



# Heritage in Trust

Winter 2003  
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the journal of the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

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This page and cover — the fire threatens Lanyon Homestead. These photos were taken by David Scott on the afternoon of the 17th January (cover and below) and on the 18th January (above). A transcript of an interview with Jennifer Storer who is the Curatorial Site Manager at Lanyon and was on site during the two fateful days, is on page 15.



[www.act.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.act.nationaltrust.org.au)

Our purpose is to identify places and objects that are significant to our heritage, foster public appreciation of those places and objects, and advocate their conservation.



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## Editorial

The devastating bushfires of mid-January touched every citizen of the ACT in some way. Those of us fortunate enough not to have been deeply and directly affected by the fires still have difficulty imagining the fury of the fires and the terrifying hours spent by so many of our fellow citizens.

For its part, the Trust extends its sympathy and best wishes to those who continue to carry the burdens wrought by the fires. As a tangible expression of this concern, we have donated \$700 raised at our recent Trivia Night to the Bushfire Appeal.

In addition we have decided to make this edition of *Heritage in Trust* a memorial to the impact that the fires had on so many of the cultural, Aboriginal and natural heritage places in the Territory. We have therefore put together, with the assistance of many friends of the Trust, both in government and outside, a number of articles and photographs which tell something of those torrid days in mid-January.

It is our hope that this edition of our journal will be a lasting record of the impact of the fires on our Territory heritage.

Colin Griffiths, Heritage Officer

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## Members' page

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The Members Page is an information page for all current and future members of the National Trust of Australia (ACT). Our aim is to advise details of activities that have been organised by the Trust. If any member has additional information that may be of interest please contact Dianne Dowling on 6273 4744 during business hours.

### VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Just a reminder, we need your nominations for the Volunteer of the Year award. Your nomination must be a member of the National Trust (ACT) and who has been actively and regularly involved as a volunteer throughout the calendar year and whose activities have made a strong contribution to the success of the National Trust (ACT). A volunteer can be active in any aspect of the Trust's activity.

For further information and nomination forms please contact Dianne Dowling at the OPH Shop on 62734744.

### CURRY IN THE GARDENS

Sunday 10th August, 2003, 12 noon  
Crosbie Morrison Building,  
Australian National Botanic Gardens  
\$25.00

Some years ago the National Trust used to host a curry night. Because they were so popular we thought we would try them again. We are looking for people to bring along a curry to share, and to sample others. One thing with a curry, it is never the same twice and the more flavours, with all the different spices to sample, is an education.

We will also have bottles of wine to auction.

What better way to spend a winter Sunday lunchtime than in the Gardens sampling different curries and sitting back with a nice glass of wine.

Places are limited and bookings are necessary. If you bring a curry to share you enter at a special price.

We already have some curry promises, but if you would be willing to help with another curry please contact Dianne at the shop on 6273 4744.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Curry in the Gardens — Sunday August 10th 12 noon

Christmas at Calthorpes — Saturday November 29th 5.30 p.m.

Volunteers Christmas Luncheon at Mugga Mugga — Thursday December 11th 12 noon

The film preview we were planning for June has been postponed. We will keep it on the agenda.



## SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The inaugural day tour to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's Thursday afternoon concert took place on 20th March last. After an early morning start from Canberra we stopped at Sutton Forest for morning tea and arrived in Sydney about 11.30 a.m. We then had time to lunch or shop before the commencement of the concert at 1.30 p.m.

The Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House is very impressive both architecturally and acoustically, which added to the enjoyment of the program. The orchestra was conducted by Edo de Waart. The first half consisted of Mozart's graceful and elegant Symphony No 31, known as the *Paris Symphony*, followed by Rachmaninov's *Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini* with piano soloist Olli Mustonen.

For the second half of the concert we listened to the popular Saint-Saens' Symphony No 3, the *Organ Symphony*. This symphony featured the large Concert Hall organ, which was built by Ron Sharp, an Australian, who is considered one of the great organ builders of the 20th century.

On the way home we stopped for a light meal at the RSL in Mittagong and arrived back in Canberra about 8 p.m. It was a most enjoyable day and we are now looking forward to the next concert by this excellent orchestra on 1st May.

## MEMBERS AND FRIENDS EVENING

On Monday evening, April 1st, Garth Setchell gave us a very interesting illustrated talk on the recent Trust Silk Road tour. New members were invited, at a special price, to attend as an introduction to the Trust and to meet existing members. We would like to thank Archives for their support of the National Trust (ACT).

## RAFFLE

Because so many Trust members, volunteers and heritage listed sites were affected by the January fires, the Trust wanted to do something to help. As we already had the trivia night planned as a fund raiser, Dianne approached some of the suppliers to the Old Parliament House Shop for donations to run a small raffle on the night. The proceeds would be split 50:50 with the National Trust and the ACT Bush Fire Appeal. The Shop was inundated with support and it was decided to extend the draw date for another month to maximise the number of tickets sold.

The office sent out a flyer to members requesting their help in either selling or buying a book of raffle tickets. The response was not as good as expected but many thanks to all those members who rallied forth and either bought or agreed to sell a book of tickets.

The National Trust would like to thank the suppliers listed in the Shop News for their generous support by donating prizes for all the winners (and losers) for the trivia night, the auction and the raffle, and would also like to thank and acknowledge Union Offset Printers for their generosity in printing the raffle tickets free of charge.

At the time this issue went to press the results of the raffle were not known, but we would like to congratulate the winners.

## TRIVIA NIGHT

We had a late start, hence a late finish, but there were no complaints. Many thanks to David Kilby for keeping everyone entertained with plenty of fun and trivia, and also reminding us that you can listen to him on weekday mornings on ABC 666. The lead changed several times during the evening and 'Malcolm Macropod' (an inflatable kangaroo who alerted the rest of us as to the location of the lead table) was seen hopping from one side of the room to the other. There was only one round where we had a perfect score of ten (by four tables) and that was a special round where the full names of some of our illustrious prime ministers were requested. The question asking what animals were on the ACT flag, surprisingly, drew several blanks. Everyone had such a good time and we have been besieged with requests for another contest. The auction was held after the drinks break and quite a few bargains were on offer.

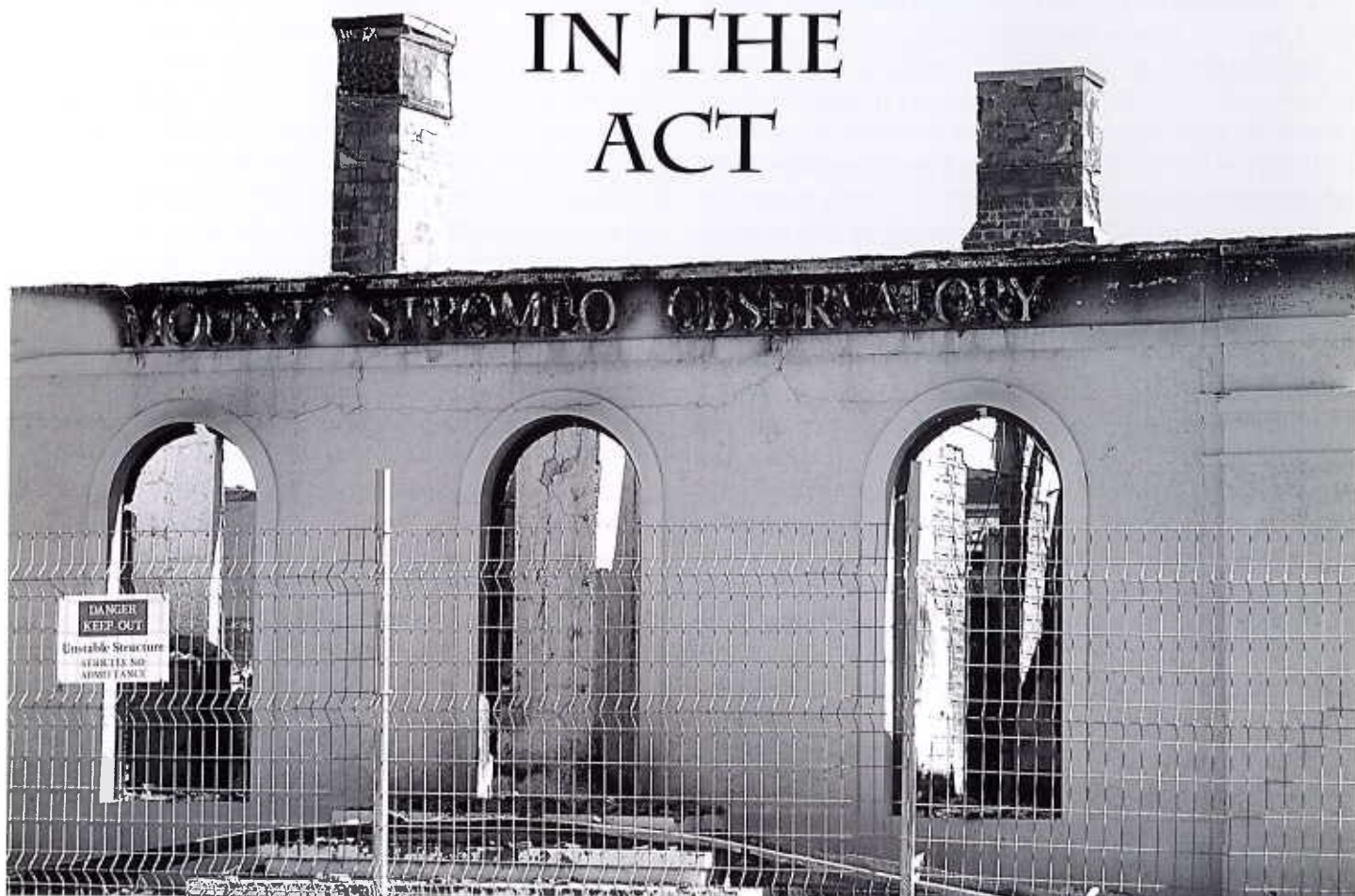


The winning table pictured left to right with 'Malcolm Macropod' are — Jonathan Miller, John Hyndes, Andrew Chalklen, Danielle Hyndes, Katie Saxby, Linda Young, Marilyn Truscott and Warren Nicholls.





# HERITAGE AND BUSHFIRES IN THE ACT



by Lynley Wallis\*, Debbie Argue\* and Michael Pearson†

Administrative Office, Southern Crescent, Mt Stromlo.  
Photo: Peter Dowling

As you are aware, earlier this year a series of bushfires swept across south-eastern Australia, leaving in their wake a path of devastation. Initial assessments indicate that 66% of the ACT was burnt, including 91% of Namadgi National Park, 99% each of Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and Murrumbidgee River Corridor, 68% of ACT Forestry lands, and 57% of rural lands (see map inside the back cover). The consequences of the bushfires for heritage in the Territory alone have been substantial (see page 8). Additionally, in Kosciuszko National Park, 21 huts were lost (see Kosciuszko Huts Association website for details: [www.kosciuskohts.org.au](http://www.kosciuskohts.org.au)), and possibly, more than 40 huts were lost in the Victorian high country.

At the national level, Australia ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) has produced draft guidelines for the treatment of fire affected heritage places. The guidelines focus on the initial responses to the protection of remaining fabric, and the structured planning of recovery. Key steps proposed in the guidelines are to:

- secure fire damaged sites from souveniring and knee-jerk cleanup;
- consult and involve key stakeholders, being sensitive to their sense of loss, and develop simple management arrangements and agree initial fire recovery plans;
- undertake surveys and assessment of affected places, record, assess threats, protect surviving fabric, identify stabilisation or necessary recovery works, including salvage of material if warranted; and
- prepare longer-term conservation advice — may include conservation works, commemoration, interpretation, landscape management.

At a more local level, Environment ACT (EACT) has prepared a Bushfire Recovery Plan which provides a framework for the environmental recovery of the Territory over the coming year. This document can be accessed by the public via the web at [www.environment.act.gov.au](http://www.environment.act.gov.au). As outlined in the Plan, the damage to cultural features in the landscape (including Aboriginal sites, scarred trees, fences, brumby yards, survey markers, sheds, bridges, etc) and the cultural landscapes themselves are gradually being assessed as fire affected areas are opened up for inspection. The ACT Heritage Council (a statutory body

\* ACT Heritage Unit

† ACT Heritage Council





that provides heritage advice to the ACT Government) together with the Heritage Unit (EACT) are playing a key role in this undertaking. Local land managers such as ACT Forests and Parks and Conservation (EACT) also have pivotal roles, supported by advice from the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board. In matters of Aboriginal heritage, relevant ACT Aboriginal organisations are also involved. Additionally, as we move beyond the initial assessment stage, community groups and other stakeholders are being consulted about the future of lost or damaged heritage assets and will have opportunities to be directly involved in recovery strategies. At first sight, the scale of the task is daunting, but to date all involved have embraced the challenge. This brief report provides an overview of the scope of work being undertaken and progress to date.

### Historic heritage

An audit of historic heritage places is being undertaken by the Heritage Unit (EACT) and rangers from the various parks (see page 8 for a list of historic heritage assets known to be lost or severely damaged. Note, however, that this list is not definitive and will be modified as the assessment process continues). Very unfortunately, all records held at the EACT Murrumbidgee River Corridor Depot (including all ACT Forests records) were destroyed in the bushfires, adding an element of challenge to the audit process. Even without this added difficulty, the historic heritage audit is a daunting task and offers for input by community groups are being gratefully accepted (see final paragraph of this article).

Not as many places as at first thought have been damaged or destroyed. Many huts (or remains of huts) and several homesteads still survive in southern Namadgi. The Orroral Valley floor was hardly affected by the fires and the Orroral Homestead is intact. Luton's crutching shed, Boboyan Homestead, Brayshaws huts, Lone Pine Homestead, Westerman's Homestead and Blue Range Internment Camp are all intact. A last minute containment line placed around Pryor's Hut and the adjacent plantation of Scotts Pine also gave us another survival story amidst the devastation.

Sadly, other places with heritage significance were not so lucky. The construction of wide containment lines around the iconic Mt Franklin chalet did not prevent its destruction by the intense fire-storm that raced through this part of the park. Yet the Austin A40, part of the old ski run nearby, is almost unscathed and survives as the major intact built element of the Franklin precinct (not including the toilet!). Only the pisé sections of Nil Desperandum, Rock Valley and Mt Tennent Homesteads remain amidst the ruins of the rest of the buildings, but within weeks of the fires several of the fruit trees at Nil have burst forth with new life.

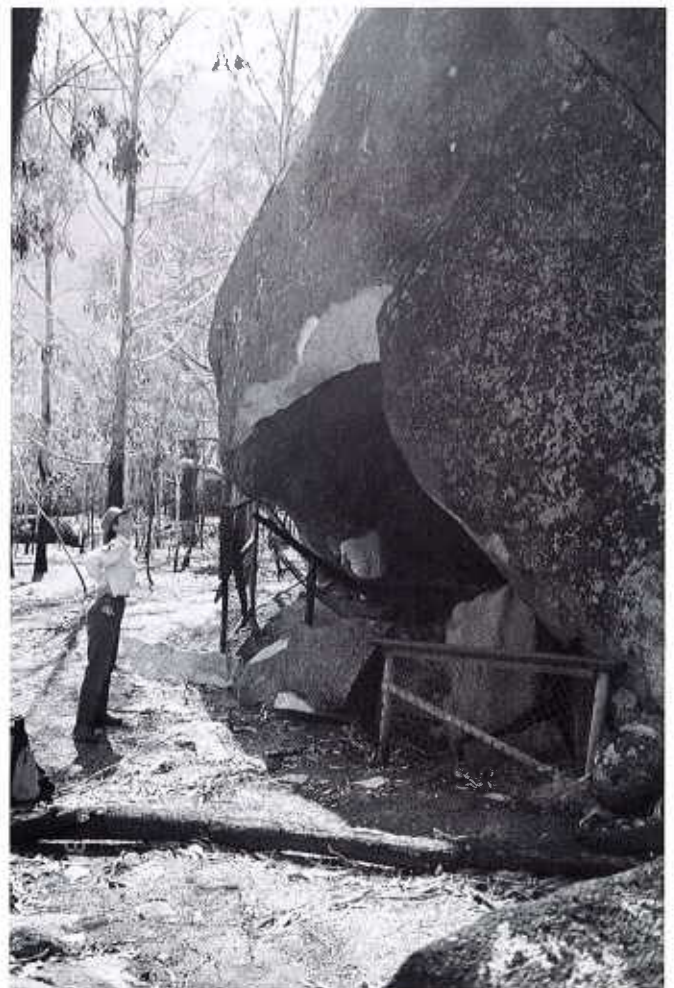
Not surprisingly, timber-based structures fared very badly and many brumby yards, blazed border markers and the like have been destroyed or badly damaged. Nevertheless one site, Tom Gregory's wire yard located just down Harry's Spur from the Ginini summit, has survived. The swing bridge and small bridge over the Cotter River in the Cotter Precinct were damaged beyond repair and consultation is under way to decide

how they should be replaced. The Laurel Camp internment site remains were burnt, but interestingly some new features of the camp have become visible as a result of the enhanced visibility resulting from the fires. The Bendora Dam Construction Camp was destroyed. One element of the Site Office of particular interest was the collection of drill core samples, stored in timber trays under the building, which were from the exploratory drilling phase prior to construction of the dam. These cores are now broken and scattered along the site. Of the arboreta, only Bendora survived entirely, thanks to another major firebreak line put in place in the days before the fire came through this area.

### Indigenous Heritage

On first consideration it might be thought that indigenous heritage assets will not have been substantially affected by the fires, based on the argument that many such sites are hundreds of years old and will have undoubtedly been through severe fire events in the past. However, closer inspection reveals this is not the case.

The popular Rendezvous Creek rock art site suffered substantial fire impact, with the viewing platform and other infrastructure (interpretive signage and walking trails) destroyed, smoke damage to the interior of the shelter and severe exfolia-



Rendezvous Creek Rock Shelter after the fire.  
Photo: ACT Heritage Unit.





## Where to now?

### Mount Stromlo Observatory

The future of the Mount Stromlo Observatory buildings is clearly of concern to many Canberrans as it is closer to Canberra and the devastated Weston Creek suburbs than most of the other fire-affected heritage places. The overwhelming response to the open day held at the site in March demonstrates the level of community interest. Commencing with the Oddie telescope building in 1911 (the Commonwealth's first major building in Canberra), the complex includes the 1926 Administration Building and associated domes, the Director's house and six staff cottages, and a range of later telescopes and related buildings reflecting changes in astronomical research throughout the twentieth century.

The buildings totally lost in the fire or left as empty shells are:

- Administration Building (including the Sun and Farnham telescopes), 1926-29
- Director's House, 1929
- 30 Inch Telescope Building (Reynolds), 1929
- 50 Inch Telescope Building, 1950s
- 74 Inch Telescope Building, 1950s
- Oddie Telescope Building, 1911
- Workshop
- Laser Ranger Telescope Building
- Several staff Cottages

Planning for fire recovery of Mount Stromlo is in the hands of the Australian National University and the National Capital Authority. ANU is preparing a new masterplan for the Observatory precinct. The University has established that it will have a continuing scientific and public access/education program at Stromlo, but that there will not be the need for the same number of optical telescopes that previously occupied the site. However, the importance of the telescope domes as part of the Stromlo landscape is recognised, and the Masterplan will be looking at ways of restoring or refurbishing the burnt-out domes for new uses. At this stage ANU's Building Manager, Chris Coughlan, has indicated that the largest dome, for the 74" telescope, the Reynolds telescope dome and the

Administration Building would be subject to reconstruction or refurbishment. The Oddie telescope dome was destroyed, but the walls of the building survive and an appeal for private donations may be launched for its conservation. The fate of the Director's house is less certain, unless an appropriate use can be found for it. The Masterplan will look at which vestiges of other buildings can be conserved.

### Mount Franklin Chalet

The loss of Mount Franklin Chalet, one of the most important heritage sites destroyed in the ACT fires, encapsulates many of the dilemmas facing post-fire recovery. Built in 1938 and the oldest club-built ski lodge on the Australian mainland, the chalet building was completely destroyed. Options that will have to be considered individually or in combination, include:

- reconstruction of a replica hut;
- leaving substantial surviving elements, such as tank stands and brick piers, in place as a memorial and burying other fire-damaged material in a marked pit or mound;
- building a memorial shelter (perhaps based on the surviving stone foundations of the wood shed), for the display of items from the chalet such as the Lodge stove, photographs and other artefacts;
- the construction of a new sympathetic but modern shelter/lodge nearby; or
- clearing the site altogether.

Factors that may influence the future of the place include the amount of detailed information available (for reconstruction), the views of community groups (especially the Canberra Alpine Club), the views of Environment ACT as managers, and, as always, available funding. Questions to be asked might be: Is there a continuing purpose for a structure at Mount Franklin? If so, what roles does a structure need to perform? Would a replica really conserve the significance of the place and satisfy the identified uses and functions, or would a new, purpose-built building be better? What sort of commemoration is appropriate? How can the surviving movable objects and photos best be conserved and displayed—at the site or in Canberra?

tion of the granite boulder. Thankfully, a controlled backburn around the Yankee Hat rock art site, another common visitor destination in Namadgi, saved this shelter from any harm. The infrastructure at the Birrigai Shelter in Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve has also been destroyed, and this shelter has also suffered granite exfoliation.

The many kilometres of fire suppression/containment lines put in place across rural lands and around the urban fringe have provided the opportunity to conduct surveys for stone artefact scatters in areas where ground visibility was typically nil owing to heavy vegetation coverage. As a result of the excellent exposures afforded by the newly graded lines, more than 100 previously unknown artefact scatters have been located.

In consultation with Ngunnawal and other stakeholders a proposal to enter these sites on the ACT Heritage Places Register is being prepared.

With the help of Ngunnawal people and volunteers from the Australian National University and the Canberra Archaeological Society, substantial progress has been made in assessing the damage to indigenous heritage places, although the exercise is not yet complete. Over the coming months the focus will shift from assessment of damage to known sites, to exploring opportunities for opportunistic survey taking advantage of the high surface visibility and open, minimally vegetated landscape in the aftermath of the fires.



## The way forward

The challenges that lie ahead include the future conservation and management of all fire affected heritage places, each of which poses a different challenge. For example, one of the pisé places, Rock Valley, was a staff residence; Nil Desperandum was a recreation facility. Should they be conserved as ruins? Should they be reconstructed or replaced with new buildings? Should they be replaced by new buildings in a more suitable location? What is the best way to conserve pisé ruins? Should they be left to gracefully decay? Should the Cotter River swing bridge be rebuilt to the same or similar design?

The destruction of some places means that the significance and rarity of others is increased. Bendora arboretum is now the only intact arboretum remaining. There are significantly fewer blazed tree border markers, so that those that remain are even more precious. For places that were already entered on the ACT Heritage Places Register, what amendments need to be made to encapsulate the changes wrought by the fires?

Ensuring that community groups and other stakeholders are involved in the decision-making processes about places with which they have strong associations, and that appropriate decisions are forthcoming is also a critical part of the recovery process. In some cases, community organisations and individuals have already initiated their own recovery processes

that are complementary to government agency responses. The Kosciuszko Huts Association, for example, has made a submission to NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service about hut conservation and replacement. This raises issues related to both the heritage value, and recreational and survival amenity of huts and the impacts of the fires on both. The scale of the losses, it is argued, warrant a review of the NPWS policy on the construction of new huts, to allow for new huts to conserve or interpret the heritage significance of the historic sites and to retain the important recreational and safety functions formerly served by the heritage huts.

The bushfires have been a horrendous event in the history of the ACT. While considering heritage issues and challenges, the suffering many families are going through is never far from our minds. It is hoped that the process of conserving and commemorating damaged heritage assets (and especially community involvement in this process) may help people to work through their grief, sustain the ACT community and secure our much loved heritage for future generations.

If people wish to participate in the recovery process they should contact Nina Stahl (who is helping co-ordinate volunteer assistance) in EACT on 02.6207 7131 or [Nina.Stahl@act.gov.au](mailto:Nina.Stahl@act.gov.au).

## Lost or Damaged Heritage Assets in the ACT

Franklin Chalet .....	destroyed
Slalom Hut, Mt Franklin .....	destroyed
Stockyard Ck arboretum .....	destroyed
Snowgum arboretum .....	destroyed
Blundells arboretum .....	destroyed
Picadilly arboretum .....	severely damaged
Reids Pinch North arboretum .....	destroyed
Reids Pinch South arboretum .....	some trees survive
Bendora Dam original site office and weatherboard residence .....	destroyed
Bendora Explosives Store .....	destroyed
Tennent Homestead .....	all but one building of minor significance destroyed
Condor Camp and Laurel Camp forest Workers Huts .....	destroyed
Paddys River Slab Building .....	destroyed
Rock Valley Homestead, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve .....	severely damaged
Nil Desperandum Homestead, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve .....	severely damaged
Cotter Pumping Station .....	moderately damaged
Cotter Pumping Station registered cottages .....	destroyed
Stockyard Gap Brumby Yard .....	destroyed
Pryor's Hut Brumby Yard .....	destroyed
Many ACT-NSW Border Markers (survey posts and reference trees) .....	burnt
Franklin Road survey marker trees .....	lost or severely damaged
Ted and Bessie Woods's 1900 slab kitchen block .....	destroyed.
Mt Stromlo Observatory complex, .....	severely damaged and parts destroyed
Uriarra Forest Settlement .....	five cottages destroyed





by Matthew Higgins

**T**he recent bushfires burnt a swathe through our high country cultural heritage. Places loved by many are gone, but their stories will live on. The smoke that billowed up from Namadgi, Tidbinbilla and Kosciuszko to the west and south-west of Canberra during January carried with it more than the incinerated remains of countless plants and animals, it also contained the ashes of a big part of our high country history.

The impact of the fires on Canberra's suburbs and rural lands was terrible, and the toll on mountain wildlife horrendous. The losses to our cultural heritage were heavy too. But while most of the bush will recover, albeit slowly and painfully, the cultural places that were destroyed can never truly be brought back.

Mt Franklin Chalet in the Brindabellas is undoubtedly the biggest loss. The oldest club-built ski lodge on the Australian mainland is now a pile of ashes and barely recognisable debris. Unlike much of the bushland, it will not sprout green leaves once the rains come, neither will Nil Desperandum, Rock Valley, and Ted and Bessie Woods's slab home out Tidbinbilla way, nor the more than a dozen huts in Kosciuszko, nor the brumby trapyards, survey marks, fences, forestry plots and other places which had so much to tell us about a big slice of the past in these great Australian mountains.

If you have been to Mt Franklin Chalet you would have found much more than a two-storey weatherboard building that stood among ancient snowgums. You would have experienced a time capsule from the pioneering days of Australian skiing. Built in 1938 for the Canberra Alpine Club (CAC), the Chalet embodied the do-it-yourself period of recreational snowsports in this country. Franklin's skiers cut their own ski runs through

A burnt out Nil Desperandum. This was a special place, with a camellia grove and a eucalyptus distillery nearby. The distillery survived. Photo: Matthew Higgins.

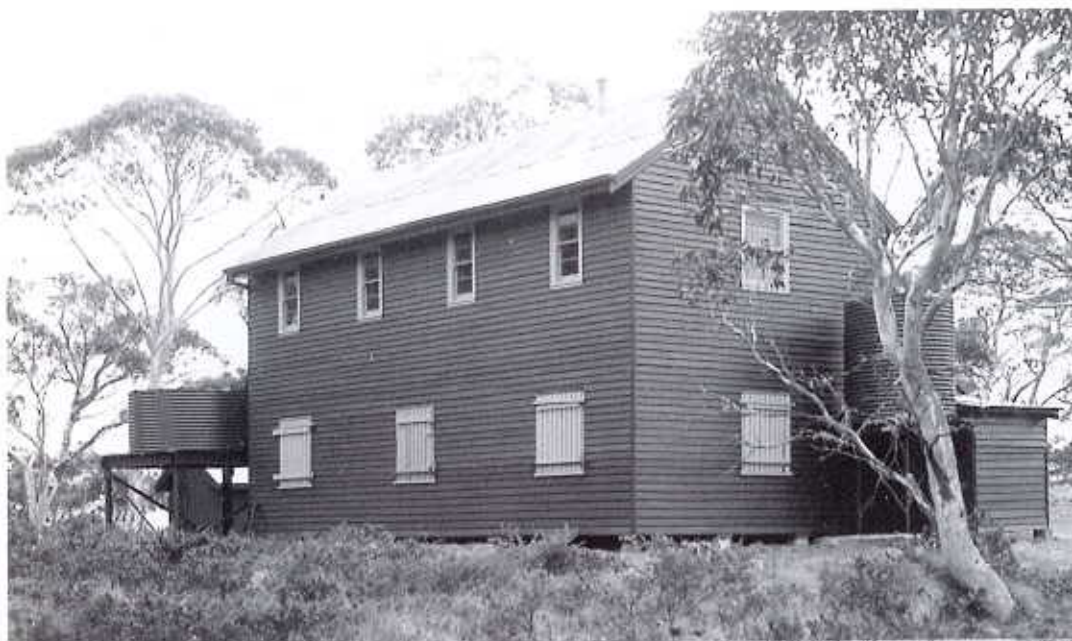
the mountain timber. They made their own skis from alpine ash hauled out of the Brindabellas forests and spotted gum brought up from the coast. From the 1950s they even made their own ski-tows, including one powered by no less than a Harley Davidson motorbike engine. The second, driven by an Austin A40 motor car, sits on the peak still, and is the lone survivor of the January holocaust. Franklin was a long way from the modern resorts of Perisher, Thredbo and Falls Creek where comfort and easy access are to be had readily — providing you have the money to pay for it.

To get to Franklin in the days before widespread private car ownership, skiers travelled in the back of the club's contracted truck, and for those who did take their own car, there were no police or rangers to advise when to put on the snowchains. You often had to ski much of the way in. Just getting there was an experience in itself.

The Chalet, with its primitive bunk rooms that allowed virtually no privacy, its communal lounge and kitchen (complete with the stove from the Prime Ministers' Lodge), its regular work parties and social nights lubricated with no little quantity of glühwein, bred within the club a camaraderie that was the envy of other ski groups. When the Balmain Cup ski races were held at Franklin in 1949 and 1957, it was the good spirit in which the competition was held that most impressed observers. Franklin, so lovingly conserved by CAC members and Namadgi staff, was visited by the public several times a year during open days. Now it is gone, although part of its historic collection of photographs and hand-made timber skis was saved, thanks to the forethought of Namadgi manager Brett McNamara.

So too are some of the brumby trapyards which were another distinctive element of the ACT mountain story. You





left — The Franklin Chalet in 1996. Photo: Garth Setchell.

below — The Chalet now. Some form of interpretation and commemoration will need to be erected on the site. Photo: Matthew Higgins.



only have to look at that \$10 note in your pocket to see the impact that the brumby and its pursuers have had on Australian culture. But the Man from Snowy River did not have it all his own way. There were many skilled riders in the Brindabellas and other ACT ranges close by, and they weren't all men either.

For the mountain men and women, brumby-running was a sport, a way of exercising horsemanship and riding prowess, and you could get a few horses out of it to either sell, or break in, as saddle or pack horses (providing you didn't cripple your own horse in the process). Some brumbies were run down in the open. Others were trapped in yards: either the running yards with their characteristic wings which helped to funnel the horses into captivity, or the salt yards which were baited with salt or molasses to entice the wild stallions, mares and foals inside.

There were some important examples of these yards up around Mt Ginini, but Ginini was burnt in the fires. The yard down the south side of the peak above Stockyard Gap — probably the most significant trapyard in the Park — has disappeared; fortunately the yard higher up the peak has survived, but is in danger of collapse. It is to be hoped that the only other good examples, in the Jumbuck Flats-Blue Gum Creek area south of the Corin Dam Road, may have survived. At the time of writing it has not been possible to get in there. [One yard survived, see page 6]

The brumby runners were mostly bush people. The Franklin skiers were mainly Canberrans. What divided them in time and lifestyle was the coming of the national capital. The birth of the capital was also reflected along the border ranges. Survey marks were installed by the three survey teams which, from 1910 to

1915, had the massive job of marking the Territory boundary. Much of that boundary, determined by water catchments, followed the ranges that took such a battering in January.

Some of the best examples of the timber markers left by the surveyors — surveyors like Harry Mouat after whom Mouat Street in the Canberra suburb of Lyneham is named — have now gone. Sadly, numbers of the hand-carved reference trees have also been damaged or destroyed. Thankfully, some of the marks were built of metal, stone and concrete and have survived, reminding us still of these surveyors' early feats, and still legally defining the border on the ground.

The ACT's pine plantations sustained huge losses in the fires. So too did the arboreta, the small study plots planted between the 1920s and the 1960s by the Australian Forestry School and the Forestry and Timber Bureau.

Most of the arboreta, it seems, have been destroyed. Blundells, planted in the early days, containing a wide variety of species and possessing good interpretive signs and paths for the public, is one of the biggest losses. Happily, Bendora Arboretum and its adjacent shelter hut were saved from the





fires' onslaught. Bendora will continue to teach people about these trees from across the world.

Within the ACT Forests' plantations in the foothills of the Brindabellas were a small number of historic workers' huts, reminders of the days when forestry work was dictated by lack of mechanisation and poor transport. Condor Camp dated possibly from the 1930s, Blue Range Hut was used by Italians captured during the Second World War, Laurel Camp was another. Blue Range has survived, the others have gone.

Down at Bendora Dam, the fires burned deeply into the valley, further than many expected, leaving our mountain catchment dangerously ex-



The 18 Mile Tree, blazed and hand-inscribed by border surveyor Harry Mouat in 1914, has been burnt right through by the fire. Photo: Matthew Higgins.

posed to severe erosion. Not only was Namadgi Ranger Allan Bendall's home destroyed, but also the former Dam Site Office was burned down. When Bendora Dam was constructed 1959–61 as Canberra's second water storage, the Site Office was a hive of activity. Although the dam was built by private contractors, E. S. Clementson of Sydney, the design of the dam and supervision of its construction were in the hands of the Commonwealth Department of Works.

From this building the raising of the new thin-walled, double-arch concrete dam wall was directed — and this dam (along with the later

continued on page 13

## Upland Arboreta of the ACT – a lost heritage

by Tony Fearnside and Kim Wells – members, Institute of Foresters of Australia

### INTRODUCTION

From 1929 to 1969, forest scientists established a series of 29 arboreta in the hills and mountains of the ACT and nearby. An arboretum is a collection of trees established for scientific purposes. Unlike most arboreta, which have specimens consisting of single trees, the ACT upland arboreta consisted of plots of trees, often of nine rows of nine trees, or 81 trees per plot, at a range of elevations and aspects. Seed from many of the temperate world's most famous timber trees, mainly pines, was obtained and grown in nurseries to be planted in the arboreta. The main purpose of the plantings was to find the best plantation species to meet Australia's demand for softwood timber. As a result, we know that radiata pine is the best all-round species for this purpose, and that several other species are nearly as good.

Of the original 29, several failed or were burnt or felled for other purposes, so that in late 2002, 19 arboreta were left, of which five were considered perhaps worthy of inclusion in the ACT's Interim Heritage Places Register. Then the massive fires of January 2003 burnt all but one.

### RECENT HISTORY

By 1974, the arboreta had fulfilled their primary purpose of finding the best species to meet Australia's softwood needs and were handed over to the ACT Administration. Their values remained largely unrecognised and thus funds for their maintenance and development were scarce. Nevertheless, the largest of the arboreta, near Blundells Flat, in the foothills of the Brindabella Mountains, was provided with interpretative signs and a signposted path. The three arboreta in Namadgi National Park were pruned and wildlings removed. Recently, most of the trees at Stockyard arboretum in Namadgi National Park were removed, as their wildlings were spreading into the nearby wetlands recognized as important under the international Ramsar agreement.

In order to increase awareness of their value, citations were prepared for five of the arboreta to be included in the ACT Heritage Places Register, and arrangements made for visits to arboreta during the annual Heritage Festival.

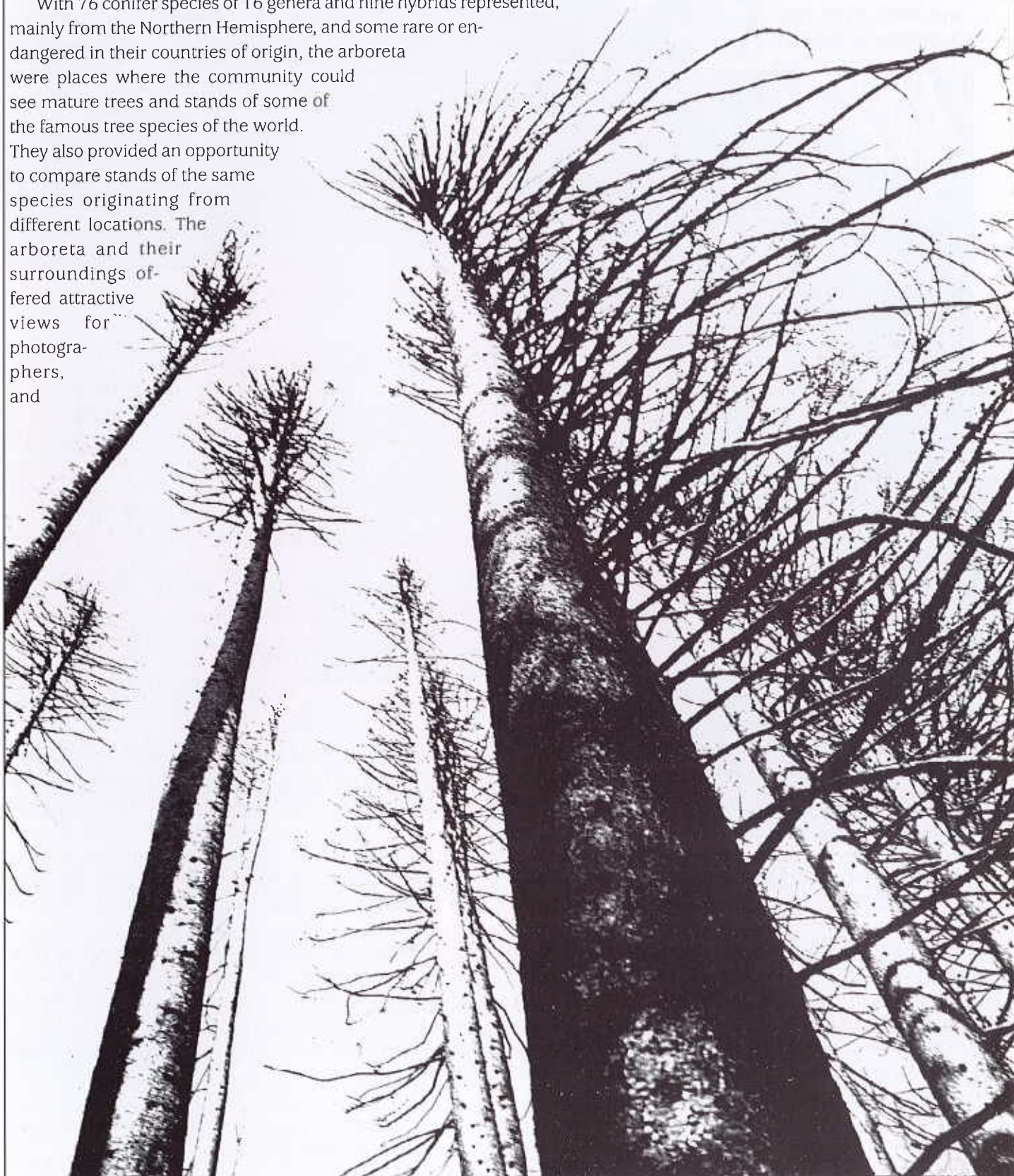




## HERITAGE VALUES

Each plot in the arboreta was a close formation planting to test a potential plantation species in a new environment. The location of plots close to each other in an arboretum allowed comparison of the performance of different species of trees under similar site conditions, and the range of arboreta allowed comparisons over a range of sites. While other arboreta have been planted in Australia, this was a unique and focused approach. Because forestry research now takes a different approach, it is unlikely that similar conifer arboreta of this scale and standard will ever be established again for purely scientific purposes in Australia.

With 76 conifer species of 16 genera and nine hybrids represented, mainly from the Northern Hemisphere, and some rare or endangered in their countries of origin, the arboreta were places where the community could see mature trees and stands of some of the famous tree species of the world. They also provided an opportunity to compare stands of the same species originating from different locations. The arboreta and their surroundings offered attractive views for photographers, and







there were some very impressive individual trees scattered through them. They were valuable for students and others interested in arboriculture, forestry and horticulture to see mature examples of famous tree species of the world. Students from schools of forestry and horticulture, and other institutions regularly visited them.

## THE FUTURE

The future of the arboreta depends largely on recognition of their heritage values. The surviving arboretum, Bendora, is most picturesque and contains 50 species in 56 plots. It is not easy to reach, but arrangements could be made for more frequent guided tours and for access on request. It can be managed for heritage and recreation as well as for its scientific value. Adequate labelling is, in any case, a basic necessity.

While most of the trees in the arboreta will have been killed by the fires, some, like the redwoods and Canary Island pines, can re-sprout after fire, while the Mexican pines may surprise, since the needles in tufts at the ends of branches may be protected by their fascicles (needle sheaths). Most of the species in the burnt arboreta will regenerate from seed.

Even though most trees are dead, a final assessment should be carried out, particularly as the growth of the trees has not been measured for a number of years.

Perhaps the best of the burnt arboreta, at Blundells Flat, could be replanted so that we could again have world-class arboreta in the ACT, covering a range of elevations. The site for the new Lyndsay Pryor Arboretum, on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin has recently been gazetted. Including Westbourne Woods and Bendora, this would give a series of four arboreta at different elevations.

To commemorate the other arboreta and those who planted and tended them, consideration could be given to replanting groves near picnic spots. Blue Range might be replanted to form a forest park rather than an arboretum since the heritage associated with the camp for World War II internees can easily be included in the future management of this site.

As there seems to be a need for a body who can give advice on the arboreta sites, perhaps the time is right to form "Friends of the Arboreta".

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The ACT Heritage Unit has provided encouragement and help, both in cash and in kind, over a number of years.

left — People could walk into the plot of Giant Sequoia at Piccadilly Circus arboretum and enjoy the cathedral atmosphere evoked by the tall, shade tolerant trees. Perhaps these trees will recover; they are one of the few conifers capable of resprouting after a fire. Native to California, the Giant Sequoia is regarded as the world's tallest conifer.

Photo: Tony Fearnside

Corin) has been providing us with Cotter River water ever since. The rock core samples retrieved by the drillers when they searched for the best site for Bendora were stored under the building, and until the bushfire were still stored neatly in timber trays. But now all that is gone too, as is the nearby weather-board house also left over from the dam-building days.

If the word 'cruelty' can be applied to something as amoral as a bushfire, then it was at Tidbinbilla where the greatest cruelty was committed. Here nearly all the Reserve was burned, wildlife losses were catastrophic, and rangers' homes and buildings integral to the Reserve's operations were wrecked. Most of the place's European cultural heritage was also damaged or destroyed.

When free selectors followed the squatters into this delightful valley in the 1880s, they contained among them some families which would help to shape the area for the next 80 years. One such family was the Greens, significant not simply because of their success as farmers and graziers, nor because family members married into so many other local families, thus creating a substantial Green network, but also because



Rock Valley Cottage. Photo: Eric Martin.

George Green (with his mate George Hatcliff) built some of the most important and enduring homesteads in the valley and beyond.

Exponents of pisé (rammed earth) construction, Green and Hatcliff built their own homes and those of others nearby — including the laboratory for wheat pioneer William Farrer at Lambrigg on the Murrumbidgee. The fires destroyed both Green's Rock Valley, and the famous Nil Desperandum across the valley. If the walls of Nil Desperandum could have spoken, a good defamation lawyer would have been needed for sure. For in its early days from the 1890s until 1914, Nil was the home of the eccentric Irish selector and poet Henry French Gilman. Notorious for his battles (both figurative and literal) with nearby squatters the Cunninghams, Gilman ended up in Queanbeyan court on more than one occasion. But Gilman did recognise the natural beauty around him in the valley, at a time when many others were ringbarking as fast as they could. The subsequent families at Nil Desperandum, the Blewitts during





the 1930–40s and the Gilmour clan from the 1950s onward until resumption, had their own relationship with the place, and left their own rich chest of stories.

Now, the pise walls of Nil Desperandum stand forlorn and smoke stained, as around them the ashes of almost everything else in the house lie ankle deep. But, if the walls are proved to be structurally sound, it may yet be possible to reconstruct Nil.

Until the fire, the slab-walled kitchen block from Ted and Bessie Woods' early 1900s homestead stood just outside the Reserve. A few years ago it was carefully conserved by volunteers of the Tidbinbilla Pioneers Association. It was here in the spare room attached to the kitchen that most of the single teachers from the local Gibraltar Public School — many of them women far from their city origins — were accommodated. The walls still retained their internal lining of wallpaper, mingled with 1920s Queanbeyan newspapers.

It wasn't enough for 95% of Namadgi and 99% of Tidbinbilla to be burned. About 75% of Kosciuszko National Park in NSW too has been affected by the fires, and much of NSW's Brindabella National Park as well. The breadth of these fires is one of their most shocking and grievous aspects.

From current information, perhaps nearly 20 of Kosciuszko's famed high country huts have been lost. Included — like names unanswered during a roll call after battle — are Pretty Plain with its rare log walls dating from the 1930s, O'Keefe's in the shadow of Mt Jagungal which sheltered many a stockmen and many a skier and bushwalker, Boobee and Brooks on Happy Jacks Plain (though not so happy now), several of the distinctive stone-walled huts at Geehi, and Delaneys right next to the Snowy Mountains Highway.

Most of these places were built by stockmen for shelter during their summer forays in to the mountains with sheep and cattle. But some of the lost huts were built for the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme, places like Boltons Hill, Opera House, Verandah Camp, and the tiny Orange Hut, also known as Diane, just north of Schlink Pass.

All these places were part of the cultural heritage of the mountains. But they were not museum pieces, for they continued to be used by bushwalkers and ski-tourers in the Snowies. And so more layers of stories were laid down upon those slab and weatherboard walls, tin roofs and granite hearths. The fresh-caught trout we devoured at Pretty Plain in February 1984, the refuge provided by Diane that snowy day in 1990, that trip to Boobee on skis in 1999 when the blue sky smiled at last, and the howling winds of the previous week abated just for us.

The Kosciuszko huts not only have heritage value, but they play a very important shelter role to modern users of the mountains. Already the issue of replacement of destroyed huts is on the agenda at Kosciuszko National Park. The volunteer Kosciuszko Huts Association, which has been conserving the huts since 1971 in cooperation with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, has been engaged in a campaign to build a shelter hut following the loss of Broken Dam Hut in the late 1990s. This issue of shelter replacement is surfacing in the debate over the new plan of management for Kosciuszko, and

will have added prominence given the bushfire toll.

The aftermath of the bushfires is not all doom and ash-laden gloom. Namadgi's significant Aboriginal art sites are reported to be safe\*. Many huts were saved in Kosciuszko and Namadgi, saved through the devoted efforts of Park staff and volunteer firefighters. Numerous heritage places in both parks were defended from the flames through a combination of back-burns, bulldozers, helicopters and goodwill. The conflict in national parks between natural heritage on the one side and cultural heritage on the other, so marked say twenty years ago, has just about disappeared.

At Pryors Hut in Namadgi, fires were approaching from Mt Gingera and Stockyard Spur. Only through a bulldozed fire-break, and a back-burning operation — begun in the afternoon and continued all night — by ACT Parks and Conservation personnel and volunteers from the rural Rivers and Gungahlin Brigades, was the hut saved. That operation took place not only partly in darkness, but also against the risk of an easterly blaze trapping the firefighters on the long and lonely Mt Franklin Road. Pryors, important because of its association with a unique Australian alpine botanic garden established nearby in the early 1950s, now has added significance as an example of what our firefighters achieve.

Only a few days later, when on 18th January the north-westerly winds turned the fires back over the range and toward Canberra, a number of those people who had saved Pryors had to battle to save their own homes. And not all of them won.

Now the mountain landscape, once green, is grey, black and brown. The silence of the departed birds is oppressive. The smell of 'burnt' is everywhere. It will take many decades for stands of Alpine Ash to re-grow and resume their former majesty. And so many of the cultural places have gone forever.

Over the years, some of us have had the good fortune and privilege to go out and record the stories of the mountain people and to collect photographs. The stories remain and we can go on telling them so that people who never had the opportunity to know the mountains as we have known them, might better understand their past.

Matthew Higgins is a Canberra historian, heritage professional, bushwalker and ski-tourer.

\* See page 6 for more recent information

### **Stop Press: Huntly Property Damaged.**

The list of heritage places destroyed by the January fires printed in this issue does not include places which suffered damage to some of their component parts. One of these is the heritage listed Huntly Property. It is well known to Trust members because the owner, John Gale, has generously made its garden and house available for many Trust events over the years.

The fire destroyed cattle and sheep and 23 structures including a soldier settler house, the manager's house and two shearing sheds. Fifty kilometres of fences were destroyed, as was all farm equipment other than the four wheel drive vehicles,

continued on page 18





# Firebrands at Lanyon



An interview with Jennifer Storer, the Curatorial Site Manager of Lanyon. The interviewers were: Colin Griffiths, the National Trust's Heritage Officer, and Peter Dowling, Chair of the Trust's Heritage Committee.

From dark to orange, Lanyon about 3.30 p.m. Saturday, 18th January. Photo: David Scott

Colin: Welcome. You've provided us with some very dramatic photographs of Lanyon on both the 17th and 18th January. Would you like to tell us about the 17th and, more particularly, the 18th and what went on at Lanyon?

Jennifer: We'd prepared for bushfires because in the previous year [Christmas Eve 2001] bushfires had threatened Calthorpes' [House] in Red Hill, so we had a plan. We had disaster bins filled with everything we thought we needed and people had been briefed about what to do in the event of a bushfire reaching us.

Peter: What do you mean by disaster bins?

Jennifer: They're a large wheelie bin filled with everything you could possibly need, plus instructions and contact lists for whatever the plan is.

The first thing that I knew was that fires were burning in Namadgi. [We knew] roughly where they were and we were following them on the map. On Friday night, I came home and my father and family were watching the news; Emergency Services had announced earlier in the day that everything was OK. My partner, David Scott, interrupted to say that it had just been announced that things were not alright because there were spot fires in Tidbinbilla some kilometres away. That's when we went outside — we live in Calwell and have a view of the mountains — and we could see the smoke coming from Tidbinbilla. Things didn't look good so I put our emergency telephone list into action and phoned the contacts for Calthorpes' and Mugga Mugga and let them know that, although I didn't think that things were great, to just hold off, but be on alert. So

we waited and went to bed and got up at 5 a.m. on Saturday and stood on the back verandah just as the sun was rising. We could see flames over Tidbinbilla way. That's when we thought that things were not looking very good at all. About eight, David said he was going to drive to the [Tidbinbilla] Visitors' Centre to see if he could assist, and I decided to go to Lanyon and put our emergency plan into action and contact everybody there. I got as far as the last roundabout and there was a police roadblock. I spoke to them and was told that if I worked there [Lanyon] there was not a problem, but as they could not let the public through we had to close the site for the day.

So I went in. A lot of people were on holidays and every second person was uncontactable. However, a staff member [David Wild] arrived, as did a volunteer [Judy Brooks], the housekeeper [Lyn Fisher] was still there and we decided to close the house. Then we realised that there was a wedding planned for that day. I contacted the police to see what they would say. They said that as long as we had a guest list, we could let them come through.

So, in this smoky atmosphere I got the caterers setting up, complete with the urns and everything else and I got the guest list. I had several phone calls from the father of the groom and the mother of the bride saying "oh no, is it still going to happen?" and I reassured them that as far as I knew it could go ahead.

The rural lessee [Andrew Giekie, his friends Peter Cusack and James Webb] and Vince Burns [the farm manager], already had the tank on the ute and were out checking for spot fires.





We could see flames on Mt Tennent and the housekeeper went home because she lives in Tharwa and needed to prepare her home. The café lessee, Lelio Falasca, came in expecting to have business for the day, so I had to let him know that the place would be closed. I called in a couple of other volunteers and Ian Stephenson, who lives on site, came up at about nine, and we started to prepare the house. We placed tennis balls in the downpipes and wet towels under the doors, the whole thing that I think every Canberran knows by heart by now. We had a radio in the disaster bin, so we put the batteries in and turned it on. For two things I will ever be thankful, the number of torches we had, and the goggles. Everyone knew that they had to wear long clothing and sturdy boots and all that sort of

and so on. It started to get really dark and we were very thankful to have the torches. It was scary, simply because it was so dark in the middle of the day; we really lost our sense of time. A lot of embers started falling, so we popped on our goggles. By this time Lelio had decided to stay and my partner, David Scott, came. David Wild, a member of staff, was there, and Judy Brooks, a volunteer, had stayed on. Ian Stephenson was there preparing his house. Another staff member, Richard Manning, who lives on site and his partner Leanne had to prepare their house, cottage 6 [and Gemma Geikie looked after the Manager's House]. The rural lessee, Andrew, had just come back. There were really only a few of us left in the central area and things were pretty well prepared, the courtyard wouldn't



left — Some of the defenders of Lanyon in the Windmill Paddock, Saturday afternoon. From left to right: Ellen Gibbon, Judy Brooks, Ian Stephenson, David Wild, Lelio Falasca, David Scott and Jennifer Storer. Photo: David Scott

right background and centre — a burnt landscape at Tharwa Photos: Peter Dowling. right below — remains of Paddys River Hut. Photo: ACT Heritage Unit

thing. We've got a photo of everyone who stayed on.

As the day progressed, things got darker and darker. I can't remember the name of the people who had the wedding, but I've seen a couple of photographs from the wedding and it just looks stunning. There's this bride in a long dress with this black-red glow behind her, it looked out of this world.

Peter: What time did the wedding start?

Jennifer: About twelve-thirty or one o'clock. We had a phone call that we might have to evacuate. I thought that I'd hang on and not tell the guests unless I had to. It got to the point where the ceremony was over and the guests were looking down to where the picking gardens are and down into the windmill paddock and they could see the flames. I thought that I'd best ask them to leave. They left in an orderly manner, but the catering things had all been set up with things for afternoon tea and the wind had come and blown them about; there were tables tipped over and so on, and there was a lot of stuff falling out of the air. It all looked very odd.

Peter: But by this stage the ceremony had been completed?

Jennifer: Yes, but the guests had to leave to prepare their houses

burn, the place had been heavily grazed, and there had been the drought.

Colin: Lanyon isn't just the buildings, there's a fair amount of rural property isn't there?

Jennifer: Yes, there are 1200 hectares, I think, of which we're a small part in the centre.

Colin: The 1200 hectares are the responsibility of the rural lessee?

Jennifer: Yes that's right. He did come and bring the fire cart around and wet down all the walls. We really valued his assistance because we thought it was going to be spot fires that were going to be the problem, not the fire raging down towards us. You can see from the photographs that we had fire from Mt Tennent across and we had spot fires coming from Lanyon Hill towards us. They were grass fires, and people like Richard Manning were able to put a lot of the fires out by themselves with damp mops and brooms.

The Nolan Gallery was also on an emergency list and I spoke to Anne Balcolmb, the admin officer there and asked if she could come out, which she did. [Jill Maill and Marj Wilson,









the staff on duty at Nolan assisted in preparing the gallery]. There was contact between her and the director, Peter Haynes, and they managed to get a van in. They managed to evacuate most of the works that could fit into the van and I understand, although I didn't see [him], that the Minister, Bill Wood, came and helped with the evacuation.

Colin: We were talking to Bill Wood a couple of weeks ago and telling him about the photographs that you've just given me, and he explained that he'd been there that day and that he'd done some of the work himself. Were all of the paintings evacuated?

Jennifer: [Eventually all of the works were evacuated]. We were worried about the building [Nolan Gallery] because it's completely surrounded by bush [a pine arboretum planted by Paul Sorenson in the 1930s]. It's probably the most vulnerable of the buildings there.

Colin: Back to the homestead, what's going on?

Jennifer: Well it's getting very dark...

Colin: What time is it now?

Jennifer: About two. We all had our goggles on because of the embers flying around. We'd settled everything down in the homestead and were listening to the radio, and of course there were all these emergency broadcasts. We realised that we were not alone and that a vast amount of Canberra was also threatened. I have since been on Disaster ACT, which is a collection of most of the cultural institutions in the ACT who are involved in disaster planning and prevention, largely conservators from the largest institutions. Most of them have repositories in areas that were threatened by the bushfires, Mitchell and other places. We knew that as long as we were safe, and that we were able to put out any spot fires, that we'd be OK.

[The local Tharwa Brigade were aware of the situation at Lanyon and came into the property at 10 p.m. on the Saturday evening to monitor a fire in the Murrumbidgee River Corridor that was approaching from the south. They arranged for the cutting of mineral barriers in a number of paddocks to prevent the spread of grass fires.]

Colin: Do you have good water pressure there, are you on mains?

Jennifer: No, we're reliant on water from the Murrumbidgee, so, yes we were worried, but we'd filled up everything that could hold water everywhere around the buildings. About that time, the SES arrived and asked us either to evacuate or to tell them how many people were staying, which we did. The people in the photograph are the people who stayed, they all volunteered to stay. [Most were associated with Lanyon] the only exception was Ellen Gibbon, who is the admin officer at Calthorpes' House. I'd spoken to her and she'd offered her help and I'd said that it would be great if she could come out and assist, so she did.

The only other thing then was that we were worried how long it would last. It was really just a case of sitting there, staying put, and listening to the radio, which I guess most Canberrans were doing that day. It was a bit more dramatic when the state of emergency was declared. Then, increasingly, the people who'd volunteered became worried about their own houses

and we had to make the decision as to whether we stayed with Lanyon or went to prepare our own houses when they were put on alert.

About four or five o'clock, about half of us, including myself, went home to prepare our houses. But Lelio Falasca was still there, David Wild stayed the night there and, of course, the people who were in the cottages stayed and looked after those.

The only thing I forgot to mention was that on Friday we were put on alert, and about seven o'clock we went out to Lanyon and I checked that everything was OK and we took a lot of photographs then. That's when the sky was pink and smoky.

Peter: How close did the flames come, did they cross the Murrumbidgee?

Jennifer: They crossed the Murrumbidgee to Lanyon Hill they were only small grass fires. When you look at the landscape now, you wonder what we were all frightened about. The grass has already regrown, but when you look at the photographs, it looked very very close. Ultimately, we were fine, and the only things that did threaten were the grass fires. We had pieces of burning milled timber come flying over the property. They'd come from across the Murrumbidgee from a building.

Colin: Fairly large pieces?

Jennifer: Yes, fairly large branches, 40 centimetres long, but it was the milled timber that got us, we were wondering what it was that had been burnt

Colin: Has Lanyon had a previous brush with bushfire?

Jennifer: None that I know of.

Colin: Are you going to change any of your management practices at Lanyon to cope with future fires?

Jennifer: Yes, we will. We didn't lose power that day, but we lost it [for] a day and a half or so afterwards and that had ramifications, not only for running the house, but also for water pumping. We've since installed a petrol pump so that we can pump water up to the tanks. We also lost telephone communications. We're in a black hole in terms of telephone communications, mobile phones don't work so you've only got the outside lines or a satellite phone. So, I guess that if the phones had gone down during the fire, it would have been far more problematic. Afterwards it was a problem in terms of trying to recover. But yes, there've been lots of recommendations made and lots of things put into place. We now have our own dedicated trailer and fire team as well as the rural lessees. But hopefully, it will never happen again!

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Huntley, continued from page 14

and any remaining pasture. The garden was, mercifully, largely spared but it was severely damaged on the north-western side. Nine of the great trees in the wind break were destroyed and others badly damaged, along with the garden sheds, the pool shed, box hedges and camellias. Many of the drive trees were destroyed. The manager received burns and a volunteer fire unit working down towards Uriarra Crossing feared for their lives. Heavily affected by the drought, this winter will be a further severe test for John and his staff.



## Travels with the Trust ([www.act.nationaltrust.org.au/tours.](http://www.act.nationaltrust.org.au/tours.))

Whilst the National Trust (ACT) is fortunate in that it has been able to obtain affordable Public Liability Insurance cover, it is necessary to remind applicants that most activities involve some element of risk. Bushwalking, in particular, is an inherently dangerous activity and requires a reasonable level of fitness. Whilst the National Trust (ACT) will endeavour to protect your safety, it cannot remove all the dangers. Anyone undertaking activities should be aware that they are participating at their own risk. The National Trust (ACT) must also assume that each applicant has levels of acuity, mobility and fitness appropriate to the particular activity.

### THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDENS OF FRANCE

Friday 16 May to Wednesday 11 June 2003

By the time you receive this, 9 applicants from the National Trust (ACT) will have joined another 9 applicants from around Australia on this great garden tour to France, led by Trust member, Kathie Mills.

### OPENING NIGHT WITH DAME EDNA

Tuesday 3 June 2003

This is a great opportunity to enjoy with friends the opening night (and world premiere) of Dame Edna's latest show "Back to My Roots" at the Canberra Theatre. Because the show starts at 7.30 pm and isn't supposed to end until about 10.00 pm, our package is designed to forestall the debilitating effects of gladiolitis by including a hearty one-course dinner, with foccacia and a glass of wine, at Bella Vista Restaurant, commencing at 6.20 pm. The restaurant is conveniently situated on the corner of Ainslie Avenue and City Walk, so that both it and public transport/car parks are within a few minutes walk of the theatre. As the restaurant doesn't normally open on Tuesday nights, it will be exclusively ours for the occasion. Our dinner and show package is also a pretty good deal as you will find if you wait in a queue to buy your own tickets! For those who really can't drive at night, we may even be able to arrange lifts to/from Civic if you request it when booking.

LIMIT 50. BOOK IMMEDIATELY.

### CORNER COUNTRY, BIRDSVILLE AND LAKE EYRE

Sunday 8 June to Monday 23 June 2003

With 4 ACT applicants already confirmed at the time of writing, only a few places may still remain on this Adventure Wildlife and Park Treks small coach tour to Bourke, Tibbooburra, Cameron Corner and Innamincka (Cooper Creek and the Dig Tree) before continuing on to legendary Birdsville. The return journey is via the Birdsville Track to Marree, thence Lake Eyre South, Arkaroola, Broken Hill, Mootwingee, White Cliffs and Lake Cargelligo. Although you will need to make your own way to Sydney on 7 June, the \$3120 pp twin share (\$3535 sgl) price includes all accommodation and meals plus a convenient Countrylink coach connection to Canberra on 23 June. The tour offers some easy walking, but all accommodation is in motels, outback hotels and resorts. As previously advised, the tour is not exclusive to the Trust and the Trust receives a commission on bookings (no extra cost to you).

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE ENQUIRE IMMEDIATELY. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED ON PAYMENT OF A \$25 PP BOOKING FEE TO NATIONAL TRUST (ACT) - THIS IS PART OF THE TOTAL TOUR COST - \$20 PP REFUNDABLE IF NOT PROCEEDING.

### BUNDANOON RAMBLE

Sunday 27 July 2003

Bundanoon offers a wonderful series of short track walks, both above and below the cliff line, and even down to the bed of Bundanoon Creek, with its surprisingly large pools. There are great views and some very attractive, delicate waterfalls. This self-drive activity will involve departure from home around 7.15 am and will conclude with our usual party - possibly glüwein and savouries. Although we will probably cover no more than 9-10 km in the day, reasonable fitness is required because there is a 300 m descent to the creek and lots of steps plus a few ladders.

LIMIT 40. BOOKINGS CLOSE 24 JULY.

### OUT & BACK TO THE RED CENTRE

Saturday 16 August to Wednesday 3 September 2003

This additional Adventure Wildlife & Park Treks small coach tour is also not exclusive to the Trust. It offers a different series of experiences, travelling via the Hunter Valley and Bourke to Barcaldine and Longreach (visiting the Workers Heritage Centre, the Stockman Hall of Fame and the Qantas Outback Museum and even including a paddlesteamer dinner cruise on the Thomson River). Then it proceeds to Mt Isa, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs before joining up with a local 4WD touring specialist for a 4 day exploration of the Red Centre (e.g. Ormiston and Redbank Gorges, Palm Valley, Hermannsburg Mission, Kings Canyon, Uluru and the Olgas). The return is via Coober Pedy, Marree, Wilpena, Renmark and Narrandera. Whilst offering numerous opportunities to walk, seek out wildlife and enjoy outback hospitality, etc, the tour price of \$3610 pp dbl/tw or \$4450 pp sgl includes all meals and comfortable accommodation throughout - ranging from a station at Bourke and the famous Marree Hotel to the Mercure Oasis in Alice Springs and the Kings Canyon and Wilpena Pound Resorts. Although you will need to get to Sydney at your expense on 15 August, your return to Canberra on 3 September is covered in the cost.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE ENQUIRE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED ON PAYMENT OF A \$25PP BOOKING FEE TO NATIONAL TRUST (ACT) - THIS IS PART OF THE TOTAL TOUR COST - \$20 PP REFUNDABLE IF NOT PROCEEDING.

### HUNTER HERITAGE

Friday 24 to Sunday 26 October 2003

Details have yet to be resolved but, because of the popularity of our tours to private properties in association with the Women's Committee of the National Trust (NSW), we will reserve places for this series of house inspections in the Lower Hunter on payment of a \$25 pp deposit. The tour will be by coach, probably via Bathurst and Rylstone on the forward journey, with return via the Newcastle and Hume Freeways. The houses to be visited are not yet known but are likely to be in the general vicinity of Maitland and Newcastle. An all-inclusive cost similar to the recent Rockley-Hill End tour (i.e. \$400 pp sgl, \$365 pp dbl/twin) is likely.

LIMIT 45. PLACES RESERVED ONLY ON PAYMENT OF A \$25 PP DEPOSIT (\$20 PP REFUNDABLE IF NOT PROCEEDING).





## A TCHAIKOVSKY SPECTACULAR

Thursday 30 October 2003

At the time of writing, approximately 20 places remained for this, the third and last of our one-day concert tours in 2003 to the Sydney Opera House. The price includes transport by air conditioned coach to and from Sydney, A Reserve concert seats (normally \$50 pp), morning tea and, on the way home, a one-course meal with wine at Mittagong. Departing Deakin at 7.10 am, Civic at 7.20 am and Braddon at 7.30 am, we expect to reach Sydney by 11.30 am, thus allowing patrons plenty of time to arrange their own lunch at The Rocks or The Quay before the concert commences at 1.30 pm. It is expected that we will return to Canberra by about 8.30 pm. The program is all Tchaikovsky, with Edo de Waart conducting and Regis Pasquier as solo violinist. The pieces to be played by the SSO are the *Eugene Onegin Polonaise*, the *Violin Concerto* and *Symphony No 4*.

PLACES CAN BE SECURED BY PAYMENT OF A \$30 PP DEPOSIT. THE BALANCE MUST BE PAID BY 18 SEPTEMBER.

## AUTUMN COLOURS IN JAPAN

Sunday 2 to Monday 17 November 2003

It looks as though this exclusive 16-day Trust/U3A tour, to be led by Mike Hodgkin, is now fully booked. Accommodation will be in a mixture of western style hotels and traditional ryokans. Travel is mostly by train, with some shorter journeys by bus. The itinerary includes visits to temples and shrines, hot springs, castles, gardens, small villages and places of natural beauty – all in the full glory of autumn with English-speaking local guides. Places of outstanding cultural importance such as Nikko, Kyoto and Nara will also be visited. The probable cost remains around \$A6500 pp, including all travel ex Canberra, all accommodation and most entries and meals.

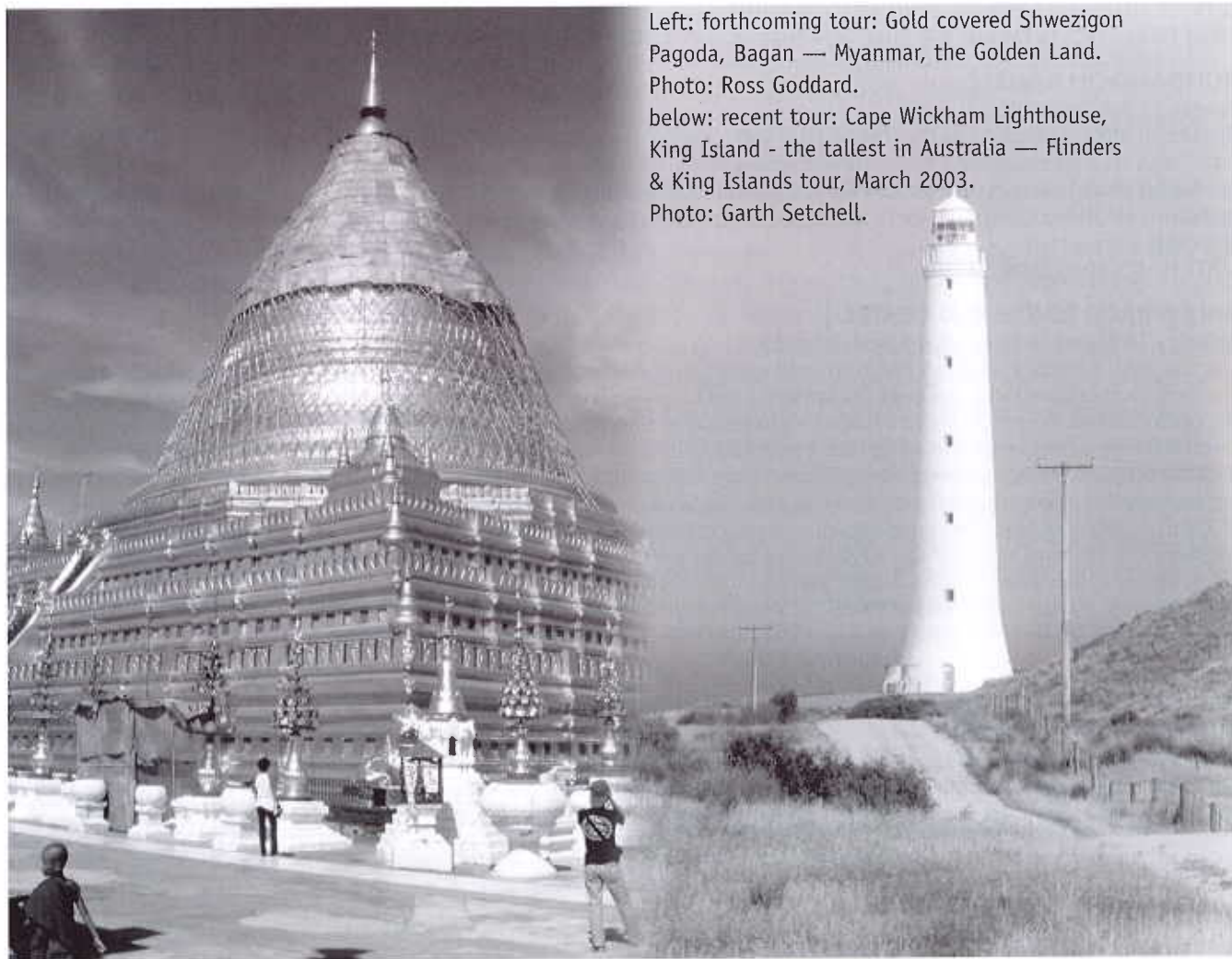
IF YOU ARE KICKING YOURSELF FOR MISSING OUT, PLEASE CHECK WITH THE TRUST OFFICE TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ANY VACANCIES EXIST.

## MYANMAR – THE GOLDEN LAND

Wednesday 19 November to Wednesday 3 December 2003

Responses to date suggest that this exciting tour to Myanmar (Burma) will attract sufficient interest to proceed. The tour will be led by Ross Goddard (of Goddard & Partners) who has already successfully run several similar tours to this emerging and now peaceful Buddhist country. For a probable cost of around \$A5500 pp dbl/twin or \$A6850 pp sgl, the tour offers an excellent balance of culture, scenery and history, with 2 days in Yangon (Rangoon), 3 days at beautiful Lake Inle and 2 at Mandalay, before 2 days cruising down the Irrawaddy in the *RV Pandaw*, with its 16 air-conditioned staterooms. There are then 2 days at fabulous Bagan (Pagan), with its 5000 stupas, pagodas and temples (11th to 13th C) before returning to Yangon. Timed to coincide with the start of the dry season, all accommodation will be en-suite and first class. Although English breakfasts each day, plus arrival and farewell dinners and all meals on the *RV Pandaw*, are included, as little as \$A400 pp should be sufficient to cover other meals, visa, travel insurance and tips, etc. An illustrated briefing session will be held in the Craft ACT Conference Room (adjacent to the National Trust office) at 2.00pm on Tuesday 27 May for those who have expressed interest.

IF INTERESTED, FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED ON PAYMENT OF A \$25 PP BOOKING FEE TO NATIONAL TRUST (ACT) – THIS IS PART OF THE TOTAL TOUR COST – \$20 PP REFUNDABLE IF NOT PROCEEDING.



Left: forthcoming tour: Gold covered Shwezigon Pagoda, Bagan — Myanmar, the Golden Land.

Photo: Ross Goddard.

below: recent tour: Cape Wickham Lighthouse, King Island - the tallest in Australia — Flinders & King Islands tour, March 2003.

Photo: Garth Setchell.



## TRAVELS WITH THE TRUST – APPLICATION FORM

Please post this form to the Ticket Secretary, National Trust of Australia (ACT), PO Box 1144, Civic Square ACT 2608, together with one long stamped, self-addressed envelope for each activity being applied for. Although requests for further details will be posted out as soon as possible, please note that activity leaflets, receipts, etc, are often only posted out a few weeks before each activity. Payment may be made by cheque, cash or credit card. Unless otherwise stated, cheques should be made payable to the National Trust (ACT). Phone bookings to the Trust Office will be noted but can only be assured if credit card and tour specific details (eg. pick-up point) are also given. This form can be downloaded from [www.act.nationaltrust.org.au/tours](http://www.act.nationaltrust.org.au/tours).

Places are reserved in order of payment. **EARLY APPLICATION ASSISTS US WITH ARRANGEMENTS.** Where booking fees are invited, places are reserved in order of receipt, provided subsequent payments are received by the date(s) advised for payment.

Whilst the Trust makes every effort to ensure the quality and safety of the walks and tours on offer, applications are accepted only on the understanding that applicants participate at their own risk. In order to ensure that applicants for the more expensive tours receive protection under the Travel Compensation Fund against default by external suppliers and agents, and acting on the advice of the ACT Registrar of Agents, payments for such tours (other than the Trust's booking fees) will need to be paid to the relevant travel agent. Details will be advised to each applicant.

Where offered, the junior (junr) rate applies to children (10 yrs +) and to full-time students, the senior (senr) rate applies to senior citizens and pensioners, and the adult (adlt) rate applies to all others. A surcharge is generally applied to all non-members (nonm) of the Trust (including U3A members) to encourage Trust membership. All quoted prices include applicable GST. Unless otherwise indicated, a minimum fee of \$5 (at cost after the "Bookings Close" date) may be retained on any cancellation refunds.

Queries may be addressed to the Trust Office (ph 02-62300533) or to our Tours Coordinator, Garth Setchell (ph/fax 02-62901100 – preferably during business hours).

SURNAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ GIVEN NAME \_\_\_\_\_ M'SHIP NO \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (eg. vegetarian, ground floor accom, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TICK WHETHER PAYING BY CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHEQUE \_\_\_\_\_ BANKCARD \_\_\_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by credit card, please complete the following:

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### OPENING NIGHT WITH DAME EDNA – Tuesday 3 June 2003

All applicants \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$90 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need assistance with transport: to \_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_ from Civic? Please tick.

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_

SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### CORNER COUNTRY, BIRDSVILLE AND LAKE EYRE - Sunday 8 to Monday 23 June 2003

Expression of interest \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$25 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you seek dbl \_\_\_\_\_ tw \_\_\_\_\_ or sgl \_\_\_\_\_ accom? Please tick.

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_

SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### BUNDANOON RAMBLE - Sunday 27 July 2003

All National Trust ordinary members \_\_\_\_\_ adlt @ \$18 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

All National Trust senior members \_\_\_\_\_ senr @ \$17 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-member or U3A surcharge ADD TO ADULT OR SENIOR RATE ABOVE \_\_\_\_\_ nonm @ \$1 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

All persons qualifying for junior rate \_\_\_\_\_ junr @ \$10 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Transport offered/requested? Please state numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_

SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### OUT AND BACK TO THE RED CENTRE - Saturday 16 August to Wednesday 3 September 2003

Expression of interest \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$25 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you seek dbl \_\_\_\_\_ tw \_\_\_\_\_ or sgl \_\_\_\_\_ accom? Please tick.

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_

SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_





## HUNTER HERITAGE – Friday 24 to Sunday 26 October 2003

Expression of interest \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$25 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you seek dbl ☐ tw ☐ or sgl ☐ accom? Please tick.

Coach pick-up point. Please tick: Deakin ☐ Civic ☐ Braddon ☐

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_ SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## A TCHAIKOVSKY SPECTACULAR – Thursday 30 October 2003

NB. This is for new applicants only.

All applicants – deposit only (balance of \$65pp due by 18 Sep 03) \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Coach pick-up point? Please tick: Deakin ☐ Civic ☐ Braddon ☐

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_ SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MYANMAR – THE GOLDEN LAND – Wednesday 19 November to Wednesday 3 December 2003

Expression of interest \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$25 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if attending briefing on 27 May? ☐ persons.

Names of others covered by this application: \_\_\_\_\_ SUB-TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

right: Euarra near O'Connell – one of the private homes inspected  
— *Rockley & Hill End, March 2003.*

below: Group at Hawkins Hill, Hill End – where the Holtermann-Beyer nugget was found — *Rockley & Hill End, March 2003.*

Photos: Garth Setchell.







# Trust News

## National Trust Committee Meetings

Council: 5.30 p.m. Thursday May 29; 19 June; 31 July;  
14 August

Education & Cultural Committee: To be advised

Heritage Committee: 12.30 p.m. Tuesday May 13; 10 June;  
8 July; 12 August

Lanyon Committee: 12.15 p.m. May 20; 17 June; 15 July;  
19 August

Membership Committee: 5.30 p.m. 29 May; then usually 4th  
Thursday each month at Old Parliament House Shop

Publications Committee: To be advised

## Coming Events

### Old Parliament House

Old Parliament House offers an exciting and informative range of exhibitions and events, including exhibitions of the Public Service and the Prime Minister's suite — only newly opened to the public — and special night sittings. For further information visit [www.oph.gov.au](http://www.oph.gov.au)

*Playing Politics: the cartoons of Pickering & Pryor:* until

31 August. An insightful, irreverent and hysterically funny political commentary by two of Australia's most successful political cartoonists, Geoff Pryor and Larry Pickering.

*In the picture — an exhibition of personal images at the House:*

Discovery Gallery, until Sunday 1 June. Celebrating 75 years of memories, this exhibition is an unofficial history of Old Parliament House.

*The Other Side Of The Ditch:* Strangers Gallery, until Sunday 29 June. See a selection of cartoons that take a humorous look at the political, economic, cultural and sporting relationship between Australia and New Zealand. Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand.

*Old Parliament House Open Day:* Sunday 11 May. Join our celebrations of our 76th birthday with entertainment by local bands, drama performances, talks and tours of the House and gardens. Free entry.

*World Heritage Forum Night Sitting:* Monday 26 May, 7.00–9.00 p.m. A discussion of world heritage will be held with several key speakers to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the passage of the federal legislation which saved the Franklin River. Bookings essential: phone 1800 202 222. \$5 adults, \$4 concession.

*Present your best features:* Saturday 7 June, 2.00–4.00 p.m. During the June long weekend, join local artist Bob Jankowski for an insight into the art of caricature with a live demonstration. This will coincide with cartooning exhibitions, *The Other Side of the Ditch* and *Playing Politics: the cartoons of Pickering and Pryor*. *Bookings essential:* phone 02 6270 8282.

*Wandering Minstrels:* Monday 9 June, 12.00–3.00 p.m. Enjoy the sounds of wandering minstrels in the House during the Queen's birthday.

*Members Only — The Lobbies of Old Parliament House:*

Strangers were not welcome in the lobbies when this building housed Parliament. Now you may wander freely down these wide corridors of power — but what happened here? Find out and relive some great historic moments.

## Old Parliament House Shop — 15% discount for all ACT National Trust members!

### Historic Places ACT

The National Trust assists with the management of Historic Places in the ACT by providing guides to the three houses. The properties illustrate a history of the ACT from before Canberra to the development of Canberra as a city in these three very different but complementary places.

Free entry to all historic places for grandmothers and mothers on Mother's Day, Sunday 11 May.

### Lanyon

Dating from the early 1800s, Lanyon is one of Australia's most historic grazing properties and is still a working property. The setting is superb and the property includes a diverse range of outbuildings dating from convict times, aboriginal scar trees and cultural landscapes, European flower gardens, and orchard and shade trees, as well as the 1850s homestead. Lanyon survived the bushfires intact although signs of fires on the property are visible.

### Exhibitions

*The Convict Years* — Permanent exhibition. No charge. This rare exhibition shows us what life was like for convicts who lived and worked while at Lanyon.

*Within Living Memory* — Permanent exhibition. No charge. Based on an oral history project focussing on the lives and memories of people who lived at Lanyon during the 20th century.

**Events** — for bookings ring 02 6237 5136.

*Workers cottages in the 19th & 20th century:* Sunday 11 May 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Enjoy a rare opportunity to visit the 19th century stone cottage and the early 20th century workers' cottages normally not open to the public, and observe the changes in housing standards for agricultural workers during the last century. Cost \$7 adult, \$15 family, includes entry to Lanyon Homestead.

*Bolters and Bushrangers:* Friday 23 May 6–8 p.m. A repeat of the exciting event held in previous school holidays — only for the very brave. Watch out for convict bolters and bushrangers while listening to yarns about Lanyon's past around the campfire. Cost \$10 pp, or \$30 family including tea, damper & snags.

*Daily life of Convicts on Assignment:* Sunday 25 May 1.30–4 p.m. Enjoy an illustrated talk by the curator of the exhibition *Lanyon: The Convict Years*, Kylie Winkworth. Kylie will be joined by Emeritus Professor Ken Taylor, President of the National Trust, who will talk on the cultural landscape during the earliest period of ownership by James Wright. Cost \$10 pp, including afternoon tea.





*Garden Tours:* Guided tours of the Lanyon flower garden are conducted most weekends.

**Special Event:** *Antiques in Australia series.* A three part course comprising lectures on identifying styles, timbers and construction; a workshop on looking after antique furniture and a coach trip to Old Government House, Experiment Farm and Hambledon cottage, Parramatta, to see Australia's most extensive collection of colonial furniture. Cost \$75 for the series (individual costs for each event if not attending the series). Bookings essential.

**While at Lanyon, enjoy coffee, a light meal or dinner at the Italian café in the courtyard.**

### The Nolan Gallery

The Nolan paintings are now back on display after their evacuation during the fires. Normal admission applies for all exhibitions and events. Ring 6237 5192 for information and bookings for the extensive program of community events including one-day and weekend courses for artists and school holiday activities. Additional costs may apply.

#### Exhibitions

*Foundation Collection:* the 24 paintings from Sir Sidney Nolan's early career which were donated to the people of Australia have become the foundation collection at the gallery and are normally on display.  
Selected Works from the Nolan collection: until 5 October.

### Calthorpes' House

Built in 1927 and unchanged since then. Collection includes photographs of early Canberra, memorabilia, books, souvenirs and clothing worn by the family. Open weekend afternoons and for guided tours Tuesday to Thursday. Relive the past via the thought provoking community program of events, including school holiday programs. Normal admission applies and no bookings necessary for exhibitions. Additional costs may apply for events. Bookings and further information 6295 1945

Highlights of the calendar include the following:

*Everything stops for tea:* Sunday 11 May 1.30–4.30 p.m.  
A special mother's day celebration. Share memories of bygone days. Free for mothers and grandmothers, normal admission for others.

*Change on Mugga Way:* Saturday 24 May 2 p.m.

An informative and interesting walk along Mugga Way between Flinders Way and Melbourne Avenue to look at the present housing and streetscape. On return to Calthorpes' House, compare this with the display on early homes on Mugga Way and the Canberrans who lived here during the late 1920s and 1930s.

### Mugga Mugga

Mugga Mugga stands as a testament to the lives of the families who worked on one of the district's great pastoral estates. Its centrepiece is the simple cottage built for the head shepherd. Mugga Mugga is open 1.30–4.30 p.m. every

Saturday and Sunday and for special events, including an extensive school holiday program. Bookings and further information 6239 5607.

*Getting it together:* Permanent exhibition. This exhibition explores the impact of Federation on the Canberra district and includes early photographs, memorabilia and fascinating statistics. Normal admission.

Highlights of the calendar include:

*Mothers Day special:* Sunday 11 May. A trip down memory lane, exploring rural workers' lifestyles. Free for mothers and grandmothers, normal admission applies to others.

*Around the campfire at night:* Saturday 14 June, 5.30–7.30 p.m. A family event. Enjoy a campfire on a crisp winter's night. Cost \$10 pp or \$30 family, including snags, damper and tea.

### Canberra Museum & Art Gallery

Free entry to all exhibits.

Open 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Fridays, and 12–5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and most public holidays. As well as the permanent exhibition, CMAG hosts a variety of temporary exhibitions on social history and visual arts and conducts a wide range of community and school holiday programs. Ring 6207 3969 for details. Costs apply to some events.

*Reflecting Canberra:* Permanent exhibition. Art and social history objects from CMAG's permanent collection.

*When Radio ruled the waves:* 7 March–1 June. An exhibition from private collections by the *Cabinets of Curiosities* to delight the enthusiast or novice alike.

*David Jenz Sculpture:* Until 22 June. An exhibition of his highly innovative sculpture by this renowned local artist.

*Textiles by Beth Hatton:* 3 May–27 July. Thought provoking and beautiful textile artistry revealing concern for endangered species and using both traditional methods and innovative materials.

*Soldier, sister, Souvenir:* 24 May–27 July. During World War II a Canberra resident serving in Palestine sent a souvenir cushion cover to his sister. This display provides a local perspective on an international event.

**10% discount for ACT National Trust members at the Café in the Square, CMAG foyer.**

When next visiting the National Trust Office on Level 1, North Building, take a look at the changing exhibitions at CRAFT ACT on the same level.

**Thank you** to the following who helped with the mail-out of the Autumn edition of *Heritage in Trust*:

Co-ordinator — Shirley Ann Ollier

Robert Abell  
Rita Bishop  
Neville Halgren  
Wilma James  
Margaret Saville

Sue Brown  
Bruce Edwards  
Margot Girle  
Margaret Roach  
Gabrielle Watt





Margaret West

Special thanks to Audrey Sear who pre-stamped the envelopes for posting. Number wrapped and posted 1228.

## New Members

Mr Andrew Ball  
Ms Linda Beasley  
Ms S Meischke & Ms Emily Begbie  
Mr Paul & Mrs Margaret Bellchambers  
Mr Philip & Mrs Teresa Bewley  
Mr David C. Bradley  
Mr Gary & Mrs Elaine Bullus  
Mr Robin & Anne Candy  
Mrs Doreen Collett  
Mrs Elizabeth A Cook  
Ms Kathleen O'Shea & Ms Susan Cooke  
Mr B & Mrs D Coote  
Mrs Helen & Mr Kevin Curtis  
Ms Barbara Daly  
Mr Nigel & Mrs Nicola Dears  
Mrs Jan Druce  
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Prof Phillip & Mrs Kelli Hughes  
Mrs Jenny & Mr Ron Jelleff  
Mr Peter B Johnstone  
Mr Robert & Mrs Joan Joshua  
Ms Avril Kent  
Ms Joanna & Mr Robert Korecki/Maclean  
Mrs Michaela Laurie  
Ms Jeanette Livingstone  
Ms Joan Lyons  
Mrs Helen & Mr Charles Maskell-Knight  
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Mr Peter & Mrs Helen Reeves  
Mr Karl & Mrs Meg Richardson  
Mr Errol & Mrs Aida Stevens  
Ms Caroline Shuker & Mrs Kathleen Thorne  
Mrs Geraldine Triffitt  
Mrs Joan Westaway  
Mrs Marjorie McKewen and Mrs Marion White  
Mr Warren & Mrs Catherine Williams

## SHOP NEWS

Our thoughts are with all those volunteers, members, family and friends who were affected by the fires in January. We would like to thank our suppliers and businesses listed below for their generosity in donating stock and vouchers for the auction and table prizes for the trivia night and the raffle prizes:

AdrianCox  
A Royale  
Australian Fine China  
Buckingham Pewter  
Café in the House  
Coinwatch Australia  
Dynamo House  
Linen Press  
Murrays Australia  
Pennies From Heaven  
Pettis Studio Stationery  
Telopea Motor Inn at the Park  
Union Offset Printers  
Vanessa Australia

The Old Parliament House Shop usually has an ad on the back page, but this issue we have given up that space to bring you some photos of National Trust heritage listed sites that were damaged in January. The fires have had a large effect on the community including the tourism industry. As a result the shop figures have been down, but they are now improving. With the advertising campaign on regional and NSW television, everyone is hoping that people will not think that all of Canberra has burnt to the ground.

## What's new

We have a new range of stationery depicting Australia Flora. It is by well known Western Australian artist Meryl Bell, whose paintings are in the style of the 17th century Dutch tradition and hang in collections throughout Australia, Europe and North America. Reasonably priced and very well presented.

The shop will be closed on the Monday morning, 30th June for our annual stocktake. It is hard to believe that another year has passed by.

It has been nearly five years since I started with the National Trust and the shop, and during that time I have made a lot of new friends. Our contract ends this December but we are in negotiations with Old Parliament House at present for an extension.

**Dianne Dowling**

**All members receive 15% discount on all merchandise in the shop. Drop in a shop with us.**





*Heritage in Trust*  
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PO Box 1144  
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Paul Wallace

EDITORIAL GROUP  
Colin Griffiths, Maree Treadwell,  
Peter Dowling

PRINTING  
Union Offset, Canberra

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10 January, 10 April, 10 July, 10 September

ADVERTISING  
Enquiries should be directed to the National  
Trust Office on (02) 62300533.  
Discounts on advertising rates apply to non-profit  
community groups and Corporate Members  
of the Trust (ACT).

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Telopea Inn on the Park

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This magazine is published with financial  
assistance from the ACT Heritage Council and  
Environment Australia.

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## Join the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

The National Trust is a non-profit, community based organisation that aims to preserve Australia's heritage for future generations. Membership of the National Trust offers a number of benefits, among them are:

- free entry to National Trust properties around the world
- discounts at National Trust shops
- an opportunity to participate in travel organised by the Trust
- access to the National Trust's special events and activities
- an opportunity to help the Trust protect your local natural and cultural heritage.

### Membership Application

Full Name: .....

Address: .....

..... postcode .....

Telephone ..... (H) ..... (W)

please tick relevant category

Joining Fee (not applicable to full-time students or pensioners) \$33.00

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single                       | \$50.00          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single, seniors card         | \$44.00          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single, pensioner/student    | \$33.00          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household                    | \$72.00          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household, seniors card      | \$60.00          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household, pensioner/student | \$50.00          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliated organisations     | nil or equal fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate                    | \$250.00         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community organisations      | \$72.00          |

Life memberships also available at 12 times the relevant annual rate

Remittance enclosed: \$ ..... ☐ cash ☐ cheque

☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Diners

Credit card number .....

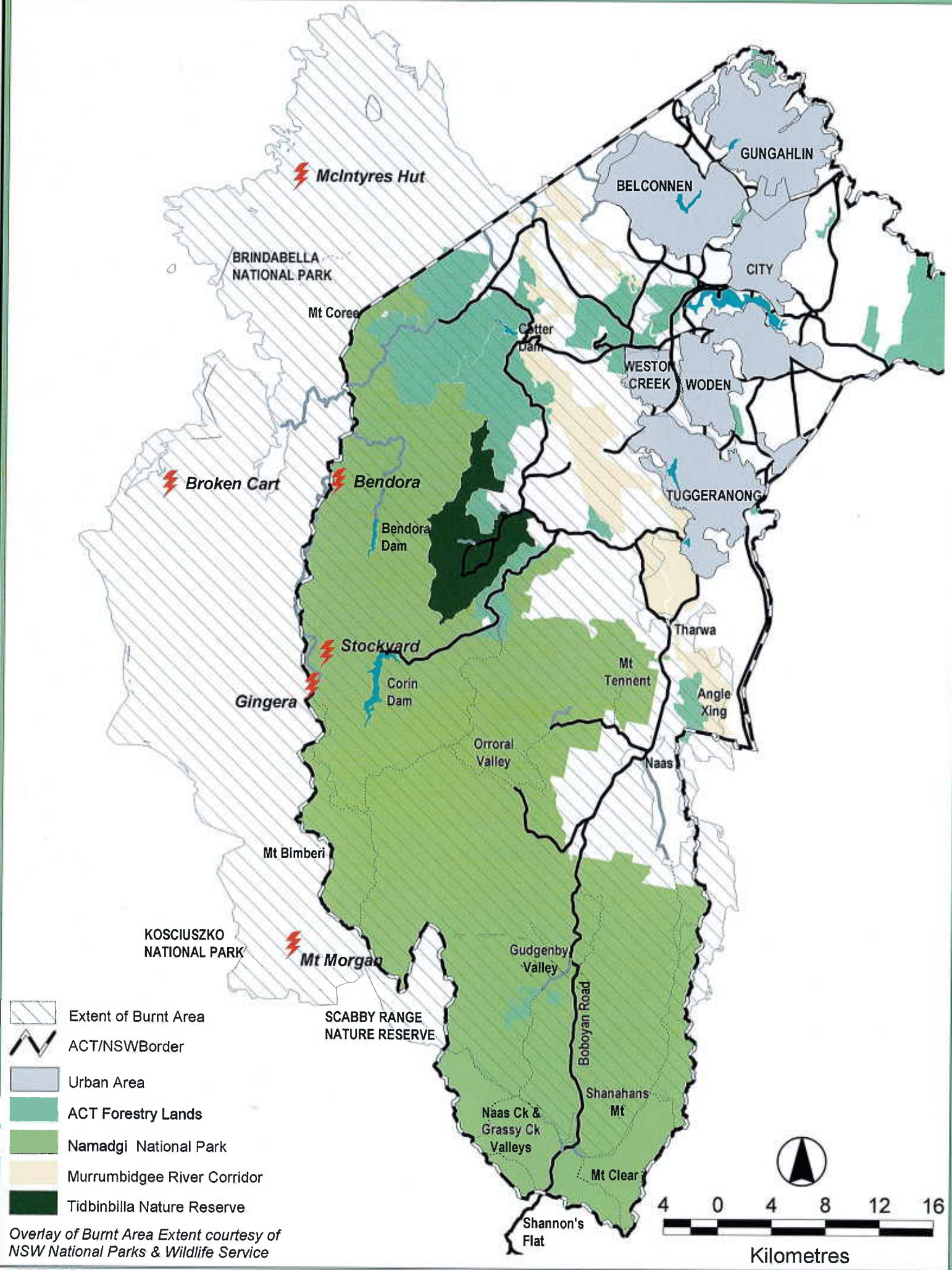
..... expiry date .....

signature .....

please post this form with payment to:  
National Trust of Australia (ACT), PO Box 1144 CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

or pay in person at the Old Parliament House Shop





Overlay of Burnt Area Extent courtesy of NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



**Contact Details**  
 Environment ACT  
 Macarthur House  
 12 Macarthur Street  
 Lynton, ACT 2603  
 PO Box 144  
 Lynton, ACT 2603  
 Telephone: (02) 6207 9777

# **EXTENT OF YARROWLUMLA COMPLEX FIRE JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2003**

**environment ACT**  
PART OF THE ACT GOVERNMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF URBAN SERVICES  
 Data Copyright:  
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The ruins of Mt Stromlo Observatory,  
above: the Sun Telescope  
below: the 74 inch telescope and dome  
background: burnt surrounds of the  
Reynolds Telescope.  
Photos: Dianne Dowling

