

## 2024 AGM Agenda

Sunday March 9th 2025

### Arrive 1.45pm for 2pm start

Tea and coffee available

- Welcome

**2.15 Guest speaker: Dr John Davies:** Title: 'He thought he was anchored; the story of Joseph Check, travelling photographer as an example of the travelling trades who pioneered Australia.'

**Abstract:** To compensate for the bigness of Australia and the resultant isolation of the settlers, numerous people offering a multitude of services from knife sharpeners to brick makers travelled from settlement to settlement. Photography was one such trade as it offered a record of permanency and growth that could be either kept or sent back to friends and relatives. Such photographs offered a reassurance that all was well and could act as an invitation to emigrate. As there were over 400 travelling photographers in Australia from the 1860s to the 1930s, this talk will narrow it down to just one, Joseph Check and his life. His work is well represented in the New Italy Museum and collection.'

**John Davies bio:** My first job was chipping weeds in a cane-field and my last was a research assistant in history, UNE. In between times, I flirted with geology and chemistry but settled on photography which took me down many interesting paths. Being able to talk rock led me to jobs in coal research, as a photographer with NSW Mines Dept, marine geophysics at UNSW and as a research scientist at CSIRO in satellite photography. I stopped receiving a regular pay cheque as head of a visual arts department at Armidale TAFE. Photography has a colourful history, so I followed that path completing a PhD dealing with the history of photography in Melbourne entitled, 'I Have Seized the Light; a review of the significance of the miniature and the early portrait photograph to the colonist, 1840 to 1890.' I haven't been able to let go since! Dr John Davies B Sc, Dip Ed (Ault), M Curr St (Hons), PhD, ARP

### 3.00 Afternoon Tea

### 3.30 2024 AGM

- Attendance and Apologies
- Minutes of the 2023 AGM held on 5 November 2023
- Business Arising from the Previous AGM
- Presentation of Reports:
  - Auditor's Report (as required to be submitted to members under s.26(6) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)
  - President
  - Pavilion
  - Museum Working Group
  - Casa Vecchia
  - Casa Serena
  - Membership
- Election of Officer Bearers and Members of the Committee of Management
- Date for 2025 AGM

The New Italy Museum Inc. manages the New Italy Cultural Centre: a cultural tourism experience that honours the spiritual legacy of Italian pioneer families who, through courage and community, established "New Italy" and celebrates the multicultural heritage shared by all peoples.

