



TRUST NEWS | WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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ABOVE L-R: Matt Meckenstock, Jordan Ralph and 100km winner Oskar Booth. S Fraser

2012 Kep Ultra Marathon a sellout **ROB DONKERSLOOT**

This year's Kep Ultra Marathon was a sellout for the first time with more than 60 entries received by organisers in the first week of registrations.

The Kep 100km Ultra was won in record time by Oskar Booth from Broome in nine hours and two minutes. The first woman home and third overall was Bernadette Benson in an amazing time of nine hours and twenty four minutes, smashing the women's record by more than an hour and a half. Bernadette's time was even more remarkable as she had competed in the tough North Face 100km event in the Blue Mountains two weeks earlier.

Three race records were broken during the event with 2011 75km event second place finisher Scott Hawker improving one position to win the 2012 race in a race record

time of five hours, fifty eight minutes. Amanda Bowman was the first woman home in the 75km in eight hours and twenty one minutes.

Entrants were primarily from Western Australia but the event also attracted national and international competitors. A high incidence of injuries during the grueling training regime required for the event saw over 20 people withdraw before race day.

The third annual Kep Ultra marathon was held on the Foundation Day long weekend in June. The 100km and 75km ultra marathon running events take place on the Kep Track, starting

on the banks of the Avon River in Northam at day break and finishing well into the evening at Mundaring Weir.

Both events follow the Kep Track from Northam to Mt Helena via aid stations at Clackline and Wooroloo. At Mt Helena 75km runners go direct to Mundaring Weir via Mundaring town, while 100km runners head through John Forest National Park to Swan View, and then along the Railway Heritage Trail from Bellevue to Darlington and Mundaring before finishing at Mundaring Weir.

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Inside this issue



Council and Executive Digest CHAIRMAN, JOHN COWDELL AM

1. PROPERTY PRIORITIES

Council and Executive have determined that the capital works priorities of the Trust, this financial year

should be the completion of the interior renovations of the Old Perth Boys' School (at a cost of \$1m), the purchase of two adjoining blocks to the Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany (at a cost of \$600,000), the conservation of 57 Murray St (at a cost of \$4.7m) and the completion of stage II of the Luisini Winery Development.

Before committing to a long term private lease for the Old Perth Boys' School, which may restrict or preclude public access to the site, the Trust has decided to explore the opportunities for a WA on Show promotion that would include a WA Shop and promote the Trust as well as our State attractions to the public.

Work has commenced on 57 Murray St, and the Treasury advance of \$4.7m for conservation works will be drawn down over the next 12 months, with work expected to be completed by the end of 2013.

Although the Trust would like to substantially increase the footprint of Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany, with the acquisition of adjoining blocks that originally formed part of the farm, the availability of funds at this stage will only permit the purchase of two adjoining blocks at 19 & 21a Beauchamp Street, from the Bird family to enhance the site. A house that forms part of the new acquisition will be retained as an integral part of the compound that has developed over the years, as parts of the farm were divided amongst original family members.

2. ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS

The Trust approached the Government with a view to allocating Royalties for Regions Funds for country heritage. In a joint approach with the Heritage Council, Museums WA and Lotterywest, the Trust has outlined a strategy for building on the limited funds that can be allocated by each of the participants, to make a real impact in preserving and interpreting our country heritage, while promoting adaptive re-use and creating economic opportunities in country WA.

Detailed proposals are now being developed in conjunction with the Regional Development Council.

3. PLANNING & PUBLICATIONS

Following an approach from the Albany Anzac Alliance the Trust has resolved to "develop a conservation, interpretation and business plan for the management and operation of the heritage precinct on Mount Adelaide" to facilitate planning by the Alliance and City of Albany for the site which will include the Forts and the ANZAC (Centenary) Interpretation Centre.

In addition the Trust has agreed to contract conservation works on Galbraith's Store in the Cossack town site, as a project for the Shire of Roebourne.

After some very successful publications in recent years including "Old Albany" by John Dowsen and Barracks to the Burrup by Kate Gregory & Andrea Witcomb, the Trust will be sponsoring the publication of "Picture Palaces of the Golden West" a visual history of the development of Cinema Theatres in WA by Yvonne Geneve, the Chair of the Trust's Art Deco Classification Committee and Ron Facius.

4. FELLOW AWARD

Council has recommended to the AGM that the rules of the Trust be changed to create the position of Fellow of the Trust. There is currently a great deal of confusion between the awards of "honorary member" and "honorary life member" and the importance attached to each award. The current "honourary member" award would be abolished and the award of "fellow of the Trust" will be created as the highest possible award. Council has determined that all holders of the current "honourary member" award will be awarded "honourary life membership".

5. PUBLIC ADVOCACY

The Council expressed particular concern at the WAPC/Main Roads road widening proposals for Stirling Highway. The proposed amendment affects 14 State Heritage Registered places to begin with.

In its submission to Metropolitan Scheme Amendment 1210/41 the Trust stated.

"The number of heritage places along Stirling Highway underlines the heritage importance of the Highway as a historically important road link between Perth City and Fremantle since the late nineteenth century. Though many places of local importance have limited statutory protection, this does not mean that they should be excluded from any detailed consideration. In fact the Concept Design Report for the Stirling Highway Activity Corridor Phases 2 & 3 expressly excludes any consideration of local heritage due to the sheer number of places that need to be considered. This is unacceptable".

The Council of the Trust resolved:

1. To request the Heritage Council of WA to nominate for registration the following places on the State Heritage Register:
 - The Windsor Theatre
 - The Albion Hotel
 - North Fremantle Town Centre - precinct
 - Matilda Bay Brewing Co. Building (fmr Ford Motor Co factory)
 - St Anne's Church
2. To request the Environmental Protection Authority to formally assess Main Roads proposed changes to Stirling Highway.

The Trust has previously registered the places proposed for State Heritage Registration, and will closely examine municipal inventory sites that are under threat.

6. COVENANTS/APPEALS

The Council approved the lodgement of covenants protecting an area of 21 hectares of remnant vegetation covering Jarrah-Marri forest with some Tingle & wetland areas and an additional 11 hectares of bushland adjacent to the Walpole Wilderness area, both within the Shire of Denmark. An additional area of 23 hectares of Jarrah-Marri woodland immediately adjacent to the Julimar Conservation Park, within the Shire of Toodyay is to be protected.

Council authorised the establishment of Trust appeals for the conservation of former government offices at 57 Murray Street and the Lionel Samson History appeal. This brings to 63 the number of tax deductible public appeals currently maintained by the National Trust.

PERSPECTIVES



Councilor View

CHRISTINE LEWIS, COUNCILOR

There is a saying that the more money there is to spend in an economy, the greater the threat to our history and heritage. I am sure we can all think of an example close to home where this homily is true.

Western Australia is experiencing a booming economy thanks to the resource industry and in booms there is always money to replace places of importance to the community with something considered more important or necessary at the time.

It might be a new housing development, new infrastructure or a mine, but once a place of importance and significance is lost, it is lost forever.

The Trust programs of research, community engagement, interpretation and conservation are therefore more critical today in WA than ever before.

As the only Western Australian based Prime Minister in the hundred years since Federation, John Curtin has a unique place in our history. His former family home at Cottesloe is one of our most important heritage places— a fact which has long been recognised and is closely linked not only to the WA community but more closely to the Trust. In the 1960s during public discussion about the need to establish a National Trust in WA,

John Curtin's house was cited as an example of a place worthy of preservation. It is appropriate therefore that the Trust is now the custodian of the property for not only Cottesloe residents and the WA community, but also the Australian community.

The house was built for John and his wife Elsie when he worked as a journalist and editor prior to entering parliament. It is a typical example of middle-class Australian housing from the 1920s. Its cultural significance was recognised when it was entered on the (WA) Register of Heritage Places. The Trust has worked hard over the last ten years to conserve and interpret the history and heritage of the house and the program of open house activities during July and August this year is a good example of the Trust's commitment.

The Trust's programs of research and engagement at local places like the Curtin Family Home in Perth and Samson House in Fremantle as well as activities further afield in regional WA, are all about enticing an interest in and a commitment to



ABOVE: Marc Simpkins who finished second in the 100km. S Fraser

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Momentum for the Kep Ultra is exceeding expectations and organisers have already secured a full quota of fifty volunteers for next year's Kep Ultra 2013.

World renowned landscape photographer Steve Fraser made this year's event his focus. He has captured a remarkable set of photos, arguably some of the best ever images captured of the Kep Track. A selection of Steve's photos can be seen on the Kep Ultra website. www.kepultra.com

our heritage to give people an opportunity to act and feel a sense of belonging in our community.

It's not what the Trust can do for you, but what you can do with and for the Trust.

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New Trustee

GINA PICKERING

National Trust of Australia (WA) Special Project Historian Dr Kate Gregory was appointed to Western Australian Museum Board in July.

Culture and the Arts Minister John Day announced two new appointments and the re-election of one existing member to the Western Australian Museum Board.

Mr Day said new trustees Dr Kate Gregory and Rubini Ventouras had been appointed for a term of four years, while existing member Sara Clifton would continue in her role as a museum trustee and has been confirmed as vice-chair.

Dr Gregory manages historical research, oral history programs and develops interpretation and cultural heritage programs at the National Trust.

"Her knowledge of and skills in working with diverse communities will prove invaluable as the museum encourages people to tell their stories," Mr Day said.

In welcoming new trustees, Mr Day acknowledged the tireless commitment of outgoing board members Professor Geoffrey Bolton and Wayne Osborn.

"Much-revered historian Professor Geoffrey Bolton has served on the WA Museum Board for almost seven years and during that time his passion for Western Australian history has inspired the museum," he said.

Heritage Watch

The Trust is concerned about the impacts of the Stirling Highway Road Reserve changes on heritage places of local and state significance. While consideration has been given to places on the State Heritage Register, those that are either National Trust listed and/or on the Municipal Inventory have not.



ABOVE: Windsor Theatre. NTWA

Places of interest include a variety of styles along Stirling Highway that were considered 'modern' in the inter-war period, particularly those built in the post-Depression 1930s.

These places provide a thread of aesthetic unity, marking the history and use of this important arterial route from Nedlands to Fremantle. The proposed new boundaries of the road reserve will negatively affect many of the Art Deco 1930s places.

The Art Deco heritage places are predominantly located in Nedlands and reflect a particular period in the settlement and development of Perth and its environs. They represent the work of Perth's leading contemporary architects, such as W T Leighton, W G Bennett, E and R Summerhayes, H Krantz, M Clifton and H Parry and the builder/designer H. Costello. Art Deco places include the Windsor Cinema, an important group of residences, both houses and apartments (or flats); the Captain Stirling and Coronado Hotels and a number of commercial buildings.

The W T Leighton designed Windsor Cinema (1937) and its associated shops and neighbouring commercial premises by the same architect appear to be at great risk. They would need to be demolished for the proposed road reserve to be implemented; The Windsor is a highly important place, both to the State and within an international context.

The entire group of Art Deco houses and flats situated on Stirling Highway is important. Whilst the houses are representative of others in the suburb, flats were a new form of housing that became popular in the inter-war period. These are among the first to be built in Perth, and demonstrate a range of Art Deco styles, set in their original gardens. Many are in Nedlands and while few are registered on official heritage lists together they form a very significant cluster.

The Captain Stirling Hotel (Classified in 1998) is not protected on the State Heritage Register and the plan indicates that the proposed road reserve would impinge on the north east corner of the building. The Art Deco commercial premises along Stirling Highway also have heritage importance, including the two storey corner premises on the corner of Bruce Street, the Christian Lyon building at 496 Stirling Hwy, Peppermint Grove, to the Dingo Flour Mill in North Fremantle.

The offices, banks and shops in a variety of styles together form a significant history of the settlement, development and use of Stirling Highway.

The importance of 'local' heritage, in addition to 'State' heritage should be acknowledged in planning considerations. The Trust hopes the planned changes to the road reserve respect and conserve all Art Deco heritage places along this route.



ABOVE: Captain Stirling Hotel

Trails WA starts with a funding windfall

ANNE BRAKE, INTERPRETATION MANAGER



BACK ROW L-R: David Russell, Edith Cowan University (Chair); Steve Bennett, DSR (ex officio); Rod Annear, DEC
FRONT ROW L-R: Kathleen Lowry, DEC; Jamie Bennett, Outdoors WA; Anne Brake, National Trust of Australia (WA); Linda Daniels, Executive Officer, Trails WA. G Pickering / NTWA

An announcement by the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Racing and Gaming, Terry Waldron MLA, for approximately \$140 000 of funding was made to coincide with the inaugural meeting of Trails WA on Tuesday 17 July. Trails WA has been established as an independent committee under the auspices of the National Trust of Australia (WA) to raise funds and carry out projects to develop and promote trails in Western Australia. It will take its lead from the State Trails Implementation Plan, although other projects may also be considered by the group.

Speaking at a small gathering after the meeting, newly elected President David Russell was enthusiastic about the opportunities for trails.

"There has been limited opportunity to date for projects that will help the trails community as a whole, so we are very pleased with the Minister's announcement which gives us the ability to move on projects straight away," Mr Russell said.

"Trails WA will also be able to attract tax deductible donations due to its position under the Trust Council, and it has the capacity to raise funds through grants and sponsorships," he said.

The very successful Top Trails project will be one of the first cabs off the rank. Established under the umbrella of the Bibbulmun Track Foundation, the Top Trails website and associated social media activities have been promoting trails in Western Australia for the last two and a half years.

Mr Russell said it was time to review the program, work to improve the brand and build better capacity to deliver trails information, particularly mapping.

Linda Daniels has been appointed the part-time project officer for Trails WA. Initial funding for the position came from a Department of Sport and Recreation Industry and Development Initiatives Grant.

Committee members include trails professionals from the community, Department of Environment and Conservation, Outdoors WA and the National Trust.

As well as overseeing a number of trails based projects, such as facilitating the delivery of a trails maintenance training program developed by the Department of Environment and Conservation and advocating for key trails initiatives, the next two years will include a review of the Trails WA structure to determine the most appropriate long term model for the program.

Further information on the activities of Trails WA is available from Linda Daniels at toptrailswa@gmail.com

Burning Bushes for Conservation

HELENA MILLS, COORDINATOR OF COVENANTING

The Quairading Community Nature Reserve is a jewel in the crown of wheatbelt conservation. A large remnant extending from the large, granite dome of Nookaminnie Rock in the north-east to sandy heathland on the southern edge, passing through majestic Salmon Gum woodlands and diverse York Gum communities on the way.

This beautiful area of bushland also provides habitat for a number of threatened flora species and ecological communities including the largest population of the Column Hakea (*Hakea aculeata*) and one of the few populations that doesn't occur on weedy roadsides. A spiky, alien-looking plant, this species does not appear to be regenerating in this reserve that is its stronghold. There are likely to be several reasons for this lack of regeneration – a combination of infrequent release of seeds and subsequent predation on seedlings by rabbits and kangaroos (the adult plants are far too spiky to eat).

The Shire of Quairading received funding through the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country program to undertake activities to reduce the impact of rabbits on this species, specifically through the erection of a rabbit-

proof fence around the lower half of the reserve. The Shire sought advice and stewardship from the National Trust, which has a conservation covenant in place over the reserve.

The National Trust in partnership with the Shire, the local Ballardong people (including representation from the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council), the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and the Friends of the Quairading Community Nature Reserve came up with a fencing plan that serves both conservation and traditional uses of the reserve. This project has inspired a new season of cooperation between these groups including a future joint-management plan for this reserve which will encompass the conservation of both natural and cultural heritage, and the continuation of traditional uses.

The funding from the Australian Government has allowed DEC to undertake some experimental burning trials for the Column Hakea. This species holds its seeds in woody capsules and only releases them when the branch they are held on dies - for example in a fire.

Absence of fire in the reserve is a likely contributing factor to the lack of regeneration of this species. DEC officers, supported by the local FESA team lit up several Column Hakeas in May as part of their research and small cages were placed at the base of these plants to protect any emerging seedlings from rabbit and kangaroo predation.

The National Trust is eagerly looking forward to the results of these experiments which will inform the management of this species both within the Quairading Community Nature Reserve and in the few other places it occurs.

Boat boost for river health

The Swan River Trust has a new 7-metre work boat – *Marli* – to replace the ageing *Wilma Vincent*, which has been a fixture in the Swan Canning Riverpark for a decade.

The new boat is purpose-built for river maintenance work, including retrieving the tonnes of litter and objects unfortunately discarded in the Riverpark each year.

A small reinforced crane is mounted on deck to help retrieve larger items, such as tyres and shopping trolleys.

Marli is one of four main vessels operated by the Trust. It was launched with an Aboriginal smoking ceremony.

Marli is the Noongar word for black swan.

Swan River Trust Chairman Mick Poole said the Aboriginal name was chosen in recognition of the special significance the Swan and Canning rivers hold for the Noongar community.

"The spiritual, cultural and practical connections that the Noongar people have to these rivers and surrounding lands are immeasurable. They are custodians of over 40,000 years of caring for country and respecting the environment," he said.

Professor Poole thanked Noongar Elder Reverend Sealin Garlett for conducting the smoking ceremony to mark the occasion.

"The *Marli* has a number of improvements on the *Wilma Vincent*, including a wider folding ramp at the



ABOVE: Noongar Elder Reverend Sealin Garlett provided a smoking ceremony at the launch of the Swan River Trust's new work boat *Marli*. Swan River Trust

front for crew to access difficult shoreline areas and extra design features to increase manoeuvrability," Professor Poole said.

"It allows ballast to be added so the boat can be lowered to go under bridges in the upper reaches and has a retractable awning to assist that purpose.

"There is more deck space and a wider cabin door so that more and larger materials can be transported, and the boat can also be easily 'beached'."

While the extra capacity was welcome, Professor Poole urged

people to be more diligent about disposing of their rubbish responsibly to protect the river system.

A major concern is the amount of discarded fishing line which continues to wash up in large quantities and has a devastating impact on wildlife.

The old vessel has been bought by a private charter company.

In February, a new high-tech patrol boat, *Booneenboro*, was also added to the Trust's small fleet to boost its enforcement and compliance capacity.

Welcome to new Councilors

CHRISTINE LEWIS BED, MED



Christine has been involved with the National Trust movement since the early 1980s when she first joined in New South Wales. She was also a Trust member in the ACT where she served on the Education and Culture Committee from 1987 to 1990 and worked as a Trust volunteer organising Heritage Week activities, seminars and conferences. Christine is a Trust member in Western Australia and was appointed to the Council in May 2012.

Christine holds the degrees of Bachelor of Education in Art (UNSW) and Master of Education Management (UWA). She is an experienced museum and heritage professional based in Perth, having previously worked for the ACT Heritage

Committee in Canberra (1987-90) and at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney (1990-95). She has been employed in a curatorial role at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery (UWA) 1997-8 and then for ten years as Registrar and Manager Assessment and Registration at the WA State Office of Heritage. Since 2008 she has worked and continues to work in the area of Aboriginal heritage.

PETER KING DIP BUS ADMIN, B EC



Mr King is the Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Veterans' Affairs in Western Australia. He has extensive senior executive experience in the Commonwealth and State public sectors as well as in private industry. Mr King is a member of the National Trust's Finance and Audit Committee.

Samson Family Oral Histories DR KATE GREGORY

BELOW: LEFT TO RIGHT: Oral history trainers Julia Wallis and Doug Ayre with interviewers Narelle Stuart, Jill Anderson, Susan Green, Heather Anderson, Valerie Preston and Oral History Program Manager Dr Kate Gregory.



A new oral history initiative is underway with one of Western Australia's prominent business families.

The National Trust is working closely with the Samson family to develop an oral history program associated with its property Samson House and the history of the Samson family business.

In July, five volunteer interviewers, including members of the Samson Family, were trained in oral history techniques.

The training was delivered in partnership with the Oral History Association and funded by

Lotterywest following the success of the Avondale Oral History program.

The Samson family has longstanding connections to the development of Western Australia and especially Fremantle which go back to the beginnings of the Swan River Colony.

Interviews will be conducted with elders of the Samson family and people connected to the Samson House or the Samson business over coming months.

Meantime, the National Trust has also delivered an education initiative to year 8 academic excellence students at John Curtin College of the Arts. Students and teachers met National Trust historian Dr Kate Gregory and Education Officer Kim Hawkes at the former residence of the Samson family to explore the site and develop ideas about what life was like at the time the family lived there.

All washed up!

New teatowels featuring elegant black and white historic images of iconic National Trust properties in Western Australia are now available.

These 100% cotton teatowels are \$12 each. To order, visit the shop at www.nationaltrust.org.au/wa or phone 08 9321 6088. Wholesale orders are welcome.



Rose Pruning Day at Samson House

PHILIP PALMER, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

The National Trust in conjunction with the Rose Society of Western Australia held a very enjoyable and informative rose pruning day at Samson House in Fremantle in July.

The gardens of Samson House feature a formal rose garden of mainly Hybrid Tea rose bushes which require pruning in winter every year. Prior to the National Trust taking over management of the property, the Rose Society was instrumental in replacing many of the original rose bushes that were planted by Sir Frederick Samson in the 1940s – in an area that had previously been occupied by more utilitarian vegetable gardens. The original bushes had been grown on unsuitable rootstock and by the 1980s (prior to the Trust taking over management) their condition was very poor. The Rose Society painstakingly researched and

obtained replacement plants of the same varieties and, where this was not possible, of varieties known to have been popular in Perth in the immediate post war period.

The National Trust took over management of Samson House in 2010 and when pruning of the 100-odd roses was required, the Trust's landscape architect Philip Palmer approached the Rose Society which kindly offered to assist.

This year's Rose Pruning Day at Samson House was on a warm Sunday afternoon and attracted 16 participants from the Society and the Trust. Those attending were treated to a tour of the house and

then a practical demonstration of rose pruning techniques by experts from the Rose Society. Following the demonstration, experts and amateurs alike made short work of pruning the roses before enjoying a well-deserved afternoon tea.

This has become an annual event and is an excellent example of the National Trust working in partnership with other organisations to foster education and understanding of heritage, as well as providing an opportunity for acquiring specialist gardening skills. The event is extremely popular so if you are a keen gardener be sure to keep an eye out for next year's Rose Pruning Day.

PLACES

Slate Roofs of Old Farm, Strawberry Hill

ERIC HANCOCK, CONSERVATION PROJECT OFFICER

After 179 years' service the roof slates of Old Farm, Strawberry Hill are now in very poor condition and are literally crumbling away. An Australian Government, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities grant along with National Trust funding will enable full replacement of the slate roof and conservation of the timber roof framing. The work is planned for February 2013.

Sir Richard and Lady Ann Spencer arrived in Albany in 1833 with building material including roof slate. Both their two storey home and a barn were constructed in 1836 using this roofing slate. About this time the outbuilding, known as Miner's Cottage, was also constructed with a slate roof. The single storey kitchen/dining building close to, and now adjoining, the two storey home had a partial slate roof with timber shingles on the western one third.

The slate is believed to have originated in North Wales due to its purplish/grey colour. The slate is very smooth, only 4mm thick and a standard size of 18 by 9 inches.

A number of second hand slates of various types have been used over many years to patch holes. Slate from the demolished barn was used to complete slating of the kitchen/dining and repair the house roof in the 1940s. In 1969 Miner's Cottage



ABOVE: Conservation Project Officer Eric Hancock with some of the roof slates for Old Farm, Strawberry Hill. G Pickering / NTWA

was re-roofed in iron and the slate used in substantial repairs to the house roof. Slate cargo from the 1841 shipwreck of the James Matthews in Cockburn Sound was raised in 1973 by the Western

Australian Museum's Department of Maritime Archaeology and after 132 years on the sea bed in 1978 was used in roof repairs. This slate is easily identified by the shell growth and barnacles.

Garden History Event At Old Farm Strawberry Hill

PHILIP PALMER, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (WA)

The WA Branch of the Australian Garden History Society (AGHS) held a seminar at Old Farm Strawberry Hill in May. The seminar was focussed on gardening practices and plantings of the early European settlement period in Western Australia using the Old Farm as a focus.

The National Trust's landscape architect Philip Palmer provided a background to the history of Old Farm which was followed by presentations by Malcolm Traill (Western Australian Museum Albany) and Caroline Grant (Chair of the WA Branch of the AGHS) on the broader history and landscape setting of Albany.

AGHS member and well-known garden historian John Viska detailed how the European settlers obtained and transported plant material to the fledgling colony and the methods used to cultivate them. John illustrated his talk

with fascinating images from his personal collection of horticultural reference books and memorabilia, highlighting the educational value of planting National Trust places with historically appropriate species and varieties as well as the application of authentic gardening techniques.

John also presented a list of plant species and varieties either known to have been planted at Old Farm, or known to have been available in Western Australia between 1827 to 1889 when the place was a Government Farm and then the property of the Government Resident Sir Richard Spencer. This list was compiled as part of John's work on the National Trust's Conservation Plan and Master Plan for Old Farm Strawberry Hill.

PLACES

Property Wrap

57 MURRAY ST

Documentation has commenced on the adaptive re-use of 57 Murray St Perth as an office building. Works are progressing to a tight timeframe with two staff employed full time on the project.

YORK COURTHOUSE COMPLEX

The shingle roof of the cell block is long overdue for replacement. A new shingle roof has been funded in this year's capital works program. The work will be carried out during the coming summer.

WOODBIDGE

A partial ceiling collapse in April resulted in Woodbridge being closed. Conservation and repair work has been completed. The



BELOW: 57 Murray St. G Pickering / NTWA

volunteers greatly contributed with temporary relocation of room contents, opening up and being there while work was carried out.

The house has been thoroughly cleaned and artifacts returned to displays. Woodbridge reopened mid August.

OLD FARM, STRAWBERRY HILL

Replacement of the severely degraded slate roof is programmed for February 2013. Structural and other investigations are under way. Finding replacement slate to exactly match the original colour with its touch of purple is one of the greatest challenges. The original slate came from North Wales where many of the original quarries have closed.

Slate from Penrhyn is the closest match so far and the quarry may be able to assist further.

Services have been connected and a new driveway and parking area has been installed for the new volunteer facility building. Handrails are nearing completion and when they are installed, the building will finally be ready for use.

After consultation with the local Aboriginal community, new vegetable growing beds have been created near the creek, ready for use by school groups as part of an education program being run in conjunction with the WA Museum Albany.

Planning discussions have been held with the University of Western Australia regarding the archaeology field school scheduled for late September. Almost forty students



will descend on the place along with their supervisors to dig up the grounds in the name of research. It is hoped to find the location of early buildings and gardens and to identify previously planted vegetation from pollen and other minute specimens.



ABOVE: Mike Harvey highlights a Bay Tree to members of the Australian Garden History Society at Old Farm Strawberry Hill. P Palmer / NTWA

continued next page

PLACES

continued from previous page

RIGHT: East Perth Cemeteries.
G Pickering / NTWA

ELLENSBROOK:

A Federal grant has been awarded to assist in recovery from the devastating bushfire of November 2011. Working in cooperation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, a scheme has been developed to replace burned-out vegetation while at the same time improving environmental outcomes and enhancing the landscape setting of the heritage building.

EAST PERTH CEMETERIES:

A Master Plan has been completed for the Cemeteries. Based on the current Conservation and Interpretation Plans, the Master Plan sets out comprehensive guidelines and policies for the ongoing conservation and management of this highly significant and fragile place. An important component is the conceptual design of a proposed new visitor and volunteer building outside the present fence line in the south-west corner of the site.



Old Perth Boys' School from the new City Square Development. K Rippingale

OLD PERTH BOYS' SCHOOL

New external lighting is due to be completed at Old Perth Boys' School. Negotiations are continuing regarding internal works and leasing of the place.

WANSLEA

Works continue at Wanslea as planned with contractors for the civil works expected to start on site towards the end of this year with building works to follow.

BRIDGEDALE CONSERVATION PLAN

The Bridgedale conservation plan of 1993 has been reviewed and revised, reflecting: changes to the physical fabric of the place; the results of two archaeological surveys; and the preparation of both an interpretation plan and landscape master plan having been completed in the past 19 years.

Man from Montana GINA PICKERING

In July the National Trust hosted Fred Snyder-Manetti from the University of Montana as part of its commitment to education and the exchange of ideas in cultural heritage.

Mr Snyder-Manetti is researching how climate change refugees might preserve their cultures as part of his masters degree and he sourced valuable sea level data from the Battye Library during his Perth visit.

The National Trust's process of developing conservation, interpretation and business plans for its places provided a valuable methodology for the visiting American who explored a range of Trust properties and projects including Avondale, Ellensbrook and the Busselton/ Flinders Rail Trail.

Mr Snyder-Manetti was particularly taken by the Trust's holistic approach to its properties which he said was lacking in heritage places in the US where he said there was more emphasis on management by community groups.

Mr Snyder-Manetti brought special expertise in GIS cultural mapping practices which he explored with members of the Trust's interpretation team during his month long stay.



ABOVE: Wardandi Elder Bill Webb (L) with Fred Snyder-Manetti (R) during his visit to Western Australia. G Pickering / NTWA

OUT 'N' ABOUT

A top effort at Woodbridge

PHILIP PALMER, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT NATIONAL TRUST (WA)

The National Trust hosted a morning tea at Woodbridge on 11 July to acknowledge the valuable work done by the property volunteers and specifically to recognise the efforts of volunteer Elizabeth Atkins.

Elizabeth has acted as unofficial "head gardener" at Woodbridge for many years and under her guidance the grounds are always maintained to a high standard, sometimes under very difficult conditions. In addition to "rallying the troops" her contribution extends to the provision of materials and plants from her own extensive garden in Guildford.

The Trust's modest gardening budget extends to the engagement of contractors to do basic tasks such as lawnmowing, path cleaning and major cleanups. The dedication of volunteers is the only way that the finer and more intensive aspects of garden maintenance are kept up and the grounds at Woodbridge are a testament to this invaluable contribution.



ABOVE: Woodbridge volunteers with landscape Architect Phil Palmer and Elizabeth Atkins third from left. NTWA

Boot Discovery

SARAH MURPHY, DIRECTOR CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP

In the August 2009 Edition of Trust News, author Ian Evans explored the practice of concealing boots in the cavities of old Australian homes and buildings. British researchers have concluded that shoes and other objects were placed in chimneys, wall cavities and sub-floor levels to lure evil energies into voids from which they cannot escape.

Around the same time the Royal George Hotel in East Fremantle contributed to the Australian version of this tradition by revealing a delicate boot which had previously been hidden for decades on the premises. Former tenant glass designer, Matthew Goodlet was after access to an electrical cable in the building. The access panel led to a 9 metre drop through the lower section of the building to floor level. Matthew abseiled into the cavity to undertake the electrical work to discover the hidden bootie.

A similar discovery has now happened at Woodbridge. It was an unexpected delight for Trust staff to be advised that a worker in the roof space had discovered a shoe. It was photographed then returned to its original location for reasons of conservation, significance and interpretation. A stable environment is the reason why the shoe has survived in the roof space all these years.

Changes in light, temperature and relative humidity are the three things that contribute to the deterioration of artifacts. Taking the shoe from a location with a physical environment that has preserved it all this time to a different one may accelerate its deterioration. There was also potential for the shoe's significance and interpretation to be adversely affected. Once an artifact (or building) has been moved from its original location its significance is affected. The shoe has far more meaning and significance sitting in the roof space than in a showcase and will remain there for future research and interpretation. In the meantime photographs will provide us with ongoing access to the shoe.

RIGHT: The latest boot discovery was at Woodbridge. D Klovverskjold / NTWA



New home for Western Swamp Tortoises

GINA PICKERING

BELOW: A young Western Swamp Tortoise considers its new home. K Howard



L-R: Stages of release for one of 30 Western Swamp Tortoises released in the Swan Valley east of Perth. H Mills

National Trust Conservation Covenant Coordinator Helena Mills took part in the release of 30 captive bred Western Swamp Tortoises into the wilds of Twin Swamps Nature Reserve in the Swan Valley in late July.

The Western Swamp Tortoise is the most endangered reptile in Australia and is found in only three swamps to the east of Perth.

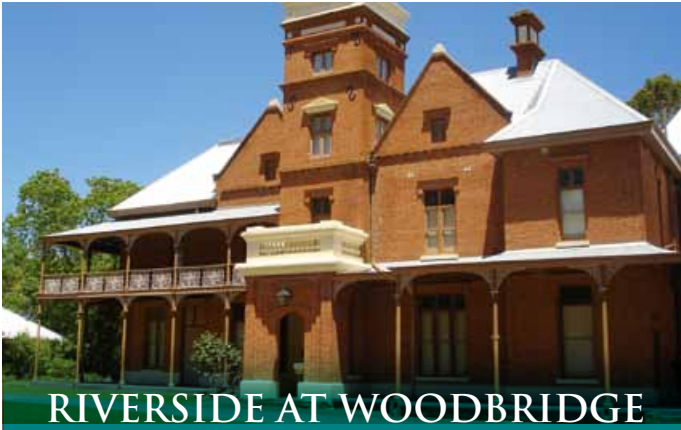
The tortoises are endemic to the Swan Coastal Plain, the wetlands of which have been largely drained. This devastating loss has left the species especially vulnerable to introduced predators such as foxes and cats.

Perth Zoo, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and Friends of the Western Swamp Tortoise were involved in the release of the reptiles which were bred at the Zoo.

The Friends raise money and undertake on-ground works including tree planting to improve

the habitat value of the reserves used by the tortoises while DEC provides predator proof reserves.

The tortoises, which are up to two years old, will be monitored in their new home. For more information visit www.westernswamptortoise.com

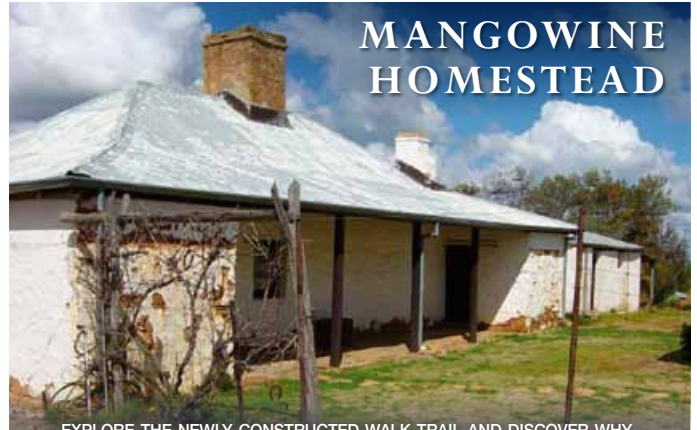


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THE STATE LIBRARY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA PRESENTS

An evening with Wade Davis

DATE: Tuesday, 4 December 2012

VENUE: Heath Ledger Theatre, State Theatre Centre of Western Australia

TIME: Doors open 6pm. Refreshments served 6 – 6:45pm. Please be seated for a 7pm start

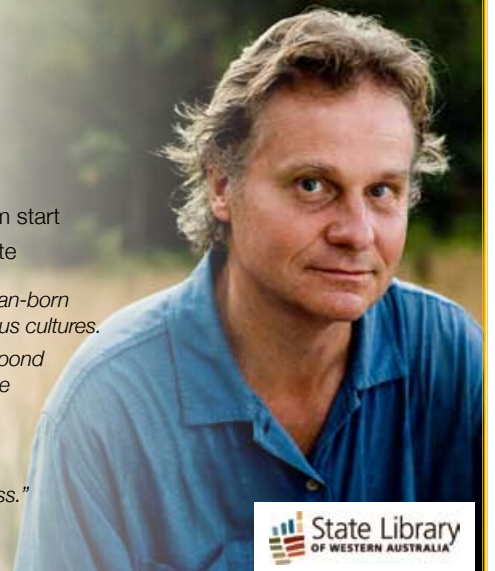
TICKETS: Please email karen.desanmiguel@slwa.wa.gov.au to be notified of ticket sale date

"A rare combination of scientist, scholar, poet and passionate defender of all life's diversity", Canadian-born Wade Davis is perhaps the most articulate and influential western advocate for the world's Indigenous cultures.

What does it mean to be human and alive? When asked this question, the peoples of the world respond in 7,000 different voices, and these collectively comprise our human repertoire for dealing with all the challenges that will confront us as a species over the coming centuries – Wade Davis

According to Davis we should not only be concerned about preserving the biosphere, but also the "ethnosphere," which he describes as "the sum total of all thoughts and dreams, myths, ideas, inspirations, intuitions brought into being by the human imagination since the dawn of consciousness."

We invite you to join us for this rare and special opportunity to hear from one of Canada's most inspiring and influential thinkers.



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.

Keo 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.

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.

TO OBTAIN A COPY OF OUR WA PROPERTY GUIDE PHONE 08 9321 6088 OR EMAIL TRUST@NTWA.COM.AU

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.

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

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. Now Open.

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.

No 8 Pump Station: 80km west of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, at Dedari. Open by Appointment. Tel: 08 9024 2540

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

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

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



www.nationaltrust.org.au/wa