



ABOVE Ellensbrook escaped the devastating impact of the fires thanks to the efforts of Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) firefighters. A Stanbury



ABOVE The pathway to Ellensbrook was devastated by the heat and flames. A Stanbury

LEFT DEC firefighters Lance Jackson & Anthony O'Neil. D Klofverskjold NTWA

Ellensbrook – A hot topic GINA PICKERING

Twelve days after the Margaret River fire emergency, the Western Australian Premier Colin Barnett announced an inquiry into the disaster that destroyed more than 30 homes.

Former Federal Police Commissioner Mick Keelty was appointed to head the investigation into how a controlled burn got out of control.

While the damage and devastation to the Margaret River region and properties has been extensive, one National Trust property, Ellensbrook, was saved thanks to the efforts of Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) firefighters Lance Jackson and Anthony O'Neil.

The fire came within metres of the State Heritage Registered building which was constructed by the

Bussell family in the 1850s.

Lance Jackson, who works in the firefighting arm of DEC, described the conditions on the ground as appalling.

"We were sent from Margaret River to Ellensbrook and when I arrived there were three DEC trucks fighting the fire in the carpark - I was the fourth truck in," Mr Jackson said.

"We got to Ellensbrook early enough to set up the hose and defend it. We used the water from the brook onsite," he said.

Mr Jackson said the fires came in waves and burnt directly behind the house. A Margaret River resident since the 1980s, Lance Jackson has a real connection to the heritage values he has helped to save - one of his children is named Ellen.

National Trust Director of Conservation and Stewardship Sarah Murphy said the heritage building and the adjacent warden's house were untouched by the flames, but a shed and its contents, including a ride on lawn mower, behind the warden's house was destroyed.

"The Trust is incredibly indebted to the DEC firefighters and the Wallcliffe Volunteer Firefighters Brigade for their commitment to saving Ellensbrook on behalf of the people of Western Australia," Ms Murphy said.

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Inside this issue





Looking Forward from an Experienced Past TOM PERRIGO | CEO

One often reads that understanding the past will lead to a better future. After twenty plus years as CEO of the National Trust in Western Australia, I can

say with much confidence, the future looks extremely positive. It has been a journey of change based on the wisdom and strategic understanding of a dedicated Council of volunteers working in partnership with a very professional administration and an extremely dedicated volunteer base.

During the journey over that time, the Trust developed its core principles:

As a Trust for both the community and the Government we operate in partnership with a range of organizations to conserve and interpret WA's cultural heritage (natural, Aboriginal and historic). As a consequence, the Trust's projects and

programs are both diverse and rapidly expanding.

I often get asked why we have so many and diverse properties and the answers are simple. Firstly, each is in desperate need of conservation and interpretation and secondly, each is an important public educational tool. The Trust is an "educational institution" under its Act of State Parliament, managing heritage places is one of the most effective ways of supporting this role.

The Trust manages with volunteers but not by volunteers. This is a very fundamental principle of the Trust because, although one can delegate responsibility, one cannot delegate accountability. The National Trust (WA) has one of the most experienced and professional staff working with an incredible group of volunteers - including its Council - anywhere in the world.

The Trust's 2011 achievements include: A new five year strategic plan; a reconciliation action plan; an electronic data and record management system; the development and coordination of the national magazine; the development and coordination of a national web page (due to go live in April 2012); a Public Sector Commission review; a property portfolio review and the completion of a business plan for maintenance of Trust properties.

The new strategic plan focuses on four key objectives. These are leadership, governance, sustainability and partnerships. Over the next twelve months, I will report to both the Council and the Membership about how the Trust is meeting these objectives. On behalf of myself and the team here, may I record our appreciation to you.

Minister's Message HON JOHN CASTRILLI MLA

I hope you and your families had a joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

This year is already shaping up to be an exciting one for heritage with more than \$2million in conservation works planned for State heritage-listed properties, and work will continue towards a new contemporary Heritage Act.

In December, I announced 14 regional and seven metropolitan projects will share in \$1million through the 2011-12 Heritage Grants Program.

These grants will assist owners to revitalise and conserve important heritage buildings that have played a role in the development of our State.

The Heritage Grants Program offers private owners grants of up to \$100,000, on a matched-funding basis, for urgent conservation works to properties on the State Register of Heritage Places.

Bunbury's Prince of Wales Hotel (1882), Fremantle's Scots Presbyterian Church (1890), and East Perth's Boans Warehouse (1910) were awarded the maximum grant of \$100,000 each.

The Heritage Grants Program is the State Government's way of assisting private owners because, as a community, we share the responsibility of ensuring our past has a future.

Since 1997, 605 projects have received grants totalling more than \$12million through the program administered by the Heritage Council of Western Australia through the Office of Heritage.

I would like to thank those who gave their feedback to the Review of the Heritage of Western Australia Act's Discussion Paper.

I announced the review in April 2011 because, as we all know, the current legislation is out-dated.

The Discussion Paper was the second phase of community consultation and set out a series of proposals that will form the basis of a new Heritage Act.

The public were invited to make submissions or participate in an online survey.

In addition, five workshops, including one in Bunbury, were held for heritage owners and community groups, heritage professionals, State Government heritage property owners, and local governments.

According to the Office of Heritage, the workshops were extremely helpful with participants debating some of the more challenging issues raised in the Discussion Paper, such as repair orders and changes to municipal inventories.

In the coming months, I hope to gain the support of my Cabinet colleagues to draft a Bill to amend the Heritage Act of WA which will I propose to make available for public comment.

I hope that you take time to provide feedback on this draft Bill to ensure that we have legislation that embraces contemporary best practice, and reflects majority expectations on how the State's cultural heritage is cared for and administered.



ESPLANADE REDEVELOPMENT

The existing cultural heritage values of the Esplanade Reserve and its surrounds or its status as an A class reserve stand to be negatively impacted by the Perth Foreshore Redevelopment. The Heritage Council has advised that they do not oppose demolition of the site, due to its reclaimed, or constructed, character. The History Council, though, is concerned that there appears to have been little or no consideration of alternatives which would allow the site to be retained for adaptive reuse. It is important to recognise that the heritage assessment of the Esplanade is critically dependent on the site's

development as a reclaimed area. The assessment documentation for the site identifies that it is of great significance as a site of reclamation "creat[ing] a network of public open spaces and river amenities aimed at integrating the city environment with the river", and that it "provides a contrasting setting for the backdrop of the city environment" (Heritage Council, 2003). It is valued for its association with Anzac Day marches, from 1916, as the site of the Proclamation of Self Government in 1890, and as a venue for social and cultural events, including rallies, sporting events and concerts. The site is held by

the City of Perth as a Crown Grant in trust for the people of Western Australia, for recreation purposes. The impact of the proposed demolition on the associated heritage structures on or near the Esplanade, such as the Lawson Apartments, Weld Club, Supreme Court and Supreme Court Garden also does not appear to have been fully considered. As a state owned heritage site, the Esplanade should be conserved and interpreted, providing a continuing focus and unique identity for the city and the State as one of WA's oldest recreational sites.

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE AND MINING

An area of land and waters in the Pilbara region of Western Australia known as *Ganyjingarringunha Ngurra* in *Gambulanha* (Hamersley Ranges) by the *Yindjibarndi* people, has demonstrated the inability of the current *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* to facilitate effective monitoring and enforcement of this State's heritage protection regime. The Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation is challenging the mining company that is impacting their traditional

lands. The Corporation is planning to travel on country, "to record all the knowledge of Yindjibarndi ceremony and tradition, the sacred and archaeological sites, Law and language that make up our heritage and inheritance". These journeys of ceremony and cultural recording will be the last opportunity for Yindjibarndi elders to make a full record which can be used by future generations of Yindjibarndi to restore and revive connections

with their homelands. Use of digital video to capture the landscapes, and the songs, stories, ceremonies and the testimonies of the Elders will be at the heart of this work. The significance of the site is also due to culturally important ochre mines, burial sites and places where 'gandi' stones were collected for initiation ceremonies during which sacred songs were sung. Both the Heritage Act and the Aboriginal Heritage Act are currently under review.

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ABOVE Wallcliffe reduced to a burnt out ruin. S Tribbeck

National Trust CEO Tom Perrigo visited Ellensbrook shortly after the fire damage. He said the State was fortunate to still have Ellensbrook intact.

"The bush and path to the building are completely decimated. The firefighters have done a fantastic job in saving this historic place," Mr Perrigo said.

Not so fortunate was historic Wallcliffe House located near Prevelly which did not escape the fire. The two storey heritage listed homestead was also built by the Bussell family. Ironically, the Bussell's move to Wallcliffe was prompted after fire damage to the Ellensbrook property.

Ellensbrook will remain closed to the public while a range of safety issues are resolved.

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National Trust provides job boost for historic Jarrahdale Mill

GINA PICKERING

Newly completed electrical and sewerage headworks at Jarrahdale Mill at Jarrahdale Heritage Park were launched by Hon Colin Holt MLC, Member for South West on Friday 4 November.



ABOVE L-R Don Randall MP, Colleen Yates A/CEO Peel Development Commission, Terry Keogh Heritage Sawmillers, Tony Simpson MLA member for Darling Range, Hon Colin Holt MLC, Max Kay AM President of the National Trust, Bruce Moore President of Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire. G Pickering NTWA

Four full time jobs as well as the potential for a further ten positions will result from the project which provides commercial electrical power to the State heritage listed Jarrahdale Mill according to National Trust CEO Tom Perrigo.

“This National Trust project delivers three phase power and a new ablation block increasing the on-site capacity of Heritage Sawmillers, a regionally based specialist timber processing and manufacturing business,” Mr Perrigo said.

“The project will result in greater production of quality timber products for local, national and export markets including those manufactured from waste wood. It is a great example of ecological sustainability and provides economic and social dividends to a local community,” he said.

The new works at Jarrahdale Mill have been funded by a Royalties for Regions grant of \$199 250 in

addition to \$85 000 provided by the National Trust.

Mr Perrigo said that the National Trust values partnerships and has worked with the Peel Development Commission towards development of infrastructure to support business

and allow visitors to experience the stories about the State’s first timber town and its jarrah forest for over 10 years.

Built in 1950 Jarrahdale Mill continues to operate in keeping with its original purpose. Log supplies deemed uneconomic by the larger mills, other unused species and recycled timber are utilised by the Mill to produce sawn products including high quality floor boards and furniture timbers.

“The National Trust’s commitment to the sustainability of Jarrahdale Heritage Park in partnership with the Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire will also continue to bring further conservation, interpretation and parkland management,” Mr Perrigo said.

Jarrahdale Heritage Park was transferred to the care of the National Trust of Australia (WA) in 2001.



ABOVE In the Mill - politicians, heritage professionals and sawmillers gather to celebrate their combined efforts which led to the upgrades. G Pickering NTWA

PLACES

A Blumann landscape

GINA PICKERING

It is extraordinary to be welcomed into the Blumann House at Crawley. It is beautiful and filled with the arresting work of Elise Blumann.

A portrait of the nationally renowned artist hangs elegantly in the living room. Her son Nils – an athletic seventy-something sailor, farmer and more greets me with intense blue eyes.

“My mother tried to teach me to paint, but it wasn’t to be,” twinkles Nils.

The original Blumann house was on this site. The new contemporary home features elements from the original building including jarrah floorboards and the captivating outlook.

While Nils Blumann spends much time on his farm in Esperance, this is the place where he grew up. His riverside home is still very important to him and the surrounding landscape plays a key role. The environment is thick with heritage values and the site of former tram lines, bonfires, Catalinas and the rich continuity of the River setting.

Many of the trees that feature in his mother’s paintings from the 1930s are still in this landscape.



ABOVE A painting by Elise Blumann featuring the Swan River landscape and her son. G Pickering NTWA



Elise Blumann escaped turbulent pre-war Germany. She studied at the Berlin Academy of art between 1916 and 1919 and taught in schools between 1920-23. She moved to Perth in 1938 and promoted modernist ideas about art and education.

Many of her paintings focused on the Swan River. They adorn the walls of her son’s house and are held in collections locally, state based and national.



TOP The tree featured in an early Elise Blumann painting can still be found in the riverside Crawley landscape. G Pickering NTWA

ABOVE Nils Blumann at his Crawley home is surrounded by his mother’s pictures. G Pickering NTWA

ABOVE INSET Elise Blumann, artist. N Blumann

CY O’Connor Lecture



ABOVE Dr Ken Michael AC AM will present this year’s CY O’Connor Lecture.

Connecting and Building Sustainable Communities could almost be the mission statement for the National Trust. Instead it is the title of the 2012 CY O’Connor Lecture to be delivered by the former Governor of Western Australia, Dr Ken Michael AC AM.

Trust CEO Tom Perrigo said the Trust is delighted that Dr Michael has agreed to present the iconic CY O’Connor Lecture.

“Ken will draw on his wide experience first as an engineer and then more broadly as a driving influence with the East Perth Redevelopment Authority, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the WA Museum and a member of the WA Economic Regulation Authority to explore this timely issue,” he said.

In his work as Governor, Dr Michael has travelled widely meeting people from all walks of life, strengthening his understanding and appreciation of the importance of sustainable communities in underpinning the foundation and prosperity of our Western Australian society.

The CY O’Connor Lecture will be held in the graceful surrounds of Government House Ballroom on Wednesday 14 March at 6 pm. The lecture will also be held in Kalgoorlie at the WA School of Mines on Monday 19 March at 5pm. Members/ Concessions \$15. Non-members \$20.

Book your tickets online at www.ntwa.com.au (click on Shop). Take your receipt along on the night as tickets will not be mailed out. For booking enquiries phone 9321 6088.

The 2012 CY O’Connor Lecture is proudly sponsored by Water Corporation, Engineers Australia, and Government House Ballroom.

PLACES

Old Farm, Pears and Apples

PHIL PALMER | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Work continues apace on the conservation and management of the grounds at Old Farm Strawberry Hill in Albany under the skilful direction of the Trust's conservation gardener, Mike Harvey.



ABOVE Fiona Jordan and the "Lord Nelson" apple tree at Mundaring. P Palmer NTWA

Students from the Albany Secondary Education Support Centre and the Clontarf Foundation at North Albany Secondary School, as well as Ben and Todd from the Eucalypt Association, come in regularly to contribute to the care and maintenance of the gardens and learn new skills under Mike's expert guidance and tuition.

The Secondary Education Support Centre students have taken on a project to clear weeds and reinstate the pathway through a remnant bush area behind the farmhouse. Todd and Ben and the young men from the Clontarf Foundation have been assisting Mike with general gardening tasks including pruning techniques and the correct use of garden tools and equipment. This is a great outcome that benefits the garden and brings new skills to students.

Mike has also successfully propagated some of the most significant plants from the Old Farm – so far he has struck cuttings of pear trees which are believed to have been planted by Sir Richard Spencer in the 1830s – making them amongst the oldest planted fruit trees in Western Australia. Cuttings have also been taken from old fig and other

orchard trees and the hydrangea shrubs which have for many years been a feature of the ornamental planting around the farmhouse. The propagation of these plants, and particularly of the pear trees, is a vital step in the conservation of Western Australia's horticultural history. The new trees and shrubs will be used for replacement planting at the Old Farm to ensure continuity of original genetic material. If they can be propagated in sufficient quantity, plants will be made available for use in other historic gardens and plant collections, and to the public.

Philip Palmer, the Trust's landscape architect, was able to obtain cuttings from an historically important apple tree in Mundaring recently following a lead from a real estate advertisement. The advertisement referred to the existence on the farm of a "Lord Nelson" apple tree reputed to have been planted by John Forrest in the 1880s. The farm's owner, Fiona Jordan, was delighted for the Trust to attempt to propagate the tree.

These initiatives are positive steps in conserving and enhancing Western Australia's horticultural history and in forging strong, mutually beneficial relationships with the community.

Property Wrap

Bill Sewell Complex

Victoria House, constructed in 1887, is part of the old Victoria Hospital located within the Bill Sewell Complex in Geraldton. The building is built of sandstone blocks and lime/sand mortar with timber floors and currently has asbestos roof cladding.

Conservation works will commence shortly and include repair of spalling stonework and repointing. This urgent work has been prompted by stones falling from the wall. Only urgent and essential conservation works are being carried out to one wall. Local Government approvals are in place and the work commenced prior to Christmas as Western Power power line safety covers were installed.

Tranby

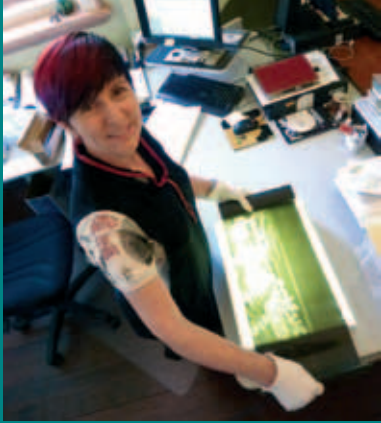


ABOVE L-R Gina Pickering directs cameraman Torstein Dyrting as Lizzie Stokes helps Sorcha McSkimming light her candle for the Trust's Christmas production. S Murphy NTWA

Four Trust volunteers donned their Sunday best to be filmed for the National Trust's electronic "Christmas card". Trevor and Denise O'Keefe and Robbie and Sally Henderson were absolute naturals in front of the camera. Additional stars were Lizzie Stokes (daughter of Trust architect Caroline Stokes) and Sorcha and Anise McSkimming (nieces of Sarah Murphy) who all helped reflect community support for Tranby.

When a negative is a positive

A recent phone call from Mike Rentsch resulted in a wonderful new donation to the Trust's collection. His gift was a negative showing a panoramic view of Perth taken from the top of the Old Observatory.



ABOVE Director of Conservation and Stewardship Sarah Murphy with the photographic negative that measures almost 1.2 metres. G Pickering NTWA

Clearly visible are the Barracks, Parliament House, Kings Park and the Observatory itself. Its delicate condition means that more detailed examination will have to wait until a print is taken from it. Hopefully it can then be dated.

The negative itself is fascinating due to its dimensions – it is 117cm wide and 24.5cm high. It has been taken to a specialist photographic laboratory for reproduction which is far from an easy process given its size as the type of enlarger required for the task no longer exists. The negative will be digitally copied in a lightbox using a “secret technique” in such a way that a print can be taken from the digital version in the future.

Mr Rentsch worked for a photographic company in Sydney in the 1970s. The business was closing down and the owner invited the staff to take what they wanted from the photographic collection before it was thrown out. The negative was among the items he rescued.

The National Trust is assisting him in donating further large format negatives and some glass plate negatives to the State Library of New South Wales. Sarah Murphy (Director Conservation & Stewardship) examined the items which show images of the Sydney Harbour Bridge under construction and of Circular Quay. She then contacted the Library and Alan Davies of the Original Materials Section was very excited at the prospect of the donation. While the content of the negatives is not rare their large format means they will reproduce into very highly detailed prints. To complete the service the Trust’s Landscape Architect Phil Palmer couriered the negatives to Sydney during his holiday break.

PLACES

Visit a jewel in the crown

HELENA MILLS | CONSERVATION COVENANT COORDINATOR

Most of the properties protected by the National Trust’s conservation covenants are on private land, and so not open to the public to visit without an invitation from the landowner. However, one of the jewels in the crown of the covenant program is the Quairading Community Nature Reserve, a 527 ha reserve protecting rare and threatened species, salmon gum woodlands and places of significance to the local Noongar community.



ABOVE Helena Mills, National Trust Conservation Covenant Coordinator, at the Quairading Community Nature Reserve. NTWA

Visitors are welcome to explore this magical part of the Wheatbelt, located just outside the town of Quairading, 150 km east of Perth. In late August, National Trust covenanting staff visited the reserve, and stayed for a meeting of the Friends group in order to finalise the management plan for the reserve. It was a wonderful visit, the perfect time of year for orchids (seven species spotted without even having to try) and exploring the pools of water that collected on Nookaminnie Rock over the wet winter. Unfortunately the visit was a week or two too early for the displays of pink everlasting daisies, which were just preparing to bloom and carpet the York Gum woodland.

The Friends of the Quairading Community Nature Reserve manage the reserve in conjunction

with the Shire of Quairading. Together they have established facilities at the reserve and walking trails with interpretive signs to allow people to experience a taste of what the Wheatbelt would have looked like prior to clearing for agriculture. The trails range from easy to adventurous, and the Friends organise regular ‘Wheelchair and Gopher’ days through the flat areas. There are some narrow paths in the upper reaches of the reserve, leading to Nookaminnie Rock, which provide a magnificent view of the reserve and surrounding countryside.

We encourage National Trust members to take the opportunity to explore a covenanted property and head out to Quairading to see one of the jewels of the Wheatbelt.

Safe keeping – A Heritage Festival exhibition

GINA PICKERING

The National Trust of Australia (WA)'s Heritage Festival event *Safe Keeping* has caught the imagination of communities from as far north as Geraldton and south to Busselton. A surprise call from a Western Australian artist currently working in Seymour in country Victoria will see a Coolgardie Safe cross the Nullabor for the exhibition scheduled in April.



ABOVE Coolgardie Safes (L-R) from the Stanley Family dairy farm in Busselton, Armadale History House and Subiaco Museum. NTWA

Exhibition Curator Catherine Czerw said she was amazed by the diversity of Coolgardie safes that have been made available for the exhibition.

"So far I have secured more than 20 Coolgardie Safes, generously provided by a range of donors," she said.

"Some are treasured heirlooms while others have been collecting dust in the back of the shed," she said.

Some, like the one from the WA Museum have been carefully conserved, but all of them have their own personality and history.

Artists will be invited to create an art work in response to the theme of 'safekeeping' with a focus on natural, Aboriginal and historic values.

Ms Czerw said she was thrilled by the response from museums and artists who have embraced the Safe

Keeping exhibition with imagination and enthusiasm.

The Heritage Festival program is taking shape on the National Trust website with a number of community events already submitted via the on-line registration.

"It's a promising start to what I hope will offer everyone something memorable during the heritage month celebration," she said.

The Heritage Festival will be held between 18 April and 18 May.

To register an event visit www.ntwa.com.au/content/heritage-festival-2012



ABOVE Curator Catherine Czerw at the Western Australian Museum with a Coolgardie Safe which will be included in the Heritage Festival exhibition. G Pickering NTWA

National Trust keeps Pipeline people connected

DIANA FRYLINCK AND ANNE BRAKE

Any connection to the Kalgoorlie water supply pipeline seems to be a life-long one. Nearly 100 people met at No 4 Pump Station, just west of Merredin, on Saturday 8 October to celebrate their shared bond of living and working along its 560 km length at the fourth Golden Pipeline reunion organised by the National Trust.



ABOVE National Trust volunteer Bethlyn Jarvis and Education Officer, Diana Frylinck welcomed almost 100 people to the Golden pipeline Reunion. K Jarvis

Engineers, stokers, woodcutters and their families compared photographs and stories of life along the line and at the eight steam pump stations required to deliver water from Mundaring Weir to the Eastern Goldfields.

Water Corporation's Anthony Bodycoat, Acting Regional Business Manager, Goldfields and Agricultural Region, welcomed everyone and spoke with delight about the pipeline's inscription on the National Heritage List earlier this year. This recognition, along with the International Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, conferred in 2009, reinforced the significance of this engineering feat created over 100 years ago which continues to operate as a world class water supply scheme. Dave Hatch, based in Merredin and a second generation pipeline person, gave tours of the 2001 electric station which operates almost completely on computers based in Perth. There was also an opportunity to view the now decommissioned 1950s electric station and the remnants of the old steam station. The Water

Corporation's assistance and contributions to the day were much appreciated by the National Trust and those who attended.

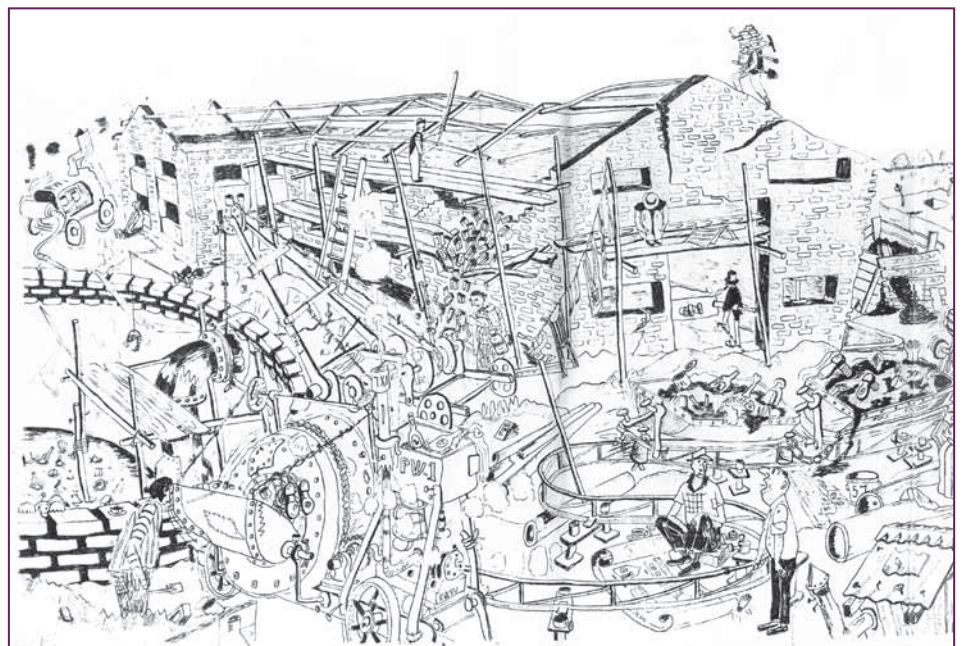
Whenever a reunion is held, more people with connections to the

pipeline come forward and more artifacts connected with it are identified. Although he couldn't attend on the day, John Beesley, who worked on raising the receiving tank wall at No 4 in the 1950s, provided a cartoon-type sketch that caused a great deal of interest and amusement at the reunion.

The sketch, by Max Anderson, shows some of the shenanigans that went on when the 'new' electric pump station was built and the wall raised accordingly to hold more water. Displayed alongside an actual photograph of the same activities, it was keenly studied by attendees, some of whom said they could identify themselves or old colleagues in the caricatures.

This year's reunion was attended by four generations of families who all worked or still work to keep the life-giving water flowing.

BELOW This cartoon, drawn by Max Anderson during work on the receiving tank at No 4 Pump Station, created much interest at the recent Pipeline Reunion



Heritage Audit of the Swan Canning Riverpark

GINA PICKERING

In December 2011, the board of the Swan River Trust endorsed the final report prepared by the National Trust of an audit of heritage values of the Swan and Canning Rivers landscape.



ABOVE Swan River Darter G Pickering NTWA

Entitled *Heritage Audit of the Swan Canning Riverpark to inform an Interpretation Plan for the Iconic Trails Project*, the report involved the valued input of 17 of the 21 local government authorities that border the Rivers. A heritage audit of the additional four councils, Cities of Swan, Belmont, Bayswater and the Town of Bassendean was undertaken in 2009 when for the first time a statement of significance for the Swan and Helena Rivers was identified. This statement of significance has been updated to reflect the broader context of the Swan Canning Riverpark as part of the new document.

Included in one of the world's 25 internationally recognised biodiversity hotspots, the area defined by the Swan Canning Riverpark demonstrates outstanding flora, distinctive freshwater fish and is a destination for trans-equatorial migratory birds. The Rivers have also defined important aspects of the Noongar community - one

of the world's oldest continuous cultures - and determined the location of Perth as the major political capital of Western Australia. The Swan and Canning Rivers, which are individually listed on the Department of Indigenous Affairs Aboriginal Sites Register, offer an iconic landscape which is internationally recognised for its natural and cultural values.

To assemble the most relevant information about historic and natural heritage values found in the River corridor, the project comprised a review of state and local heritage registers, natural heritage assessments and included workshops with representatives of the Local Government Authorities that border the Rivers. The audit of Aboriginal heritage values was sourced from the current Aboriginal Sites Register and undertaken with the assistance of the National Trust's newly formed Aboriginal Committee of Council.

This report identifies 63 sections of the Riverpark with natural heritage values of which 26 are considered to be 'key' areas for conservation; 79 sites from the Aboriginal Sites Register including both the Swan and Canning Rivers; while 159 places with historic values are listed.

At the time of writing the report (October 2011), both the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990* and *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)* were under review, while the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council was in a process of negotiation with the WA State Government to resolve six Noongar native title claims over Perth and the south west of WA. The audit and the development of any interpretation plan should be considered in the context of these initiatives. While the complex social significance in the Swan and Canning corridor was outside the scope of this report, it is acknowledged as vital to the interpretation of the Swan Canning Riverpark and essential to the landscape of reconciliation offered by the Rivers to the entire community.



ABOVE Derbarl Yerrigan by Alan Muller 2011

Volunteers celebrate

KARL HAYNES MANAGER | HERITAGE SERVICES

This year's volunteers' appreciation event featured a tram ride through historic Guildford with well known heritage advocate Barbara Dundas. Fifty volunteers joined National Trust staff for a two hour guided tour visiting many of the important heritage places that make Guildford such a significant location.

Guildford was awarded historic town status by the National Trust in the 1990s, recognising that though considerably altered it retains many features dating back to the very earliest period of colonisation.

Barbara began the tour by taking the team to the Barkers Bridge, from where you can get a sense of the landscape that shaped the early town. From here the tour slowly moved around historic Guildford taking note of many of the important heritage buildings, such as the 1860s Jecks House and the 1890s Crosslands House, along with other features, like the heritage rose garden in Stirling Square and the grounds of the first Western Australian agricultural show on Fauntleroy Street.

Barbara shared her knowledge and passion for Guildford, as well as her concerns that the heritage values of the place were being eroded through inappropriate development and planning decisions. Despite the very hot weather the day was fun and informative.



ABOVE Ready to go. Trust Hon Secretary Helen Colgan joined the volunteers for the Guildford tour. R Facius

OUT 'N' ABOUT

Annual General Meeting

GINA PICKERING

The National Trust (WA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Constitutional Centre in West Perth on 2 November.



ABOVE L-R Michal Lewi receives the Margaret Feilman Award at the National Trust AGM from National Trust President Max Kay. G Pickering NTWA

More than 100 members attended the meeting which was one of the largest turnouts for an AGM in many years. President Max Kay presented a review of the Trust's operations over 2010-2011, including details of the new strategic plan.

Mr Kay also detailed the recent review of the Trust by the Public Sector. The Review found that the governance of the Trust was good, there was a focus on good governance and a commitment to improvement. This outstanding outcome backed by a comprehensive independent Review highlights the Trust's Council and the Administration is well on target in relation to one of its key strategic outcomes (good governance).

Chief Executive Officer Tom Perrigo highlighted key achievements of the Trust including the successful adaptive reuse of Wanslea from an underutilized Government asset to a multiple million dollar Cancer Wellness Centre, the successful million dollar transfer of the plot ratio development space above the Old Perth Boys School and the investment of those funds into the conservation of this important City heritage icon.

"The Trust has also completed a number of master plans for its properties including Avondale, Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, the Bill Sewell

Complex and others," Mr Perrigo said.

A highlight of the evening was the National Trust awards for 2011. Thirty-four National Trust volunteers were recognised for their service to the Trust. Retiring Council member Michal Lewi AM received the Trust's highest accolade - the Margaret Feilman medal. This award is presented for eminent achievement and merit in sustained service to the National Trust of Australia (WA).

During his long association with the Trust Mr Lewi served two terms as National Trust Chair (1992-1997) and (2000-2001).

Peter Moore, Chief Operating Officer, of the Water Corporation, attended the AGM in recognition of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme inscription on the Australian National Heritage List. Over more than a decade, the National Trust and the Water Corporation have forged a strong and satisfying partnership that continues to conserve and interpret the pipeline's heritage values.



ABOVE L-R National Trust President, Max Kay presents Peter Moore, Chief Operating Officer, Water Corporation with a certificate to recognise the valued relationship between the Trust and Water Corporation. G. Pickering NTWA

OUT 'N' ABOUT

Avondale Stories

DR KATE GREGORY | HISTORIAN, SPECIAL PROJECTS

You had to be a bit of a psychologist when you were driving horses because they were like people. You get two horses could work together good. You put another one in between them and they just wouldn't work...

Patrick Connelly, whose father was Head Teamster at Avondale 1934-44, Oral History with Karina Leonhardt, 2011



ABOVE L-R Patrick Connelly, Emma Robson, Dina Barrett-Lennard, Alan Windsor, Karina Leonhardt, Dr Kate Gregory. A. Brake. NTWA

The 2011 Beverley Harvest Festival at Avondale provided an opportunity for a community presentation about the Avondale oral history program. National Trust CEO, Tom Perrigo, and Historian Kate Gregory, made a presentation to five trained oral history interviewers to thank them for the oral histories that were recorded to ensure the preservation of some of Western Australia's most important agricultural stories. The event also attracted people with whom oral history interviews were recorded. Patrick Connelly, whose oral history was recorded by Karina Leonhardt,

brought his daughter and granddaughter to Avondale for the event, to share with them some of his childhood memories of the place in the 1930s and 40s.

The event illustrated the community benefit and significance of the oral history initiative. The program led to greater understanding of the place of Avondale within Western Australian history and fostered relationships within the community.

Avondale Discovery Farm, near Beverley, was formerly an Agriculture Department Research Station (1919-

2009), and was one of the earliest pastoral properties in the Beverley district dating back to the 1830s. The Avondale oral history program, funded by Lotterywest, was the first of its kind for the National Trust, recording the memories, experiences and perspectives of people connected with the place. Professional training in oral history was provided to five volunteers from the Beverley community.

Avondale has been an important focus of the Beverley community and of the state, not only through its scientific and agricultural work but also through its day to day practices, links to farming and associations with the district.

Ten oral histories were recorded, exploring daily life at Avondale, the changing use of the site over time, peoples' relationship with the land, work and family. A series of audio-visual snapshots was also produced with past employees who solved some of Australia's pressing agricultural challenges. A range of different perspectives were captured through the oral histories from across several decades. The oral histories will help shape the future conservation and interpretation of Avondale and create a valuable oral history archive accessible to the community.

Winning streak **GINA PICKERING**

Perth based tour operator Two Feet & a Heartbeat won the Gold Medal for Heritage & Cultural Tourism at the 2011 Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards in November 2011. The Fremantle Prison and Urban Indigenous Tours took out the Silver and Bronze medals respectively at the gala event.

With operations in both Perth and Sydney Two Feet & a Heartbeat is in its fourth year of operation. The award was collected on stage by co-founders of the business

Ryan Zaknich and Ryan Mossny.

Ryan Mossny said the company's success is largely based on the help and guidance received from industry partners like the National Trust (WA).

The win for the company is their second major award of the year having also won the Outstanding Newcomer award at this year's Western Australian Heritage Awards. The Heritage & Cultural Tourism Category is sponsored by the National Trust (WA).

OUT 'N' ABOUT

Avondale grant win

DINA BARRETT-LENNARD | PROJECT OFFICER

Avondale Farm Project Association (AFPA), the community group that supports the National Trust property Avondale in Beverley, has been successful in securing a Federal Government grant from the Caring for Country scheme.

This money will be used to fund important weed management as recommended in the Avondale Master Plan. The funding will be expended over the next 18 months, providing three chances to crack down on weeds in Autumn and Spring 2012 as well as Autumn 2013.

Enhancement of the Avondale Bush Reserve is a priority of the revitalization of Avondale Farm. The Trust has encouraged community and Noongar interest in the enhancement of the Bush Reserve as a place to be recognized for its educational, training, interpretation and conservation values. In partnership with Greening Australia, and the Wheatbelt NRM, weed mapping has been undertaken in preparation for control in autumn 2012.

To encourage future uses, the planning of trail links from the core building area at Avondale Farm to, and through, the Bush Reserve is being pursued. One outcome is the provision of recreational opportunities for walkers and cyclists, as well as interpretation opportunities for study groups.

The recent Beverley Harvest Festival attracted an enthusiastic crowd of visitors to the Avondale Farm. Predominantly from the metropolitan area, people who attended the open day on 20



ABOVE A combine was on display at this year's Harvest Festival. D Barrett-Lennard N.T.W.A

November had the opportunity to see shearing demonstrations, wood chopping, harvesting of barley, horsedrawn equipment, live music, working sheep dogs, a vintage tractor parade and highland cattle at close range. Children had a chance to pet the animals in the nursery, and families enjoyed the free farm tours on offer. The state government has supported this major regional event through a \$6,000 one off grant to AFPA, through the Regional Events Scheme, for the 2012 Beverley Harvest Festival at Avondale.

Since 1924 the Department of Agriculture has conducted thousands of significant agricultural trials at Avondale Farm in Beverley. The last of these trials was managed by Dr Abul Hasheem from the Department of Agriculture and was wound up with the 2011 harvest. This marks the end of an era for use of the land which comprises Avondale Farm. It will continue to be farmed as a commercial enterprise, and provide an environment which will enhance the real farm experience of visitors to Avondale in the future.



ABOVE R-L National Trust CEO Tom Perrigo with Ryan Mossny and Ryan Zaknich at the 2011 Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards. R Creighton

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OUT 'N' ABOUT

Joining the ranks GINA PICKERING

Shadow Heritage Minister John Hyde has been a strong supporter of funding to restore the buildings at the original Highgate Hill Police Station in Lincoln St, Highgate.

"The first building from 1897 is an important reminder of early suburban Perth," said Mr Hyde, who is also the Member for Perth.

"It is a unique heritage site in the truest sense – not only do we have the original police lockup and quarters but there's also a listed Art Deco Lincoln Street Sewer Stack on the same site, which was used as a secret communications tower by WA police during World War II," he said.

There's a range of strong cultural heritage associations with this place including the murder of Sergeant Marks from the Highgate station in 1928, which prompted the

introduction of firearms licensing in Western Australia.

Mr Hyde said that 1,500sqm of excess land at the site was recently sold by the State Government for \$1.86m. New housing will be an outcome of the sale. The remaining 1,770sqm have been retained for use by the Western Australia Police Historical Society for the police museum.

"The Police Historical Society does an amazing job preserving much of our police heritage including artefacts and records from around the State. I'm very keen that the Government



ABOVE Visiting the collection at the former Highgate Hill Police Station are (L-R) John Hyde MLA, Graeme Sisson Archivist, Brian Bull President Western Australia Police Historical Society (WAPHS) and Peter Skehan Vice President (WAPHS). G Pickering NTWA

uses some of the proceeds of the land sale to support the Historical Society's valuable work and upkeep of the heritage buildings," said Mr Hyde.

As part of the redevelopment new toilet facilities are being installed. The Police Museum is open by appointment.

For more information visit www.policewahistory.org.au

Heritage timber footbridge removal NATASHA GUERINON | PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY



ABOVE The historic footbridge is removed by crane. Public Transport Authority

A heritage overpass connection in Perth Station has made room for a modern underpass as part of the Perth City Link project.

The 113-year-old timber footbridge, which connected Platform 5 to Platform 6/7, was built using techniques mostly lost to today's construction industry.

With steel support beams shipped from Middlesborough in Britain in the late 1800s, the footbridge has had a long journey and survived the evolving rail industry, including a refurbishment in 1990 when Perth's metropolitan rail network converted to electric power.

Connections in Perth Station are entering a new chapter. The footbridge was carefully dismantled in sections,

recorded and stored for future reinstatement to allow a new pedestrian underpass, which connects all platforms to Perth Underground.

Perth City Link Rail Alliance Building Manager Patrick McCarthy said the process to remove the Heritage Council of WA listed bridge respected its excellent craftsmanship.

"Our first step was to find and review the hundred-year-old plans, which were hand-drawn with an extremely high level of detail, to understand how it was built," he said.

"Then, working closely with the Heritage Council, in November 2011, every piece of wood, nut and bolt was carefully removed and recorded to minimise damage.

Large sections of the footbridge were removed by crane and transported to the Public Transport Authority's Welshpool storage facility where they will be stored.

With Federal, State and Local Government funding, the Perth City Link is realising a long-held dream to connect the CBD and Northbridge by sinking the Fremantle Line from William Street to Lake/King Streets and creating a new underground Wellington Street Bus Station.

The rail work will improve connections in Perth Station and will provide a pedestrian underpass connecting all platforms to Perth Underground.

The sinking of the Fremantle Line is scheduled for completion in 2014 and the underground bus station in 2016.



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National Trust places you can visit for a GREAT day out!



1. Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany
2. Avondale Farm, Avondale
3. Ellensbrook, Margaret River
4. Central Greenough Historic Settlement, Greenough
5. No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring



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. Closed February.

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

Bridgedale: 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. Closed until further notice.

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.

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.

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

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.

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