditorium of 2,600 seats is surrounded by extensive front-of-house and backstage facilities. Its prime use is for orchestral music, but acoustics are able to be varied to permit the performance of many different kinds of music. A Grand Concert organ, commissioned in Canada, is installed in the Hall. The building also contains a Performing Arts Museum which houses displays on the performing arts. (See article on pages 688-9.)

Throughout the Centre, facilities for both performers and patrons is of the highest quality, and includes computerised booking through the BASS system (which started trading in Victoria in December 1978), a bistro, bars, coffee lounges, and shops.

Underneath the National Gallery, a 1,500 space car-park is now in use, with direct access to the Theatres building. Seating has been designed with the theatregoer's comfort in mind and all buildings at the Arts Centre will be air-conditioned. The exterior of the Centre will be extensively terraced and landscaped.

Construction and operations of the Theatres and Concert Hall are the responsibility of the Victorian Arts Centre Trust. The Trust also operates an entrepreneurial programme, presenting fine music and theatre attractions in Melbourne, many of them in association with the Confederation of Australasian Arts Centres. In addition, the Trust operates the Sidney Myer Music Bowl in King's Domain and has close links with The Victorian College of the Arts which is located in St Kilda Road next to the National Gallery.

Melbourne Concert Hall

The focal point of Melbourne's new \$200m Arts Centre, the Melbourne Concert Hall was officially opened on 6 November 1982. The Centre was designed by the late Sir Roy Grounds who sought to harmonise it with the setting of St Kilda Road and the 400 hectares of surrounding gardens.

The Victorian Arts Centre has three main buildings of which the Concert Hall is one. It is unique in Australia in that it combines all facets of the visual and performing arts. Situated on the banks of the Yarra River, the Centre's other main buildings are the National Gallery of Victoria which opened in 1968, and the Theatres building, due to open early in 1984, which comprises three auditoriums, a restaurant, bars, shops, outdoor stage, and a functions centre. The central structure is topped by a spire. Also within the Centre is the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, an outdoor entertainment area that seats 2,000 under cover and about 30,000 on the surrounding lawns.

The Melbourne Concert Hall is designed primarily for the presentation and enjoyment of symphonic music; the acoustics in the 2,600 seat hall allow the audience to appreciate a wide range of performances. It also aims at visual excitement, with finishes designed by John Truscott. The concrete walls are painted in colours and patterns that are found in Australia's mineral and gemstone deposits, creating strata that suggest the impression that the huge auditorium has been carved out of a hillside. The walls and ceiling have been hand painted. Five craftsmen worked for eighteen months applying three coats of dye to bring about the appearance of mineral and gemstone lodes found in Australia.

Australia's wool, timber, and livestock industries complement each other in the finished design. All carpets and seats are of wool; Australian timbers are used on the floors, stage, and wings; and leather lines all foyers. The facilities provided for artists have been designed with care and patrons have at their disposal five bars, a bistro, roomy foyers, and an undercover car park beneath the National Gallery.

Concerts are not the only entertainment provided. The Performing Arts Museum also features changing sight and sound displays, and there are daily guided tours of the Melbourne Concert Hall.

Each of the 2,600 seats in the Melbourne Concert Hall has an excellent view of the stage, from the three levels; balcony, circle, and stalls. They are all covered in Australian wool. The balcony seats have ample leg room and high backs, similar to airline seats. The four colours of the seat coverings pick out the colours on the walls and ceiling, and are scattered in a spontaneous pattern throughout the auditorium. The parquetry is of Brush Box from New South Wales. On both sides of the hall hang 24 woollen acoustic banners which can be raised or lowered to alter the reverberation of the sound. The banners are also made of Australian wool and alter the reverberation time, being adjusted by microprocessor assisted electric winches.

Above the stage can be seen 17 of the 24 perspex shells which, like the banners, can be changed for different acoustic responses. The strata-like walls and the set coverings make use of colours found throughout the Australian continent—coral, sand, lavender, and grey—while the aisle carpets, as with the foyer carpet, change hues on each level, each being a shade of rhodonite.

The Grand Concert Organ was built by Casavant Freres of Quebec, Canada. It is of mechanical action with 4 manuals, 60 speaking stops, 4 couplers, and 4,189 pipes. The organ is free standing and is encased in solid oak. The facade pipes are made of polished

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tin. Key and stop action is mechanical. The organist, in the traditional classic arrangement cannot be seen by the audience, and communicates with the stage through closed circuit television.

National Gallery of Victoria

General

The National Gallery of Victoria was founded in May 1861 when the Governor, Sir Henry Barkly, declared open a small room which contained a number of plaster casts of classical sculpture and other objects which had been purchased a few years earlier in London. Thus, unlike most public galleries, this institution did not start with a collection of paintings, and it was not until 1864 that the first picture gallery was opened.

The National Gallery of Victoria is the oldest public gallery in Australia and its collection is displayed in seven categories: Asian art; Australian painting and sculpture; European painting and sculpture; decorative arts; photography; prints and drawings; and tribal art. It is the only public gallery in Australia to have a photography gallery and collection.

Acquisitions

During 1982, the Felton Bequests' Committee was responsible for a major addition to the Gallery's collection of Greek vases. This was the important Greek geometric amphora c. 700 B.C. by the Analathos Painter. While most of the significant Greek vase painting styles are represented in the collection, a first-class example of a geometric vase had always been a major gap. Such vases rarely appear and the opportunity to acquire this example was quickly taken when it came on the market in Switzerland.

A number of works of art of the first importance came to the Gallery collections through The Art Foundation of Victoria. Chief among these was the painting *The Agreeable Lesson* 1748 by the great French painter Francois Boucher (1703-1770). The pendant to this painting, *The Mysterious Basket* of the same date, has also been purchased and will be presented to the Gallery later. This pair of paintings is perhaps the finest illustration of French rococo art in the collection. It has long been the Gallery's policy to augment its collection of contemporary American art and this area was strengthened by the acquisition of *Untitled (Red)*, 1958 by Mark Rothko (1904-1970). The first example of Rothko's painting to come to Melbourne, this luminous painting gives the gallery a major work by an artist who completely changed the direction of contemporary art.

The collections of the Department of Australian Art were enriched by the purchase of a group of five paintings by Albert Tucker (b.1914) which date from 1945-1955. Australian, and particularly Melbourne art, of the 1940s and 1950s is not an area in which the Gallery's collections are strong and this group of paintings, to which the artist added one by presentation, is a major acquisition which powerfully demonstrates the force and vigour of the artistic expression of that disturbing decade.

National Gallery Society

The National Gallery Society was formed in 1947. Its aims are to stimulate and sustain the public's interest in the National Gallery and support the Gallery with funds for acquisitions. In December 1982, the Society had over 11,000 subscribers for whom a programme of activities is arranged to cater for many different interests in the Arts. The Society also organises functions for the public which includes concerts in the Great Hall and lectures on the Gallery's collection. Members of the Society obtain free entry to the Gallery and have their own clubrooms. The Society is governed by a Council elected from the members and employs a full-time staff of four to manage the day to day running of its activities.

Departments

Responsibility for the State collection is shared by ten curatorial departments. The Department of Asian Art exhibits Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Western Asian art. The collection of Chinese porcelain is particularly comprehensive and there is a small group of Chinese paintings which is of the highest quality. The two departments of Australian Art cover all developments of painting and sculpture in this country from Colonial painting through the Heidelberg School to Edwardian and contemporary. The Gallery's collection of costume and textiles is in the care of a specialised department. Costume and costume

accessories from the 17th century to the present day are collected together with examples of textiles from many cultures and periods. The decorative arts collection is one of the largest and most varied within the Gallery; it includes furniture, glass, pottery, porcelain, silver and other metalwork, antiquities, jewellery, and Renaissance bronzes.

The objects come from Australia and almost every European country, while the period covered is from at least 4000 B.C. to the present day. Specialised collections of particular note within this department are the Felton collection of Greek vases, and the large and important collection of seventeenth and eighteenth century English glass acquired some years ago through the William and Margaret Morgan Endowment.

The collection of European art before 1800 ranges from icons of the sixth to fourteenth centuries to eighteenth century European works. Among the paintings are works by Rembrandt, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Constable, Corot, and the outstanding painting *The Banquet of Cleopatra* by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo. Most of the paintings in the care of the Department of European and American Art after 1800 are of French or English origin, with a small group from America and other European countries. The French Impressionist school is represented by a number of works including paintings by Manet, Degas, and Pissarro.

The collections of the photography department and the prints and drawings department are not on permanent display because of their sensitivity to light. Temporary exhibitions of works from these collections are arranged throughout the year. Prints and drawings which are not on display may be seen in the print department reading room by appointment. Outstanding among the 18,000 works in the prints and drawings collection are the Barlow Durer collection and a small group of illuminated manuscripts.

Temporary exhibitions

Some thirty temporary exhibitions were held during the year but few exhibitions ever held in the National Gallery of Victoria have had the importance or the popularity of Leonardo da Vinci: Anatomical Drawings from the Royal Library, Windsor. This group of drawings, graciously lent by Her Majesty The Queen, demonstrated both the artist's scientific genius and the power of his unmatched draughtsmanship. It proved a unique opportunity to see drawings by one of the greatest artists of the past. The Department of Prints and Drawings mounted an exhibition of Italian Old Master Drawings from the collection which demonstrated yet again the richness of the Gallery's permanent collection. From the United States came the exhibition The World of Edward Hopper, a collection of paintings and drawings by this great American realist painter. These works were drawn from the collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York and the exhibition was seen in most Australian State galleries. An important exhibition of local contemporary art shown in October was The Seventies, a comprehensive collection of Australian painting and tapestries formed by the National Bank of Australia.

Further references: Bequests and funding, Victorian Year Book 1980, pp. 712-13; Education Services at the National Gallery, 1980, pp. 718-19

Regional art galleries

Victoria has a unique network of sixteen regional art galleries established in the following country cities and towns: Ararat, Ballarat, Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, La Trobe Valley (Morwell), Langwarrin (The McClelland Gallery), Mildura, Mornington, Sale, Shepparton, Swan Hill, and Warrnambool. Four of these country galleries were founded late in the nineteenth century. In 1884, the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery became Australia's first provincial gallery; the Bendigo and the Warrnambool galleries both began in 1887, although the Warrnambool gallery was closed for many years and re-opened in its present building in 1972; Geelong's collection was begun in 1896, and was installed in its present buildings in 1915. The Castlemaine collection was begun in 1913, but was not housed in its present building until 1931. The remaining eleven galleries were established between 1961 and 1971; Hamilton, 1961 (collection begun 1957); Shepparton, 1965 (collection begun 1935); Mildura, 1966 (collection begun 1956); Swan Hill and Sale, 1964; Horsham and Benalla, 1968 (new gallery opened at Benalla in 1975); Ararat, 1970; McClelland Gallery at Langwarrin, La Trobe Valley Arts Centre at Morwell, and the Mornington Peninsula Arts Centre, 1971.

In 1957, the six galleries then operating founded the Victorian Public Galleries Group as a forum for their common problems; they have since been joined by the ten other more

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recently constituted galleries in an organisation known as the Regional Galleries Association of Victoria. This association is recognised by the Victorian Government which, through the Ministry for the Arts, provides funds for administration and the salary of a full-time executive officer. While the purpose of the Regional Galleries Association is to promote the interests of all its members in presenting the visual arts to the people of Victoria, each gallery remains autonomous having complete freedom in its collecting policy, administration, and exhibitions programme.

Ararat, Bendigo, Geelong, Castlemaine, Swan Hill, and the McClelland Galleries are governed by boards of trustees or similar committees; the remaining galleries are controlled by their municipal councils. All galleries now are State supported, total grants having grown from \$20,000 divided among eight galleries in 1961 to \$638,108 in 1981-82 when a new formula for funding Victoria's regional galleries was applied. This involves a subsidy on a \$3 (Government) to \$1 (local contribution) basis up to a maximum subsidy for each group of galleries under the classifications (1, 2, and 3) which were recommended by the Regional Galleries Association of Victoria and are now approved by the Victorian Ministry for the Arts. These grants are intended for the day to day running of the gallery; special grants may be applied for to finance capital works or large maintenance projects. Money required for the purchase of works of art must be raised by the local community.

Since 1972, the regional galleries have acquired selected works by contemporary Australian artists donated by Georges Australia Limited from the Georges Invitation Art Prize. This was an annual event until 1982 and will now be held biennially. The total amount of money for acquisitions increased from \$3,000 in 1977 to \$10,000 in 1982.

The Caltex-Victoria Art Purchase Fund was established in May 1976 by the Victorian Government in association with Caltex Australia Pty Ltd to provide funds jointly to assist Victoria's regional galleries to acquire works of art which complement the unique nature of each gallery's permanent collection.

In 1981, the Ian Potter Foundation commenced a three-year project to improve security, climate control, and storage for works of art in regional galleries and also to provide management training for all the directors of the galleries. This financial assistance will be matched with Victorian Government and local funds.

Mitchelton Vintners have sponsored the Mitchelton Print Exhibition 1982 held at Benalla and Shepparton galleries and at the Mitchelton Winery. This is planned to be a regular event, and will provide the foundation of the Mitchelton Print Collection.

Further reference: Victorian Year Book 1980, pp. 715-16

Music

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) comprises 90 players under the direction of its Chief Conductor Hiroyuki Iwaki who in 1983 began his 9th year in that post. The MSO is funded annually by the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC), with additional grants made to the Orchestra by the Victorian Government, \$175,000 (in 1981-82), and the University of Melbourne, \$25,000 (in 1983-85).

The 50th Anniversary of the ABC occurred in 1982; during this half century the ABC established six symphony orchestras throughout Australia as well as a training orchestra

located in Sydney.

In addition to its regular appearances in the City of Melbourne, the MSO has given performances in the Melbourne suburbs of Clayton, Broadmeadows, Moorabbin, and St Kilda. Country tours include Albury, Ballarat, Canberra, Hamilton, Horsham, Sale, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warragul (one performance each), and Castlemaine every second year. The Orchestra also gives two concerts in Geelong each year. During 1981-82, it gave 117 concerts including School and Free Concerts. Attendances for the performances totalled approximately 250,000 persons.

The Orchestra performs regularly on ABC Radio (AM and FM) and ABC Television. It also provides the background music for cinema and television productions and has released a number of commercial recordings including, in 1982, its first digital recording.

In June 1982, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra made its new concert home in the Melbourne Concert Hall of the Victorian Arts Centre, which was officially opened in November 1982.

Free Entertainment in Parks

"Free Entertainment In Parks" (FEIP) is presented by the Melbourne City Council and the Victorian Ministry for the Arts with annual grants. During 1981-82, a sum of \$115,000 was received from the Council and \$115,000 from the Ministry; in addition considerable funds accrue each year through private enterprise, sponsorship, and back-up promotion.

Free Entertainment In Parks was introduced by the Melbourne City Council's Parks, Gardens and Recreations Department in December 1972 with nine productions, 80 artists, and a grant of \$3,000. The growing response of the audience is shown in the following table:

VICTORIA-FREE ENTERTAINMENT IN PARKS

Year	Productions	Artists	Estimated audiences		
1977-78	176	22,500	1,050,000		
1978-79	179	27,500	1,150,000		
1979-80	180	32,000	1,500,000		
1980-81	211	37,500	1,650,000		
1981-82	170	37,500	1,700,000		

The programme during 1981-82 consisted of 36 festivals between 26 October 1981 and 18 April 1982.

The festivals in the 1982-83 programme cover most forms of the performing arts and run for periods of one to eight days. Some of the most popular established festivals include Salute to Australia Festival, Melbourne Cup Carnival, Dance Festival, Children's Festival, Vaudeville and Glamour Festival, Country Music Jamboree, and Jazz Week.

The programme has become a major tourist attraction, winning the Develop Victoria Council triennial Award in 1977 and 1980; in the latter year it also won the Robin Boyd Community Award.

Further references: Victorian Year Book 1980, p. 720; Royal Society of Victoria, 1963, pp. 171-2; Drama, 1963, pp. 180-3, 1982, p. 703; Painting in Victoria, 1964, pp. 166-70; Sculpture in Victoria, 1964, pp. 171-4; Drama, opera, and ballet, 1968, pp. 443-6; Ballet, 1974, pp. 443-6, 1977, pp. 902-3; State Film Centre, 1969, pp. 517-8; Music, 1975, pp. 886-95; Melbourne Moomba Festival, 1980, pp. 719-20; Melbourne Theatre Company, 1981, pp. 721-2; The Dance, 1981, pp. 722-3; Musica Viva in Australia, 1982, p. 704; The Australian Boys' Choir, 1982, pp. 704-5; The Cinema, 1982, pp. 705-6

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

The National Trust of Australia (Victoria) is an independent citizen organisation governed by its own Council, and serviced by more than seventy advisory committees, all acting in an honorary capacity. In addition, it has access to numerous honorary advisers from every relevant profession. Founded in 1956, it is a company limited by guarantee. It employs a permanent Administrator and a staff of more than sixty. With its headquarters at "Tasma Terrace", 4 Parliament Place, Melbourne, it covers the whole of Victoria by means of twelve area branches or committees.

The Trust is basically an educational organisation dedicated to the preservation of the National Heritage and the National Estate—both the built and natural environment. It contributes substantially to the culture, education, and (by way of tourism) the economy of Victoria. The Trust had 24,903 members at 30 June 1982.

The aims of the Trust are to protect, preserve, and, if appropriate, acquire for the benefit of the public, land and buildings of beauty or of national, historic, scientific, architectural, archaeological, or cultural interest; to safeguard natural features and scenic landscape; to conserve wildlife; and to encourage and promote public appreciation, knowledge, and enjoyment of these things.

It is a member of the Australian Council of National Trusts. The Trust carries out its work by a system of classification of buildings, objects, areas, and landscapes, this being done by expert voluntary committees comprising members of the appropriate disciplines for the tasks. National Trust classifications are accepted throughout Victoria by all sections of the community. At 30 June 1982, the Trust had "Classified" and "Recorded" a total of 2,996 buildings and 161 landscapes.

The major activity during 1981-82 was "Heritage Week, 1982" held in March 1982. This followed on from a pilot week in 1979 and is now a regular event on the National

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Trust calendar. "Heritage Week, 1982" included seminars, lectures, film exhibitions, special openings of historic buildings, city walks, and stalls and activities for school children. For the first time the activity was an Australia-wide promotion with all States combining to celebrate Australia's heritage and joining in programmes which furthered the work of the Trusts.

In addition to its properties, the Trust also has extensive collections of antiques, paintings, objects d'art, and relics, including carriage and costume collections, a unique collection of ornamental cast iron, a sailing ship, and an interest in a paddle steamer.

In preserving the National Estate, the Trust seeks to include examples of the best of all types, grand houses ("Como"), boom type mansions ("Illawarra"), early pre-fabs (La Trobe's cottage and the Iron Houses), important homes ("Barwon Grange", "The Heights"), institutions (Old Melbourne Gaol), commerce (Castlemaine Market), places of worship (St Peters at Cape Bridgewater, Bendigo Joss House), the gold era (Beechworth Powder Magazine), literary shrines ("Lake View", Chiltern), early homesteads and houses (McCrae Homestead, Blackwood Cottage), as well as important landscapes (Mt Sugarloaf) and gardens ("Rippon Lea"). Of the more than fifty properties it owns throughout Victoria, fifteen were open to the public on a regular basis at 30 June 1982. These attracted 526,605 paying visitors during 1981–82.

When a Classified building or landscape is threatened, the Trust takes all appropriate preservation action open to it in an endeavour to achieve preservation/conversation for the benefit of present and future generations. This involves the Trust in town and area planning activities, and also in making submissions to the appropriate authorities in support of its views. Efforts to save the remaining historic environments in Collins Street, Melbourne, have been going on for many years now, and the Trust is closely watching various proposals for redevelopment in the area.

On occasions, the Trust has to purchase an historic building when all other preservation attempts have failed. An example was the purchase and removal of an Iron House from North Melbourne to the Trust's Portable House Site in Coventry Street, South Melbourne. During 1981-82, restoration work on the project was completed and the four portable houses on the site were opened for the first time during "Heritage Week, 1982". During that year, the Trust was also bequeathed a property near Skipton, called Mooramong. The bequest was designed to ensure the preservation of the homestead, together with its gardens, to create an adjoining 360 hectare wildlife sanctuary and flora and fauna park, and to operate about 800 hectares of the property as a buffer zone. In developing this buffer zone, the Trust plans to demonstrate good farming/conservation techniques in the management processes.

The Trust carries out a wide range of educational, cultural, and social activities in support of its aims. These include inspections, excursions, tours, lectures, and seminars; fund raising in support of its work; technical advice in connection with buildings and alterations in environmental areas (e.g., Maldon, Beechworth, Echuca, Queenscliff, and parts of Melbourne), as well as advice to local government throughout Victoria in connection with individual buildings and landscapes. It is represented on many government councils and committees—the Historic Buildings Preservation Council; Government Advisory Committee on Places of Historic Interest; Government Buildings Advisory Council; Archaeological Relics Advisory Committee; National Estate Committee; and Lal Blast Furnace Reserve Management Committee.

The Trust has produced several publications, ranging from specific surveys (e.g., Mornington Peninsula, Arthur's Seat quarrying, Royal Botanic Gardens, Queen Victoria Market, Landscape, and Conservation in North East Victoria, Dandenong Ranges), to booklets and leaflets for individual properties and tour (including walking tour) notes. It has produced Technical Bulletins entitled Exterior Paint Colours (TB1.1) and Lettering and Signs on Buildings c. 1850-1900 (TB2.1), Principles of Cleaning Masonry Buildings (TB3.1), and Planting c. 1850-1900 (TB4.1). Work is progressing on other bulletins in this series.

The Trust publishes a Register of Classified and Recorded Buildings and Landscapes, with regular amendments, and has been instrumental in publishing a gournet cookery book and a number of books on gardening. It has produced one major book entitled Historic Buildings of Victoria (1966-67), and has co-operated with other States in the

Australian Council of National Trusts' book series entitled *Historic Buildings of Australia*. During 1981-82, work progressed on an important publication regarding the Historic Gardens of Victoria.

The Trust receives a general administrative grant from the Victorian Government of \$50,000 per year, and one from the Commonwealth Government of \$30,000 per year, to assist its research work. Apart from these grants, the Trust must find its own administrative income from membership subscriptions, donations, and miscellaneous income (e.g., book royalties, rents, etc.). For preservation, the Victorian Government contributes \$50,000 per year (on a two for one basis). National Estate grants from the Commonwealth Government continued during 1981-82 and financial support was also obtained from the Historic Buildings Preservation Council. Matching Trust expenditure is always involved in these grants, as well as very stringent expenditure conditions.

Further references: Como, Victorian Year Book 1975, pp. 899-900; La Trobe Cottage, 1976, pp. 777-8; National Trust in Beechworth, 1977, pp. 907-8; Rippon Lea, 1978, pp. 774-6; Polly Woodside, 1979, pp. 705-6; Werribee Park, 1979, pp. 706-7; Tasma Terrace, 1980, pp. 722-4; Clarendon Terrace, 1981, pp. 726-7

LIBRARIES

Public library services in Victoria are provided by the State Library of Victoria and by free municipal or public libraries in 208 municipalities throughout the State. These services are co-ordinated under the Library Council of Victoria.

Library Council of Victoria

In 1963, the Governor in Council appointed a Board of Inquiry to assess Victoria's libraries and to make recommendations for future development.

Following consideration of the Board's report, the Victorian Parliament passed the Library Council of Victoria Act 1965, the principal object of which was to constitute the Library Council of Victoria, replacing the former State Library Trustees and the Free Library Service Board. The Council consists of a president and eight members appointed by the Governor in Council. Under the Act, the Council must include the holder of a senior academic office in a Victorian university, one representative from metropolitan and one from non-metropolitan municipalities, a professional librarian, a person distinguished in the field of education, and a person distinguished in the field of commercial or industrial administration. The Act provides for the appointment of a State Librarian to be the chief executive officer of the Council.

The principal functions of the Council are to manage and control the State Library of Victoria and to advise the Victorian Government on the promotion of public library services throughout the State. The responsibility originally vested in the Council to manage and control the preservation of public records passed to the Public Record Office following the passage of the *Public Records Act* 1972.

State Library of Victoria

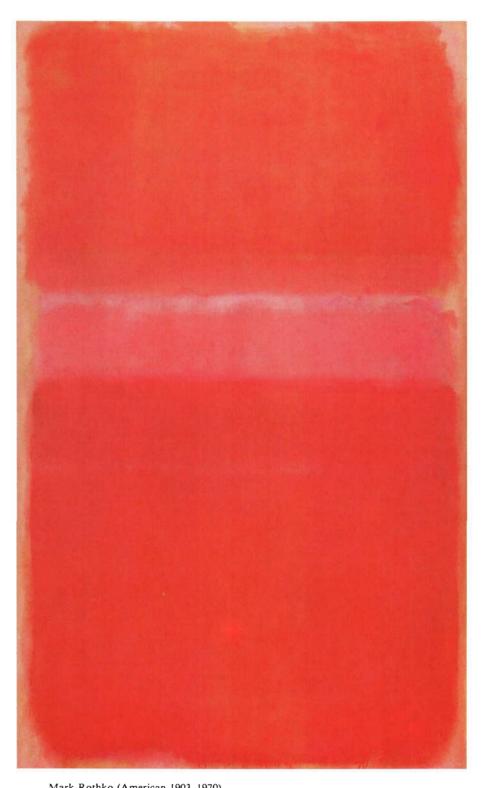
General

The State Library of Victoria is the basic research library for the State, occupying a central location in Swanston Street, Melbourne. It is open seven days a week, providing a service to a wide and varied community throughout Victoria. Because of the richness of its collections, the Library also plays a significant role in meeting the reference needs of a national and international community.

Suggestions for a library to provide for the literary and educational needs of the community were made to Lieutenant-Governor C. J. La Trobe by a group of influential citizens in the 1850s. Five trustees were appointed in 1853, under the chairmanship of Mr Justice (later Sir Redmond) Barry. The foundation stone was laid on 3 July 1854 and the Library opened on the present Swanston Street site on 11 February 1856. The original appropriation for the building and for the purchase of books was \$26,000.

By 1900, the Library had outgrown its existing accommodation and in 1908 recommendations for a new building were submitted. The notable octagonal reading room and its associated bookstacks were opened on 14 November 1913.

Major additions and changes to the existing buildings have taken place in the last twenty years. The La Trobe Wing, housing the Library's Australian, New Zealand, and Pacific



Mark Rothko (American 1903-1970)
Untitled Red, 1958
Oil on canvas
208.4 x 124.5 cm.
Purchased through The Art Foundation of Victoria with assistance from the Commonwealth Bank, the Signet Group Pty Ltd, and the Helen Schutt Trust.

National Gallery of Victoria



Francois Boucher (French 1703-1770)

The Agreeable Lesson, 1748

Oil on canvas
92 x 76 cm.

Felton Bequest 1982

National Gallery of Victoria



Francois Boucher (French 1703-1770)

The Mysterious Basket, 1748
Oil on canvas
92 x 76 cm.
Purchased through The Art Foundation of Victoria with funds provided by Dinah and Henry Krongold, The Myer Emporium Ltd, and The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd (now Westpac Banking Corporation).

National Gallery of Victoria



Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (Italian 1696-1770)

The Banquet of Cleopatra, 1743-4

Oil on canvas
248.2 x 357.8 cm.

Felton Bequest 1932-33

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collections was added in 1965. The Art, Music and Performing Arts Library was relocated in 1975 and now occupies Queen's Hall, the restored site of the original Public Library. The new Reference and Information Centre, which opened in 1980 in the former newspaper reading room on the ground floor, offers a vastly improved service, as well as easier access to a wider range of reference materials.

The State Library operates as a branch of the Ministry for the Arts. Apart from the usual general reference services, specialised service is offered in several fields. These are Australiana, Art, Music and Performing Arts, Community Affairs, Business Services, and Ethnic Services. The External Services Section supplements the resources of the Victorian public libraries by supplying them with books and information and is responsible for the Library's inter-library loan services. The State Library is also responsible for staffing and generally advising the libraries maintained in Victorian Government Departments.

During the 120 years of its existence, the State Library has built up strong collections in a wide range of subjects, although certain of these have, of necessity, been limited in recent years. Among fields of continuing interest are historical bibliography including early printed books and private presses of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; typography; fine arts, including painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts, with emphasis on Oriental art; music, including both literature and scores; history, particularly British; military history; and biography together with genealogical sources and collections of parish registers. The Library also has strong collections relating to the history of nineteenth century India. The Library's M. V. Anderson Chess Collection is recognised as one of the major holdings of chess material in the world.

The principal fields which were formerly developed but are not maintained extensively, and in which the Library has outstanding nineteenth century collections, are religion, engineering, and pure science.

Extensive collections of newspapers and government publications from Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States, New Zealand, and Canada are maintained as well as collections from international organisations such as the United Nations. The Library has a stock of over 1,000,000 books and periodicals as well as substantial collections of manuscripts, maps, microforms, films, art exhibition catalogues, theatre programmes, ephemera, and sound recordings.

Australiana Collections

In 1965, the La Trobe Library, named to commemorate C. J. La Trobe's contribution to Victorian history and his special association with the foundation of the major library service in Victoria, was opened to house the important collections of Australian materials held by the State Library of Victoria. Although the La Trobe Library holds a wide selection of Australian, New Zealand, and Pacific materials, its special strength is in its holdings of Victorian material. The depth of the Victorian collections is due principally to the legal provision since 1869 for deposit in the State Library of a copy of every work published in Victoria. The many thousands of books, government publications, periodicals, newspapers, pamphlets, and maps accumulated through this provision have been supplemented by gifts and purchases of important early Victorian material relating to the discovery, exploration, and settlement of Victoria, and works about Victoria or written by Victorians and published elsewhere.

In addition to its bookstock, the La Trobe Library contains over 60,000 volumes of newspapers, including nearly all Victorian newspapers. These are supplemented by indexes and collections of press cuttings. The Library is also active in the collection of manuscript materials, particularly the private papers of prominent Victorians and of Victorian organisations. This research collection of original papers is rich in material relating to the early history and development of Victoria. Particular treasures include original papers of Batman, the Port Phillip Association, Wedge, Bourke, Fawkner, Burke and Wills, Henty, Mackinnon, Armytage, Shillinglaw, Coppin, Black, McCullock, La Trobe, Redmond Barry, and Turner. In recent years, a substantial collection of documentary material reflecting Victoria's twentieth century history has also been acquired.

A valuable collection of paintings, prints, photographs, and negatives of historical interest has also been developed. Numbering more than 280,000 items, this collection includes paintings by Gill, Russell, von Guerard, Liardet, Strutt, and Burn; engravings by

Ham, Thomas, Cogne, and Calvert; and photographs by Fauchery, Caire, Lindt, and Nettleton.

Material dealing with the history of Victoria is supplemented by virtually complete collections of Victorian technical and scientific publications (including those of the Royal Society of Victoria and kindred societies as well as those of Victorian Government departments), law reports, Parliamentary Papers, and other material.

Municipal library services

The modern movement in municipal library service dates from the inception of the Free Library Service Board in 1947. Under the Library Council of Victoria Act 1965, the control of the Board passed to the Library Council and in 1966 its office was redesignated the Public Libraries Division of the Library Council of Victoria. Following the pattern established by the Free Library Service Board, the Public Libraries Division is concerned with the promotion, subsidy, inspection, and organisation of public libraries throughout Victoria. In addition, the Division offers a wide ranging advisory service concerning all aspects of public librarianship in Victoria.

Public library services offer 99.7 per cent of the total Victorian population access to information, recreational, and cultural services. These libraries are maintained by 208 of the State's 211 municipalities from municipal funds and from subsidies and grants made available by the Victorian Government through the Library Council of Victoria.

Regional libraries, which numbered twenty-nine in 1982-83 serving 173 individual municipalities, consist of groups of councils which establish, on a co-operative basis, regional library committees to administer the library services for the regions. The committee in each region employs library staff and authorises the purchase of books and other library materials and is generally in charge of public library services within the region. Many councils provide modern library buildings and facilities. Forty-seven bookmobiles are operating in Victoria, thirty-four in country regions, and thirteen in the Melbourne metropolitan area. In 1980-81, 1,621,950 borrowers used the services which had a total bookstock of 6,306,989 volumes and recorded 26,978,515 loans.

The Library Council of Victoria distributed \$14.51m in subsidies and grants in 1981-82. Of this amount, \$13.32m was a library subsidy paid on a \$2 for \$1 basis up to a maximum grant per municipality of \$3.40 per head of population. A rural library establishment and regional library development grant of \$800,000 and special projects grant of \$15,000 were also distributed. In 1981-82, subsidised municipalities estimated that they would provide \$19m for the maintenance of their services and approximately \$1m for buildings to house their libraries. Special projects grants to public libraries have been made over the past few years to promote and stimulate innovative approaches to library service, particularly in areas where a recognised need for action has been hampered by lack of relevant data based on local experience. Only a small number of demonstration projects can be funded each year—in 1981-82, \$15,000 was provided—but full evaluation and reporting is a condition of the grants so that the insights gained can be of benefit to all Victorian public libraries.

Inter-library co-operation

Technilib

Following a feasibility study into the establishment of a computer based co-operative centre for the cataloguing and processing of library materials for Victorian public libraries, Technilib was established in 1975 under section 799 of the Local Government Act and began operating in 1976. The Board of Directors consists of a representative of the Library Council of Victoria and a councillor from each of the library authorities using the centre. By October 1982, 23 library services were participating in the service.

Co-operative Action by Victorian Academic Libraries (CAVAL)

The Library Council is represented on the Board of Directors of CAVAL Limited, a consortium established in 1977 to promote co-operative action between Victorian academic libraries and incorporated under the *Companies Act* 1961 in 1978. The State Library participates in the CAVAL computerised shared cataloguing programme which now covers 16 institutions and in CEILS (CAVAL Expensive Item Listing Service). CAVAL also supports a reciprocal use programme among university and college libraries, and is now turning its attention to co-operative storage.

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Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services and the Australian Libraries and Information Council

In 1956, through the action of the National and State librarians, a planning body called the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services (AACOBS) was set up to consider measures for the co-operative development of book resources in Australia. In 1965, committees were set up in each State to co-ordinate acquisition in their areas, to organise and improve existing resources by co-operative projects, and generally to promote co-operation among libraries of all types. The Library Council of Victoria is represented on the AACOBS Victorian Regional Committee.

Through regular meetings of this Committee and of groups responsible to it, weaknesses in existing book provision are identified, and the economical use of library money is encouraged through the avoidance of unnecessary duplication of resources. Libraries are thus enabled to develop special strengths in their collections in co-ordination with other libraries but without loss of autonomy.

The State Librarian is a member of the Australian Libraries and Information Council (ALIC), which was set up in 1981 at the instigation of the Conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers with responsibilities for cultural affairs and the arts. The basic purpose of ALIC is to advise Ministers on means of securing co-operation and coordination between the Commonwealth and the States and between the States themselves in the formulation of a national plan for the development of library and related information services at all levels of government, and on the means of sharing resources. Further references: Special and research libraries, Victorian Year Book 1964, pp. 163-5; Development of regional library services, 1965, pp. 184-6; La Trobe Library, 1966, pp. 167-8; Board of Inquiry into Library Services, 1966, pp. 168-9; Manuscript collection in the La Trobe Library, 1967, pp. 441-2; Public records in Victoria, 1968, pp. 439-40; Arts Centre, 1969, pp. 460-1; Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1971, pp. 435-6; Sovereign Hill, Ballarat, 1972, pp. 441-15; National Museum of Victoria, 1972, pp. 414-16; National Museum of Victoria, 1972, pp. 415-16; Victoriana in State Library, 1974, pp. 448; Book publishing, 1965, pp. 181-3, 1980, pp. 278-9; Special projects, 1981, p. 730; Technilib, 1981, p. 731; Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services—Victorian Regional Committee, 1981 p. 731

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1981, p. 731

Victorian Government Information Centre

The Victorian Government Information Centre, located at 356 Collins Street, Melbourne, provides information to members of the community about the services and functions of Government Departments and Authorities.

The Centre also has a bookshop where Acts, Regulations, government and related publications may be inspected or purchased. A large range of gratis publications is maintained to complement the work of the Centre.

The press

Metropolitan press, 1982

Two Melbourne publishing companies produce most of Victoria's newspapers. The Herald and Weekly Times Limited, Australia's largest newspaper group, publishes the morning tabloid, The Sun, and the evening broadsheet, The Herald. David Syme & Co. Limited publishes the other Victorian morning newspaper, The Age, a broadsheet. In addition to these three metropolitan dailies, The Australian Financial Review and The Australian are published in Melbourne through facsimile transmission from Sydney.

Two Sunday newspapers, The Sunday Press, a joint venture of The Herald and Weekly Times Limited and David Syme & Co. Limited, and the Sunday Observer, produced by Peter Isaacson Publications, are also published. The Sunday Observer's average circulation in the six months ended 30 September 1982 was 130,954, an increase of 2,054 from the same period in 1981. But it remained behind The Sunday Press, whose circulation rose from 137,900 in 1981 to 140,574 last year. The comparatively low figures are attributed to the fact that neither newsagency services nor home delivery are available in the Melbourne metropolitan area on Sunday.

The Herald and The Sun lean toward broad popular appeal, while The Age is heavily orientated towards politics and comment, and classified advertising.

For the third successive year all three dailies increased their cover prices in 1982 due to cost increases. In April, the cost of the Saturday Age rose to 40¢, although the daily

edition remained at 25¢. In May The Herald rose from 20¢ to 25¢ and was followed by The Sun in July from 20¢ to 25¢. In August The Age raised its weekday cover price from 25¢ to 30¢.

Although sales of *The Herald* and *The Sun* are higher than *The Age*, only *The Age* recorded an increase in sales between the summer audit (1 October to 31 March) and the winter audit (1 April to 30 September). *The Sun* fell from 622,014 in the summer to 612,040 in the winter, and *The Herald*, like most afternoon papers in the world, experienced a decline, falling from 387,913 to 385,460. *The Age* increased its circulation between the audits from 244,759 to 245,426.

The 1981-82 financial year brought record results for both groups. In the year to 30 September, The Herald and Weekly Times lifted its after-tax profits from the previous year's \$23.6m to \$24.3m. David Syme & Co. Limited lifted after-tax profits from \$3.83m to \$4.13m.

Despite the overall rise in profits, The Herald and Weekly Times recorded a profit drop in the second half of the year 1981-82, and David Syme & Co. Limited's profit only rose by 7.75 per cent, compared to the previous year's rise of 46.2 per cent.

Suburban press

Suburban newspapers in Victoria are still maintaining their predominantly free weekly distribution. Fifty papers cover the suburban area as well as Geelong, Ballarat, and Bendigo. They match the growth of the suburbs and the provincial cities with 1,505,294 copies of newspapers being printed and distributed weekly.

Most publishers are members of the Circulations Audit Bureau and each week publish their audited circulations. Independent surveys have delineated the role of the local newspapers and latest surveys available have revealed a further significant increase in readership. Suburban newspapers can locate markets that are defined geographically or socio-economically and are ideal for the test marketing of new products or services.

Annual awards made available to members of the Association have contributed to an improvement in the standards of local newspapers, as has the purchase of new presses. Better trained staff, editing, photography, and advertising have also played their part in the improved presentation of the newspapers.

The Australian Suburban Newspapers' Association produces promotional material highlighting the advantages to advertisers and others of the suburban press.

Country press

Since the early 1970s, country newspapers in Victoria have been adapting to technological change in the printing industry, both in the installation of new plant and equipment, and in the industrial regulation of its use. The introduction of photo composition to the composing room and Web offset presses to the printing shop has enabled many small circulation newspapers to maintain their economic viability.

In mid-1981, there were 102 newspapers in publication outside the Melbourne Statistical Division. Of these, 80 were paid circulation, 19 free distribution, and 3 a mixture of free and paid circulation. Five were published daily, one five days a week, 9 three times a week, 15 twice a week, and 72 weekly. The total paid circulation per issue of these newspapers was 280,629 and the total free distribution per issue was 289,648.

In the west and south-west of Victoria, within the Statistical Divisions of Barwon, South Western, and Central Highlands, there were 25 locally published newspapers, 20 with paid circulation, four distributed free, and one with partly free and partly paid circulation. Total paid circulation per issue of these newspapers was 102,558 and free distribution 101,065. In the north-west and north, comprising the Wimmera, Northern Mallee, and Loddon-Campaspe Statistical Divisions, 29 locally produced newspapers had a total paid circulation of 80,715 and four newspapers had a free distribution totalling 53,599 per issue. In the Goulburn and North Eastern Statistical Divisions to the north and north-east of Melbourne, there were 21 local newspapers, 18 with paid circulations totalling 45,007 and 3 with free distribution totalling 39,324. In the east and south-east of Victoria, 23 newspapers were published in the Statistical Divisions of East Gippsland, Central Gippsland, and East Central. Of these, 13 were paid circulation, 8 were distributed free, and two had partly paid and partly free circulation. Total paid circulation per issue was 52,349 and total free distribution 95,660.

Further references: Country press; Victorian Year Book 1967, pp. 445-8; 1978, pp. 783-4

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Broadcasting and television services

Radio and television broadcasting falls within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth Government and, pursuant to the *Broadcasting and Television Act* 1942, is one of the responsibilities of the Minister for Communications. Commonwealth bodies which are directly involved include the Department of Communications, the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal, the Australian Telecommunications Commission, and the Special Broadcasting Service. Basically, the Australian broadcasting and television system is comprised of the following types of stations:

- (1) National broadcasting and television stations financed by the Commonwealth Government broadcasting programmes of the Australian Broadcasting Commission;
- (2) commercial broadcasting and television stations operated by companies under licence;
- (3) public broadcasting stations operated by corporations under licence on a non-profit basis; and
- (4) stations operated under the aegis of the Special Broadcasting Service.

The responsibility for broadcasting planning, including all matters relating to the technical operation of stations, and for the investigation of interference to the transmission and reception of programmes rests with the Minister for Communications.

The Australian Broadcasting Tribunal came into being on 1 January 1977 and is responsible for certain of the functions previously performed by the Australian Broadcasting Control Board (abolished 31 December 1976), including the licensing and supervision of the operation (other than technical aspects) of all stations except National and Special Broadcasting Service stations. The Tribunal is empowered to grant, renew, suspend, or revoke licences and to determine programme and advertising standards applicable to licensed stations. In particular, the Tribunal is required to conduct public inquiries into the granting of licences following the invitation of applications by the Minister; the renewal of licences; and such other matters as the Minister may direct.

Radio

Australian Broadcasting Commission

Radio broadcasts of the Australian Broadcasting Commission in Victoria can be seen as being divided into four main strands. In Melbourne there are the three networks heard from 3LO (Radio 1), 3AR (Radio 2), and ABC-FM. Radio 3 is devised with a non-metropolitan audience in mind, and can be heard from 3GI (Sale), 3WL (Warrnambool), 3WV (Horsham), and 3MT (Omeo). There are two domestic shortwave stations—VLH and VLR—operating from Lyndhurst and covering northern Australia; six shortwave transmitters at Shepparton and two at Lyndhurst operate for Radio Australia, the ABC's overseas service.

The ABC broadcasts under the *Broadcasting and Television Act* 1942. ABC programmes cover a wide range, such as Parliament, news, current affairs, features, drama, religion, sport, variety, programmes of special interest to the rural population, and music. Included in the music programmes on Radio 2 and 3, and ABC-FM, are operas, concerts by overseas artists, and orchestral music. The ABC has six symphony orchestras including the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (see page 691).

Frequency modulation radio

The ABC's stereo frequency modulation (FM) radio service began broadcasting in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, and Adelaide on 24 January 1976 and in the other State capitals in 1980. It was extended to Ballarat, Mount Gambier, Rockhampton, Bunbury in 1981, and to seven more centres including Mildura and Bendigo in 1982. During the 1980s, the service is planned to be expanded to other major regional centres. The programme format is predominantly classical music but also includes light music, rock, jazz, and folk, together with drama, features, and other spoken word programmes which exploit the creative possibilities of stereophonic sound.

News service

In Victoria alone the ABC News Service employs about 50 journalists in the domestic Radio and Television News Service and about 20 journalists in Radio Australia. Their work is supplemented by information supplied by some 110 correspondents throughout the

State, and by staff newsmen at Sale, Horsham, and Albury. The Commission has developed its own cadet journalist training scheme.

In Victoria, the ABC broadcasts 12 main National-State radio news bulletins daily. There is also 'Newsvoice' from Monday to Friday. The output of 'News in Brief' bulletins, mostly on the hour, increases to fourteen a day when the Commonwealth Parliament is not sitting. ABC regional radio stations at Sale and Horsham provide seven bulletins of local news daily. Much local news of interest to listeners in northern Victoria is also broadcast from the ABC studios at Albury on the Victoria-New South Wales border via station 2CO.

The News Service also produces "This Week in Parliament" on Friday evenings (Radio 2/3) when State Parliament is sitting, "This Week in Business" on Saturday mornings (Radio 2/3), and "The Newsmakers" (7.30 a.m. Saturday on 3LO).

Radio Australia

Radio Australia broadcasts to the world, with special emphasis on South-East Asia and the Pacific, a total of 48 hours a day from new studios at East Burwood (23 kilometres from Melbourne). It broadcasts 24 hours a day in English and for lesser periods in Indonesian, Standard Chinese, Cantonese, Thai, Vietnamese, Japanese, French, Neo-Melanesian, and English for Papua New Guinea. From midnight to dawn, Radio Australia is also broadcast over ABC stations in the Northern Territory.

In December 1982, Radio Australia's \$7.5m studio complex was opened on an 18 hectare site. There is a multi-lingual staff of 162 presenting music, language, and news and public affairs programmes. World and Australian news in English is broadcast every hour, 24 hours a day. These broadcasts are also transmitted in the eight other languages. Two 10 minute bulletins of Australian news are directed to the United Kingdom, Europe, and North America, as well as the primary target areas.

Public broadcasting

Public broadcasting stations are operated by non-profit making groups for a special purpose such as educational, community, or special interest. At 28 February 1983, 37 stations were in operation, eight of them in Victoria. Stations 3CR, 3MBS, 3PBS, and 3RRR serve the Melbourne area; 3GCR serves the Churchill (Gippsland) area, 3CCC the Central Victorian area from Harcourt, 3MBR Murrayville and nearby towns, and 3RPC, the Portland area.

Special Broadcasting Service

The Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) was established by the Commonwealth Government on 1 January 1978 to provide multilingual radio services and, if authorised by regulations, to provide multilingual television services. A regulation authorising the provision of multilingual television services was gazetted in August 1978. The Service is also empowered by the *Broadcasting and Television Act* 1977 to provide broadcasting and television services for such special purposes as are prescribed by the Commonwealth Government.

In carrying out its functions in Victoria, the SBS provides multilingual broadcasting services to the Melbourne metropolitan area and Geelong through radio station 3EA which broadcasts in 50 languages for 126 hours per week, and a multicultural television service on VHF Channel 0 and UHF Channel 28 to the Melbourne metropolitan area and Geelong.

Commercial broadcasting

Commercial broadcasting stations are operated by companies under licences granted by the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal with technical operating conditions determined by the Minister for Communications. The stations obtain income from the broadcasting of advertisements.

The fee for a licence for a commercial broadcasting station is based on the gross earnings during the preceding financial year, assessed on a sliding scale formula up to \$7m and on a fixed percentage or the lesser of 5 per cent on amounts exceeding \$7m.

At 30 June 1982, there were 135 commercial broadcasting stations in operation in Australia of which twenty-four were in Victoria. Two FM stations (3EON and 3FOX) went to air in July and August 1980, respectively, in Melbourne.

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The call signs and location of the AM stations are shown in the following table:

VICTORIA—COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS IN OPERATION AT 30 JUNE 1982

Call	Area	Call	Area	Call	Area	Call	Area
sign	served	sign	served	sign	served	sign	served
3AK 3CR 3XY 3AW 3KZ 3DB	Melbourne	3UZ 3BA 3BO 3CS 3CV 3GL	Melbourne Ballarat Bendigo Colac Maryborough Geelong	3HA 3MA 3MP	Hamilton Mildura Mornington Peninsula— Frankston Wangaratta	3SH 3SR 3TR 3UL 3WM 3YB	Swan Hill Shepparton Sale Warragul Horsham Warrnambool

At 30 June 1982, the average weekly hours of operation of Victorian commercial broadcasting stations were: Melbourne 168, and country 140.5.

Further references: History of broadcasting, Victorian Year Book 1961, pp. 164-6; Australian Broadcasting Control Board, 1964, pp. 177-8, 1977, pp. 915, 918; Radio Australia, 1966, pp. 174-5, 1975, pp. 904-5; Educational broadcasts to schools, 1968, pp. 449-52; Development of ABC radio programmes, 1969, pp. 467-8

Television

National television

The ABC's television service in Victoria includes ABV Channel 2, Melbourne, and eight country stations. Programme material for the Victorian country national television stations is prepared at ABV Channel 2, Melbourne, and transmitted to the country centres by a series of broad-band radio-telephone relay systems.

Details of national television stations and translator stations in Victoria are shown in the following tables:

VICTORIA—NATIONAL TELEVISION STATIONS IN OPERATION, 1982

Transmitter location	Call sign	Date of establishment		
Melbourne	ABV2	November 1956		
Bendigo	ABEV1	April 1963		
Ballarat	ABRV3	May 1963		
La Trobe Valley (Traralgon)	ABLV4	September 1963		
Goulburn Valley (Shepparton)	ABGV3	November 1963		
Upper Murray (Albury)	ABAV1	December 1964		
Murray Valley (Swan Hill)	ABSV2	July 1965		
Mildura	ABMV4	November 1965		
Mount Dundas	ABWV5A	July 1981		

VICTORIA—NATIONAL TRANSLATOR STATIONS IN OPERATION, 1982

Translator location	Channel	Parent Station
Warrnambool-Port Fairy	2	ABRV3
Portland	4	ABRV3
Alexandra	5A	ABGV3
Orbost	2	ABLV4
Eildon	1	ABGV3
Nhil1	9	ABRV3
Myrtleford	2	ABGV3
Corryong-Khancoban	9	ABAV1
Colac	5Å	ABRV3
Cobden	8	ABRV3
Casterton	3	ABWV5A
Coleraine	2	ABWV5A
Cann River	11	(a)ABLV4

⁽a) New station since 30 June 1982.

All national television transmitter and relay facilities are maintained by the Australian Telecommunications Commission.

The following table is an analysis taken from transmission records and programme schedules of Sydney station ABN-2, but is typical of programme content on other ABC-TV channels. This year "Action drama and Interpersonal drama" have been combined because in some programmes they have an equal focus of interest. "Living and shopping" includes informative, practical programmes.

COMPOSITION OF NATIONAL TELEVISION PROGRAMMES, 1981-82

		Percentage of				Percentage of	
Programme category	Number of hours	Total trans- mission hours	Australian origin, in each category	Programme category	Number of hours	Total trans- mission hours	Australian origin, in each category
Drama—				Special arts and aesthetics-			
Action interpersonal	699	14.81	21.26	Ballet and mime	7	0.15	_
Serious comedy and satis	re 5	0.12	_	Creative effects and			
Humour, situation, and	124		5 40	animation	50	1.06	53.64
farce	176 8	3.72	7.43	Discussion and resumé of	10		41.00
Drama documentary		0.18		the arts Miscellaneous	10 5	0.21	41.08
Total	889	18.83	10.16	Miscenaneous		<u> </u>	
Public interest-				Total	72	1.52	42.85
News comment and				Name			
topical items	236	5.00	97.09	News, newsreel, and weather	317	6.72	100.00
Documentaries	145	3.06	37.39	Religious matter	51	1.08	100.00
Living and shopping	37	0.79	100.00	Sport	801	16.96	76.74
Discussion and interview	s 5	0.10	100.00	Rural (extension and			
Travel and nature study	67	1.42	5.55	discussion)	8	0.17	100.00
Science	33	0.70	28.68	Education (formal)	1,266	26.80	51.06
Special events	22	0.47	100.00	Musical performance	81	1.72	66.18
				Variety and acts	244	5.16	56.34
				Panel and quiz games	11	0.24	26.23
				Cartoons	115	2.43	3.43
_				Presentation	322	6.81	100.00
Total	546	11.55	66.21	Total transmission (a)	4,722	100.00	55.88

⁽a) In the tabulations above, the hours and percentages for 1981-82 refer to transmission time and not to production. Much of the material transmitted during 1981-82 was, in fact, produced in previous years.

All ABC programmes are telecast in colour seven days a week. The improvement of both the quantity and quality of Australian television programmes is a matter of continuing concern to the Commission. The ABC has maintained Australian content well above 50 per cent of its television output since the introduction of colour television in 1975.

Television news

The Victorian branch of the ABC Television News Service based at Ripponlea is integrated into the ABC news network, receiving copy by teleprinter from both the national news desk in Sydney and the news desk at the Victorian News Headquarters in Melbourne.

ABC Television News has a team of special reporters and cameramen in radio controlled cars to cover spot news or for special television reports. Boats, helicopters, and light aircraft are chartered as needed. Scattered throughout Victoria are cameramen who film for the ABC on assignment. News items from ABC offices around Australia are sent to Melbourne on micro-wave links. Late items can be fed directly into news bulletins.

Overseas reports arrive via satellites stationed over the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The reports come from the ABC's team of journalists in the world's major news centres, from the BBC, NBC (USA), CBC (Canada), and other Visnews members, plus Visnews stafficamera crews. All ABC-TV and most Australian commercial television stations subscribe to the daily satellite run, and share the cost.

The ABC Television News Service broadcasts four separate national bulletins each weekday and two on Saturdays and Sundays. In addition, ABV2 provides two separate regional news services from Monday to Friday each week. These are relayed through country transmitters at Bendigo, Ballarat, Mildura, Swan Hill, Shepparton, Albury, the

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La Trobe Valley, and Mount Dundas, Western Victoria. One regional bulletin services Victoria's western, central, and north-eastern regions, while the other services the Gippsland region.

Commercial television

Commercial television stations are operated by companies under licences granted by the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal with technical operating conditions determined by the Minister for Communications. The stations obtain income from the televising of advertisements. The fee for a licence for a commercial television station is amount based on the gross earnings receipts during the preceding financial year, assessed on a sliding scale formula up to \$20m and on a fixed percentage or the lesser of 7.5 per cent on amounts exceeding \$20m. Colour television using the Phase Alternation Line (PAL) system was introduced in Australia late in 1974 and services became fully effective in March 1975.

Details of commercial television stations, together with statistics showing the composition of commercial television programmes, are shown in the following tables:

VICTORIA—COMMERCIAL TELEVISION STATIONS IN OPERATION AT 30 JUNE 1982

Location	Call sign	Date of commencement	
Melbourne	HSV7	November 1956	
Melbourne	GTV9	January 1957	
Melbourne	ATV10	August 1964 (a)	
Bendigo	BCV8	December 1961	
Ballarat	BTV6	April 1962	
La Trobe Valley (Traralgon)	GLV8	December 1961 (a)	
Goulburn Valley (Shepparton)	GMV6	December 1961	
Upper Murray (Albury)	AMV4	September 1964	
Mildura	STV8	November 1965	

⁽a) Television station ATV10 changed channels from ATV0 and television station GLV8 changed channels from GLV10 in January 1980.

VICTORIA—COMPOSITION OF COMMERCIAL TELEVISION PROGRAMMES, 1981-82 (Percentage of total transmission time devoted to each category)

Programme category	Melbourne commercial stations	Country commercial stations
Cinema movies Other drama Light entertainment Sport News Children Family activities Information Current affairs Political matter Religious matter Education The arts	per cent 14.6 28.7 19.7 13.9 6.6 8.6 1.1 2.2 3.1 1.1 0.4	per cent 13.4 25.5 21.1 15.0 7.9 8.6 0.8 2.7 0.4 2.7 0.4
Total	100.0	100.0

Further references: Broadcasting and television programme standards, Victorian Year Book 1965, pp. 196-8; Television programme research, 1966, pp. 178-80; Television technical planning, 1967, pp. 453-4; Television programmes, 1970, pp. 470-1; Music in radio and television, 1971, pp. 445-6; ABC television drama in Victoria, 1972, pp. 423-4; Television translator stations, 1981, p. 738; Radio Australia, 1981, p. 734

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