



WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear ICME colleagues, dear friends,

I send warm greetings to you all from Tokyo as we approach the end of 2014. Two images show just a small part of paying seasonal respect at the Yasakuni Shrine as I walked through yesterday and it is with grateful thanks to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Bridge award that I am once again in Japan.



ICMENews 72 Contents
Words from President1
Annual Conference Report, Viv Golding3
Photo Report conference 2014, Leif Parelli5
Report on the ICOM-ICME Annual Conference, Esther Chipashu9
Museums and Truth in the US13
Conference 2015 Vietnam13
Triennial Conference 2016 Milan14
Wedding Bells15
Words from the Editor16
Season's Greetings17



The sun still shines down on us here and there are still some autumn leaves clinging to the trees, which adds to my pleasure as I write to you from the National Museum of Nature and Science in Tokyo as we approach the end of 2014. This has been a busy and successful year for our committee, one that we have seen bear the fruit of previous effort by our members, and where we have been able to lay the foundations for work in 2015. I would like to highlight some key points that will be expanded upon in this Newsletter, and to give thanks to some of our extraordinary members.

First we must say a huge thank you to Dr Annette Fromm. As you know, Dr Fromm selflessly continued to act as our ICME News Editor for the 69, 70 and 71 issues. Without Dr Fromm's dedication to our committee the ICME News would not have been published at all in 2014. Dr Fromm has extended her assistance to our new ICME News editor, Dr Jen Walklate, for whom this, ICME News 72 is the first issue. Thank you Annette.

Now we note our debt of gratitude to Dr Zvjezdana Antos. Dr Antos very kindly resumed the role of Treasurer at the end of 2013. As Treasurer, Dr Antos has been progressing funds for our ICOM-funded Special Project 'Accessioning Africa', which we outline below. On top of her Treasurer's duties she also took the





lead role in organizing the annual conference in Zagreb, which included organizing payments and visa for the Fellows. Thank you Zvjezdana.

One image from Marmara Museum where the ICME 2014 conference was hosted speaks to my feelings on our achievement.



Smiling deity at Marmara Museum Zagreb.

The 2014 annual conference and post-conference tour on the theme of Museums and Innovation was a huge success, as we note below. Here let us acknowledge Dr Antos, who organized the events in Zagreb, and also worked together with our board member Mario Buletic, as well as Dr Lidija Nikocevic, over the brilliant post-conference tour of Istria. Lidija and Mario guided us through some amazing multisensory experiences of the beautiful Istrian region. Some of us enjoyed our first truffles, ate the freshest fish and tasted the most delicious olives, breads and wines to the sounds of traditional musicians.

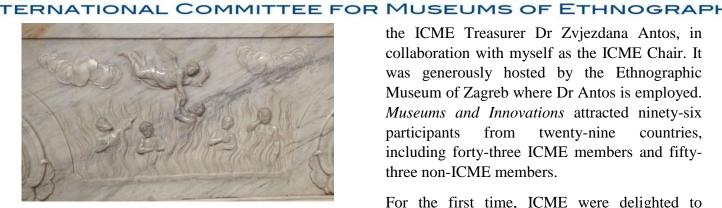
ICME thanks the efforts of the team. Zviezdana. Mario and Lidija, and all of their numerous unsung colleagues, who quietly worked away to ensure everything ran smoothly and everyone's needs were taken care of, to make our 2014 conference one of the most memorable and inspiring events in our history. Thank you Zvjezdana, Mario and Lidija for our 2014 conference and post conference study tour.



Wooden toy rocking horse in the Ethnographic Museum, Istria.

We are pleased to include Leif Parelli's photographic report of the 2014 conference and study tour. We hope Leif's beautiful images will give those of you who were unable to join us a feeling of the wonderful events. As someone who was lucky enough to attend I am transported back to warmer times with friends and colleagues. Thank you Leif.





An angel saving souls engraved on a font in Istria.

In 2014 ICME awarded two Fellowships to members of developing nations - Esther Chipashu and Dr Jeremy Silvester - to enable them to participate in the annual conference. You will find Esther's personal reflections on the 2014 conference and tour in this issue. Thank you Esther.

Our Fellows Reports, along with the papers delivered, will appear on the website in 2015. Many thanks to our Webmaster Mario Buletic for his sterling effort keeping our website up to date.

This News also notes some dates for your diaries. We are pleased to announce details of ICME's 2015 conference in Hanoi Vietnam and we note the latest news on the ICOM triennial conference in Milan 2016.

Finally a photo report from Sarah Kuramochi (nee Munton). Sarah outlines the way cultures fuse for her and how knowledge can be shared across cultural divides, with reference to her recent wedding.

On behalf of the Board I wish you all a healthy, prosperous and creative 2015.

Viv Golding, President of ICME

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Viv Golding

ICME's 2014 Annual Conference, on the theme of Museums and Innovations, was organized by the ICME Treasurer Dr Zvjezdana Antos, in collaboration with myself as the ICME Chair. It was generously hosted by the Ethnographic Museum of Zagreb where Dr Antos is employed. Museums and Innovations attracted ninety-six participants from twenty-nine countries. including forty-three ICME members and fiftythree non-ICME members.

For the first time, ICME were delighted to welcome three keynote speeches that resonated with the interests of our group. From Croatia, Professor Tomoslav Sola's keynote speech considered 'Museums and Innovations'; from Australia/Denmark, Professor Amareswar Galla spoke on 'Bringing Cinderella to the Ball: Rethinking the Ethnographic Museum - Comparative Perspectives from Asia and Europe' and, from France, Dr Denis Chevallier discussed his experience of 'Transforming a museum of society from the MNAPT in Paris to the MuCEM in Marseille'. All these keynotes together illuminated current innovative work being carried out in museums around the globe.

Subsequent speakers addressed the subthemes of the conference: Exploring Identity & Community; Communicating Heritage & Intangibility; Transformations; Collaborations; Developing new practice; New Voices & (Re)interpretation; Materiality & Sensual Knowledge; and Naming: the history and future of our discipline. Speakers represented museums and universities from twenty-nine different countries, including: Austria, Australia/Denmark, Belgium, Canada, China, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Germany, Malta. Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, S. Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Zimbabwe, the UK (and Northern Ireland), and the USA.

In addition to the conference papers, ICME made a number of study visits to museums in Zagreb. At each site, museum professionals warmly



welcomed us. Site visits included The City Museum, The Museum of Broken Relationships, The Ethnographic Museum and Marmara Museum.

ICME enjoyed the intangible heritage of the region over lunch and during conference dinners. At our final conference dinner we were privileged to experience a traditional song and dance performance. Sitting in the exquisite building, watching the beautiful dancers and being enveloped in the sound of their wonderful music and songs was an unforgettable experience.

Following the conference, ICME made a threeday post-conference tour of Istria (17-19 October), staying 2 nights in Rovinj/Rovigno. Board member and web-master Mario Buletic acted as our local guide, and worked together with Dr Zvjezdana Antos to ensure the smooth running of the tour.

On day one in Pazin Dr Lidija Nikočević, Director of the Ethnographic Museum of Istria, and her team, introduced us to the interesting exhibitions and gave us an historical outline of the region. Then she accompanied us to the Center for the Intangible Heritage of Istria at PIĆAN, where we engaged in discussion of intangible heritage, sampled the wonderful cuisine of the region and participated in a workshop of traditional dancing practices.

On day two we visited Motovun, where we enjoyed a lecture on and tasting of mushroom truffles, which was a first experience for many of us. Then Dr Lidija Nikočević joined us during our visit to the small town of Grožnjan/Grisignan and Momjan/Momiano, where the family Sinković introduced us to their wine cellar, distillery and the concept of agritourism. ICME learnt about traditional and modern wine production in this rural economy, and enjoyed local liquors, food and wine. After lunch we appreciated a guided visit to the Batana Ecomuseum, a local community initiative based on local maritime culture. In the evening we experienced a magical tour around the island on the traditional batana boats, with musical accompaniment in one batana boat, travelling to Spacio Matika, where we enjoyed freshly caught local fish, wines and music in a location traditionally used for selling wine and socializing, which has become part of the Batana Ecomuseum project.

On day three, Dr Lidija Nikočević joined us at Vodnjanv/Dignano, and gave us another lecture on her research into the locality during our visit to the Eco-museum initiative Istrian de Dignan, where we tasted products made from local olive oil from a small producer and visited the local oil Then at Pula/Pola we visited mill. the Amphitheatre and the old city centre with a guide from the Archeological Museum of Istria, who took us through the underground tunnels (Zerostrasse) and the Historical and Maritime Museum of Istria, which is situated in old town's Venetian castle. Participants also made optional visits to sites including the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Gallery and Exhibiting Centre Sv. Srca., and Photo Gallery Makina before departing for Zagreb.

This tour provided an important opportunity for ICME to engage in rich dialogue and experience live culture outside of the conference. We are delighted that email communication continues.



LEIF PARELLI PHOTO REPORT

CONFERENCE 2014



Zvjezdana Antos at the opening ceremony



Esther Chipashu, Zimbawe, presenting



Ivan Grinko, Russia, Presenting



Annette Fromm, Kiwon Yi and Leif Parelli, Marmara Musuem

















Display at the Ethnographic Museum Pazin Istria



Lidija Nikocevic speaks to the group in Pazin Istria





Traditional dance workshop Pazin Istria



Rovinj Istria



Mario and our truffle expert



Regional products



Truffle oils



Truffle pig

7





Jeremy Silvester admires the Sinkovic wines



Cats and pig at the Sinkovic estate



Thanking out Sinkovic hosts



Boat trip



Feast after the boat trip



Tasting traditional products in the ecomusuem

8







Group photo with mural



Roman Arena



Giving thanks at out final supper



Mario says farewell

REPORT ON THE **ICOM-ICME** ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ZAGREB, CROATIA 14-16 OCTOBER 2014

Esther Chipashu, Curator of Ethnography, National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe

ICME held its annual conference on 14-16 October, 2014, in the Croatian capital of Zagreb, in cooperation with the University of Leicester's School of Museum Studies. The conference explored a very exciting theme, Museums and Innovations. The conference was well attended, with ninety six participants drawn from twenty nine countries. Three keynote speakers and forty four presenters came from various parts of the world, although mainly from Europe. The continents of Asia and Africa were poorly represented: Africa had only two participants, one from Zimbabwe and one from Namibia, who were both supported by ICME. Thanks to the generosity of ICOM-ICME. I was the second African participant and presenter at the conference: this was the second time I have received an ICME fellowship.



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF ETHNOGRAPH



Some of the participants at the 2014 ICME conference

Despite the unequal geographical representation of participants, the ICME conference was organised as a forum where people of diverse backgrounds among them museum _ professionals, students and academic researchers - convened at the Mimara Museum in Zagreb to discuss innovative ways of presenting heritage in museums. The conference and post-conference study tour also provided a platform to learn about new exhibiting practices by means of which museums can reach out to all global citizens, children included. One such museum is the Ethnographic Museum of Istria, which has displays that cater for young children through displaying toys and items that relate to their needs, an aspect that is missing in most conservative museums in Africa, Zimbabwe not an exception.

The three keynote speakers delivered insightful speeches. Professor Sola laid out the broad theme museum innovation. Professor of Galla's discussion addressed the World Heritage Convention of 1972 and the 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural heritage, and Dr Chevallier outlined his work as Director at the innovative Museum Minem in Marseille. The subsequent presentations were also in line with the conference theme and current global museological trends. These speeches pointed out that museums can be used as a tool for social expression, representation, fostering dialogue combating injustice. The scope of discussions generally moved away from the notion of museums as just repositories of dead objects.

The conference started with a guided tour of the Old Town of Zagreb in front of the Mimara

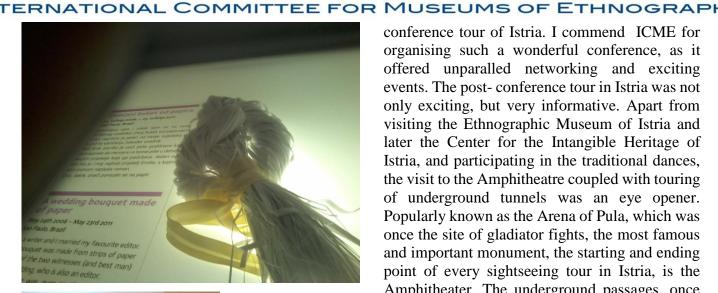
Museum. The presentations were complimented by a variety of activies, among them visits to a number of museums in Zagreb. ICME enjoyed touring and viewing exhibitions, as well as a concert performed by the "Zagreb quartet" and traditional perfomances by the National Folk Dance Ensemble



Participants viewing the National Folk Dance Ensemble

It was a pleasure visiting the Zagreb City Museum and later the Museum of Broken Relationships. I found the visit to the Museum of Broken Relationships very exciting. The Museum of Broken Relationships, which was initiated by two Croatian artists, began as a traveling collection of donated items and has since found a permanent location in Zagreb. The Museum of Broken Relationships encourages discussion and reflection, not only on the fragility of human relationships but also on the political, social, and cultural circumstances surrounding the personal stories being told. Essentially dedicated to failed romantic relationships, the museum exhibits include personal objects left over from former lovers, accompanied by brief descriptions. Of importance in this museum is the fact that it deals with contemporary issues, an aspect which modern day museum practitioners must critically think about.







A wedding bouquet on display in the Museum of Broken Relationships and Esther Chipashu, a participant at the conference, admiring a wedding gown on display in the same museum

THE POST CONFERENCE TOUR, 17-19 OCTOBER 2014

Esther Chipashu, Curator of Ethnography, National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe

After informative presentations and numerous museum visits in Zagreb, the participants embarked on a very exciting and memorable postconference tour of Istria. I commend ICME for organising such a wonderful conference, as it offered unparalled networking and exciting events. The post- conference tour in Istria was not only exciting, but very informative. Apart from visiting the Ethnographic Museum of Istria and later the Center for the Intangible Heritage of Istria, and participating in the traditional dances, the visit to the Amphitheatre coupled with touring of underground tunnels was an eye opener. Popularly known as the Arena of Pula, which was once the site of gladiator fights, the most famous and important monument, the starting and ending point of every sightseeing tour in Istria, is the Amphitheater. The underground passages, once used by the gladiators, nowadays host a regular exhibition of viticulture and olive growing in Istria in ancient times. The exhibits include reconstructions of machines once used for the production of olive oil and wine (mills, presses, and vessels), and amphorae used for storing and transporting olive oil and wine.



Cross section of exhibits in the Amphitheater

What I liked most about the post-conference tour was that it was participatory, as attendees learnt how to perform traditional Croatian dances. Further to this well-organised event there was a local feast with music, food, and drinks. It was a great experience visiting the wine and olive-oil makers, tasting the sweetness of a variety of wines and olive-oil. Throughout the post-conference



tour, food was abundant and I cannot forget tasting the Croatian local dishes. It was also great tasting truffles and grappa for the very first time.



Participants wining and dining at the conference

The visit to and touring of the exhibitions in the Historical and Maritime Museum of Istria remains an unforgettable experience to me, as someone with a passion for history. Opened in 1955 as a museum of the Revolution, the Museum keeps national and universal heritage from the Middle Ages until the present, directly or indirectly presenting it to the public by means of permanent and temporary exhibitions. Viewing these guns enabled me to draw exhibiting comparisons with the Military Museum in Gweru, the central region of Zimbabwe, a museum that also concerns itself with the practice of displaying military history equipment. As part of its quest to show a global perspective, this Museum also displays an assortment of military vehicles from the two World Wars that griped the earth between 1914-18 and 1939-45.



Guns used during World War II on display at the Historical and Maritime Museum of Istria

Overall, the ICME Conference initiated dialogue and debate on new ways of thinking and working in museums today. I commend the organisers of the 2014 conference for organising such a wonderful event. I did not come back to Zimbabwe empty-handed, as I learnt a lot during the presentations from the international museum community, and as a result of visiting different museums, sites and other important places in Zagreb and Istria. Beyond any reasonable doubt, case-studies of innovative museum operations and practices around the world were a real eyeopener. I also got exposure to different types of museums and exhibitions, and this will be instrumental in enhancing my capacity as a Curator.



TERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF ETHNOGRAPH

MUSEUMS AND TRUTH IN THE US



Fromm, A., Golding, V. and Rekdal, P. (eds) 2014, Museums and Truths, CSP, on display at the Exhibit Hall, American Folklore Society annual meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico, November 2014

CONFERENCE 2015

CALL FOR PAPERS

Museums and Communities: Diversity, Dialogue, Collaboration

ICME annual conference 21-23 October 2015.

This conference addresses the contemporary museum's concern with power, representation and affect. Specifically, conference considers the transformation of exhibition spaces from sites where knowledge is transmitted to passive audiences towards potential contact zones or forums where diverse community voices and visibilities are raised and new knowledge(s) actively constructed in on-going dialogue.

We are calling for papers to consider this broad theme from a number of angles as a major interest lies in the creativity of disciplinary and spatial border crossings. This conference raises a number of questions, which in one way or another have been vital considerations at ICME's conferences over the years. How can we reinterpret and reimagine historical collections, together with source communities to engage diverse new audiences? What new collaborative ways of working with material culture and the intangible heritage from which it emerges might enhance the social value of museums?

Is social media and technology helpful to museums intent on engaging diverse audiences? Can technological innovations contribute to more genuinely inclusive engagement? Does technology and interactivity detract from the aura of the real? Are traditional curatorial skills, knowledge and indeed posts put at risk by the 'turn' towards new media and audiences?

How might community perspectives and diverse new voices be integrated into curatorial practice in substantive ways? Can museums and communities partnerships promote genuine intercultural understanding in place of fearful stereotype? Is it possible that new collaborations might enable museum collections, often established in colonial times with all the 'difficult histories' of this heritage, be reemployed to progress a more positive future? What fresh collaborative relationships with artists, source communities and local communities may be seen to enhance understandings of 'us' and 'them' in the frontier zone of 'both-and' that lies beyond restrictive 'either-or' binary oppositions.

We warmly invite your contributions to the ICME annual conference, *Museums and Communities: Diversity and Dialogue* in Vietnam. Reflecting on what a museum is (and may be) in the twenty-first century, opens up the potential role for developing more cohesive communities, working with similarities – ties that bind humanity – while perceiving differences as strengths. Please join us!





Submissions should be sent as a WORD document attachment to vmg4@le.ac.uk: jenny.walklate@gmail.com; Paulina.VanderZee@ugent.be; ninh@dch.gov.vn; mario@emi.hr; swackernagel@yahoo.de by May 1, 2015.

The following information should be included with the abstract:

Title of submitted paper

Name(s) of Author(s)

Affiliation(s) & full address(es)

Abstract in English (no more than 200 words)

Support equipment required

Conference information

Details of the ICME conference (Registration forms, registration fee information, hotels, and other details) will be available at the end of January on the ICME web site http://icme.icom.museum - and in the next

ICMENews 73 - http://groups.yahoo.com/group.

Conference Fee

Approximately **200 Euros** (to be confirmed)

(The conference fee will cover the printed programme, lunches and coffee breaks, the welcome and farewell party).

3 day Post-conference tour in Hanoi and Ha Long bay the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The post conference tour fee will be approximately 250 Euros, paying for the bus transport, hotel, meals, and museum admissions.

TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE, 2016, MILAN

Dear colleagues, chers collègues, estimados colegas,

On 7 July, more than 250 museum professionals from Italy, Europe and Japan, as well as a number of Italian and international cultural organisations, met in Siena for discussions on "Museums and Cultural Landscapes", the theme of the 2016 ICOM General Conference. At the conference's close, the participants proposed the Siena Charter, a document presenting the Italian perspective on the responsibilities of museums towards heritage and its surrounding landscapes.

In English:

http://icom.museum/news/news/article/sienacharter-proposed-by-icom-italy-at-itsinternational-conference-museums-and-culturallandsc/

En français :

http://icom.museum/actualites/actualite/article/la -charte-de-sienne-proposee-par-licom-italie-lorsde-la-conference-internationale-musees-e/L/2/ En español :

http://icom.museum/actualidad/actualidad/article /icom-italia-propone-la-carta-de-siena/L/1/

The Siena Conference was the starting point of discussions within ICOM's worldwide network on the 2016 theme. Our aim is that an ICOM Declaration on Museums and Cultural Landscapes be approved in Milan, so that new strategic objectives and programmes may be set for contemporary museums.

The Conference's participants discussed the Siena Charter, the document presenting the Italian view on the responsibilities of museums towards heritage and its surrounding landscapes. We are hoping that in 2015, the annual meetings of ICOM National Committees, International Committees, Affiliated Organisations and Regional Alliances will dedicate part of their agenda to the theme of "Museums and Cultural Landscapes", comparing visions, experiences and legal contexts and proposing new ideas and approaches. By 2016, at least four different



topics will come under discussion.

Firstly, the perception of landscape differs from one country to another and is connected with different cultural backgrounds. In some languages, the term landscape does not even exist. ICOM respects cultural diversity and promotes a comprehensive understanding of landscape. Landscape is a multifaceted concept which adds anthropological, social, economic and cultural dimensions to its physical, natural and geographic significance. Landscapes are part of the cultural and natural heritage to be preserved, interpreted and looked after, in their tangible and intangible aspects.

Secondly, ICOM would like to highlight the new social and territorial functions of museums. How can museums take responsibility for cultural and environmental heritage and support preservation, as well as knowledge and communication about it? How can museums become centres of interpretation for the places and communities to which they belong? How can museums disseminate knowledge pertaining to heritage? Museums should be active in the preservation not only of their collections, but of the tangible and intangible, cultural and natural heritage that surrounds them. The skills and resources necessary to do so should be analysed.

Thirdly, addressing the relationships between museums and cultural landscapes offers the opportunity to form new partnerships and networks, and to develop interdisciplinary new approaches. How can we promote effective cooperation between museums, professionals, organisations and institutions?

Fourthly, how can museums help planners and politicians promote sustainable development and preserve landscapes while improving tourism without endangering cultural and natural heritage? ICOM's aim is that a "Declaration of ICOM on Museums and Cultural Landscapes" be approved at the 24th General Conference in Milan, so that new strategic objectives and programmes may be set for contemporary museums. We plan to identify one hundred innovative museum actions from different countries and cultures, presenting these at the Milan Conference as international best practices.

Alberto Garlandini

President of the Italian Organising Committee of ICOM 2016, Milano

WEDDING BELLS

Sarah Kuramochi

International relationships are a balancing act between the two countries and cultures of the couple and so in planning our wedding, my groom and I wanted to incorporate aspects from both Canada (me) and Japan (him).





When searching for accessories for my Western white wedding dress I stumbled upon kanzashi, or Japanese hair decorations with fabric flowers and leaves made with a technique called tsumami zaiku. I was captivated and searched for the set to perfect the bridal look I was building in my head. But nothing was quite right, so I convinced myself it would be easy to just make them myself. A few (very sticky and messy) failed attempts later and I realized just how mistaken I had been. The art of tsumami zaiku is very precise, with fabric cut into squares of 1 to 3 cm in size, folded multiple times (with tweezers), and then dipped in rice-based glue before being intricately arranged. One single flower can be made up of anywhere from five to more than eight times that number of individually folded squares. Luckily, I found a class to take and was finally able to learn out how to make shapes that resembled flowers.



Over the course of the next few months, with the help of my new teacher, I made flowered hair combs for each of the women in my bridal party, with similar flowers in colours chosen to match the kimono each would wear to our wedding ceremony. On my own I also made a full set of hair combs and pins to go with both my wedding dress and the very formal white wedding kimono I wore for our ceremony at the Shinto shrine. Despite having bought white Japanese fabric to use, I chose to make my hair decorations with extra fabric from my dress, a further combination of Japanese art form and Canadian medium that wasn't anywhere near perfect, except in how it represented us as a couple.



Sarah Kuramochi Curatorial Assistant

Curatorial Assistant, Shibusawa Memorial Museum (Tokyo)

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

I suppose my first words should be thank you: thank you Viv, for inviting me on board, and thank you Annette, for your help and kindness.

I am Jenny Walklate, and I will be your new Newsletter Editor. I'm looking forward to taking on this role, as it will keep me in contact with the fascinating world of international museum ethnography. I've come to ethnography rather circuitously, it has to be said. Originally a Medieval (and sometime Literary) Historian, I started an MA course in Museum Studies at the University of Leicester in 2008, and graduated





INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MUSEUMS OF ETHNOGRAP

with a PhD from the same institution in 2013. During that time, I took a specialist course in World Arts and Ethnography, and became involved with the Museum Ethnographers Group - I will step down as their Treasurer this coming April, after three years in the role. I'm also a managing editor for museums & society, the University of Leicester's house Museum Studies journal, and run a small academic editorial business on the side.

I hope, and plan, to do a good job for you, and make sure that the ICME newsletter remains something to be proud of.

Dr. Jenny Walklate

ICME News is published by ICME, the International Committee of Museums of Ethnography.

President: Dr Viv Golding, The University of Leicester School of Museum Studies, www: <u>http://www.le.ac.uk/museumstudies</u> e-mail: <u>vmg4@le.ac.uk</u> Editor: Dr. Jenny Walklate e-mail: <u>jenny.walklate@gmail.com</u>

SEASONS GREETINGS

