

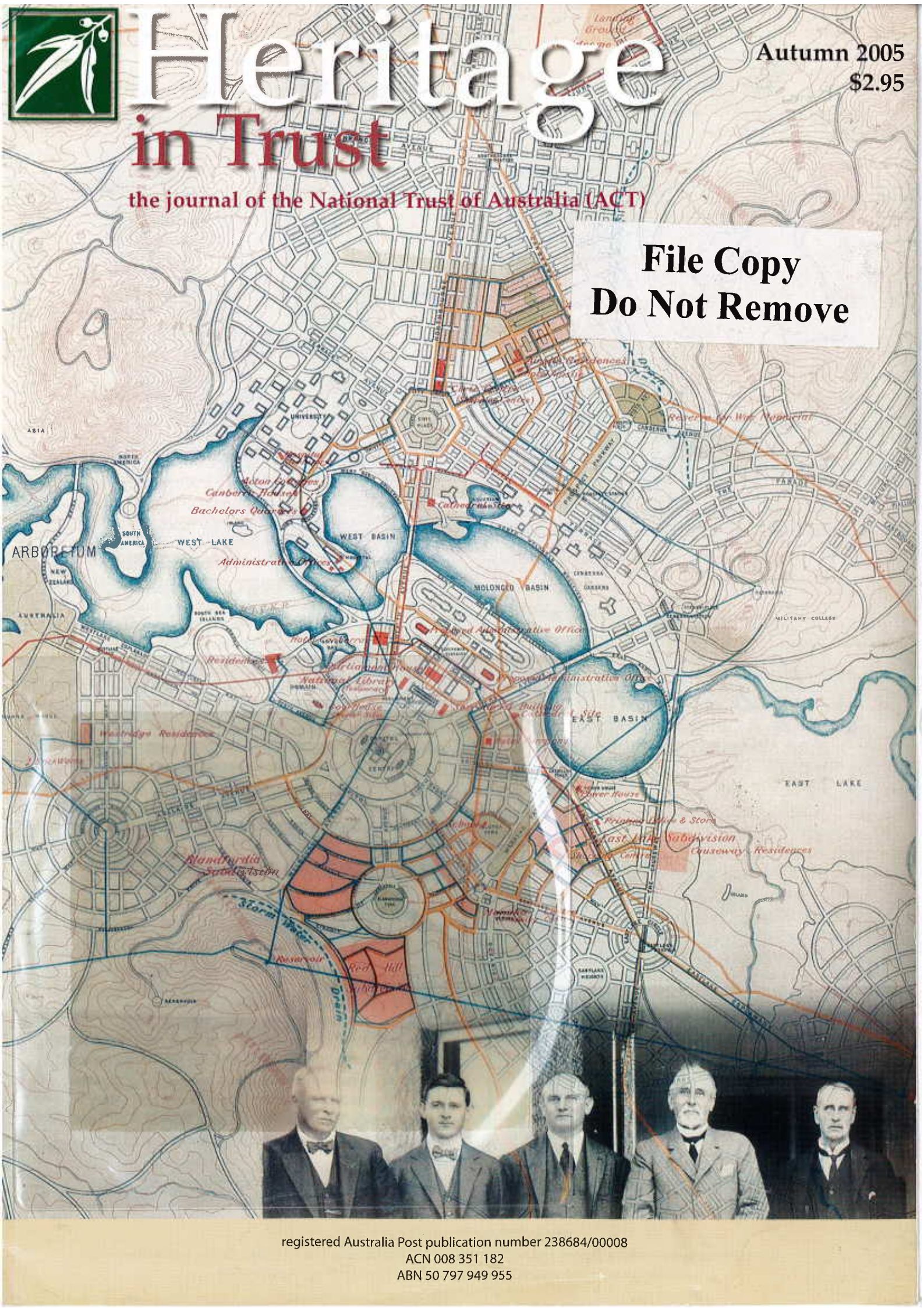


Heritage in Trust

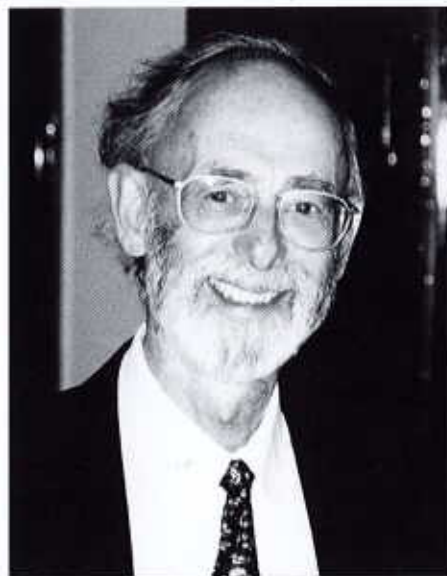
Autumn 2005
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the journal of the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

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Ken Taylor



Ken Taylor has stood down as President of the ACT National Trust after 17 years. Ken is only the fourth president in the Trust's 29 year history and held the position longer than any of his predecessors.

Ken always offered his expertise and experience to guide the National Trust and took an active role with several committees in protecting ACT heritage places such as Lanyon. His energetic work in trying to protect and promote Canberra Garden City ideals in particular, helped to establish a solid reputation for the National Trust.

Over the period of Ken's Presidency the Trust moved twice, had fluctuating financial fortunes, established the Old Parliament House Shop and maintained a higher per capita membership than other Australian National Trusts.

Ken has been a friend to many and a professional colleague who maintained high conservation standards which he enthusiastically promoted within the National Trust.

Ken is still active in the conservation field and will now be able to expand his Asian work and promotion of heritage in wider arenas. We hope Ken and Maggie can now enjoy a less demanding, though still valuable, role with the Trust in the years ahead.

Eric J Martin

The National Trust is delighted to have received a recent gift from James and Sophia Notaras which will be used to fund the publication later this year of the oral history of Canberra in the Second World War. This history was compiled by Trust councillor Judith Baskin. The Trust is extremely grateful to James and Sophia for their generosity.

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Cover: The 1925 plan of Canberra, see Eric Martin's article on page 5.

Winner of the National Trust (ACT)'s award for Heritage Conservation studies at the University of Canberra

Linda Bordiss

Linda completed a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Canberra in 2004, majoring in history at the ANU. In 2003 she prepared a report on the indigenous rock art of the Burrup Peninsula (WA) and conducted interviews for the Edlington Oral History project as part of the interpretation of Duntroon Dairy for the National Trust of Australia (ACT).

In 2004 Linda researched and wrote the history of the Big Gun Dairy, which was flooded by Lake Burley Griffin. She also wrote a history of Coggan's Bakery for the Interim Heritage Register of the ACT. Both of these projects were undertaken for the National Trust of Australia (ACT).

Currently Linda is working on a history of the Ginninderra Blacksmith's Shop for the National Trust of Australia (ACT) in addition to working part-time with the Visitor Services Team at the National Museum of Australia.

www.act.nationaltrust.org.au

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

President's Note

I am pleased to accept the position as President of the National Trust of Australia (ACT). It was equally pleasing to see elected to Council two new members: Helen Carlile and Adele Rosalky. These changes follow the appointment of Peter Lundy and Jim Nockels in 2004, and Margaret Park and Jane Hingston in 2003.

I am looking forward to working with the new Council which will combine fresh ideas and a depth of experience within the ACT.

Some of the issues we in the Trust will need to address this year are:

- ongoing financial pressures on the National Trust
- re-tender of the OPH Gift Shop
- a proposed review of the NT organisation and structure Australia wide with an aim of ensuring long term viability
- changing needs of various NT committees as circumstances alter in the ACT
- ensuring the administration is supported to maximise output within the resources available and eliciting support from volunteers
- an ever evolving planning structure and new Heritage legislation in the ACT.

These issues provide a solid base on which the new Council needs to consider its direction for 2005 and beyond.

I would also like Council to maintain a solid contact with our members as there is strength in numbers for advocacy and strength in the organisation where there is wide-ranging support.

I would welcome the views of members on any aspect of Trust business or the means to conserve, protect and promote our Heritage for the benefit of all.

Eric J. Martin
President



Members' page

The Members Page is an information page for all current and future members of the National Trust of Australia (ACT). Our aim is pass on any information that may be of assistance to members and also advise members of activities that have been organised by the various committees of the ACT National Trust.

If any member has any information that may be of interest please contact Dianne Dowling on 6273 4744 during business hours.

Special Luncheon

Some Lighter Moments of Vice Regal Life

Join us for a two course lunch, a glass of wine and listen to Sir David Smith KCVO, AO who will talk about some of the lighter moments of Vice Regal life during his term at Government House. Sir David was the Official Secretary to five Governors General from 1973 to 1990, and has a few tales to tell. He is also a great supporter of the National Trust.

Date: Sunday February 27th 2005

Time: 12.30 p.m.

Place: Lobby Restaurant

King George Terrace, Parkes

Cost: \$55 Members, \$58 Non Members

Bookings must be accompanied by payment, as places are limited.

Volunteer of the Year

The volunteer of the year for 2004 is Mrs Robin Setchell. Robin joined the Trust in the late 1970s and volunteered to help at Lanyon Homestead as a guardian within the house, 'protecting' and guarding the contents, as members still do today. As she was employed by the Department of Health, Dental Public Health Division,



Robin Setchell

from 1960 to 1987, Lanyon was a weekend interest. She met Colonel Peter McGrath (rtd), then Project Officer for the National Trust (ACT), and married him in 1984. Many aspects of Peter's employment involved her in the early activities of the newly established autonomous ACT Trust office. During this time, the Trust had a heavy dependence on the work of volunteers for a wide range of functions. A significant interest for Peter, in addition to his normal work, was a fund-raising Tours program he developed during the 1980s. Robin retired from the Public Service three years before Peter died in July 1990. From then until the opening of the Old Parliament House Gift Shop, her voluntary work included assistance to the former Deakin office, whilst working as part of the late Mrs Jean Robertson's backroom team. This supported the three shop outlets at Manuka, Lanyon Homestead and at Jonathon's Cafe in Woden Plaza. The team role included operations, stock control, purchase and pricing of supplies, and negotiations for design of items of special local interest. She also regularly attended and relieved at the Manuka gift shop and drew up the rosters. Other involvements included the Trust's participation in such events as the annual Christmas Charity outlet and Antique Fairs.

In 1996 Robin married Garth Setchell, supporting him in many ways in respect of the rapidly expanding, fund raising Walks and Tours Program and his other Trust activities. Whilst enjoying this, her working alongside Garth, to enable the smooth running of tours in Australia and overseas, involved considerable personal expense and consumed prodigious amounts of time. In addition, she has played a major role in fostering the social aspects of tours. Since the opening of the present OPH Gift Shop in January 1994, Robin has remained a regular volunteer. In 2004, she attended the shop for half a day each fortnight and, on many occasions, worked additional shifts.

The Trust congratulates Robin for her past efforts as a volunteer and is looking forward to her continuing participation. The volunteer of the year is a member of the National Trust (ACT), who has been actively and regularly involved as a volunteer throughout the calendar year and whose activities have made a strong contribution to the success of the National Trust (ACT). Please contact Dianne Dowling at the OPH Shop on 6273 4744 for further information

Ten Years Certificate of Service

The National Trust would like to recognise and thank all volunteers who donate their time in the various activities. In particular Mrs Elaine Laver, Miss Valda McCabe and Mrs Jenny Peaker, who receive their 10 year certificates this year and the recipients for 2003 were Ms Judith Baskin, Mr Neville Halgren, Mrs Margaret Howard, and Mrs Elizabeth Teasey.

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 and certificate, please contact Dianne Dowling at the Old Parliament

House Shop on 6273 4744, or the Office on 6230 0533. These badges and certificates are presented at the Volunteers Luncheon

Volunteer's Luncheon

We would like to thank all those volunteers who turned up at the luncheon, and hope they enjoyed themselves, and as in the past the rain held off and it was a beautiful day. The National Trust and Membership Committee organises this event in appreciation of the hours the volunteers donate to the National Trust and we receive our thanks by watching all the volunteers meet each other and enjoy their day.

The National Trust would not be able to operate without the faithful band of volunteers.

Christmas Cocktails

Our annual get together at Calthorpes' House was a success. The tours of the house were very popular as many of our guests took the chance to see the house for the first time. The gardens were in very good condition considering the drought and even the mossies held off for the most of the evening. Judging by the favourable comments, the selection of nibbles put on by the Membership Committee was enjoyed by all who attended, not forgetting the wine and the surroundings. There was a special touch this year as we arranged for some music in the gardens and we would like to thank Alex Moon for his contribution on the keyboard under the arbour in the garden.

The guides, who volunteered their time to show us around, deserve a very large thank you and also Historic Places for their generosity in lending us the use of the gardens and also the marquee.

The National Trust would like to thank Dr Helen Wiles and Mr Alan Kerr, who were the winners of the raffle, and then donated the prizes back to the National Trust to re raffle at a later date.

Membership Committee

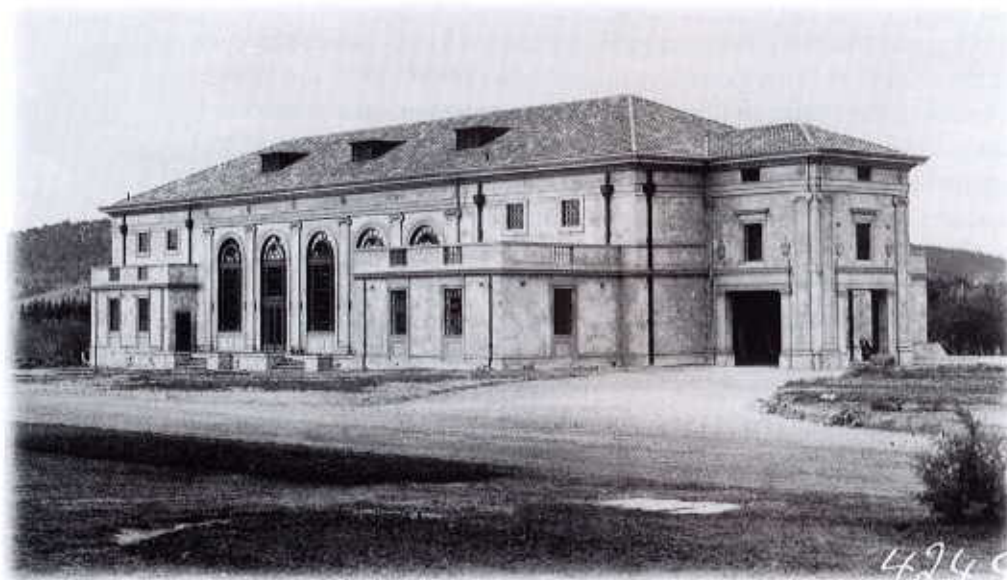
We have vacancies on the Membership Committee and are interested in hearing from anyone who has an hour or so to spare on the fourth Wednesday of every month. The committee is a vital link between National Trust (ACT) members and the Council. It looks at ways of increasing the benefits to members and helps arrange functions and activities for all members and volunteers.

If anyone is interested, could they please contact the office on 6230 0533, the shop on 6273 4744 or any of the committee members listed below.

Committee Members

Dianne Dowling (chair), Viggo Pedersen (Secretary), Rosina Akhurst, Pam Behncke, Rita Bishop, Margaret Howard, Anna Moreing, and Maree Treadwell.

The National Trust would like to thank the Membership Committee members for all their hard work during the past year. As with all other Committees and Council, members are volunteers and we thank you for giving up your time.



Albert Hall 1928

Albert Hall

Eric Martin

We all pass older Canberra buildings such as Albert Hall, and even visit them, but often we know little of their history and contribution to Canberra life. This paper looks at the Albert Hall and hopefully helps to explain why it is a special place.

In 1925 'The Federal Capital Commission realised, when preparing for the needs of the incoming population, that something better than the Acton Hall, which was built of galvanised iron, was required.'¹

The Commission decided to build a public hall on Commonwealth Avenue, and a scheme was developed accordingly. When it was ready, I took the details to Melbourne to see the Minister for Home and Territories (Senator Pearce), as there was then a statutory provision that required all works estimated to cost over £25,000 to be referred for investigation by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and considerably more than that sum was involved. I had drafted the usual motion and a short speech for the Minister to use, but, to my surprise, he refused to take the matter to Parliament, saying that the Commission must reduce the cost of the work below £25,000, to make the reference unnecessary. Like so many other politicians, because of the opposition and indifference in the electorate, he wanted to do his duty to the capital by stealth. As a result, we had to revise the scale of the project and omit desirable accessory features and accommodation. The hall was duly built, and the opening ceremony, on 10 March 1928, was performed by the Prime Minister, the Hon. S.M. (later Lord) Bruce, who also named the building, associating it with Albert, Duke of York, who had recently opened Parliament House, and with the important centre of musical culture in London, called after the Prince Consort of Queen Victoria. Mr Bruce said that he did not think he could have done better in so designing 'the official headquarters of music in the Commonwealth'. He remarked that 'although like Parliament House it is not meant to be permanent, nevertheless it is too fine, perhaps, for a temporary structure, and should prove a suitable habitat for the promulgation of cultural activities'. He expressed the hope that 'the Albert Hall will come to be the centre of Australian musical life'.

Although these high aspirations were not realised, the Albert Hall has been the scene of many fine concerts, dramatic displays, conventions and public gatherings of almost every description for 37 years, and it has thus been an invaluable asset, especially in cultural matters. The opening ceremony itself was followed by an excellent concert, arranged by a very good friend to music in Canberra, the pianist Frank Hutchens, who brought a talented group from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and charged no expenses whatsoever, giving our newly-formed Musical Society a good financial start by allowing them to keep the proceeds.

The first international artists to appear in the Hall were the Cherniavsky Instrumental Trio, who said that it was one of the best in which they had ever played. Lotte Lehmann, the eminent vocalist, told me that it was 'a beautiful hall to sing in', and the members of the Budapest Quartet said that it was fine for chamber music, and that they wished that they could stay here.

The Albert Hall is too small for large orchestras, a circumstance that displeased Eugene Ormandy, but for smaller groups of 45 that used to play here under the batons of Percy Code and others, it is satisfactory. From time to time, various schemes for its improvement or enlargement have been drawn up, but funds for these could not be obtained. I feel sure that the Albert Hall will continue to give good service to this community in many ways, even for musical and dramatic features for which the large new theatre at City may not be required.²

That Albert Hall was used for a wide variety of activities is illustrated by the personal anecdotes provided below. It was part of Canberra's social life.

Coral Charlton says 'We used to go to a lot of balls because Bill played the violin in the band. We'd go to Cooma and Queanbeyan and of course, frequently to the Albert Hall. I often didn't have to pay because I carried the violin. Bill was also an early member of the Canberra City Band and played at major Civic functions.'³

Doug Strong recalls: 'Later on, I used to win prizes for my cabbages and cauliflowers, and I'd sell the onions, I grew the most terrific rhubarb with the manure from the Young's stables at the back of our block. I'd let the rhubarb thicken to about the size of your thumb and then I'd put a tea chest over it and it would grow for the light. I used to win all the prizes at the Albert Hall, and I never let on how I did it.'⁴

The Harvie family recollections relate a story from Daphne Cashmore: 'I have another photo taken of Joy and Eric on a cruise to Norfolk Island on the Norcunda. I loaned them my fancy costumes—I made the costumes for my boyfriend and myself for a fancy dress ball at the Albert Hall, and we won first prize.'⁵

Mabel McIntosh remembers: 'They told me I would work in the pantry for a while and then I was to be a housemaid cum waitress. I had to do the rooms of the Telopea Park School teachers—I think Miss Brodie, the Headmistress, may have been there at the time. One of the teachers lent me a school tunic to go to a "back to school" ball at the Albert Hall. I remember the boys saying, "Gee, not a bad pair of legs"; I had black stockings on and the gym tunic was above the knee. I went with the Arbuckle girls, Nell and Beth; they had borrowed scooters. We used to go to dances at the Trades Hall in Acton, the Albert Hall and the Masonic Hall. We had quite an active life.'⁶

Charles Daley also recalls another use for Albert Hall: 'Strange to relate, shortly afterwards, on the evening of the recent senate election, I dropped into the Albert Hall, towards midnight, to observe the well-arranged scheme by which the progressive voting results were being posted, in much detail all around the walls, and summarised on the stage. In the centre of the hall sat the Prime Minister [Sir Robert Menzies], with some of his political staff, concentrating upon the changing figures. Finally, when he decided to leave, he noticed me and remarked "I've been reading your articles; you're going back 50 years". He passed on before I could reply, and I wondered whether the Prime Minister himself was taking the same view of my inquirer already mentioned. I doubt this, but made a very fine speech in appealing for support for a worthy war effort.'⁷

Albert Hall also featured stars and future stars such as Noel Coward, Dame Sybil Thorndike, Richard Tauber and Joan Sutherland, and the politically historic Petrov Royal Commission began hearings in the Hall.

The setting for Albert Hall has changed and evolved over the years 'The building is surrounded by trees, to the south are English plane trees and needle pines in a garden setting, to the east are two Atlantic cedars, which form part of the cosmopolitan Commonwealth Avenue plantings. A sundial, surrounded by a circle of rosemary, is the central feature of the forecourt which subtly defines the space between the hall and Commonwealth Avenue. A plaque set into the base of the



Charlton photo

Coral Charlton - dressed for a ball. 1930s



1930 plan



1928 setting



Albert Hall today

sun dial reads "The pedestal of the sun-dial once portion of the Houses of Parliament Westminster was presented by J N Reeson Esq M.Inst., C.E. of Melbourne Vic".⁹

The original landscaping included rose gardens to the north-east and south.¹⁰ These were planted at the same time as the Rose Gardens that were established around Parliament House.

The Albert Hall is a Classical Revival building and considered a fine example of Federal Capital style architecture of the era of the establishment of the national capital.

The building is constructed of rendered brick, painted buff colour, with a terracotta Roman-tiled hipped roof over the main rectangular hall, and flat roofs over the porte-cochere and side wings. External and internal wall surfaces have Roman Ionic pilasters complete with entablatures, simplified in the manner of the period. The volutes of the Ionic capitals are echoed in the roundels above the pilasters and on the rainwater heads. Side elevations have large, semi circular arched windows divided into many panes and defined by restrained mouldings painted dark green externally.

The foyer walls are painted soft yellow and the floors covered by pale grey carpet with pale yellow decoration. In the foyer is a telephone booth and there are male and female toilets downstairs. The lecture room and kitchen, painted soft yellow, are off the foyer to the north.

The auditorium has five elegant arched windows to the north and south, within which are set two doors to the north terrace and two doors to the south terrace and garden. The interior colour scheme of the auditorium is

grey tones with pale yellow highlights, which articulates the subtly moulded stage proscenium, portico and pilasters. The window curtains are of a claret colour, the stage curtains red; both with gold decoration. The auditorium has a shallow panelled ceiling with medallions and simple pressed concrete designs, from which hang the original light fittings. These are supplemented by floodlights set in the five central decorative panels. The auditorium has a fine parquet floor and ash joinery.

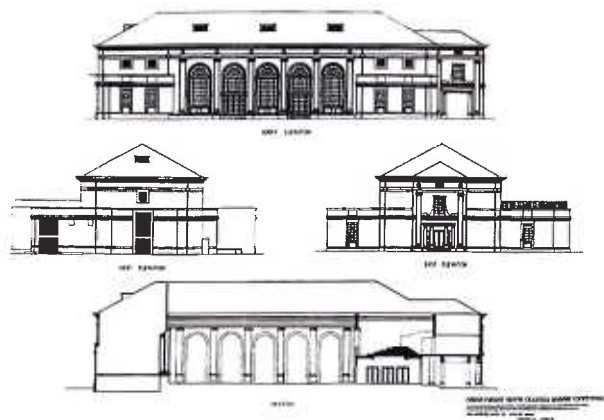
To the west is the stage, at the rear is of which is housed a Compton 3/9 Theatre Pipe Organ contained in a locked timber structure, which is owned and managed by the Theatre Organ Society of Australia (ACT Division). To the north and south of the stage are the dressing rooms refurbished in the early 1990s with showers and dressing tables. There is a cellar below the stage. The boiler room is to the north of the stage. It has been suggested the hall can seat 580, with an additional 128 seats in the gallery.

Upstairs to the east is a tiered gallery, projection room and rewind room containing a 35 mm projection system. The managers office is to the east, originally designed as lounge with bar.¹¹

The Hall was constructed in 1927 for the FCC to designs prepared by FCC architect J Hunter Kirkpatrick, with the assistance of Robert Casboulte. The majority of the materials used were of Australian origin. The hall cost £24,050.

Mr Kirkpatrick undertook major architectural works in Sydney. He was chosen to be one of the three assessors on the design assessment panel for the Federal Capital. Kirkpatrick was later appointed Design Architect to the Federal Capital Commission. His works include the Commonwealth Trading Bank, Martin Place, Sydney, the principal stands at the Sydney Cricket Ground, Melbourne and Sydney Buildings in Civic and the Forestry School, Yarralumla. The hall was constructed by Simmie and Co.¹²

To the south of the main entrance was the sculpture titled 'War'. There were two plaques attached to the plinth with the higher one reading 'This sculpture portraying Bellona the Roman Goddess of War was presented by the artist Bertram Mackennal to the Commonwealth of Australia in 1921



Belona

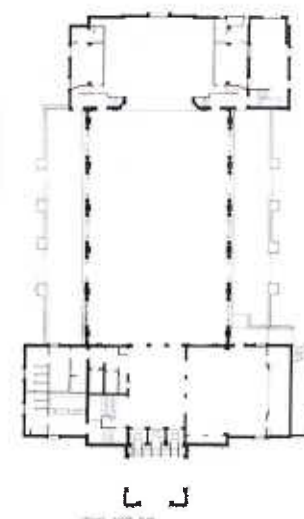
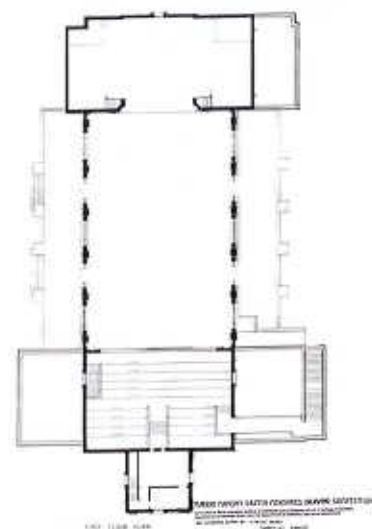
as his tribute to the gallantry of the Australian Soldiers of the First World War. On loan from the Australian War Memorial (944.5). The lower plaque reads 'The return of Bellona, the Roman Goddess of War to Albert Hall was commemorated by an unveiling ceremony performed by Rosemary Follett MLA Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory on 8 October 1993'.¹³ Belona was the subject to the addition of appropriate modesty clothing during ANU's bush week festivities. Belona was relocated back to the Australian War Memorial a few years ago.

Another plaque was added beside the entrance in the late 1980s by the ACT Heritage Committee acknowledging the building's significance.

Over the years there have been several 'Alterations to the Hall include[ing]: the addition of the boiler house wing and chimney to north-west corner; stair to north-west corner flat roof; the extension of stage over the orchestra pit; the construction of a kitchen in the former lecture room; the deletion of urn motifs to the porch, the construction of facilities for the disabled and the extension of the north terrace.'¹⁴

Albert Hall has embraced our arts, our environment, and is a part of our heritage, and is a fitting place to treasure and keep.

This paper was presented by Eric Martin to ACT Arts, Heritage and Environment Information Day in Albert Hall on 24th of November 2004.

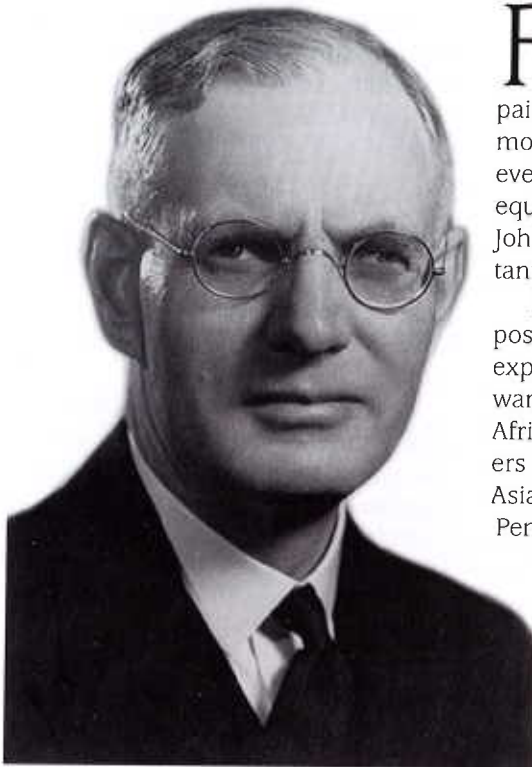


- 1 Charles Daley *As I Recall Reminiscences of Early Canberra* Mulini Press in association with CDHS 1994 page 154
- 2 Ibid 154 - 155
- 3 Val Emerton *Past Images, Present Voices Kingston and Therabouts Through a Box Brownie*, Canberra Stories Group Canberra 1986 Page 9
- 4 Ibid Page 59
- 5 Ibid Page 95
- 6 Ibid Page 133
- 7 Daley Op Cit Page 110
- 8 ACT *Heritage Interim Heritage Places Register*, Background clause 3
- 9 Ibid clause 1 Description
- 10 Ibid
- 11 Ibid
- 12 Ibid Clause 3 Background
- 13 Ibid Clause 1 Description
- 14 Ibid

If you have a story to tell about the Albert Hall and you wish to share it, please send it to the National Trust Office at the address on the inside back cover.

Prime Minister Curtin, Mount Ainslie and a firm decision—February 1942

Peter Dowling



Recently, while standing on the steps of Old Parliament House and looking towards Mount Ainslie in a contemplative mood, I was reminded of another pair of eyes which, in the summer of 63 years ago, were most likely doing the same thing. This pair of eyes, however, would have reflected a deeply troubled mind and an equally troubled heart. They belonged to Prime Minister John Curtin and he was just about to make a very important decision.

In the early weeks of 1942, Australians faced the grim possibility of a Japanese invasion*. Its best-trained and experienced troops, the Second AIF, had for most of the war, been assisting Britain safeguard its holdings in North Africa, the Mediterranean and Europe from the Axis powers of Germany, Italy and Vichy France. In south-east Asia, Australia had another division protecting the Malay Peninsula and Singapore. In the Pacific, the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbour and were making speedy advances on the Philippines, Malaya and Singapore. On February 19th Darwin was bombed. All that stood before the Japanese and the coast of Australia was the newly formed militia force in New Guinea.

Curtin's close adviser and head of the Defence Department, Fredrick Shedden, had earlier informed Curtin that there was not a single division in the

country capable of repelling an invasion. Curtin was extremely concerned about the capability of these troops in New Guinea (the men of the AIF disparagingly referred to the militia forces as 'Chocos'—chocolate soldiers who would melt when the heat was applied). They had been hastily trained and were inadequately equipped to meet the threat from Japan. Shedden further advised Curtin that the Australian Government would have to place its faith in Singapore's ability to withstand an attack. Singapore, as a fortress in the east, had been the mainstay of Australia's interwar defence policy. But on February 15th Singapore fell to the Japanese and Darwin was bombed four days later.

Curtin wanted his trained and seasoned soldiers back home to defend Australia. The British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, had other ideas. He wanted the AIF to bolster the British contingents in the defence of Burma (Myanmar) and Ceylon (Sri Lanka). His main interest was to halt the Japanese before they reached the Burma Road on which supplies were carried from India to China. Keeping China in the war and supplied would force the Japanese to commit more troops to this theatre and prevent them from taking India, the jewel in the crown of a now faltering British Empire.

The 6th and 7th Divisions of the AIF had been relieved at Tobruk and in early February, were on board troop carriers in the Indian Ocean on their way to Java. The 9th Division remained in the Mediterranean and were later to play an important role in the Allied victory at El Alamein. Curtin wanted the 6th and 7th Divisions diverted to Australia. Stern cables were being passed between Curtin and Churchill, with the Australian Prime Minister digging in his heels over what he saw as the need to defend the Australian homeland. Churchill's return cables were equally strong and forceful. Neither would give way. Churchill called upon Australia's representative in London, Earl Page, to try and dissuade Curtin from bringing the AIF home. Page indeed tried to convince Curtin of the importance of defending Australia by sending troops to Burma. This, Page argued, would play an important role in keeping China in the war. Churchill had also asked the United States president, Roosevelt, to contact Curtin and convince him of the error of his ways, but the Australian Prime Minister was made of sterner stuff than any of them thought.

Curtin did not wish to expend more Australian lives in far away places while there was an impending threat at home. He had to make a decision to override the British Prime Minister, something that no other Australian Prime Minister had done before. He required time to think. The decision to be made

* Contrary to public opinion at the time, and indeed to this day, the Japanese government had no intention of invading Australia. Rather, their policy was to isolate Australia from the northern Pacific area by occupying Papua and so denying the Allies its use as an effective military base (which it did become). The myth of a Japanese invasion during World War II has been regularly perpetuated by certain writers wishing to create a historical fact which never existed.

may well alter the course of the war (in the Pacific at least). It may even change the outcome of the war; and it would certainly change the relationship between the British and Australian governments. Curtin was already at odds with Churchill. In the last days of 1941 Curtin had declared that 'without any inhibitions of any kind, I make it quite clear that Australia looks to America, free of any pangs as to our traditional links or kinship with the United Kingdom'.

A long walk was what he needed. So in the late afternoon of the 21st February he took himself towards Mount Ainslie for a long contemplative stroll. He was away for so long in fact that Fredrick Shedden became deeply concerned about his disappearance, especially as night fell. Shedden even organised messages to be put up on the screens of the city theatres asking that the Prime Minister return to his office or at least contact it urgently. One can only wonder what the cinema patrons thought of that! Curtin did of course return and he had made up his mind what he was going to do. He would not be swayed by Churchill, the US president or any one else. He had to think of Australia first. The troops were to come home to Australia!

On 22nd February, Curtin, still trying to observe diplomacy, cabled Churchill: '...our wishes in regard to the disposition of the AIF in the Pacific theatre have long been known to you.' Churchill replied bombastically: 'We could not contemplate that you would refuse our request, and that of the President'.

Churchill, forever with more tricks up his sleeve, had already ordered the troopships carrying the two Australian divisions to change course and head to Burma. He did not inform Curtin of this decision for 24 hours! The troopships by now had not enough fuel to reach Australia and would have to stop for 3 or 4 days in Colombo to refuel. Churchill suggested that this was a time for Curtin to rethink. When he was eventually informed of the course change Curtin was shocked and angry that the relationship between the British and Australian leaders had come to such a state as this. Since Federation there had been a close association between the two heads of office, with Australia always ready to rush to Britain's aid in time of a crisis. Curtin needed no more time to rethink. In making his final decision Curtin would also have thought about the commitments Australia had made in the South African War and the immense loss of life and horrific injuries Australians had suffered in World War I protecting Britain's interests far away from home.

From Parliament House (now Old Parliament House) Curtin, with the backing of his War Cabinet, wrote a final uncompromising cable to Churchill:

Australia's outer defences are now quickly vanishing and our vulnerability is completely exposed.

With AIF troops we sought to save Malaya and Singapore, falling back on the Netherlands East Indies. All these northern defences are gone or going. Now you contemplate using the AIF to save Burma. All this has been done, as in Greece, without adequate air support.

We feel a primary obligation to save Australia not only for itself but to preserve it as a base for the development of the war against Japan. In the circumstances it is quite impossible to reverse a decision, which we have affirmed and re-affirmed.

The Greek campaign, which Curtin referred to, had been particularly irksome and troublesome for him. Churchill had thrust it upon his predecessor, Menzies, through some slick diplomatic duplicity. Churchill had independently convinced both Menzies and his Army Chief, General Blamey, that each were in favour of the campaign and had given approval for Australian troops to participate. Neither was convinced. Menzies and Blamey, for some reason, had failed to consult each other directly over the proposed campaign and both took Churchill at his word. It had been a total failure and had cost about 8,000 Australian casualties.

Churchill had little choice but to concede to Curtin's insistence. The troops came home safely, albeit for some, just a short time. Units were soon sent to New Guinea to fight the advancing Japanese. The veterans of the 21st Brigade, 7th Division were to achieve particular fame. They, along with the 39th Militia Division 'Chocos', formed Maroubra Force (later known as 'those ragged bloody heroes'). They were to fight an intense delaying action along the terrible Kokoda Track, eventually forcing the Japanese to retire back to the north coast of New Guinea where more desperate fighting occurred. But justification for Curtin's decision to bring the troops home came before the Kokoda campaign. Rangoon fell to the Japanese forces on 8th March and it is doubtful as to whether the Australian divisions could have averted its fate. The troops of the 6th and 7th Divisions, or those that would have survived the fighting, may well have ended up as more prisoners of war lost to Australia.

Curtin's crucial decision to bring the two AIF divisions home, finally resolved while he was walking the slopes of Mount Ainslie on that warm summer evening in February 1942, was ultimately the right one to make.

Curtin did not see the war out. He was ill even while arguing with Churchill. He had suffered many sleepless nights worrying over the safety of the troops while at sea and the toll of the war was to weigh heavily upon him. After a further long period of declining health and hospitalisation he died on 5th July 1945 whilst still in office, just six weeks before victory in the Pacific.

References

- Beaumont, J., 1996, 'Australia's War: Asia and the Pacific', in J. Beaumont (ed) *Australia's War 1939-1945*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.
- Brune, P., 1991, *Those Ragged Bloody Heroes. From the Kokoda Trail to Gona Beach 1942*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.
- Day, D., 1999, *John Curtin. A life*, Harper Collins, Sydney.
- Horner, D., 1996, *Inside the War Cabinet. Directing Australia's war effort 1939-45*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.

Whilst the National Trust (ACT) maintains 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.

WESTERN VICTORIA & THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

Sunday 13 to Thursday 24 March 2005

This is not an exclusive Trust tour, but is being operated by Australian Eco Adventures (AEA), with whom we have had a long-standing, and happy, relationship. We already have some bookings from Trust/U3A applicants and a few places may still be available. Although this mini-coach tour actually begins in Sydney, the first overnight stop is Lake Cargellico, which is conveniently accessible on the same day by Countrylink coach direct from Canberra. The cost of this connection is included in the tour price of \$2590pp dbl/tw or \$3085pp sgl. The tour then proceeds via Hay to Moulamein, and thence to Wyperfeld and Little Desert National Parks (2 nights). Thursday and Friday morning is mainly spent exploring the Grampians (Gariwerd National Park), including a few short walks. Two nights at historic Port Fairy follow, before following the spectacular Great Ocean Road to Apollo Bay. The return to Canberra includes overnight stops in Ballarat (including the evening show at Sovereign Hill), Echuca (sunset cruise and dinner) and Junee (with a visit to the beautiful Barmah red gum forest on the way).

PROMPT APPLICATION NOW ESSENTIAL. PLEASE RING GARTH SETCHELL (ph 02-62901100) FOR FURTHER DETAILS. FULL PAYMENT TO AEA WILL BE REQUIRED ASAP.

GO TO GALLIPOLI

25 March to 16 April 2005

There are still a few places left on this tour – but please hurry if you wish to go! Join archaeologist (and Trust Councillor) Dr Peter Dowling on a tour of world famous historic places in western Turkey. The tour will begin in the magnificent city of Istanbul where for three days we will visit sites of Christian Byzantium and the Ottoman Empire. We will visit the Hippodrome originally built during Roman times but later established as a public centre by Constantine; Aya Sofya (St Sophia) the Church of Holy Wisdom, and the Topkai Palace which was the nerve centre of the Ottoman Empire for 400 years. From Istanbul we travel by coach to Çanakkale on the shore of the Dardanelles. Our first visit will be to the ancient ruins of Troy, which will conjure up visions of Helen and Paris and the warrior Achilles; sieges and wooden horses (did they all really exist?). The battlefields of Gallipoli, which are now embedded deep in the Australian psyche, will be the next stop. We will spend three and a half days exploring the landscape and experience the heroism and tragedy which took place there in 1915. On the first day there we will stay until dusk at the site of the first landings. In the next days we will explore the main Anzac areas and visit the battlefields at Helles on the southern shore of the peninsula before a boat trip along the coast to Suvla Bay. From Gallipoli we will travel slowly along the Aegean and Mediterranean coastlines visiting the ruins of Classic Greece, the Roman and Hittite Empires. The Hellenistic city of Pergamon (230 BC), the archaeological site of Efes (Ephesus) unmatched anywhere in terms of sheer magnitude. The Temple of Athena (Assos), Konya, Antalya, Cappadocia, Ankara will be just a few places visited in this the final part of the tour. We will take a small divergence to Çatal Huyuk, an archaeological site representing the oldest known city. The tour will finish where we started in Istanbul. While the focus of the tour will be on history and archaeology there will be plenty of time to sample the food, local customs and culture. And of course there's the shopping! Particularly the Grand Bazaar in Old Istanbul.

LIMIT 30. AND THE NUMBERS ARE FILLING FAST. FINAL COST TO BE CONFIRMED BUT ESTIMATED TO \$8000 PP WHICH INCLUDES PREVIOUS BOOKING PAYMENTS, RETURN AIRFARES, ACCOMMODATION, MOST MEALS, ENTRIES INTO THE SITES, & ALL INTERNAL TRAVEL.

2005 AFTERNOON CONCERT SERIES AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

Once again, Garth Setchell will lead 3 one-day concert tours by coach to Sydney to enjoy the Sydney Symphony Orchestra:

Thursday 31 March 2005 – Gelmetti's New World, Gianluigi Gelmetti conductor

BEETHOVEN Symphony No 4 and DVORAK Symphony No 9 From the New World

Thursday 23 June 2005 – Heroes and Lovers, Alain Lombard conductor – Paul Lewis piano

BEETHOVEN Coriolan Overture, BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No 5 Emperor, PROKOFIEV Symphony No 1 Classical and Romeo and Juliet Suite

Saturday 17 September 2005 – Dutoit's Searing Shostakovich, Charles Dutoit conductor – Chantel Juillet violin

FAURE Pelleas and Melisande, STRAVINSKI Violin Concerto and SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No 5

As in 2004, the tour package comprises return travel to Sydney by coach, refreshments on the way down and a one-course meal with tea/coffee on the return. However, because there has been a substantial increase in concert and coach charter prices for 2005, we have specifically reserved 20 B-Reserve seats as well as up to 50 A-Reserve seats. The full price for both Thursday tours is \$112 for A-Reserve and \$102 for B-Reserve seats. The Shostakovich concert has been designated a Gala Concert and the full price will be \$118 for A-Reserve and \$108 for B-Reserve seats. These prices still represent substantial savings on single ticket prices. Departure times for all three concerts are 7.10am from Deakin, 7.20am from Civic and 7.30am from Braddon – with return between 8.00 and 8.30pm on Thursdays and 30 minutes later on Saturday. The Saturday tour will absorb the later start time for this concert (2.00pm) by taking you on a trip down memory lane – part of the old Hume Highway! All tours allow about 2 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, concerts on payment of a deposit of \$30pp/concert, subject to balances being received 30 days prior to each concert. Reduced prices are available if joining and/or remaining in Sydney.

EARLY BOOKING (\$30pp/CONCERT) ADVISABLE, AS ONLY A FEW A-RESERVE SEATS STILL REMAIN. A FEE OF \$5PP WILL APPLY TO ALL CANCELLATIONS UP TO THE DATE FOR FINAL PAYMENT, THEREAFTER AT COST.

THE CORN TRAIL

Sunday 3 April 2005

This exceedingly popular walk is again being offered to mollify those who missed out on our 2002 attempts, when road closures and rain caused several deferments. The Corn Trail walk covers about 15km from the top of Clyde Mountain to the No Name Fire Trail. Described as a 'priceless slice of heritage', the Corn Trail was opened up in the early 1830s and, until 1856, it provided the main route for transporting the produce of Bolero Valley farmers up to the tableland and for so-called 'highlanders' to access the Sydney market via Batemans

Bay. The trail had become completely overgrown by the 1920s. It was restored as a Bicentennial Project. The intention is to self-drive to Braidwood, from where chartered minibuses will take you to the starting point, and later collect you from the end, of the trail. The walk requires reasonable physical stamina and will take about 6 hours. As it involves a steady descent of about 600m in the first 7km, you should also possess strong knees. The price includes the cost of bus charters and our traditional party of champagne and savouries at the end of the walk. The walk will be deferred to 17 April 2005 if wet. Walk leader – John Godwin (ph 02-62542315). ABSOLUTE LIMIT 35. EARLY BOOKING RECOMMENDED. BOOKINGS CLOSE & FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED BY 24 MARCH.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT

Friday 15 to Friday 22 April 2005

By the time you receive this, all places may have been filled. This exclusive Trust tour begins with the train to Mittagong, from where we will go on to Richmond by bus. Then we head to the Hunter Valley. Sunday we visit a number of attractions around Maitland, before the trip to Armidale via Gloucester and the spectacular Apsley Falls. A round trip from Armidale will take you to the rain forests of the New England and Dorrigo National Parks. After a tour of the Trust property, Saumarez, we will travel via Tamworth to Narrabri to the 5000ft summit of Mt Kaputar. Day 6 includes Warrumbungle National Park, before arriving at Dubbo. On Thursday we visit the Western Plains Zoo, the Old Dubbo Gaol and Dundullimal, before returning to Canberra on Friday. The all-inclusive cost of this tour is \$1910pp dbl/tw or \$2210pp sgl. Full enjoyment requires reasonable mobility to appreciate the many short walks. PLEASE RING GARTH SETCHELL (ph 02-62901100) TO CHECK WHETHER PLACES ARE AVAILABLE.

MELBOURNE INDULGENCE

Tuesday 3 to Saturday 7 May 2005

Likewise, it is possible that this tour will have been filled. Its prime focus is the opportunity to see as many as three different operas, by Opera Australia, on successive nights at Melbourne's Arts Centre. The forward journey will use the V-Line coach service, via Cann River to Sale. On Day 2 a coach will convey us to Melbourne's Savoy Park Plaza Hotel. There are 3 options for the evening – A-Reserve seats to Prokofiev's opera The Love for Three Oranges, a 3-course dinner on Melbourne's famous restaurant tram or a free night to visit friends. The daytime program on Thursday and Friday will utilise trams to visit such heritage and cultural attractions in Melbourne. On Thursday night, everyone will have A-Reserve seats to Mozart's The Magic Flute, whilst on Friday night you may choose your own dinner venue, followed by A-Reserve seats to either Verdi's Nabucco or to a concert by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in Hamer Hall. The total cost will range from about \$1025 to about \$1325pp (depending on your evening choices, entitlement to some Seniors concessions and whether you require sgl or dbl/twin accommodation), it includes first class forward and return travel, accommodation and two light dinners in Melbourne, a winery lunch and A-Reserve seats to 2 or 3 operas (or 1 concert, if selected), plus all transport in Melbourne, entries and guided tours.

PLEASE RING GARTH SETCHELL (ph 02-62901100) TO CHECK WHETHER PLACES ARE AVAILABLE.

NATURAL WONDERS OF NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Wednesday 22 June to Thursday 07 July 2005

Expressions of interest are invited for this non-exclusive small coach tour from Darwin to Sydney, being operated by Australian Eco Adventures (AEA) in conjunction with Odyssey. Participants will need to make their own way to Darwin but can be assisted with plane or train and pre-tour accommodation bookings by Canberra Travel Agent, Goddard & Howse. The one-way airfare to Darwin is likely to cost anywhere from around \$280pp to \$600pp, depending on offers at the time – There are also a number of train or plane/train combinations from Sydney, Adelaide or Alice Springs – the most expensive being the all-inclusive Gold Kangaroo Service departing Sydney on Saturday afternoons and arriving Darwin on Tuesday afternoons at a cost of \$2190pp for an adult or \$1546pp for a senior. For comparison, joining The Ghan at Adelaide or Alice Springs would cost a senior \$1183pp or \$748pp plus air fares, with about 25% cheaper prices for the Red Kangaroo Service. The coach tour visits lots of exciting, out-of-the-way attractions, including 2 nights in Kakadu, a cruise on the Katherine Gorge, the Mataranka hot springs and Esey Reserve, an optional helicopter flight over the spectacular Lost City on the edge of the Barkly Tableland, the remote Savannah Way to Burketown, Lawn Hill Gorge and the Riversleigh world heritage Fossil Fields, Mt Isa, the Combo Waterholes (of Waltzing Matilda fame), the dinosaur tracks at Lark Quarry, 2 nights at Carnarvon Gorge and then an interesting route to Sydney via the Darling Downs and New England. This will connect with the 6pm Murrays coach service to Canberra, arriving at 9.20pm. The tour from Darwin to Canberra is all-inclusive, except for travel insurance, drinks, personal expenses and the optional flight over the Lost City. Most accommodation is en-suite and of a high standard, but, in the more remote areas, some, of necessity, may be more basic, with shared bathroom facilities. Because appreciation of most of the attractions involves walking, a reasonable level of fitness and mobility is required. We already have 1 Trust booking and 5 further places are currently being held for Trust/U3A applicants.

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED ON RECEIPT BY THE TRUST OF A \$25PP BOOKING FEE (PART OF TOUR COST OR \$20 REFUNDABLE). A SUBSEQUENT \$250PP DEPOSIT TO AEA WILL SECURE YOUR PLACE – FINAL BALANCE DUE BY 9 MAY.

OUT & BACK TO THE RED CENTRE

Saturday 13 to Wednesday 31 August 2005

2 bookings have already been received and several extra places are being held for Trust/U3A applicants on this non-exclusive tour being operated by Australian Eco Adventures (AEA). Following the basic itinerary of the 3 previous tours we have offered, this minicoach tour commences in Sydney, but we can assist with travel and overnight accommodation at moderate extra cost. It then travels via Bourke and Barcardine 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), before continuing on to Alice Springs, via Mt Isa and Tennant Creek. Here, the tour commences a 4-day exploration of the Red Centre, which will include Standley Chasm, Ormiston and Redbank Gorges, Kings Canyon, Uluru and the Olgas. The return is via Coober Pedy, Marree, Arkaroola and Renmark. Whilst offering frequent opportunities to walk, seek out wildlife and enjoy outback hospitality, etc, the tour price of \$4180pp dbl/tw or \$5175pp sgl includes comfortable accommodation throughout, all entries and all meals (except 2 lunches). We already have a number of interested applicants from Canberra. The tour will drop off in Canberra on the return.

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED ON RECEIPT BY THE TRUST OF A \$25PP BOOKING FEE (PART OF TOUR COST OR \$20 REFUNDABLE). A SUBSEQUENT \$250PP DEPOSIT TO AEA WILL SECURE YOUR PLACE – FINAL BALANCE DUE BY 30 JUNE.

CAMBODIA & MYANMAR

VISIT SOME OF THE MOST RENOWNED ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLACES IN ASIA OF WORLD HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE.

A new tour scheduled for November 2005 (approximately 2-3 weeks)

Professor Ken Taylor who is involved in heritage work and teaching in Asia proposes to take a group to the temples and landscape setting of the greater Angkor Wat area, Cambodia, and Bagan in Myanmar (Burma) in November 2005. November is the dry season in the region and the optimum time to visit. Angkor Wat and its splendours are well known, whilst Bagan (the city of 2200 pagodas dating from the tenth and eleventh centuries on a memorable site on the banks of the Irrawady River) is less well known. Visit these outstanding examples of Asian culture and marvel at their sense of living history and the stream of time. The tour will also visit Phnom Penh and Yangon (Rangoon) and may spend time in Bangkok en route back to Australia if participants wish. To whet the appetites of those expressing interest, Ken Taylor will give an illustrated presentation from slides taken in July and August 2004. He also has contacts with the experts working on site. Travels with the Trust is looking for expressions of interest in this tour so we can make early arrangements. If you are interested contact the Trust office. Limit of 20 people.

LODGEMENT OF AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FEE OF \$50 PP (\$45 OF WHICH IS REFUNDABLE) WILL GET YOU ON THE LIST. THE COST OF THE TOUR WILL BE NOTIFIED TO THOSE EXPRESSING INTEREST AS SOON AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.

PHOLLOWING THE PHARAOHS

A new tour scheduled for February 2006 (approximately 3 weeks)

Once again Dr Peter Dowling is planning an archaeological and historical exploration of the past – this time to Egypt and the land of the Pharaohs. We will experience the times, the buildings and the lives of the people who lived through the three Kingdoms and 31 Dynasties of ancient Egypt. The famous pyramids of Giza and Sphinx will be some of the first places we will visit after arriving in Cairo. A highlight of the tour will be a five or six day cruise along the Nile. We will float serenely along the river in air conditioned comfort on a luxury class cruiser with bar and restaurant facilities and first class accommodation (that's the way archaeology should be done!). We will visit Luxor, Aswan, the Valley of the Kings and rub shoulders with the great Ramses II and the boy king Tutankhamen (was he really murdered? – we may soon find out! Keep your eyes on the newspapers). We will also journey along the Nile Delta region to Alexandria, the city founded by Alexander The Great and once the home of the finest library in the world. From there we will spend a day at El Alamein, the scene of desperate fighting in World War II. We may even venture further afield to Mount Sinai where Moses, the great Hebrew liberator, leader, lawgiver, prophet, and historian, was reputed to have received the Ten Commandments. For the hardy, there will be an optional early morning climb to the top to view the sunrise.

Do you want to come?

In the last issue we asked for expressions of interest in this trip and we have received several responses already. So if you wish to experience this mosaic of history and archaeology contact the Trust as soon as you can. The limit will be 30 people.

LODGMET OF AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FEE OF \$50 PP (\$45 OF WHICH IS REFUNDABLE) WILL GET YOU ON TO THE LIST. THE FINAL ITINERARY AND COST WILL BE NOTIFIED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TRAVELS WITH THE TRUST.

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 the tour/walk leader (where indicated).

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 Personal Verification No _____ Expiry date ____ / ____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

WESTERN VICTORIA & THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD - Sunday 13 to Thursday 24 March 2005

Please ring Garth Setchell (ph 02-62901100) if interested.

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

If you possess a Seniors Card, please quote the number here _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

GO TO GALLIPOLI - MARCH 25 2005

To confirm your place on the list send \$50 pp to the National Trust _____ pers @ \$50pp \$ _____

And \$1000 pp to Travelscene Canberra ASAP _____ pers @ \$1000 pp \$ _____

Final payment to Travelscene Canberra ASAP (final cost to be confirmed)

Names of others covered by this application: _____

2005 AFTERNOON CONCERT SERIES AT THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

Thursday 31 March 2005 A Reserve seats - deposit (bal \$82 pp) _____ pers @ \$30 pp \$ _____

- or full payment _____ pers @ \$112 pp \$ _____

B Reserve seats - deposit (bal \$72pp) _____ pers @ \$30 pp \$ _____

- or full payment _____ pers @ \$102 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 23 June 2005 A Reserve seats - deposit (bal \$82pp) _____ pers @ \$30 pp \$ _____

B Reserve seats - deposit (bal \$72pp) _____ 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 17 September 2005 A Reserve seats - deposit (bal \$88pp) _____ pers @ \$30 pp \$ _____

B Reserve seats - deposit (bal \$78pp) _____ 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 \$ _____

THE CORN TRAIL - Sunday 3 April 2005

All National Trust ordinary members _____ adlt @ \$32 pp \$ _____

All National Trust senior members _____ senr @ \$30 pp \$ _____

Non-member or U3A surcharge ADD TO ORDINARY OR SENIOR RATE ABOVE _____ nonm @ \$2 pp \$ _____

All persons qualifying for junior rate _____ junr @ \$15 pp \$ _____

Transport to Braidwood offered/requested? Please state numbers _____

Availability on 17 April if activity deferred by wet weather? Please state numbers _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

NORTHERN CIRCUIT - Friday 15 to Friday 22 April 2005

Please ring Garth Setchell (ph 02-62901100) if interested.

MELBOURNE INDULGENCE - Tuesday 3 to Saturday 7 May 2005

Please ring Garth Setchell (ph 02-62901100) if interested.

NATURAL WONDERS OF NORTHERN AUSTRALIA - 22 June to 07 July 2005

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

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

OUT & BACK TO THE RED CENTRE - Saturday 13 to Wednesday 31 August 2005

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

Names of others covered by this application: _____

SUB-TOTAL \$ _____

PHOLLOWING THE PHAROAHs

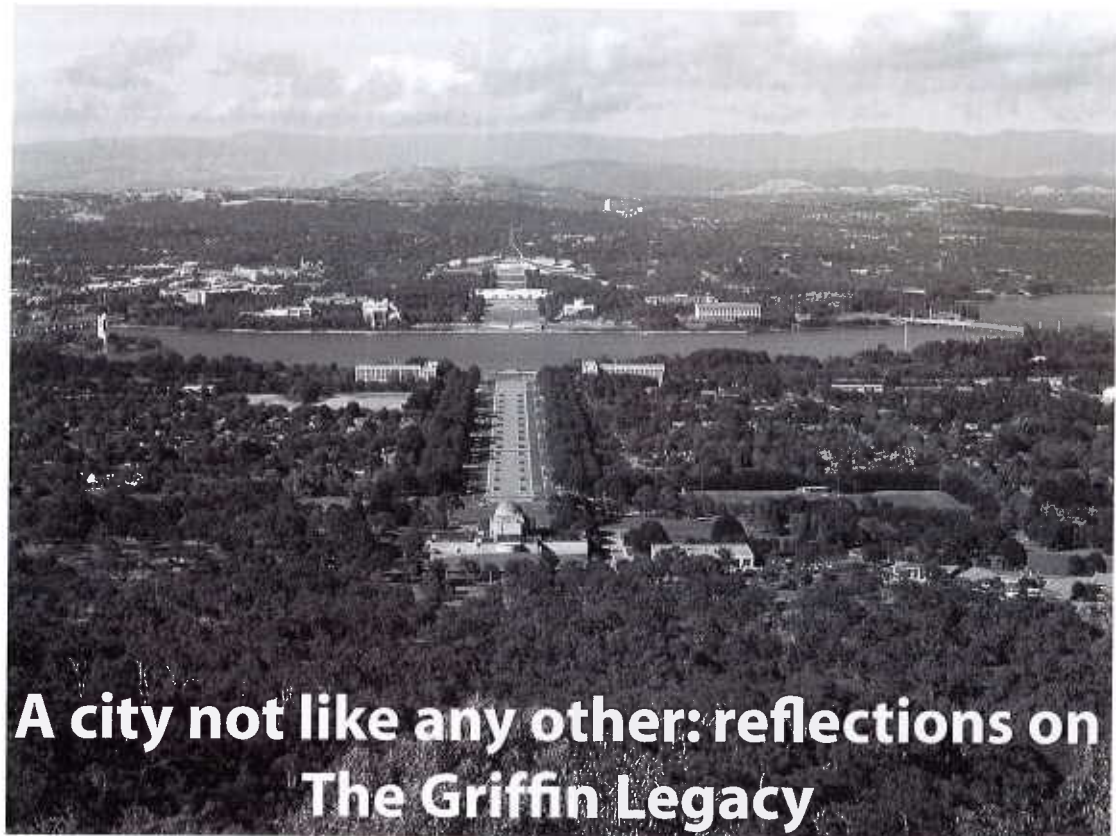
Expression of interest _____ pers @ \$50 pp \$ _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____

CAMBODIA & MYANMAR NOVEMBER 2005

Expression of interest _____ pers @ \$50 pp \$ _____

Names of others covered by this application: _____



View from Mount Ainslie. Photo: Ken Taylor

Ken Taylor

The release of *The Griffin Legacy* strategy by the NCA gives an unprecedented opportunity to look ahead to change in central Canberra that has potential to realise Walter Burley Griffin's ideas for a vibrant, urbane, cosmopolitan city centre. Whilst most attention will focus on this, it is also timely to reflect on international town planning ideas that were energetically bubbling away in the lead to the competition of 1911, how these informed Australian idealism for a federal capital and, significantly, Griffin's inspired thinking on the form for his ideal city: a city which is our legacy.

The release of the document is a milestone, not simply because of the value of the Griffin legacy in its own right, but because of the cooperation between the NCA and the ACT Government through ACTPLA in the formulation of the study and its future implementation. *The Griffin Legacy* proposals for central Canberra accord with the *Spatial Plan*, particularly in the concept of intensification and concentration of commercial and residential activities in Civic. 'Civic' was a term used by Griffin and reflects the importance put on the idea of civics and civic pride in the planning ideas of the time. It is to be hoped this notion will be re-invigorated as development takes place.

Canberra is a unique city: driving into Canberra from Sydney, Melbourne or Cooma, or flying in over the paddocks and forested hills a strikingly different experience than the approach to any other Australian city. The boundary between the city and the bush is abrupt. Paddocks give way to houses, tree-lined roads, and open space with sweeping panoramas of forested hills forming an immense and magnificent landscape backdrop. In the centre around Lake Burley Griffin are the city's monumental national buildings majestically poised in a sylvan setting, again with the defining backdrop of hills.

Underlying its inception at the beginning of the twentieth century lay two basic visions. The first was that a vigorous Australian national identity existed, that this was related to the ideal of the Australian landscape itself and that it could be symbolised in the layout of a capital city. The second was that city planning could create a better and healthier society. Encompassing all this was the opportunity offered by a young nation espousing democratic ideals.

This notion of democracy inspired the Griffins, who were able to relate it to Louis Sullivan's (the American architect) fervour for democratic architecture. Following the teachings of transcendentalist and author Ralph Waldo Emerson to observe and learn from nature, Sullivan preached of the beauty and rhythms of nature, of things organic, of nature supplying primary inspiration



Paris from the Eiffel Tower showing Haussman's City Beautiful planning. Photo: Ken Taylor

for independent thought. Griffin, who was a landscape architect as well as an architect, took to heart the idea of inspiration from nature and put it to brilliant effect in the competition plan for the federal capital. There is a reflection of this in Griffin's own words in his comment of working 'almost without the assistance of man's handiwork'.

The key to a healthier society in cities was cleanliness and fresh air. These criteria, alongside aesthetic considerations of physical design and layout, were primal to the City Beautiful and Garden City Movements which emerged in the 1890s as the two leading approaches to city planning.

The City Beautiful style was concerned primarily with urban aesthetics. It was a rebirth of ordered Renaissance planning and design with axes and vistas connecting focal points—squares, circles, ellipses—with eloquent architecture and gardens. Models included Louis XIV's Versailles, Haussmann's Paris, Washington, and the Charles Burnham plan for the 1893 World Columbian Exposition, and his 1909 comprehensive city plan for Chicago with its emphasis on civic design, a system of highways and avenues, public transport and a great park system. Daniel Burnham's World Columbian Exhibition layout greatly influenced the young Walter Burley Griffin as did the later Burnham plans for Washington and Chicago. The Griffin entry in the 1911 competition for the design of Canberra clearly reflects this influence, as did virtually every other entry.

The Garden City movement emerged from the writ-

ings of the English reformer and planner Ebenezer Howard who, in 1898, articulated his garden city principles. These were subsequently put into practice by the renowned English planners, Raymond Unwin and Barry Parker, with the development of Letchworth Garden City in England starting in 1903 and then Hampstead Garden Suburb. Underlying Howard's ideals was the matter of the city as an instrument of social reform, including public ownership of land.

The Griffin plan for Canberra was the City Beautiful with Garden City layering. The imprint of the city's form in harmony with the landscape setting is sheer brilliance; an example of organic planning of the city in the landscape *par excellence*. He used the setting as a theatrical whole to give a design rich in symbolism emphasised by radiating avenues with the hills as focal points and the use of dramatic views out of the city to the striking hill-landscape surrounds. Its geometrical major and minor axes created impressive vistas with the major land axis and water axis articulating the whole pattern. Within the city, parks, play-areas, avenues, street-trees, botanical gardens, farmland and the lake formed a green skeleton for the city. At the centre is the symbolic national area and lake: the jewels in the city's crown.

We are the inheritors of a remarkable legacy not confined to the central national area, but sweeping out along the main avenues of the city and through the inner and outer hills of the National Capital Open Space System. Here is the unifying element from the Griffin Plan and subsequent plans such as the Y-Plan. Like any legacy it has a tangible physical presence, but importantly also intangible values related to the enduring quality of the city in the landscape, and is to be cherished.

The Griffin Legacy plan (GLP) puts forward an achievable vision for the future which still reflects the Griffin vision and coincidentally the *Spatial Plan*. The task now is to work out the details and hold true to the vision of the city in the landscape. A related factor and constructive aspect of the plan is that it acknowledges and accepts changes over time that have occurred and are now seen as layers in the city's form.

For example, the fact that the National Triangle area has not developed in the built form the Griffins intended is not lamented. Griffin's design incorporated paved terraces and formal water pools along the axis. Flanking this were buildings including, in addition to government departments and the executive, the Governor General's and Prime Minister's residences and his Capitol building standing dominant above Capital Hill with Parliament House below it on Camp Hill behind Old Parliament House.

Griffin's planting, as seen in the elevations and sections, was to be subsidiary to the buildings. The exception to this was heavy peripheral planting of tree belts along King's and Commonwealth Avenues. In contrast the template for the spatial character of the National Area which we see today was set in motion by

the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (1921–1926) under John Sulman with the decision that Canberra was to be a garden town. Following this, in 1927 the Federal Capital Commission decided that what it called the Parliamentary Gardens (the Triangle) should be ornamental in nature with strictly formal lines including a body of water. Broad swards of grass and avenues of trees were to be the general motif. Charles Weston's planting design boldly aimed to create formally shaped grassed vistas and outdoor rooms in scale with Parliament House. Parliament House and future buildings were to sit in a park-like setting of grass and trees in a design that maintained the geometry and axes of the Griffin plan.

What we now have is a serenely elegant space, dignified and large in scale. Few could not be other than inspired by the view down the land axis with its predominant symmetry across the lake to Mount Ainslie: an inspired view where the symbolic formal landscape is in compelling dynamic tension with the bush-clad image of Mount Ainslie. It surely ranks in its historic context, meaning and composition as one of the finest views across any city.

Where changes to the wider Griffin concept of a cosmopolitan city have eventuated, the GLP flags imaginative remedies. The separation of Civic from the lake, under-use of adjoining precincts like Constitution Avenue, the isolation of the lake from the city edge by Parkes Way, the ring around City Hill are examples. Proposals for these have the potential to inject changes into Canberra's heart that reflect admirably the Griffin intention.

But in the euphoria for the seizing of the day, we do need to reflect on matters of detail. Some enthusiastic commentaries on the GLP, particularly in relation to mixed commercial and residential development in the Constitution Avenue precinct, have referred to high rise and high density development. Here there is an immediate concern. What does 'high rise' mean, how dense is 'high density'? In contrast, the GLP does not use these words: it is more circumspect in its reference to 'increased housing', 'medium-rise, mixed-use buildings'.

The authors of the report—and many of us who commented on drafts—had in mind the enduring legacy of Canberra as the city in the landscape. Griffin himself was unimpressed by the crowded city hemmed in by high-rise blocks and deficient in open space. He deplored such development in Chicago in particular. Notably, Ebenezer Howard of garden city fame, who lived in Chicago for a time, was unimpressed by the crowded city. The last thing we want or need are high-rise blocks blighting Canberra's skyline like vertical sepulchres, blocking views to the glorious ring of inner hills, the views of which, as one moves through the city, are one of its priceless legacies. Neither do we want a continuous canyon-like curtain of buildings along avenues like Constitution Avenue or a bridged-over Parkes Way that block views through and

across to elements like the lake or again the hills.

Future buildings should also be set back from street frontages to allow planting of large trees in forecourts to extend and complement existing street-tree planting. The purpose is not to hide buildings but, as Lyndsay Pryor suggested in 1949 when undertaking replanting of Canberra's avenues following Weston's original work, 'to have trees of suitable scale which will enhance the appearance of buildings'.

Frank Lloyd Wright, in whose Chicago office a young Walter Griffin worked, once pithily remarked that buildings should grace the landscape, not be a disgrace to it. Given *The Canberra Times* editorial of December 8 in which the quality of architecture in the central part of Canberra is questioned, the issue of heights, setback, planting and Wright's dictum, and Griffin's vision, are highly relevant.

Lately there has been public discussion on tourism and Canberra's image. It is again timely to raise World Heritage listing for Canberra as an acknowledgement to the rest of the world of our pride in this city. It would, as other places around the world know, bring with it a tourist market advantage and publicity. People want to visit places on the list and tourist operators want to take them.

The year 2011 will mark one hundred years since the design competition. Between then and now there are other centenary milestones: for example, 2008 and 2009 marking the decision to find a site in the Yass-Canberra district and Scrivener's momentous recommendation for the Limestone Plains. We need a group of people planning celebrations of these attainments and World Heritage listing, culminating in a 2011 bash telling the world and other Australians what Dr Brian Kennedy suggested in late 2003 what we want to say. We need to celebrate this city, its meaning, its achievements and its brilliance.

Emeritus Professor Ken Taylor AM was President of the ACT Trust from 1988 to 2004. Formerly Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Canberra he is a Visiting Fellow, Humanities Research Centre, The Australian National University where he has just finished the draft of a book *Canberra: city in the landscape*. This piece is based on two articles that appeared in *The Canberra Times*.

The Griffin Legacy
is available from the
Old Parliament House Shop
The price: \$69

Trust News

National Trust Committee meetings

Council—5.30 p.m. Thursday 3 February then every six weeks—2005 dates to be confirmed
Heritage Committee—Dates to be advised
Lanyon Committee—Dates to be advised
Membership Committee—fourth Wednesday of each month, 5.30 p.m. at Old Parliament House Shop. Contact Dianne Dowling. The Membership committee welcomes input from members. New committee members always welcome.

What's on

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) has a close working relationship with ACT Historic Places, particularly Lanyon Homestead. The ACT government pays an amount annually to the Trust based on visitation and volunteer labour provided to Lanyon, and this is used by the National Trust to buy furnishings for Lanyon. Support local heritage. Visit Historic Places' website:

www.museumsandgalleries.act.gov.au

Heritage in Trust Magazine

Thankyou to the following who helped with the mail out of the October 2004 edition of *Heritage in Trust*.

Coordinator: Shirley Ann Ollier

Robert Abell, Rita Bishop, Margot Girle, Neville Halgren, Wilma James, Tiffany Manning, Jean McClennan, Margaret Roseby, Audrey Sear and Gabrielle Watt. A big thankyou to Audrey Sear for the pre-mailing preparation.

Number wrapped and posted 1206

New members

The National Trust of the ACT welcomes the following

Ms Joan Adler

Mrs Frances & Mr Aiden Moore

Tamsin Anderson

Mr Richard & Mrs Robyn Bialkowski

Bill & Wendy Bondiotti

Karen Smith & Peter Bryson

Michael & Beth Dogan

Ms Harriett Elvin

Mr Robert Flynn

Joe Mintoff & Nicloe Gerrand

Mr W.L. Goldsmith

Ivan & Belinda Harris

Ian & Margaret Heyward

Mrs Mary Anne Highfield

Ms Meredith Hinchliffe

Fred & Janice Hodgson

Brandon & Rebecca Jeffcoat-Wood

Ms Brigitte Kestermann
Miss Micheline Khacham
Mary & William Kilpatrick
Margaret McAuliffe
Ms Sandra McKillop
Ms Christine Millor
Susan & Darren Naumann
Ms June Penny
Mrs Joan Pitt
Mrs Annas & Mr David Rae
Sara & Gillard Skidmore
Mark Novitski & S Sullivan
Mrs Anne White

2005 Canberra & Region Heritage Festival

Friday 8 April–Sunday 17 April—*Connections*

'Connections' is the theme of this years Heritage Festival.

Each year, the Festival celebrates the importance of heritage to Canberra and its surrounds with many diverse and fun activities. Activities are intended to raise awareness of our heritage and the need to conserve it for future generations.

Our heritage is what connects us to the past, evidence of lives lived, stories told and the way things were. Heritage is also what will, in turn, connect our present to our future. What are today's places and objects that we wish to leave intact for future generations to enjoy?

Heritage is also about stories, customs and traditions that we value from the past: connections we feel to a place of significance; a place filled with memories. These places may be part of our natural environment, a forest, mountain or stream; they may be cafés, famous buildings or city streets; they may be Aboriginal sites, a church, or even a club. Whatever they are, they have special meaning and are an essential ingredient in the way we see ourselves.

This years theme 'Connections' offers an opportunity to re-examine Canberra's identity and what we see as our heritage and how we value it. The National Trust of Australia (ACT) is part of the process of conservation of our heritage. The National Trust is running, sponsoring or supporting ten events in this years Festival. These activities are listed below and will be advertised in the Festival Program which will be distributed during March.

Heritage Competition for Children and Youth

One of the Trust's activities is the second Children and Youth Heritage Competition. Details of the competition were sent to all schools and community groups at the beginning of the school year. Entry forms can also be obtained from the Trust Office. The competition works within the heritage theme 'Connections' and aims to further explore connections between people and place within the ACT and region, raise awareness of history and heritage of the ACT and establish links between young and old and different communities.

Children and youth are asked to interview an older person of a different background about a place that has a special connection to them. Interview subjects can be parents, grandparents, friends, neighbours, community leaders, mentors. Alternatively the National Trust can put them in touch with people with interesting and diverse backgrounds. Entrants can present their findings in a choice of media such as a written essay, artwork, music, poster, DVD or even a PowerPoint presentation.

For further information on getting involved, contact Maree at the National Trust Office on 6230 0533.

The closing date for entries is 2 p.m. Friday 1st April 2005. The exhibition of final projects will be opened and the winners announced at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday 16 April at the Exhibition Room at the ACT Legislative Assembly.

During the Heritage Festival the Trust will also be launching the publication of last year's competition 'Places in the Heart.'



ACT HERITAGE LIBRARY

ACT Heritage Library helps tell the stories of Canberra and its people. It collects, preserves and provides access to the documents that record the lives of Canberrans and their influence, both where they live and in the wider community.

The collection comprises books, maps, photographs, newspapers, ephemera and records of local organisations and individuals. Research assistance, microform and photocopy facilities are also provided.

Our ImagesACT database at www.images.act.gov.au provides digitised versions of many of the collection's photographs.

Open Mon to Fri 10-5, first Sat of each month 10-2

ACT Heritage Library, Level 1, Woden Library
Cnr Corinna & Furzer Streets, Woden ACT 2606

Ph: 62075163, Fax: 62075835

Email: act.heritage.library@act.gov.au

Web page: <http://www.library.act.gov.au>

Heritage Festival Activities

Friday 8 April—Canberra's 'vanished' suburbs—a walk around Westlake

Ann Gugler/National Trust of Australia (ACT).

Take a guided tour through the sites of houses, cottages, hostel camp & other single men's camps of the former suburb. If time permits the walk will continue up to Stirling Ridge where the 1925 Heritage listed Sewer Vent still sits and up to the aboriginal scarred trees. Time: 10 a.m.–12 noon. Cost: Free. Venue: Meeting place—Mexican Embassy at the corner of Empire Circuit and Forster Crescent, Yarralumla. Bookings: 6230 0533

10 & 17 April—Blandfordia 5 Heritage Walk

National Trust of Australia (ACT) and local residents. Blandfordia 5 (Griffith) is an example of 1920 Garden City planning through which local residents will lead this tour. Time: 2 p.m.–3:15 p.m. Cost: Gold coin donation. Venue: 'The Lawns', Bougainville Street, Manuka.

Bookings essential. 0262300533

9 April 2005—Heritage Walk in Reid

National Trust of Australia (ACT) and Reid Residents' Association Inc. Join a Reid resident on an easy guided walk through Reid. The heritage significance and issues impacting on the future of this heritage precinct will be outlined during the walk. Time: 11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Cost: Free. Venue: from City Gate, Glebe Park, City. Bookings essential: 6230 0533

Wednesday 13 April—The Great Debate—Is Canberra Connected to the Rest of Australia?

Head to the pub for a Great Debate with some high profile speakers and hear them argue over the often asked question 'Is Canberra connected to the rest of Australia?'

Time: 8.30 p.m.–10.30 p.m. Cost: Free

Venue: Debaule Bar & restaurant, 30 Lonsdale St, Braddon. Bookings essential: 0262300533

Friday 15 April—Connections to Asia

A fascinating insight into past connections in this illustrated talk on Borobudur, Angkor and Myanmar by Prof. Ken Taylor. Time: 12.30 p.m.–1.45 p.m. Cost: free. Venue: Fireplace Room, Gorman House. Bookings: 6230 0533

Saturday 16 April—Children and Youth Heritage Competition 'Connections'

Presentation to the prize winners, and opening of the exhibition of prize winning entries to the public. See an amazing display of talent of your future leaders as they connect to the past of Canberra. Time: 3.30 p.m.–5 p.m. Cost: Free. Venue: The Legislative Assembly Exhibition room. Bookings essential. 0262300533

Saturday 16 April—The Old Coach Road, a walk along an old connection.

From 1880, the Old Coach Road formed the main route connecting early rural settlements of Queanbeyan and Yass. This walk looks at the archaeology of early travel and transport systems and the social history of the community. Time: 10 a.m.–12 noon. Cost: Gold coin donation. Venue: The Old Coach Road, off Gundaroo Road, in Mulligan's Flat Reserve. Bookings essential. 0262300533. In the case of wet weather, please ring to confirm.

Sat 16 April—Blundells Flat Walk

Australian Forest History Society together with Friends of ACT Arboreta and the National Trust. Join us for a gentle walk around parts of Blundells Flat in the north-west corner of the ACT to find out how its diverse natural and cultural heritage values are proposed to be protected under a new Conservation Management Plan. Venue: Blundells Flat, off Brindabella Road, Uriarra Forest. From Canberra, turn right off Brindabella Road just after the end of the sealed section and follow the main access road to the picnic area. Time: 11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Cost: Gold coin

donation. Booking not necessary.

Footwear suited to uneven or wet ground is advised; short sections are moderately steep. In the case of very windy or wet weather, the event will be cancelled.

Contact: Mark Butz 0418-417-635

Sunday 17 April

A visit to **Ginninderra Blacksmith shop** and launch of new digital website. A unique opportunity to visit the Ginninderra Blacksmith shop, the only known village blacksmith's workshop remaining in the ACT. View a digital display on the workshop and chat with the blacksmith's daughter, who spent many hours with her grandfather in the workshop.

Time: 2pm – 4.00pm

Cost: \$3pp Children free

Venue: Just off Barton highway 300 metres south of Gold Creek Rd.

Bookings essential: 6230 0533

Sunday 17 April—Canberra's Military History

The Australian War Memorial commemorates Australia's involvement in world conflicts. There are many places in Canberra which depict the role played by the people of the ACT and district in the two world wars. Come and join the National Trust's tour of some of these places and experience the military history of our territory. The tour will commence by visiting the Aboriginal war memorial and make its way to Tuggeranong Homestead where Charles Bean wrote the official history of World War One.

Time: 1–4.30 p.m. Cost: \$25 pp covers coach transport, guided tour and afternoon tea. Venue: The bus will leave from the rear carpark of the Australian War Memorial.

Bookings essential: 6230 0533

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Annual General Meeting 25 November 2004

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the ACT National Trust was held at the Canberra Museum and Gallery theatre on Thursday 25 November 2005 and was attended by 45 members.

In his opening address, the president, Professor Ken Taylor, highlighted aspects of the 2003–04 year. He began by thanking members of Council for their work during the year and advised that three new members had joined the Council: Margaret Park, Peter Lundy and Jim Nockels. The Trust's dedicated band of volunteers received a tribute for their tireless work throughout the year and the Federal Department of the Environment and Heritage was thanked for its financial support of the Trust through its grant-in-aid program. Thanks were also extended to the ACT Heritage Council and Minister for the grants received by the Trust.

A significant achievement in the year was the turn around in the Trust's financial position. During the year the finances of the Trust were managed by the Finance Committee under the watchful eye of Vice-President Eric Martin. The president said that the improved financial position had been achieved through the efforts of the Trust shop at Old Parliament House and he thanked the shop manager, Dianne Dowling, and her staff for their efforts. Professor Taylor then referred to the savings that had been made in the operations of the main office, where a regrouping of functions had been necessary following the retirement of Michael Hodgkin at the end of 2003.

Turning to the conservation issues in which the Trust had been involved in the year, the President mentioned in particular the issue of the commemorative fan proposed for the vicinity of Old Parliament House, and the threat to the York Park oak plantation in Barton from office development. These issues are discussed in greater detail in the Annual Report.

Volunteer of the Year

The President then announced that the volunteer of the year for 2003–04 was Robin Setchell, a decision that was greeted with enthusiasm by the members. (Details about Robin's volunteer career with the Trust appear in the Membership pages starting on page 3.)

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Michael Moreing then gave his report on the year's financial activities. He reported that the Trust had a surplus of \$23 433. All the activities of the Trust had made a contribution, with the OPH shop making \$ 34 000. In addition significant cost-cutting measures were implemented, of which the reduction from 4 to 3 editions per year of *Heritage in Trust* and a reduction of staff numbers in the main office were the most significant. He went on to say that since 1 July 2004 the Trust had reviewed its computer system and, as a result, it has been decided to upgrade our system.

Election of New Council

Five Council members were due to stand down at the AGM but were eligible for re-appointment. They were Ken Taylor, Peter Dowling, Lloyd Wrigley, Judith Baskin and Alan Kerr. Ken Taylor and Lloyd Wrigley had previously announced that they would not seek re-election, but proposals for the re-election of Peter Dowling, Judith Baskin and Alan Kerr had been received by the Trust office. There being no other nominations and no dissent, Peter Dowling, Judith Baskin and Alan Kerr were re-elected to council.

There were thus two vacancies on Council. In line with the Articles of Association, nominations could now be made by members from the floor. Nominations were received for Ms Helen Carlile and Ms Adele Rosalky who were elected to Council.

Election of Honorary Members

It was pointed out that under the Trust's articles the AGM could elect up to two honorary members in any one year; an honorary member is someone who has rendered distinguished service to the Trust. Peter Dowling moved, seconded by John McDonald, that Michael Hodgkin be elected an honorary member. The motion was carried unanimously. Professor Taylor spoke about Michael's long experience (over 26 years) with the ACT National Trust, as an officer of the Commonwealth dealing with ACT heritage issues, as an appointee to the Trust Council and latterly as the executive officer of the ACT Trust.

Mr Martin then moved, seconded by Dr Dowling, that the retiring president, Professor Ken Taylor, be elected to honorary membership of the Trust. The motion was carried unanimously.

Under Other Business Ms K Lawrence raised the issue of the pricing of Trust tours, making the point that the cost of tours to Trust members was generally little different from the cost for non-members. Ms Lawrence felt that there should be a greater difference as a benefit for membership of the Trust. Mr Martin agreed that this was an issue that the incoming Trust Council should examine.

Address by Professor Taylor

Ken Taylor then gave an interesting illustrated talk on a range of important heritage sites in Cambodia and Myanmar, sites that he had recently visited.

Election of Office Bearers

At the conclusion of the AGM the newly elected Council met briefly to elect office bearers for the year. As a result of this meeting the following office bearers were elected by Council

- President Eric Martin
- Vice-President Peter Dowling
- Treasurer Michael Moreing
- Secretary John McDonald.

Brief biographical details of our new council members appear on the following page.

New Trust Councillors



Helen Carlile

My interest in heritage started in 1999, when I worked in a small inner-city town council in Perth. I was the heritage officer, and it was my first 'real' job since finishing my honours degree in history. I found working at the

town fascinating—it has a string of parks at its centre which were once wetlands used by Aboriginal people and later by Chinese market gardeners. The town's suburbs were developed in the late 1890s and onwards, with the resulting built environment a fusion of large mansions, small terraces, weatherboard workers' cottages, Californian bungalows in garden suburbs, war settlement homes and more recently, the ubiquitous 'Tuscan-villa' infill. It was a vibrant and exciting place to work—I loved the sense of discovery as I learned about the history of the area and the sense of achievement when we saved another cottage from destruction.

In 2000, I left Perth for a new job at the National Archives in Canberra. As a graduate, I was fortunate to learn about the collection by working in the exhibitions section and the reference service. Since then, I have had the pleasure of an eclectic mix of work experiences—digital preservation, learning and development, and in a few weeks, I'll be starting a new job in the Governance section of Archives.

For me, joining the National Trust is a way I can indulge my interest in heritage. I look forward to making a contribution by sharing my ideas, experiences and energy with the Council. Thank-you for giving me the opportunity.

Dr Margaret Park

Margaret Park, a native New Yorker, migrated to Sydney in 1971. She is the author of several publications including *Designs on a Landscape: a history of planning in North Sydney* (2003) and *Voices of a Landscape* (2002).

Margaret worked as the North Sydney Council Historian until 2003. Awarded a PhD in history from UTS, Sydney, she moved to Canberra in May 2003 and is a freelance historian and researcher, specialising in social and place history and oral history work. She is currently a part-time research assistant with the Australian Dictionary of Biography at the Australian National University. Margaret also works on contract for the National Library of Australia's oral history program and the Institution of Engineers Heritage Panel.

Margaret has been engaged in public history for the last 20 years. Previously her experience spanned public library and community arts work. Margaret was the coordinator of North Sydney Council's Historical Resources Committee from 1988 to 2003. This Com-

mittee is responsible for historical and cultural policy and coordinates community history programs, such as Heritage Festival and History Week.



Adele Rosalky

As a newly appointed member of the National Trust Council, I've been asked to write a few words to introduce myself to members. Having been born in Canberra, I've always been fascinated to learn the history, and watch

the growth and development of the city, but my active interest in museums and heritage was sparked in 1986–88 when I lived in Canada and travelled through north America. There, every small town had something of historical interest to show, and on my return, I looked for this in Australia to educate my own children. Over the following years, I volunteered and worked in public and education programs at Blundell's Cottage, Old Parliament House, Calthorpes' House, Lanyon and Mugga Mugga. At the same time, I undertook the degree in Applied Science (Cultural Heritage Management), culminating (to my surprise and joy!) in being awarded the National Trust of Australia (ACT) prize at the end of my final year. I look forward to working with the members of the Council and hope to make a useful contribution.

Mr Peter Lundy

Peter Lundy is the Chairman of Allison Consulting Pty Limited, a Director of Research Commercialisation Australia Pty Ltd. He is also a Director of Jiangsu Fasten Photonics Co Ltd. He is a former director, and currently secretary, of the National Gallery of Australia Foundation.

Mr Lundy has had over 47 years experience of legal practice in the fields of public international law, international trade law, corporations law, contract law, legislative drafting, licensing of intellectual property and commercial arbitration and mediation with both the Attorney-General's Department, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Law in the Northern Territory of Australia. He is an accredited mediator and conciliator of The Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators, Australia.

Mr Lundy was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 8 February 1968 and is a graduate of the Legislative Drafting Institute. He is also a graduate in International Law from the Australian National University. Mr Lundy served in the Australian Army from 1964 to 1986 when he was placed on the Retired List and awarded the Reserve Force Decoration (RFD).

York Park Oaks

Progress in gaining protection for the heritage-listed York Park Oaks in Barton was reported in the last issue of *Heritage in Trust*. The position then was unclear and there had been no response to a letter to the Department of Finance and Administration seeking some immediate practical protection for the trees. The Trust emphasized the threatened nature of the plantation which had been acknowledged nationally by its inclusion in the National Trust Endangered Places list.

It is pleasing to report that late last year the Department advised the Trust, representing a range of like-minded organisations, that immediate protection in the form of temporary fencing would be installed to prevent cars being parked beneath the crowns of the trees in the southern outermost row. This has been done and the rough grass beneath the trees has been mown. These measures should assist the trees during the continuing drought which is adversely affecting many trees throughout the city.

The Department also advised that a new Conservation Management Plan was being prepared for the York Park Oaks but no date was given for its completion. Your Trust will continue to monitor the situation and not rest until a CMP which ensures the plantation is protected in its entirety is agreed and implemented.

Robert Boden



English oak plantation at York Park protected by a fence at the instigation of the Department of Finance. November 2004. Photo: Robert Boden

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SHOP NEWS

We hope that everyone had a joyous time over the Christmas New Year period, and would like to thank all those members who came in to wish us compliments of the season.

The Reconstructed Rose Gardens at Old Parliament House were officially opened in the first weekend of December. During the celebrations a new book on roses was launched. This book by James Young and David Rushton has over 800 roses in colour coded galleries to help choose and colour co-ordinate roses for the garden. There is also a smaller version of the book, which has only 230 roses. We also have videos and DVDs, which take you on a journey through delightful Rose Gardens, both suburban and country, large and small, featuring spectacular close-ups of a multitude of blooms. It also portrays the fascinating history of the Rose from antiquity to today.

Don't forget the Limited Edition prints of the painting of Mount Stromlo by Kim Nelson. These have been digitally reproduced from the original and feature high grade pigment based inks which have a much greater longevity than conventional prints, (e.g. minimum of 135 years and, if cared for along conservation guidelines, indefinitely). The new pigment based printing coupled with the medium they are printed on and a very small print run also ensures a good and unique investment. The Trust made available the original plans but had very few photographs available. Mt Stromlo archivist & researcher Vince Ford was contacted but the photographic archive was not stored at the ANU but in the wing of the administration building at Mt Stromlo – the very building which Kim was commissioned to paint and was a charred shell of its former self. All that remained were low resolution images on the Mt Stromlo website featuring two black & white images taken in the late 1920s. For colour reference Kim took samples of what was left of the structure, such as roof tiles, etc.

Do you know anyone going overseas? Don't forget to tell them about the advantages of joining the National Trust and having free entry to over 2000 Trust properties throughout world.

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.

Staff and Volunteers of the National Trust (ACT), manage The Old Parliament House Shop, which means the profits are returned to the ACT by way of conserving our heritage.

Dianne Dowling

Join the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

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

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

Membership Application

Full Name:
Address:
..... postcode
Telephone: (H) (W)
please tick relevant category

Joining Fee (not applicable to concession members)	\$33.00
Single	\$55.00
Single, concession	\$40.00
Household	\$80.00
Household, concession	\$60.00
Affiliated organisations	nil or equal fee
Corporate	\$250.00
Community organisations	\$72.00

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Travels with the Trust

RECENTLY COMPLETED TOURS

above—Part of the group before entering a house in Elimatta Street, Reid.

Reid Revelations Revisited—Sep 04.

right—Part of the extensive garden of Yarrawa.

The Best of Burrawang—Oct 04.

ADVERTISED TOURS

below—Some of the Twelve Apostles (Mar 96 tour). *Western Victoria & The Great Ocean Road*—Mar 05.

Photos: Garth Setchell.

