

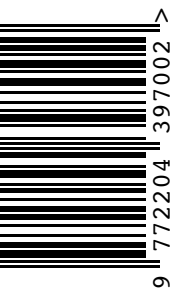
# National Trust

VICTORIA



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Australia (Victoria)  
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*Every moment an amazing story*



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, KRISTIN STEGLEY OAM

Welcome to the first issue of *National Trust* magazine for 2016. It is an honour to have been elected as the new Chairman of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). My earliest contact with the Trust goes back to a 1960s school excursion to Como House. It left a lasting impression and I was smitten with “the heritage bug”. In more recent years, I have served on the Trust Board and numerous committees. I am passionate about the importance of heritage in our personal lives, and deeply committed to the cultural significance of the National Trust.

I wish to pay tribute to the former Chairman, Dr Graeme Blackman OAM, and other retiring Board members, for their efforts, contributions and service to the Trust over the past ten years. I warmly welcome Wendy Brooks, Christina Dyson and Jock Murphy to the Board, three elected directors that bring skills, expertise and experience that will be invaluable to the Trust’s work and future.

The 60th anniversary of the National Trust in Victoria is a milestone event. What an achievement! The year provides the opportunity to show our deep respect for the heroic National Trust achievements of the past, and to the many people that made them possible. It allows us to celebrate the modern Trust of today and all the exciting activities and programmes that we now undertake. Lastly, the year heralds our future as we move towards the next 60 years sustaining a strong, vibrant and relevant National Trust in Victoria.

2016 will be a busy year with many well planned celebratory events for one and all. The Board looks forward to sharing the year with our enthusiastic members, deeply valued volunteers, and dedicated branches across Victoria.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO, MARTIN PURSLOW

With our 60th Anniversary celebrations now in full swing, we take this opportunity to reflect on the legacy of a grassroots organisation which laid the foundation for the protection of heritage in the state, beginning with a look back at the formative years of the Trust (page 3). We also recognise that after considerable change and growth, that this is an important time to take stock in what has been achieved and to look ahead—to examine our role and position as national leaders in heritage conservation and advocacy; and to reflect on the challenges of engaging future generations as custodians and remaining relevant in a rapidly changing and increasingly connected world.

I am sure you will join me in welcoming our new Chairman, Kristin Stegley OAM, who has served as a Director since 2003, and as a founding member and inaugural President of the National Trust of Victoria Foundation, and to wish her and our new directors every success in their new roles as we seek to shape and deliver the future potential of our National Trust. I also join Kristin in thanking our seven retiring directors, including our former Chairman, who worked tirelessly as volunteers on our Board to facilitate the fundamental changes required in our organisation to achieve the transition from debilitating deficits to financial sustainability.

In this issue of *National Trust* Victoria, we highlight our organisation’s continuing role as leading advocates for heritage, with our Advocacy & Conservation team currently providing ongoing input into number of strategic reviews underway in Melbourne and state-wide (page six). We also look at current advocacy issues within the context of the evolution of heritage planning, including Queen Victoria Market and Fishermans Bend and discuss our strategic work to address heritage which remains unprotected, and respond to changing community concerns and expectations. From assisting National Trust members with local issues, to providing verbal objections at Council meetings, and briefing ministerial advisors and Members of Parliament, our advocacy team is achieving extraordinary results across Victoria.

In this issue we also look at two very different landmark exhibitions coordinated by our collections team which explore diverse aspects of our history. A new exhibition to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Russell Street Bombing on 27 March, developed in partnership with the Victoria Police Museum, reveals Melbourne’s dark criminal underbelly, as well as recognising the work of investigators to solve a complex and sensational case. The exhibition will present never-before-displayed items associated with the bombing, revealing the role of physical evidence in bringing the perpetrators to justice (page 10). Meanwhile, our Dressmaker Costume Exhibition continues to draw record crowds to Barwon Park to see the creations of AACTA award-winning costume designers Marion Boyce and Margot Wilson.

We are also excited to preview this year’s National Trust Heritage Festival. This year’s theme, Discovery & Rediscoveries, will be our biggest yet, with hundreds of events taking place across Victoria. As part of the Festival, the National Trust will be hosting a number of flagship events, including a vintage car rally along the old route of the Hume Highway, which is the subject of a new National Trust cultural landscape classification. Printed programs will be distributed to members in March. In the meantime, I urge you to visit the festival website at [www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au) to find out what’s happening in your area.

Finally, tickets are now on sale for the 60th Anniversary Fundraising Gala Dinner to be held on 18 March at Rippon Lea Estate Ballroom. The night will be an opportunity for members to celebrate our 60th year while raising funds for National Trust projects. Call 03 9656 9889 to secure your ticket! Thank you for your continued support and I hope you all enjoy a great 60th anniversary year with the National Trust.

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National Trust of Australia (Victoria)  
Tasma Terrace  
4 Parliament Place  
East Melbourne VIC 3002

ABN 61 004 356 192

Editor: Felicity Watson  
[felicity.watson@nattrust.com.au](mailto:felicity.watson@nattrust.com.au)  
03 9656 9818

Photography: Jessica Hood

Proofreading: Shane Gradkowski

Design: Green Scribble

Advertising: for advertising rates contact Corinne McKinney  
[corinne.mckinney@nattrust.com.au](mailto:corinne.mckinney@nattrust.com.au)  
03 9656 9861

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# Towards a National Trust

*Alexandra Hill, Project Manager—Trust Development*

From at least 1934, the Victorian public had been concerned about the destruction and general security of significant community heritage assets. On 31 May that year, *The Argus* newspaper reported on the removal of parkland and permanent reservations from community use and quoted the report of the Town Planning Association: "Victoria needs a national trust, such as the National Trust of England for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, on which nature-loving bodies and local communities would combine."

With a focus on environmental and cultural heritage, the Trust grew from this call, but it wasn't until 1954 that the Town and Country Planning Association of Victoria started active development of such a trust. They established a sub-committee, including SP Calder, Donald Ward, and Robin Boyd, for the Preservation of Historic Buildings, which then wrote to other Trusts in Australia and the first Trust in England, seeking information on how they had been formed. The Committee then recommended to the Association that "the launching of a National Trust could have a greater appeal to interested bodies and the public, if an historic property of some significance could be quoted as a possible acquisition by an established Trust for permanent preservation."

In late 1954 the Committee started to discuss Como as such a property, however they weren't quite sure how to approach the owners, Miss Armytage and Mrs Fitzpatrick. Como was known to the Committee through Robin Boyd, whose father Penleigh, and grandfather Arthur Merric Boyd, had taught the young Armytage sisters to paint. Now ageing and with no children of their own, the sisters must have been concerned about the rising trend to demolish grand homes such as theirs. By Christmas, Daryl Lindsay, then Director of the National Gallery

of Victoria, had been approached by the Committee to suggest the idea to the Armytages. Lindsay's conversations with the sisters continued throughout 1955 until, in August, Daryl and his wife Joan Lindsay, Robin Boyd and other members of the Committee and Association were "received at Como".

Activated by the potential lobbying acquisition, Robin Boyd published an article on 4 October 1955 in *The Herald* announcing that, on 10 October, a meeting would be held to "discuss the formation of a society or trust for the preservation of historical and meritorious buildings in Victoria." This meeting was to become our formation meeting.

Called by the President of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects (RVIA), Harry Winbush, the meeting was attended by a broad range of significant organisation and individuals, including the RVIA, Municipal Association of Victoria, Australian Planning Institute, Victorian Artists' Society, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Contemporary Arts Society of Australia (represented by John Reed), National Museum of Victoria, and Town and Country Planning Association of Victoria.

The meeting unanimously supported the establishment of a society "for the purpose of preserving for the people of Victoria buildings, natural features, monuments and records of significance to the community" and elected a provisional council.

On 23 May 1956 the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and we formally began our role as community activists, custodians, and educators. This vision for the organisation as one for preserving landscape and cultural heritage was concisely outlined by Robin Boyd in his address at our first AGM on 9 September 1957. He encouraged the Trust to change societal understandings of beauty in order to preserve our landscape, to move away from an English antecedent of attractiveness towards a uniquely Australia one; an "untouched, undisciplined, uneuropean dignity, a sort of Australian dignity even after 180 years we have not yet learned to appreciate." And from here the Trust accepted the vision and expanded it to include a shared heritage embracing the 40,000 years of traditional ownership by Koori peoples of the place now known as Victoria.

*Above: 1954 meeting of the Town & Country Planning Association, (National Trust Archives).*



# Finding Dungatar

*Felicity Watson, Editor, National Trust Victoria*

*To celebrate The Dressmaker Costume Exhibition at Barwon Park, National Trust Victoria goes in search of Dungatar, the fictional town at the heart of the hit film.*

One of the great traditional characters of Australian film, appearing as early as *The Story of the Kelly Gang* (1906), is the Australian landscape, and over 100 years later it continues to play one of the most important roles in *The Dressmaker*. The film's creators scouted throughout Victoria trying to find the ideal location for the fictional town of Dungatar, ultimately building it within the dramatic landscape of the Mount Rothwell Conservation and Research Centre in Little River. Filming was completed in the Wimmera wheat belt, reminiscent of author Rosalie Ham's hometown Jerilderie, with the story brought to life at locations such as Longeranong Homestead, a picturesque gothic style villa, and the small town of Jung, both just outside Horsham.

For producer Sue Maslin, who also produced *Japanese Story* and *The Road to Nowhere*, both set in the outback, "It was terribly important to us to capture the spirit, or the essence of what Rosalie Ham was writing about ... The town itself was designed to be evocative of a Russell Drysdale painting, in rusty earthy dowdy colours". In a recent interview with *Desktop*, Production Designer Roger Ford further elaborated about the film's influences, describing a spaghetti Western aesthetic, "but with an Australian characteristic to it."

At the heart of *The Dressmaker* is the juxtaposition between the dusty landscape and the glamour of Parisian fashion. Costume designer Marion Boyce said Director Jocelyn Moorhouse "picked an extraordinary location that was dusty, with powerful rocky outcrops and petrified trees. Quite confronting, visually incredibly beautiful. When I first saw the location photos I had no idea how I was going to marry Parisian fashion popping up into this landscape."

To celebrate the visual splendour of the landscape in *The Dressmaker*, visitors are now able to view over 50 costumes from the film, taking a detour through Little River along the way, in the historic Winchelsea mansion Barwon Park. Exhibition Project Manager Drew Grove said "it was important to Producer Sue Maslin and I to have the national premiere of the exhibition in a setting that evokes the fictional town of Dungatar, and the dramatic juxtaposition between the costumes and the plains of Winchelsea achieves this."

Victoria's burgeoning film industry also demonstrates how significant landscapes and heritage places contribute to the economy, not only through investment in film productions, but the tourism that films can generate. In the case of *The Dressmaker*, the communities of Little River and the Wimmera were encouraged to participate in the film, with over 220 locals cast as extras, and the cast and crew booking out hotels and patronising local businesses. Little River, within close proximity to Melbourne, is proving particularly popular with filmmakers, with notable movies like the original *Mad Max*, *Ned Kelly* (2003), *Ghost Rider*, and *Killer Elite* starring Jason Statham, Clive Owen and Robert de Niro, also being previously filmed in the area.

However, like many of our significant landscapes, Little River faces development pressures, including a current proposal for a sand mine on the western edge of the You Yangs Regional Park, which would have a detrimental effect on the landscape values of the area. The National Trust has objected to the impacts on the natural heritage of the area, and we await a Council decision on the application.

*The Dressmaker Costume Exhibition runs until 11 March 2016 at Barwon Park Mansion, 105 Inverleigh Road, Winchelsea. Open from Wednesday to Sunday and on public holidays, 11am to 4pm. Book at [dressmakerexhibition.com.au](http://dressmakerexhibition.com.au) or purchase tickets at the door. Call 03 9656 9889 for enquiries.*

*Above: Dungatar, created by Academy Award winning Production Designer Roger Ford at Mount Rothwell Conservation and Research Centre in Little River.*



## In the Garden

*Justin Buckley, Head of Horticulture,  
National Trust Victoria*

*Plant selection is a big part of gardening, and, in historic gardens, contributes significantly to the interpretation of the site. From day one, gardens have been under the influence of changes in living patterns, social structures, and the vagaries of fashion. These influences can all be traced through changes in the plants people used.*

When selecting plants for historic National Trust gardens, we often refer to nursery catalogues from the period in question. These paint a great picture of the plants that were available at the time. Many people assume this is a restrictive approach that must limit the plants we are able to choose from. In fact, the opposite is the case. While there have been lots of new introductions and hybrids developed over the last century, your average nursery in the 1880s had far more available than what is on offer today. Varieties of Rose, Dahlia, Chrysanthemum, and others, literally ran into the hundreds. The bigger challenge for us is finding someone who is still growing these classic old plants.

The nineteenth century was a time when new plants were being discovered daily in every corner of the globe, then quickly rushed into nurseries around the world. It would have been a hugely exciting time to be gardening. One of the things I love about gardens from this “golden age” is the feeling of wanderlust you can sense in them. Reading a nineteenth-century nursery catalogue is like taking a mini Cook’s tour of the globe. The exploits of history’s “plant hunters” made gardens an exercise in bringing the world to your backyard—something our phones do for us now!

What has this got to do with gardening today? Well, although the days of plant hunting are largely over, the odd nursery still keeps the spirit alive. One of my own favourites, Yuruga Nursery in North Queensland, has been hunting out plants on our own doorstep and introducing them to cultivation for the last 30 years. Located in one of the world’s great biodiversity regions, they have brought thousands of plant species from obscurity to gardens around the world. In a classic case of “not seeing the wood for the trees”, these plants were not regarded as garden plants simply because no one had ever tried growing them outside of their forest home. Yurunga Nursery’s Peter and Ann Radke did try, and left their teaching careers to do so. Sadly, Peter has had to close the business recently following Ann’s death, and it’s a real shame to think many of these wonderful plants will probably never be seen in the nursery trade again.

So the message is that there is still wonder and excitement to be found (and rediscovered!) in the plant world. Those nurseries that are searching out the interesting, unusual, or long forgotten deserve our thanks and our support. Happy gardening.

*Photo: Man watering in greenhouse, c1880–1900. Photo courtesy of State Library of Victoria (H41989/203).*



# Trust Advocacy — 2016 & Beyond

## *Part 1: The State of Play in Metropolitan Melbourne*

*Advocacy & Conservation Team : Paul Roser, Anna Foley, Felicity Watson & Rosalind Mearns.*

At the beginning of 2016, we are faced with a number of ongoing strategic reviews impacting our metropolitan heritage, including the Plan Melbourne refresh; the Heritage Act review; the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) Investigation into Historic Places on Public Land; the City of Melbourne heritage policy review; and a review of the Trust's contribution, as administrator, to the Victorian Heritage Restoration Fund (VHRF) strategic plan. Broadly, these initiatives indicate a growing movement to review legislative frameworks established over recent decades, and the National Trust remains a leading voice for heritage in these forums.

## PLAN MELBOURNE

Plan Melbourne was an initiative of the Napthine government to guide Melbourne's housing, commercial, and industrial development through to 2050. It raised issues such as the preparation of a heritage charter (similar to the Urban Design Charter), and a new initiative relating to the nexus between heritage and environmental sustainability. The "Plan Melbourne Refresh Discussion Paper", initiated in 2015 by the Andrews government, further highlights the importance of heritage to the community, and reports that heritage places score highly in surveys of what Melbournians value about their city and that "our" heritage places are clearly a key component of "our" distinctiveness.

Plan Melbourne kicked off a lot of debate about how best to apply reformed residential zones across the city. Much discussion was had about how widely we can afford to implement the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, which provides the tightest controls on new development. Twenty per cent of Melbourne's suburbs are now in the NRZ (36% of the eastern suburbs), and the inner suburbs contain thousands of dwellings protected by heritage overlays, including 53% of the City of Port Phillip, 32% of the City of Melbourne (including precincts covering all of East Melbourne, Parkville, Carlton, and North and West Melbourne), 50% of the City of Yarra, 28% of Stonnington, and 14% of Boroondara.

The statistics indicate that the inner-suburban ring is well protected, and the odd demolition here or there of a grand Victorian or Federation villa, whilst unwelcome, is unusual. The Trust's support for Councils to ensure that strategic work is undertaken to identify what is important therefore provides greater dividends in the long run than solely focusing on odd individual battles. The strategic heritage work never stops, and notions of heritage inevitably evolve based on the expectations of the community, and the ideas of heritage industry practitioners, including the Trust's professional staff. There will always be contested places and meanings.

## CHALLENGING HERITAGE

In 2016, we are continuing our strong advocacy for protection of postwar places, both in the Melbourne CBD, and in the suburbs. This year, we will support the City of Whitehorse's landmark postwar heritage amendment, as well as the City of Port Phillip's heritage review of Fishermans Bend. Following our prompting, we understand a review

will also be undertaken by the City of Melbourne in the back half of 2016 for its unprotected heritage places in Fishermans Bend, including the General Motors factory precinct.

Just as the National Trust was created to establish the orthodoxies of the day, the Trust today has a vital role in challenging the status quo in order to maintain our relevance. The challenges faced by contemporary heritage advocates are explored by ANU academic Laurajane Smith in her work on the "Authorised Heritage Discourse" (AHD) which is increasingly influencing thinking about heritage.

Broadly, AHD is the appropriation by heritage of narratives of identity, and the past. The AHD is frequently seen to be romantic, and in reality about a non-existent Australia, demonstrating preference for pioneers and firsts, particularly a pioneering white Australia. The ever-present danger of the identity politics of heritage is that it creates a belonging, and that belonging creates exclusivity, and restricted access to the past, promoting exclusion.

The worst example of exclusion is the dispossession of First Australians, which to date has not been adequately recognised and addressed through heritage planning. Notions of identity have also been strongly influenced by residents' action groups which, while celebrated for their activism in the 1970s, were not necessarily representative of inner city diversity. The challenge for the future, and for the Trust, is a broadening of support, and an appeal to the next generation; to embrace multiple and diverse heritages that better reflect the community, and ensure that they are integrated into the heritage system.

## HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPES

The planning system is in many ways a blunt tool; discrete heritage places are simply included or not included—are on the list or are not. The Historic Urban Landscape approach developed by UNESCO presents a new framework for understanding the historic environment. It has been described as moving "from the object-centered universe of traditional heritage protection and management, to an ecological framework that considers the relationship among objects as much as their individual distinctiveness".

For example, the Queen Victoria Market (QVM) site is a dynamic site, historically shifting and never staying the same for long periods. Yet, development and change in the physical environment at the Queen Victoria Market is regulated by formal tools such as the City of Melbourne planning scheme, and the Heritage Act, which conflict with the dynamic interplay of the site's tangible and intangible values. In 2016 a Planning Panel will review the City's desire to relax development and height controls in the QVM environs, and the Trust will contest some of the proposed changes. Following our work in 2015 supporting an improved heritage planning framework for the Bourke Hill and parliamentary precinct, the balance between performance-based planning tools and prescriptive tools in heritage-sensitive precincts is set to be played out again.

David J Brown, Executive Vice President and Chief Preservation Officer at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, recently wrote of the US study *Older, Smaller, Better: Measuring how the character of buildings and blocks influences urban vitality*, that:

*We also show that young people love old buildings. Night life is most alive on streets with a diverse range of building age ... This work is telling us that we need to step away from the exclusive focus on built assets as "great architecture," as if buildings matter without the stories of the people who inhabit them. In the 21st century, people crave experiences, community and opportunity, and they will move to, invest in and take care of places that provide these core needs.*

We share David's sentiment.



# Recasting Fishermans Bend

*Felicity Watson, Senior Community Advocate, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)*

Ask a Melbournian if they have ever been to Fishermans Bend and chances are they have only glimpsed it from the Westgate Freeway. Despite its central location, between the CBD and Port Melbourne, this 450 hectare area has largely been out of sight and out of mind since European settlement.

Part of the Yarra River delta, the low-lying area originally comprised swamps, wetlands, and sand ridges, and was frequented by the people of the Kulin Nation. Following European settlement, the area's status as an apparent wasteland and proximity to the burgeoning city made it the perfect place for Melbourne's unwanted; rife with waste dumping, noxious trades and slums for the dispossessed and homeless. In the years following World War I, the area became a hub for aviation and car manufacturing, industries which still characterise the area today.

Now Melbourne's industrial heart will once again be reinvented as the site of the biggest urban renewal plan in Australia's history. To put the scale of this in perspective, the area is bigger than the Melbourne CBD and Docklands combined, and by 2050 it is expected to accommodate up to 80,000 people and 40,000 jobs. However, the project remains controversial. Following the previous Government's surprise rezoning of the area in 2012, property values have skyrocketed and 20 new tower developments between 20 and 49 storeys have already been approved, with 26 additional tower applications lodged to June 2015.

Local councils and government authorities are now playing catch-up to ensure that community infrastructure can be provided, and that detailed strategic work can be undertaken to guide development. The enormity of this challenge was highlighted by a recent \$19m acquisition by the state government and City of Port Phillip of a one-acre parcel of land earmarked for a playground, to service a new primary school, which was bought by the developer in 2008 for only \$4.4m.

With this in mind, the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) is waging a campaign for the recognition of the area's rich heritage, which remains largely unprotected—a campaign which has encouraged the Victorian government, as well as the City of Port Phillip and the City of Melbourne, to commit to re-examining heritage in Fishermans Bend. At the heart of this campaign is a belief that heritage in Fishermans Bend should not only be preserved for its own sake, but to ensure that the area is a desirable place to live and work—with character, distinctiveness, and a tangible sense of history.

Most recently, the Trust has campaigned for the protection of an Art Deco factory complex on Salmon Street, the precinct's grand boulevard of manufacturing. When the site was sold to a developer in 2014, and an application for 179 townhouses on the site lodged with the state government, the National Trust—in partnership with the Art Deco and Modernism Society and Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society—commissioned heritage consultant Simon Reeves to investigate its history and significance. Research revealed that it had originally been constructed as an experimental tank depot in 1941 and was later used for assembling Rootes and Chrysler cars, demonstrating compelling historical significance. The National Trust launched the campaign for its protection with an impromptu display of vintage cars outside the factory, where collectors of Rootes and Chrysler vehicles from across Victoria brought their treasured vehicles back to the very place where they rolled off the production line.

As a result of publicity generated by this event, more information has come to light about the tank facility housed in the building from 1941 to 1943, including an album of rare photographs illustrating the tank manufacturing process from the drawing phase to casting and assembling. While the defence program was ultimately unsuccessful, with no tanks seeing active service, it was a turning point in Australian vehicle manufacturing as the first attempt to design and produce a vehicle locally.



The Rootes building has become an interesting test case for heritage in the area. In September the Trust wrote in support of a Council recommendation to exhibit an amendment for significant places without protection, including the Rootes Building, which is now with the Minister for Planning for approval. Meanwhile, in late 2015, the owners of the building submitted a new application to the City of Port Phillip to demolish the building to create a car park, which was unanimously opposed by Council, who were supported by the Trust. The next challenge for the Trust is the potentially nationally significant GM Holden Factory in the Fishermans Bend Employment Precinct, including its art deco administration building, which was put on the market in late-2015 and remains unprotected.

It seems the tide is turning at Fishermans Bend, with a more measured and strategic approach to planning, albeit in the shadow of so many towers approved under the developer-led approach to planning adopted by the previous government. A ministerial advisory committee appointed in 2015, which includes former Port Phillip Mayor and heritage advocate Janet Bolitho, released its first report in October 2015, which concluded that "implementation of heritage building protection is urgent across the whole Fishermans Bend area, including the Employment Precinct." The National Trust is working to ensure that this will be achieved.

*Opposite from left: The homes of the dispossessed of Fishermans Bend inspired the work of modernist artist Albert Tucker. Albert Tucker c1939–1945, Albert Tucker Photographic Collection, Heide Museum of Modern Art & State Library of Victoria (H2008.98/205); US Army Officers inspect an AC1 cruiser designed in Fishermans Bend. Photo courtesy of the Defence Science & Technology Group; Car collectors at the National Trust's Fishermans Bend campaign launch with vehicles that were assembled in the Art Deco factory.*



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# The Day that Shook Russell Street

*Martin Green, Manager, Learning & Interpretation*

*With the approach of the 30th anniversary of the Russell Street Bombing, a new exhibition will examine the legacy of one of Melbourne's darkest days. National Trust Victoria speaks to lead investigator, Detective Inspector Bernie Rankin, and Victoria Police Museum Curator Katherine Spinks, about the extraordinary police work that solved this complex crime.*

At 1.01pm on Thursday 27 March 1986, the day before Good Friday, Constable Angela Taylor was crossing Russell Street at the Russell Street Police Complex, between La Trobe and Victoria Streets. With the courts having just adjourned for lunch, police officers, a magistrate, and civilians were emerging from the City Watch House and the Old Magistrates Court. At that moment, 50 sticks of gelignite, planted in a stolen brown Holden Commodore parked outside the Police Complex, were detonated by a primitive but effective timing mechanism.

The explosion fatally injured Constable Taylor, who died in hospital 24 days later from horrific injuries. Twenty-two police and civilians were injured. Every window in the first seven storeys of the Police Complex was blown out, and shrapnel from the car was found on the roofs of buildings hundreds of metres from the centre of the blast. For some, the blast marked a change in consciousness—a departure from the innocence of Melbourne as a peaceful and calm city. The event also marked the beginning of a new period of criminal violence.

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Russell Street Bombing, the National Trust, in association with the Victoria Police Museum, will present an exhibition at the Old Melbourne Gaol exploring the extraordinary police work and achievements of detectives in solving this complex crime, featuring some of the items found at the crime scene.

Katherine Spinks, Victoria Police Museum Curator, regards the anniversary as particularly significant for two reasons. "It is a day police members will remember the life of Constable Angela Taylor who, tragically, at just 21 years of age, was the first female police officer member to lose her life in the performance of duty. And it was a defining moment for police in that they became the target of a direct attack."

Russell Street was closed to the public for five days as police scoured the debris strewn street and surrounding buildings for evidence. Detective Inspector Daryl Clarke managed the investigation, and Detective Sergeant (now Detective Inspector) Bernie Rankin was a team leader seconded onto the task force established to investigate the bombing under Operation Russell. There was enormous pressure



on the young detective to solve a complex crime and find the perpetrators, under the scrutiny of the Melbourne media. "There were so many elements to the investigation," said Spinks. "The case really demonstrates the complexity of police work and the specialist teams that all have to work together to share information and expertise to get results. The specialist units included the Arson Squad, Armed Robbery Squad, Stolen Vehicle Squad, Major Crime Squad, Fingerprints Branch; and Homicide Squad."

It was clear that this was a well-planned crime. The gelignite had been stolen from a Blackwood mine six months before the bombing. Forensic investigators began the laborious and herculean task of examining and collecting evidence from the debris strewn across the street and outlining buildings for several city blocks. "Some very significant exhibits were found 200 metres from the blast scene," Rankin said. "The critical thing with bomb scenes is that within the bomb scene will be the equipment used to manufacture the bomb, including items that the criminal may have had in his home at the time. So it was critical that you sift through all the evidence and you retain it because you may not understand the significance at the time you find it."

Critical to the investigation was a small block of red gum found against the doors of the Russell Street complex. Forensic experts determined that the block of wood had been part of the bomb apparatus, and that it had been newly cut to size from a section of timber. Detective Inspector Bernie Rankin describes how this crucial discovery led to one of the perpetrators:

"I went back to an address in Nunawading with Detective Gordon Davey, which was an address of interest because it was connected to a criminal named Peter Reed. I looked at the fence line at the back and we had a discussion amongst ourselves and thought that fence [was newly built] in the timeframe. But we made a mental note to return. A week later we went back with the block of wood and when we held it up against a fence post it was obvious the saw marks were the same. As we walked along the fence line we found under a camellia bush the post that the block of wood had been cut from."

The breakthrough eventually led to the convictions of Stanley Taylor and Craig Minogue for murder, and of Peter Reed and Rodney Minogue (later acquitted of charges relating to the bombing) for related offences.

*The Russell Street Bombing Exhibition opens at the Old Melbourne Gaol in the third week of March. Detective Inspector Bernie Rankin will be speaking about the investigation into the bombing at the Keith Murdoch Gallery, State Library of Victoria, on Thursday 24 March. For further details visit [www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au](http://www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au).*

*Right: The aftermath of the bombing outside Russell Street Police Complex on Thursday 27 March, 1986; Above: The Holden Commodore used as the blast vehicle. Photo courtesy of Neale Duckworth.*



NATIONAL TRUST

# HERITAGE

... FESTIVAL 2016 ...

DISCOVERY   
w DISCOVERIES

VICTORIA

16 APRIL - 29 MAY



## Discovery & Rediscoveries: National Trust Heritage Festival 2016

*Rosalind Mearns, Victorian Heritage  
Festival Coordinator*

*What stories are waiting to be unearthed in your community? How have old stories been rediscovered for new generations? From lost landscapes to forgotten byways, what is waiting to be rediscovered in your community? Find out at this year's National Trust Heritage Festival.*

*The landscapes, streetscapes and buildings that make up Victoria today have not always been as we see them. They are the legacy of the shifting patterns of use our cities, towns, and countryside have gone through over time. This year the National Trust Heritage Festival will be exploring these changes through the theme Discovery and Rediscoveries. There will be hundreds of events taking place across the state in April and May, with local communities seeking to recapture our intangible heritage, revive forgotten memories, and share our lost landscapes with you. Here is a taste of what will be on offer.*

### BALLARAT HERITAGE WEEKEND

Arguably post-European settlement no event has had more impact on the Victorian landscape than the discovery of gold in 1852. Hundreds of thousands of people came from across the world with hopes of striking it rich. The Ballarat CBD still echoes the grandeur of these times, and those lucky enough to have made their fortunes on the goldfields. The Mining Exchange (1888), Alexandria Tea Rooms (1872), and Art Gallery of Ballarat (1887) are fine examples and survivors of this grandeur, but the street they look down upon today is very different from the one they originally viewed. Where once there was hard-packed dirt and horses and carriages, we now find bitumen, cars and motorcycles. During Ballarat Heritage Weekend, held over the Mothers' Day weekend, see these streetscapes come to life with many exciting heritage and vintage events on offer. The 2016 weekend theme is "Curiouser and Curiouser" which is sure to entice visitors near and far to discover the hidden treasures and secrets of this exquisite City.

*The Ballarat Heritage Weekend will be held on 7 and 8 May 2016. Visit [www.ballaratheritageweekend.com](http://www.ballaratheritageweekend.com) for further details.*

### SOLDIER ON: WWI SOLDIER SETTLER STORIES

Landscape changes have also taken place in the rural regions of the state. The post-World War I Soldier Settlement Scheme saw a reshaping of remote Victorian regions into farmland to provide employment for the state's returned servicemen. This scheme, a failure in many respects, reflected the ideals of a society which believed that owning a farm and providing for one's family would bring contentment and peace to the soldiers, but also feared ex-soldiers gathering in the city streets. Evidence of this scheme can still be seen in the landscape of the Western District, Mallee and Gippsland today. The stories of these soldiers-turned-farmers can be discovered in the exhibition Soldier On: WWI Soldier Settler Stories at the Old Treasury Building, Melbourne, throughout the Heritage Festival.

*Soldier On: WWI Soldier Settler Stories, is open at the Old Treasury Building, Spring Street, from Sunday to Friday during the National Trust Heritage Festival, 10am-4pm. Visit [www.oldtreasurybuilding.org.au](http://www.oldtreasurybuilding.org.au) for further details.*



## RUSSELL STREET BOMBING

Changes in our streetscapes can be subtle but still represent important shifts in usage. In Melbourne's CBD the core functions of the law—the courts, police headquarters and lockup—have shifted locations over time. What is now recognised as the education sector of the central city was once the heart of law and order, with the Supreme Court, police headquarters, lockup and morgue all located on Russell Street. On 27 March 1986 this precinct came under attack when 50 sticks of gelignite were detonated outside the Russell Street Police complex, resulting in the death of Constable Angela Taylor (see story on page 10). The police headquarters were subsequently moved but the lockup, now part of the Old Melbourne Gaol complex, operated until 1995.

*The Russell Street Bombing Exhibition, Old Melbourne Gaol, is open every day during the National Trust Heritage Festival, 9.30am to 5pm. Visit [www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au](http://www.oldmelbournegaol.com.au) for further details.*

## BACK TO CHILTERN

As organisations shift and move, many heritage buildings must be repurposed to prevent their complete demolition.

The Chiltern Goods Shed is an example of how this can be achieved. Built in 1875, it originally serviced the Melbourne–Wodonga railway and was a symbol of the importance of Chiltern and the surrounding goldmining region. Falling into disuse with the changing fortunes of the town, the shed was abandoned for 25 years until Kevin Mayhew, President of Chiltern Tourism and Development Inc., on behalf of the people of Chiltern, approached Indigo Shire in 2013 with a plan to save it. Envisaged as a community hub, the shed was sympathetically restored and repurposed, and is now a cycling hub, gallery and hall with activities throughout the year.

*The Chiltern Goods Shed will be open on Saturday 16 April as part of the launch of the 2016 Heritage Festival. Visit [www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au) for further details.*

## REDISCOVERING THE OLD HUME HIGHWAY 31

Over its long history, the main Hume Highway route between Melbourne and Sydney has shifted through the Victorian landscape with technological improvements and the changing demands of traffic. Towns that once lined the road have been bypassed, and difficult river crossings have been shifted to better locations. The current town of Seymour was originally known as "New Crossing Place" to

distinguish it from the old crossing place over the Goulburn River at Mitchellstown, a few miles downstream. Almost nothing of this original town now remains, but an impressive timber bridge can still be found spanning the river along the Mitchellstown Road. The Sydney mail route, diverted from this course in 1839, prompted the constructions of the first bridge on the Seymour alignment (1862–3). This significant bridge would determine the route of the Hume Highway for a century to come.

The National Trust Heritage Festival, in partnership with Old Hume Highway 31, will revive and relive the old route along the Hume Highway with a car rally for vintage and classic cars manufactured during or before 1986. The Rally, from Melbourne to the Murray, will take place on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 May.

*The National Trust Heritage Festival is on from 16 April to 29 May across the state. See the dedicated website for full details—[www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au).*

*Opposite, from left: Goulburn Bridge, Seymour, c1920–1954. Postcard courtesy of State Library of Victoria (H32492/6560); Ballarat Heritage Weekend street party, Lydiard Street. Photo courtesy of the City of Ballarat.*



# Rediscovering Henry Handel Richardson

*Graeme Charles, President, Henry Handel Richardson Society of Australia*

*With historic Lake View the only public memorial to Australian author Henry Handel (Ethel) Richardson, we discover how her childhood in Chiltern inspired the acclaimed Fortunes of Richard Mahony trilogy, still beloved by readers today.*

The North East Victorian town of Chiltern slumbers peacefully just one kilometre northwest of the Hume Freeway, equidistant between Wangaratta and Wodonga. Every day of the year thousands of vehicles pass the exit to the town, their occupants often blissfully unaware of the town's existence. For many years the then Hume Highway passed right through the town's narrow shopping precinct, a streetscape that has changed very little over the 150 years since buildings first appeared there. Chiltern is one of four towns in the Indigo Shire that are sometimes referred to as Australia's most significant collection of historic towns. The other three are Beechworth, Rutherglen, and Yackandandah.

The first Europeans to settle the area around Chiltern took up pastoral leases during the 1840s. Gold was discovered there in 1858, which resulted in thousands of miners, eager to make their fortune, flocking to the various leads that made up the Indigo goldfield. For a short time the population was estimated to be 20,000. However by the 1870s the town that had grown up on the back of the gold rush was already in decline as mining activity underwent a sharp downturn. To make matters worse, a

severe drought was also having an impact, when, in 1876, a new doctor and his family arrived to take over the existing medical practice.

Doctor Walter Richardson settled in Chiltern in mid-1876, and was to be followed by his wife Mary and their two daughters, Ethel aged six, and Lil aged four, who took up residence in August of that year. Ethel was to gain everlasting fame for her literary efforts, using the pseudonym Henry Handel Richardson (HHR). Her great trilogy *The Fortunes of Richard Mahony* is heavily based on the story of her father's life, although her husband reportedly said that in drawing Mahony's portrait she was really drawing her own. The trilogy tells of the tortuous struggle of an immigrant Irish-born doctor, living in the then Colony of Victoria during the second half of the nineteenth century. One English critic described it as "one of the great inexorable books of the world."

Richardson is perhaps best known for *The Getting of Wisdom*, her coming of age novel that drew on her days as a student at Presbyterian Ladies College in East Melbourne, and filmed very successfully by Bruce Beresford (now a patron of the Henry Handel Richardson Society of Australia) in 1977.

The Richardson family lived in Chiltern for a period of about fourteen months, renting "the best local property", Lake View. Many people often ask why Chiltern makes such a "fuss" about Richardson, when she was, after all, resident in the town for a relatively short period of her life.



The answer is simple. Lake View is the only public memorial to Henry Handel Richardson that can be found anywhere in the world. She has no burial site, her ashes having been scattered on the sea near Hastings in England, where she lived and wrote for many years. There are other Victorian properties lived in by the Richardson family. In the case of the Koroit post office, where Mrs Richardson was postmistress, there is a brass plaque reminding the passer-by that Henry Handel Richardson once lived there. However, Lake View is the only former Richardson residence that is open to the public, and is now in the care of the National Trust.

Another reason why Chiltern chooses to remember Henry Handel Richardson, relates to the significance of the family's Chiltern experience. The third book of her trilogy, *Ultima Thule*, draws on the family's traumatic period spent in Barambogie (read Chiltern). For the novel's chief character, Richard Mahony, as it was for her own father, Walter Richardson, Chiltern was really the beginning of the end. Or as Michael Ackland in his excellent biography *Henry Handel Richardson: A Life* (Cambridge University Press, 2004) says referring to the Richardson family, "Chiltern marked the end of the family's hopes." Walter Richardson's wife and young children witnessed and shared his gradual disintegration on a daily basis. It is now generally assumed that Richardson was suffering from syphilis, which led to a gradual, yet accelerating, mental and physical breakdown over the final twenty years of his life. There is no doubt this left deep mental scars on both children for the remainder of their lives. HHR herself once said that a writer usually had all his material by the age of ten. Coincidentally, she was ten when her father died, finally releasing the family from the torment and shame that his condition had caused for so many years.

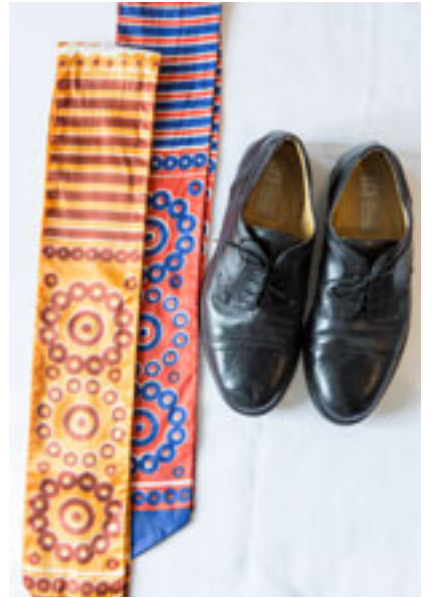
How then does Chiltern choose to remember Henry Handel Richardson? Locals led the fight to preserve Lake View took place during the late-1960s. Eventually the National Trust stepped in and assumed responsibility for the house, which was officially opened as a Richardson memorial on the 100th anniversary of her birth, 3 January 1870. Every year since 1970 her birthday has been celebrated at Lake View.

The Henry Handel Richardson Society of Australia was formed following the 2008 birthday celebration, enjoying the patronage of Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE until her death in 2012. Its *raison d'être* is "to stimulate the enjoyment and study of, and general interest in, the work of Henry Handel Richardson". The Society's annual oration is often delivered at Lake View, which the Society affectionately regards as its spiritual home.

Thus 70 years after her death, at Hastings, England, HHR and her writing are enjoying a renaissance among an ever-growing band of devotees through the Society that takes her name. In Chiltern, her childhood home still gazes across the reflective water of nearby Lake Anderson, just as it did all those years ago when HHR bounced her ball on its verandahs, telling herself stories as she struggled to cope with the trauma of her father's lengthy, and terminal illness.

*The 2016 Henry Handel Richardson Society oration will take place on Saturday 16 April as part of the National Trust Heritage Festival. Contact [graemejcharles@gmail.com](mailto:graemejcharles@gmail.com) for further details.*

*Opposite: Lake View, Chiltern, childhood home of Henry Handel Richardson. Photo © Joe Lewitt, 2014; Above: The yellow scarf, portrait of Henry Handel Richardson, Rupert Bunny, c1920s. Courtesy of the National Library of Australia (PIC Screen 10 #R11131).*





## Get Smart

*From fine millinery to fancy footwear, National Trust Victoria presents an exclusive glimpse of some of the garments on offer at our upcoming Vintage Clothing Sale, which will raise money for conservation at Como House.*

This March will once again see Como's ballroom transformed into a series of boutique retro outfitters for the annual National Trust Vintage Clothing Sale.

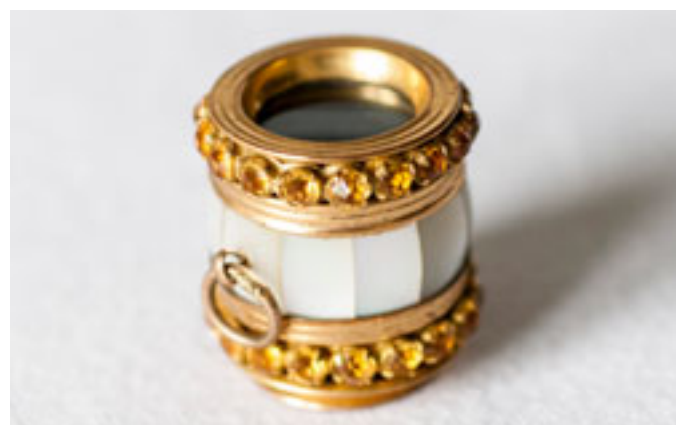
Now in its 8th year, the sale has become one of the most anticipated events on the vintage clothing calendar, with garments from the nineteenth century to the present day sourced from stylish wardrobes across Victoria.

Following the 2014 sale, which raised \$40,000 for the National Trust Costume Collection, volunteers Nance Houen, Libby Howcroft, Deborah Bannister and Margaret Addis have been curating a collection of high quality garments, menswear hats, gloves, belts, handbags, scarves, jewellery, materials and collectibles including haberdashery, textiles, household linen, and luggage.

All proceeds of the sale will go towards furniture, furnishings and critical remediation projects for Como House.

*The Vintage Clothing Sale will take place at Como House & Garden, Corner Williams Road & Lechlade Avenue, South Yarra, on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 March from 10-4pm.*

*All photos by Jessica Hood.*



# Secrets of Georgiana's Sewing Box

*Michelle Derrick, National Trust volunteer, Como House & Garden*

In June 2015, a beautiful sewing box once owned by Georgiana McCrae of McCrae Homestead, was generously donated to the National Trust by Georgiana's great-great-great-granddaughter. Made from rosewood, and inlaid with a brass floral design, the box contains an array of beautifully crafted sewing tools and cherished keepsakes, each housed in its own bespoke compartment, as well as swatches of fabric, lace, ribbons, and thread.

Born in London in 1804, Georgiana was the illegitimate daughter of George Gordon, 5th Duke of Huntley, and Jane Graham. From a young age Georgiana was a talented musician and artist. She studied painting and drawing under artists such as English watercolour painter John Varley, and English born Australian artist John Glover. Georgiana went on to exhibit her work, winning the silver medal from the Royal Society of Arts in 1820 for a portrait of her grandfather Alexander Gordon, 4th Duke of Gordon.

At 15 she aspired to become a professional portrait painter, however Georgiana's life was to take a very different path following her marriage to Andrew McCrae in 1830. Andrew did not allow her to pursue her goal of making a living from her art. Instead, Georgiana would go on to become a mother of nine children and, in 1840, she followed her husband to Melbourne to start a new life, where she continued to pursue her passion for painting and drawing as a hobby for years to come. Along with the diary she kept, Georgiana's paintings and drawings provide us with invaluable insight into early colonial life in Victoria.

One of Georgiana's many drawings can be found tucked behind a compartment attached to the lid of her sewing box. It is a black ink drawing of a fountain with Gordon Castle in the background, where she lived for a time as a child, and where her wedding to Andrew took place.

## MAGNIFYING GLASS

This cute little magnifying glass would have been used for intricate needlework. Made of brass and mother-of-pearl with yellow glass beads, it would have been an important aid for Georgiana's fine sewing and craftwork. There is a little brass ring attached, which would likely have been for a chain so that it could be worn around the neck for easy retrieval when needed.

## NEEDLE CASE

This intricate silver filigree needle case opens like a book with pages made of red felt inside, including three needles which remain pinned to the pages. The case is neatly tucked into its own compartment in the top layer of the sewing box. The attention to detail, and bespoke sewing tools such as this little case, is what makes this sewing box so remarkable. Not only has the box itself been beautifully crafted, but so too have all the tools inside.



## EMBROIDERY SAMPLER

This embroidery sampler with multi-coloured threads and a silk backing has been skilfully sewn. It includes a variety of letter groupings including the alphabet and vowels, as well as the phrases "There is but one GOD, the author, the creator, the governor of the world, almighty, eternal and incomprehensible", and "To others do as you'd have others do unto you". It also includes the initials "G.H.G" followed by "OCT 12 1811 FULHAM". Georgiana's maiden name was Huntley Gordon, so it's possible that Georgiana embroidered this herself when she was seven years old, as embroidery samplers were considered an important part of a young lady's education.

## MISER'S PURSE

This brown and yellow crocheted tubular shaped purse is known by a variety of names including a ring, finger or string purse. Perhaps its most common name is that of a miser's purse. This style of purse attracted the tight-fisted name as it was often difficult to retrieve coins quickly. Originating in the late-eighteenth century, they were used by both men and women, and remained popular into the early-1900s. Coins were dropped into a slit in the middle of the purse, which could then be closed by moving the two rings towards the middle to gather the fabric securely around the coins.



## HAIRWORK

Tucked safely inside the sewing box is a lock of human hair inside a folded piece of notepaper, and two items of jewellery made from human hair. The lock of dark brown hair, tied together with a ribbon, is likely to be Georgiana's. It is accompanied by a handwritten note which says "My hair 1830", while on the front of the notepaper there is more handwriting which includes "Cut off 1830". The woven bracelet, made of what looks to be Georgiana's hair, includes a central brass locket containing a strand of slightly lighter brown hair. The locket is engraved on the reverse with the initials "T.A.M", which we think is likely to refer to Georgiana's youngest daughter, Thomasina Agnes McCrae, who sadly died in 1854 at the age of two years and nine months.

The second item of hair jewellery is a brown braided cord with brass clasps, which appears to be a necklace. Hairwork was considered fashionable in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, when human hair was often chosen over other natural materials for its longevity and durability. Memorial hairwork, like the bracelet containing Thomasina's hair, was also popular, with the wearer choosing to have a personalised item of jewellery crafted from her loved one's own hair, often intertwined with her own, so that she could keep the memory of her loved one close to her.

*All photos by Jessica Hood.*



# Celebrate 60 Years of the Trust at Historic Mt Sturgeon

*As part of our 60th Anniversary celebrations, the National Trust will host a Gala Fundraising Dinner on 18 March. National Trust Victoria previews one of the exclusive prizes which will be auctioned on the night, including accommodation and a private dinner party for 12 at historic Mt Sturgeon, once the pastoral estate of the Armytage family.*

Mt Sturgeon, a historic pastoral run once owned by National Trust "royalty" the Armytage family, is nestled on the banks of the Wannon River, overlooking a dramatic layered sandstone formation at the southernmost tip of the Grampians. Thanks to Dunkeld's Royal Mail Hotel, visitors can now enjoy this nineteenth-century pastoral estate that once served as a rural stopover for visiting dignitaries, which included an Earl and Governor-General.

The property was one of the earliest runs to be established in the Western District, and Dr Robert Martin, a wealthy medical practitioner from Heidelberg, took up the first licence for the 112,000 acre squatting run in 1839. He is thought to have begun the construction of the original homestead using local sandstone and bluestone prior to 1860, while the Mt Sturgeon Cottages were built in the 1840s from local bluestone, and served as the property's workers' quarters.

From 1859 the property passed through the Glass, Fairburn, and Armytage families. Charles and Caroline Armytage developed Mt Sturgeon as their principal pastoral property from 1865, and built the grand front wing of the homestead, containing formal dining and sitting rooms, before the death of Charles Armytage in 1876. The architect remains unknown, however, Arthur Ebdon Johnson, who designed the Como House Ballroom, and was the brother-in-law of Caroline Armytage, is thought to be very likely.

Charles and Caroline Armytage's son Harold took over the management of the property from 1885 until the early-twentieth century, and in 1948 the property was acquired for the Soldier Settlement Scheme and divided into 32 farms.

The property was renovated, restored, and regenerated over a period of three years from 1997 and is now surrounded by 70 acres of manicured lawns and gardens, with the front lawn leading down to the original fruit orchard, containing apple and pear trees planted in the early 1800s, as well as later plantings of peaches and plums. From here, visitors are able to look towards the Wannon River and Mt Sturgeon, which now forms part of the National Heritage Listed Grampians National Park; the same view enjoyed by the Armytage family 150 years ago.

## NATIONAL TRUST 60TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER

*Bid for a two-night stay with breakfast in Mt Sturgeon Homestead (sleeps 12, value \$3,700), plus a private dinner party catered by the Royal Mail Hotel's two-hatted chefs, at the 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner at the Rippon Lea Ballroom on Friday 18 March. This prize has been generously donated by the Royal Mail Hotel. Funds raised at the Gala Dinner will be invested in the restoration of the National Trust's historic properties. For Gala Dinner bookings phone 03 9656 9889.*

## NATIONAL TRUST MEMBER OFFER

*All National Trust members are invited to stay at the Mt Sturgeon Cottages at a discounted rate of 15% off best available rate, subject to availability. Valid until 31 December 2016. Not available public holidays or special events. Must be booked direct with the hotel together with National Trust membership number. For enquiries visit [www.royalmail.com.au](http://www.royalmail.com.au) or contact the Royal Mail Hotel on 03 5577 2241.*



## In the Kitchen

*From Greek, by George Calombaris  
(Penguin Books Australia)*

### SALAD OF GARDEN PEAS, CAULIFLOWER, ALMONDS, LEMON

*To celebrate the National Trust's 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner, taking place at Rippon Lea Ballroom on 18 March, National Trust Victoria is excited to share a recipe by celebrated Melbourne chef and Masterchef judge George Calombaris, who will be creating an exclusive menu for our guests. For Gala Dinner enquiries, call 9656 9889.*

You may have heard of the saying "when it rains pumpkins, make soup and sell it". Well in the same spirit I say when peas are in season, make this salad. It's colourful, super-fresh and really yummy. For maximum flavour, make sure the peas are at room temperature when you serve the salad.

### INGREDIENTS

*Serves 4*

2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

1 brown onion, diced

300ml pure cream (45% fat)

500g cauliflower, trimmed and cut into small florets

1 1/2 cups (240g) green peas

50g blanched almonds

Vegetable oil, for deep-frying

Large handful of pea tendrils (optional)

*Oregano salt*

1/4 teaspoon dried oregano

1/4 teaspoon salt flakes

1/4 teaspoon caster sugar

*Lemon dressing*

1 tablespoon lemon juice

2 1/2 tablespoons extra

Virgin olive oil

### METHOD

Heat the olive oil in a frying pan over medium heat, add the onion and cook until translucent. Add the cream and half the cauliflower and simmer gently over low heat for 10–12 minutes or until tender, stirring frequently to avoid any colouration. Strain, reserving the cooking liquid. Transfer the cauliflower and onion to a blender and blend to a smooth puree, adding a little of the reserved cooking liquid as required.

Bring a small saucepan of water to the boil and cook the peas for 1 minute, then refresh in iced water. Drain.

Preheat the oven to 160°C (fan-forced).

To make the oregano salt, combine the dried oregano, salt and sugar in a small bowl.

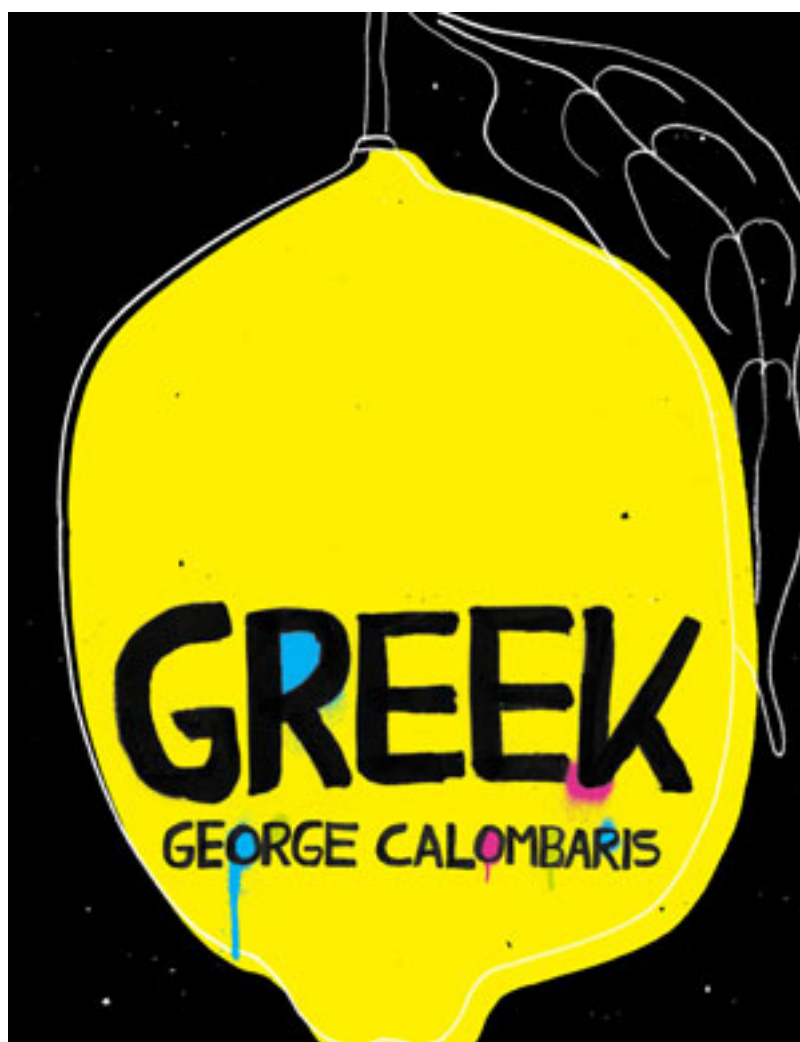
Toast the almonds in the oven for 10 minutes or until golden, then roughly chop and season with a little oregano salt.

To make the lemon dressing, whisk together the lemon juice and olive oil. Season to taste with oregano salt.

Heat the oil for deep-frying in a deep-fryer to 180°C (or in a heavy-based saucepan until a cube of bread browns in 15 seconds). Add the remaining cauliflower florets and deep-fry until golden. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towel. Season with oregano salt.

In a mixing bowl, combine the peas, cauliflower florets, almonds and lemon dressing.

Spoon the cauliflower puree onto a serving plate, top with the mixed salad and garnish with young pea tendrils (if using). Serve cold.



# Advocacy Watchlist

*National Trust Advocacy & Conservation Team*

*For updates visit the Trust Advocate blog at [www.trustadvocate.org.au](http://www.trustadvocate.org.au)*



## 63 THE STRAND, NEWPORT

The owners of 63 The Strand have applied to dismantle an 1850s two-storey timber house, which was one the subject of one the Trust's earliest classifications in the 1950s, "an early surviving example of a double storied timber house ... evocative of a vernacular building tradition". The National Trust objected, and the City of Hobsons Bay refused the permit, however the applicants have appealed to VCAT. We have prepared a statement of grounds for the hearing and will appear at VCAT in March 2016 to assist Council to defend the decision.



## BENDIGO EAST ANZAC AVENUE

Heritage Victoria have recommended against including the Bendigo East Anzac Avenue on the Victorian Heritage Register. As is usual, the matter is expected to proceed to a Heritage Council in early 2016, and in the interim the National Trust and local advocate Gemma Starr will continue to research the history of the Anzac Avenue. The Trust is actively searching for a historical photo of the Bendigo East State School and encourage our members with any friends or family in Bendigo to check their photo albums for school memorabilia.



## HEADLIE TAYLOR HOUSE, 129-131 DURHAM ROAD, SUNSHINE

In July, the Trust objected to the demolition of a house at 129-131 Durham Road Sunshine which was built by Headlie Taylor, the inventor of the Sunshine Harvester. The permit was refused by Council on a number of grounds, and the matter will go before VCAT in April 2016. The Trust has submitted a statement of grounds to be considered at the hearing. In a parallel process, the City of Brimbank is preparing a planning amendment to put an individual heritage overlay on the property.



## ALPHINGTON PAPER MILLS 1954 BOILER HOUSE

The Trust is leading a campaign calling for the protection of the 1954 Boiler House at the former Alphington Paper Mills site, thought to be the earliest surviving curtain-wall building in Victoria. In November the Trust lobbied Yarra councillors to protect the building in the site masterplan. While unsuccessful in the face of community opposition to the building's retention, a requirement was included for consultation with the National Trust on interpretation planning. As the building is on the Heritage Overlay, the Trust will oppose its demolition at planning permit stage.

*Photo courtesy of Graeme Butler.*



## FISHERMANS BEND

Following a vocal National Trust campaign calling for the protection of the former Rootes Factory and World War II experimental tank facility at Fishermans Bend, the City of Port Phillip is now preparing a comprehensive heritage amendment for significant places in Fisherman's Bend not currently protected in the Heritage Overlay. We spoke in support of the amendment at a Council meeting in September, and will be making further submissions in support in due course.



## HORSESHOE BEND, WALHALLA

The National Trust has objected to a proposal to excavate and blast a new channel in the Thomson River at the Horseshoe Bend Diversion Tunnel. The new channel will allow fish to swim further upstream, but the works will leave tonnes of rock dumped alongside historical mining sites. The beautiful bush valley is full of archaeological relics, and the National Trust has objected to the current proposal. We are calling for a more sensitive approach to facilitate fish passage upstream with minimal impact on this cultural landscape of state significance.



## MENTONE HOTEL

Following a vocal campaign by the Save the Edgy group, which resulted the addition of the Mentone Hotel to the Victorian Heritage Register, the property owner has submitted plans to Heritage Victoria to develop residential units on the site and undertake conservation work to the historic fabric. The issue highlights the difficulty of preserving ongoing use, with residents calling for the reopening of the pub, affectionately known by locals as “the Edgy”, which is considered to be a historic community gathering place.



## QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET

New changes proposed in Planning Scheme Amendment C245 would mean that sites immediately adjacent to the market could end up with very tall buildings, with relatively small setbacks, and that many heritage buildings will end up facaded or demolished to allow for such towers, dominating the immediate market environs. The National Trust and Melbourne Heritage Action (MHA) have made a joint submission critiquing the proposed controls which would, for the first time, result in the total erasure of the full historical extent of the market site and former cemetery.



## W CLASS TRAMS

Under the Freedom of Information Act the Trust applied for a copy of the Terms of Reference for the disposal of Melbourne’s W Class trams which are currently under threat. The Trust has been informed by PTV that ‘no such documents exist’ meaning that there is no guidance for their disposal. The Trust continues to call on the State Government to implement a moratorium on the disposal of W Class trams until a plan can be developed to inform decisions about their reuse.



## “NGARA”, KEW

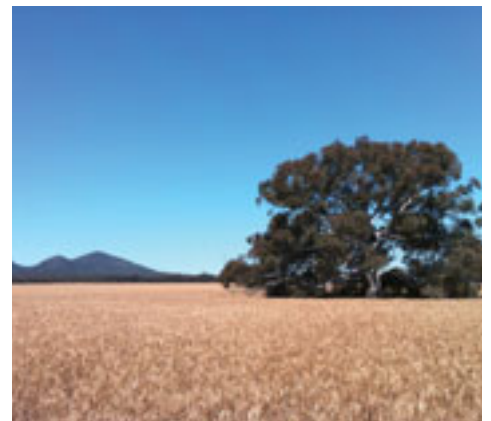
Following a hearing in August, the Planning Panel considering planning amendment C208 recommended against the inclusion of Ngara, birthplace of Gough Whitlam, in the Heritage Overlay, finding that “the association between the birth and approximately the first eighteen months of Mr Whitlam’s life does not constitute evidence of a special association between Mr Whitlam and Ngara.” In an unexpected plot twist, Councillors rejected the Panel’s recommendation, and the amendment, including Ngara, has been submitted for ministerial approval.

*Photo courtesy of Gary Vines.*



## TARRAN VALLEY, MALDON

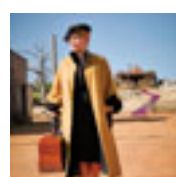
Over four days last November, the Tarran Valley Advisory Committee considered the rezoning of this bushland block on the southern outskirts of Maldon. The National Trust’s submission addressed the impact of the subdivision on the significant landscape, natural heritage and the views from Mount Tarrengower lookout. High-profile planning experts appearing for the Maldon Residents Group suggested that current planning regulations are not meeting the expectations of Victoria’s first Notable Town.



## YOU YANGS SAND MINE

A new sand mine is proposed on the western edge of the You Yangs Regional Park, which will be highly visible from the You Yangs lookouts. The National Trust has objected to the significant impacts on the landscape and natural heritage of the area. During a survey of neighbouring property Woolloomanata (built by the Armytages of Como), the National Trust re-discovered White Cypress-Pine, an inland tree species previously thought to be locally extinct.

## // EXHIBITIONS



## THE DRESSMAKER COSTUME EXHIBITION

The National Trust in association with Film Art Media proudly presents The Dressmaker Costume Exhibition featuring the movie's stunning haute couture costumes from award-winning designers Margot Wilson and Marion Boyce. Experience the journey of transformation through the luxurious costumes worn by Kate Winslet and the cast.

## WHEN

Open until 11 March, Wednesday to Sunday  
11am to 4pm

## WHERE

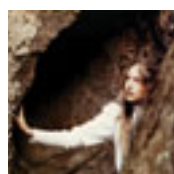
Barwon Park Mansion, 105 Inverleigh Road, Winchelsea

## COST/BOOKINGS

General Admission: Adult \$20, Concession \$18, Child (5-15 years) \$10, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$50

National Trust Members: Adult \$17, Concession \$16, Child (5-15 years) \$7.50, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$45

Book at [dressmakerexhibition.com.au](http://dressmakerexhibition.com.au) or purchase tickets at the door.  
Phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.



## RETURN TO HANGING ROCK EXHIBITION

To celebrate 40 years since the publication of Australia's most enduring literary mystery, Mulberry Hill presents Return to Hanging Rock, a multimedia exhibition in author Joan Lindsay's former home.

Open until Sunday 27 March, Wednesday to Sunday  
11am to 3.30pm

Mulberry Hill, 385 Golf Links Rd, Langwarrin South

General Admission: Adult \$15, Concession \$12, Child (5-15 years) \$8, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$42

National Trust Members: Adult \$12, Concession \$9, Child (5-15 years) \$6, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$32

Book at [returntohangingrock.com.au](http://returntohangingrock.com.au) or purchase tickets at the door.  
Phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.

## // VINTAGE



## VINTAGE CLOTHING SALE

The annual Vintage Clothing Sale is back. Discover a huge range of clothes, accessories, shoes and everything else you need for your wardrobe on sale over two massive days. All proceeds go to projects at Como House.

## WHEN

Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 March  
10am to 4pm

## WHERE

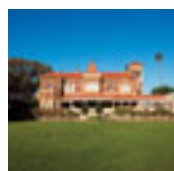
Como House & Garden, Cnr Williams Rd & Lechlade Ave, South Yarra

## COST/BOOKINGS

General Admission: Gold coin donation.

No bookings required, for enquiries phone (03) 9656 9889.

## // MUSIC



## SUNDAY SUMMER SESSIONS

Spend a leisurely afternoon listening to live music, play a round of croquet or simply relax on the shady lawns of Rippon Lea. Enjoy a light lunch at our café or bring your own picnic.

## WHEN

Sundays in February and March  
12pm to 4pm

## WHERE

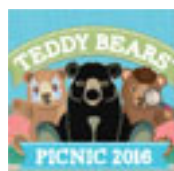
Rippon Lea House & Gardens: 192 Hotham Street, Elsternwick

## COST/BOOKINGS

General Admission: Adult \$15, Concession \$12, Child \$9, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$35

Book at [nationaltrust.org.au/vic](http://nationaltrust.org.au/vic) or phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.

## // FAMILY FUN



## TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

Grab the entire family and join a day of fun at the much-loved Teddy Bears' Picnic. Featuring live entertainment, face painting, jumping castles, treasure hunts as well as a special visit from the Melbourne Football Club, there is plenty of excitement for everyone. Food trucks and a bar for adults will be on site.

## WHEN

Sunday 28 February  
10am to 4pm

## WHERE

Rippon Lea House & Gardens, 192 Hotham Street, Elsternwick

## COST/BOOKINGS

General Admission: Adult \$15, Child \$10 (under 3 free), Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$45

National Trust Members: Adult \$10, Child \$5, Family \$30

Book at [riponleaestate.com.au](http://riponleaestate.com.au) or phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.



## EASTER FUN DAY

Join us for a fun and enjoyable family day out filled with Easter egg hunts, outdoor games, picnics and house tours at two National Trust properties.

Sunday 27 March  
10am to 4pm

Rippon Lea House & Gardens, 192 Hotham Street, Elsternwick

Mulberry Hill, 385 Golf Links Road, Langwarrin South

General Admission: Adult \$15, Concession \$12, Child \$9, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$35

National Trust Members: Free

Book at [nationaltrust.org.au/vic](http://nationaltrust.org.au/vic) or phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.

## // OPEN DAYS



## 19TH CENTURY PORTABLE IRON HOUSES OPEN DAYS

Attend a guided tour of the three portable iron houses which are among the few pre-fabricated iron buildings remaining in the world.

## WHEN

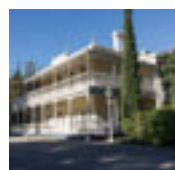
Open on first Sunday of the month  
1pm to 4pm

## WHERE

Portable Iron Houses, 399 Coventry Street, South Melbourne

## COST/BOOKINGS

General Admission: Adult \$6, Concession/Child \$4, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$14  
National Trust Members: Free  
No bookings required. For enquiries phone (03) 9656 9889 or email [pih@nattrust.com.au](mailto:pjh@nattrust.com.au).



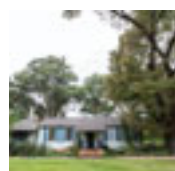
## COMO HOUSE OPEN DAYS

Discover the history of Como House and the families who lived there on a guided tour of this heritage site.

Open on most weekends, visit [nationaltrust.org.au/vic](http://nationaltrust.org.au/vic) for details.

Como House & Garden, Cnr Williams Rd & Lechlade Ave, South Yarra

General Admission: Adult \$15, Concession \$12, Child (15 and under) \$9, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$35  
National Trust Members: Free  
Book at [nationaltrust.org.au/vic](http://nationaltrust.org.au/vic) or phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.



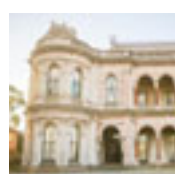
## LA TROBE'S COTTAGE OPEN DAYS

Join us on a journey to discover how Charles Joseph La Trobe, Victoria's first Governor, lived with his family on his garden estate of Jolimont. Visitors will gain an understanding of the important role he played in shaping the framework of modern Victoria.

Open every Sunday up to end April  
2pm to 4pm

La Trobe's Cottage, Cnr Birdwood Avenue & Dallas Brooks Drive, Melbourne

General Admission: Adult \$5, Concession \$4, Child \$3, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$12  
National Trust Members: Free  
No bookings required. For enquiries phone Lorraine Finlay on (03) 9563 6363 or email [lorrainefinlay@netspace.net.au](mailto:lorrainefinlay@netspace.net.au).



## LABASSA OPEN DAYS

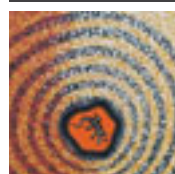
Visit one of Australia's most outstanding nineteenth century mansions.

Open on the third Sunday each month  
10:30am to 4:30pm

Labassa, 2 Manor Grove, Caulfield North

General Admission: Adult \$15, Concession \$12, Child \$9, Family (2 adults + 2 children) \$35  
National Trust Members: Free  
Book at [nationaltrust.org.au/vic](http://nationaltrust.org.au/vic) or phone (03) 9656 9889 for enquiries.

## // BRANCH EVENTS



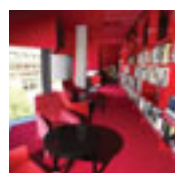
## GEELONG AND REGION MEMBERS BRANCH: NARANA ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE

Gain an understanding of local Aboriginal history and culture at the Narana Aboriginal Cultural Centre. Book a \$12 lunch at the café (contact Jodie (03) 5241 5700) and stay for a \$7.50 afternoon tea.

Tuesday 23 February  
2pm to 4pm

Narana Aboriginal Cultural Centre, 410 Surf Coast Hwy, Grovedale

National Trust Members: Gold coin donation.  
RSVP David or Pauline Walker on (03) 5289 1569 or email [ifaris@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ifaris@optusnet.com.au).



## GEELONG AND REGION MEMBERS BRANCH: GEELONG LIBRARY AND HERITAGE CENTRE

Tour the new Geelong Library and Heritage Centre and admire the newly opened building which is home to Victoria's largest regional archive of historical resources. Meet at the Little Malop Street foyer.

Tuesday 29 March  
2pm to 4pm

Geelong Library and Heritage Centre, 51 Little Malop St, Geelong

National Trust Members: Gold coin donation.  
RSVP David or Pauline Walker on (03) 5289 1569 or 0409 141 755 or email [ifaris@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ifaris@optusnet.com.au).



## GEELONG AND REGION MEMBERS BRANCH: GEELONG'S FIRST PERMANENT MAJOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

Celebrate the National Trust classification of Geelong's first waterworks. Discover the principal works of the Upper Reservoir, the world's highest earthen wall at the time, as well as the Lower Reservoir, Australia's first mass concrete gravity dam.

Tuesday 26 April

Contact Branch.

RSVP David or Pauline Walker on (03) 5289 1569 or 0409 141 755 or email [ifaris@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ifaris@optusnet.com.au).

# TEDDY BEARS'



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# Book Reviews



## FOOTPATH GUIDES: MELBOURNE ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOURS

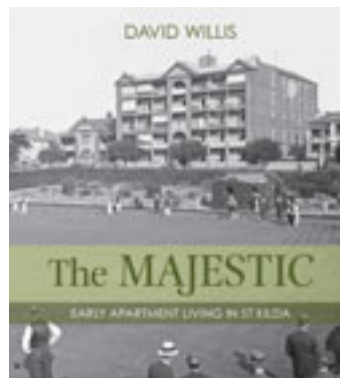
by Jacques Sheard, Sonia Post and Dave Roper

*Footpath Guides, \$20 (individual), \$50 (set)*

In one of the most beautiful and exciting additions to the National Trust bookshelf in 2015, Footpath Guides have released their first three volumes of architectural walking tours, spanning the architecture of Joseph Reed, St Kilda, and mid-century Melbourne. Designed for the "curious urban explorer", each edition focuses on the architectural elements of a particular location, showcasing notable examples of the featured style or era.

Pithy commentary and documentary photography by filmmaker and architectural academic Jacques Sheard is accompanied by illustrations by designer Sonia Post of Design Democracy which capture the essence of the architecture. With handy fold-out maps illustrating the walking routes, the pocket guides are handsome keepsakes as well as practical guides for architectural enthusiasts wanting to hit the streets.

*Footpath Guides* are available from the National Trust Shop at Tasma Terrace.



## THE MAJESTIC: EARLY APARTMENT LIVING IN ST KILDA

by David Willis

*St Kilda Press, \$39.95*

Driven by the curiosity to discover the story behind his historic apartment in the Majestic building

on Fitzroy Street in St Kilda, author David Willis uncovered a bigger story about the colourful history of apartment living, which has been a part of St Kilda's culture from the early-twentieth century, offering people a convenient and relatively affordable opportunity to live in one of Australia's most beloved seaside locations.

Along with pages of historic photographs, plans and ephemera, what makes *The Majestic* stand out from many local histories is the focus on the human stories which fill in the gaps of the building's vibrant social history, from the developer to former residents. In the conversations and reminiscences with former residents and visitors, we discover what it was like to inhabit this place, and how it has changed over time.

*The Majestic: Early Apartment Living in St Kilda* is available from the National Trust Shop at Tasma Terrace.

## HOLIDAYS & SHORT TOURS

### NATIONAL TRUST WAY HOLIDAY TOURS

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**New Orleans and Cuba**  
3-15 May 2016

Visit two of the world's most exotic, vibrant and colourful places. New Orleans is a melting pot of culture, food and music, steeped in influences from Europe, the Caribbean and Africa. Enjoy its cultural and architectural treasures before delighting your senses with the vibrant colours, magnificent architecture, bays and mountains of Cuba. **Tour Leader:** Judy Ashton - 0421 630 942. **For bookings and all enquiries please ring David Smith, Travel on Capri, 1800 679 066**



**Norfolk Island**  
9 - 16 May, 2016

Rich in history, Norfolk Island is breathtakingly beautiful with plenty to enjoy, including wonderful food. This new tour (the March tour is fully booked) includes a Mutiny on the Bounty Show and visits to the Georgian buildings of heritage Kingston. **Tour Leader:** Lorraine Collins - 0439 947 479. **For bookings and all enquiries please ring David Smith, Travel on Capri, 1800 679 066**



**Scottish Isles and Highlands Tour**  
17-30 September 2016

From Edinburgh we travel north by coach visiting Falklands Palace, home of Mary Queen of Scots, then to historic St Andrews, home of golf. Ancient castles and historic sites, the isle of Orkney, a 5000 year old stone village, through the wildly beautiful western highlands to Oban. Then on board a traditional wooden fishing boat, luxuriously appointed, we explore the magical Hebrides coastline and islands. Bookings strictly limited to 10. **Tour Leader:** Lorraine Collins - 0439 947 479. **For bookings and all enquiries please ring David Smith, Travel on Capri, 1800 679 066**



**Myanmar**  
November 2016 - ten days

Experience the calm of a country where Buddhism is a way of life, travelling from Yangon to Mandalay and Bagan. Lush landscape, colonial architecture, golden temples - see Myanmar before the impact of mass tourism following the lifting of sanctions. **Tour Leader:** Jill Bunning 0 0439 321 164. **For bookings and all enquiries please ring David Smith, Travel on Capri, 1800 679 066**

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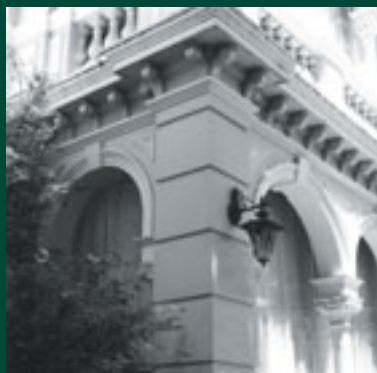
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