The ANU Library Digitisation Team are continuing to digitise rare and special materials from the ANU Library and ANU Archives. This update details some of the recent items digitised as part of the ongoing ANU digitisation project. More information about the digitisation procedure is available at the ANU Policy Library.

Visit the ANU Library website to view past issues or subscribe to this update via email.

Maritime Union Australia

The Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) formed in 1993 after the amalgamation of the Seamen’s Union of Australia and the Waterside Workers’ Federation, and is one of the largest and most active trade unions in Australia.
This collection of almost 1,000 photographs (dating from circa 1920s to 2000s) provides unique insight into the history of the MUA and its predecessors. The photographs provide visual documentation of MUA activities and events, including significant campaigns such as anti-Vietnam War protests and the infamous 1998 Patrick Dispute.

These photographs will enhance research and promotion of labour history, trade unions and industrial action in Australia, particularly from the 1970s to 2000s.

Adelaide Steamship Company

The Adelaide Steamship Company formed in 1875 and was for many years the most successful shipping company in Australia.

This collection of over 1,000 images (dating from circa 1913 to 1965) provides insight into the operations of one of Australia’s longest-running commercial and passenger shipping companies, and more broadly, the history of maritime industries in Australia in the late 19th to mid-20th centuries.

These photographs are of value to a variety of researchers including historians, academics and those researching the history of Australian business and industry.

Other Additions

- Diary of William Dowling – recording impressions of his visit to China in 1971
- The Tao of shepherding – by John Donnelly
• Magic garage – by John Donnelly

• Developing predictive models for Ross River virus disease in New South Wales, Australia – thesis by Victoria Ng

• Ways of seeing China: from Yellow Peril to Shangrila – by Timothy Kendall

• Map of mineralogical and geological survey of the Peel River Estate

• Last Will and Testament of Faiz Mohamet

ANU audio-visual collections at risk – digitisation project

The ANU Archives and Library contain collections of national significance. Developed over the past 75 years, the rich resources in the collection reflect the needs of research and education. This includes material acquired in formed collections donated by eminent researchers, business and labour organisations.

A significant number of resources are audio-visual (AV) material in physical formats. These formats have a limited life span and if not digitised, will be lost forever.

The ANU Library and Archives are undertaking a digitisation project to preserve these significant collections. Work has begun on identifying and documenting the quantity, quality and content of physical AV material held in our collections.

There may also be important material held in ANU Colleges which should be assessed for inclusion in this project. If you know of any AV material in your local areas, please let us know.
Treventus ScanRobot 2.0 robotic scanner

An amazing new piece of equipment set to improve our digitisation capabilities has recently been acquired by the ANU Library.

The Treventus ScanRobot 2.0 (also known as Trevor), is a high-speed mass digitisation system designed for large volume digitisation of any bound material. It is an innovative machine that can scan entire books automatically and with great care, so even our fragile materials will be in good ‘hands’.

Trevor has finally reached its home in the Menzies Library after two years of planning and several COVID-related delays. Our staff have been working hard with the Treventus team in Austria to complete the set-up of this machine, and we are now able to benefit from its incredibly fast scanning and processing powers. Trevor can scan up to 2,000 pages per hour, and the Digitisation Team are enjoying testing out its capabilities.

Trevor will be used to undertake a range of our regular digitisation projects with more automation and speed. In addition, Trevor can be used to assist with digitisation tasks from other business areas at the University. If you have a task in mind for Trevor, please get in touch with the Digitisation Team.