

Parkestone Foundation Grant 2025 Report

Project

Queer Archive Collective South Australia (QACSA) - Establishing an SA Queer Archive Stage 1

Description of Project

The application was for stage 1 of establishing a SA queer community archive to collect, preserve, celebrate and ensuring the history of SA's LGBTQIA+ communities won't be lost. Our application said we would invite community members to donate printed materials, objects, photos, film, recordings and more. At the time of applying, we thought we were close to finding a free storage and workspace to begin sorting, categorising and archiving utilising the committee's skills with specific archival materials. We applied for materials to preserve items ready for Stage 2 finding a space where anyone interested can come to learn about our history.

Funds received from Parkestone Foundation

\$3,000

Outcomes of Project

The outcomes of this project happened in a different order than we anticipated however we did fulfil what we applied for.

We decided that it was more practical to wait to buy the archival storage materials we applied for until we had a space for the archive, then buy the items we applied for and then begin archiving.

Confirming the space took much longer than we thought it would. We have signed a lease with the Adelaide City Council. It is a fantastic space above the Hutt St Library. This is a big achievement which has taken over 12 months. We are waiting on the Council to process the lease, then we can move in.

The space has a large room with some shelving and can be locked, It is an accessible space, has accessible toilets, has access to a kitchen and a community meeting room which we can use for community archival events. We are thrilled.

We have recently purchased the materials we applied for. In addition, the State Library has donated two large plan storage cabinets ideal for storing posters and other items that

need to be laid flat. Receiving this donation is significant and has saved us several thousand dollars.

We had to hire a truck to pick up and deliver the cabinets and tools to dismantle and then reassemble the cabinets to fit it in the lift up to our new space. This work which took a day was done by Raymond Zada. We agreed to pay Raymond a fee for his work from the grant. Thankfully, we have been able to house the plan cabinets there before being given the keys to the space. We are keen to move the archival materials we have bought into our new home too.

Additional outcomes of the Project

We produced two highly successful events for Feast 2025 and the other for the 2026 History Festival Festival.

- 1) **The Queer Archive Roadshow on Nov 9th 2pm- 5pm** at The Chapel at the Migration Museum. We were thrilled by the number of people who attended. The Chapel was packed. This was a free event See the publicity included in this report.
 - 2) **The Queer Archive Roadshow and Workshop 24 May 10.30am – 3pm** at the Chapel at the Migration Museum. Again, the space was filled with LGBTQIA+ community members talking about items they brought along that are part of our history. Then after lunch (homemade soup and bread) the workshop on caring for personal archives and recording oral histories was also a hit. People of all ages came to this event ranging from early 20's to 75+.
- We have a mailing list of over 50 people and it's growing.

It is clear that a Queer Archive in Adelaide is wanted by our community and everyone we speak to can't wait. The Parkestone Foundation funds is ensuring this happens.

We are now an incorporated not for profit organisation, we have applied for a bank account, and we now have a collection policy.

How did Project fulfill the objectives of the Parkestone Foundation

Archives are crucial for preserving LGBTIQIA+ memory, evidence of past actions, insights into our history, culture, allowing understanding of the past, present and shaping our future This project fosters pride, promote social acceptance, celebrates LGBTIQIA+ achievements, advocates for equality, promote issues of importance and form queer people of our history.

We didn't anticipate it would take so long to find and move into our own space. This turned out to be a positive as we produced two events demonstrating the need for the archive and the passion the community has for it.

In kind support

The QACSA Collective members continue to donate their time and expertise to get to where we are now.

The Migration Museum waived the hire fee for the Chapel at the Migration Museum.

Queer Archive Collective Members

Natalie Harkin- Flinders Uni Humanities, Assoc Professor • **Raymond Zada** – software developer, visual artist • **Kim Munro** - Program Director: Film and Television UniSA • **Jackie Wurm** – Digital Archivist • **Mandy Paul** – Collections Head History Trust • **Jess Pacella** - Cultural screen studies Lecturer • **Nikki Sullivan** –LGBTQIA+ project Coordinator • **Jenny Scott** Archivist • **Margie Fischer** – freelance arts worker.

A heartfelt Thank You to the Parkestone Foundation for your ongoing and much needed and appreciated support for LGBTQIA+ projects in SA.