

Archives Newsletter

Australian Credit Union Archives Trust

June 2018

Number 5

Welcome to Australian Mutual History's 2018 Mid-year Newsletter

Another financial year has nearly ticked over and we know that it is a very busy time for everyone. As always a lot has happened at the office of Australian Mutuals History since our last newsletter in March.

The most significant change since March is that we have extended our hours of operation to include Friday. Amanda Barber and Ben Woods can now be contacted during business hours, Wednesday through Friday to consult with you regarding collection donations, research and information enquiries.

When not sourcing historic information, tracing credit union mergers and guiding researchers and visitors at our

Sydney office, we have been working on these large donated collections (among other work).

Collections

COBA Photographs

In our last newsletter we detailed the extent of the large collection of material donated by COBA. At the time we had catalogued the textual material but had yet to sort through the photographs.

We have now done so and can report that it contains around 1500 photographic prints with accompanying negatives and around a hundred slides. The photos range in date from the 1970s through to the early 2000s. Some of the highlights include photographs of regional credit union branches, some of which are no longer operating, credit union representatives receiving a Prime Ministers Innovation Award from John Howard in the late 1990s, politicians such as Gough Whitlam, Joe Hockey and

Mark Latham holding court at credit union conventions and much else besides. There is also some interesting audio visual material including Abacus (the forerunner of COBA) promotional material, and seminar presentations.



Pictured: 1 millionth credit union visa card holder (from COBA donation)

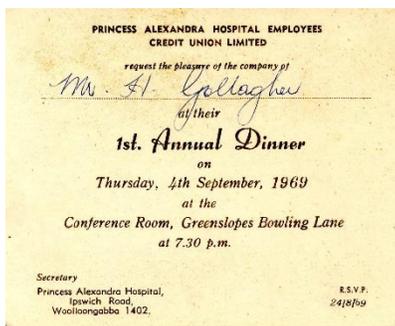
CUA Collection

CUA (Credit Union Australia) is Australia's largest customer owned banking entity, so it wouldn't be surprising if any cache of material donated by them would be weighty. This proved to be the case when

we took possession of assorted records from them in March and May.

CUA are an amalgam of over 100 credit unions and many of the records donated pertain to credit unions that have transferred their business to CUA.

Some of these credit unions include Credit Union of Bank Employees (CUBE), Australian Postal Credit Union, Queensland Municipal Officers' Association (QMOA) Credit Union Ltd, QLD Coastal Credit Union, Latrobe Country Credit Co-operative, Health Employees Credit Union, Queensland Hospitals Credit Union and many others, along with CUA itself.



Pictured: Invitation to the Princess Alexandra Hospital Employees Credit Union Annual Dinner, 1969 (from CUA donation)

The collection includes, Board Minutes, Annual Reports, Newsletters, Photographs,

Leaflets, Rules of Operation, Mortgage Registers and more.

Our Blog

The Australian Mutuals History blog continues to grow in popularity and we blog most weeks, regarding collection items and news and events pertaining to both the mutuals and archives sectors.



Credit Unions & Travel
Pictured above is a promotion for Central Mutual Credit Union's "1978 Credit Union Tour to London" we re-discovered in our collection recently.

In the relevant [blog post](#), we shared details of the Central Mutual Credit Union collection that also features neat little promotional pocket calendars from the late 70s.

Foundation Documents
[Another recent blog post](#) described important credit union foundation documents that we have recently catalogued. These included the letter from the NSW Registry of Co-operative Societies and of Friendly Societies, dated 24th May, 1963, confirming registration of The City Council Employees' Credit Union Co-operative Limited.

Arthur Johnson Visit
We also recently blogged about early Credit Union pioneer, Arthur Johnson's (pictured below) visit to our office. [Read here.](#)



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