



NATIONAL TRUST

# NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA

## *Heritage in Trust*

NOVEMBER 2010

\$2.00



## Centenary Border Walks of the ACT



*Brick chimney, all that remains of a former homestead, Smith's Road*



*A blazed tree marks a change in direction of the ACT Border, Namadgi National Park.*

*Border marker and stone lock spit mark a change in the direction of the ACT border, Goorooyarroo Nature Reserve.*



*Track change at Old Tuggeranong Railway siding*



*The end of the Horse Shoe Bend, Queanbeyan to Cooma Railway.*



Following the selection of the Canberra Yass area as the site for the new Federal Capital Territory there was an urgent need for the boundaries to be established. Charles Scrivener was appointed as Director of Commonwealth Lands and Surveys and given the job. He employed three survey teams to determine the line of the border which was largely to follow the watersheds of the Cotter and Molonglo Rivers. It took between 1910 and 1915 to survey the border and determine the ACT in the shape it is today.

As part of the ACT National Trust's commitment to the Centenary of Canberra celebrations we are developing a series of self-guided walking routes which tell the story of the ACT border. Why is the ACT shaped as it is, how was it determined, what does the border actually look like, what happened after the border was declared and the boundaries of the Federal Capital Territory were finalised? By following the routes to and along the border, participants will follow in the footsteps of the surveyors and learn about this fascinating achievement which produced the shape of the ACT as we know it today.

The first stage of our border walks project will guide participants to the northern sections of the border surveyed by Percy Sheaffe and his team. By following the routes to and along the border and walking along the line of the border the story of the surveyors and the social consequences of a new border and Federal Territory will unfold.

During 2011 the Trust will be conducting five of the border walks tours as part of the annual tours programme. The first tour will be a twilight tour in February. To whet your appetites we have included this tour which entails a walk along the Old Tuggeranong Road overlooking Melrose Valley to the Queanbeyan/Cooma Railway corridor which forms this section of the border.

So, you can try it out yourself or come with us in February 2011 and be personally guided through the history of the area and learn of the trials and tribulations of the survey team and the property owners who farmed the area.

## THE WALK

### Along the Old Tuggeranong Road (5km return)

**Where to start:** From Canberra, travel south on the Monaro Highway. On reaching the Tuggeranong Valley suburb of Chisholm turn off the highway (left turn while travelling south) at the sign indicating 'The Old Tuggeranong Road'. Look for a stand of pine trees next to the highway. Park your car in the lay-by area which serves as an entrance to the Old Tuggeranong Road and the adjacent Paintball Adventure facility. Please note the Old Tuggeranong Road is not open to general vehicle traffic.

**The walk:** The walk to the border follows the course of the Old Tuggeranong Road. The first section of the walk is over gentle to medium terrain. Uplifted

volcanic rock can be observed along the road bearing evidence of the formation of the hills in the area. The walk then brings you to the Melrose Travelling Stock Reserve, part of Canberra Nature Park. The road continues the moderate incline for some 300 metres then levels out to expose views of Melrose Valley to the south. The road continues past the entrance to Melrose homestead (this is private property so please do not enter) then turns north and dips towards a fence line and the Queanbeyan to Cooma Tourist railway line. The former Tuggeranong Railway siding is just to the east of the road. The border is determined by the fence line of the railway corridor.

**The border:** The border is marked by a star picket fence with two strands of barbed wire. A later fence was erected parallel to the railway line. Surveyor Percy Sheaffe and his team marked this section of the border and reached the Tuggeranong Railway Siding at the junction with the Old Tuggeranong Road in December 1913.

## Area History

### *The Railway & Tuggeranong siding.*

Construction of the Queanbeyan to Cooma railway line was completed 1889. To get the line from Queanbeyan into the Tuggeranong Valley over the crest at Royalla the surveyors and engineers had to divert more than 1.5 km and construct numerous cuttings and embankments later known as the Horseshoe Bend. More than 400 men worked on the Horseshoe Bend cutting over a period of four years making camp along the route as they went. The Horseshoe Bend terminated at the junction of the Tuggeranong Road and the Tuggeranong Siding. This allowed the people who lived and farmed in the Tuggeranong Valley and further to the west access to reliable transport routes.

A camp for the railway construction workers was located near the Tuggeranong siding. In later years it was known as McCallum's Old Railway shanty. During construction of the railway there was often conflict resulting in litigation between the railway workers and the local land holders usually over trespassing of property. One property owner became utterly fed up with the continual encroachment on his land by the workers who were allegedly cutting tracks through his property and damaging fences. He placed a notice in the *Queanbeyan Age*:

*To Railway Employees and others*

*Whereas sundry trespasses are being committed on my land at Tuggeranong by unauthorised roads, well making and removal of fences, I hereby give notice that any person found trespassing on said land in the above or any other manner after the tenth instant will be prosecuted.*

*Edward Brennan,  
Tuggeranong, 1<sup>st</sup> June 1885  
(Queanbeyan Age 1 June 1885)*

*continued on p11*

## Obituary John Goldsmith

It is with great regret that we heard of the death of John Goldsmith on September 3 this year. Long standing members of the ACT Trust will remember John with deep respect and affection. John, with his wife Fay, joined as a member of the NSW Trust in 1975 and then transferred to the newly fledged ACT Trust in 1977.

John was an architect with particular interest in heritage conservation. In the 1960s he was a senior architect with the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) before going into private practice. John served as an ACT Trust Council member from 1987 to 1991. From 1988 as a fellow Council member, Vice-President then President I recall well the gentle and wise advice that John could always be relied on to give me on a number of heritage conservation challenges that faced the Trust, not least the fight to save the historic landscape around Lanyon. He was a stalwart member of the Trust. It was for ever a sheer delight to have his and Fay's company at social gatherings such as the Christmas Cocktail Party at Huntly or the annual Antique Fair at the Albert Hall.

John was an instigator of, and contributor to, *The Heritage of Jervis Bay* which the Trust published in 1988 and again it was a pleasure to be involved in this project at John's invitation. After the NCDC John worked as a private architect with considerable output in heritage conservation. He undertook with Freeman, Collett and Partners a Conservation Management Plan for All Saint's Anglican Church Ainslie and an early Conservation Plan for St John's Church. John had a personal connection with St John's Church and worked hard on various conservation schemes applying successfully for ACT heritage grants.

In June 2000, Fay and John wrote that they were living in Tasmania and would be resigning as members of the Trust in Canberra. Our sympathies now go out to Fay.

**Professor Ken Taylor AM**

Past President



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## CHARTER

At the National Trust of Australia (ACT) we see that:

- Our **Vision** is to be an independent and expert community leader in the conservation of our cultural and natural heritage.
- Our **Purpose** is to foster public knowledge about, and promote the conservation of, places and objects that are significant to our heritage.
- Our **Organisation** is a not-for-profit organisation of people interested in understanding and conserving heritage places and objects of local, national and international significance in the ACT region.

## Advertising rates for Heritage in Trust magazine (Aug 2010)

Full page colour	\$600
Half page Black and white	\$300
Quarter page black and white	\$150
Smaller than quarter page	\$130

(These prices include GST)

Discounts of 10% can be negotiated if advertising over more than one issue. Discounts apply for non-profit community groups and Corporate members of the Trust

Advertisers should supply copy to the Trust Office on CD or by email.

Enquiries to Liz McMillan ph: 6230 0533 or email [info@nationaltrustact.org.au](mailto:info@nationaltrustact.org.au)

## Inserts

Inserts are charged by weight.

Standard rate for low weight insert is \$270 (GST inc)

The Council met for a full day on 4 September 2010 to develop a strategic plan for the next five years. This was essential as there has been a substantial change to our business this year with the closure of the shop and the shift of the Federal Grants to projects leaving little income for general administration.

It was a very useful and fruitful day with a strong spirit of looking at ways to make the Trust more relevant and viable. There will be new initiatives and ideas for funding and a push for new members, greater involvement of members, particularly on a volunteer basis, as this will assist us in having essential tasks undertaken. There will be some reforms on our activities which will flow through to a review of the committee structure and how we best deliver a product to our members with appropriate staffing.

The Council is positive that over the next few years we can turn the current deficit budget of about \$60,000 into a balanced one.

The Annual Report and financial statement for 2009/10 had a loss of \$70,185 which is partly as a result of the write down of stock in the shop due to the closure.

At the time of writing I am aware that Councillor Grahame Crocket is not standing again as Councillor and I thank him for his contribution over several years. Grahame provided sage advice on heritage issues and had a good understanding of the Federal heritage system which has been useful.

The other person who will leave later this year is Sue Chambers who has indicated her intention to retire when her current contract ends. Sue has been a solid worker and contributor in difficult times and has excelled in some areas, particularly the management of the stimulus package of conservation works for the three churches. She has managed, with support, to put our records in order which will make administration of our office easier. Our thanks are extended to Sue for a solid effort and we wish her and Don a more relaxing time.

By the time this arrives with you it will be nearing Christmas, so on behalf of Council I wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and trust the festive season is joyous and safe. I am looking forward to a new direction for the Trust with the support of all the members.

**Eric J. Martin, AM**

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## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

<b>Joining Fee</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Single</b>	<b>\$65.00</b>
<b>Single, concession</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>
<b>Household</b>	<b>\$95.00</b>
<b>Household, concession</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
<b>2 year membership</b>	<b>5% discount</b>
<b>3 year membership</b>	<b>7% discount</b>
<b>Corporate</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
<b>Life memberships</b>	<b>\$1200.00 Household</b>
	<b>\$750.00 Single</b>

New members and renewal payments can be made online, by post, telephone or in person at our city office.

Cash, cheque and all major credit cards are accepted.

Membership renewal reminders are generated one month before 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

*This Members page is an information page for all current and prospective members of the National Trust ACT. Our aim is to pass on any information that may be of assistance to members and also to notify members of activities that have been organised by the various committees of the ACT National Trust.*

### Novi Scripti

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

Stuart and Helen Allan	Ken Madej
Evon and Julie Bowler	Robert and Joan Massey
Mary Boyle	Kym McCauley
Frances and Peter Buscombe	Mary McCullagh
David Bush	Margaret McGovern
Linda Collings	Felicity and Andrew McWilliam
Mac and Carolyn Davies	Gaye and Trevor Moody
Anne Davis	Maree and Trevor Oddy
Mark and Leith Douglas	Anton Pemmer
Steven and Judy Harrod	Peter Phillips
Jerome Ho	John and Elizabeth Saxon
Karen Holt	Iven Spicer
Leya Isin	John and Trish Swift
Robert Janssens	Patrick Wagner
Maria Jolly	Rosemary Warner
Lorraine Kimpton	Brian and Pat Watson
Monica and Peter Lafferty	Chris and Pauline Winslade
Helen and Rupert Lamming	

### End of Year Members Events

27 November 5.30-8.30pm

*Christmas drinks at Huntly*

5 December 10-12noon

*Volunteers Brunch at Lennox Gardens*

For more information, please check the website or ENews.



## Do You Need Heritage Advice?

**Free heritage and architectural advice is available for heritage property owners and purchasers.**

The **Heritage Advisory Service** provides guidance on renovating or extending a heritage home. The service is provided by Philip Leeson Architects Pty Ltd.



Call Philip Leeson or David Hobbes on **6295 3311 for one free appointment** either on site or at their Manuka office.

This is an independent service supported by the ACT Government

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## Message from the Executive Director

For several years the Chief Executive Officers of Australian State and Territory National Trusts have been working together as the National Trust Executive Officers Network (the NEON group). We meet face-to-face about three times a year, and keep in touch by email and phone meetings. Recently we met in Sydney to discuss our progress on the national initiative projects which are funded by a Commonwealth Government program called the National Trust Partnership Program. About \$930,000 is awarded each year to support national projects run by Australian National Trusts.

Currently there are 11 projects, with one or two Trusts taking the lead on each project and other Trusts contributing local information and participating in all projects – a truly national effort. The National Trust (ACT) is taking the lead on the Cultural Tourism national initiative, with assistance in the planning from National Trusts in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia and with all the other Trusts providing local support. We have an experienced consultant who is working with us to determine the contribution that National Trust properties can make to Commonwealth Government cultural tourism programs for the benefit of Australian and overseas travelers interested in cultural tourism experiences.

The Cultural Tourism project aims to position the Australian National Trusts as a national leader in cultural tourism. In the 2010/2011 year, the aim is to conduct a desktop literature review and best practice review of existing National Trust properties; assess the tourist potential of the properties; develop an economic impact model; and then identify priorities and future directions, including resourcing and strategic partnership recommendations. In later years priority projects are for an ongoing research program, infrastructure and investment support, mentoring of emerging business and a marketing program.

What will this mean for the National Trust (ACT)? The Cultural Tourism project builds on our strength in organizing tours programs which have been part of our program of activities for over 20 years. We will be building up our reputation as a centre of excellence for cultural tourism by project managing this expanding area of interest for the Trust movement in Australia. By coordinating and improving access to National Trust properties and linking them to Commonwealth Government tourism programs, we will open opportunities for Trust members to engage more in Australian cultural tourism activities – the kinds of cultural tourist experiences members enjoy in overseas countries which have a more developed program.

The National Trust (ACT) Tours Committee will be working with other Trusts to develop Australian heritage tours which draw on the expertise of national Trust members, and access Trust properties and other properties not usually open to the public. There will be opportunities to demonstrate the links between Trust properties and the landscapes they are set in. The first

such tour will be one to the Flinders Ranges in May 2011, which will include visits to South Australian Trust sites. Others being planned include a Southern New South Wales Coast tour and a Tasmanian tour.

You will begin to notice “Cultural Tourism” popping up as a topic in many places. Our speaker for our AGM on 21<sup>st</sup> October at the National Archives was Mr Bruce Leaver on the topic “Nature and Cultural Tourism: Selecting the best”. Bruce is the Chair of the Commonwealth Government’s National Landscapes Reference Committee and a former Executive Director of the Australian Heritage Commission. Bruce has also written a lead article on cultural tourism for the next issue of the *Trust News*. In later editions members of other Trusts will be writing articles about cultural tourism opportunities in their state or territory.

One of the identified National Landscapes is the Australian Alps which includes the Namadgi National Park in the A.C.T. The Namadgi provides us with an opportunity to show visitors the links between natural, Indigenous and built heritage, which is at the heart of the National Landscape program, and is being promoted in the Trusts’ cultural tourism national initiative. The Tours Committee has already been organizing tours for our members to the Namadgi, with Mathew Higgins as guide in 2009, and last April, Adrian Brown, a Ngannawal traditional owner guided a group to see the rock art in the Yankee Hat Rock Shelter. (The front cover photograph of this *Heritage in Trust* shows our Yankee Hat group making their way.) Next year our heritage officer, Dr Peter Dowling will lead a series of five Border Walks, some of which will include the Namadgi. The first Border Walk will take place on February 19<sup>th</sup> 2011 (see this issue for information).

The national website for the Trust movement is planned to be launched on next year’s World Heritage Day, the 18<sup>th</sup> April. We will be working with other Trusts to make sure that the National Trusts programs for cultural tourism are exciting, accessible and coordinated.

In taking the lead role for the cultural tourism national initiative, National Trust (ACT) will be meeting its core objectives of promoting community awareness of our built, Indigenous and natural heritage, supporting heritage conservation and encouraging members and community involvement in heritage activities and issues. These are activities that our members in the A.C.T. welcome, and will also make a significant contribution to Trust activities across Australia.

We are also planning our 2011 local heritage walks and tours. Currently we have a draft program for some ten local walks including Border Walks, and eight Heritage Festival events in April next year. The program will be advertised in the next issue of *Heritage in Trust*, and through our E-News. Be quick to register as places on the local tours are filled fast.

Sue Chambers  
Executive Director

## ACT Heritage Places at Risk 2010

*Each year the National Trust in each state and territory nominates a number of cultural and natural places which they consider to be most at risk of loss or deterioration. The nominations come not only from within each Trust but from the general public. The nominations are assessed by each Trust and top places at risk are identified. These places are then presented to the respective government bodies through media releases and on websites. Following the publication of the state and territory places at risk, a further process of selection occurs. A committee of judges selects the top place at risk for each state and territory and a listing of the places most at risk Australia wide is produced. This list is announced to the public through a media release by the President of the Australian Council of National Trusts.*

This year our Heritage Committee reviewed thirty nominations for places at risk in the ACT. Eleven were assessed as being at high risk, nine at medium risk and the remainder assessed at a lower risk. Several of the 2010 places most at risk had also been similarly assessed for 2009. The top places at risk for 2010 are:

**Molonglo Valley Historic Sites** (also 2009) – The Molonglo Valley is the next area for large-scale urban development. Two ruins of former small holdings associated with the rural history of the ACT have been identified: 'Riverview', the former home of Isaac and Emily Blundell, and 'Twelve Mile', the former home of Richard More and family. A preliminary heritage assessment of the Molonglo Valley stated: 'comparatively few remains are sufficiently intact either to have entered the canons of oral history or to be recognizable in the landscape.' This statement raised concerns with the Trust, and together with the Canberra Archaeological Society, we approached the ACT government. A further heritage assessment was conducted by an independent consultant and both places have been recorded. However, further research and assessment of these places and surveys for other yet unidentified places is required to understand and conserve the rural history of the Molonglo Valley.



*Molonglo Valley Riverside homestead ruin*

**Yarralumla Brickworks** (also 2009, 2008) – The kilns and infrastructure have not been used for their original purposes since 1976 when the brickworks ceased operation. Lack of regular maintenance and wilful neglect of the structures by successive government bodies has led to a continual deterioration of the entire fabric of the place. A new Heritage Management Plan (2010) was prepared, but the draft document has not been released for public comment. The Trust has reviewed the plan and has found several fundamental problems with its research and assessments which would put at risk some of the heritage fabric of the place. As this plan will be the guiding document for the conservation of the brickworks, we have written to the Land Development Agency pointing out these problems and asking that they be resolved. (A copy of the submission is available on our website.)

**The Valley Ruin, Gungahlin** (also 2009) – The ruins of 'The Valley' homestead on Gungahlin Drive next to Burgmann Anglican School consist of stone walls and footings, pisé (rammed earth) walls and orchard trees. It is listed on the ACT Heritage Register. Although a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) was prepared for the site over six years ago, no conservation work has been done and the site has been left to deteriorate.

The Trust has stated that the CMP must be reviewed and revised and an implementation strategy drawn up to guide conservation works on the site. However, there has been some positive progress by the ACT Government. Funds have been allocated from the 2010 budget towards a conservation programme which is expected to commence in the near future.

**Lake Burley Griffin and Foreshores** (most at risk for 2009 – still at risk for 2010) - There is no clear plan for future use of much of the shoreline areas of the Lake. The National Capital Commission, the Commonwealth Government controlling authority for the Lake, commissioned a Heritage Assessment of the Lake and

foreshores which was finalised in 2009. In October 2007, a master plan study to enhance tourist and recreation opportunities and improve lake water quality was commissioned, but this has been restricted to the Yarralumla Bay region. Other regions, such as the Eastern shore of the West Basin, not covered by the master plan, are now suffering from inappropriate use. A further draft Master Plan for Weston Park has been commissioned by the ACT Government and is under review. There should be no further development which impacts on the heritage and visual significance of the Lake and its shoreline until a comprehensive management plan, taking into consideration the assessed heritage values, has been fully developed.

**Reid Housing Precinct** (new for 2010) – This heritage listed precinct is a collection of residential, community and religious buildings in a Garden City plan. The streetscapes incorporate paved roads and wide treed verges, public parks and other elements of Garden City Planning. The absence of a CMP for Reid is a major contributor to the ongoing decline of the original Garden City design heritage values. The heritage fabric and values of the precinct are deteriorating. Municipal works are often inconsistent with the stated heritage values, and a lack of meaningful compliance action by ACT Government is compromising heritage values. A comprehensive conservation plan, Reid Conservation Area Conservation Plan, was prepared 20 years ago but needs reviewing. When maintenance work and tree plantings by the ACT Government's departments, agencies or authorities occur, it is typically ad hoc and unpredictable. The Trust has asked the ACT Government for a new CMP for Reid that has the support of the key stakeholders including residents.

**Dickson/Lyneham Flats** (also 2008, 2009) - The complex is significant for its association with the 1950s-1960s period of rapid growth of the capital. Their design demonstrates a creative and innovative solution to low-cost housing, utilising five post-war International styles. The flats are important for their association with architect Sydney Ancher (1904-79), a pioneer of modern domestic architecture in Australia. ACT Housing has made no clear decision on the future of this complex. A draft CMP was prepared but it was far from perfect. Responses to the draft were submitted but there has been no announcement of future use. Future development projects may wish to see these units along Northbourne Avenue demolished to make way for modern multi-story

buildings. A CMP needs to be completed and signed off by the ACT Government to protect the identified heritage features of these buildings.

**Brian Lewis Crescent Houses, ANU** (also 2009) – This group of five cottages was designed to overlook the Molonglo River (now Lake Burley Griffin). They demonstrate the pattern of siting on contours, with generous setbacks, resulting in a prominent street presence of open spaced lawn. The cottages are single-story, rectangular in design, with large front window areas. The ANU intended to demolish these houses as part of their planned development for housing and accommodation in the area. These plans have been shelved for the present time but the threat of demolition still remains. The National Trust view is that the houses should be retained and not demolished.

**Kowen Historic Sites** – The Kowen area of the ACT has several remnant buildings and structures relating to its early settlement and rural phase. Due to lack of sufficient management and maintenance all places have been subject to steady deterioration from the elements. A CMP was completed by the National Trust for the Glenburn complex in 2002 recommending conservation works. Remedial conservation work has begun this year. A CMP for Colliers Stone Cottage ruin was completed by the National Trust in 2009 but no work in implementing the conservation recommendations has began.

**Jerrabomberra Wetlands** (new for 2010) – Jerrabomberra Wetlands is listed on the ACT Heritage Register. The area is one of the most valuable wetland habitats in the ACT, increasing the biological diversity of Lake Burley Griffin and Canberra City. The wetlands provide the only extensive area of riverine floodplains with existing paleo-channels (ancient courses of the Molonglo River) in the ACT. It is these paleo-channels,



*Kowen Colliers homestead ruin*

*Continued on p10*

## Travels with the Trust

### De Salis Cemetery Walk

*Sunday 14th November 1pm-4pm*

Join Dr Peter Dowling for a walk upstream from Tharwa Bridge along the Murrumbidgee River southwards to the unique 19th century cemetery next to Cuppacumbalong. See how the De Salis family overcame hard rock and floods to build a private cemetery where there are 19 recoded burials. The flat track is 2.8 km return. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the excursion.

**Cost:** \$20 members, \$25 non-members

**Meet:** Cross over Tharwa Bridge and park near the amenities block at the picnic ground. We will depart from the large *Canberra Tracks* sign.

**Booking essential:** 6230 0533 or book online [www.nationaltrustact.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustact.org.au) – click on **Bookings** under Events & Meetings tab.



### Centenary Border Walks: A walk along the Old Tuggeranong Road to the ACT Border

*19th February 3 to 6pm*

What do you know about the ACT border? Why is the ACT shaped the way it is? How and when was it surveyed and by whom? Why was a railway line used to form the border? What effects did it have on the communities? Come and join National Trust Heritage Officer, Dr Peter Dowling, on a walk along the historic Old Tuggeranong Road to the ACT border and the Tuggeranong Railway siding.

**Cost:** \$20 members, \$25 non-members

**Meet:** From Canberra, travel south on the Monaro Highway. On reaching the Tuggeranong Valley suburb of Chisholm, turn off the highway (left turn while travelling south) at the sign indicating 'The Old Tuggeranong Road'. Look for a stand of pine trees next to the highway. Park your car in the lay-by area which serves as the entrance to the Old Tuggeranong Road and the adjacent Paintball Adventure facility. Please note the Old Tuggeranong Road is not open to general vehicle traffic.

Medium level of fitness required. (Approximately 5km return). Refreshments provided afterwards.

**Booking essential:** 6230 0533 or book online [www.nationaltrustact.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustact.org.au) – click on **Bookings** under Events & Meetings tab.



### DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND TRAVELING OVERSEAS?

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### Flinders Ranges, Burra and Port Augusta

*6 Nights late May 2011*

Come and Experience the rugged beauty of the Flinders Ranges. Departing from Adelaide, the tour will first encounter the historic mining township of Burra before seeing the dramatic landforms of Wilpena Pond, the Heysen Range, Bunyeroo Valley and the heritage site of Aroona. Up then to the craggy Northern Flinders, staying at Arkaroola and enjoying the world famous Ridge Top 4WD tour.

Port Augusta, the crossroad of Australia, offers the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden and the Wadlata Outback Centre. Back to genteel civilisation in Adelaide with a visit to Ayers House.

Register your expression of interest at the office on 6230 0533.





## Tours Committee Report

### Flowers, Food and Whales

#### 4 Nights 16-19 September 2011

With Narooma as our base, enjoy a south coast spring treat with whale watching at Montague Island, visits to Foxglove Spires and Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens, a cruise on the Clyde, wine at Tilba Valley Wines, good food and more.

Register your expression of interest at the office on 6230 0533.

### KEEP UP TO DATE

Are you up with the latest National Trust happenings? Maybe you have been missing out on our E News bulletins! Make sure you are on the E News list and are kept up to date with events, have access to National Trust media releases and opportunities to contribute to the valuable and important work of the Trust.

Email  
[info@nationaltrustact.org.au](mailto:info@nationaltrustact.org.au)  
with the subject heading of:  
Subscribe to E News.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

The three designs for this year's cards are a twist on our most popular designs from previous years. See the back cover of this issue.

The cost per card will be \$1.10 each or if you purchase them in packs of 10 the cost will be \$10 per pack.

The desk diaries have returned to the Jenny Phillips Australian Botanical Artists design and the price is still \$25 each.

The diaries and cards can be purchased from the National Trust Office, 1st floor, North Building, Canberra City

or  
the Combined Charities Christmas Card Shop (location to be advised).

At a recent planning session, the Tours Committee reaffirmed our vision that the National Trust (ACT) provide through its profitable tours program, unique and compelling experiences for domestic and international visitors through distinctive properties, collections and expertise of the National Trust of Australia.

The Tours Committee for NTACT has successfully run tours locally, interstate and internationally since 1999 and raised revenue for the Trust. Our tours program has also met other objectives such as promotion and education about heritage in Australia, particularly ACT, with tour participants.

In order to remain competitive, sustainable and a vital part of being a National Trust member, the Tours Committee has initiated partnerships. This will offer a broad range of events whilst not overtaxing the volunteer base. We invite suggestions for tour ideas and would also value your expertise in possibly leading a tour.

Australia-wide the National Trust owns 400 properties with about 180 open to the public. I recently visited the Melbourne Gaol, which for the second consecutive year has won the Heritage Tourism category for Australia. Of course, not many of the National Trust properties are at this top end of visitor experience, but the range of places making up our built heritage venues is impressive.

There are also noteworthy collections connected with these properties. It is this catalogue of places that gives the Trust an edge, as our tours can provide special openings with local experts who ooze enthusiasm and information. Superior interpretation is what we aim to provide on our tours so that you enjoy your time and receive value for money, with a small amount returning to the Trust to continue our important advocacy role in raising the awareness of our heritage.

**Linda Roberts**  
Chair

### Trusted Recipes

#### GINGER BEER

With the popularity of Ginger Beer on a commercial basis who out there can remember making a ginger beer plant and making their own ginger beer. Those quiet nights shattered by exploding bottles. Below is a recipe that is in excess of 60 years old and well tested.

##### PLANT

Put in an airtight jar  
8 sultanas

4 teaspoons sugar  
2 teaspoons ginger

2 cups cold water  
Juice 2 lemons

1 teaspoon lemon pulp

Leave for 5 to 7 days in warm weather when it should ferment.

Then feed plant each day for a week with 1 teaspoon ginger and 1 teaspoon of sugar.

##### GINGER BEER

Put in 2 gallon(8 litre)container  
4 cups sugar

4 cups boiling water  
1 tablespoons honey

Juice of 4 lemons

Stir till dissolved, then add juice of lemons. Strain ginger beer plant through a cloth, squeeze dry then fill bucket with cold water.

Fill bottles, add 2 sultanas to each bottle. Cork tightly.

Divide plant in half and commence to feed again adding 2 cups water.

which are listed on the ACT Heritage Register as intrinsic features, which are under threat. As part of an electrical easement upgrade for new suburbs a 1.4km long trench, 1.25m deep and 4m wide, will be excavated across the wetlands partially destroying ancient channels (paleo-channels) of the Molonglo River. These channels have been identified as intrinsic heritage features of the wetlands. While the National Trust has objected to the trenching, we have asked that if there is no other viable alternative, a detailed geomorphological and archaeological study be done during the excavations.

**Griffith Oval No.1** (new for 2010) - Griffith Oval No. 1, with its comparative intactness of mature deciduous plantings forming a dense perimeter ring around the oval, is a rare and unique example of a largely intact historical landscape setting. The mature plantings represent sequential planting at the site which began in the 1930s and extended through to the 1950s. The Brumbies Rugby Club applied for a Territory Plan Variation in January 2010 (rezoning from Urban Open Space to Restricted Access Recreation) to permit development of medium density dwellings that will destroy the landscape values of the c.1930 oval and restrict public access for sports/recreation. The oval is a significant intact feature of early Canberra's urban planning history. The Trust has asked for the retention of Griffith Oval No. 1 as a public oval and district sportsground. However, there is some good news. The ACT Heritage Council has entered the Griffith Oval No. 1 on the ACT Heritage Register effective from 28 August 2010.

**Register of the National Estate Places** – The Register of the National Estate (RNE) is a list of natural, Indigenous and historic heritage places throughout Australia. It was originally established under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*. Under that Act, the Australian Heritage Commission entered more than 13,000 places in the RNE. The 2006 amendments to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003* provide for the eventual disbandment of the RNE. From February 2007 no more places have been entered in or removed from the RNE. In February 2012 the RNE will no longer be a statutory register and will be used only as a data base. The loss of the RNE puts at high risk a number of listed places in the ACT which are on Commonwealth land and do not have legislative protection from the Commonwealth. The Trust has recommended that the RNE be retained as a statutory listing until all places receive Commonwealth, State, Territory or local protection.

Peter Dowling

*Editors' Note: As we go to print, news has arrived that the application for rezoning of Griffith Oval No. 1 has been refused – see front page of Canberra Times, Thursday 23 September 2010*

## Visit to the Treloar Centre

The 2pm tour on 21 July of the Australian War Memorial's Treloar Centre was so popular that it booked out very soon after we first advertised it. Luckily, John Kemister, the Senior Conservator at the Centre generously agreed to run a second session in the morning. I recall that when we offered the same excursion a couple of years ago we had a similar enthusiastic response, so it seems that we had better include this one on our future events list if the AWM is happy to have us come again.

The tour offered a fascinating close-up view of the incredible complexities of conserving and displaying the huge range of artefacts and memorabilia contained in the War Memorial's collection. We were shown work being done on paintings, clothing, photographs, medals, books and, of course, weapons and LARGE bits of machinery, including aeroplanes, boats, trucks and even tanks.

It was fascinating to see someone laboriously piecing together the tiny fragments of a crumpled, largely disintegrated document to bring it to the point where it could be read as some soldier's letter home to mum; or to be told about the process of carefully re-hydrating a crushed, mummified leather brief case so that it could be reinstated to its original shape.

As a contrast, we were shown the work which had been done to reconstruct large military weapons and the research necessary to work out how some particular item had been constructed, so that it could be dismantled and restored – ranging from a tiny weapon to (a recent acquisition) a LARGE aeroplane.

The conservators at work seemed remarkably comfortable with explaining what they were doing to a bunch of spectators and welcomed questions (of which there were many - which might explain why both tours went well past the advertised time limit!).

Many, many thanks to the Australian War Memorial for this opportunity, and particular thanks to John Kemister, for his enthusiasm and for being willing to give up a large part of a day to showing a bunch of 'rubber neckers' around his workplace.





One October day in 1919 a very notable group arrived at the Tuggeranong Siding. Charles Edwin Woodrow Bean, war historian for the First World War, his staff and their crates of records set foot on the siding after a long train trip from Melbourne. They made their way along the Old Tuggeranong Road to set up residence at Tuggeranong Homestead. It was there that Bean wrote and edited the volumes of *The Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-18*.

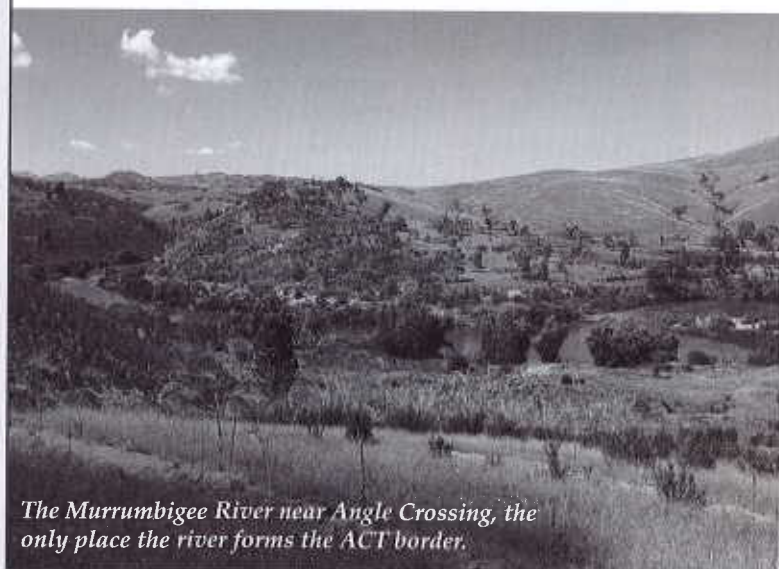
The express train from Queanbeyan to Cooma made its last journey along the line in January 1989. Since then the line has occasionally been used by the Canberra Railway Historic Society for tourist trips by steam train to Michelago.

### *Travelling Stock Reserve*

Travelling stock reserves were developed to enable the movement of livestock between local grazing properties and across larger tracts of land to link up with distant market places. Like the reserve along this route cattle were able to be moved from the properties in the Tuggeranong Valley along the Old Tuggeranong Road to the railway siding for transportation as far away as Sydney. There were at least fifteen of these reserves set aside in the ACT for the movement of livestock. Today, there are nine identified stock reserves remaining and they are heritage listed for their evidence of the former rural period of the ACT and the remains of native vegetation. The Melrose Travelling Stock Reserve would have been used by Melrose Valley station which was formed in 1937 taking up sections of remnant lands established by the early selectors.

### **For the more adventurous**

The walk ends by the Tuggeranong Railway siding but for the more adventurous you can follow the railway fence marking the border past the old siding towards the east or walk along the tracks through 'Horseshoe Bend' cutting to the west. Whichever direction you take it is advisable to return back to the Old Tuggeranong Road and retrace your steps to the car park.



*The Murrumbidgee River near Angle Crossing, the only place the river forms the ACT border.*

## REVITALIZATION OF A GRAND OLD DAME

The Albert Hall is an important example of the 'Federal Capital' period of architecture associated with the establishment of the National Capital.

The elegant proportions of the exterior and the fine detail of the external and internal surfaces are highly valued by the community and it is a much loved landmark adjacent to the Parliamentary Triangle and the thoroughfare from City Hill to Parliament House.

As with Old Parliament House, Albert Hall expresses the aim for a distinctive architectural character for Canberra equal to its role as the national capital and because of its unique public purpose is considered the civic and cultural equivalent of Old Parliament House.

From 1928, till the opening of the Canberra Theatre Centre in 1965, Albert Hall served as this city's main theatre and assembly hall and, for all intents and purposes, really was our town hall.

Most of us who have lived in Canberra for any length of time have great memories of the events we have attended as Albert Hall has hosted all manner of both public and private events.

For over 80 years, Albert Hall has been the focal point of much of Canberra's, and indeed of our nation's, history and was even where preliminary hearings for the historic Petrov Royal Commission took place in 1954.

The Royal Commission sat for 10 months and inquired into the circumstances of the defection of Soviet diplomat Vladimir Petrov and his wife Evdokia.

In 1949, Albert Hall also witnessed the first ever citizenship ceremony and the new Australians were welcomed to their adopted country by Prime Minister Ben Chifley, Australia's first Minister for Immigration Arthur Calwell and the Opposition Immigration spokesperson, later to become Prime Minister, Harold Holt.

From the 1950's and 1960's Albert Hall also hosted numerous Australian citizenship conventions and citizenship ceremonies and was the central tally room for the 1963 federal elections.

Many great performers have appeared at the Albert Hall; however the most notable was undoubtedly a very young Dame Joan Sutherland who, in 1950, was a grand finalist in the Mobil quest.

For many years, the Albert Hall was also home to the Canberra Repertory Society and the Canberra Philharmonic. It hosted countless concerts, eisteddfods, plays, musicals, balls. A civic event was held at Albert Hall during a visit to Canberra by Queen Elizabeth, and the late Queen Mother attended an event at Albert Hall.

Until the opening of the National Gallery of Australia in 1982, Albert Hall also served as the city's art gallery and exhibited works including those of John Perceval, Charles Blackman, John Hopkins and David Boyd.

The first land auction, restricted to homeowners only, was held on July 14 1970 and subsequent auctions

were packed by hopeful buyers for the following couple of decades.

The refurbishment has been a major project and the Friends of Albert Hall have played a significant role in working with the ACT Government to restore Albert Hall to its original glory.

The ACT Government allocated \$2,723 million for the renovation works in 2008/09 with the Commonwealth Government contributing a further \$500,000 in 2009/10.

The Albert Hall Capital Works Reference Group, comprising representatives of the Friends of Albert Hall and ACT Government agencies, was established to be consulted on the nature and scheduling of the renovations with the Reference Group working closely with heritage architects Peter Freeman and Philip Leeson.

To ensure best practice, the work was carried out in accordance with the Burra Charter and the Conservation Management and Landscape Plan.

The restoration work has included the retiling of the roof, repainting the interior and exterior, upgrading of the heating ventilation, air conditioning, toilets and kitchen, facade and external lighting, repolishing the floor, one of Canberra's finest dancing surfaces, and an upgrade of the North Terrace outdoor entertaining area.

Visitors will notice the unique porous concrete finish on the building's exterior which is regarded as best practice heritage management and provides an excellent example of the finishes that were used at the time Albert Hall was built.

Some work is still to be completed including the internal ceiling light fittings and curtains as well as the development and installation of interpretive signage. This work will be completed during the 2010/11 financial year while minimising any disruption and loss of hall availability.

To help guide the future use of Albert Hall, a Plan of Management Reference Group has been established with membership drawn from the Friends of Albert Hall, the private sector and ACT Government Agencies.

Heritage consultants Godden Mackay Logan were appointed to examine the future potential uses of the hall. These ideas will then form the basis of further extensive



community consultations aimed at identifying the most appropriate options for the hall's future uses.

Once the future options have been agreed by the ACT Government, the draft Plan of Management will be prepared and subject to further public consultations.

The agreed Plan of Management will then be submitted to the ACT Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services for their consideration and recommendations.

It is anticipated that the Committee will have the plan by February 2011.

Albert Hall is again open for business and a number of functions have already been held including the highly successful 'What's it Worth' Day, a joint effort between the National Trust (ACT) and the Rotary Club of Canberra and also the biannual Antique Fair, hosted by the Rotary Club of Canberra City.

Those interested in booking Albert Hall for either a public or private event should log onto [www.laps.act.gov.au](http://www.laps.act.gov.au).

*(article provided by Ian De Landelles, Manager, Media and Communications, Department of Land and Property Services)*

## 'What's it Worth 2010': a successful new partnership for the National Trust

It was great day for collectors at Albert Hall on 1 August, with the return of the popular "What's it Worth", in a venue well suited to discovering more about personal and family treasures. This year the event was co-sponsored by the Rotary Club of Canberra and the National Trust of Australia (ACT).

Crucial to the event's success was the contribution of time and energy made by Trust and Rotary volunteers who enjoyed working in the great atmosphere of the beautifully refurbished Albert Hall. Since its refurbishment, the Hall provides a great venue and ideal backdrop for events of this sort. Despite the cold and blustery weather it was cosy and glowing, a great success story in preserving our heritage!

During the day hundreds of collectors brought items from art to artefacts, silver to stamps and much more, to have these valued and to hear the stories behind them. Qualified valuers were on hand to assess items with a steadily increasing stream of collectors gathering to have coins and stamps valued and an especially heavy workload for the art, jewellery and porcelain valuers. Some people received a nice surprise at the value of their treasures. Feedback from attendees was very positive and the organization was especially commended as queues moved quickly and efficiently throughout the day.

A display of veteran and vintage motorbikes lined up outside the Hall in the morning also attracted the attention of many attendees who looked over the splendid bikes and asked questions of their proud owners. Talks by heritage experts in the Hall during the day were also a feature.

A highlight of the day was attendance by Mary Porter AM MLA, on behalf of the Chief Minister, who took the opportunity to formally relaunch the newly refurbished Albert Hall. She noted the refurbishment had been a major project and included "retiling of the roof, repainting the interior and exterior, upgrading of the heating ventilation, air conditioning toilets and

kitchen, and repolishing the floor, one of Canberra's finest dancing surfaces" and that some work was still to be completed, including internal ceiling light fittings, curtains and interpretive signage. With Albert Hall "back open for business", she encouraged Canberrans to visit the Hall and book it for functions.

"What's it Worth 2010" proved to be a very successful partnership both for Rotary and the National Trust with both organisations providing their own expertise and skills, and lots of volunteers, to make it happen. It was also a great opportunity to showcase the National Trust, our interests and activities. We were able to explain the Trust to a number of visitors and took a number of inquiries about membership.

As for further "What's it Worth" events, with this success Rotary and the National Trust are already planning another partnered event in 2011. If you didn't get to the event this time, there will be an opportunity early next year. Heritage in Trust will keep you posted on the date.



*(L/R) Adrian Stephanie (client with painting), David Marshall (Promotions Coordinator), Mary Porter AM MLA and President, Rotary Club of Canberra Gerard Brennan.*

## National Trust Properties in Devon

*Our National Trust Membership proved invaluable when we spent a week in Devon.*

*We based ourselves in a rental cottage in a small village called Stokeinteignhead near Torquay and would set off in our car each day to explore the area. We visited three different National Trust properties during this time, with free entry to each.*

**Coleton Fishacre** house and garden is set in 250 acres on a peninsula with many accesses to water, including Pudman Cove. The house is a fine example of an Arts and Crafts house built for the D'Oyly Carte family between 1925-26. They commissioned the architect Oswald Milne to design it, having seen the site from their yacht. We easily spent most of the day there. Apart from the house and its magnificent deco interiors, there are numerous walking trails throughout the gardens and around the coastline. Of course there is a shop and tea rooms as well. We found this to be one of the best National Trust property shops we have visited.



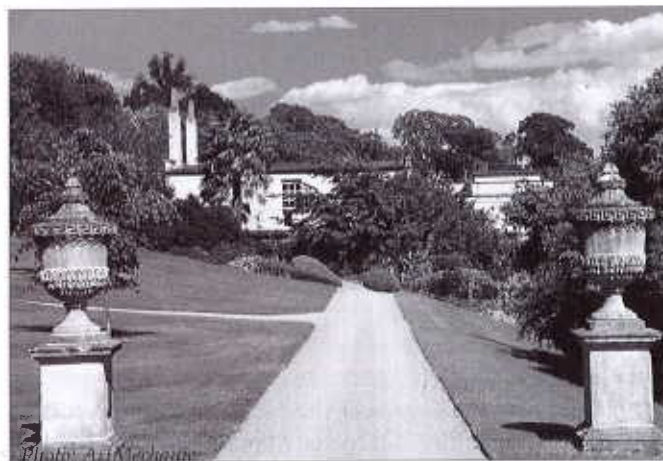
Photo: MilborneOne

**Castle Drogo** estate covers 600 acres and includes some of the most spectacular views in Devon. It was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens for Julius Drewe, the founder of Home and Colonial Stores (food retail shops – the pre-runner to supermarkets). It took from 1911 to 1931 to build. Castle Drogo is the last castle to be built in England. This is another place where you could spend a day and take a picnic. There are four circular walks around Castle Drogo and through the Teign Valley.



Photo: Andrew McCallum

**Killerton House and Garden** is a working agricultural estate of ten square miles. It includes more than 20 farms, as well as about 1,000 acres of park and woodland open to the public. The house was re-built between 1777-1779 for Sir Thomas Acland by architect John Johnson. It has been altered at various times and the ground floor is furnished to represent its appearance in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. One interesting aspect of the property is a selection of the National Trust's collection of costumes, which is located on the first floor.



We thoroughly enjoyed visiting these three very different properties.

**Jenny and Frank Peaker**

We hope that you enjoyed reading this very informative and interesting article by Jenny and Frank Peaker. Have you visited any National Trust heritage site on one of your trips? Remember your National Trust membership gives you free entry to hundreds of National Trust properties in Australia and more than 18 countries all over the world. So why not share your experiences (and pictures) with our readers? Please send contributions to:  
**[info@nationaltrustact.org.au](mailto:info@nationaltrustact.org.au)**

# Reid Housing Precinct Sustainable Heritage Garden Design Project

In Canberra, the Reid Residents Association (RRA) with support from the local water authority, ACTEW Corporation and the National Trust, has initiated an exciting sustainable heritage cottage garden design project.

With changes to lifestyles, residential land usage and the availability of water, Reid residents are finding it harder to maintain gardens consistent with the significance of the Reid Housing Precinct listed on the ACT Heritage Register. Residents together with ACTEW Corporation are interested in designing gardens that retain heritage values but can be managed with reduced water consumption and other restrictions such as less time that residents have available for garden maintenance.

The project addresses sustainable ways to retain and conserve:

- The intrinsic features of residential gardens in the Precinct: for their ability to demonstrate historical values and architectural and landscape design from the initial period (circa 1926) of Canberra's urban development;
- The aesthetic unity of the streetscapes arising from the harmonious integration of low-density built forms within a mature landscape setting, and high proportion of landscape space and trees;
- The social values and characteristics reflecting aspects of the original Garden City philosophy.

The RRA has formed a partnership with the University of Canberra's School of Landscape Architecture. The 27 students in the Landscape History unit under the guidance of Lecturer, Mr Philip Hutchinson, are undertaking preliminary landscape history research. The students' reports will:

- Discuss heritage values and description of the nature of gardens of the period;
- Assess threatening processes and condition of suburb in relation to heritage values;
- Recommend how to address potential threatening processes and conserve heritage values.

The second phase of the project takes place in the first half of 2011 when students undertake a Design Workshop to develop a range of alternative sustainable garden designs. The designs must consider sustainable garden principles and display water saving initiatives. These may include a combination of drought tolerant plants, water efficient irrigation, mulch, watering scheduling or soil conditioning. It is intended that the designs will be posted on the RRA website as a community resource later next year.

The RRA subcommittee managing the project includes Mr Tony Burn, Chair, Australian Garden History Society and noted Heritage Garden Consultant, Ms Juliet Ramsay, who is also representing the National Trust of Australia.

The Reid Housing Precinct, which is close to the central business district of Canberra and which is entered in the ACT Heritage Register, is one of the few examples in Australia of the clear application of Garden City planning during the early decades of the twentieth century. It comprises around 250 detached houses built mainly in the 1920s and 1930s demonstrating a mix of international architectural styles including 'Californian Bungalow' and 'Georgian Revival' which exhibit a high degree of design unity. The houses are set on generously sized blocks. The landscape treatment of the precinct is also valued for its aesthetic unity which includes wide grassed verges, carefully planned tree plantings, reserves and pedestrian walkways, and a hierarchical, symmetrical road pattern which reflects the original outline plan of Walter Burley Griffin for the suburb.

**By Graham Carter and John Tucker,**  
Members of Committee, Reid Residents' Association



*A Federal Capital Commission (FCC) Type 4 house, Elimatta Street, Reid, circa 1926.*



*The same FCC Type 4 house in Elimatta Street in 2009 (courtesy of Graham Carter)*

# A great Members Night at the Glassworks

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On 12 August, National Trust Members gathered at the Glassworks for a truly memorable evening

Following a sumptuous feast of entrées, provided by generous volunteers, and quality wine, served in the splendid setting of the Glassworks, Members saw an exhibition of glassblowing with an explanation by Glassworks Director, Ann Jakle. We were introduced to two artists, Bernadette Forster and Rodney Young and watched them at work. Bernadette, who has an interest in fantasy pieces, has a Diploma of Art Major in Glass at the ANU and won both a 2009 Belconnen Gallery exhibition award (Emerging Artist Scheme) and a 2009 Bega Regional Gallery exhibition award (Emerging Artist Scheme); and Rodney Young has blown glass professionally for the last 15 years and with an interest in traditional Italian glass blowing techniques including cane work and murrini.

Between them the two artists produced a whimsical creation with a glorious purple hue and horns! The process was quite absorbing to watch. Members then viewed a number of recent prizewinning glass items on display.

This was followed by a short speech by President Eric Martin that included a warm thanks to the volunteers who had ably served in the National Trust shop over many years and a special presentation to Dianne Dowling.

The high point of the evening was a fascinating presentation by Peter Phillips, Place Names Officer at ACTPLA, about place and streets names. Starting with an international perspective, Peter then moved to Canberra and our districts, suburbs and streets. It emerged that many Members knew the background to streets names in their own suburbs but much less about other suburbs! Peter's explanation of the rationale for street names was often highly entertaining. It was also interesting to learn women were not well represented in the past, and are still somewhat under represented.

Members asked questions and Peter also encouraged people who considered there was someone who should be celebrated with a street name to contact him directly.

A very good night was had by all.



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*Christmas  
 and New Year  
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 to all our readers*



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