



NATIONAL TRUST

HERITAGE IN TRUST

Journal of the National Trust of Australia (ACT)

Autumn 2007 \$2.00





OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE 80TH BIRTHDAY BASH CELEBRATIONS

WEDNESDAY 9 MAY

DAYTIME EVENTS ARE FREE AFTER ENTRY

Big Birthday Bash 10.00am-12.00pm

Join the Queen and some colourful characters from the House's past in wishing the House a happy 80th birthday. The day will start with fanfares, a performance of Dame Nellie Melba's songs by Louise Page, a Musical Ride featuring the ceremonial horses of the NSW Police Force and Australian Federal Police (REPEATED AT 11.30am-11.45am) some very special guests and lots of tea and cake. Bookings *essential*

The Dame and the House 12.30pm-1.30pm

Join historian Jeff Brownrigg as he delves into the House's musical past to uncover the life and music of Dame Nellie Melba. In association with the Canberra International Chamber Music Festival. Bookings *advisable*

Birthday sing-a-long 2.00pm-4.00pm

Join us to make the House come alive with the sound of music. Warm up your vocal chords and sing songs from the 1920s and '30s with Shortis & Simpson. Afternoon tea will be provided. Bookings *essential*

Nellie Melba: Queen of Song

Eighty years after singing at the opening of Parliament House, Dame Nellie Melba returns to reminisce and sing the sublime music that made her famous. Featuring Louise Page, soprano, with Phillipa Candy, piano. In association with the Canberra International Chamber Music Festival

For further information please contact Old Parliament House 6270 8282 or check the website www.oldparliamenthouse.gov.au

Photo Credits

Cover Hand coloured photo by AR Peters, 1930s Old Parliament House Collection.

Top Old Parliament House from the North (around 1927), photograph reprinted from original Glass negative

Centre Hand coloured photograph by Robert Strangman, RC Strangman collection - image courtesy of Old Parliament House / National Library of Australia (around 1930)

Bottom Old Parliament House today, with typical Canberra autumn leaves. Old Parliament House Collection

Each of these images are available as postcards and are available from the Old Parliament House Shop.

MORE HAPPENINGS...

Secrets and Power Sunday 6 May

Take a musical journey with a character from the past and discover the history of Old Parliament House. You will encounter music and stories of secrets and power that will surprise and transport you. Featuring the music of Jouissance, Peter J Casey, Louise Page and Elena Kats-Chernin. In association with the Canberra International Chamber Music Festival.

Budget Blues Tuesday 8 May

Relax and enjoy the sounds of The Old Spice Boys in the historic Members Bar this budget night and leave the number crunching to the politicians up the Hill. In association with the Canberra International Chamber Music Festival, for 18+.

A Touch of the 20s Saturday 12 May

Join us as we celebrate our past with the delightful sounds of The Canberra Mandolin Orchestra playing a selection of music from the 1920s.

Little Builders' House From Wednesday 23 May

Looking for something to do with the kids? Visit our new children's play space where you can explore models of the House, sit in the Speaker's Chair and build your own Old Parliament House with fun blocks.

Finding the Referendum Sunday 27 May

Take a short, guided walk to the National Archives via the rose garden to see "Australia's Birth Certificates" and the 1967 Constitutional Amendment. Return to the House to view art by young indigenous artists. Join the tour at the front of the building.

EXHIBITIONS

The Press Gallery: Leaks, Scoops and Scandals

Walk through the offices and corridors where Australian political events, leaks, scoops and scandals were reported. Interview a politician in a real recording booth and discover how, for more than 60 years, the press interacted with politicians to inform Australians about political issues. *Now open*

Scarred but Strengthened: Australians in the Great Depression

Discover the remarkable Australian spirit and how as a nation we overcame the turmoil of one of the most significant events in Australian history. See personal letters and diaries, depression-crafted objects, photographs and much more as you learn of the untold stories of the Great Depression. *Opens 17 May*

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES 2007

Joining Fee	\$33.00
Joining Fee, concession	\$25.00
Single	\$55.00
Single, concession	\$40.00
Household	\$80.00
Household, concession	\$60.00
2 year membership	5% discount
3 year membership	7% discount
Corporate	\$500.00
Life memberships	12 times the relevant annual fee

New members and renewal payments can be made by post or in person at our city office, or at the Old Parliament House Shop. Cash, cheque and all major credit cards are accepted. Membership renewal reminders are generated on the anniversary of due dates.

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) 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
- * Complimentary copy of National Trust magazine(s) quarterly
- * Discount of up to 15% 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 & cultural heritage

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GARDEN CITY'S HERITAGE ON FILM

A new documentary, 'A Gardener's City', telling for the first time the story of Canberra's garden heritage on film, is now available at the Old Parliament House Shop. The film traces Canberra's development into the Garden City, from the choice of site at the turn of the 20th century to the present day.

The 30-minute documentary, which is available on DVD and VHS, was commissioned by the Australian Garden History Society as part of its role in documenting Australia's gardening heritage. The film is presented by noted Australian writer and photographer Trisha Dixon, who interviews leading Australian landscape architects, historians, educators and writers to examine the origins, creation and coming-of-age of the Garden City. In the film, landscape historian Professor Ken Taylor describes Canberra as "the most remarkable landscape city in the world".

Writer and producer Brian Voce said the documentary noted many of the factors which made Canberra a unique gardening city, including the blurring of boundaries between public streetscapes and private gardens, the lack of front fences, out-of-sight utilities and services and the longstanding free plant issue for new homeowners.

The development of Canberra from a windswept, degraded limestone plain to one of the world's most beautiful cities is an amazing story, and the film draws attention to the many individuals who contributed to the making of the Garden City. It also notes some of the challenges now needing to be addressed, such as water shortages and changing land use. Major funding for the documentary was provided by the ACT Government's Heritage Unit. Other sponsors include The Production Hub, The Australian Garden History Society, the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Trust, and the Royal Canberra Golf Club. 'A Gardener's City' was directed by Fausto Pighin, and the executive producer was Chris Hindes, both of The Production Hub, Deakin.

Enquiries Chris Hindes 6282 7377

This DVD is available from the Old Parliament House Shop. Recommended retail price \$39.95

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The ACT is in interesting times with a number of development and planning proposals being considered, particularly by the National Capital Authority (NCA). These include:

*GRIFFIN LEGACY WITH IMPACTS ON WEST BASIN, CITY HILL AND CONSTITUTION AVENUE
COMMONWEALTH AND KINGS PARK DEVELOPMENTS;
AND ALBERT HALL PRECINCT*

Others in the public arena currently are:

*ST JOHNS CHURCH PRECINCT AND
ANU OLD CANBERRA HOUSE PRECINCT*

A real issue with most of these is the inadequate consideration and understanding of heritage values. There is lip service paid to heritage, and unfortunately "Griffin" is being interpreted and reinterpreted to suit a multitude of agendas. There are some useful Conservation Plans to assist in some of these proposals, such as Albert Hall Precinct, but an overview heritage assessment is still in preparation by the NCA; nevertheless, the NCA continues to promote new development opportunities before this critical document is in place.

The Trust is concerned with a number of these and will respond to a number of draft variations and include others in the Heritage at Risk program. Unfortunately, other key documents, such as the Canberra's National Heritage and Parliamentary Vista Heritage Study, are still not promulgated, which means that there is no effective context for comment

on many of the above issues. Heritage at Risk is a major awareness activity of State/Territory National Trusts and the Australian Council of National Trusts (ACNT). This offers the opportunity for the ACT to promote heritage places where there is concern about their appropriate conservation. A separate article in the Trust News expands on this. It is pleasing to see that the RAI and other organizations have worked with the National Trust in developing this list. This list should not be seen as finite or static, as we wish members to raise issues with us whenever Canberra's heritage is seen to be at risk.

**Eric J. Martin, AM
President**



PEOPLE & PLACES



Novi Scripti

The National Trust (ACT) warmly welcomes the following new members

John & Jennifer Arkle
Claire & Graham Brohan
Shirley Crapp
Peter Helm & Julia Dawson
France Meyer & Philip Eliason
Beverley Finlayson
Heather & Robert Forrester
Steven & Edna Gavin
Barbara & Richard Griffiths
Amy-Louise Guthrie
Margaret & Bernard Hughes
Margaret & Peter Janssens
Helen & Rupert Lamming
Margaret & Robert Macky
Beverley & Cameron McCrae
Mae Mulheran
Lucinda & Graham Page
Peter & Wendy Pedley
Linda & Brett Peterson
Claire Pettman
Michael Wood & Janet Rhodes
June Rowe
Sarah & Victor Schipilow
Graham & Fiona Thompson
Dr Shirley Troy
Mary & Peter Warren
Michele & Edmund Whitters
Suzanne & Ross Wickham

Would you like to do more for the National Trust?

Would you like to be part of the planning of activities for the Trust? Our Membership Committee is a group of volunteers who meet once a month to organize functions and events for members. The meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Old Parliament House Shop. We do have vacancies on the committee and would welcome any additional help and skills.

Next Members and Friends Evening

Our next members and friends evening will be in August and the topic will be Ancient Greece. This will be a presentation by Dr Peter Dowling, Tour Leader of the recent Trust Tour to Greece.

The venue and date have yet to be confirmed.

Christmas Get Together

This year we return to 'Huntly'. We would like to thank John Gale for his generosity in opening up his property for us to enjoy once again. The change in the timing of last year's event, from Saturday evening to Sunday afternoon, was welcomed by many. We will organize a bus again this year, for a small fee, as this service was also welcomed, particularly by those who do not have transport. We will advise members of the details and the date in the next issue of the magazine as this has not yet been confirmed.

Canberra & District Historical Society

CDHS is moving to new premises at Curtin Shops from April 2007. The Society is dedicated to:

- *encouraging the study of the history of Canberra and district, and of Australia in relation to it

- *promoting the compilation of authentic historical records preserving historical material and places of historic and aesthetic interests

- *fostering the interchange of information through talks, discussions, excursions and exhibitions

A catalogue of resources is online and the Society provides research services at a modest fee.

Their contact details are phone: 6262 8881 or email: admin@canberrahistory.org.au. You can visit their collection online at www.canberrahistory.org.au.

Volunteers Lunch

Mugga Mugga has been selected again for our volunteers' luncheon. The facilities there are very good, and full use of the kitchen certainly makes our job a lot easier. There is ample room under cover, so that the event will go ahead whether the weather be wet or dry. Once again we will advise members of the date in the next issue.



The Shop News

This month we say farewell to Robin Setchell. Robin has been with the shop since the early days in Manuka and has been a great friend and assistant. Robin is now going to pursue her passion in art and will be devoting more of her time to her art and studio. Now that Garth has retired from the Tours, a lot more of their time will be spent at the coast as well. She will be available for emergency fill-in, so we will not be losing her for eternity. Thank you Robin for all your assistance and friendship and we hope to see another success story with the studio.

In February, I managed to get to the Trade Fair in Sydney for a couple of days to seek new stock. The Trade Fair is held in two locations at Darling Harbour Exhibitor Centre so you can imagine the number of companies trying to sell their wares. While in Sydney, I also met with representatives of other National Trusts and discussed National Trust branded products, so there will soon be an increase in the stock available. We are aiming for at least ten core products available Australia-wide.

The National Trust has just taken up the extension option to our licence, and we will now be in Old Parliament House for another three years. This period will see the move of the National Portrait Gallery to dedicated premises next to the High Court. It will be the beginning of a new era for Old Parliament House and the development of a new gallery telling the story of our democracy.

This is the 80th year that Old Parliament House has been in operation. Many special events have been planned over the next few months, but come in and join us on the 9th of May. Old Parliament House is asking for people who turn 80 on the same day to contact them for a special invitation.

Now is the time when many people are thinking about travel, leaving our cold climate and visiting our warmer states and countries in the Northern Hemisphere. Don't forget our shop promotion...There are only two months left...The Gift that keeps on giving... When you sign up a new member, you receive a gift voucher to the value of thirty dollars from the shop. This promotion has been a successful one, and I hope that some of you who know someone travelling overseas or interstate will take up the offer.

You can pass on the voucher as an extra gift or keep it yourself. It is an unusual gift but it will continue to assist us in the conservation of our heritage.

The shop has a couple of vacancies on the volunteer roster. Are there members out there with time on their hands during the week, who would like to share about three hours a fortnight meeting new people in a pleasant and friendly environment? If anyone is interested please contact Barbara, Margaret or myself.

Dianne Dowling

Members and Friends Night

On Wednesday evening, the 7th of March, Garth Setchell revealed that he has at last moved into the 21st century, delivering a successful powerpoint presentation, a virtual tour of Namibia and South Africa. We saw such wonders as the great sand dunes of Sossussvlei in the Namib Desert, and the abundant wildlife of the Etosha National Park to the north of Namibia. Crossing to South Africa, we enjoyed the contrasting sights of Soweto and the spectacular Drakensberg, green Swaziland and the snow-clad Sani Pass of Lesotho, the Nelson Mandela Museum at Mthata and the maritime museum in Mossel Bay. We saw the stunning views from the Cape of Good Hope and from the top of Table Mountain looking down over Cape Town, the final destination for the tour. This was Garth's final overseas tour as tour leader for the National Trust, but we hope it was not his last presentation. With the assistance of Viggo Pedersen, Garth gave us an interesting and enjoyable African experience, much appreciated by all. The Trust is indebted to the National Archives and wishes to thank all concerned for their continued support.

NEW RELEASE

CANBERRA City in the landscape

A new publication by Emeritus Professor Ken Taylor, former President of the National Trust (ACT), has recently been launched. Writing in a style accessible to a wide range of readers, the author explores the landscape of Canberra to give us an insight into what has made our city so remarkable. Signed copies are now available from the Old Parliament House Shop.

RRP \$69.95 * National Trust Discount applies.

HERITAGE TODAY - OUR HERITAGE AT RISK

This year, the eight head offices of the State and Territory National Trusts are combining to compile a list of heritage places which they consider at risk. This new programme has been developed from the previous Endangered Places Programme which was launched in 1998 and has run for the last seven years. Like its predecessor, this new programme, Our Heritage at Risk, is coordinated and managed by the Australian Council of National Trusts. The nominated at-risk places will be launched nationally in April, and the nation's top ten places will be selected and announced in July.

Our Trust has been busy reviewing the heritage-listed places in the ACT and assessing their current risk. The result of this exercise is alarming to say the least. We have identified many places which we consider are under various degrees of risk, ranging from potential destruction, deterioration of fabric, neglect and, most serious of all, loss of legislative protection brought about by recent changes to the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act (EPBC).

Register of the National Estate

The Register of the National Estate is Australia's most comprehensive national inventory of natural, indigenous and historic places considered worthy of conservation and protection for current and future generations. Compiled and maintained by the Commonwealth, over 13,000 places of aesthetic, historic, scientific, social, or other special value are listed throughout Australia. The 2006 amendments to EPBC Act and the Australian Heritage Commission Act 2003 provide for the eventual disbandment of the Register of the National Estate. From February 2007, no more places may be entered in or removed from the RNE. In five years time, all reference to the RNE will be removed from the AHC Act and the EPBC Act. The loss of the RNE puts at high risk hundreds of heritage-listed sites Australia wide - which do not have legislative protection from any Commonwealth, State, Territory, or local government. These places are at risk of falling through the legislative cracks, and the planned deconstruction of the RNE is perhaps the most serious loss to our process of heritage protection.

Canberra Garden City

The Garden City philosophy in suburban landscape design was significantly implemented in Canberra, from the 1920s until just after the Second World War. Because of this, Canberra is now widely considered as a Garden City of world importance and a world example of a planned city. The risk we see to our city is the reduction of the concept promoted by Walter Burley Griffin, brought about by Territorial and National planning changes, which include permission for greater development on individual lease blocks and attendant reduction of open space and landscape opportunities. The biggest impact is on the city area and inner north and south.

RNE Heritage Listed Places in ACT National Areas

With the imminent demise of the RNE, there are several Commonwealth heritage listed places which are in danger of losing protection backed by legislation. They include: the Albert Hall, Canberra Olympic Pool, Hotel Canberra (Canberra Hyatt), City Hill, Blundell's Farmhouse, Duntroon Dairy, Duntroon Woolshed, Yarralumla Woolshed, Hotel Kurrajong, St John's Church, and the North and South Buildings bordering Civic Square. All these places are listed on the RNE for their significance in the heritage of the ACT, reflecting as they do the rural beginnings and the early development of Canberra as the Capital City of Australia, its demographic growth and social, political, and cultural development.

Non-processed ACT Heritage Nominations

Every heritage place nominated to the ACT Heritage Register is extensively researched, documented and assessed before going through the process of public consultation and eventual listing. This process understandably takes time. At the present time there are approximately 200 non-processed nominations awaiting formal listing. As a whole, they represent an extensive collection of places with natural (geological, biological) and cultural (Aboriginal and European history, architectural, engineering) significance for the history of the ACT. Because these nominations have not been processed, a substantial number of places are afforded inadequate legislative protection. This has resulted in some places being demolished, others deteriorating.

Belconnen Naval Transmitting Station

This establishment was important for the design and development of Australian Naval Communications in Australia between 1938 and 2005 and is significant for the role the base played in naval communication and Australia's defence during and after the Second World War. The station is a rare example of the technical development of Australian Naval Communication during its operation. The station is now obsolete and no longer in service. It is on the Commonwealth Heritage List, but the three main Low Frequency transmitter masts (integral elements) have recently been removed with permission from the previous Minister for Environment & Heritage. Defence intends to dispose of (sell) the station, equipment and land, and its future use and conservation is extremely uncertain.

Tharwa Bridge

Tharwa Bridge, the oldest surviving bridge in the ACT, was the first bridge built with Allan trusses and so is significant in Australian engineering design. The bridge is historically important in the development of the country to the west of the Murrumbidgee and aesthetically significant for its contribution to the village of Tharwa and the surrounding landscape. Since its construction, it has been the gateway to the village for Tharwa residents and a focal point for other ACT residents for recreational purposes. Due to deterioration of original and replaced timber elements, the bridge has been closed to all traffic and is no longer used. The ACT government intends to build another bridge crossing the river. There is at this time no indication from the ACT government of their commitment to further maintenance and use of the bridge.

Tharwa and Hall Primary Schools

The 1912 Tharwa School and the 1911 Hall School are the only two existing schools associated with rural schooling in the ACT. Both these schools have considerable social value for their respective village communities and have provided educational services for much of this century. The recent closure (December 2006) and non-occupancy of these schools leaves open the question of their future use and threatens the conservation of their existing fabric, particularly the early structures. Not only has the closure of these schools begun to erode the historical, heritage and social values of Tharwa and Hall villages, it has been a loss to the ACT as a whole.

Rock Valley Pisé Homestead

Although the pisé (rammed earth) building method is centuries old, it was seen as innovative in the rural areas of the ACT in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Rock Valley is one of the best examples of pisé construction within the ACT and is a tangible link to our pioneer past. The building has a strong social and historical association with living descendants of the early settlers of the Tidbinbilla Valley. Rock Valley homestead was extensively damaged during the 2003 bushfires and the pisé walls still standing are not protected from the weathering elements. Despite a statement by the ACT Government that "Rock Valley homestead will be structurally secured and have a permanent roof provided...", little has been done and damage is occurring daily.

Nil Desperandum Homestead

Nil Desperandum, built in 1896 by the builders, Hatcliff and Green, is a prime example of the disappearing pisé vernacular, demonstrating the structure and materials of this type. The building is highly valued by the Tidbinbilla Pioneers Association and descendants of former occupants. This small homestead was also extensively damaged during the 2003 bushfires. However, despite some remedial work and a statement by the ACT Government that the homestead will be structurally secured and restored, little has been done and further deterioration continues.

Cameron Offices

The Cameron office complex is a major building complex by internationally renowned Australian architect John Andrews. Built of concrete and glass, it is an excellent example of Brutalist architecture. Its low-rise rectangular form with intervening courtyards, each with individual themes, established a new design philosophy for office buildings, one which has influenced Canberra's planners. The original complex consisted of nine parallel office wings running east west. Two wings have already been demolished and five wings are under threat of demolition. The current plan is to retain only two of the original nine wings.

Yarralumla Brickworks

Operational from 1913 to 1976, the brickworks is of historical value as the first industrial manufacturing facility in the ACT, providing base material for the construction of the early buildings in the National Capital. The several different kiln types are of considerable technical value and rarity. The brickworks ceased operation in 1976, and since then the kilns and infrastructure have not been used for their original purposes. Over the years, lack of regular maintenance and wilful neglect of the structures by successive government bodies have led to a continual deterioration of the entire fabric of the place.

Gungaharra Homestead

Gungaharra homestead is closely associated with the early land selector period in North Canberra, and the property represents continuing rural land use. The central section of the homestead is a good example of pisé construction, of exceptional interest considering the few remaining buildings of this type. Additions have internalised the pisé walls of the original structure, which has largely preserved them, but because of lack of use and maintenance, they are showing signs of deterioration. The outbuildings are being removed, and much of the original rural setting of the homestead is now compromised by urbanisation.

Gold Creek Homestead

Gold Creek is associated with the family of Edmund Rolfe, one of the more successful nineteenth century land selectors. An 1860s stone and slab cottage, together with the brick fireplace and slab and stone walls of a second homestead, date from the Rolfe's time and are examples of early colonial building styles. The homestead complex has been vacant for several years and is suffering rapid deterioration from lack of maintenance and vandalism.

Attempting to enumerate the places at risk in the ACT is indeed a worrying if not impossible task, with ten individual places under physical threat, over a dozen more losing legislative protection, a whole city centre under threat, and over two hundred places awaiting Territory legislative protection. Thousands more Australia wide are losing what protection they formerly had. With the release of this new joint programme, the National Trust organisations hope to draw to the attention of our political and industrial leaders the damaging effects of their policies and practices on the heritage of Australia.

Peter Dowling

For further details of the Heritage at Risk Programme see www.heritageatrisk.org.au

TRAVELS WITH THE TRUST



Australian Railway Historical Society

Western NSW by Rail and Coach
Queen's Birthday Long Weekend
Friday 8 June to Monday 11 June 2007

Day 1 (Saturday): Gulgong. A feature of the tour is the Henry Lawson Heritage Festival. This year is the 140th anniversary of the birth of bush poet and writer Henry Lawson, who was born at Grenfell and spent his early childhood at Gulgong. Day and evening events will include street parades; Pioneer's Museum; Prince of Wales Opera House and lots more. Cost of meals and entertainment in Gulgong on the day are at travellers' discretion and are not included in the fare.

Optional coach tour takes in the Wollemi National Park, historic Rylstone & Mudgee, and leading wineries.

Dinner optional extra: ARHS will be running an evening Railroad Restaurant and passengers may elect to dine on the train.

Day 2 (Sunday): Dubbo. A guided tour of Western Plains Zoo followed by visits either to the National Trust's Dundullimal homestead or the Old Dubbo Gaol and the Claypan Gallery. Lunch on the train is followed by a stopover at Peak Hill to see arts and crafts during the town's annual long weekend event.

Dinner optional extra: at the well-regarded "Dish Café" at the radio telescope.

Day 3 (Monday): Return to Canberra with an estimated arrival prior to 5 pm, stopping at Binalong for a mid-morning stroll.

This is a superb opportunity to enjoy familiar country, without the rush of the road. Our train is the comfortable and stylish ex-Southern Aurora Sydney/Melbourne stainless steel overnight carriages. All are air conditioned, and offer either twinette compartments (\$975.00 per person), including ensuite; or single roomettes (\$935.00 per person) including toilet and washbasin. The dining car provides excellent meals by the on-board chef and drinks are available from the bar. Brochures available from the Trust Office..

For further details of any of these tours

* Phone us on 02 6230 0533 (Fax 02 6230 0544)

* Visit: www.act.nationaltrust.org.au

* Email: info@act.nationaltrust.org.au

Secure your place with an 'Expression of Interest' fee payable to National Trust (ACT)

* \$50pp local tours

* \$100pp for o/seas tours

Sydney Symphony Orchestra

Matinee Concerts 2007 Series

The ACT Trust is again conducting a Series of three one-day coach tours to attend SSO concerts at the Opera House. Pamela Weiss, an avid concert-goer, will lead the Series.

Thursday 7 June 2007

2 Beethoven Symphonies:

Eroica - Symphony no 3 and *Pastoral* - Symphony no 6

Thursday 23 August 2007

Tchaikovsky *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy Overture

Rimsky-Korsakov *Capriccio Espagnol*

Prokofiev *Romeo and Juliet* Suite

Thursday 6 December 2007

Wagner *Siegfried Idyll*

Berg Violin Concerto (*To the Memory of an Angel*)

Schubert Symphony no 9 - *The Great C Major*

Ticket Prices Per Concert

'A' Reserve \$145 pp for members \$148 pp non-members

'B' Reserve \$135 pp for members \$138 pp non-members

A deposit of \$50 pp is required as soon as possible to secure your place. Balance is due to the office two months prior to each of the concert dates. Cost includes concert ticket, return coach fare, coffee on the way down and dinner in Mittagong on the way home.

Day trip to Braidwood

A day trip 14 July 2007 led by Adele Rosalky

We will visit the historic town of Braidwood, NSW. The visit will explore two themes:

*The unique listing of the entire township on the NSW State Heritage Register

*The history of the movie industry in the town and its use of the 19th century buildings and rural setting as a backdrop for period Australian movies.

Scenes from movies which incorporate the Braidwood landscape will be viewed at the Braidwood National Theatre. There will be a bus tour of the town's significant public and private buildings, including examples of fine colonial architecture. Time will be allocated to visit the many craft shops, galleries and antique shops for which Braidwood is well known. Cost \$95.00 (to be confirmed) will include transport, morning and afternoon tea, lunch, dinner and entry fees.



Cowra in the Spring

A weekend tour in September 2007

There is a lot more to Cowra than the famous Japanese Gardens. The first day of this weekend bus tour, Saturday, will concentrate on the 'Japanese' side of the Cowra story – the WWII history, lunch in a Japanese restaurant, the Japanese Gardens (in spring the gardens are outstandingly beautiful) and the Cultural Centre. On Sunday we will see the 'Aussie' side of things – some of the famous Cowra wineries (a chance to sample a drop and pick up a few additions for your cellar), Iandra Castle at Greenthorpe for lunch, and the JD Jam Factory at Young on the way home.

Taiwan Culture and Heritage Tour

October 2007 for 14 days

The theme of the tour is the exploration of the history, culture and heritage of Taiwan, against a background of spectacular mountains and beautiful coastal scenes – and, of course, authentic Chinese food. During the ten days in Taiwan, the highlight will be the National Palace Museum in Taipei, which houses the world's greatest collection of priceless art treasures covering 5,000 years of Chinese history. There will also be visits to the mausoleum of Chiang Kai-shek; the ancient streets and houses of the Lukang Historic Area; the tranquil Sun-Moon Lake; Wulai Aboriginal Village; Kenting National Park; the magnificent marble canyons of Taroko National Park; and more.

After Taiwan, the tour will make a four-day stopover in Hong Kong and Macau. A museum pass will allow entry into the museums of Art, Heritage, History, Space and Science in Hong Kong. Highlights in Macau will include the Porta do Cerco historical barrier between the former Portuguese colony and China; the Temple of A-Ma, dedicated to the deity after whom Macau was named; a walk through the cobbled streets; and, of course, a visit to the gambling tables of Macau's world-famous casino for those who may wish to try their luck. There will be ample time for a strong dose of retail therapy in the shops of Hong Kong.

The tour will be led by Sharon Chiang, who was born in Taipei and migrated to Australia in 1979. This is a unique opportunity to experience the history and culture of this fascinating island, escorted by someone who is familiar with all the tour destinations on Taiwan. For those who wish to extend their travel, there is an option for a day tour of Southern China.

Winter Festivals of Northern Japan

February 2008 for two weeks

The Sapporo 'Yuki Matsuri' (the Sapporo Snow Festival) in February each year has long been a famous 'must see' item on the Japanese calendar – although, perhaps, in future it could be threatened by global warming!

Detailed sculptures ranging from a giant snow replica of a Japanese castle to a Chinese dragon fill a large park in the centre of the city, and there are musical and cultural performances throughout the day.

This tour will start with a weekend at the Sapporo festival then come south, visiting other winter festivals in the northern provinces. We also propose to spend some time in and around Tokyo and to visit Nikko, the site of some famous temples and cultural precincts.

The cost of the tour, including all travel (to and from and within Japan), all accommodation, and all dinners and breakfasts will be around \$6,500. The tour will be led by Mike Hodgkin with a Japanese assistant.

Visiting the Vikings Tour

Scheduled for August/September 2008

Following previous archaeological and history tours to Turkey and Egypt and, this year, to Greece, led by archaeologist Dr Peter Dowling, the National Trust is organising another tour with a similar theme.

The itinerary will focus on Viking history and culture in Scandinavia and Great Britain. The tour will be approximately 30 days and will take in the Viking (and other) history and archaeology of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. A cruise on two of Norway's World Heritage fiords will be included, as well as a visit to see Denmark's famous bog body, Tollund Man; a three night stay on the Swedish World Heritage listed island of Gotland; a visit to Helsinki, Finland; and three nights in the marvellous city of St Petersburg in Russia. After Scandinavia, the tour will continue to York, England, to visit this city founded by the Vikings and experience the Jorvik Viking Centre, where you can get face to face with the Vikings. The tour will finish in England which will allow those participants to carry on with personal tours/visits. Cost of the tour will be advised later this year.

Note: almost full! register with your expression of interest payment

TRAVELS WITH THE TRUST REGISTRATION FORM

POSTAGE DETAILS

National Trust of Australia (ACT)
PO Box 1144, Civic Square ACT 2608
phone (02)6230 0533

NAME OF TOUR	PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$	TRUST MEMBER?
NAME		YES/NO
NAME		
NAME		
NAME		

NAME OF TOUR	PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$	TRUST MEMBER?
NAME		YES/NO
NAME		
NAME		
NAME		

POSTAL ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE DAYTIME

MOBILE / OTHER

PLEASE CIRCLE COACH PICK UP POINT IF APPLICABLE
DEAKIN BRADDON

PLEASE CIRCLE FORM OF PAYMENT
CASH CHEQUE BANKCARD MASTERCARD VISA AMEX DINERS

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION

NAME ON CARD

CARD NUMBER

 EXPIRES ____ / ____

SIGNATURE

PLEASE ADVISE TOUR LEADER OF MY INDIVIDUAL NEEDS* WITH
DIET MOBILITY AUDIO/VISUAL MEDICATION OTHER CONDITION

* PLEASE REFER TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON THIS PAGE

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SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Dietary needs, ground floor accomodation, assistance with alighting and disembarking from transport can be taken into consideration and should be discussed with your tour leader. If you, or people you are booking for, require such consideration, please indicate on the booking form and your tour leader will contact you to discuss your individual needs.

TRAVELLERS NOTE

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 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.

PROCESSING YOUR BOOKING

Although requests for further details will be posted out as soon as possible, please note that activity leaflets, receipts, etc, may only be posted out a few weeks before each activity. Places are reserved in order of receipt, provided subsequent payments are received by the date (s) advised. *EARLY APPLICATION ASSISTS US WITH ARRANGEMENTS.*

DISCOUNTS/CONCESSIONS

Although not always possible (particularly with overseas tours) the Trust aims to offer reduced rates as follows: discounts for members to reward Trust membership; concession rates for Seniors Card (Gvt), pensioners and full-time students; junior rates for children (under 12 yrs). All quoted prices include applicable GST.

TOUR WITHDRAWAL CONDITIONS

Prior to the date advertised for close of bookings, an administrative fee of \$25 will be retained by the Trust from the booking fee. Withdrawal after the close of bookings may incur a loss of the total cost, unless a replacement can be found. In that case, the fee is 'at cost' to the Trust. If the Trust Tour is in conjunction with a travel agent, conditions apply as per the agent's terms and conditions, after the initial booking fee at the Trust office.

EXTERNAL OPERATORS

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 fee, will need to be paid to the relevant travel agent. As of 1 July, this applies to all Trust tours which extend beyond one day. Full details will be advised to each applicant. As of 1 July, Travelscene Canberra City (operated by Jetaway World Pty Ltd - licence no. 18800203) is appointed as the Trust's travel agent for such tours, for the next two years.

Well, we fixed a forty-gallon cask on top of these two limbs, and just wired that down, and we hooked a horse onto the front portion... Well, then the horse would be up and away and we used to slide along. We used to stand on the back of these two legs, and we'd get up. And we had another forty-gallon cask, and we had a piece of tin shoved under where this water was coming out. We'd cut a hole in and shove the tin under, and then we'd put this barrel underneath it, and then we'd leave it there overnight, and we'd go up and this drum would be filled, and we'd take the old horse down. We had to cut a bit of the bank in to get him down – take him down. We'd bucket out of this cask into the other cask. And we had a hessian bag over the top of the cask, with a ring on top of it to stop the water from splashing out... It was difficult to harness because that was the only way we could... the whole time I was there, it never, ever run out of water – never...

The Tuggeranong Schoolhouse

Harry, like many children of his era, walked a long distance to school and more often than not, walked barefoot. Harry spoke fondly of his school years, although he was sceptical about how much he learned at the time. However, his schooling did have an effect on Harry and it was his teacher, Mr Francis McGee, who left him with many lasting memories and words of wisdom. Mr McGee was the longest serving teacher at Tuggeranong from 1898 to 1927. Apart from being a skilled teacher, it appears he was also a creative writer and poet. During the interview Harry related stories about Mr McGee and his recollections revealed this piece composed by Mr McGee about Bob the Postman. Harry's rendition didn't miss a beat!

*Six days a week on Tharwa Road,
Our mailman you may see.
His name? you ask; just call him 'Bob',
It's Bob for brevity.*

*He drives along his old blue horse,
And takes things leisurely,
A trot, but just as good a trot,
As much as you can see.*

*He's seldom late, yet spares his horse,
Knows just what he can do,
Knows that the time the old horse does
Is done by very few.*

*His sulky is loaded up on high
With mail and bread and meat,
And you would wonder how at all
The old chap finds a seat,
But still he sticks them somewhere in,
Like sardines in a tin.*

*Well, here's long life to Bob,
The best mailman we ever knew,
And may times hum and prosper,
For himself and tough old Blue.*

When I asked Harry to describe Mr McGee, he responded as if he had seen him only yesterday –

Well, the main thing, he used to smoke a pipe, and if you did something bad and was kept in after school, well, you always knew where to find him. You'd go around and sniff a bit and you could smell the smoke, and there Mr McGee would be. He was a very lovely man... He was very thin – very thin – and grey haired... and not very tall... very scholastic looking; and that's how he was. He was very quiet; everybody loved him except the time when he kept you in occasionally, just to show you he was boss.

Harry's stories of attending the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse were lively and shed light on education in the first half of the 20th century. This was a time when children either walked, or rode their bicycles or their horses to school and seeing such a thing as an airplane caused great amazement and delight, as Harry recalled:

*[Mr McGee] said to us one day,
'Boys and girls, if it's a nice day tomorrow you might have the opportunity to see the first aeroplane that flies from Sydney to Melbourne... Here we are almost in a direct line between Sydney and Melbourne'. So when the next day come we all come out, and we are all there, a few crows flew over and, 'Ah,' we said, 'no plane'. Anyway, a little after someone said, 'Did you hear that?' Sure enough, over it came and we seen it, and we couldn't believe it. And Mr McGee said to us, 'When you children grow up you'll be travelling in one of those', and we all said, 'No, never'. And he said to one of the girls, 'Myrtle', he said, 'how would you like to be up there with him?' She said, 'Please, sir, Mr McGee, I would rather be up there with him than up there without him'.*

(Myrtle Edlington was the girl; she was one of Harry's neighbours, along with the Sullivans)

People and Places

The Oldfield family have extended roots in the ACT area, stretching back over 160 years. Joseph Matthew Oldfield arrived in 1834 and worked as an assigned convict to James Wright of Lanyon. A bootmaker and station hand, he received his ticket of leave in 1842 and settled in the district raising a large family and beginning the Oldfield connection to the Canberra region. As a member of a rural pioneering family, it is no wonder that Harry had many and varied stories about some prominent local residents, as well as others less prominent but equally important in the local landscape.

Harry relates his memory of Andrew Cunningham of Tuggeranong Homestead:

Well, I would have been no more than five or six. The one thing I can always remember – one of the first things – was when Andrew Cunningham came home from the war, they gave him a reception at the Tuggeranong Homestead, and I can distinctly remember him dancing with mum, and I thought, how lovely. He was a very ... he was too, he was a very, very special man, and he was dancing with my mum...

I thought that was something beautiful. And when we went to school - he had a Minerva Car, it was, more or less, a sporting car, it was the only one around that I'd ever seen. And we used to hear him coming when we were at school ... we'd all race down the road, and we'd wave to him, and he'd 'toot' the horn, and go 'brrr-ing' away. It was exciting. And then later on much later on in life, - he had an aeroplane and he used to come down and land just across the paddock from home, he'd come and have a chat with us. He was a very, very beautiful person.

Harry worked as a labourer around and about, doing a variety of odd jobs from his early teens. He worked for a few weeks at Hill Station for Henry Gullett who resided there while he was writing Volume 7 of the Official History of World War I.

Well, Sir Henry Gullett had a chappie there doing all the farm work - the two kids both had a horse each, looking after the horse and the cows and that. And he was going on holidays and he come and asked me if I'd go down and look after the show for him, and I said yeah, okay... I went overnight and I go down in the morning - they used to lock the calves in so they couldn't get at the cow to milk. I go over to milk them, so I am running all the cows up into the yard, and I thought, now, I don't know which calf belongs to which cow, but, I said, there's one way of finding out; I'll let one calf out, well, it's sure to know which one is its mum. Fair enough, I'll let the calf out and it will race to the cow. I sent the cow up, put it in the bail, and I'm milking away, and Sir Henry arrived; and he said, 'How did you know which calf belonged to which cow?' Well I said I didn't know. I knew the calf would know which was her mum. 'Well', he said, 'I never thought of that'. But I loved [that station] because they had these two horses, the girl had one and the boy had one, and I used to ride them round, they were beautiful animals... He was a very nice gentleman, very nice; and he got killed in a plane out here at Fairbairn.

Dr Blackall was well known in the district and occasionally Harry had to visit the doctor in Queanbeyan. During one of these visits he demonstrates the inquisitive nature of the child:

... at that particular time there was, to my knowledge, only two doctors in Queanbeyan, and one was our doctor - he was an Irish doctor; Dr Blackall was his name... I had a stomach ache or something, one day and my mum took me to Dr Blackall, and he said, (Harry uses an Irish accent)

'And poke out your tongue'. So I poked out my tongue... they had a little mixture ... used to mix stuff up in a bottle - there were no pills or anything - so he gave us this bottle of stuff. And when we come out I said to my mum, 'Why did the doctor look at my tongue?' I said, 'My tongue wasn't achin', it was me tummy'. And she just patted me on the head. (laughs)... The doctor had a horse and sulky, and if somebody needed him to come out - four o'clock in the morning - he'd have to go down and find his old horse and bring him up, and saddle him up, and away he'd go,

While Harry didn't see the opening of Parliament House in May 1927, he did play his part. As a local lad, with a father employed as a government ranger, he was often asked to fill in here and there and provide a variety of services to earn some pocket money. One such job brought him into contact with Colonel Ryrie and perhaps made the plains in front of Parliament House pest free for a day:

... the rabbits were in plague proportions, and they were trying to keep them inside one area. And when the Parliament was to be opened they knew there would be a lot of people travelling on that route, and they assumed that a lot would get out and open the gate and wouldn't bother closing it. So they asked some people connected with the Lands Department - asked Dad if a couple of his boys could go up there and sleep up there, and look after the gates. And that's what we did. And this night, it was - I don't know, about half past eight or nine o'clock - and I heard this car coming and I got up and opened the gate. And the car pulled up, and this bloke came over, and I found out after it was Colonel Ryrie. And he handed me a ten shilling note, and he said, 'His Majesty asked me to present you with this', and he smiled, and I nodded to him. (laughs) That was worth a lot of money.

These excerpts from the interviews with Harry Oldfield are only snapshots of his life and work, but the words I have chosen show his gift for storytelling. The interviews beg to be listened to, capturing the memories of someone who has journeyed through the 20th century and into the 21st century, and linking the distant past of Canberra with the Canberra we see today. The significance of such a record is that it is an authentic voice from that past.

To complete the picture, Harry recites another of Mr McGee's poems and finishes with his thoughts on it:

*Whenever the sea breeze blows over,
To greet me this side the Divide,
I believe I see fields of white clover,
And sniff old Pacific's salt tide.*

I'll never forget that, I thought it was something outstanding...

BY MARGARET PARK

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HISTORIC CEMETERIES AND RURAL GRAVES IN THE ACT

By Anne Claoué-Long

Last year, the National Trust of Australia (ACT) gained funding from the ACT Government's Heritage Grants Program to investigate historic cemeteries and rural grave-sites in the ACT.

Readers can be forgiven for assuming limitations to such a project, since the nature of many of these sites in the landscape has kept hidden this aspect of our region's history and heritage. While some sites, such as St John's churchyard, the Colverwell Graves and Cuppacumbalong Cemetery, are well known and have been entered in heritage lists, many smaller historic cemeteries and individual grave sites are neither marked in today's landscape nor publicly acknowledged in any way. The project finally located and identified over fifty historic sites, providing insights into attitudes to death and approaches to the burial of the dead in the region's early settlement.

Before the passing of the Public Cemeteries Act of 1936, which regulated all burials by requiring use of official public cemeteries, the early settlers of the region could choose any site they liked to bury their dead.

Early deaths and burials were recorded in the parish registers of Christ Church, Queanbeyan, and then St John the Baptist. However, not all deaths and burials were recorded, as this was made compulsory only with the granting of self government to the Colony of New South Wales in 1856. Even then, the precise locations of most reported outlying burials were not supplied. For these reasons, many of the locations of early burials are either imprecisely known, or not known at all, and may never be located.

In the earliest years of settlement in the 1820s, deaths resulting from accidents often resulted in the expedient of burials in any convenient nearby spot. Elaborate burial rituals and formal mourning were impractical in the harsh conditions at these very edges of European settlement, especially as the population of the district consisted largely of single male workers with no accompanying family to attend to such matters. Even towards the end of the nineteenth century, burial could be rough and ready. Tales tell of make-shift coffins comprising two slabs of wood and the strips of wooden packing cases. The grave in one instance was an old mine shaft! In another the deceased was wrapped in two blankets and then covered by a slab of wood before being buried in a grave directly next to the hut he had lived in.

A common burial area was eventually established in 1838 in a paddock adjacent to the Elmsall Inn at the junction of the Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers

(now "The Oaks" homestead) in the area we know as Oaks Estate, which borders Queanbeyan.

The location at a river crossing point was evidently thought convenient for ease of access, and the proximity of inn to cemetery provided an amenity for funeral wakes. The softer soil of the river flats also allowed graves to be dug to an appropriate depth. Unfortunately, this same logic led to the loss of grave-sites in other riverside cemeteries in times of flood, notably in 1870 at Cuppacumbalong and 1925 at the Queanbeyan Riverside Cemetery.

As a public cemetery, the Oaks Burial Ground did not segregate different denominations. This fact perhaps accounted for the establishment of the Honeysuckle or Pialligo private cemetery in the early 1840s on the banks of the Molonglo River (near the present airport site), which appears to have catered for the many Presbyterian settlers employed on the Duntroon estate.

Meanwhile, devout Anglicans wishing to be buried in a consecrated Anglican cemetery were taken to the All Saints Chapel, Sutton Forest, a considerable distance to the northeast of Goulburn. It was only in 1845 that the Church of St John the Baptist, with its associated churchyard, was built on the Limestone Plains to provide a local Anglican cemetery. As the population grew, with the development of Ginninderra village to the north of the Limestone Plains, another Anglican church, St Paul's, was established with a graveyard, in 1861. Today, nothing can be seen of either church or cemetery, with at least eighteen burials, located now in an area of urban open space surrounded by the suburb of Evatt.

At the time, there was in the area no known consecrated Catholic cemetery closer than Gundaroo or the Roman Catholic portion of the Queanbeyan Riverside Cemetery, opened in the early 1850s. The more numerous Methodists fared somewhat better, organising their own cemetery with small wooden chapel at Weetangera in 1874. Forty-four burials are recorded here, although most are unmarked. The church is long gone but several fine headstones remain. Public or general cemeteries catering to different denominations were also established for the outlying settlements of Hall in 1887 and Tharwa in 1889, and are still used for those communities today.

While public cemeteries and churchyard burial grounds existed, the logistic difficulties of transport resulted in some families burying their dead in unofficial private sites closer to home.



When one of the earliest settlers at Naas, William Herbert, died aged 80 in 1857, he was buried in the bush rather than the Queanbeyan cemetery because of difficulties in crossing the high waters of the flooded river. Likewise, when Elizabeth Shiels died from tuberculosis at her parents' home in the Namadgi area in 1922, the family found that they were cut off by floods from cemeteries both at Cooma or Adaminaby, so they buried her near her homestead and next to her infant brother, who had died in 1886.

Some isolated burials in the bush became the nuclei of larger family or community cemeteries with particular affiliations, on private property. This ensured that burials were easily accessible for commemorative family

visits. The Lanyon and Cuppacumbalong cemeteries are examples, as are the now lost local cemeteries in the Naas valley, at the Ginninderra Cemetery Paddock, and at Tuggeranong near Rose Cottage.

However, most rural bush burials took place when departed loved ones were laid to rest close to the homestead, the plots remaining small and for immediate family only. When the two young girls from the Colverwell family drowned in 1837, they were buried close to the family homestead in the present Kowen Forest area and their graves marked by carved stones. It is thought that three other family members are also buried there in unmarked graves. When Henry Phillips, a smallholder at Uriarra, died in 1913 aged 89, he was buried next to his infant son in a simple fenced homestead plot at their property of Sherwood. His wife Eliza was also buried there when she died in 1922. In a grander gesture, the wealthy Gibbes family established a private family vault in the grounds of their Yarralumla homestead in the 1860s and 1870s and, when the family sold the property, had the bodies exhumed and reburied at St John's churchyard.

There are many references to settler homestead burials, especially of stillborn babies and of infants. Several burials are recorded along the Majura Valley, in what is now Kowen Forest, and south of the ACT in the Tidbinbilla, Naas and Namadgi areas. Most of these remain unmarked.

The historic record also mentions traditional Aboriginal burials, such as that of Onyong at Tharwa and an Aboriginal burial ground in the vicinity of Ginninderra and Charnwood, which was still used after white settlement. In 1864, Jimmy the Rover, a local Aboriginal chief, was buried by white settlers in accordance with ancient Aboriginal rites in the absence of others of his tribe to undertake the burial. Later in time, the records tell of the burials of Aboriginal people just outside the boundaries of general cemeteries and then, towards the end of the period of study, within them.

The ACT National Trust project of historic cemeteries and rural grave sites in the ACT highlights many themes in our history: the impact of white settlement on traditional Aboriginal life; the remote nature of the area in early settlement; the everyday dangers of accidents resulting from horse riding, carting with heavy drays on rough dirt tracks; the difficulties of transportation; and the dangers of drowning in the changeable waters of the rivers where proper bridge crossings were established late in the history of settlement. A feature of our history was inadequate health care, and the prevalence of diseases now preventable with vaccinations and modern antibiotics. Lack of ante- and post-natal care also accounted for high rates of maternal and infant deaths.

Most telling is the loss of memories of sites of clear importance and value to the early settlers of the area; and in many respects the study was made fifty years too late. Much of the knowledge of the early cemeteries and rural grave-sites in the area has been lost in recent decades as older members of our community have themselves passed away. Resulting lack of knowledge and appreciation of these historic heritage sites has resulted in at least three old cemeteries being compromised by modern road developments in Evatt, Ginninderra and Tuggeranong, and one being submerged under the waters of Lake Burley Griffin. The National Trust hopes that increasing publicity will lead to greater recognition of the ACT's historic cemeteries and rural graves sites by both the authorities and the wider public, with official acknowledgement, commemoration and, in some cases, full heritage listing and protection to follow. The full report on the ACT's historic cemeteries and rural grave sites can be found in the publications section of the ACT National Trust website at www.act.nationaltrust.org.au

ANNE CLAUQUÉ-LONG IS A CANBERRA BASED HISTORIAN WHO WORKS FREELANCE ON HERITAGE AND HISTORY PROJECTS AS WELL AS BEING A PART-TIME ADVISOR TO THE ACT GOVERNMENT'S HERITAGE COUNCIL.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

National History Challenge 2007 Lessons from the Past

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) invites ACT students from Years 5 to 12 to enter the 'National History Challenge 2007'. The Trust is offering prizes for the best research and presentation that addresses the theme: *Australia's heritage: Lessons from the past*.

About the Challenge

The National History Challenge is a national project run by the History Teachers' Association of Australia and supported by the Australian Government through a program administered by the Department of Education, Science and Training.

The Australian Council of National Trusts is in the third year of a three-year sponsorship of The National History Challenge, sponsoring a special category, *Australia's Heritage*.

Students from upper primary to senior level conduct and submit research projects based on a set annual theme and may also choose to submit their entries into a special category. Entries for special categories must address the special category sub-theme as well as the Challenge theme for the year. Possible formats include essay, audio-visual, multi-media/website, performance and museum model. Entries are judged at state and then national levels. There are four National 'year level' awards, overall awards for best entry in each State and Territory, and the National award for best overall entry, the winner being awarded the title of Young Historian of the Year. Special category entries are also judged at year, state and national levels.

The ACT winner of the Trust's special category will receive a prize of \$100 at an ACT Awards Presentation and the winning entry will be judged against the other State and Territory winners. The overall national winner of the Trust's Special Category will receive an extra \$200 and attend the national presentation at Parliament House. Brochures on the Challenge were posted to all schools in February, and more can be obtained from the ACT Trust office. The program was launched in the ACT on April 2.

INSIDE BACK COVER - 'LIVING TREASURES'

A heritage competition for children and youth, managed by the National Trust of Australia (ACT), supported by the ACT Heritage Library and funded by an ACT Government CUPP grant.

A comprehensive book of all entries will be published by the National Trust (ACT) in May this year. The book will show all the entries received, including essays and other presentations.

Other important dates in 2007 are

28 July	Closing date for entries
31 August	State judging completed
15 September	Entries of Special Category State winners submitted to sponsors for judging
1 October	National judging for general challenge
15 October	All judging (National Year levels, National Special Category, and National over-all) completed. National winners notified
October/ November	State Award Presentations
Late Nov/ early Dec	National Award Presentation
How to enter	For more information see www.historychallenge.com.au or www.nationaltrust.org.au Or contact Peter Dowling at the National Trust (ACT) for ACT examples on 02 6230 0533 or info@act.nationaltrust.org.au

Maree Treadwell is a research officer for the ACNT and coordinates the Trust's sponsorship of the National History Challenge Program. She can be contacted on 02 6247 6766 mtreadwell@nationaltrust.org.au

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A small section of the second prize winner Jarrod Bradbury's "Trash & Treasure" Collage - [Collage /poster/photo's]
One of the many terrific entries received in last year's Living Treasures Competition.

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