

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The past year has seen some notable achievements by the National Trust, despite the level of state government support remaining unchanged since 2006 and the continued difficulties facing Tasmania's tourism industry. While the development of the Mt Lyell Mine Manager's Office as a new visitor attraction in Queenstown has been a major initiative for the National Trust, the program of preventative conservation at National Trust properties, particularly Home Hill and the implementation of the furnishing plans for Runnymede and Clarendon, has continued. These projects have involved both the Trust's property management and conservation staff.

As a result of these projects, the significance of the National Trust's holdings of soft furnishings and material related to the history of interior decorating in Tasmania has become increasingly apparent. All of the National Trust's properties have such material in their collections much related to the property itself but at a number of the properties additional material related to other significant Tasmanian heritage sites such as Lauderdale are also held. Largely through the support of volunteers, the National Trust has been able to continue the program of documenting and digitising its pictorial collections. During the year, the large photographic collection associated with the Rory Spence Architectural Library was also digitised and is now readily accessible in the Library now established at Clarendon.

The National Trust's collections have continued to develop with all our heritage sites and museums receiving significant donations throughout the year. Of particular note was the decision by the Board to assume responsibility for the collections and archives of the Royal Hobart Hospital Graduate Nurses Association. This decision was made to ensure that this most important collection could continue to remain together as an important record of one of Australia's oldest hospitals. The establishment of a new National Trust committee to support the future management of the collection was a most notable development.

This year has seen an increasing focus on participating in national initiatives by the National Trust movement as a consequence of changes to the National Trust Partnership Program funded by the Commonwealth Government. These changes will become increasingly apparent in the national magazine and the development of a national website. As part of this program, the Tasmanian National Trust is leading a program to better document the national significance of the collections held by all of the National Trusts.

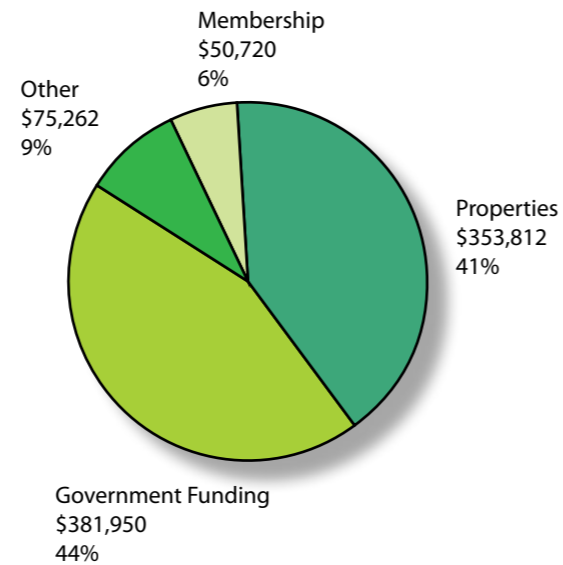
Already it has become apparent that the National Trust holdings include some of the most important collections of their kind in Australia, such as those of early colonial furniture. The Tasmanian National Trust has been generously supported by the Gordon Darling Foundation in undertaking this initiative.

The year saw further development of the Community Heritage Programs. A most important initiative was the Tasmanian Heritage Guide which saw National Trust membership become the effective Tasmanian heritage pass with not only free entry to National Trust properties but discounted admission and other benefits at another 17 of Tasmania's most important heritage attractions. The considerable progress that the National Trust has been able to make this year, despite the challenging environment in which it operates, has been made possible by the sustained commitment of the continually growing National Trust members and volunteers, its many supporters and its staff.

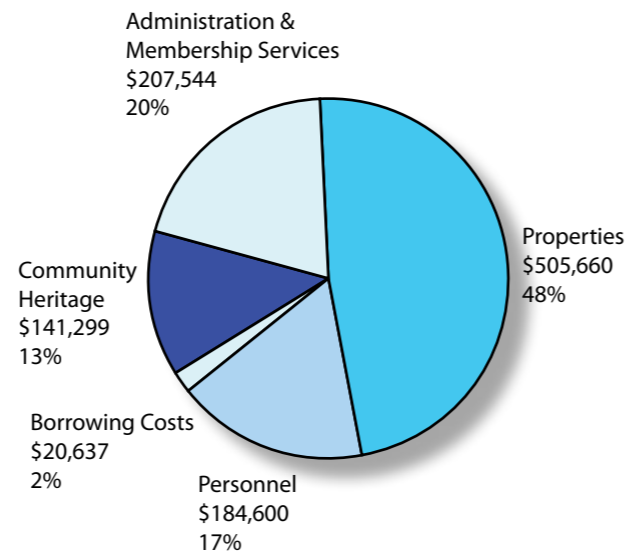
Finally, this will be the last Annual Report to be presented under the leadership of the inaugural Board Chair, Ray Foley. During the past 6 years that Ray has chaired the Board, the National Trust has been able to fundamentally re-establish itself at Tasmania's leading community based heritage organisation.

Chris Tassell AM
Managing Director

OPERATING REVENUE 2011-2012



OPERATING EXPENDITURE 2011-2012



NATIONAL TRUST BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Ray Foley (Board Chair)
 Mr. Andrew Kemp
 (Board Deputy Chair and Chair of the Audit Committee)
 Mr. Ian Cordiner
 Dr. Marion Myhill
 Dr. Dianne Snowden
 Mrs. Lynne Stacpoole
 Mr. Chris Tassell (Managing Director)



ANNUAL REPORT

2011 - 2012



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National Trust Tasmania

Cover Image: Mt Lyell Mine Manager's Office, Queenstown

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

During the past year, the National Trust of Tasmania has continued to play a leading role in the conservation of Tasmania's cultural heritage. This has been achieved through the sustained efforts of the National Trusts committed volunteers and staff. Since 2006 the National Trust has been able to sustain an average annual contribution of more than \$8.9 million towards the maintenance of Tasmania's heritage assets and the state economy. In so doing it has continued:

- to maintain and improve an important heritage property portfolio for the community's benefit,
- to develop the fourth largest publicly owned collection in the state,
- to manage the nationally unique Community Heritage program to support community-based heritage initiatives, and
- continued an active advocacy program for the conservation of Tasmania's cultural heritage.

This is a remarkable effort for a community-based not-for-profit organisation that receives recurrent support from the state government of \$300,000, an amount that has remained constant since 2006. The development of the National Trust's properties at Queenstown has been a major focus of the Trust's activities during the year. Through the support of the Tasmanian Community Fund and working in co-operation with the West Coast Council, substantial progress has been made on the development of the Mt Lyell Mine Manager's Office Precinct as a new visitor attraction. Strategically located on the main highway, this initiative will see the conservation and interpretation of the Manager's Office building as well as the development of a small contemporary exhibition space, children's interactive science space and a visitors information centre. Also in Queenstown, work has started on the re-establishment of the long neglected gardens at Penghana, the former mine manager's home.

At Clarendon the major project to interpret the agricultural outbuildings and service wing was completed again through the support of the Tasmanian Community Fund. The year also saw the completion of the installation of the Rory Spence architectural library in a newly conserved reading room. Enhancing the library are a number of artworks associated with notable Australian architect, Hardy Wilson, who played such an important role in creating national awareness of Clarendon and its place in Australian architectural history. The third major initiative at Clarendon was the establishment of the Australian Fly Fishing Museum. This project is being lead by an active new Trust committee drawing its membership from both Tasmania and interstate. Advocacy continued as a key Trust activity during the year and it is disappointing that again much time has had to be spent on trying to ensure that Lauderdale Cottage, Australia's last surviving early colonial maritime villa and gardens, is protected from inappropriate redevelopment. The National Trust was pleased to be able to play a role in the resolution of the dispute over the subdivision of land adjacent to Ancanthe, in Lenah Valley, Hobart.

A major advocacy initiative during the year was the Historic Cultural Heritage Conference organised by the National Trust's Advocacy Committee. Opened by the Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage, the Hon Brian Wightman, the conference held in Oatlands brought together a wide range of participants involved in the management of Tasmania's cultural heritage. Earlier in the year the National Trust launched its report "Realising the Potential". This was the first study of the scale and significance of the contribution that community managed heritage assets make to both the conservation of Tasmania's heritage and the state's tourism infrastructure.

The National Trust welcomed the appointment of Board member, Dr Dianne Snowden, as the Chair of the Tasmanian Heritage Council during the year and for the first time since 2006 the appointment of a National Trust representative to the Heritage Council in accordance with the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act*. The National Trust's representative is our Managing Director, Mr Chris Tassell.

This will be my last Annual Report as Chair of the National Trust as in accordance with the *National Trust's Act* I will be retiring from the Board. I would like to thank the other Board members for their support and in particular Dr Dianne Snowden who will also be retiring from the Board following the completion of her term of appointment. I would also like to acknowledge the important contribution that Mr Andrew Kemp has made to the National Trust as Deputy Chair of the Board and Chair of the Audit Committee, who for health reasons has also had to retire before the completion of his term of appointment.

Again, I would like to acknowledge the sustained generous support of the National Trust's volunteers, members and staff. Their support has been key to the success of the National Trust's ability to continue to meet the challenge of conserving and protecting Tasmania's cultural heritage.

Ray Foley
Board Chair



HERITAGE PROPERTIES AND COLLECTIONS

- The Mt Lyell Mine Manager's Office and Assay Laboratory, Queenstown gifted to the National Trust by the Tasmanian Government.
- Development of the Mt Lyell Mine Manager's Office as a major visitor attraction through the support of the Tasmanian Community Fund.
- Commencement of the restoration of the gardens at Penghana, Queenstown.
- Launch of the Clarendon agricultural buildings interpretation project which was supported by the Tasmanian Community Fund.
- Installation of the Rory Spence Library at Clarendon a project supported by the Tasmanian Community Fund.
- Opening of the Coach House Gallery at Clarendon a project supported by Arts Tasmania.
- Conservation of the portraits of the Bayley brother's ships the "Runnymede" and "Fortitude" from Runnymede, a project supported by the Australian National Maritime Museum.
- The donation of the Royal Hobart Hospital Graduate Nurses heritage collections and archives.
- Significant progress in the documentation and digitisation of the National Trust's photographic and archival collections.
- During the year more than 35,000 people visited the National Trust's nine properties that are regularly open to the public.
- Received a number of significant donations including: Stephen Walker bronze sculpture relating to Queenstown, collection of material associated with notable Australian architect, Hardy Wilson, now displayed at Clarendon, scrimshaw associated with Runnymede, Lyons family archival material and historic objects from Home Hill, and an important collection of material associated with the Shott family and the Old Umbrella Shop.
- The continued support of the dedicated volunteer group at the Old Umbrella Shop which has contributed in a major way to the image and finances of the National Trust.

COMMUNITY HERITAGE

- Coordinated the Tasmanian Heritage Festival which was developed around the theme of Innovation and Invention. The Festival, with some 1816 events around the state, attracted more than 58,000 people. This year's Festival events were presented in 28 of the state's 29 local government areas. The Festival was supported by sponsors Pure Tasmania, at+m Integrated Marketing, Myer, the Tasmanian Heritage Council, the Tasmanian State Government and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. The Festival was opened by the Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage, Mr Brian Wightman, at MONA.
- Released a major study "Realising the Potential" that for the first time documented the scale of the contribution made by community groups to the preservation of Tasmania's heritage and support for the state's tourism industry.
- Launched the Tasmanian Heritage Guide that provided discounted admission at many of Tasmania's leading heritage sites as a benefit of National Trust membership.
- Continued to develop and promote the Community Heritage Program with its 10 separate initiatives.
- Managed the Heritage Conservation Appeals Program which enables community groups to establish tax deductible gift programs for heritage conservation projects. During the year the number of appeals increased to 29 and more than \$256,470 was raised.
- Maintained the Heritage Travelling Exhibition program under which exhibitions toured to 21 venues during the year.
- Throughout the year, National Trust staff have provided professional support to a number of community based organisations and local government authorities.
- The Launceston City Council Heritage Advisory Committee, which was initiated following discussions with the National Trust, is an advisory body that advises Council on matters concerning the redevelopment of the city, in particular in matters affecting our historic and cultural heritage precincts.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The accounting surplus for the year ended 30 June 2012 is \$82,786 (last year \$4,177,156).

Following the approach adopted in the presentation of the National Trust's Statement of Comprehensive Income, the following are the components which contribute to the comprehensive result:

	2012	2011
Surplus (deficit) from normal operations	(128,579)	(84,354)
Non-cash expenses	(80,519)	(65,573)
Surplus (deficit) before	<u>(209,116)</u>	<u>(149,927)</u>
Specific purpose grants		
Revenue from other Funding Programs	311,609	431,457
Expenses from other Funding Programs	<u>(219,707)</u>	<u>(438,527)</u>
	91,902	(52,070)
Property Transfer	200,000	2,708,733
Recognition of heritage assets	-	1,227,300
Write back of loan interest	-	<u>57,120</u>
Surplus (deficit) before	82,786	3,791,156
Revaluation of properties	-	386,000
Comprehensive result	<u>82,786</u>	<u>4,177,156</u>

Expenditure associated with the operation and maintenance of the National Trust's properties during a year of difficult trading conditions arising from the general economic climate and the decline in visitor numbers to Tasmania is the major cause of the loss. At this stage, the National Trust is budgeting for a small surplus for FY13 and every effort will be made to improve this outcome. The major source of the overall positive result was the agreement to pass to the National Trust land near the historic Ancanthe historic site in Lenah Valley as part of a mediated resolution. The National Trust is most appreciative of the decision by the state government to return to a triennial funding agreement in the forthcoming financial year, albeit at the same level of funding that has prevailed since 2006.



Images are of objects from the Clarendon Collection