



# Heritage in Trust

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Cover photo: Ightham Mote, Kent, UK. Joan Vandewerdt

Clockwise from above: Horse Park, a rural landscape in danger, photo Carol Cosgrove. See Mike Pearson's article on page 9.

Environment ACT staff members Debbie Argue and Adrian Brown inspecting containment lines in Namadgi National Park

Environment ACT staff members Daniel Williams and Keith Smith inspect the destroyed infrastructure at Birrigai Rockshelter (Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve)

Aboriginal stone arrangements in Namadgi National Park. Luckily these arrangements were not damaged by the fires. Photos: ACT Heritage Unit.

See page 4 for an update on the effects of the January fire on the Aboriginal heritage of the ACT.



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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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# 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 62734744 during business hours.

## Archaeology and History Tour

This tour will be an archaeological and historical excursion into the ACT's Aboriginal and European past. It will be led by archaeologist, Dr Peter Dowling. The bus departs Woden at 10.30 am and heads to Namadgi National Park. Then there will be a pleasant walk to the Yankee Hat Aboriginal rock art site for lunch. A highlight of the tour will be looking at the surprising degree of regeneration since the fires in January.

The tour will return via Cuppacumbalong where we will take afternoon tea and examine the archaeological remains of the first two European homesteads, before returning to Woden about 4.30 pm.

Bring along water, a sandwich and a drink for lunch at the rock, and good walking shoes. Afternoon tea at Cuppacumbalong will be provided.

**Date:**..... Sunday 2nd November

**Time:**..... 10.30 am

**Place:**..... Bay 18, Woden Interchange

**Cost:** ..... \$25 per person (includes afternoon tea)

**Bookings:** . Phone the office on 6230 0533, or the Shop on 6273 4744 with credit card handy.

**Bring along water, good walking shoes, and slip slop slap.**

## Snowgums, Huts and Fire in the Australian Alps

In conjunction with the National Trust (ACT) and the Kosciuszko Huts Association, Klaus Hueneke, local writer, photographer, bushwalker, ski tourer and publisher, has finally agreed to get up in front of an audience. He will give an old fashioned slide show (stunning, single 6 x 6 cm non-digital slides), to raise funds for the National Trust and the Kosciuszko Huts Association. Klaus has written several books on the high country, and his new book *Huts in the Victorian Alps*, will be on sale (as well as other of his publications, framed prints and Huts calendar).

**Date:**..... Wednesday November 12th

**Time:**..... 7.15 pm for 7.45 pm

**Cost:** ..... \$15 per person (includes supper)

**Place:**..... St John's Church Hall, Reid

**Bookings:** . Phone the office on 6230 0533, or the Shop on 6273 4744 with credit card handy.

This will be a joint fund raising activity for the National Trust and the Kosciuszko Huts Association.

## Christmas Cocktails

A change of venue this year. Because of the effects of the January bush fires at Huntly, we approached Ian Stephenson, from Historic Places (ACT), to see if Calthorpes' House would be available. With a little juggling of dates we have a booking. As

a bonus they offered us the use of a marquee that they will be using for a previous function, so rain, hail or shine the function will go ahead. Another bonus, Ellen Gibbon, a Calthorpes' guide, has volunteered her time to organize tours of the house.

**Date:**..... Saturday November 29th

**Time:**..... 5.30 pm

**Cost:** ..... \$20.00 per person

**Place:**..... Calthorpes' House, Mugga Way, Red Hill

**Parking:** .... Drop off only in front of the house, but there is a reserve area off Mugga Way at the continuation of Flinders Way.

**Bookings:** . Phone the office on 6230 0533, or the Shop on 6273 4744 with credit card handy.

## Volunteer's Luncheon

We repeatedly say: "the National Trust would not be able to operate without the faithful and dedicated band of volunteers". If we tallied up all the hours given by volunteers, and had to pay wages, the Trust would not be able to operate. As a thank you, the Membership Committee, Staff at the Office and Shop would like to invite all the volunteers to luncheon at the Education Centre at Mugga Mugga.

**Date:**..... Thursday December 11th

**Time:**..... 12 noon for 12.30 lunch

**Place:**..... Mugga Mugga Educational Centre, Narrabundah Lane Symonston

Could all volunteers please contact the Office on 6230 0533 or the Shop on 6273 4744 to make your reservation.

## Ten Years Certificate Of Service

Could all members who have volunteered their time for a continuous period of 10 years or more, and have not received their 10 year volunteer badge, please contact Dianne Dowling at the Old Parliament House Shop on 6273 4744.

## Volunteer Of The Year

Nominations for the volunteer of the year have now closed. Thank you to everyone who sent in his or her nominations. It is time to start thinking of whom you would like to nominate next year.

The **Shop** at Old Parliament House will be ten years old in January next year and we would like your help. If any member knows of any volunteers who have worked in the shop, could they please contact Dianne Dowling on 6273 4744. We are planing to have a little celebration.

The **Membership Committee** would like to wish all volunteers and members of the National Trust and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Committee Members

Dianne Dowling (chair), Viggo Pederson (Secretary), Rosina Akhurst, Pam Behnke, Rita Bishop, Margaret Howard, Anna Moreing, Garth Setchell and Maree Treadwell.



# The road to recovery



Helicopter used for remote area surveys for Aboriginal sites in Namadgi National Park. Photo: ACT Heritage Unit.

by Lynley Wallis, Heritage Unit, Environment ACT

This article is an update to the article that appeared in *Heritage in Trust* Summer 2003 and provides a review of the impact of the fires on Aboriginal heritage places. It summarises the wealth of data amassed through various surveys, and highlights work that remains to be done. While this article focuses only on work related to Aboriginal heritage places, much progress is also being made on fire-affected heritage places in the ACT. It is hoped that a future issue of *Heritage in Trust* will describe the road to recovery for these sites.

## Aboriginal rock art sites in Namadgi National Park

There is but a handful of Aboriginal rock art sites known throughout the Australian Alps, and the ACT is extremely fortunate in having three of these: Yankee Hat, Nursery Swamp 2 and Rendezvous Creek. As reported previously, the popular Rendezvous Creek art site was substantially affected by the fires; the wooden viewing platform was destroyed and there was substantial exfoliation (spalling) of the granite surfaces. Extreme winter conditions have caused further exfoliation within the shelter, due to water freezing and thawing in microscopic cracks. Further, the painted motifs are quite difficult to distinguish owing to a build up of dust and other microscopic debris on their surface, some of which appears to be a result of the fires.

Vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the Nursery Swamp 2 art site was totally destroyed, although the shelter itself and associated art were not directly affected. However, following the 1983 bushfire in this area, a severe growth of dust-lichen occurred, which resulted in the motifs becoming almost invisible, as they were covered by a green 'fuzz'. The problem eventually became so bad that, in 1986 and 1987, park management took steps to remove the lichen by dry brushing. Given that the present circumstances mimic those following the 1983 fires (i.e. loss of surrounding vegetation and increased exposure of the art to light) there is a strong possibility that dust lichen will again recolonise the shelter.

The Yankee Hat site was backburned before the main fire

front reached it, which prevented damage to the site and associated infrastructure. Nevertheless, park management are considering options for replacing the wooden platform with a less combustible structure to ensure the site is protected during future fire events.

In May 2003 the Minister for Arts and Heritage, Bill Wood MLA and Dr Alan Watchman of the Australian National University visited the Rendezvous Creek art site with representatives from the Heritage Unit and Parks and Conservation Service (Environment ACT). After inspecting the damage caused by the fires, Mr Wood secured funding from the ACT Government to assess the impact of fire on these cultural heritage sites. The assessment is being undertaken by Dr Alan Watchman and Mr Bruce Ford. Their report, to be provided later in 2003, will greatly assist park management and the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board to make decisions about the future conservation and management of these sites.

In addition to the assessment, the Heritage Unit is funding a re-recording program of the art at Rendezvous Creek and Nursery Swamp 2. As a precautionary action while the assessments are being undertaken, a temporary fence has been erected around the Rendezvous Creek site. This will protect visitors from falling stones, protect the art from damage caused by visitors, as well as protecting environmental monitoring equipment that has been put in place at the sites while they are assessed.

## Aboriginal rockshelter sites in Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve

There are a number of rockshelter sites showing evidence of Aboriginal occupation in Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, although only one of these, Wallaby Rocks, contains painted motifs. The best known of these sites is probably Birrigai Rockshelter, which was excavated by archaeologist Dr Josephine Flood in the early 1980s. Charcoal from near the basal level of the site was dated using the radiocarbon method and revealed Aboriginal use of the site dated to at least to 21,000 BP. This is an extremely important find, made even more so by the realisation that the time when the shelter was first used was during the last glacial maximum, when temperatures in southeastern Australian were approximately 10 degrees colder than today. As reported previously, the infrastructure at the Birrigai site was destroyed in the fires and the granite shelter suffered severe exfoliation. The lost infrastructure will be replaced and the site reopened as soon as possible.

The popularly visited Hanging Rock shelter in Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve was also affected by exfoliation, and the infrastructure destroyed. Trees adjacent to this site are extremely dangerous and steps are being taken to remove them for visitor safety. Like Birrigai, infrastructure will be replaced and the site re-opened as soon as possible.





## Surveys in ACT Forest areas

Over the past few months, the Heritage Unit and ACT Forests have funded a cultural heritage survey of Aboriginal sites in selected (burnt) parts of forestry areas in the ACT. Post-fire, the ground visibility conditions are excellent, although there has been some erosion. The results from the new surveys have far surpassed anything expected. As an example, one area originally surveyed contained approximately 40 artefact scatters; half of these were isolated artefacts and all but one of the remainder were low density scatters of fewer than 10 artefacts. The recent resurveys have revealed a similar number of sites with at least 10 of them now containing in excess of 100 exposed artefacts. The majority of the remaining sites are of much higher density than originally recorded. These findings substantially alter our understanding of Aboriginal occupation in the ACT, and will have important implications for future land-use and planning studies.

## Surveys in remote parts of Namadgi National Park

During May 2003 the Heritage Unit teamed up with the Wildlife Research and Monitoring Unit (WRM) to survey remote parts of Namadgi National Park. WRM concentrated on flora and fauna surveys to assess the intensity of burning and how particular plants and animals were recovering post-fire. Heritage Unit teams, assisted by Ngannawal representatives of the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board and Parks and Conservation Service rangers, assessed the fire impact on Aboriginal sites, as well as taking advantage of the unique opportunity to inspect areas for previously unrecorded sites. Access to the sites was by helicopter and, unfortunately, on one day the weather was so bad that only one survey team could be dropped off. They were recovered within hours, for fear that they would have to spend the night sharing their (one!) emergency sleeping bag and rations.

More than 30 new sites were found by these surveys, and there was no evidence of fire-damage to the stone arrangements on some of the peaks. While the Heritage Unit is still awaiting the final results, it is anticipated that they will significantly expand our knowledge of Aboriginal use of the Australian high country. It will be particularly interesting to compare the ACT results with those from surveys being undertaken in other parts of the Alps. Even at this early stage, results suggest that the pattern of sites in the Alps is more complex than previously thought and that further research in these areas is warranted.

## Community-based Aboriginal heritage project: Archaeological training and surveys

Last year, Minister Bill Wood allocated \$15,000 from the 2002–03 ACT Heritage Grants Program for community-based Aboriginal heritage projects. This funding will be used to develop and implement a training program to provide Ngannawal community members with an overview of archaeology and heritage in the ACT. The program will encompass a range of theoretical and practical components designed to introduce

participants to basic techniques of archaeological survey and recording.

All participants who complete the course will have an opportunity to practise their new skills during archaeological surveys in Namadgi National Park and Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve. If there is sufficient interest from other local community members, this training program could be run again. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Heritage Unit (details at the end of this article).

## Containment line surveys

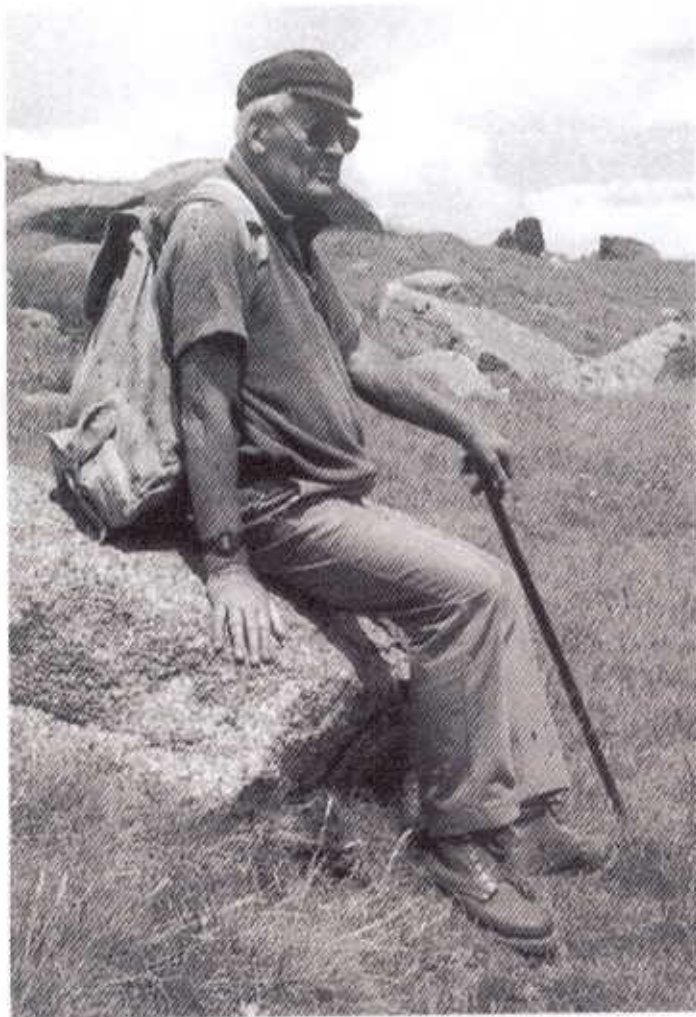
After a constant trickle of phone calls advising of previously unreported containment lines, or fire trails that were 'touched up' during the bushfire crisis, the Heritage Unit is relieved to report that all such areas have now been surveyed for Aboriginal sites. This has required a great effort from heritage consultants, representatives of the Ngannawal community, and volunteers from the Canberra Archaeological Society and the Australian National University, and our thanks are proffered to all involved. In summary, a few hundred kilometres of lines were comprehensively surveyed and approximately 300 new Aboriginal artefact scatter sites were recorded. The patterns that are emerging as the data are collated will enable valuable predictive modelling of site distributions and patterns in the landscape to be undertaken in the future.

Some of the more interesting finds during the containment line surveys included numerous examples of edge-ground axes. These artefacts are not often found in the archaeological record, since they are easily recognised by non-experts and put in the pocket to later grace the mantelpiece! Since it is an offence under the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991<sup>1</sup> to disturb any unregistered Aboriginal sites, removing artefacts from their situational context decreases their significance, and local Ngannawal community members prefer all sites to be left undisturbed, all artefacts found during the surveys were recorded and left *in situ*. Should anyone come across what they think might be Aboriginal stone artefacts, the most appropriate way of dealing with them is to note the location and contact the Heritage Unit to arrange for an archaeologist to go out and assess the find.

### Contact details

Heritage Unit, Environment ACT  
PO Box 144, Lyneham ACT 2602  
Telephone 02.6207 7946  
Facsimile 02.6207 2200

<sup>1</sup> The *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991* is the piece of legislation that governs the protection of all heritage places in the ACT; you can download a hardcopy of this and any other piece of ACT legislation from the website <http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/>.



# No task beyond the life and work of Tom Lawrence

by Margaret Park

to Yass and we wanted to take them out to see a bit of countryside and they wanted a half day trip, we went to Goodhope... if they wanted a longer full-day journey, we either went and saw Burrinjuck Dam, an impressive dam which at that stage was finishing being built... or we came up to Canberra. At that time it was a dirt track with deep ruts in it after the winter. We came over for the day, had a look at Canberra, visited the Cotter and had lunch there and drove around... (Wrigley and Kenny 2003).

His engineering career spanned nearly 50 years from his early years as an engineering student at Sydney University from 1933 to 1937, to his retirement in 1980. Tom's father was the youngest of thirteen children. He migrated to Australia from Scotland in 1908, arriving only with a box of carpenter's tools and £10. From early work in Crookwell, then Yass, Tom's father succeeded in establishing a prosperous carpentry and building business in the district. Initially intending to pursue a farming career, Tom was encouraged by his father to pursue an academic education.

This changed his life, as he went to live with his grandparents in Bondi and attended Sydney Boys High for his Leaving Certificate. Always interested in mathematics and physics, Tom embarked upon an engineering course at Sydney University. Due to a number of influences at the University, in particular, Tommy Leach, who encouraged Tom to experiment with aerodynamics, Tom's thesis was on wind tunnels and aeronautical engineering. This aspect of engineering dominated his professional career. During a Christmas holiday break from December 1933 to February 1934, Tom undertook an Air Force training course for civilians; he received his wings and was commissioned as a pilot officer.

Returning to his civil engineering degree, and as part of his work experience requirements, he worked for six months with the NSW Department of Main Roads on Main Road 145 at Guyra. As the Assistant Engineer, Tom not only gained invaluable experience in dealing with tradesmen, but also learned to understand the importance of achieving objectives, professional traits he carried with him throughout his career.

He describes the depot at Main Road 145:

We had a depot camp. There was an engineer and an assistant engineer and a timekeeper, a storeman and a blacksmith... the assistant engineer left when I arrived and I became the assistant engineer... there were a number of trade unionists in each of the gangs and we were operating about four gangs... they didn't like a young undergraduate coming along and taking the

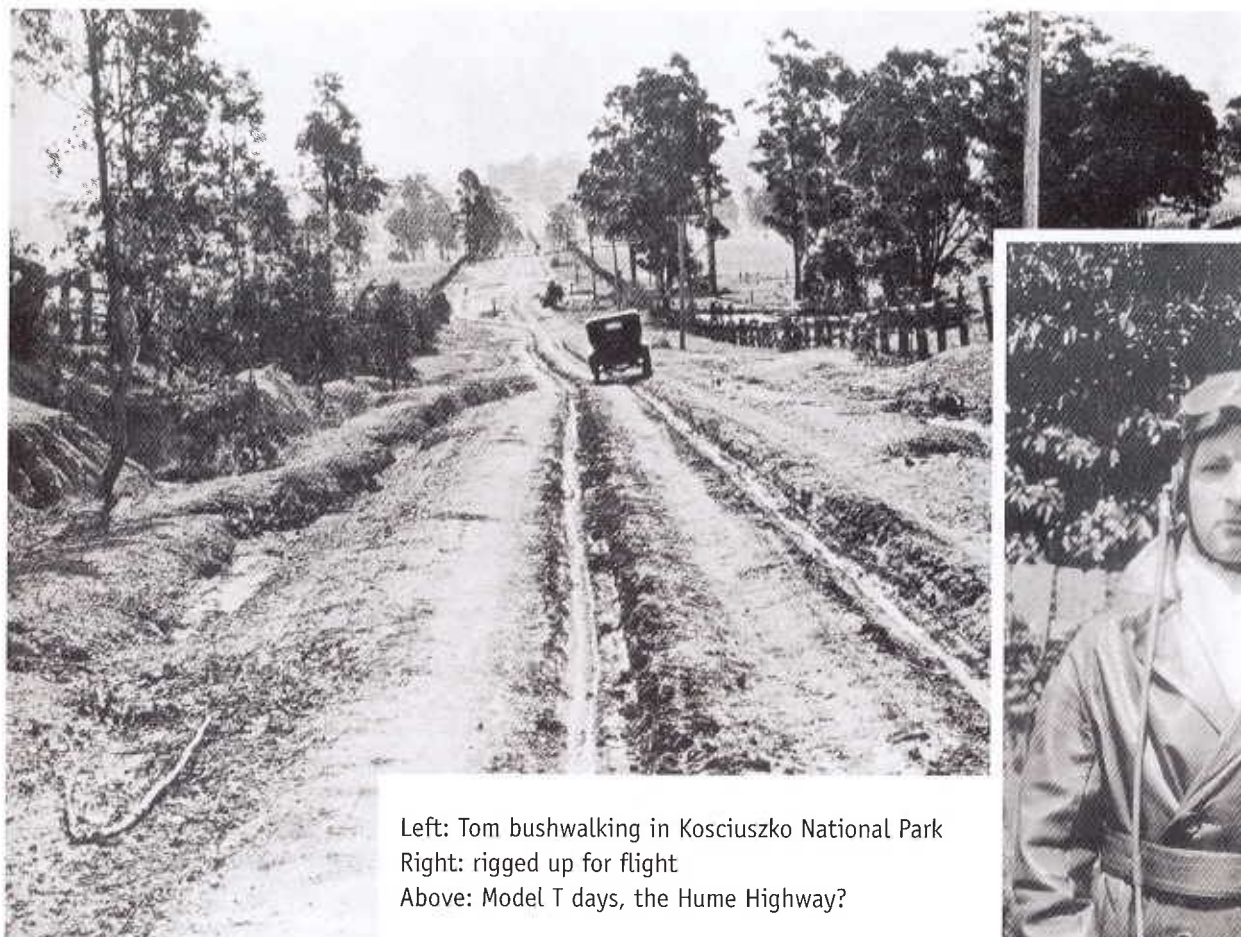
**T**om Lawrence, a notable engineer and long-term member of the Canberra and District Historical Society, passed away in April 2003. Two months before his death, two members of the Canberra panel of Engineering Heritage Australia, Lloyd Wrigley and Byrne Kenny recorded an interview with Tom to capture his memories. I was contracted by the panel to finish the work begun by them by producing a log summary of the interview and biographical notes.

Upon becoming a member of the ACT National Trust and as a historian new to Canberra I was asked to submit an article to *Heritage in Trust*. My thoughts went to this man's life, his contributions to engineering and his involvement with the local history of Canberra and environs. The interview was nearly four hours long and, as much as these interviews can, it documents not only a life, but also presents a view of Australia's engineering heritage and the social history of a place, the people and organisations who make it special. The source of the following is my biographical notes that were produced from the interview, as well as additional research on his local historical contributions to the Canberra and District Historical Society.

Thomas (Tom) Fulton Coleman Lawrence was born in Yass in 1915. He grew up at a time when the idea of Canberra and the federal capital territory was in its infancy. Tom talks about his memories of Canberra:

We knew of the existence of Canberra... we used to come over several times a year in T-Model Ford days... if we had visitors





Left: Tom bushwalking in Kosciuszko National Park  
Right: rigged up for flight  
Above: Model T days, the Hume Highway?



assistant engineer's job... so I didn't get along very well with them, but as far as the leading hands and the gangers and so forth... I got along well with all these people... The value of it to me was to learn expediency... the important thing is to think what you are trying to achieve and do something sensible about that... (Wrigley and Kenny 2003).

After receiving his engineering degree, Tom applied for a post in Victoria and succeeded in being appointed as the testing officer within the Department of Civil Engineering at Melbourne University. It was here that an opportunity arose for Tom to further explore his interest in wind tunnels when he became involved with the design and construction of a replacement 9' x 7' model wind tunnel for the University. At first he discovered that:

there was a tin shed between the engineering school and Gratton Street and in that tin shed was a thing called an Eiffel tunnel, which is one of the early forms of wind tunnels... a World War I vintage wind tunnel... that was in the mechanical engineering branch of the faculty [at Melbourne University], not civil engineering ... (Wrigley and Kenny 2003).

From 1940 Tom worked within the Division of Aeronautics at CSIR and helped to set up a full-scale 9' x 7' wind tunnel at Fishermen's Bend. During the war Tom effectively had three jobs: the foundation technical officer at ARDU (Aircraft Research and Development Unit), experimental work at Fishermen's Bend, and engineering tutoring at Queens College during the evenings.

Tom returned to Sydney University in 1944 to undertake additional wind tunnel research and assist engineering

graduates. At this time he:

spent a year at Sydney University doing all sorts of things to shake down [their] wind tunnel... for instance as I understand it, [the tunnel] ran off the power which supplied Sydney trams that meant that we couldn't use it at the two crush periods, morning and evening (Wrigley and Kenny 2003).

Following his time in Sydney, Tom returned to Melbourne in 1945 to act as the Superintendent in the Aerodynamics Divisions at CSIR. Following a brief sojourn in the private sector, Tom returned to the public sector as the secretary of the first meeting of the Commonwealth Advisory Aeronautical Research Council in 1948. It was as a result of this work that Tom went to England and was offered the post of principal scientific officer at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, UK extending his career into the field of rocket research and testing of supersonic speeds.

Back in Australia Tom applied for a position with the super-sonics division of the Aeronautical Research Labs (ARL) based in Salisbury, South Australia. He subsequently worked on a number of projects within the Long Range Weapons Establishment, later known as the Weapons Research Establishment, and was appointed the principal scientific officer within the Supersonic Aerodynamic Division. Here his work focused on the preparation and firing of a UK developed anti-aircraft weapon, the RTV1. Tom played a significant role in the preparation of test vehicles for the research and development phase of guided weapon research at Woomera, South Australia.





As chief superintendent of ARL from 1965 he was influential in a number of managerial and operational changes. In 1968 Tom volunteered to move to Canberra and took up the position of controller of Research & Development within the Department of Supply; within a year he was promoted to deputy secretary. The Department subsequently underwent numerous name changes and alterations in functions until it was disbanded in 1974. Tom continued to work within with the restructured Department and was instrumental in the disaster recovery work following Cyclone Tracy in Darwin.

Tom recalls that:

on Christmas morning in the Tracy year I had the whole family at home and we went off to church. I can remember on the drive in to church listening to the radio in the car and I heard that Tracy had hit Darwin badly, no feeling at all for what the magnitude of the problem was... about 11 o'clock at night when [the family] all disappeared I switched on the television and I became conscious of the magnitude of what had happened at Darwin and I thought that the Department [of Supply] might be able to help... through Defence I got on to the national disaster centre and said who I was. The bloke said 'what do you think you can do?' and my answer was 'well I've got a purchasing organisation and can buy any goods or services anywhere in the world and we run a light or heavy transport system which you might find useful'. He said 'come in the next morning' (Wrigley and Kenny 2003).

With his experience and skills, Tom was able to assist Colonel Reno Vardanegar supply stores and transport needs throughout the recovery period. Colonel Vardanegar recounted:

It was about two days before I found the time to discover that Tom Lawrence was a deputy secretary in his department. Long before that, however, I had learned that his claim had been a valid one; there seemed to be nothing he could not obtain, given the urgency, and, at times, a scrap of paper with my initials on it. There was no task that was beyond his organising genius (*Canberra Times* 1975).

Prior to his retirement on the eve of his 65th birthday in 1980, Tom's work involved him with Australia's Antarctic Division and he represented Australia at the Antarctic Treaty meeting held in Japan. His later career within the Department of Productivity resulted in a responsibility for the Patents Office.

Upon retirement Tom used his professional skills and talents as a keen and highly valued member of the Canberra and District Historical Society. Joining the Society in 1973, Tom wanted to be involved, not just a passive member attending the occasional meeting. As a practical man, and perhaps as a result of his grounding as an engineer, Tom quickly became "the Society's Mr Fixit and filled the role of the property officer, always ready and willing to pull out the tools to repair and maintain [the Society's] furniture and equipment" (Hall 2003). Apart from his skills as the Society's handyman, he also embarked upon historical research and extending his and the Society's knowledge base on the environs of Canberra. This included the publication of numerous articles for the Society's journal and newsletter; most noteworthy is his study of the Tuggeranong Arsenal. The culmination of his research and

work on this topic was a lecture presented to the Society in 1982 and most recently an article compiled from this lecture by Barry Price for the *Canberra Historical Journal*, March 2003 (Lawrence & Barry 2003).

During the interview Tom talked fondly of his volunteering days with the Society but spoke passionately about the 'mapping project'. In the early 1980s the Society received a heritage grant which enabled them to begin to identify historic buildings and mapping sites. From the Society's records it appears that a number of people were involved in the project throughout the 1980s and 1990s. As a historian I am grateful to the work of the Society and volunteers, such as Tom Lawrence and Bill Little. By systemically plotting these sites, such as stone huts, gunyahs and sheds, previously thought of as too insignificant, onto modern maps, they made it easier for us to understand the cultural and social land-use of the ACT.

As Tom describes:

The surveyors, I think, very fortunately decided on the old system which took the surveying peg called 'Strom' on Mt Stromlo as zero and produced the maps in chains east west and north south from 'Strom' ... so they went west of 'Strom' by 200 kilometres and south of 'Strom' by 600 kilometres... There's a set of maps... on those maps there is located a number of things that were in existence when the maps were produced, but not everything. There are a number of man-made things whose existence we know of and can find from earlier maps that were never put onto those metric maps. So another fellow and I went back to the original license papers for blocks of land and found on them locations of odd things... one of the odd things in those early days were things that were called 'gunyahs'... in fact they were just a few branches in the tree... under which the local farmer left his tools or his horse harness. That's not on modern maps, but it's on the early ones in imperial measures... and sometimes you've got to go to a trig point in the area and work out where exactly that is and plot it on to the modern metric map... Bill [Little] and I spent a number of years doing this for the Historical Society and produced tables and annotated maps and so on... we got a lot of pleasure out of this... (Wrigley and Kenny 2003)

Apart from being a volunteer with the Canberra and District Historical Society, Tom maintained his membership of the Institution of Engineers, as well as the Royal Aeronautical Society. He was a founding member of the Engineering Heritage Group of the Institution of Engineers and instrumental in the work initiated by this group. What Tom enjoyed most about his retirement years was the application of scientific techniques in his approach to research and investigation in his local history and heritage endeavours:

Robert Boden and I wrote an article about the trees planted by the Institution of Engineers in 1925 in what is today Canberra Avenue. I spent a lot of time going through the records and the archives to find out as much as I could... and getting in touch with various organisations around Australia so that I could identify, to my satisfaction, the roughly one hundred people involved in this... (Wrigley and Kenny 2003)

continued on page 16

Heritage in Trust





# When the city meets the country

## challenges for the rural heritage of the ACT



Gungaharra Homestead from the NE. photo: Carol Cosgrove

by Mike Pearson

As the city of Canberra expands, it is taking over land previously used for farming and grazing. One of the challenges resulting from this inevitable process is to identify and conserve the rural heritage in the ACT landscape. The rural heritage of Canberra is relatively little known to the public. Most people know of the iconic places: Lanyon, Tuggeranong Homestead and perhaps Blundell's Cottage; but the history of Canberra's pastoral origins has tended to be overwhelmed by the story of the development of the Territory as the national capital. Even the other large homesteads: Yarralumla, Duntroon, and Gungahlin, are probably, for most people, known better for their current functions than for their pastoral pasts.

Smaller, and perhaps more typical rural sites such as Duntroon Dairy and woolshed, the several woolsheds and pisé settler cottages in Kowen Forest and Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, the stock huts and pastoral relics in Namadgi National Park, and the scattered sheep dips, plough lands, huts, yards and fences throughout the ACT, are less known still.

Recent studies for the ACT Heritage Unit and the National Trust show that the ACT has a valuable collection of relatively complete rural properties from the pre-Federal period that are important at the national level (see references).

### The ACT rural settlement pattern

The evolving pattern of land settlement and subdivision in what is now the ACT, resulted in the development of rural homesteads and associated complexes of various scales. There were large land holdings, such as Lanyon, Tuggeranong, Yarralumla and Gungahlin, which combined original large grants or purchases with later purchases and selections. These large properties usually had a full range of pastoral support buildings and landscape features. In the unsettled districts west of the Murrumbidgee, a number of land holdings originated as squatting runs based on the 1836 system of grazing licenses. These runs, such as Orroral, Gudgenby and Booroomba, were in mountainous country where expansion was limited by the terrain.

Moderate sized holdings, such as Horse Park and Well Station, were often made up by amalgamating small purchased blocks and free-selection blocks. Smaller holdings were acquired by settlers with less financial backing (including soldier settlers), either by purchase, selection, or subdivision from larger properties. These sometimes consisted of a homestead alone, with few support facilities. Examples are Canberra Park, Callum Brae, Huntley, Glenburn and Mugga Mugga.

The survival of rural properties that reflect this range of rural settlements is an important heritage resource. The pecu-





liar land tenure system of the ACT meant that the pressure on rural properties for change differed from, and on the whole, was less damaging than that in surrounding NSW. As a result, there is an opportunity for the ACT to conserve and interpret a wide range of rural settlements in the broader region.

### **The rural heritage of the Gungahlin district**

The expansion of Canberra's suburbs, especially in the Gungahlin area, is affecting the Territory's rural heritage, and creates a challenge to find an acceptable balance between the sometimes conflicting objectives of heritage conservation and development.

Despite the excellent books and reports by Lyall Gillespie on the history of the Gungahlin and Ginninderra district, and the many archaeological surveys undertaken in the district before development, the rural heritage of the area remains largely unknown to the general public. This may be because the rural holdings have remained as rural leases and have generally not been accessible to the public.

Pastoralists probably started using the area at the time of the initial European settlement of the ACT in the mid-1820s, with George Thomas Palmer operating in the Ginninderra area by about 1826. Palmer was followed by others who extended settlement into the area of north Gungahlin, all on a smaller scale of rural operation than the better-known settlers further to the south. (see Lyall Gillespie's book in the references). The Robertson Land Act of 1861 saw a major increase in selection of smaller holdings in the district. Longer established landholders (and free selectors themselves) used the Robertson Act to extend their land holdings, selecting in their own names, and taking up other blocks in the names of their wives, children or workers. John and Jemima Winter extended Red Hill (Gungahlin) in this way, Henry Gozzard extended Aston, and Thomas Gribble, Archibald McKeahnie, John Walsh and the Ryan and Ginn families all took advantage of purchase and the Selection Act to consolidate small blocks into larger holdings.

As the Robertson Act required selectors to reside on their land, the rural population of the area increased. Marriage linked many of these families during the nineteenth century and, while land changed hands, it was often within this broader network of family connections. By the 1890s most of the land in what is now the northern part of the ACT had been taken up.

Land resumption associated with the Federal Capital Territory commenced in 1910, and many families left the district at this time. The nature of the local pastoral community changed as a result. However, the working pastoral landscape remained as the defining character of the district until suburban Gungahlin started taking up the land from the 1990s.

The most significant rural heritage places in Gungahlin that reflect this long history are Horse Park, Well Station, Gungaderra and Canberra Park.

Horse Park was the name given to land taken up by John Gillespie, who with his wife Mary Anne and three children, moved into a house he built there in 1853. This is believed to be the existing stone homestead, which is now one of the oldest occupied homesteads in the ACT. The property was held

by William Ryan of Michelago from the mid 1890s until it was resumed by the Commonwealth in 1916 and leased out. The homestead complex includes the stone, weatherboard and slab buildings of the homestead itself, a machinery shed, former buggy and dairy shed, a woolshed and associated yards. The adjacent wetland is itself of high conservation value, and many Aboriginal sites have been found around it.

Well Station was first acquired by John Scott, but changed hands several times in the early years. Owners included Ryan (believed to be Margaret Ryan of Mulligans Flat) and George Rolfe, who is believed to have built the first building in the homestead complex in the 1850s. Archibald and Mary McKeahnie, members of the family that owned Gudgenby, Booroomba, and Orroral stations, moved residence from Orroral to Well Station in 1881, although McKeahnie may have owned it as early as 1872. The McKeahnies extended the existing homestead by adding a new block that incorporated a kitchen and sitting room. Bedrooms were added at a later date, as well as a dairy and a schoolroom. Well Station was acquired by the Commonwealth in 1915, and the McKeahnies left the property shortly afterwards; the lease was taken up by their son-in-law Charles Peden.

Despite subsequent alterations, the core of the homestead remains that of the McKeahnie era. The homestead complex is a very good example of medium-scale pastoral domestic and work environments, and includes a woolshed built about 1900, a hayshed from the same era, a slab and brick stables and worker's quarters, and a range of other foundations and structures. It is an important collection, now rare in the ACT, of vernacular building that demonstrates a range of building styles and materials used for both domestic and work structures.

The homestead complex sits within an outstanding landscape that demonstrates the 'pastoral aesthetic' now to be found only in a rapidly diminishing number of ACT rural properties. The elevation of the homestead affords views across paddocks east to Canberra Park and the Federal Highway, and an avenue of eucalypts gives strong form to the landscape south of the homestead. Remnant open box woodland and planted trees are lightly scattered across the paddocks to the east and between Well Station and Gungaderra to the north.

Gungaderra was originally called Red Hill by John Winter when he took up the portion, probably in the early 1860s, and built a slab cottage. The oldest part of the present pisé homestead was built by Sid Greig of Yass for John and Jemima Winter's son, William, after his marriage to Lillian McFeeters in about 1904. The original 1860s slab cottage appears to have been demolished at that time. The pisé house is a significant example of a threatened type in the ACT (Cosgrove and Dowling 2002; Cosgrove 2002). The property remained in the Winter family until resumed by the Commonwealth in 1915, then passed through several lessees until Richard Gregory Lingen Crace of Gungahlin took it up in 1935. Crace renamed the property Gungaderra (derived from Gungahlin and Ginninderra). In 1959 the lease was sold to the Gungaderra Pastoral Company, which also held the Well Station lease. Both properties were

**continued on page 17**



The response to most activities advertised in the last issue of *Heritage in Trust* was most gratifying. The moral of the story is — don't delay your application until the closing date. You are increasingly likely to miss out!

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.

#### **BRAIDWOOD QUEST, Sunday 23 November 2003**

At the time copy closed for this issue of *Heritage in Trust*, only a few vacancies remained for our final activity in 2003. The one day tour to Braidwood includes visits to three gardens opening under Australia's Open Garden Scheme — Lorrina, St Omer (a semi-restored 1850s garden) and Birchgrove. It also includes a delicious two-course lunch at the Doncaster Inn and an exclusive guided tour of historic Beder- vale (1841), designed by colonial architect John Verge. Further time has been allowed for you to inspect at close quarters (in the National Theatre, Braidwood) some of the quilts being displayed at this year's Quilt Event. Offered both as a coach and self-drive tour, the coach will return via Captains Flat for variety. The ticket price includes all entries, morning and afternoon teas and lunch. Leader Garth Setchell. Please check with the Trust Office to ascertain whether vacancies remain on either basis.

COACH LIMIT 45. PROBABLE SELF-DRIVE LIMIT 24. BOOKINGS CLOSE & FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED BY 13 NOVEMBER.

#### **QUAINT WAYS TO WESTLAKE, Saturday 7 February 2004**

This is a rather boutique activity. Focusing on a 40 minute guided walking exploration of historic Westlake (just south of Canberra Yacht Club), the activity begins at the Acton Ferry Wharf, from where you will be transported by the elegant battery powered launch *Cygnat* to the National Library wharf and thence by the historic (1949) ACTION bus *Matilda* to Westlake. *Matilda* and *Cygnat* will also return you to Acton. At Westlake, you will be met by local historian and Trust member, Anne Gugler, who will bring to life the remaining vestiges of this former workers' encampment that, in 1925, had a population of 700 (one-fifth of the total ACT population) and principally comprised workmen engaged in building the Hotel Canberra and Old Parliament House.

Because the *Cygnat* is only licensed to carry ten persons at a time, applicants will need to be allocated to one of up to four groups of ten persons. Departure times are likely to be 1.00 pm, 1.45 pm, 2.30 pm and 3.15 pm. Each group will return about 2¼ hours later — i.e. the first group at about 3.15 pm and the last (if there are four groups) at about 5.30 pm.

As chartering costs are significant, and as we can only maintain the tour price if each proceeding group is full, we ask that you be flexible about your start time if possible. If you wish to be with friends, please assist by booking together. Regrettably, we cannot offer a party this time! The walk may be deferred to Sunday 8 February in the event of rain or strong winds.

ABSOLUTE LIMIT — UP TO FOUR GROUPS, EACH OF TEN PERSONS. PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

#### **SOUTH TO THE PROM, Wednesday 11 to Tuesday 17 February 2004**

This 7 day tour by 18-seat air conditioned coach with reclining seats, is being operated by Australian Eco Adventures for the Trust as an exclusive charter and will be led by Garth Setchell. The tour will explore the NSW and Victorian coastline from Merimbula to Cape Liptrap (west of Wilsons Promontory), including side trips to several lovely sections of coastline in Ben Boyd NP (including Green Cape) and Croajingalong NP (including Mallacoota and Wingan Inlet) plus the mouth of the Snowy at Marlo. After Lakes Entrance, we will visit historic Nyerimilang HS and the beautiful fern gullies of Tarra Valley NP, before our fourth day is spent exploring Wilsons Promontory and the lovely countryside around Foster. On the fifth day, we hope to sample a bit of South Gippsland's gourmet produce before travelling to historic Walhalla and on through wild mountains to Matlock and Marysville. On the second last day, we plan to visit an art gallery, sample the gourmet liquid and solid produce of Milawa and visit spectacular Mount Buffalo before overnighting at Beechworth.

After spending the last of your money at the Gold Museum (and shop), we will return home via Tumbarumba and Gundagai. The tour price of \$1680 pp dbl/twin or \$1850 pp sgl assumes a minimum of 14 bookings. It includes motel accommodation throughout, all morning teas, all meals (five lunches will be picnic style) and dinner drinks, plus entry fees, etc. The tour includes lots of short walks on graded tracks, so that reasonable mobility is necessary if you are to get maximum value. Full details will be supplied and places can be initially reserved by payment of a \$25 pp booking fee to the Trust (part of the total tour cost — \$20 refundable if you decide to withdraw). To secure your place, a \$250 pp deposit will then need to be paid to Australian Eco Adventures (AEA), with the balance payable before Christmas. Travel insurance is compulsory and can also be obtained through AEA.

LIMIT 17. BOOKINGS CLOSE & FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED BY 19 DECEMBER BUT EARLIER BOOKING RECOMMENDED.

#### **ANOTHER ROYAL OCCASION, Canberra Day Weekend — Saturday 13 to Monday 15 March 2004**

In 2002, we had to cancel "A Royal Occasion", the precursor to this walking weekend in Sydney's Royal National Park (the world's second oldest national park), due to bushfires. This repeat attempt will be by midli coach to minimize the quite hefty park entry charges and to avoid the time-consuming need for lots of car shuttles. It will also save each car about \$60 in fuel costs. You will need to bring picnic lunches for both Saturday and Sunday and buy lunch at Cronulla on Monday before we return home. Both the Saturday and Sunday walks will focus on the spectacular Coast Track, which was not damaged by fire. On the Saturday afternoon, we will walk the impressive 9 km track from Wattamolla to Garie Beach and, on the Sunday, the slightly longer and much more tropical walk from Otford to Burning Palms (300 m descent), South Era, North Era and Garie Beaches, with plenty of time to swim! On the Monday morning, before returning home, we may take the relaxing return ferry ride from Cronulla to Bundeena (not included in the tour cost) after spending time at the Captain Cook's Landing Place Historic Site and tackling some shorter walks (4 to 5 km) in Botany Bay National Park. The ticket price includes coach transport, 2 nights B&B motel accommodation in Sutherland plus Saturday night dinner with wine. On Sunday night, you may wish to meet up with Sydney friends or try a local restaurant with the group at your own cost. If you live in Sydney or wish to self-drive or arrange your own accommodation, please contact Garth Setchell (ph 02-62901100) for prices.

COACH LIMIT 25. BOOKINGS CLOSE & FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED BY 27 FEBRUARY. PLACES CAN BE RESERVED ON PAYMENT OF A \$50PP DEPOSIT.



## HOORAY FOR GOOROO, Sunday 4 April 2004

The announcement in last May's ACT Budget that 700 ha would be added to Canberra Nature Park, in the vicinity of Gooroo Hill, has, for the first time, made possible a through walk on public lands from Mulligans Flat to Mt Ainslie. Our activity will involve about 18 km of walking through yellow box and red gum woodland, both on and off track, with some stony sections and (subject to reconnaissance) ascents of a couple of mountains to enjoy the views — probably Gooroo Hill or Old Joe (just north of the Federal Highway at Ginns Gap) and Mt Majura (south of the Highway). Reasonable fitness is required. The former rise about 100 m above their surroundings, the latter rises about 200 m, but may be climbed along a road to ease the pain. A car shuttle will be involved between the vicinity of the War Memorial and Mulligans Flat. The ticket price includes our usual, sumptuous, end-of-walk party. The walk will be deferred to Sunday 18 April in the event of inclement weather. Probable assembly time 8.30 am.

LIMIT 45. BOOKINGS CLOSE 1 APRIL BUT DON'T BE FOOLED — BOOK EARLY IF YOU WANT TO BE SURE OF A PLACE.

## 2004 AFTERNOON CONCERT SERIES AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

This year we are again offering three one-day concert tours by coach to Sydney to enjoy the Sydney Symphony Orchestra:

### Thursday 15 April 2004 — Jacques Zoon's Magic Flute

*Christopher Franklin conductor — Jacques Zoon flute*

MOZART The Magic Flute: Overture

MOZART Flute Concerto in D, K314

MARTIN Ballade

MENDELSSOHN Symphony No 3 Scottish

### Thursday 9 September 2004 — Stephen Hough and the Romantic Muse

*Ilan Volkov conductor — Stephen Hough piano*

DEBUSSY Images: Iberia

SAINT-SAENS Piano Concerto No 4

SCHUMANN Symphony No 4

### Saturday 13 November 2004 — Ashkenazy Sibelius Cycle — Program 1: The Journey Begins

*Vladimir Ashkenazy conductor*

SIBELIUS Symphony No 1

SIBELIUS Symphony No 2

As in 2003, the tour package comprises return travel to Sydney by luxury coach, A Reserve concert seats (at group discount prices), refreshments on the way down and a one-course meal with tea/coffee on the return. The Thursday tour price is \$92 for Trust members and \$95 for U3A and non-members. Departure times are 7.10 am from Deakin, 7.20 am from Civic and 7.30 am from Braddon — with return between 8.00 and 8.30 pm. The Saturday tour price is \$102 for Trust members and \$105 for U3A and non-members. The Saturday departure and return times are 30 minutes later. All tours allow about 1½ hours between arrival in Sydney and the start of the concert, so that you can enjoy a lunch of your own choice at The Rocks or The Quay. Places will be reserved for any or all three concerts on payment of a deposit of \$30 pp/concert (\$5 pp/concert cancellation fee), subject to balances being received 30 days in advance of each concert. Slightly reduced prices available if joining and/or remaining in Sydney. ABSOLUTE LIMIT 94 PER CONCERT. **EARLY BOOKING ADVISED.**

## WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN TOUR, Monday 3 to Friday 28 May 2004

With \$500 deposits already held for most available places, only a few places may still remain by the time you receive this issue of Heritage in Trust. Garth Setchell's seventh major overseas extravaganza will be to Sicily, Malta, Provence, Spain and Portugal, at a current cost ex Canberra of around \$A9735 pp dbl/tw or \$A10905 pp sgl. This includes a majority of meals but excludes expenses of a personal nature, travel insurance, tips and gratuities, etc. Flying direct to Rome by Singapore Airlines, the tour begins with 8 days touring in Sicily. Highlights include Palermo and Syracuse, the Greek ruins at Segesta, Selinunte, Agrigento and Taormina, lots of charming villages such as San Vito lo Capo and Piazza Armerina and natural sights such as Alcantara Gorge and Mt Etna. A 90 minute jetfoil ride will then whisk us to a late arrival in Malta, where we will enjoy 2 days of guided touring to a treasure trove of historic buildings, Greek, Roman and prehistoric sites and Malta's own Blue Grotto. You will then fly to Paris, from where the TGV very fast train will whisk you to Montpellier for a one day coach tour through eastern Provence — including Nîmes, the Pont du Gard, Avignon, Les Baux and Arles. Trains will then be used to get us from Nîmes to Barcelona and on to Madrid, before beginning the second part of the tour. As well as time to appreciate Madrid during the Fiesta de San Isidro, including a morning at the famous Prado Art Gallery, there will be local tours to Toledo, El Escorial and Segovia, before heading south to Granada and the incomparable Alhambra. From there, the coach will proceed to Cordoba, Sevilla, Arcos de la Frontera and Ronda, before descending to the Costa del Sol and Gibraltar. The final stage of the journey will proceed via Cadiz to Lisbon, the colourful capital of Portugal. There will be time to explore Lisbon, Sintra and the sparkling Atlantic coastline before flying to Madrid and then back to Sydney and Canberra via Paris. Extensions, such as an indulgent visit from Lisbon to the spectacular Atlantic holiday island of Madeira, further private touring in Europe or a return stopover in Singapore, can all be negotiated with our travel agent, Just Travel, through whom this exclusive Trust/U3A tour is being arranged.

ABSOLUTE LIMIT 30. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED ON PAYMENT OF A \$50PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST (PART OF THE TOTAL TOUR COST WITH \$40 PP REFUNDABLE IF NOT PROCEEDING).

## OUT & BACK TO THE RED CENTRE, Saturday 14 August to Wednesday 1 September 2004

We are already holding ten deposits for a 2004 repeat of the recently concluded 2003 tour, offered by Australian Eco Adventures. These deposits are from people who, for various reasons, could not undertake the 2003 tour. With a little more interest, the 2004 tour is likely to finish up as an exclusive Trust charter (like "South to the Prom"), with a start and finish in Canberra. Travelling via Bourke and Barcaldine to Longreach (visiting the Workers Heritage Centre, the Stockman Hall of Fame and the Qantas Outback Museum and even including a dinner cruise on the Thomson River), this mini coach tour then proceeds to Alice Springs, via Mt Isa and Tennant Creek. Here, the tour includes a 4 day exploration of the Red Centre (eg Standley Chasm, Ormiston and Redbank Gorges, the Ellery Creek ochre pits, Kings Canyon, Uluru and the Olgas). The return is via Coober Pedy, Marree, Wilpena and Renmark. Whilst offering frequent opportunities to walk, seek out wildlife and enjoy outback hospitality, etc, the tour price of \$3800 pp dbl/tw or \$4700 pp sgl includes comfortable accommodation throughout, all entries (except for a free day in the Alice) and all meals (except two lunches).

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SUPPLIED ON PAYMENT OF A \$25 PP BOOKING FEE TO THE TRUST. THIS IS PART OF THE TOTAL TOUR COST AND IS REFUNDABLE (LESS \$5) IF CHOOSING NOT TO PROCEED.



## 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.

Places are reserved in order of payment. **EARLY APPLICATION ASSISTS US WITH ARRANGEMENTS.** Where deposits or 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 \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

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

PLEASE TICK FORM OF PAYMENT: CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHEQUE \_\_\_\_\_ BANKCARD \_\_\_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_\_\_ DINERS \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by credit card, please complete the following:

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### BRAIDWOOD QUEST – Sunday 23 November 2003

All National Trust ordinary members (by coach)	adlt	@	\$90 pp	\$ _____
All National Trust senior members (by coach)	senr	@	\$87 pp	\$ _____
All National Trust ordinary members (self-drive)	adlt	@	\$80 pp	\$ _____
All National Trust senior members (self-drive)	senr	@	\$77 pp	\$ _____
Non-member or U3A surcharge ADD TO RELEVANT ADULT OR SENIOR RATE ABOVE	nonm	@	\$3 pp	\$ _____
All persons qualifying for junior rate (by coach)	junr	@	\$82 pp	\$ _____
All persons qualifying for junior rate (self-drive)	junr	@	\$72 pp	\$ _____

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

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

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

### QUAINT WAYS TO WESTLAKE – Saturday 7 February 2004

All National Trust ordinary members	adlt	@	\$38 pp	\$ _____
All National Trust senior members	senr	@	\$36 pp	\$ _____
All U3A members or non-members	nonm	@	\$40 pp	\$ _____

Are you flexible about your start time? Please circle Y/N

If not, indicate preference (can't be guaranteed) 1.00pm \_\_\_\_\_ 1.45pm \_\_\_\_\_ 2.30pm \_\_\_\_\_ 3.15pm \_\_\_\_\_

Names of anyone you wish to be with (if possible) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available on Sunday 8/2 if Saturday's weather inclement? Please circle Y/N

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

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

### SOUTH TO THE PROM – Wednesday 11 to Tuesday 17 February 2004

All applicants – Booking Fee to obtain full details and initially reserve place \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$25 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate accommodation requirement: sgl \_\_\_\_\_ dbl \_\_\_\_\_ tw \_\_\_\_\_ (with whom?) \_\_\_\_\_

Coach pick-up point? Please tick: Civic \_\_\_\_\_ Mawson \_\_\_\_\_

NB. Places will only be secured on payment of \$250pp deposit (and ultimately the balance) to AEA, as detailed in the information to be returned to you.

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

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



### ANOTHER ROYAL OCCASION – Saturday 13 to Monday 15 March 2004

All persons requiring sgl accom \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$380 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
All persons requiring dbl/tw accom \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$295 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
All persons requiring triple share accom \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$275 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
National Trust senior member discount DEDUCT FROM RELEVANT ROOM RATE \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$5 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Junior discount DEDUCT FROM RELEVANT ROOM RATE \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$10 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
U3A and non-member surcharge ADD TO RELEVANT ROOM RATE \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$5 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NB. If wishing to book on self-drive, self-accom or ex Sydney basis or if you wish only to pay a deposit now (balance by 27 Feb), pl circle which of these applies. Please also tick accom requirements if applicable:

Sgl \_\_\_ Dbl \_\_\_ Twn \_\_\_ Tri \_\_\_ pers @ \$50 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Coach pick-up point? Please tick: Deakin \_\_\_ Civic \_\_\_

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

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

### HOORAY FOR GOOROO - Sunday 4 April 2004

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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### 2004 AFTERNOON CONCERT SERIES AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

Thursday 15 April 2004

All National Trust members – deposit (bal \$62) \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
All U3A and non-members – deposit (bal \$65) \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Alternatively, do you wish to join \_\_\_ and/or remain \_\_\_ in Sydney? Please tick.

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

Thursday 9 September 2004

All National Trust members – deposit (bal \$62) \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
All U3A and non-members – deposit (bal \$65) \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Alternatively, do you wish to join \_\_\_ and/or remain \_\_\_ in Sydney? Please tick.

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

Saturday 13 November 2004

All National Trust members – deposit (bal \$72) \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
All U3A and non-members – deposit (bal \$75) \_\_\_\_\_ pers @ \$30 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Alternatively, do you wish to join \_\_\_ and/or remain \_\_\_ in Sydney? Please tick.

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

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

### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN TOUR – Monday 3 to Friday 28 May 2004

Expression of interest \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$50 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Will you be attending the briefing on 9 September? If yes, please advise numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Could you be interested in a tour extension? Please tick, Madeira \_\_\_ other \_\_\_

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

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

### OUT & BACK TO THE RED CENTRE – 14 August to 1 September 2004

Expression of interest \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$50 pp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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





# Churchill and Chartwell

by Joan Vandewerdt

In 1704 a battle was won. It was described as a turning point in European history. Who now remembers the deeds of John Churchill, soon to become the first Duke of Marlborough, when he crushed Louis XIV's ambition to rule Europe, or where the Battle of Blenheim occurred? My Dutch relatives have never heard of Lord Horatio Nelson. Do we know about de Ruyter the Dutch Admiral who, in 1667, raided and destroyed the English fleet in their own waters at the mouth of the Thames? Will history be kinder to the man recently voted the Greatest Briton of all time?

The National Trust UK now owns the house of this man, and you can stand in the study where Sir Winston Churchill worked to contribute so much to the western world and the history of the 20th century. Chartwell is near Sevenoaks in Kent, south of the M25 ring road around London. To get to the property you need to drive along some lovely B grade English roads. Chartwell was the home of Sir Winston and Lady Clementine Churchill from 1924 until Sir Winston died in 1965, aged 91. The house and gardens still have long views over the weald (woodlands) of Kent, and Churchill is recorded as saying 'I love the place – a day away from Chartwell is a day wasted'.

Churchill was born at Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire, the home of the Duke of Marlborough, by good chance rather than by being a direct descendant of the Duke (his parents were visiting the paternal side of the family at the time). Consequently, although Churchill was famous, he was not rich, and after losing the 1945 election he feared that he could not afford Chartwell on his reduced income. A group of friends, including Lord Camrose, Lord Kenilworth, Lord Nuffield and James de Rothschild purchased the property and allowed the Churchills to live there on a reduced rent for the rest of their lives. The property then passed to the National Trust.

To get to the house you walk through landscaped grounds with numerous water features. There are waterfalls and ponds stocked with orfes (European minnows), which Sir Winston loved to feed. The house is three storeys high at the rear, where the rooms have large windows on three sides to provide as much light as possible, and to allow views over the garden and weald. The dining room, on the lower level, with three large arched windows that look out over the grounds, is especially memorable. The house is as Churchill left it, filled with fresh flowers from the garden, memorabilia of his life, books, maps, his paintings, a crystal cockerel from France, some items belonging to Napoleon, family photographs, cigars and newspapers.

The house provides an insight into a different time; Lady Churchill's separate, large bedroom has a writing desk, make-up table, a settee and day bed. She also had a separate sitting room. Bookcases were built into the walls all around the house to contain Sir Winston's extensive book collection. In his study you can see the specially designed long lectern where he wrote standing up. Some of the rooms have been turned into display rooms and contain gifts he received — cigar boxes made of rare materials, the Nobel Prize for Literature that was awarded in 1953 (not for peace as you might imagine), uniforms for the various positions he held (Knight of the Garter, Warden of the Cinque Ports), and United States honorary citizenship. There is also an extensive exhibition on his life: he was 65 when he became Prime Minister in 1940 and 78 when he formally retired in 1953.

(continued over)

a view of Chartwell, Kent  
photo: Joan Vandewerdt







The grounds have a rose garden that was laid out by Lady Churchill. There is also a Golden Rose Garden walk, with yellow and gold roses, that was created in 1958 as a golden wedding present from their children. Would you ever dream of receiving or giving such a gift? There are also terraced areas, a croquet lawn, the brick wall hand built by Sir Winston between 1925 and 1932, yew hedges, and lake (still with black swans — Churchill was presented with some black swans as a gift from Australia after World War II). By the lake is a life size bronze by Oscar Nemon of the seated elderly Sir Winston and Lady Clementine.

The separate painting studio is filled floor to ceiling with his paintings which cover a very diverse range of subjects. Churchill copied a number of his paintings, and the National Trust is still trying to locate the original material such as newspaper photographs. Last year an Australian visitor demonstrated that one of the ocean landscapes was in fact a copy of a Monet painting held in an Australian art gallery — so keep your eyes open, you never know. The farm next to Chartwell has four oast houses (hop drying kilns), so you can study at close quarters their white caps and vanes moving in unison with the wind.

Chartwell is open late March to early November, from 11 am – 5 pm on Wednesday to Sunday, plus Tuesdays in July and August. Admission to the house is by timed ticket and was £6.50 in 2003, or £3.25 for just the garden and painting studio ([www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)).

Interesting National Trust properties nearby include Ightham Mote, a medieval moated manor house from the 1300s with Jacobean, Tudor, and Victorian renovations; and Knole, late 1500s with magnificent collections of furniture, tapestries and portraits, including the prototype of the Knole settee. Nearby, at Newchapel, is a rare opportunity to see a large collection of local wildlife at the British Wildlife Centre. There are red squirrels (endemic to England rather than the imported and now

ubiquitous grey variety), badgers (with cubs if you time your visit right), hedgehogs, otters, Scottish wildcats, pine martens, buzzards, barn owls, foxes and rabbits, of which the latter two, of course, hold little novelty for Australians ([www.british-wildlife.co.uk](http://www.british-wildlife.co.uk)).

### Tom Lawrence, continued from page 8

Apart from his engineering and historical interests Tom was a busy man throughout his life. Married, with three sons, he not only fitted in his career but was passionate about skiing for relaxation and recreation. He was a foundation member of one ski club and a member of four clubs in total. He also regularly volunteered for maintenance duties at his parish church. Tom was appointed a member in the Order of Australia (AM) in 1978 and was a foundation member of the Order of Australia Association.

The oral history interview conducted with Tom Lawrence is an example of the work performed by the Canberra Panel of Engineering Heritage Australia. They are in the process of coordinating interviews with other notable engineers with equally significant contributions to the nation's development in association with their parent body, Engineering Heritage Australia.

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Margaret Park is a freelance historian with extensive experience in urban and social history. She is a member of the Trust Heritage Committee and has recently completed a PhD on the history of town planning in North Sydney.

### Letter — the fire at Lanyon

Dear Sir

As you are aware, Lanyon Homestead lies within the surrounding rural property held and operated by myself and my wife and our manager Vince Burns.

In your report on the effects of the fire at Lanyon, January 18 2003, I am disappointed at your lack of judgement to have not spoken to either myself or other persons involved in the fire fighting effort. The interview you conducted barely mentioned the magnificent effort of myself and my crew over that afternoon.

The picture you painted, although factual, only scratches the surface of what really happened on what would have been a catastrophic day if it had not been for the preparedness and commitment of us as rural lessees.

If you seek a picture of what happened on the day then do so. I welcome your approach to either myself or those who were with me.

Andrew Geikie, 15/9/2003

### The National Trust replies

I refer to your letter of 15 September 2003 regarding the Lanyon article in the Winter 2003 issue of *Heritage in Trust*.

I recall that you phoned me shortly after you had read the article to indicate that the interview with Jennifer Storer did not tell the whole story of the bushfire at Lanyon on 18 January. I invited you to write to me to provide the information that you considered would complete the picture and indicated that I would be pleased to publish your letter in *Heritage in Trust*.

I will therefore now arrange for your letter of 15 September 2003 to be published in the next edition.  
Colin Griffiths, Heritage Officer.





## Rural Heritage, continued from page 10

transferred to the late Eric Mawson in 1977.

Additions were made to the house over time, other buildings were constructed around it, and avenue plantings of Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*) and Roman cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) give a distinctive landscape setting.

Canberra Park, located on what is now the Federal Highway, was settled as the home of Henry Thomas Ginn, who emigrated to Australia with his parents in 1857, and Elizabeth Winter, daughter of John and Jemima Winter of Red Hill (Gungaharra) after their marriage in 1899. Ginn died in 1939, and his wife in 1960. (Gillespie 1992, 221) The property was acquired by the Commonwealth in 1915.

Like Gungaharra, Canberra Park is an important physical reminder of the closer settlement of the ACT region in the latter part of the nineteenth century. The slab homestead and its garden that features a large elm and other trees and outbuildings, is typical of small rural homes in the ACT region, which are now becoming uncommon.

## Ensuring the conservation of appropriate areas of rural heritage

The ACT is fortunate to have some outstanding examples of rural heritage in public ownership, most notably Lanyon, where the whole landscape is listed and the entire rural complex is managed. Tuggeranong Homestead, Mugga Mugga, Duntroon Dairy, Nil Desperandum (after post-fire reconstruction), and the Namadgi grazing huts are other examples. Yet the conservation of an appropriate rural 'heritage curtilage' around these places is often left to chance rather than being consciously planned.

The heritage curtilage is the area of land surrounding a heritage place that is essential to retain and interpret its heritage significance. The curtilage, in the case of rural complexes, might need to include buildings, infrastructure such as fences, windmills, dams, irrigation races, orchards, evidence of former plough lands, archaeological sites, and landscape features. The curtilage of a rural property is often what allows it to retain its rural character. If the curtilage is too small the place may simply become a suburban building, as has happened, for example, at Hill Station. The curtilage should also allow the retention of important views into and out of the place, and screen intrusive urban development.

Curtilage can be managed by either including it within the boundary of the listed place, or by implementing planning controls outside the boundary of the place to protect key aspects of the curtilage (such as major views and vistas, vegetation character of backdrop hills, development density and character, etc).

## The challenge in Gungahlin

As the suburban development of Gungahlin expands, the curtilages of rural heritage properties are squeezed. The challenge is to set aside for conservation, sufficient land to allow the heritage significance of these important places to be retained, and for their rural character to be understood and enjoyed by

the community. The overall pattern of development is already being set; the major Horse Park Drive that cuts through the paddocks between Well Station and Canberra Park is almost completed, and negotiations over the curtilage of Horse Park, Well Station and Gungaharra are at an advanced stage. The Heritage Council has been working closely with Planning and Land Management (PALM) and ACT Planning & Land Authority (ATPLA) to identify and conserve rural heritage values, including defining an adequate curtilage for the major sites in the context of surrounding residential and commercial development.

The retention of rural heritage enhances the liveability of the proposed and existing residential areas of Gungahlin, provides a parklike setting with rural vistas, and a rich collection of cultural and natural heritage assets in accessible open space that are available for the enjoyment of the rapidly growing community. The conservation of heritage resources provides a valuable link to the past history of the area for the establishing community, and will be an important component in building a local sense of place and identity. An early example of this is the existing local community of tenants and leaseholders — the Mulanggari Association — which is seeking community-based input into the use of the heritage sites and associated rural land.

Now is the time for the wider Canberra community to look around it and appreciate its rural setting. Community participation by making submissions to planning and heritage consultation processes and lobbying through the National Trust and other community organisations, will be a critical factor if our rural heritage is to be conserved as part of an expanding Canberra.

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Michael Pearson is a historical archaeologist and heritage planning consultant, and is a member of the ACT Heritage Council. The views in the paper are personal ones and not necessarily those of the Heritage Council or the ACT Government.

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## HERITAGE HAPPENINGS

In each edition of *Heritage in Trust* we will bring you up-to-date with recent activities Trust councillors, consultants and staff have been engaged in.

### *Memorial to commemorate Women's suffrage*

On 21 August the Trust, together with Australia ICOMOS, issued a media release critical of the government decision to build a 21 metre high fan with oscillating blades immediately adjacent to Old Parliament House. The fan was to be constructed to commemorate women's suffrage in Australia. Members will have seen recent reports in the *Canberra Times* and on ABC Stateline in which the fan was discussed. The release expressed concern that the decision to build the fan appeared to have been made without a proper conservation plan, without any apparent consideration of the likely heritage impacts and without the level of public consultation now expected when places of great national significance are to be changed. We stressed that we are not opposed in principle to a memorial commemorating women's suffrage.

On Friday 12 September the National Capital Authority, on behalf of the Government, advised the artists that their commission had been terminated, because they were not able to fulfil their obligations to produce the artwork within budget and by the specified date. The Government also announced that it will carefully consider an appropriate alternative form of recognition of this historic mark.

(An interesting footnote to this issue is the decision to move the bronze statue of King George V from its plinth. In his book *Canberra 1954-1980*, Eric Sparke reports "Installed in 1953 in front of the provisional Parliament House, the memorial was resited in February 1968 so that it would no longer block the vista along the land axis".)

### *Endangered Places List*

At its meeting of 14 August the Council resolved to remove the nine inner city garden suburbs from the Endangered Places List. It took this decision following the passage of Draft Variation 200 through the Legislative Assembly.

The ACT Trust nominated one place this year to the Endangered Places List, namely the Fairbairn precinct of Canberra Airport. This important place is threatened with damage and demolition. Management control of the site is now formally split and as there is no apparent conservation management plan for the place, the risk of demolition, neglect and inappropriate development is very high. In our citation, we stated that RAAF Base Fairbairn has been place of arrival and departure for VIPs since 1945 and has presented a distinctive and cohesive RAAF identity in the National Capital for more than 56 years.

### *ACT Heritage Grants*

This year's grants under the ACT Government's Heritage Grants Program were announced by Minister Bill Wood on 21 August. This year the Trust received five grants totalling \$32 183.

National Trust of Australia (ACT) \$5,205.45

*Canberra's Military History - A self guided tour*

National Trust of Australia (ACT) \$5,205.45

*A Tour of Blandfordia 5, Griffith Urban Conservation Area*

National Trust of Australia (ACT) \$7,932.73

*Roads & Ruins (or Roads to Ruins)*

National Trust of Australia (ACT) \$8,841.82

*Ginninderra Blacksmith Shop Urgent Conservation Work Stage 2*

National Trust of Australia (ACT) \$5,000.00

*Survey of Ash Grove Homestead*

The Trust has written to Bill Wood to thank him for the grants, but at the same time pointing out that our application for continued funding to assist with the production of *Heritage in Trust* was not successful. We pointed out to the Minister, and take this opportunity to let our readers know, that the Council has decided to reduce the number of editions of *Heritage in Trust* to three a year. We have decided to endeavour to maintain the quality of the journal but, reflecting growing cost pressures and the failure to win a grant this year, formed the view that the only option is to cut down on the number of editions each year. By way of information, each edition of *Heritage in Trust* this year will cost in the region of \$5300-\$5500 to produce and mail. This is made up of editing and design costs (\$1700 per edition), printing costs (about \$2300 per edition depending on number of pages and number of colour pages) and postage costs (between \$620 and \$650). In past years we have allocated \$10 000 from the federal government's grant in aid towards these costs, with the balance of funds coming from the ACT grant and our general account.

### *Trust Projects*

Recently the Trust has completed a number of projects and reports on heritage listed places in the ACT:

*Tharwa Heritage Survey* Stage 1 and Stage 2 assessed the historic and heritage significance of the village and surrounding area and drew up a draft heritage listing which is now being examined by our Heritage Committee and the ACT Heritage Unit.

*Glenburn (Kowen): A Conservation and Management Plan* assessed the historic and heritage significance of the Glenburn Valley including two ruins, a cemetery, a shearing shed and other smaller sites within the valley.

*Ginninderra Blacksmith's Shop: Conservation and Management Plan* reassessed the heritage value of this small ruin and proposed a plan for its long-term conservation. The first stage of stabilisation and repair work has been done on this building along with an archaeological survey assisted by the Canberra Archaeological Society. More work will be done in the near future.

*Duntroon Dairy Interpretation Plan* followed on from a conservation and management plan for this important building. It outlined a strategy to open up the building and make it regularly accessible to the public. The building is owned by the ACT Government and it is hoped that it will be opened up





for guided tours in the near future.

*Edlington Oral History* is a project now in progress. Members of the Edlington family will be interviewed and their association with the Duntroon Dairy investigated. The Trust is managing the project and has engaged a consultant to do the interviewing.

*Pisé Places in the Australian Capital Territory* was completed in 2001. It identifies the buildings in the ACT built by the pisé (rammed earth) method and discusses their history and significance and outlines methods in which these places can be maintained and protected. This report is available on our website at [www.act.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.act.nationaltrust.org.au)

*Interviews with Lyall Gillespie* was another project completed in 2001 on this well-known Canberra historian. A series of taped interviews and a written transcript were done on the life of Lyall and his contributions in bringing the history of the ACT (particularly before federation) to the general public.

The Trust is currently working on a streetscape study of sections of Turner, and more of the popular self-guided tours of Canberra's suburbs.

All these projects have been funded by the ACT government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

**Colin Griffiths, Heritage Officer**  
**Peter Dowling, Council member**

## WEEKEND SEMINAR ON AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY GARDEN DESIGN

Well known Goulburn-based landscape architect, Michael Bligh, whose garden some of you may have visited towards the end of last year's Southern Highland Fling tour, is holding a seminar at Wallendibby, Delegate, on the weekend 1-2 November 2003. On Saturday what is important about creating a beautiful country garden will be explored. Sunday will be spent visiting, and critically examining, top local gardens. The registration cost, including morning and afternoon teas and lunch, is \$200 pp for the whole weekend or \$100 pp for either day (\$300 and \$150 respectively for couples). Please contact Michael Bligh direct on (02) 48218462 for more information and/or to register.

## Old Parliament House Shop

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## UPDATE ON THE HERITAGE PROTECTION FUND

### WHERE DID YOUR DONATIONS GO?

Members will recall that in the Summer 2002 edition of *Heritage in Trust* we announced the creation of a Heritage Protection Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to assist the Trust with any costs associated with actions we might need to take to defend the Heritage of the ACT. Donations to the Heritage Protection Fund have, to date, totalled \$2992. On behalf of the Trust Council I would like to thank those of you who donated so generously to the Fund.

The Fund has already been put to work to help meet the substantial legal costs the Trust incurred from fighting a case, in the Red Hill heritage precinct, to protect heritage street-scape values from inappropriate development. The case began in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal where the Trust and other associated parties won a favourable decision. However, the developer involved appealed the Tribunal decision to the ACT Supreme Court and also to the High Court. His appeals were in vain and the final decision in the ACT Supreme Court in December of last year was again in favour of the Trust and other parties associated with our side of the case.

In all of the court decisions in this case, costs were awarded to the Trust and other associated parties, and since the December decision we have been pursuing those costs. Although we have received some payment from the losing party there is a substantial amount owing to us.

In the meantime, of course, we continue to receive accounts from the law firm that have to be paid and, whatever we receive from the developer in the end, we will be substantially out of pocket.

The Trust's Heritage Protection Fund was a valuable help in fighting this case and we hope it will continue to help with future cases if they arise. I therefore take this opportunity to gently remind members that we are still accepting donations to this very worthy cause – after all, the next case might be next door to you! Donations are, of course, tax deductible.

**Eric Martin, Vice President**

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# Canberra Firestorm

**Special offer to National Trust Members: \$66.00 per video, normal price \$110.**

Broadcast on ABC TV 27 February 2003

## Can we prevent such infernos?

In this summer of fire, one tragedy stands out — the Canberra bushfires. In a single day, four lives were lost and more than 500 homes were destroyed in and around our national Capital.

Within days of the tragedy, fire experts from the CSIRO were searching for answers. Catalyst followed their investigation into a fire that has re-written the rules of how bushfires behave. The story weaves together the graphic accounts of the fire victims, with the investigative team's analysis of why the fires defied all expectations.

The story investigates why so many homes were lost, how a bushfire could strike deep inside a suburb, and why this fire developed into an uncontrollable wildfire. Find out exactly what went wrong, and discover what we can do to be better prepared next time. The results tackle one of the big questions - should people leave their homes or stay and fight the fire.

Reporter: Karina Kelly

Producer: Andrew Holland

Researcher: Paul Grocott



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## Shop News

The Mount Stromlo Observatory print featured in last month's *Heritage in Trust* has been selling very well. For those of you who did not see the last magazine, the National Trust (ACT) commissioned Kim Nelson to do a painting of Mount Stromlo Observatory as a fund raiser for the Trust. It will be auctioned next year during the Heritage Festival. We have had 99 limited edition digital prints made, all numbered and with a certificate of authenticity signed by Kim. They are available for only \$350.00 each. Both the original and a framed print are hanging in the shop if anyone wishes to see them.

For those working in an office which has a blank wall, let the boss know about the Stromlo print and how good it would look. Because it is a limited edition, it is a good investment.

It is time to think of the annual ritual of the Christmas cards. We have had to put the price up this year to \$1.10, but if you purchase 20 you only pay \$20 and still receive your 15% discount. The desk diary for 2004 features Australian buildings of architectural and historical significance (similar to what we had in 2002). It is very timely as next year is the 'Year of the Built Environment'. The ever-popular pocket and slimline diaries are also in stock.

The shop will be 10 years old on January 26th 2004. I would like to organise a get-together of all volunteers and staff who have been involved with the shop since the beginning. If you have been a volunteer in the shop, and would like to celebrate with us, please call me on 6273 4744 for more details.

### What's New

We have just received a new shipment of tan plated jewellery from the Australian Eucalypt Collection. These have been featured in the magazine previously and are proving very popular. There are some new items in the collection, including seahorse brooches and earrings.

Titanium is a strong, light and versatile metal which is used extensively in the medical field and to make jewellery. We have arranged to have a small range of this jewellery (brooches and earrings) as a trial.

For that extra little gift for that special someone, check out our new range of small pottery plates with Australian motifs.

We have just purchased the entire stock of books on Canberra and the region from Diplomat Agencies. Kathleen Phillips used to be at the Bus Depot markets every Sunday with her books and has decided that it is time to quit. So come in and look through them, you might find that elusive volume.

Do you know anyone going overseas? Don't forget to tell them about the advantages of joining the National Trust with free entry to other National Trust properties. Another benefit is the discount available at the shop when they buy those little gifts to take with them.

All ACT National Trust members receive a 15% discount in the shop, other state and overseas members receive a 10% discount

I would like to wish all the volunteers and staff of the shop, their families and all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

**Dianne Dowling**

## National Trust Committee Meetings

Council: 5.30 pm Thursday 6 November, 27 November (AGM); 18 December

Education and Cultural Committee: to be advised

Heritage Committee: 12.30 pm Tuesday 14 October; 11 November; 9 December; 10 February

Lanyon Committee: 12.15 pm Tuesday 21 October, 18 November, 20 January; 17 February

Membership Committee: usually 4th Wednesday each month at Old Parliament House Shop 5.30 pm. Contact Dianne Dowling 6273 4744

Publications Committee: to be advised

## Heritage in Trust magazine

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

Co-ordinator – Shirley-Ann Ollier

Marjorie & Mr Brown

Margot Girle

Neville Halgren

Wilma James

Robyn Maher

Max McKenzie

Margaret Mitchell

Margaret Roach

Audrey Sear

Special thanks to Audrey Sear who pre-stamped the envelopes for posting and to Shirley-Ann Ollier for the pre-mailing preparation.

Number wrapped and posted 1146

## New Members

The National Trust of the ACT welcomes the following new members

Donald & Rosemary Baehnisch

Ms K & Mr C Bayliss

Robert Cussel and Anna Johns

Margaret & Peter Davidson

Ian & Katharine Finlayson

Sheila Gilpin

Peter See and Carol Graham

Ms M Miller and Mrs W Hamson

Baillie & Carol McKenny

Paul & Mary Mlakar

Lee & Catherine Osborne

Noni Osborne

Dr Margaret Park

Michelle & David Pilloni

Paul & Mary Pollard

Ms Roslyn Russell

Mr & Mrs R. Telford

Prof. D & Mrs G Tryon

Peter & Frances Ward

Helen & Anthony Wilkes





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

## Notice of annual general meeting

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) will hold its next annual general meeting on Thursday 27 November at the Canberra Museum and Gallery Theatre at 7:30 pm. In accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the following Councillors will stand down at the AGM, but are eligible for reappointment: Eric Martin, John McDonald, Michael Moreing, Robert Boden, Jane Hingston and Garth Setchell.

Members are invited to nominate persons for election to Council. Nominations must be made and seconded, in writing and signed, by current members of the Trust accompanied by a signed consent from the nominee. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Trust office and must reach the office 30 days before the AGM.

After business is concluded, Dr Peter Dowling will give an illustrated talk on the archeology of the ANZAC battlefield at Gallipoli.

## Old Parliament House Shop

has just purchased the entire stock of books  
on Canberra and the region  
from Diplomat Agencies.

## 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:

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- access to the National Trust's special events and activities
- an opportunity to help the Trust protect your local natural and cultural heritage.

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## **Trevels with the Trust**

### **Recent Activities**

top right: Riverview Lookout –  
Bundanoon Ramble, July 2003

### **Forthcoming Tours**

above right: Wattamolla Beach,  
Royal National Park – Another Royal  
Occasion, March 2004.

right: Squeaky Beach, Wilsons  
Promontory – South to the Prom,  
February 2004.

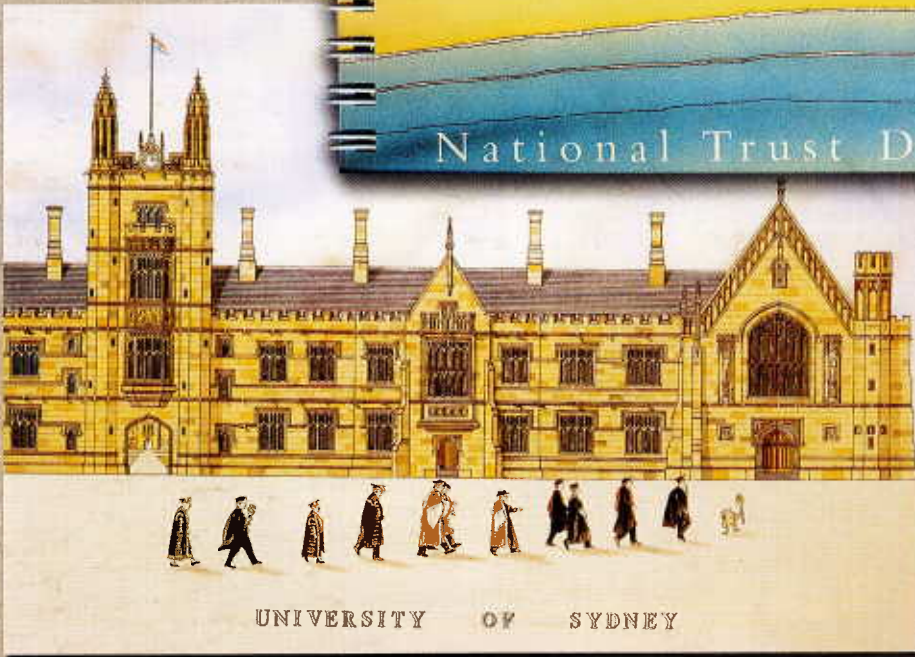
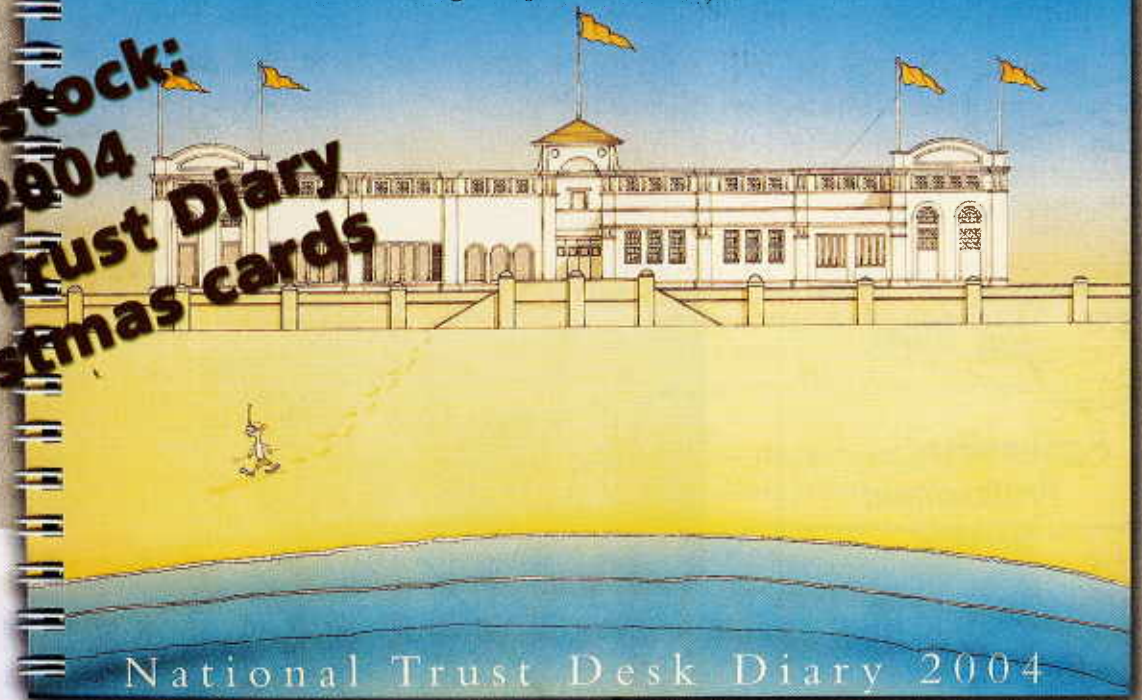
all photos: Garth Setchell.



# Historic Architecture of Australia II

*Paintings by Simon Fieldhouse*

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