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President's column: Mimma Sardi

As another year comes to end, I look back at 2018 and wonder where the time has gone! From organising that first event in August with assistance from a small group of passionate volunteers, to attending the national conference in Hobart, to working with the current (just as passionate) WA Branch Councillors, it has been a pretty exhilarating and busy few months. Looking forward to the future, I envision exciting opportunities for information practitioners in the coming year. In the interests of promoting the GLAMR professions in WA, your Branch Council will be working closely with our Alliance partners to bring you something very special in May 2019 -so watch this space!

I wish everyone a very safe and happy festive season and a very prosperous new year. And may all your troubles be little ones!

Christmas Wishes



The WA Branch Council wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful Happy New Year!

WA Branch Councillor Profile

Mimma Sardi

WA Branch President

Mimma has worked for the Department of Transport for nearly seven years. Initially employed as Coordinator of the Resource Centre (or library to many), she moved into records management just over four years ago and is currently Team Leader of Information Management Operations, responsible for a team of six officers. As a relative newcomer to the records management arena, but with over 20 years' experience working in school and special libraries, Mimma has enjoyed the challenge of transitioning to this pathway, realising that there are many cross-overs between the library and records environments. Mimma has an Advanced Diploma in Applied Science (Library Studies) and holds a Cert IV in both Frontline Management and Business Administration. She has served on many committees, from library to sporting to corporate bodies and now RIMPA. Mimma has a passion for reading, dancing (line-dancing and ballroom) cruising the seven seas (or as many as possible!) and cooking.



Geoffrey Bolton Lecture 12th November 2018

A large crowd, including several members of the RIMPA WA Branch Council, packed the beautiful Heath Ledger Theatre in the State Theatre Centre on the 12th November to hear the 2018 Geoffrey Bolton Lecture which was delivered by Richard Foy, Chief Archivist and General Manager of Archives New Zealand.

The Geoffrey Bolton Lecture has been held each year since 2004 and provides a forum for eminent historians, politicians, academics, the legal fraternity and members of our own profession (archives and recordkeeping) to expand on how records and archives have played an important role in our history. The aim of the lecture series is twofold: to encourage the expression of ideas and debate about the meaning and nature of history, culture and society, grounded in archival research; and to provide archival and historical context to national debate on contemporary issues.¹

The annual lecture is in honour of Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO (1931-2015) who was one of Australia's most pre-eminent historians and celebrated author of many publications about Australia and the Commonwealth. Born in Perth, Professor Bolton had a

¹ <http://www.sro.wa.gov.au/events/geoffrey-bolton-lecture>

long and distinguished academic career and was the recipient of several prestigious awards including Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1984 in recognition of distinguished service of a high degree to Australia for his services to education. In 2001, he was presented with a Centenary Medal for services to the Centenary of Federation celebrations in Western Australia. In recognition of his major contribution to Australian history and the community, Professor Bolton was named the WA Australian of the Year in 2006.²

The 2018 Geoffrey Bolton was titled *Digital Assimilation: Resistance is Futile* and Richard Foy entertained attendees as he explored current issues relating to data breaches, information privacy and digital disruption. Using his boyhood memories of Star Trek and Thunderbirds, Mr Foy provided a thought provoking and entertaining lecture.

Full details and a pod cast may be found on the **WA State Records web site**: <http://www.sro.wa.gov.au/events/geoffrey-bolton-lecture/2018-geoffrey-bolton-lecture-richard-foy>

RIMPA WA Branch Council Survey

One of the first action items undertaken by the new WA Branch Council was to design and distribute a survey to **members and non-members**. The aim of the survey was to gather data which would enable us to plan events for 2019.

The survey was sent to individual members and also posted on the Western Australian Information Network (WAIN)³ so that we could gain feedback from the whole of WA's rm/im community. Interestingly the overall response rate was in favour of non-members (85.71%) with only 14.29% of members responding. Thanks to everyone who did respond! 😊

So what were the results?

In answer to how often events should be held, it appears that on a **quarterly basis** fits the bill. The timing of events i.e. breakfast, sundowners, half day and full day sessions or short sessions were all popular with the **sundowner coming out tops**. However, we also appreciate responses from colleagues who are in the regions and those with parental commitments, who may not be able to attend events at these times. The **Perth CBD** was the overwhelming choice for location although **Northbridge was also popular**.

Respondents were interested in **events** which covered

- information management strategies (86.67%);
- records forensics (73.33%);
- artificial intelligence (64.44%);
- cyber security (60.00%);
- different types of recordkeeping environments and management techniques (53.33%);
- personal development (51.11%); and
- emotional intelligence (28.89%)

² <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Support-Murdoch/Major-projects/Geoffrey-Bolton/>

³ <https://lists.curtin.edu.au/mailman/listinfo/wain>

Respondents also provided some further **topics of interest** including:

- digital archiving and preservation;
- an insight into the impact of the Machinery of Government on recordkeeping from someone on the inside;
- digital records management including disposal and preservation;
- information management automation;
- information management in small and large companies – differences and best practice;
- the future of the information management profession
- upskilling courses;
- quality management;
- information governance
- cloud SAAS;
- archiving of websites and social media;
- technologies in general;
- robots;

Some really interesting and contemporary topics which will provide a great base for future event planning.

We also asked respondents for their views on how Branch Council could improve future events and we were very heartened by the positive responses received. There were some great ideas for events and topics as well as ideas on gaining sponsorships, events where vendors can promote their services and undertaking events with other allied GLAMR⁴ organisations. Both the WA President and Alliances Representative have made contact with allied organisations already (ASA and IIM) and sit on the WA Information Leadership Group so we are hoping that as a result we can coordinate our calendars and get involved in some joint functions. The comments relating to the RIMPA national office are a little out of our control, but we will certainly pass those comments on.

So thank you to all the respondents, the comments and survey responses have provided Branch Council with some great ideas and actions moving forward!

⁴ GLAMR – Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums and Records.

2018 RIMPA WA Christmas Event Wrap Up

The WA RIMPA Christmas Sundowner was held on Thursday 6 December 2018 at the Universal Bar in Northbridge. A small group attended where we chatted about all things records and information management and whatever else took our fancies! We were provided with some great food and able to purchase drinks from the bar. It was a lovely evening and we were able to catch up with some new and old faces. Many thanks to the WA Branch Council for organising the event.



Event Calendar

12 February 2019

Breakfast Event - 'Neuroscience of Change'

Bronny Coombes is a Sensemaker of organisational change and will be present 'Neuroscience of Change' and will include:

- Exploration of basics – how our brains are wired
- What this means for us during times of change
- Some practical ideas to take away

Organisational change is more complex today as leaders try to do more with less, as they are also expected to understand how to lead their teams through rapid change that occurs frequently. More and more, traditional change approaches will need some rethinking and new application to help people 'make sense' of what is happening. As a sensemaker, Bronny help leaders in organisations make sense of the change and deliver programmes that help people 'connect the dots'.

May 2019

Special event - details to be advised soon.



Where: Peninsula Central Pier – Docklands Melbourne

Date: 6 to 9 October 2019