Covenant Program

A Natural Wonderland

Helena Mills Conservation Covenant Coordinator

Bob and Beth Boase are owners of a unique property recently covenanted by the National Trust of Western Australia. The conservation community thinks that the unique and precious flora, fauna and ecosystems of Arinya are lucky to have found owners who recognise and care so deeply for the natural heritage values of their farm.

Arinya is 133km north east of Perth near the wheatbelt town of Dowerin and in December last year the National Trust registered a covenant on 214 ha of the Boase’s bushland to protect it forever. In addition to legal protection, the covenant will assist with the management of the bushland through providing increased access to funding, recognition and inclusion into the National Reserve System. The covenanting process followed a partnership between Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management and World Wildlife Fund - Australia.

The Boases bought the property in 1973 because of its impressive bushland. Little did they know that they had purchased a property containing a naturally saline seep, a number of rare flora species as well as Acorn Banksia/Woody Pear woodlands which had been rapidly disappearing elsewhere in the wheatbelt. Experts have confirmed that the saline seep is unique - it supports species normally associated with coastal or marine areas. Floating mats of vegetation strong enough to walk on and bubbling springs.

The Boases kept their wonderland to themselves for many years, not wanting to disturb it too much, and shared it only with close friends and family. However, in recent years they eventually realised that the best way to save it was to understand it. As skilled naturalists in their own right, Bob and Beth and their son Craig have done much of the work identifying and cataloguing the species on the property.

For further information www.ntwa.com.au
It’s that time of year when the Trust presents its annual report to Parliament. The Trust is a statutory body, if not an authority, governed by the National Trust of Australia (WA) Act 1964 and is subject to a range of other legislation, principally the Auditor General Act, the Anti Corruption Act, The Financial Management Act, the Freedom of Information Act and the Public Sector Management Act. The annual report, which is tabled in both houses along with the estimates hearings, provides the basis for an annual review of the Trust’s performance.

This last year has seen the Trust do a thorough review of its property holdings. The Trust currently holds 57 heritage properties, covering 16 metropolitan, the Golden Pipeline (2 metropolitan and 7 country) and 32 non-metropolitan properties. This means that some 70 percent of all National Trust properties are non-metropolitan. The holding is small, covering a broad spectrum of industrial, commercial, farming and residential places, but is representative of WA’s heritage.

Twenty-six of these properties have been identified as iconic or core properties, that the Trust believes should be maintained in public ownership under the stewardship of the National Trust. A number of other properties present some potential for private and community partnerships with the Trust and some need the level of protection that is afforded by the Trust. In the coming year the list of core and non-core properties will both be thoroughly assessed with a view to rationalising the Trust’s portfolio and putting it on a more sustainable basis. There are, of course, also holes in the property portfolio that remain to be filled.

The last year has seen real progress made on the conservation and refurbishment of the Curtin Family Home, the Old Perth Boys’ School and Wanslea. The conservation and interpretation of Old Farm Strawberry Hill, Albany and Luisini Winery and the East Perth Cemeteries, remain the Trust’s priority projects and hopefully progress can be made on these in the coming year. The Trust is particularly pleased that it has been able to provide a social outcome with placement of organisations such as various cancer support groups, child health and youth support services and community and historical societies in Trust properties. Lotterywest has been a principal partner in this endeavour.

The Trust has increased the amount of natural heritage bushland protected under its heritage covenancing program to over 16,000 hectares. It has concentrated this year on the stewardship side of the program with the Trust’s two part-time covenancing officers visiting a record 57 landholders.

The National Trust has extended its ‘valuing heritage’ message to schools and the public through its website and through programs and projects that extend well beyond the Trust’s property based information. The Trust has been sought to meet school curriculum requirements by the use of trained teachers and the development of resources that can fit into the developing Australian History Curriculum.

Projects such as the Burrup stories oral history program and the Avondale oral histories have contributed to our available heritage resources. We look forward to further publications to complement our recently published histories of ‘Old Albany’ and ‘From the Barracks to the Burrup.’

This year $1,728,528 was distributed through the Trust’s community tax deductible heritage appeals to conserve and interpret WA community heritage places. Over the last five years in excess of $20 million has been expended.

Once again the Trust highlighted the heritage significance of a range of places, including Midland Railway workshop wagons, Wundowie, historic Albany and the Manjimup Butter factory through its classification.

This year the Trust has proceeded to develop the appreciation of Indigenous heritage through the Gabbie Kyle Foundation, the Dowak Foundation, the Ngala Foundation and through preparatory work on the Ajinda Aboriginal Cultural Festival.

We are particularly pleased that new Governor Malcolm McCusker has agreed to continue the long tradition of vice regal patronage of our organisation.

WA’S HERITAGE MINISTER HON JOHN CASTRILLI MLA

PHASE 2 OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF

The review of WA’s Heritage Act is well underway. This will lead to contemporary legislation that will be more effective in meeting the challenges of conserving and adapting our heritage buildings for future generations.

The review of the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990 is the first initiative of the State Cultural Heritage Policy that I announced in April this year.

There is no hiding the fact that the current Heritage Act is outdated and inadequate to meet the challenges we face today in the management and care of our heritage.

The new Act will be open, transparent, simple to operate and understand, and will reflect best practice in the recognition and protection of heritage places.

The review is being coordinated by the Office of Heritage.

A consultative approach to the development of the new Act has been adopted in recognition of the many individuals and organisations that have an interest in heritage and the effect of the State’s heritage legislation.

The first phase of the review, which closed in June, involved the release of a consultation paper that canvassed the views of Western Australians on the effectiveness of the current legislation and what a contemporary Heritage Act should look like.
OLDEST FOSSILS ON EARTH DISCOVERED AT STRELLEY POOL IN WA’S FAR NORTH

The Natural Heritage of our State was enriched when a team of scientists from Oxford University and the University of Western Australia discovered fossils dating back 3.4 billion years. The microfossils are convincing evidence that cells and bacteria lived in an almost oxygen free environment, metabolising sulphur. The find was made at Strelley Pool, in WA’s remote north, with the microfossils existing in quartz sand gains. This area of WA has some of the oldest rocks on Earth, allowing scientists to observe clearly the cell structure of the organisms, proving them to be biological, not geological. This natural heritage find may contribute to ongoing research into how life may exist outside of our biosphere. Oxford University researchers are now making detailed comparisons with all other early microfossils.

PLANS TO REFURBISH ICONIC GUILFORD HOTEL

An application has been lodged with the City of Swan for the redevelopment of the Heritage Listed Guildford Hotel. The application was lodged on behalf of owners by the Guildford Hotel Redevelopment Group. In 2008 the property was significantly damaged in a fire, losing its roof, and requiring the top floor to be stripped. Since this fire, the building has been in a state of disrepair while redevelopment options have been canvassed. The focus of a passionate public campaign, the Guildford Hotel has an action group devoted to its restoration, the ‘Save the Guildford Hotel’ group. This group is advocating for the amendment of Heritage Legislation to ensure that the Act has sufficient ‘muscle’ to allow the Heritage Council to require owners of heritage properties to take action to conserve heritage buildings vulnerable to the elements. The Trust classified the place on 3 December 1990 and noted the building appeared at that time to be ‘the dominant building in Guildford’s commercial precinct’. The Hotel is also described as a ‘an attractive example of the grandeur of a bygone era’. More about the ongoing redevelopment of the Guildford Hotel can be found at: www.savetheguildfordhotel.com/

CHRISTCHURCH HERITAGE BUILDINGS MAY YET TUMBLE

The historic heritage of Christchurch, New Zealand has been at great risk following a series of earthquakes on 4 September, 26 December, 22 February and 13 June this year. The risk to the buildings is both structural and social – many buildings that have not fallen have been marked for demolition. As of the 21 August, 80 heritage listed buildings have been demolished with more to follow. Another 34 buildings may face demolition if funds are not secured to ensure their correct repair and fortification.

Stuff.co.nz reports that buildings at risk in Christchurch include the town hall, Christ Church and the Roman Catholic cathedrals, Knox Church, the McKenzie & Willis building, the Excelsior Hotel, the Canterbury Provincial Council buildings, and the Edmonds band rotunda. Anna Crighton, Chair of the Canterbury Earthquake Heritage Building Fund Trust, has stated there are buildings that define the city which must be saved including the town hall, the cathedral, the provincial council building, the arts centre, the Our City building, and the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Other buildings requiring large amounts to repair and then insure, remain at risk of demolition.

JAMES PRICE POINT / WEST KIMBERLEY HERITAGE LISTING

On the 31 August the Federal Environment Minister Tony Burke confirmed that almost 20 million hectares of the west Kimberley in the north of Western Australia will be heritage listed. Controversially, the heritage listing will not include the area on which a gas processing hub is located, James Price Point. Mr Burke said the west Kimberley belongs on a list of the places which define Australia.

Dinosaur footprints to the north of the gas processing site will be protected under the heritage listing. While some areas have been excluded, the listing of a large section of the Kimberley as a single entry will provide better protection than a strategy proposed by industry, which involved listing specific places within the outstanding natural and aboriginal heritage area only. Community resistance, including opposition by Traditional Owners to the gas processing plant within the heritage listed area continues. The full National Heritage assessment can be viewed here: http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/national-assessments/kimberley/index.html

WA’S HERITAGE ACT

More than 100 submissions were received from a wide range of stakeholders including members of the public, property owners, industry and professional bodies, other State government agencies, and local government authorities. I would like to thank those who made submissions to the Review.

Feedback from the consultation paper has been analysed and proposals developed and incorporated into a discussion paper which will be published for public comment shortly. There will then be a further three-month public consultation period.

Following this, I will seek the support of my Cabinet colleagues for the preparation of an Exposure Draft Bill, also referred to as a Green Bill. The Green Bill, which sets out what a new Act may look like, will also be published for public comment.

The feedback from this will inform the finalised Bill for consideration by State Parliament.

The success of this review depends on owners, stakeholders, heritage professionals and advocates, and the wider community providing their views, experiences and expertise. I urge you all to participate.

Information on the review is available on the Heritage Council’s website at www.heritage.wa.gov.au
Grant Success for Rail Trail

Anne Brake, Manager Interpretation

Comprehensive trail planning and a study of the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the trails corridor which runs from Flinders Bay Jetty in Augusta to the Busselton Jetty are two of the projects that are being made possible through the recently announced Lotterywest Trails Program.

Almost $140,000 has been made available in funding to progress the trail which is being developed by the Shires of Augusta Margaret River and Busselton in conjunction with the National Trust.

The disused rail corridor between the two jetties is key to the project. Essential to the development of a karri timber empire, the railway was established privately by MC Davies to service his export ports of Flinders Bay and Hamelin Bay in the 1880s. The rail network was later taken over by the government and extended to Busselton. After the decline of the timber industry the railway was used to assist the development of farm-based industries such as dairying in the south west capes region.

Like many rural railways in Western Australia, it was eventually closed in lieu of road transport and for over 50 years the rail reserve has remained largely unused. Travelling through some of the most beautiful areas in the state, this low gradient formation clearly is the basis for an ideal trail, especially as the land remains as unallocated crown land. The 106 km from Busselton to Flinders Bay will soon join the many hundreds of thousands of kilometres that have been converted from rails to trails across the world, attracting high visitor numbers to the region.

As well as the trails planning and Aboriginal cultural heritage survey, a business plan, environmental surveys and an interpretation plan will be prepared to ensure that the trail will be built to appropriate standards, taking particular care of the area’s rich biodiversity and mitigating against the spread of diseases such as dieback. A range of traditional and digital technology will give visitors access to the natural, Aboriginal and historic values of the area while ensuring the tranquility and the beauty of the trail experience is not compromised by a cavalcade of signage.

The trail will be accessible to a wide range of users catering for a variety of interests, fitness levels and availability of time. The trail will pass through a number of small settlements and towns providing trail users with necessary facilities and boosting the economic and social opportunities for these small communities. Construction on the trail is expected to begin late next year.

The Boases have also invited many experts onto their property to further probe its mysteries – hydrologists, botanists, limnologists, zoologists and any number of other interested specialists. The latest investigation, in partnership with the Department of Environment and Conservation’s Threatened Ecological Community section, is determining whether some ordinary-looking rather crusty areas of the seep are in fact ‘microbial mats’ the like of which are found near the famous stromatolites of Shark Bay.

The species lists for *Arinya* are also impressive. Two priority ecological communities, sixteen species of threatened or priority flora and an occasional flock of Carnaby’s Black Cockatoos share the bushland with the Boase family. In addition to farming, the Boases run a native plant nursery that supplies revegetation projects throughout the wheatbelt.

The National Trust is looking forward to their on-going relationship with the Boase family and their unique wheatbelt property.

Beth Boase with the rare Hughan’s Featherflower (*Verticordia hughanii*). C Curnow WWF
**VALUING HERITAGE**

**SPRING AT OLD FARM, STRAWBERRY HILL**
*Sarah Murphy, Director Conservation and Stewardship*

During the winter closing at Old Farm, Strawberry Hill a great deal of work has been going on behind the scenes. Mike Harvey, conservation gardener, has been working with new volunteer recruits to ready the grounds for spring. Along with volunteers drawn from the community, the numbers have been boosted with students from Clontarf and the Albany Secondary Support School.

Garden beds have been raked, hydrangeas pruned and the fruit trees selectively pruned, the entrance has been cleaned up and the boundary fences have been cleared of unwanted plant material. Included in the winter work has been the removal of unused reticulation pipe and sprinklers. At the time of writing the daffodils were in flower and various plants were getting ready for a colourful springtime display.

Spring will also herald the opening of the new Visitors’ Lounge in the Cottage that formerly housed the tearooms. The departure of the previous tenant combined with the impending outcomes of the masterplan for the property offered an opportunity to utilise the building differently. A coffee machine in the Cottage will offer a self-serve operation and visitors will be able to relax while they browse a selection of books from the library.

Interpretation panels exploring the history of this unique building have also been installed. It is believed the Cottage was constructed circa 1840 and utilised as accommodation for farm workers followed by a home for Charles Miner, his wife and nine children. When the Bird family moved to Old Farm in 1889 they used the Cottage as extra bedrooms for family and friends. It became tearooms after the National Trust’s 1965 acquisition of the property. Among other things the masterplan will examine the financial viability of offering a food and beverage operation at the property along with a preferred location. Until this planning has been completed the Visitors’ Lounge will be the next use for this fascinating building.

**PREMIER ATTRACTION AT EAST PERTH CEMETERIES**
*Diana Frylinck*

The Royal WA Society has been conducting a Pioneers Memorial Service in the National Trust’s East Perth Cemeteries for more than 50 years.

Started in 1954, the service is an annual commemoration of people buried in the East Perth Cemeteries which opened in 1829 and closed in 1899. As such, it contains the remains of the Swan River Colony’s earliest pioneers and the service is held close to WA’s June 6 Foundation Day.

The ceremony, open to the public, involves a citation being read about one of those buried in the cemeteries (several different denominations had graveyards). This year Irish immigrants John and Mary McCann were remembered and among about 65 of their descendants, who joined members of the society in the National Trust’s St Bartholomew’s Chapel, was their great grandson, WA Premier Colin Barnett.

The citation revealed John McCann was refused a Roman Catholic burial and his wife had to turn to the Methodists for help - they buried him near the border of the Catholic section of the colonial cemetery.

After the formal proceedings in the chapel the congregation moved to the McCanns’ grave, where a blessing was bestowed and relatives each threw a white rose into the wrought-iron protected site.
FRAMING THE TRUST’S HISTORY

Shooting is complete on the first of a series of National Trust short documentaries featuring the men and women who have played significant roles in shaping the history of the National Trust in Western Australia.

Former Chair and Council member Michal Lewi was the focus of the first production. Over two days the crew, including interviewer/director Gina Pickering, cameraman Torstein Dyrtting and sound recordist Doug Hampton shot footage with Michal and his wife Roma at his Brentwood home and at heritage sites in both Perth and Fremantle.

Michal Lewi is a keen and respected photographer and the way he uses photography to better understand heritage, is a key aspect of the production. Michal Lewi was Chair of the National Trust between 1992-1997 and again in 2000-2001.

The program is part of the National Trust’s commitment to record its own history. It is being undertaken concurrently with a series of long form oral histories on significant individuals associated with the Trust produced by Special Project’s Historian Dr Kate Gregory.

The documentaries will be made available online when completed and the oral histories will result in audio recordings and transcripts that will add to the existing collection of National Trust oral histories with councilors, staff and volunteers.

NEW PLAN FOR ELLENSBROOK

Phil Palmer Landscape Architect

A Commonwealth Community Coasctcare grant will fund the preparation of a comprehensive Environmental Management Plan for the area surrounding the Trust’s Ellensbrook property in the state’s south west. The project was undertaken on behalf of the Trust by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). DEC manages the Leeuwin-Naturalist National Park in which the historic property is located. The focus of the plan was to provide a set of prioritised recommendations that would assist both the Trust and DEC to manage the natural, Aboriginal and historic heritage values of the place.

An important element of the project and one central to the work of both organisations was the inclusion of a survey of Aboriginal values. The outcomes of this survey were an integral part of the analysis of data and the development of the report’s recommendations.

The European history of Ellensbrook began in 1857 with the settlement there of Alfred and Ellen Bussell and their three daughters. The homestead and an area of land around it were given to the Trust in 1978. The surrounding Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park is part of a world natural heritage biodiversity hot spot and is the home to Priority listed flora and the threatened Cape Leeuwin Freshwater Snail.

The Environmental Management Plan makes a series of prioritised action recommendations for the entire site and management zones within it. The Trust will work with DEC, local Aboriginal groups and the community to implement these recommendations.

A comprehensive Environmental Management Plan will be undertaken for the Leeuwin-Naturalist National Park which surrounds Ellensbrook. National Trust (WA)
INTERPRETATION

AVONDALE SNAPSHOTS

Gina Pickering

Avondale Farm Manager Peter Jenkin is convinced anywhere in the Avon Valley is a great place to be and for the past 40 years his life on the land has kept him connected to a former iconic West Australian agricultural research station.

Peter's insights into the seasons, planting, experiments and living in the original Avondale homestead as a young farm hand are part of a new web based National Trust series of Avondale snapshots.

Each audio visual story is approximately one minute long and provides a colourful and unusual glimpse into the lives of farmers, research veterinarians and Avondale events which made a mark on the community and those who worked at Avondale.

A royal visit to Avondale by Prince Charles in 1979 and a specially prepared agricultural machinery display marked the 150th anniversary of the state and feature in one of the snapshot recollections.

The stories were recorded on-site at Avondale in May this year by a National Trust camera crew including yours truly and Luke Griffiths to create greater understanding of the Avondale story in Western Australia.

Formerly used as an Agriculture Department Research Station (1919-2009), Avondale was one of the earliest pastoral properties in the Beverley district dating back to the 1830s.

The National Trust took over management of Avondale in 2009. As part of its commitment to the heritage values of the place, the Trust has delivered a master plan for the property and a pilot Oral History Program in which volunteer community members have been trained in oral history skills. The newly completed snapshot series will be made available online at www.ntwa.com.au

BEVERLEY TRUCK MUSTER AT AVONDALE

Dina Barrett-Lennard, Project Officer Avondale Farm

The National Trust property Avondale near Beverley provided the perfect venue for the second Biannual Beverley Truck Muster in late August. Fantastic winter weather greeted about 700 visitors to the property while five trucks rumbled in slowly on Saturday, followed by sixteen more on the Sunday. These lovingly restored vintage machines were accompanied by their owners and in many cases, their restorers and there was much discussion about where their pride and joy was getting its next showing. As part of the two day event eight “restorer’s dreams” went under the hammer at the vintage truck auction.

In contrast, the Beverley Patchwork and Quilters also provided a fabulous display of their handiwork and demonstrations on the quilting machine. Big Rigs WA entertained visitors with a display of remote controlled model road trains and freight trucks in the shearing shed and beyond.

The Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society of WA demonstrated horse power of another kind and Clydesdale-drawn wagons provided rides around the heritage listed property, while in the 1890s stables complex there was the opportunity to meet the popular and gentle farm giants.

The exhibitors are to be congratulated on the presentation of their vehicles. It seems the Most Feral trophy is to stay in the Beverley area once again. Much appreciation goes to the volunteers who helped organise the event and put time and effort into presenting Avondale so magnificently to the community and visitors.

2011 TRUCK MUSTER RESULTS:

| MOST UNIQUE TRUCK | Grant Hodgson of Kelmscott with his restored 1969 Mack |
| BEST PRESENTED    | Kevin Lockyer of Hyden with his 1949 Austin K2 truck |
| MOST COLOURFUL    | Byron Mills of Nyabing with his 1956 F100 |
| MOST FERAL        | Bruce Mann of Beverley with the family 1948 Austin Truck |
| OLDEST TRUCK      | Lindsay Hill of Perth with his 1936 Chev |

Making a new friend in the stables at Avondale. National Trust/L Margetts

Winner of the Most Colourful in the Truck Muster 1956 F100 owned by Byron and June Mills of Nyabing. A Wardle

The National Trust crew shoots Lorenz Liedel as he describes Prince Charles’ visit to Avondale. K Gregory

Cameraman Luke Griffiths with Avondale Farm Manager Peter Jenkin after May seeding. G Pickering

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GOLDEN PIPELINE IN TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY

Western Australian National Trust staff worked with a film crew from a national television channel recently, providing information and resources on the Golden Pipeline and its designer, CY O’Connor.

Network Ten plans to televise a one-hour documentary, focusing on the impact on Western Australia of the 1890s gold discoveries in Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie, later this year.

According to the National Trust’s Interpretation Manager, Anne Brake, one of the most enduring legacies of WA’s Gold Rush is the steel pipeline which still supplies water to the arid interior.

“The film crew is using this as the backbone to their documentary which will incorporate history, geography and places of interest to the traveller,” Ms Brake said.

“The crew filmed in the Trust’s No 1 Pump Station which started the water on its 560 km journey in the days of steam and followed the pipeline to the precious liquid’s destination, Mount Charlotte in Kalgoorlie where the Trust has installed information about the life-giving scheme,” she said.

Ms Brake was interviewed for the documentary, sharing information about fascinating stops along the pipeline, for instance where prospectors stopped to fill their waterbags.

Education Officer Diana Frylinck is also due to appear in the documentary talking about the dire conditions prior to the pipeline being built.

The Trust provided photographs, plans and even poems to illustrate the waterless conditions and document the construction of the scheme which to this day sustains the Eastern Goldfields.

But the documentary will include much more than the engineering. The crew also interviewed someone who grew up at an old steam pump station and people who can live in the Wheatbelt today thanks to the pipeline.

“The documentary offers a wonderful opportunity to showcase the water supply scheme and WA’s Outback and we hope it will result in more travellers following the Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail,” Ms Brake said.

SEE YOU AT No 4 PUMP STATION

No 4 Pump Station will open its doors for tours for pipeline people during a Golden Pipeline reunion on Saturday 8 October at Merredin.

A wonderful way to meet up with a range of people connected to the pipeline, the reunions provide a great opportunity to capture memories and stories of people who lived along the line or made a living from the goldfields water supply. This year’s reunion will focus on the location of significant sites within the pump communities as well as the names and duration of residencies.

The event will also highlight the National Heritage Listing of the Goldfields Water Supply with a small ceremony.

Bookings are essential via trust@ntwa.com.au or to 9321 6088 by 30 September.

Golden Pipeline Reunion

Connected to the pipeline?

If you lived at a pump station on the Kalgoorlie pipeline or made a living from the goldfields water supply, come to a reunion of pipeline people.

Take a guided tour of the abandoned steam station and the two electric pump stations!

Remember your neighbours? The local playground? Favourite places? We will have maps of the pump stations to record these on the day.

When: Saturday, 8 October 2011
Time: 11am – 3.30 pm
Where: No 4 Pump Station
5km west of Merredin on Great Eastern Highway
Cost: $12/head for morning tea & lunch

Bookings essential to the National Trust by 30 September via trust@ntwa.com.au or 9321 6088.

Sponsored by
HEROES OR VILLAINS OF THE SWAN? STORIES OF OURSELVES
Sarah Toohey, Old Court House Museum Curator

‘Heroes or Villains of the Swan? Stories of Ourselves’ will feature the work of five highly regarded WA artists who have been invited to research and interpret the story of a person living in Perth from 1829 to 1879 who had an association with the Old Court House.

The exhibition brings together a diverse group of artists working in a variety of media to throw new light on an often overlooked history and the unique circumstances in which British Law was established and developed in Western Australia. Through research into the clash of British and Indigenous law, significant trials, and other events that took place in the city’s oldest remaining building, the artists will provide a new perspective on the Old Court House and its role in the early days of the colony. Artists include painters Kristi Chua, Thomas Hoareau, photographer Eva Fernandez, Jane Whiteley and Dianne Jones.

Funding from Department of Culture and the Arts will allow for the production of a substantial catalogue with commissioned texts from the artists to complement the exhibition.

The museum hours will be extended to include Saturday and Sunday 11am – 4pm for the duration of the exhibition between 9 – 25 November.

An audio tour is also being developed as part of the interpretation of the Old Court House.

The production explores perceptions of justice connected to the Old Court House and Supreme Court Gardens precinct from Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal perspectives.

The tour includes insights from the Noongar community representatives Reverend Sealin Garlett, Doolan Alisha Eatts and Irene Stainton as well as points of view from historian Professor Geoffrey Bolton, Geraldine Byrne and Chief Justice Wayne Martin. Dr Richard Walley has provided music elements to enhance the production outcomes.

The seventh annual presentation of awards for the councils of Cottesloe, Peppermint Grove and Mosman Park Literature Prize, Now and Then, was held at the new Grove Library on the 3 August.

More than 110 people attended to congratulate the prize winners. Guests were entertained by the Amico String Quartet from Presbyterian Ladies College and the guest speaker was local journalist and Books Editor for TheWest Australian newspaper William Yeoman.

The judges of the award this year were National Trust Manager, Education and Learning Joy Lefroy, Lindy Brophy, Ed Jaggard, Roland Leach and Ruth Marchant James OAM. Award winners were each presented with a certificate and a cash prize.

Winners of the Years 1-4 categories were Alex Kinsey for his poem ‘The Albion’ and Jaime Dunn for a carefully researched essay ‘The Wellers in Cottesloe, 1938-1959’ which also won the Student Category for the Local History Award.

Eva Marsh won the Years 5-7 category for her witty and visual poem ‘Mosman Park Dog Beach Through the Senses of a Dog’ and Eliza Smith won in the same category for her well structured story ‘Inside and Out’.

The Pylon, a local Cottesloe icon was the subject of the winning poem in the Years 8-12 category which was won by Merry Li. Penelope Hollingdale’s ‘A Cottesloe Sunday’, a parallel story that spanned two generations also won in this category.

Winners of the Open categories were Jake Dennis for his poem ‘The Living Suburbs’ and Ken Spillman for his story ‘Pretty Teeth’.

The Local History Awards were selected from across all categories and the winner of the Local History Open section was Denise Murray for her entry ‘Peppermint Memories’, an engaging recollection of kindergarten memories from Presbyterian Ladies College.

For full details of all the winning entries and commendations visit the Grove Library or go to the Library website www.thegrovelibrary.com.

Textile artist Jane Whiteley at work in her Fremantle studio. J Whiteley

National Trust Deputy CEO Enzo Sirna with Jaime Dunn, winner of the Years 1-4 categories for a carefully researched essay ‘The Wellers in Cottesloe, 1938-1959’ which also won the Student Category for the Local History Award. The Grove Library
EDUCATION

HISTORY, HERITAGE AND ‘SWEET TEA’
The Australian Colonies - Swan River Colony 1827 to 1899
Thursday 13 October 2011 (school holidays)
at Peninsula Farm (Tranby)
1.30pm to 3.30pm followed by High Tea
at Peninsula Tea Rooms
Total cost $15

Links to Australian Curriculum: History Year 5
Target Audience: Year 4 - 7 teachers
Venue: Peninsula Farm (Tranby) Johnson Rd, Maylands
Theme: This Professional Learning will give you confidence to
introduce your students to this exciting period of WA history. The
session at Peninsula Farm includes a tour and workshop followed by
afternoon tea at the Tea Rooms. The workshop explores links to the
British Empire and Colonial expansion, how and why the Swan River
Colony developed and significant people of the period. You’ll come
away armed with information, awareness of resources and skills to
teach historic knowledge and understandings.
A great way to hone your
history-teaching skills and get
a taste for a school excursion
to Perth’s oldest surviving
dwelling.
RSVP by 6 Oct
Phone 9321 6088 or email
trust@ntwa.com.au
Bookings essential

CY O’CONNOR: THE LEGEND AND THE MYTHS
Key figures and events
Thursday 20 October 2011 at Mundaring Weir
3.30pm to 5.45pm includes afternoon tea
Total cost $5

Target audience: Primary teachers
Venue: No 1 Pump Station at the foot of Mundaring Weir
Theme: You are invited to learn more about WA’s most significant
engineer and his world-renowned scheme to supply water to the arid
eastern goldfields. In 2012 it will be 110 years since his death but the
mystery and myths persist. You’ll come away from this session with
reliable information and an awareness of the resources available to
effect your students. The session includes a workshop, a tour of No 1
Pump Station, a walk across the dam wall and afternoon tea.
A great way to consolidate your knowledge on this significant person
in WA history and find out about school excursions to this nationally
heritage-listed historic site.
RSVP by 6 Oct
Phone 9321 6088 or email trust@ntwa.com.au
Bookings essential

TEA AND TALK AT THE CURTIN FAMILY HOME
Key figures and events
Tuesday 18 October
2011
3.30pm to 5.30pm
includes afternoon tea
Total cost $5

Target audience: interested
teachers
Venue: Curtin Family
Home, 24 Jarrad St,
Cottesloe
Theme: The Curtin Family Home gives an insight into the domestic life
of a prime minister and his family and their aspirations for the nation
they represented. It recognises not only Curtin’s contribution as a war
time prime minister but also his wife, Elsie who played a prominent
but largely forgotten and unrecognised role in the community and the
Australian Labor Party. Curtin Family Home will be open to the public
for a maximum of one month a year. Take this opportunity to visit in
2011.
RSVP by 6 Oct
Phone 9321 6088 or email trust@ntwa.com.au
Bookings essential

ST MARY’S VISIT
Students from St Mary’s Anglican School for Girls spent the day with the National Trust’s
Learning and Education team in August. As part of their excursion, the girls explored West
Perth to see the site of their original school and boarding houses and consider the way the
landscape has altered.
They spent time at the Old Observatory learning about William Cooke and the original use of
the buildings and the significance of the place. In the afternoon, the girls made sketches of some
of the design features of the George Temple Poole building to take back to school and use in
their artwork.
The National Trust has enjoyed a continuing relationship with St Mary’s school since 2005.
BLACK IS BACK

Sarah Murphy Director, Conservation & Stewardship

The Swan Guildford Historical Society is known for its extensive and significant costume collection. The strength of the collection lies in its focus on artifacts with a strong Swan Valley provenance. Consequently it comes as no surprise that the Society cares for at least one fabulous object with a connection to Woodbridge.

Currently on display is a black silk damask afternoon dress that belonged to Woodbridge’s Fanny Harper. The dress is believed to date from c1890 by which time Fanny would have been in her 40s. Typical of the dresses of the period it comprises two pieces – a long skirt and boned bodice with steel hooks and eyes down the front. Fanny’s dress was donated to the Society by Miss Aileen Harper (born 1895), the youngest of James and Fanny’s ten children.

Also on display with this dress are two coats (also c1890) that belonged to Ada Wright. As her husband James supervised the construction of Woodbridge it is quite possible that Ada and Fanny knew each other.

The fragility of these artifacts means that they are rarely exhibited and then only for short periods. The display is open until 2 November, from 9am - 4pm, seven days a week in the Society’s exhibition area within the Guildford Visitor Centre, Meadow Street, Guildford. Entry is free.

JARRAHDALE MILL  Eric Hancock, Conservation Architect

Jarrahdale Mill has increased its production of quality timber products including those being manufactured from waste wood thanks to an on-site power upgrade managed by the National Trust. Funded by a Royalties for Regions Grant the funding has also allowed for the construction of a new ablution block for Mill staff, while the water supply for the site is now sourced from roof rainwater runoff into new tanks. The mill operations have been hampered by an aged and inadequate power supply and lack of staff facilities and the new improvements are expected to increase local employment.

Built in 1950 Jarrahdale Mill is State heritage listed and continues to operate as Heritage Sawmillers in keeping with its original purpose. Log supplies deemed uneconomic by the larger mills, other unused species and recycled timber are utilized by the Mill to produce sawn products including high quality floor boards and furniture timbers.
Curtin Family Home Open Days

Elizabeth Hoff, Curator

The Curtin Family Home, where Australia’s wartime Labor prime minister John Curtin, his wife Elsie and members of their extended family lived for 75 years will be open on two special Sundays this October. Visitors can take this once in a year opportunity to explore the house and garden during two open days.

The home will be open to the public from 11am to 4pm on Sunday 9 October. Visitors are invited to wander through the house and garden either with a self-guided audio tour or a curator-led walk to look at objects recovered during an archaeological survey conducted on the site. A talk about how conservation of the garden was approached will start at 11am and again at 3pm. Entry is free.

On Sunday 16 October the Trust will host an open day from 10am to 4pm exclusively for families with children. Families are welcome to explore the property, take the audio tour and if they wish, book children from the ages of 5 to 12 years for a special children’s tour followed by an activity session, and freshly-made lemonade with scones—which were a favourite of Elsie Curtin. Tours start at 11am, 2pm and 3pm and cost $5 per child. Bookings are essential and may be made at trust@ntwa.com.au or on 08 9212 1114. Entry to the Curtin Family Home for other family members is free. The open days are part of an annual program of public events at the Curtin Family Home.

Be part of the comings and goings at Curtin Family Home during the National Trust’s open days October 9 and 16.

Sir Charles Court Young Leaders’ Program at Curtin Family Home

Kelly Rippingale Conservation Architect

Charles Court and John Curtin: vision, leadership and community. Selected students have demonstrated academic ability, particularly in the humanities; an interest in history; leadership potential; and involvement in their communities.

A visit to the Curtin Family Home has been a component of the program for a number of years and has led to some thought provoking feedback.

The first thing that impresses the visitor is the beauty of the grounds and the well maintained but simple and unassuming abode where some very historic decisions regarding our nation’s policies must have been formed.

The impression was that one never knows the story behind any place and we wonder which unremarkable house of our time may one day hold historical significance as the place that a new leader inhabits.

A modern technological addition to the experience was the audio guide, which provided further insight into each room of the house and allowed the visitor to gain their own perspective of life within the Curtin household.

Brandon Kur, Carmel High School, July 2011

The program is a joint initiative of Curtin University and the History Teachers Association of WA and is open to all year 10 students in the State.

Recently completed conservation and interpretation works and time with the Trust’s Conservation Architect Kelly Rippingale were a highlight for Year 10 students participating in this year’s Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Program in July.

The students visited Curtin Family Home in July as part of the four day residential program which is based on the shared ideals of Sir Charles Court and John Curtin: vision, leadership and community.
EVENTS

THE SWEET TASTE OF CHERRIES  
Rose Moyle

The tenth Manjimup Cherry Harmony Festival will be held on Saturday 10 December. This premier regional event is a celebration of the diversity of the community and coincides with the cherry season. The great range of horticultural produce and wines through the region are recognised through the ‘Tastes of the Southern Forests Avenue’ concept which seeks to provide locals and visitors with an opportunity to experience the wide range of fresh produce, secondary products such as cheeses, preserves and pates as well as wines and beers available in the Southern Forests region. The ‘Avenue’ will be staged on Brockman Street, Manjimup, a small side street which runs perpendicular between the town’s two main shopping streets. It is envisaged that the close placement of producer marquees, food/wine/beer tasting tents, a large regional produce display and cooking competition display will create a vibrant, interesting farmers’ market atmosphere.

The focal point of the ‘Avenue’ project is a series of interactive cooking demonstrations, presented by professional chefs Don Hancey and Peter Manifis using premium local produce in a large, centrally located marquee with their signature supersize (80kg) cooking pans.

Other highlights of the Festival include the:
• ‘Cherry pip spitting’ competition
• Stalls promoting and selling produce and crafts, with a big focus on cherries!
• Displays of local crafts including fine furniture, patchwork, dolls and photography
• Street theatre and entertainment all day and into the evening for people of all ages

This is a great opportunity for visitors to experience the laid back country style and take the opportunity to purchase premium quality cherries and other produce direct from the growers.

The prestigious long table lunch will be held on Sunday 11 December. The lunch will feature the region’s best food and wine and is set in the ambience of a working cherry orchard in full fruit. Early bookings are essential as tickets are limited. For more information visit www.cherryfestival.com.au

New teatowels featuring elegant black and white historic images of iconic National Trust properties in Western Australia are now available. The three teatowels include images from the Trust photographic archive and include:
• a mother and her children walking along Fraser Avenue as it (then) descended from the Old Observatory in West Perth c 1904,
• Wendy and Joselyn Bird in the garden of Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany in 1937, and
• workers building the goldfields water supply c 1902.

These 100% cotton teatowels are $12 each. To order, visit the shop on the new website (www.ntwa.com.au) or phone 08 9321 6088. Wholesale orders are welcome.

Phone the National Trust on 08 9321 6088 to take advantage of a special introductory discount of $30 for the set of three (no further discounts apply). Offer not available online.

PRESENTATION AND TOUR AT WOODBRIDGE

THE HARPERSTHE ANZACS
LEST WE FORGET

for REMEMBRANCE DAY
SUNDAY 13th NOVEMBER

ONE SESSION ONLY
2.00pm - 3.30pm

ADULTS $7.50
CONCESSION $6.50
CHILD $4.50
FAMILY $20

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
TEL: 9321 6088
EMAIL: trust@ntwa.com.au

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (WA)
BIG CLEANUP AT OLD BLYTHEWOOD

Vince Taylor Old Blythewood Warden

A group of eight National Trust volunteers from Woodbridge recently made a day trip to Old Blythewood near Pinjarra. August is historically a quiet time with few visitors so it was the perfect opportunity to close Old Blythewood and undertake cleaning and housekeeping of the buildings and collection. This is an annual event that has been re-established since the property was reactivated just over two years ago.

The rooms of the main house and kitchen block were stripped of their contents in advance to allow the removal of curtains and holland blinds for cleaning and repair. The next step involved dusting the walls, wiping over the paintwork and cleaning, waxing and polishing the floors. It was at this point that the Woodbridge volunteers arrived to commence the washing of china and glass, polishing of silver and brass and waxing of the furniture.

The condition of each item was checked as it was cleaned and notes taken about those items that required further care. The inventory was also revised as part of an ongoing research project to adequately identify the significance of the collection and its role in the interpretation of Old Blythewood.

At the end of the day the bulk of the collection had been returned to its place and all that remained to be done in the main house was the laundering and starching of linen and final dressing of the rooms.

The outcomes achieved by the Woodbridge volunteers were greatly appreciated by the Warden as the work accomplished in one day would normally take one person more than a week to achieve. The volunteer efforts ensure Old Blythewood is presented to the public in its best light and ensures its collection is preserved for the future.
Peninsula Tea Gardens
On the banks of the Swan River at Maylands.

Riverside at Woodbridge
Enjoy delicious home style meals and desserts
on the banks of the Swan River.

Central Greenough Historical Settlement, Café and Visitor Centre
15 Minutes South of Geraldton on the Brand Highway
Open Daily 10am to 4pm

National Trust of Australia (WA)

2011 Annual General Meeting

Members of the National Trust of Australia (WA) are invited to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday 2 November 2011 at 5.30-7pm.

Hale Meeting Room
The Constitutional Centre of Western Australia
Cnr Havelock Street and Parliament Place, West Perth

Followed by wine tasting and light refreshments at the Old Observatory from 7pm.

All members welcome. Please RSVP to Gae See on 9321 6088 for catering purposes.
National Trust places you can visit for a GREAT day out!

PERTH

East Perth Cemeteries: Bronte Street, East Perth. Tel: 08 9221 4022. Open Sunday 2 to 4pm for guided tours or by appointment.

Kep Track: Starts at Mundaring Weir Hall, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring to Northam. Multi use trail open every day. Tel: 08 9321 6088

No 1 Pump Station: Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. Tel: 08 9295 2455. Open Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 12 noon to 4pm.

No 8 Pump Station: 8km off Great Eastern Highway, Dedari. Open by Appointment. Tel: 08 9024 2540

O’Connor Trail: Starts at Mundaring Weir Hall, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. 5.3 kilometres (2.5 hr walk approximately). Open every day. Tel: 08 9321 6088.

The Old Observatory: 4 Havelock Street, West Perth. Tel: 08 9321 6088. Tour by appointment only. Open week days.

Tranby: Johnson Road, Maylands. Tel: 08 9272 2630. Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Closed 20 December to 5 February and July.

Weir Walk: Starts at No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. 1.9 kilometre (1 hr walk approximately). Open every day. Tel: 08 9321 6088.

Woodbridge: Ford Street, Woodbridge. Tel: 08 9274 2432. Open Thursday to Sunday 1pm to 4pm. Café open 9am to 5pm daily.

WITHIN 90 MINUTES DRIVE OF PERTH

Jarrahdale Heritage Park: Jarrahdale Road, Jarrahdale. Tel: 08 9525 5255. Open every day. Please contact Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale for details.

Old Blythewood: 6161 South Western Highway, Pinjarra. Tel: 08 9531 1485. Open Saturday 10.30am to 3.30pm, Sunday 12.30pm to 3.30pm and July school holidays by appointment. Closed 20 December to 6 January.

York Courthouse Complex: 132 Avon Terrace, York. Tel: 08 9641 2072. Open daily 10am to 4pm including public holidays. Closed 20 December to 1 March.

WITHIN 3 HOURS DRIVE OF PERTH

Bridgetown: Hampton Street, Bridgetown. Tel: 08 9321 6088. Open Saturday and Sunday only, 10am to 2.30pm.

Ellensbrook: Ellensbrook Road, Margaret River. Tel: 08 9755 5173. Open Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm, Public Holiday Mondays.

Wonnerup: Layman Road, Busselton. Tel: 08 9752 2039. Open 10am to 4pm on Thursday to Monday.

OVERNIGHT

Central Greenough (Historic Settlement): Brand Highway, Greenough WA Tel: 08 9926 1084. Open Monday to Sunday 9am to 4pm. Café open during nominated opening hours. Closed Christmas Day only.

Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail: Extends across 650 km from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie. Tel: 08 9321 6088. For more information go to www.goldenpipeline.com.au

The Old Farm, Strawberry Hill: 174 Middleton Road, Albany. Tel: 08 9841 3735. Open 7 days per week 10am to 4pm.

Mangowine Homestead: Karomin North Road, Nungarin. Tel: 08 9046 5149. Open Thursday to Tuesday 1pm to 4pm.

Warden Finnerty’s Residence: 2 McKenzie Street, Coolgardie. Tel: 9026 6028. Open everyday except Wednesday. Phone for opening times. Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday.

To obtain a copy of our WA Property Guide phone 08 9321 6088 or email trust@ntwa.com.au

www.ntwa.com.au