

VICTORIAN NEWS



NATIONAL TRUST 'Our heritage... yesterday,
today and tomorrow'

February 2010

ONE YEAR ON

GULF STATION POST BLACK SATURDAY

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Message from the Chairman

This first issue of our Victorian Trust News in 2010 illustrates both how exciting and challenging this year will be for us.



THE HON. LYNN KOSKY, MP MINISTER FOR THE ARTS, DIRECTOR, MUSEUM OPERATIONS MS BARBARA HORN, FEDERAL MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS, THE HON. PETER GARRETT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VIC) GRAEME BLACKMAN OAM

The largest external grant funding investment for years, amounting to approximately \$5m, is being spent on restoration and development at Trust sites. At the same time we have allocated increased resources and personnel to enhance our community conservation role at a time of almost unprecedented pressure. In response to this we have expanded our conservation section in this Victorian Trust News, with more updates on a range of current and emerging heritage issues that are increasingly threatening the fabric at the very heart of our communities. Our CEO outlines below some of the things we are doing to make it easier for you to help and to get your voice heard.

In October, during an extremely significant event for the Trust at the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne, the Federal Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts, the Hon. Peter Garrett announced grant support from the Federal Jobs Fund, which included over \$2.3m for the National Trust of Australia (Vic) for restoration works at five of our properties statewide. Properties benefiting from the announcement are Barwon Park (Winchelsea), Gulf Station (Yarra Valley), LaTrobe's Cottage (Melbourne), Rippon Lea Estate, (Elsternwick) and Mulberry Hill, (Baxter).

Barwon Park will receive \$1.1M for urgent repairs to the roof and interior plasterwork, plus upgrades to the facilities at the property including dedicated coach parking. Please visit www.nattrust.com.au for more information on the other schemes.

As many members attending our AGM, in the newly reopened Rippon Lea Coach House, will already know the Trust saw a five percent increase in membership in 2009, with individual membership in Victoria now standing at more than 21,000. I am confident that the wide range of initiatives planned for 2010 will further develop the real benefits of your membership, while enabling the Trust to deliver its conservation role, independent scrutiny and engagement with Government and external agencies at all levels concerning proposed development affecting significant cultural heritage in our magnificent state of Victoria. We thank you for your increasing support in enabling the Trust to undertake the increasingly wide ranging activity that is outlined in this issue.

Dr. Graeme L. Blackman OAM
Chairman
National Trust of Australia (Vic)

Message from the CEO

Those members following our new monthly Trust enews, or logging onto our new micro sites increasingly branded under our new campaign domain name www.saveourcity.com.au, will be aware of some of the things we are doing to raise awareness of current heritage threats.

We are adding your voice to the call for appropriate consultation in planning and development as it impacts on our significant heritage. Illustrating the speed of electronic communication over traditional media, was the more than 300 people who responded by sending emails directly to the Minister as a result of our first enews and web campaign for the Windsor Hotel.

Our W-Class Trams Campaign led to an appearance on ABC's *Stateline* and some interesting media attention on our Minister's recent decisions.

This has been followed by constructive engagement with the Departments of Planning and Transport and stakeholders on a range of heritage issues. If you are not receiving a copy of enews and would like to, please send your current email address to newseditor@nattrust.com.au and we will add your name to our 4000-strong and growing circulation.

As with all Trust staff and supporters, I have been delighted to see the impact of increasing investment in our services and sites this past year. **The retention for a second year of the Victorian and Australian Tourism Award for Best Cultural and Heritage Tourism Attraction at the Old Melbourne Gaol in November** illustrates our commitment to quality and best practice.

In October, I attended, along with our Chairman and 150 guests, the opening of the new McCrae Galleries, which are the result of major investment by the Burrell Twycross family and the JT Reid Charitable Trusts among others.

The new Gallery spans more than 75 years of previously untold McCrae homestead and Peninsula history. The story of the Burrell's stewardship of the McCrae run (encompassing over 600 acres) is told with fascinating new interpretation.

The display includes new objects, incredible early photographs and the use of new technology in several interactive DVD presentations.

The accompanying McCrae Gallery has also been redeveloped completely with new material exhibited. All are warmly encouraged to visit McCrae this Summer to see our new approach in action.

Bequests

We welcome donations and bequests which are vitally important to enable the Trust to undertake its work. This month, among many generous gifts from Members, the Trust received a \$10,000 bequest donation in

memory of Commodore Dacre H.D. Smyth AO who died on 3 December, 2008, www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/obituaries/article5415111.ece

Commodore Smyth was a distinguished naval officer and a passionate artist whose 12 published works included *Views of Victoria* in the steps of von Guérard, published in 1984. I acquired this informative book in England in 2003 in a second hand bookshop. It opened my eyes to the beauty of the Victorian landscape and influenced my own journey of discovery to Australia. The Trust is indebted to Commodore Smyth's consideration and support and to his family for fulfilling his wishes. We thank all members and their families for the continuing generosity and would encourage all to consider supporting our organisation. Such generous support will help us to continue our vital work, that begun 53 years ago, of protecting and preserving Victoria's magnificent buildings and landscapes.

Please feel free to call me directly if you wish to have a confidential discussion about a potential bequest on 03 9856 9808, or contact our Bequest and Donations Manager Caroline Molesworth on 03 9656 9826.

Mr Martin Purslow
CEO
National Trust of Australia (Vic)



Gulf Station – the great survivor

By Paul Roser, Conservation Manager

One year on from the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires, Gulf Station at Yarra Glen is undergoing its most extensive conservation works ever.

Gulf Station is a remarkable survivor of the 2009 fires, which came within 200m of the buildings, and demonstrated once again that its survival over 150 years is nothing short of miraculous.

The Trust's Chairman Dr Graeme Blackman and CEO Martin Purslow wrote in February 2009: "We owe a debt of gratitude to the community and our Trust volunteers who fought ember attack and grass fires to ensure the safety of Gulf Station – Victoria's oldest intact farm complex. They worked into the early hours of the Sunday morning to protect this historic property which is so precious to our Victorian heritage."

Thanks to the Trust's 36 Gulf Station Volunteers, part of more than 600 of its dedicated volunteers, the National Trust of Australia (Vic) has taken out the Outstanding Contribution by a Volunteer (s) Award at the Melbourne Airport 2009 Victorian Tourism Awards. It was the work of the volunteers, in particular the contributions made to the restoration and invigoration of the Gulf Station pioneer farm in Yarra Valley, and their brave role in saving Gulf Station from fire on Black Saturday, 7 February, 2009 that assisted in clinching this prestigious award.

Gulf Station was settled by pastoralist William Bell in the 1850s. A large number of the buildings are of timber slab construction, some of vertical and some of horizontal slabs, with logs used as structural members and roofs of split shingles, now covered with corrugated iron. The complex of farm buildings is immensely important as an intact, early homestead complex constructed in vernacular building techniques. Surviving complexes of vernacular buildings are very unusual and it is equally important as an exposition of early pastoral life in Victoria.

Currently closed, Gulf Station is undergoing an extensive program of essential conservation works that are funded by Heritage Victoria and the Commonwealth Government. In October 2009 the Trust received more than \$520,000 for Gulf Station conservation works from the Commonwealth Jobs Program. Long overdue works to the homestead include re-stumping, roof repairs, and conservation works to decorative finishes.

The Trust has also acquired a welcome addition to the Gulf Station building complex in the form of a prefabricated timber house thought to date to the 1860s or 1870s.



PREFABRICATED HOUSE BEING DISMANTLED IN CROYDON, 2009. PHOTO: WILLYS KEEBLE

Heritage Victoria contacted the Trust in 2007 seeking a new home for the building, then located in Croydon. It is of State level heritage significance and was threatened by development. It is an unusual building, probably used for institutional purposes such as health or education, but whose original function is still unclear and being researched. Oral evidence has been provided that it was relocated to Croydon from somewhere in New South Wales in 1927.

The building comes with grant funding of \$150,000 from Heritage Victoria and it will become Gulf Station's dedicated visitor centre with ticketing office and meeting rooms. The modular nature of the prefabrication of the building meant that its 'flat pack' dismantling in Croydon by carpenter Matt Jeffrey of Crackajack Carpentry was relatively straight forward. This method of dismantling respected the essence of the building's design and meant that the building could be safely and easily transported to Gulf Station with no risk to the fabric. The careful dismantling process also revealed a number of secrets about the building's earlier life to the investigation team of Matt, conservation architect Willys Keeble, and prefabrication expert Andrew Muir. As a result many architectural details that went missing during the 1927 relocation will now be reinstated. The building will house public display space and a small lecture space for groups.

The new Visitors' Centre will facilitate major improvements in the presentation of the homestead. Due to storage constraints and need for office space several rooms in the homestead have been closed to the public but will now be re-opened for the first time in over 20

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Gulf Station – the great survivor (continued)

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years. Gulf Station has been interpreted with animals for many years, and so for the duration of the current works the animals have been temporarily relocated to more appropriate homes, including Mooramong Farm, another rural Trust property near Skipton.

National Trust of Australia (Vic) to launch National Heritage Festival initiative at Gulf Station with a family picnic open day, 12 – 4pm Sunday 18 April, 2010

The Trust, assisted by Federal Government funding, is working to secure long term support for the development of a truly national celebration of our heritage. For many years the Trust held a successful Heritage Festival in Victoria, and as we begin to rebuild this tradition in 2010 with a number of events supported by our Branches statewide, we have focused on World Heritage Day (now known as *The International Day for Monuments and Sites*).

This day, celebrated annually on 18 April since 1983, offers an unique opportunity to raise public awareness of the diversity of the world's heritage and the efforts that are required to protect and conserve it, as well as to draw attention to its vulnerability. The theme for 2010 is the 'Heritage of Agriculture' and the Trust seeks to broaden future recognition and celebration of our Australian heritage around this day.

In 2010, Gulf Station will be a fitting venue to launch the celebration of the theme 'Heritage of Agriculture,' and the Trust is working with partners, Australia ICOMOS and Heritage Victoria, to promote the event. Entry will be gold coin donation. Displays will be related to the agricultural theme, including demonstrations by working horses, and displays of rare breed farm animals. See www.natstrust.com.au for details.



CARPENTER, MATT JEFFREY WORKING ON PRE-FABRICATED HOUSE AT GS

Passionate Trust volunteers win award

Thanks to the Trust's 36 Gulf Station Volunteers, part of more than 600 of its dedicated volunteers, The National Trust of Australia (Vic) has taken out the Outstanding Contribution by a Volunteer's Award at the Melbourne Airport 2009 Victorian Tourism Awards*.

The Trust's CEO, Martin Purslow said: "While the fires roared, the Victorian community would have lost a part of its heritage if it had not been down to the bravery of the Trust's volunteers who moved the horses, hosed down the roofs and walls, and battled grass fires with wet carpet."

*The Trust previously won the same award in 2007.



Coath Cottage – one year on



Emerging problems associated with the new bushfire risk minimisation measures are affecting historic homes today. The current restoration of Coath Cottage in Bendigo, left a burned out ruin by the February 2009 bushfires, has been hampered in ways previously not experienced.

Former Heritage Adviser, Andrew Ward has purchased the site 'as is' from the owner, and with the site management of Dr Gary Hill, has undertaken the restoration/renovation. All the timber was burned, leaving only the stone walls standing. The timber lintels, external doors and softwood window frames characteristic of 1860s vernacular architecture have been replaced by steel and hardwood.

Current building standards have been applied to the site as though it was a

new building. Most of the Burra Charter principles can no longer be applied, so the product of all this effort will be a 19th century lookalike. On the plus side, Coath Cottage (and the bush fire) will be memorialised with a modern building of the original design using old walls. Most of the problems of aging buildings have been eliminated and the fittings are 21st century. Whether the new building can retain its place on the Heritage Overlay will be an interesting discussion.

A seminar, presented by Dr Gary Hill, looking at this issue was held in the Bendigo Old Town Hall, last November. Mike Butcher from the Bendigo Branch of the Trust said of the evening: "The forum highlighted the current confusion for all concerned (builders, architects and regulators). The good news was that heritage properties can be protected at the discretion of the local building inspectors, but there appeared to be a lack of clear process to protect against unsympathetic inspectors. All expected this situation to change when the Royal Commission recommendations are tabled.

"The City of Greater Bendigo recognised the rights of individuals to clear land around houses in fire-prone areas, but supported the need to be strategic in doing so, as some planting will enhance fire protection. The Planning Department offered advice where sought in relation to this," he said.

By Mike Butcher

Heritage Advocacy Update



THE CONSERVATION TEAM OUTSIDE BLACK ROCK HOUSE WITH FRIENDS OF THE PROPERTY IN COSTUME

By Paul Roser, Conservation Manager

For more information on these items; please have a look at the Heritage News section of the website www.natstrust.com.au under the Heritage Advocacy tab.

A vibrant Conservation Team

The Conservation Team at the Trust is now operating at full strength. Newcomers: Judy Mohoney (Heritage Planner) and Dr Sue Hughes (Natural / Environmental Heritage Specialist) and myself, Paul Roser (an historian, ex-Heritage Victoria) complement the existing skills of Dr Celestina Sagazio (Senior Historian), David Moloney (Historian/Planner), Rohan Storey (Architectural Historian) and Ann Gisbson (Information Officer).

The team recently toured the Bayside municipality to inform itself first-hand on current heritage issues, and to meet representatives from Bayside Council. Throughout the day we explored the classified New Street Railway Gates, subject of a major unresolved controversy between Bayside, VicTrack and VicRoads, and the Brighton seawall, c1930, constructed with clearly visible recycled bluestone blocks closely associated with the Trust's Old

Melbourne Gaol property. A number of these stones are inscribed with the initials of prisoners executed at the Old Melbourne Gaol in the 19th and 20th century.

We also visited Black Rock House owned by City of Bayside, where we were shown around by members of the Friends group Cheryl Threadgold and Carolyn Brown (pictured). The Friends of Black Rock House have recently developed a relationship with Friends from a Trust property, La Trobe's Cottage.

St Andrew's Brighton, subject of an upcoming Heritage Council hearing, was also on our list that day. Heather Sanderson, part of the Friends Group, took us around the churchyard cemetery (an extremely rare example in Victoria).

Joining us at lunchtime was City of Bayside former Heritage Adviser, now Urban Planner Dale Kelly, who once worked with the Trust in Tasmania, and at Cerberus at Half Moon Bay we met Guy Wilson Browne, Director of Infrastructure, City of Bayside,

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Heritage Advocacy Update (continued)

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to talk about commitment of the \$500,000 Commonwealth grant held by the Trust for future works and interpretations.

The day ended with a bus tour taken by Simon Reeves, Architectural Historian (a member of the Trust's Buildings Committee). He took us to numerous places identified by him as significant in the recent Bayside Inter-War and Post-War heritage study – sadly ultimately not implemented by Council. You can expect to see us advocating for these places if and when they are threatened.

Hotel Windsor Advisory Committee appointed

In late November 2009 the Minister for Planning appointed an Advisory Committee to consider the application to demolish the rear of the hotel and construct a 26-storey 93-metre tower. The Committee convened publicly on 10 December, 2009.

The Trust was extremely concerned that the Committee's Terms of Reference, set by the Minister, required that only the applicant and City of Melbourne be heard by that Committee. We requested that we and other objectors also be allowed to be heard, consistent with other Advisory Committees established by the Minister.

On the day of the hearing, the Committee agreed rather reluctantly that the Trust be heard, so we spoke to our written submission. Nonetheless, this remains a very unsatisfactory process.

Additionally, the Department of Planning and Community Development advised the Trust that it considers the email objections expressly addressed to the Minister for Planning, of which the Trust is aware of at least 300 but maybe hundreds more, will only be considered by Heritage Victoria. We have written to Minister Madden seeking clarification as to why these objections addressed to the Minister as (Responsible Authority) clearly addressing planning matters concerning the impact on height limits and heritage controls in the Bourke Hill precinct are now only to be considered by Heritage Victoria. At time of writing we await further development on the Heritage Victoria application and the Advisory Committees recommendations to the Minister.



INAPPROPRIATE BUILT FORM! 80 COLLINS STREET AT STREET LEVEL. IMAGE: WOODS BAGOT ARCHITECTS.

80 Collins Street – Day of the Triffids

The Minister is also the decision maker on the proposed 80 Collins Street development. The revised drawings were sent to us in December, 2000. It is regrettable that the Minister has not yet made online drawings available for planning applications for which he is Responsible Authority. The development remains a bizarre proposal looming over Le Louvre (1855/1927) and the townhouse (1867) on the corner of Collins and Exhibition Streets. Partly supported on spindly legs, there will be no setback for the full height of 40 storeys.

Bulldozed former Post Office at Surrey Hills

Demolished in early December, the former Post Office at Surrey Hills built in 1912 did not have a heritage control. The demolition is a sad loss to the heritage of the City of Boroondara. The building was never examined in the City of Camberwell Urban Conservation Study of 1991 because it was

still in Commonwealth ownership, and therefore exempt from the planning scheme.

However, a post office study undertaken for the Trust by Anne Neale in c1988 – with cooperation from the Heritage Unit of Australian Construction Services – lists the Surrey Hills Post Office as one of its key typological examples as well as potential for recording/classification by the Trust.

The Trust has spoken with City of Boroondara planners about the demolition controls available to the City and how potentially significant places like the former Post Office can be protected even in the absence of a statutory heritage control. The Trust believes that buildings like the Post Office should be referred to the city's heritage adviser for comment if demolition is proposed.

s29A of the *Building Act* regulates demolition and essentially allows for 11th hour action by a Council, and in this instance if procedures had been in place for a more thorough checking of studies then the Council could have applied for an interim heritage control from the Minister for Planning.

While 11th hour action is not unusual as a result of a s29A application, and many buildings have been saved or given controls

as a result, it is ultimately preferable for heritage studies to be implemented so that these situations do not arise. The Trust will be discussing with Council positive steps it can take to ensure strategic heritage work is implemented and how we can assist. Resourcing is always an issue at Councils, but the Trust is supportive of Boroondara's current and ongoing efforts to give statutory effect to its heritage studies.

Commonwealth places are different because a heritage overlay cannot be applied at all while in Commonwealth ownership. However, there are three ways of making sure such places are not overlooked if the Commonwealth subsequently disposes of them:

- at time of disposal the Commonwealth can impose a charge of annuity;
- they should be included in municipal studies even though a control cannot be applied at the time, so at time of disposal there is a basis for applying for the Minister to apply an interim control;
- Councils can check the Commonwealth Heritage List as part of s29A procedures. The list is not very long.

The Trust has written to Minister Garrett highlighting this case and the need for proper disposal notifications. We have also suggested to Heritage Victoria that a review of Council procedures be conducted and that s29A procedures be subject for possible Heritage Victoria guidance and advice.

Request to Minister by City of Greater Geelong to remove Fyansford Heritage Overlay

The Trust's local branch President Jennifer Bantow and members of the Geelong Branch together with Trust staff attended the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 15 December, 2009.

A motion was put to Council to request Ministerial intervention under s20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act* to remove a Heritage Overlay from a substantial part of Fyansford. No consultation or exhibition will be required. To the Trust's knowledge, this is an unprecedented request and a remarkable volte-face by Council following years of successful strategic heritage planning.

The Heritage Overlay HO1732, known as the Fyansford Heritage Area, is an area control that was included in the City of Greater

Geelong Planning Scheme in 2005 following extensive strategic work, community consultation, review and recommendations by an independent panel.

The justification for the request to remove is that a recently approved Development Overlay plan put together by developer, Moltoni Corporation, conflicts with the objectives of the Heritage Overlay. While the Trust welcomes the strategic mixed-use redevelopment of the area and believes that developers around Victoria can and have worked successfully within Heritage Overlay requirements, it has written to the Minister urging him to require the city to prepare an amendment in the normal way. Strategic work was undertaken to justify the Heritage Overlay in 2005 and a development plan without public scrutiny and postdating that amendment are insufficient justifications for removal of a control without an exhibition process.

Hoffman Kilns to be utilised for residential purposes

In what was a crucial piece of timing for the developer, and relying in part on an argument of economic viability backed up by only skimpy analysis, a permit has been issued by Heritage Victoria facilitating the development of The Hoffman Kilns for residential use.

VCAT is considering an appeal on two related planning matters at Hoffmans that had been before Moreland Council.

Local residents, Save the Brickworks and the Trust all presented material to back up Council's refusal of the planning permit. Amended drawings are now expected to deal with Heritage Victoria's permit conditions, and the Trust will be making further representations when these are made available to the Tribunal.

The Brunswick Hoffman Brickworks were added to the Victorian Heritage Register in 1989 and the Trust has been campaigning for them for more than 20 years.

In 1999 the Trust was satisfied with the recommendations of an independent Conservation Management Plan that recommended commercial use of the two kilns, with the brick press building to be used for interpretations.

The Trust is extremely disappointed that the central recommendation of the Conservation Management Plan, effectively the heritage blueprint of the future of the site, has been ignored by the Heritage Victoria permit.

End of the line for Dennington Bridge

The Heritage Council has given VicTrack a permit for demolition for the 13 spans over the river of Dennington Bridge – the only redundant timber rail bridge in VicTrack's ownership.

The Trust is very disappointed with the decision because evidence, provided at the appeal hearing, indicated that the bridge could be repaired.

VicTrack has held this bridge since the line was closed in 1977. It is worrying that it would seek to demolish redundant infrastructure, when normally such infrastructure is vested with other Government agencies, who, in the absence of use, will normally at least mothball the asset. They certainly do not seek demolition permits on economic grounds. The bridge could have been integrated into the strategic planning being developed for the Dennington area. The opportunity to incorporate the heritage listed bridge into the Port Fairy to Warrnambool rail trail is now gone. The Trust will now seek dialogue over a mechanism from Heritage Victoria to ensure that all avenues for conservation of Government assets are explored before demolition can be considered.

Management and conservation of important Crown Reserve files

Members of the Gardens Committee recently wrote to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) expressing their deep concern about the management of rare and fragile documents contained within the department's Crown Reserve files. These files form an invaluable historical record of Victoria's parks, gardens and other facilities developed on public land from the 1850s onwards. The irreplaceable information contained in these files is central to understanding the cultural significance of these sites, which in turn forms a foundation on which their ongoing protection and management is based. As a result of our request DSE has initiated a detailed investigation, including identifying methods for the long-term protection of this very valuable historic material.

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Heritage Advocacy Update (continued)

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Rosebud foreshore – set for a major revamp

In response to the Rosebud Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan, the Mornington Peninsula Branch of the Trust is investigating the significance of the Rosebud Soundshell and Band Room.

These structures may be at risk if the plan goes ahead as proposed, but preliminary investigations would suggest that they have a high architectural as well as social significance.

Both structures were built in c1966.

The Soundshell is a highly cantilevered hyperbolic paraboloid shell concrete structure, probably the most adventurous of its type in Victoria. It was, and still is, the



ROSEBUD SOUND SHELL

location for many concerts and events in the following decades, enjoyed by generations of locals and visitors alike.

The Band Room has a folded 'concertina' roof, very characteristic of the 1960s, suspended above the walls on strip

windows so that it appears to float above the patterned concrete blockwork below. Together with the Soundshell this is a striking ensemble of 1960s 'spaceage' design.

By Rohan Storey, Architectural Historian

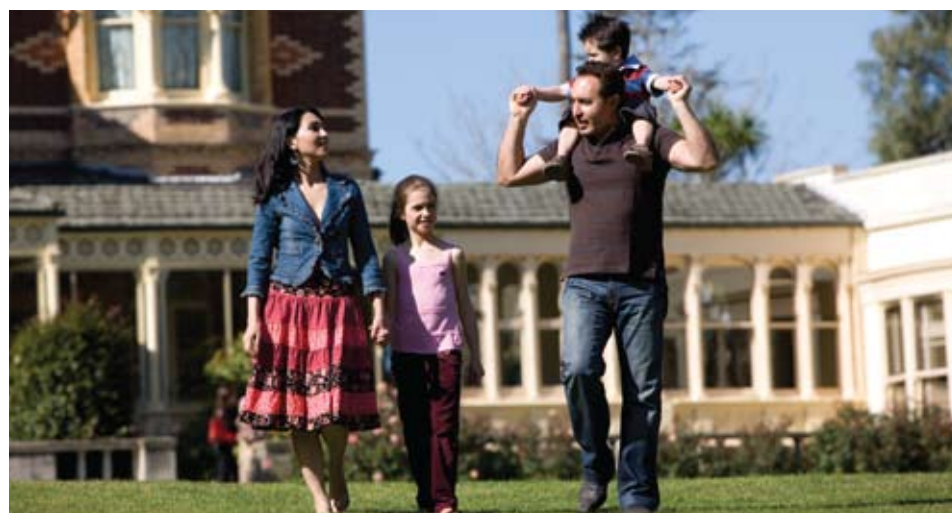
A Return to Rippon Lea?

The Trust is currently preparing a submission to the Federal Government requesting a return of some, or all of the ABC site next to Rippon Lea Estate, which is being considered for sale.

As the only private house on The National Register, it would be a fantastic heritage and conservation outcome to have this significant piece of land returned. It would also give the Trust the opportunity to recreate 'The Chase' to its full extent, reopening an entrance to the property that disappeared in the 1950s, creating a landscaped buffer zone between any development on the site and Rippon Lea gardens, and providing much needed parking for the estate and possibly developing new visitor facilities.

In 1954 the Commonwealth Government purchased the south western corner of the estate to build new ABC studios. They also acquired further land by compulsory acquisition. The owners of The Estate fought this order until the early 1970s, and when Rippon Lea passed onto the Trust at the death of Louisa Jones, the compulsory acquisition order was lifted. Please visit www.ripponleaestate.com.au for more information.

By Phil Tulk, Estates & Garden Manager

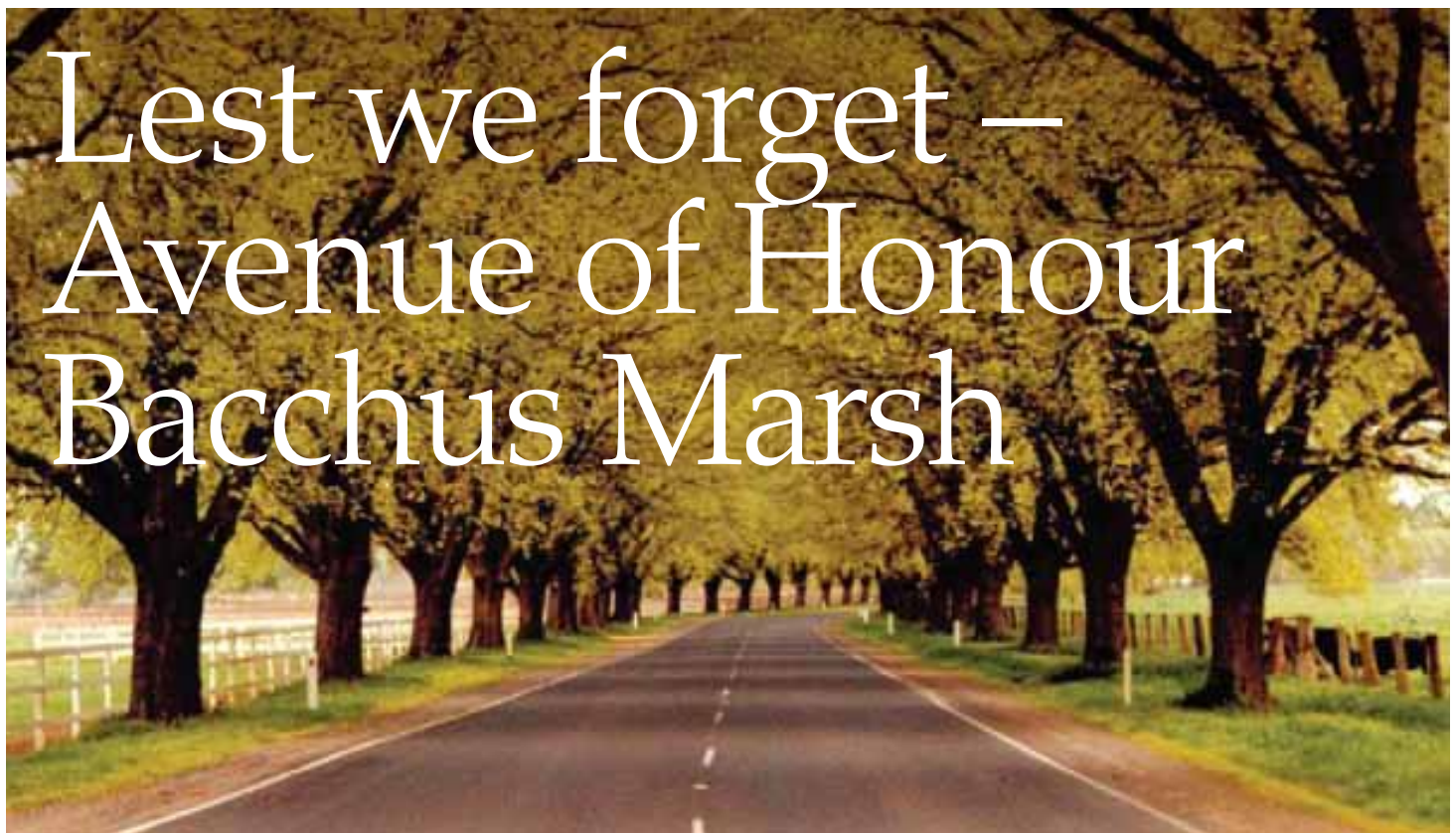


Women's Melbourne

The Trust is pleased to announce that its forthcoming walking tour booklet, *Women's Melbourne*, has received sponsorship from Heritage Victoria, the Melbourne City Council Arts Grant Program and the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust. We are very grateful to these organisations for their support of this exciting project.

Women's Melbourne celebrates the rich heritage of more than 100 significant women's sites in the Melbourne CBD and East Melbourne and is compiled by Trust Senior Historian Dr Celestina Sagazio. Free copies of the publication will be available to Trust members and the public in April 2010. Copies can also be picked up from Tasma Terrace. Postal orders are \$5 each. A podcast of a women's tour is on our website www.natstrust.com.au (look under Walking Tours).

By Celestina Sagazio, Senior Historian



A proposed Western Highway Realignment project, consisting of two road construction works – the realignment of the Western Highway and an extension to Woolpack Road (encompassing a four lane dual carriageway with a length of 4.5 kilometres), will threaten the Bacchus Marsh Avenue of Honour.

The road works extending Woolpack Road 800-metres north lead to a new diamond interchange with the Western Highway. Once this is constructed at the end of Woolpack Road, the only entrance to the eastern end of the Avenue of Honour will be from a portion of the existing freeway that will remain as an alternative route between Melton and Bacchus Marsh. Widening, straightening and construction will involve the removal and loss of 8-11 historically and aesthetically significant trees.

There are also concerns that this part of the road will form a 'speed alley'. If this happens it will effectively cut direct access to the eastern end of the Avenue. And the experience of driving the length of the Avenue, from east to west, will be lost.

This work will also leave the Avenue in disarray with newer trees on a different alignment to the original trees and additional trees left without name plaques. It will also result in a loss of the fine colonnade effect, and be detrimental to the aesthetic and historic integrity of the place as a significant war memorial.

The Bacchus Marsh Avenue of Honour is the third largest in Victoria. It was classified by the Trust in 1982 as an avenue of state significance for its outstanding aesthetic and historic values. Given the maturity and stature of the Avenue's trees, the

cathedral-like arching of the canopy and the decimation of the elm avenues in Europe and North America by disease, it has been argued that this is the finest avenue of Dutch Elms in the world.

The Avenue is remarkably intact, is well proportioned and the large trees form a visually impressive colonnade as the entrance to Bacchus Marsh. In 1996, it was reported that the Moorabool Shire Council supported the nomination of the Avenue to the Register of the National Estate. In May 2009, the Commonwealth Government provided a grant of \$500,000 to ensure the health of the trees, replace plaques, increase tourism potential and boost local jobs. The amenity value of the Avenue has been estimated in excess of \$8 million. Despite recognition of cultural, historic, economic, and tourism values the Avenue is threatened by road works due to commence in 2010.

While the Trust commends the Government for developing projects that will improve road safety along the Western Highway, this proposal also reveals major flaws in the consultation, planning and decision making process and a fundamental failure to recognise the heritage significance of the Avenue. In particular, we are concerned that the Federal Government's economic stimulus is being used by the Moorabool Shire to fast-track the planning approvals

process through the Planning Minister. If approved, the project will be exempt from all provisions within the Moorabool Planning Scheme that would ordinarily require a planning permit. Essentially, the Heritage Overlay will be insufficient to protect the integrity and cultural significance of the Avenue.

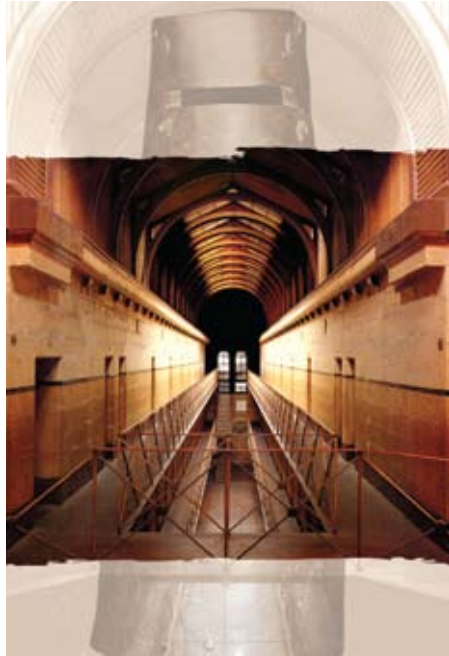
The Trust was also dismayed to discover that we were left out of the consultation process and had to request a meeting with the Alliance Group who then presented the proposal as a fait accompli. The proposal should not have progressed to this stage without early and comprehensive consultation of all interested parties.

The Avenue will celebrate its centenary within the next decade. It is vitally important that its heritage significance is retained and conserved, and that the symbolic meaning of the Avenue as a war memorial is maintained. This project must not be solely cost driven. The loss of the Avenue's integrity is irreplaceable. We can not afford to devalue our heritage and the Trust urges Justin Madden as Planning Minister to exercise his option and call in the construction of a road through the Avenue, which is not only of state significance to the people of Victoria, but is arguably a world class memorial.

By Dr Sue Hughes, Natural and Environmental Heritage Specialist



Great media coverage for the OMG scary story program



Recently, *The Age* and the *Herald Sun* covered stories on the successful Old Melbourne Gaol's Scary & Weird Story Summer Holiday Program that ran until the end of January, 2010.

Here is an excerpt from the article in *The Age*:

"...From 1845 to 1924, up to 20 children at a time either stayed there with a convicted parent or were locked up for petty theft or vagrancy. Michael Crimmins, 3, spent six months in the prison in 1857 for being idle and disorderly.

In 1878, Ned Kelly's mother, Ellen, brought her baby Alice King with her to the prison when Ellen was convicted of attempted murder.

Two sisters named O'Dowd, aged 13 and 14, were locked up in 1851 because they had nowhere else to go. Their father ran off to the goldfields, and their mother died of Yarra fever, or typhoid.

These are stories children might hear in the program for five-to-12-year-olds called Scary & Weird Stories. Tour guide Sylvia Campbell estimates 25 to 30 per cent of the prison's summer visitors are children.

The stories are not all about child prisoners. Ms Campbell tells how two adult prisoners

once escaped via a cesspit and sewerage pipe. And how the wife of bushranger George Melville, hanged at the prison in 1853, put his body on display at her city oyster shop.

Ms Campbell is a retired school librarian and three other guides are retired teachers, "so we have considerable knowledge as to what's appropriate and what's not appropriate".

The idea was "to give children a little sensation of what life was like in the jail, without being too black".

Ilona Campi, of East Malvern, said the program was suitable for her daughters Claudia, 9, and Sophia, 6. "I think it's fantastic because it tells them the sorts of things that happened to children many years ago," she said. "I think it's important for kids to understand the history of Melbourne, and the history of the prisoners is part of the general history of Melbourne."

A full house attends the Rivoli screening

Late November a full house (of more than 300) attended the Art Deco Rivoli Cinemas for the very successful screening of an extraordinary documentary on Claire Adams – 1930s Hollywood starlet – and her beloved Mooramong Homestead.

The showing of *Mooramong – Private Hollywood* allowed guests to get personal with the life story of one of Hollywood's most famous silent cinema stars – Claire Adams. A 1930s atmosphere was set at the beginning of the evening when an actress, dressed up as Claire Adams, enthralled all by rolling up outside the Rivoli Cinemas in a classic car; a very dandy sight indeed.

The documentary film, compiled from records uncovered in the property's archives, tells the candid love story and legacy of Claire Adams and her Western District grazier husband, D.J.S (Scobie) Mackinnon, against the backdrop of their beautiful

Mooramong Homestead and gardens; today owned by the Trust.

Mooramong was very precious to the Mackinnons, seen by a comment made by the couple that, on their return from a world trip that the front gates of Mooramong was indeed their favourite sight of all!

This is the first time the film, produced through a generous donation from Scobie and Claire Mackinnon, was screened in Victoria. It is an important film because it documents a vital piece of Victoria's history and heritage.

By Paola Ghirelli



Friends of La Trobe's Cottage



COUNCILLOR CARL JETTER

The 170th Anniversary of the official arrival of Charles Joseph La Trobe in Melbourne was celebrated by the Trust and the Friends of La Trobe's Cottage in October, 2009.

Greeted by an enthusiastic crowd led by John Pascoe Fawkner, Mr and Mrs La Trobe arrived to a fanfare at 2pm. Re-enacting the actual events of 3 October, 1839, La Trobe's Commission was read by Mr Charles Webb, Collector of Customs, and Mr La Trobe cited his proclamation to the citizens of Port Phillip.

Following the National Anthem and the raising of the flag, Mr and Mrs La Trobe, Captain Lonsdale, Mr Webb and Mr & Mrs Farquhar McCrae entered the Cottage.

"We were pleased to have the Chairman of the National Trust, Dr Graeme Blackman, present to welcome them inside, and Councillor Carl Jetter, City of Melbourne, to celebrate the event," said Helen Botham.

Since that day, La Trobe's Cottage has been open for tours on Sunday afternoons, between 2-4pm, and the Trust guides have welcomed many visitors.

By Helen Botham

Fabulous Fairy Day at Como draws largest crowds ever

Late last year fairies, elves and families enjoyed The Fabulous Fairy Day held at Como House & Garden, an event run by The Australian Ballet School as a fundraiser.

The day wound up as one the most successful days at Como for 2009 drawing major crowds.

Property Manager at Como, Akiko Kawakami said: "We had such huge crowds at our Fairy Day, the largest I've ever experienced. More than 3000 people visited our site by purchasing tickets on the day and more than 1000 tickets were pre-purchased. Such a successful day for us, and we are very happy."

The day included many fun things for children and families to enjoy such as the ballet lessons, storytelling, fairy markets and listening to the classical sounds from a string orchestra. There was also a welcomed old-fashioned element to the day, with many smiling kiddie faces enjoying games from the past such as skittles, tug-o-wars, egg and spoon races, decorating crowns, masks and glasses plus jewellery making.

"This event just showed to us how Como is becoming a great place to hold medium scale events, such as this one. Other than a cost going to hiring security guards and toilets facilities, we came out very well from the day," said Akiko.

By Paola Ghirelli

Happy 20th birthday Ripplea Bear

This year the Trust is very proud to be celebrating the 20th year of its annual Teddy Bears' picnic at Rippon Lea Estate on Sunday, 28 February.

This year the picnic is planned as a party for the entire family – young and old.

Events Manager, Ben King said: "This time around we are encouraging the kids to definitely bring their favourite teddy because our mascot, Ripplea Bear will be hosting a Teddy Bears' Competition and Fashion Parade. With a \$2 donation you can enter a Teddy Bear and win some great prizes in the following categories: best dressed bear, beautiful bear, biggest bear, smallest bear and most oldest and 'most loved' bear!"

"Also for the special 20th anniversary year we are planning a fuller event with many activities such as: carnival rides, roving entertainers, clowns, stilt walkers and face painting. MC Rod Quantock will introduce a line-up that will delight the entire family. The Amazing Mr Zarnok will baffle and astound with his magic show. The Kazoos will have everyone up dancing. There'll be pony rides, an animal farm and a merry-go-round," he said.

Entry fee will also includes: Humphrey stage show; a Tony Bones Entertainment stage show; Camp Australia's children's art and craft activities; jumping castle; storytelling; food stalls, sausage sizzle and boat rides on the lake.

Visit www.ripponleaestate.com.au for the full schedule of prices and events.

By Paola Ghirelli



Kids keenly harvest crops

The Trust Kids Garden Program has been vital in establishing a connection for a group of children to Como House & Garden.

The participating children now not only view Como as their property, but they continue to get excited about the progress of the vegetable garden patch.

Latest news includes the completion of the harvesting of all of the winter vegetables and the children proudly took home vegetables including: chard, cabbages, lettuce, broccoli, spinach and spinach beet. The harvest was also shared with other volunteers at Como.

Summer crops have also been planted including: herbs, eggplants, capsicums, lettuces, tomatoes, onions, peas, artichokes and rhubarb with seedlings kindly donated by Oasis Horticulture.

The blooming and very busy garden is continually attracting appreciative visitors to the property and they are coming into Como to observe the children at work.

Also this month, several new children joined our enthusiastic Young Gardener Group, but we always gladly welcome new faces. Several grandparents are involved with their grandchildren, so to all out there this could be an experience you could also share with your grandchildren. If anyone is keen to sign up their children or grandchildren please phone Rosemary Henderson on 9656 9830.

**By Rosemary Henderson,
Membership Officer**



PASSIONATE KIDS HARVEST THEIR VEGES

Behind Closed Doors at the Casey/Cardinia Branch

Fifty Trust members recently enjoyed a tour of privately owned heritage properties in Harkaway, Berwick and Officer.

The tour began in the 100-year-old Harkaway Hall. First Mike Pender, President of the Hall Committee welcomed all and then the group enjoyed a photographic exhibition of the local history. Maps, name tags and notes on places of historic interest were distributed.

The members then set off to near by 'Wickham' c.1854, the earliest surviving homestead in Harkaway.

The present owners, Clare and Graeme Ganderton, have charmingly renovated the house, out buildings and heritage garden.

The next property visited was in Berwick, 'Burnbank' c. 1854. Previously a dairy farm, the property is associated with Edwin Flack the first Australian Olympic Gold Medallist. The house has been extensively renovated by the present owner, Barbara Dalton, to provide exclusive short term accommodation in a heritage setting.

From the historic notes provided, several points of interest were observed on the drive to 'Primrose Park' c1988. On arrival the group was welcomed by the present owners, Annette (in period costume) and Rob Aldersea. After saving the property from certain demolition ten years ago,

the Alderseas, with total commitment to its restoration, have meticulously restored the building to an elegant Victorian Villa. The exterior, the interior, all fittings, furnishings and even the garden are of the correct period. During a break a traditional afternoon tea was enjoyed in the beautiful garden.

'Behind Closed Doors' was a most successful activity organised by the Trust Casey/Cardinia Branch this year. We thank the property owners for generously allowing us to visit their homes.

**By Ruth Crofts, President of the Casey
Cardinia Branch**



Heritage B&B Program

Many wonderful, new properties have been added to our Heritage Bed & Breakfast Program in recent months, 48 properties to be exact are now available for the public's enjoyment.

Some are located near the beach such as Briarswood, Mt Martha, and others like Glen Harrow, Belgrave, and Bleak House, Malmesbury, are found in exotic, extensive heritage gardens.

Make the most of this summer and plan a trip to visit these properties, please visit www.nattrust.com.au and click on the Heritage Accommodation tab.

For details on the Trust's Heritage B&B Program, contact Reception on 9656 9800.

BRIARSWOOD, MT MARTHA – A DELIGHTFUL
TUDOR COTTAGE AND A ROMANTIC,
BEACHSIDE HAVEN



An apple a day keeps the doctor away

The Trust Gardens Unit has exciting news for apple lovers and anyone who enjoys growing their own food.

For the first time, a selection of rare heirloom apple varieties has been propagated for sale from the Rippon Lea Heritage Orchard. The Garden Staff has selected and grafted 18 different heritage varieties from the more than 150 currently growing, and will be holding a special sale day at Rippon Lea on **Sunday March 14 from 10am**.

All of the trees selected are no longer commercially grown and are very hard to acquire. They are grafted onto semi-dwarfing rootstocks (M102), creating trees perfectly suited to home gardens due to their manageable size and good pest resistance.

There were literally hundreds of known varieties of apples grown in the past with a breadth of flavour well beyond that of the few modern varieties.

Transportation and yield demands have seen them disappear along with their unique flavours.

The 18 varieties selected are all highly rated and include apples for all occasions and palettes. Eating apples, cooking apples, delicate crabs and some exotic flavours such as 'Chenango Strawberry' are available. All would make a great addition to any garden.

The Garden Staff will be on hand to answer questions and to provide advice



on training and looking after your apple tree. Apples from the orchard will be ready for sampling and tasting and cultivation notes will be provided with each tree.

Demand is expected to be high and stock is limited to 200 apple trees. While any unsold stock will remain available from the Rippon Lea nursery, we strongly advise you to come along on 14 March to avoid disappointment.

By Justin Buckley, Head Gardener at Rippon Lea

The full list of available apples: Adams Pearman, Alexander, Beauty of Bath, Chenango Strawberry, Coral Crab, Cox's Orange Pippin, Devonshire Quarrendon, Gooseberry Pippin, Huon Belle, King Cole, King David, Magnum Roundways Bonham, Peasgoods Nonsuch, Pitmaston Pine, Pomme de Neige, Ribston Pippin, Tasman Pride, Winter Banana.



You will be missed Trevor Arthur

The Trust was saddened by the death of Mr Trevor Elsbury Arthur, Honorary Member and long time landscape conservationist, on 15 November, 2009.

Trevor served on National Trust Committees in Victoria for more than forty years. He joined the Landscape Committee in 1966, later becoming its Chairman. The Committee, which at that time included among its members the botanist Professor J S Turner, and pioneering conservationist Dewar Goode, produced a number of important documents. These included a major report on the landscapes of north-eastern Victoria, which has been a model for much subsequent work.

Until recently and despite ill health Trevor continued to advise the Landscape Committee on a range of issues and keep it updated on broader environmental issues. And from 1980, he was also a member of the Significant Trees Committee of the National Trust, serving as its inaugural Chairman for several years.

Trevor's professional career began as a forester working in the management of parks in Victoria, eventually becoming a Forests Commissioner, well-known for his work in the development of drought-tolerant plants for the Mallee and Wimmera. Perhaps his greatest career achievement was, as the Manager of the Metropolitan Parks Service. In this role he set up the major new parks system for metropolitan Melbourne, which still forms the backbone of the network of parkland we enjoy today.

Trevor's distinguished work was widely recognised in his field, bringing many professional awards and honours from a range of environmental organisations.

In 2008 he was unanimously elected as an Honorary Member of the National Trust of

Australia (Victoria), an honour only awarded to those who have rendered the most distinguished service to the organisation over many years.

His work was far-reaching and important and forms the basis of much Trust policy in the field of nature conservation and landscape protection. Trevor will be greatly missed by his many friends at the Trust.

Dr. Juliet Bird, Chair of the Landscape Committee said in her speech for the nomination for Trevor for life membership of the Trust: "He has brought to the work of the Trust's committees a wealth of experience outside the organisation."

By Caroline Molesworth, Philanthropy Manager



Upcoming Events

**FEBRUARY 2010
– MAY 2010**

For additional information and late events, please check www.nattrust.com.au/events

Entry fees apply for National Trust members for special fundraising events at Trust properties. 'Members' prices listed are for National Trust members.

Some events require pre-bookings – please see details below.

National Trust Property Events

19thC PORTABLE IRON HOUSES

399 Coventry Street, South Melbourne
(MEL Ref: 2J K2)

Historical Guided Walk

WHEN : Sunday 21 February, 2010
TIME : 10:45am – 12:45pm
VENUE : 19thC Portable Iron Houses
COST : General: Adult \$22, Concession \$20,
Child \$10.
Member: Adult \$19, Child \$10

Get your Sunday exercise while exploring the lovely suburb of South Melbourne with a local guide. Morning tea will be provided.

The Lanes and Byways walk will take you down some of the hidden bluestone lanes, looking at the architecture and introducing you to some of the early migrants.

BOOKINGS 9699 2172 or 9645 7517

Historical Guided Walk

WHEN : Sunday 21 March, 2010
TIME : 10:45am – 12:45pm
VENUE : 19thC Portable Iron Houses
COST : General: Adult \$22, Concession \$20,
Child \$10.
Member: Adult \$19, Child \$10

Get your Sunday exercise while exploring the lovely suburb of South Melbourne with a local guide. Morning tea will be provided.

The Tents to Terraces walk explores the early history of South Melbourne, particularly the journey from living in tents to the lovely Victorian Terraces.

BOOKINGS 9699 2172 or 9645 7517

Historical Guided Walk

WHEN : Sunday 18 April, 2010
TIME : 10:45am – 12:45pm
VENUE : 19thC Portable Iron Houses
COST : General: Adult \$22, Concession \$20,
Child \$10.
Member: Adult \$19, Child \$10

Get your Sunday exercise whilst exploring the lovely suburb of South Melbourne with a local guide. Morning tea will be provided.

Explore St Vincent's Gardens – planned to emulate a London square with its beautiful Victorian homes.

BOOKINGS 9699 2172 or 9645 7517

BARWON PARK MANSION

105 Inverleigh Rd, Winchelsea
(Mel ways Ref. 228 B2)

Barwon Park Mansion GhostTours

WHEN : Saturday 13 February
Saturday 13 March
Saturday April TBC
TIME : Tour 1: 8am – 9.30pm
Tour 2: 10am – 11.30pm
COST : Adult \$35, Member \$30

Barwon Park Mansion GhostTours provide three experiences in one including: Historic tour, Paranormal ghost investigation and Psychic experience. Australian Ghost Adventures P/L conduct two tours per evening with each tour lasting 90 minutes.

CONTACT Trudi Toyne,
03 5267 2209 or www.ausghosts.com.
For bookings: Phone Maree on 0421 835 370.

Barwon Park and the Dahlia Farm

WHEN : Sunday 11 April
TIME : 11am – 4pm
COST : Adult \$48, Child \$37, Member \$42,
Child \$37

This is a wonderful opportunity to visit Barwon Park one of the Trust's finest properties. Train or drive to Geelong Station to board a coach bound for Winchelsea and Barwon Park. After a comprehensive tour of the property and a delicious lunch, visit the dahlia farm, and enjoy a light afternoon tea before returning to Geelong Railway Station.

CONTACT Lesley Barnes 9735 5772,
fax 9735 5336.

LA TROBE'S COTTAGE

Dallas Brooks Drive, South Yarra
ENQUIRIES 9656 9800

La Trobe's Cottage

WHEN : Sundays, February to May
TIME : Cottage Open 2pm-4pm.
ENTRY : \$5
COST : NT Members free

209th Birthday of Charles Joseph La Trobe

WHEN : Saturday 20 March, 2010
TIME : 5:30pm
VENUE : La Trobe's Cottage

Members of the La Trobe Society and the Friends of La Trobe's Cottage invite members and friends of the National Trust to a late afternoon picnic to celebrate the 209th Birthday of Charles Joseph La Trobe. Champagne and birthday cake will be served. Please bring a plate to share.

RSVP to Dianne Reilly 9646 2112

OLD MELBOURNE GAOL

377 Russell St, Melbourne
ENQUIRIES 8663 7228

Ghost Seekers

WHEN : Once a month on Saturdays,
dates TBC
TIME : During daylight savings
10:30pm – 3:30am,
otherwise 9:30pm – 2:30am
COST : Single \$140, Double \$220

The Ghostseekers team conduct paranormal investigations in the Old Melbourne Gaol.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL through
Ticketek 13 28 49

CONTACT 8663 7228 or
www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au for more
information

Hangman's Night Tours

WHEN : Usually Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, all year.
TIME : 8:30pm – 10pm during Daylight savings, otherwise 7:30pm – 9pm
COST : Adult \$30, Child \$22.50

Michael Gateley was Melbourne's most prolific and brutal hangman. Join him and experience Australia's most haunted building by candlelight ...if you dare!

Not recommended for children 12 years and under.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL through Ticketek 13 28 49

CONTACT 8663 7228 or www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au for more information

Easter School Holiday Program

WHEN: 27 March till 19 April

Ned Kelly trial five times each day, Cameo appearances, 'Such a Life' performances, and Scary Stories. Dates and times TBC

CONTACT 8663 7228 or www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au for more information

RIPPON LEA ESTATE

192 Hotham st., Elsternwick 3185

Summer Sessions 2010

WHEN : Sunday 7, 14, 21 February
(Not happening on Sunday 28/02 due to TBP event)
Sunday 7, 14, 21 and 28 March
TIME : 12pm – 4pm
COST : Adult \$7, Concession \$5, Child \$3, Family \$16

- Children's art and craft activities conducted by Camp Australia i.e. face painting, bead decorations, badge making, tug o wars, handball target.
- Live music and entertainment.

Bring a picnic, a blanket and stake out a place under the windmill. Be entertained with live music, or play a spot of croquet. The kids can be entertained with supervised activities, crafts and games by Camp Australia.

CONTACT Nicole Nolan 9519 9005 or 0420 969 387. Purchase tickets at the gate, no need to pre-book.

ANY OTHER DETAILS All parking strictly off site. Bring along a picnic and rug to enjoy.

Annual Teddy Bears Picnic – 20th Year!

WHEN : Sunday 28 February, 2010
TIME : 10am – 4pm
VENUE : Rippon Lea Estate
COST : Family \$49 (mum and dad and up to 4 kids), Individual \$15, Children (5 and under) \$10, Infants under 12 months free. National Trust members: Family \$36, Individual \$12, Children (5 and under) \$9

- Local community event with a very well renowned reputation especially with the local visitors.
- The event will be in its 20th Year!!
- Family fun day for all with plenty of children's activities, stage acts, roving entertainment, guest appearance from Humphrey, food stalls, boat rides, singing and dancing and much more fun for all to enjoy.
- The event attracts young families with children between 12 months and 12 years of age.

The event content as follows:

- Humphrey – 30-min stage show
- The Kazoos – 45-min stage show with singing and dancing
- Tony Bones Entertainment – Teddy Bears stage show with singing and dancing
- Zarnok the magician – magic stage show
- Camp Australia – conducting children's art and craft activities
- Animal farm and pony rides for all to enjoy
- Stilt walkers
- Jumping castle/chair-o-plane
- Storytelling
- Open house of the Mansion
- Facepainting
- Various food stalls ie: pop corn, ice-creams, sausage sizzle!
- Boat rides on the lake
- Roving fairy – face painting/roving clowns

CONTACT Nicole Nolan 9519 9005
BOOKINGS Tickets can be purchased at the front gate on the day of the event. Plenty of tickets available! Tickets can also be purchased online by logging onto www.ripponleaestate.com.au

Other details:

- Visitors are encouraged to bring along a picnic rug and lunch and their favorite Teddy Bear on the day.
 - Parking is strictly off-site – a very good idea for visitors to catch public transport on the day.
 - It is advised people arrive prior to 10am to avoid waiting in queues.
-

Rippon Lea Heritage Apple Tree Sale Day

WHEN : Sunday 14 March, 2010
TIME : 10am – 4pm
VENUE : Rippon Lea Estate
COST : Free

Selection of Rippon Lea's rare heritage apple tree's for sale.

Specially selected and propagated rare apple tree varieties from the Rippon Lea orchard for sale to the public.

CONTACT 9523 6095
BOOKINGS Not applicable

Lunching and Listening Programme 2010 – The Friends of Rippon Lea Patron Senator the Hon. Judith Troeth

Fourth Thursday Luncheons in the Ballroom at Rippon Lea

TIME : Midday for 12:30 pm
COST : \$20.00 per person

Bookings and payments essential ONE WEEK PRIOR TO LUNCHEON

CONTACT Lynette Dobson: 9555 8382
Carol Wigham: 9584 1304

25 March – Michael Cathcart

The Water Dreamers – the tyranny of water

Dr Michael Cathcart is a well known historian, writer and broadcaster. He has hosted ABC programs such as *Late Night Live* and the famous *Radio National Quiz*.

As a historian he is best known for his work on Manning Clark's *History of Australia* and with Kate Darian-Smith, *Stirring Australian Speeches*. His most recent work, *The Water Dreamers*, is the subject of today's address.

22 April – Neil Smith

The Anzac Day March

Neil Smith as a Military Historian has for many years been involved as a commentator for the ABC on the Anzac Day March. He will recount some of his experiences in this role.

27 May – Jan Dimmick

A Day in the Life of a Tennis Umpire

Jan Dimmick loves sport and one of her favorite sports is tennis. For twenty years she umpired the Australian Open. Jan carried the Olympic Torch in 2000 and in 2001 she was awarded a Centennial medal for services to sport. She is also a Volunteer Guide at the Melbourne Cricket Club.

Upcoming Events

**FEBRUARY 2010
– MAY 2010**

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Some events require pre-bookings – please see details below.

National Trust Events

MELBOURNE CEMETERY FULL MOON WALKING TOURS

WHEN : Friday 30 April, 2010
TIME : 10 tours on the night. First tour starts at 6.20pm. Last tour starts at 8.35pm
VENUE : Melbourne General Cemetery
Main entrance, College Crescent,
Parkville
COST : Adult \$24, Members: Adult \$22,
Concession \$22, Child \$15

Popular guided tour with stories of the many famous identities laid to rest in the Melbourne General Cemetery. Bring your own torch.

CONTACT Bookings ESSENTIAL – 9656 9800

WALKING TOURS

Wonderful Williamstown

WHEN : Sunday 21 February, 2010
TIME : 10am
COST : \$25 members, \$30 non-members
(price includes morning coffee)

Enjoy an informative and entertaining stroll with Kenneth Park through Williamstown, one of Melbourne's most historic and picturesque suburbs. Coffee or ice cream included.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (evenings only please, between 6pm and 8pm).

Exploring Footscray

WHEN : Sunday 28 March, 2010
TIME : 10am
COST : \$25 members, \$30 non-members
(price includes morning coffee)

Enjoy a pleasant meandering stroll through the heart of Footscray, and gain new insights into the interesting history and fine streetscapes and architecture of this early suburb. Ignored for years, Footscray is fast becoming one of the most sought-after residential areas in western Melbourne.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (evenings only please, between 6pm and 8pm).

East Melbourne Walking Tour

WHEN : Saturday 17 April, 2010
TIME : 11:30am – 1pm
VENUE : Meet at Clarendon Terrace
210 Clarendon St, East Melbourne
COST : Adult \$14, Member: Adult \$12,
Child \$7

One hour tour led by Dr Celestina Sagazio, the Trust's Senior Historian. Explore many fascinating places in one of the most distinctive and important areas in metropolitan Melbourne. Tour includes an inspection of Clarendon terrace and tea/coffee.

CONTACT Bookings ESSENTIAL – 9656 9800

Cremorne – A Hidden corner of Richmond

WHEN : Sunday 23 May, 2010
TIME : 10am
COST : \$25 members, \$30 non-members
(price includes morning coffee)

Stroll through this particularly interesting corner of Richmond, and learn about its history as revealed in the rich and eclectic mix of industrial and residential architecture. Be surprised by the gems in this little-known part of our city.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (evenings only please, between 6pm and 8pm).

HERITAGE TRAVEL TALKS

Join Kenneth Park at Anzac House in Melbourne to enjoy these inspiring travel lectures with a heritage theme.

The New Berlin

WHEN : Monday 15 February, 2010
TIME : 9.45am
COST : \$20 members, \$25 non-members
(A delicious morning tea is included in the price)

Berlin has figured prominently in the history of the past century. Our lecture explains the fascinating story of this seat of German power and highlights its dramatic transformation since the fall of the Iron Curtain into a vibrant modern capital city, drawing tourists from all over the world.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (between 6pm and 8pm).

The South of France

WHEN : Monday 15 March, 2010
TIME : 9.45am
COST : \$20 members, \$25 non-members
(A delicious morning tea is included in the price)

From your armchair, take part in a spectacular tour of the scenically beautiful region of the South of France. Blessed with wonderful landscapes, postcard seascapes, charming villages and vibrant towns, see why it was so favoured by many of the celebrated masters of modern art. An unforgettable experience.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (between 6pm and 8pm).

Around the World in 80 Rooms

WHEN : Thursday 8 April, 2010
TIME : 9.45am
COST : \$20 members, \$25 non-members
(A delicious morning tea is included in the price)

View a fascinating and eclectic selection of superb interiors from the around the world. This lecture considers both historic and modern interior spaces, and is a must for anyone interested in decorations and design.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (between 6pm and 8pm).

What Architectural Style is that?

WHEN : Monday 24 May, 2010
TIME : 9.45am
COST : \$20 members, \$25 non-members
(A delicious morning tea is included in the price)

Classical, baroque or Rococco? Learn about the key elements of the major architectural styles, and see their application and development in historic buildings and structures from around the globe. A memorable lecture.

CONTACT To book, please telephone Lesley Barnes on 9735 5772 (between 6pm and 8pm).

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

February by the sea at Portarlington

WHEN : Tuesday 23 February, 2010

TIME : 4pm

WHERE: Portarlington Mill, Turner Court,
Portarlington

Starting at the Mill for a driving tour of Portarlington, followed by a meeting and fish and chips (at own expense). Notes provided.

CONTACT Liz Bates 5243 1986

Bleak House – Malmsbury

166 Degraeves Mill Drive, Malmsbury, Vic, 3446

WHEN : Saturday 13 March, 2010

TIME : 11:30am – 3:30pm
(approx. finish time)

VENUE: Bleak House

COST : Adult \$33, Child \$25.

Member: Adult \$30, Child \$25

Self drive to Bleak House to visit the famous eight-acre rose garden.

Learn the history and development of the property and tour the French provincial style accommodation. A delicious buffet luncheon will be served.

CONTACT Lesley Barnes PH: 9735 5772

Fax: 9735 5336

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

before the 5th March 2010. Send form, cheque/credit card details and a stamped self-addressed envelope to Lesley Barnes 21 Winnetra Drive, Lilydale VIC, 3140.

March at Barwon Grange

WHEN : Tuesday 30 March, 2010

TIME : 3pm

WHERE: Barwon Grange, Fernleigh Street,
Newtown

Afternoon tea and meeting followed by 'Our favourite heritage places' talk by committee members, followed by a tour of the house.

CONTACT Liz Bates 5243 1986

Geelong Heritage Festival

WHEN : Saturday 17 and
Sunday 18 April, 2010

Coinciding with World Heritage Day, April 18, the Geelong Heritage Festival presents a varied program of events arranged by community groups in the municipality of Greeter Geelong, to highlight, encourage and celebrate the conservation of heritage. Details on www.natrust.com.au

CONTACT Jennifer Bantow 0407 504 262

Barwon Grange 1850s Fair

WHEN : Sunday 18 April. Celebrated during
the Geelong Heritage Festival

TIME : 10am – 4pm

Join Jonathan and Ann Porter O'Brien for a fun day in 1850s style.

CONTACT Trevor 5221 3906 or

Mary 0407 436 238

April at Colac

WHEN : Tuesday 27 April, 2010

TIME : 4pm

WHERE: Meet at Colac Heritage Centre.

Gellibrand Street, Colac (opposite
railway station), followed by a tour
of Colac and a meal at a local venue
at own expense

CONTACT Liz Bates 5243 1986

Heroic Melbourne and Walsh Street

290 Walsh St, South Yarra 3141

WHEN : Wednesday 28 April, 2010

TIME : 6pm – 8pm

COST : Adult \$25, Member \$25

In keeping with the spirit of the Robin Boyd Foundation, all are invited to (the) Robin and Patricia Boyd's former home, now known as Walsh Street to (hear) participate in a discussion between two prominent architects talking about the changes in architectural techniques and styles following the non-productive and traumatic times of WW11.

The use of new materials and techniques plus the (influence) work of artists such as Mondrian, Klee and Picasso (helped to produce a fresh) and innovative new (style for) approach to design in Melbourne (Australia) in the lead up to the Olympic games in 1956.

(The Robin Boyd Home) Walsh Street is an outstanding example of this movement and philosophy.

The speakers in conversation will be Emeritus Professor of Architecture, Melbourne University, Peter McIntyre and colleague and friend of the late Robin Boyd, Adjunct Professor of Architecture, RMIT, Norman Day, Critic of Architecture for *The Age* newspaper and former employee of Romborg and Boyd.

This is rare opportunity for Members not to be missed. Limited bookings and a glass of champagne will be served on arrival.

CONTACT Lesley Barnes 9735 5772

Branch Events

DANDENONG RANGES BRANCH

20th Anniversary

WHEN : Sunday 2 May, 2010

TIME : 2pm – 5pm

VENUE: Marybrooke

10 Sherbrooke Road, Sherbrooke
Melway Ref 75 H2-3

COST : Adult \$15, Child \$10.

We are celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the branch, on the date of the inaugural meeting held at Millers Homestead, The Basin in 1991. We hope to gather former branch committee and members for an afternoon of reminiscence. There will be a short formal presentation and photographic display of events in which the branch and its members have been involved in the past 20 years. Light refreshments (finger food) will be served, tea and coffee, with drinks at bar prices. If you would like to help celebrate please contact us. Marybrooke is a classified building.

CONTACT Dianne Kueffer (03) 9755 2731

BOOKINGS Jan Sharp (03) 9758 3445

Ray Boatman (03) 9754 4889

GEELONG AND REGION BRANCH

March at Barwon Grange

WHEN : Tuesday 30 March, 2010

TIME : 3pm

WHERE: Barwon Grange

Fernleigh Street, Newtown

Afternoon tea and meeting followed by 'Our favourite heritage places' Yallum Park Penola Liz Bates, *Museum of Garden History Lambeth London* Jenny Yeats, *Colac and Lorne places* David Walker, talks by Branch Committee members followed by a tour of the house.

CONTACT RSVP Liz Bates 5243 1986

MACEDON RANGES BRANCH

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Email: nationaltrustMR@gisnet.net.au

Committee of Management Year 2009/2010

PRESIDENT: Ian Boyd

5 Grant Ave., Gisborne, Vic 3437

Email: phyllian@bigpond.com

Upcoming Events

**FEBRUARY 2010
– MAY 2010**

For additional information and late events, please check www.nattrust.com.au/events

Entry fees apply for National Trust members for special fundraising events at Trust properties. 'Members' prices listed are for National Trust members.

Some events require pre-bookings – please see details below.

MORNINGTON PENINSULAR BRANCH

An afternoon in Church

WHEN : Sunday 21 February, 2010

TIME : 2pm – 3.30pm

VENUE : Saint John's Church
Pt Nepean Road Sorrento
Parking available (off road)
in front of church

COST : Adult \$10, Concession \$8,
Children Free.

St John's Church built in 1873/4 in local limestone is the first church in Sorrento and has many historical connections. The church is preparing for conservation restoration work and the Restoration Appeal to fund these works is being facilitated by the Trust.

A guided tour of the historic features and discussion of the restoration remedies envisaged will be followed by afternoon tea in the Fellowship Room.

CONTACT Judy Walsh. Bookings – President
5988 9853 Secretary 5976 1538. Bookings would be appreciated.

Heritage Tour Historic Churchill Island

WHEN : Wednesday 24 March, 2010

TIME : Start 9.30am at Briars car park
Mt Martha. Return around 4:30pm

VENUE : Churchill Island

COST : Adult \$40, Concession \$37.

Member: Adult \$35, Concession \$32

This event includes guided tours of the historic house and walks in the garden, heritage farm and buildings. The property has been farmed since the 1850s and offers interesting history and superb views to Phillip Island and the mainland.

The bus transport collection point is at Briars carpark at 9.30am return by approximately 4.30pm. Lunch is available (at own cost) at café on the island. Numbers limited, bookings essential.

CONTACT Judy Walsh. Bookings – President
5988 9853 Secretary 5976 1538.

MOUNT ALEXANDER BRANCH

Visit to two gracious and historic Mount Alexander Houses with afternoon tea

WHEN : Tentatively Sunday 28 March, 2010

TIME : 2pm – 4.30pm

VENUE : Two historic houses in the Mount
Alexander Shire with afternoon tea.
Addresses and meeting
arrangements will be advised
on booking.

COST : Adult \$10 including afternoon tea

The visit is still being arranged. Details will be provided in the Mount Alexander Branch newsletter which is sent to all branches.

CONTACT Brian Tresidder 03 5472 1108,
0429 450 055 or tresidderbrian@yahoo.com.au

BOOKINGS To the above phone or email by
Sunday 21 March, 2010.

Book review: Robin Grow, Melbourne Art Deco

Ripe off the Press, 2009

Available from city bookshops, rrp: \$60, or for a discount, send a cheque for \$55 direct to Robin at 33A Havelock Road, East Hawthorn 3123.



This great publication is the culmination of many years of dedication to the documentation and preservation of our great stock of Art Deco architecture by Robin Grow, the current president of the Art Deco & Modernism Society of Victoria.

This is the first, comprehensive book to focus solely on Art Deco in Melbourne.

There is a great introductory chapter explaining what Art Deco means and how and when it arrived in Victoria. The subsequent chapters focus on all the different building types, from factories to hospitals, from private houses to department stores, and of course 'flats' a building type from the 1930s; the peak period for the style.

If you are already a fan, you may know many of the places covered, especially familiar landmarks like Myers and the Manchester Unity Building, but there some places that even this reviewer's 20-years in the field hadn't revealed.

Melbourne Art Deco is packed with high quality photos of buildings, interiors, and those often whimsical and delightful details only found in this style. And often the photos are paired with an image or a magazine cover from the period, an indication not only of how these structures were seen when they were built, but also of the original research that makes this such a worthwhile book.

By Rohan Storey, Architectural Historian

Book review: Mark Strizic, Melbourne: Marvellous to Modern

Thames & Hudson in association with the State Library of Victoria, 2009

Available at most good bookshops, rrp: \$95



This is yet another long overdue book, a celebration of the work of Mark Strizic, one of the first waves of great photographers of the modern era in Australia, and also of Melbourne, captured just as the great Victoria-era city was giving way to modernity in the 1950s and 60s.

Part of the wave of post war migration, Strizic came to Melbourne from Yugoslavia as a 22 year old in 1950, and it was here in about 1954 that he first picked up a camera and discovered his talent: an eye for composition, exploiting the strong light and shade, a disregard for the rules, and a love of documenting his adopted home.

Strizic photographed many subjects producing an archive of nearly 5000 images, fortunately acquired by the State Library of Victoria in 2007. Also from the mid 1950s until the early 1970s, one subject he focussed on was the city of Melbourne itself. He captured the streetscapes and the buildings where the strong light reveals details or depth. He also captured Melbourne's people – shoppers and commuters on the streets, individuals in elegant contemplation, or isolated by a patch of light, and the less fortunate on park benches or back streets.

This publication is in fact a documentation of Melbourne just as it was coming out of the long sleep imposed by WWII and post war rationing. His photographs include buildings and streetscapes that seem timeless, but many are now long gone. Images of the textured blank walls where an old building had just been demolished are included.

This handsomely produced book includes 140 photographs, text by curator Emma Matthews and author John Ross, and a splendid introduction by Barry Jones.

By Rohan Storey, Architectural Historian

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