

National Trust

eNews

The National Trust of Australia (NT) is a community based, not for profit heritage charity dedicated to promoting and conserving the heritage of the Northern Territory.



Would like to invite you to finish your weekend with the gentle sounds of the Arafura Wind Ensemble.

Our pleasant Sunday afternoon concert will be held in the serenity of STAHL Garden at the Myilly Point Heritage Precinct where you will be able to catch the luscious dusk sea breeze.

So bring along your chairs and blankets on Sunday 11 October from 5pm for a 5.30pm start and please, no eskies allowed as light refreshments will be made available.

You can enter STAHL Garden through either Burnett House or Kahlin Avenue and entry donation to support National Trust will be received with much appreciation.



Myilly Point Heritage Precinct
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GPO Box 3520, Darwin NT 0801
Ph: 08 8981 2848
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www.nationaltrustnt.com.au

Showcasing Our Volunteers: Helen Bate



The next volunteer in our series of "Showcasing Our Volunteers" is Helen Bate.

Helen has been volunteering at Burnett House and Government House for some considerable time. She is always there whenever we have a crisis or need some help.

Helen was born in Bega NSW and had the freedom of a rural childhood til she was seven years old when her family moved to Collaroy, a northern beach suburb of Sydney. Helen had the beaches and Long Reef as her playground as well as bush and horses on Salvation Army land next door (now a retirement village).

Helen attended Narrabeen Girls High and Sydney University, graduating in Pharmacy. After 2 years in Sydney, Helen spent a great 6 months relieving in country NSW before arriving in Darwin. Helen was given a return airfare provided she lasted 3months!

PATRON
His Honour the Honourable John Hardy OAM
Administrator of the Northern Territory

PRESIDENT
Mr Trevor Horman AM
VICE PRESIDENT
Dr Bill Low
TREASURER
Ms. Petrena Ariston

BRANCH COUCELLORS
Mrs. Gillian Banks OAM
Ms. Janet Webber
Mr. Edward Orchard Somerville-Collie
Ms. Prue Crouch

GENERAL COUNCILLORS
Ms. Laurelle Halford
Dr. Jan Hills
Mr. David Hewitt OAM

MEMBERSHIP 2015

	1 year	3 years
Individual	\$65.00	\$195.00
Household	\$95.00	\$285.00
Senior	\$58.50	\$175.50
Senior Household	\$85.50	\$256.50
Pensioner	\$52.00	\$156.00
Pensioner Hsehd	\$76.00	\$228.00
Joining fee	\$35.00	

The National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory) is a community organisation which seeks to conserve the Territory's heritage.

Membership is open to everyone.

Helen thought she could survive anywhere for that time and then have enough money for her big trip overseas by boat. Unfortunately her father invested the money in Mt Isa Mines just before there was a long strike and the shares did not come good for a while so the funds were used on real estate instead.

By the time she wanted to go overseas, the State ships had stopped. Helen also missed a trip on State ships to Perth for the same reason.

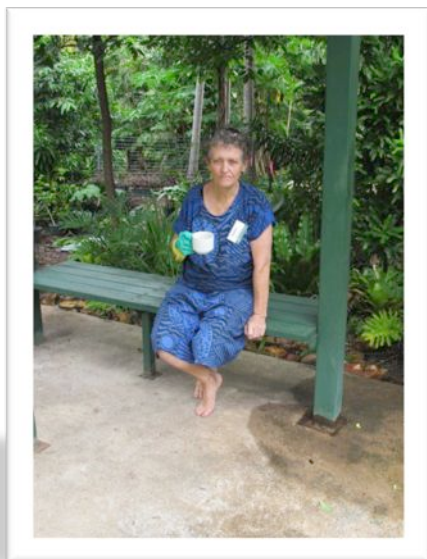
Helen did not initially like Darwin probably because she was not particularly fond of the Esplanade Hostel where she was living. Helen met her husband Peter there.

Her involvement with the National Trust obviously mirrors Peter's, except she does not sing or play instruments. Helen volunteers at Sunday afternoon teas, Government House Open Days and Heritage Week and wherever else she is needed.

Helen has fond memories of field trips organised by past enthusiastic directors to Port Essington, Katherine/Emungalan, and Chinatown at Pine Creek etc.

Helen was in a craft group, which was asked to make individual letters for a banner for the Migrant Resource Centre. They decided to make and assemble a banner saying SAVE MYILLY POINT; took it to the rally and then left it at the Centre. They were grateful but quickly pulled the letters apart since they are supposed to be a political! (We then made more letters for our children's birthdays and it's still going strong when I remember to get it out).

Those were the good days for the Trust when there was a large membership and lots of events for the members. The Larrakeyah Branch tries hard with the afternoon teas and enjoyable talks with the Historical Society. We also had a couple of great trips to Birdum with Friends of North Australia Railway, who also run a great picnic on Picnic Day every year.



PICTURE: Helen Bate resting her weary feet

Branch News from Katherine Branch



The plant sale held at O'Keeffe House on 29th August was successful and the raffle of \$50 worth of plants proved very popular.

Many patrons also enjoyed Devonshire teas and becoming acquainted with O'Keeffe House, garden and Sidney Williams Pavilion. A very big 'Thank You' is extended to all who attended, and helped out on the day.

Our AGM and monthly meetings also took place during the same morning. Merriel Lawrie was elected as Chair/Secretary, Stephanie Hill as Vice Chairman and Dell Harlan as Treasurer.

Katherine Branch meetings will continue to be held on the first Saturday of each month and plant sales and gardening will be taking place every Saturday morning and all members and friends are very welcome to attend. As weather becomes hotter the pot plants have been placed under the shade cloth and the caretaker continues to care for them.

Ongoing discussions have been taking place with the view of others utilizing the 1926 Railway Station building as a venue for some different displays and activities.

Branch News from McDouall Stuart Branch

The recent AGM elected a new Branch Committee for 2015/2016.

Chairman:	Dr. Bill Low
Vice Chairman:	Mr. David Hewitt OAM
Secretary:	Ms. Prue Crouch
Treasurer:	Mr. Kevin Diflo
Members:	Ms. Jean Celli, Ms. Maureen Durbridge & Pat Dodds

Many thanks to Loraine Braham, Margaret Lawrence and Steve Sawyer who did not seek re-election. Loraine and Margaret will still be involved with Hartley Street School, but Steve Sawyer has left Alice Springs, which is a sad loss to the National Trust McDouall Stuart Branch as he was a very active member of the branch. We thank Steve for all that he has done at Hartley Street School, the Stuart Town Gaol and during Heritage Week 2015.

A morning tea of tea and damper was held at Hartley Street School during Seniors Month with the Alice Springs Sing Australia Choir providing the music. The morning was organised by Bev Reegan from the U3A History group, which included a quiz on the history of the school. All who attended had a most enjoyable morning.

There have been more visits from school children to the Hartley Street School in the last month with children learning to write and draw on slates. Yeperenye school students enjoy reading 'Footy Kids' books donated by the publishers Penguin Books. Thanks to Loraine Braham for the ongoing organisation of these visits.

Along with other heritage buildings, the Stuart Town Gaol and Hartley Street School were used as venues during the recent Alice Springs Desert Festival. Marcus delighted the audience with his beautiful music playing his flute and Contra Bass. Bec Mathews captivated listeners with her kora at the Stuart Town Gaol. All musicians who participated across all events were local. Congratulations Morris Stuart for a great Desert Festival.

Some recent comments made by visitors to the school include:

"Absolutely fantastic, seeped in history!"

"I went to school here in 1952/53. Fond memories and some familiar names."

"Love the handwriting!"

"An excellent informative, old museum about Alice Springs schooling!"

"I fell very hysterical. I found my first reader!"

"Daily practice of the Oath needs to be returned!"

Branch News from Larrakeyah Branch



LAUGHS ON THE LAWN – TEA ON THE TERRACE

Saturday 19th September saw the last Red Hat Society croquet match for 2015.

After a couple of laughter filled games on the beautiful shaded lawns of Burnett House, the ladies had a BYO afternoon tea on the Terrace to round off the season.

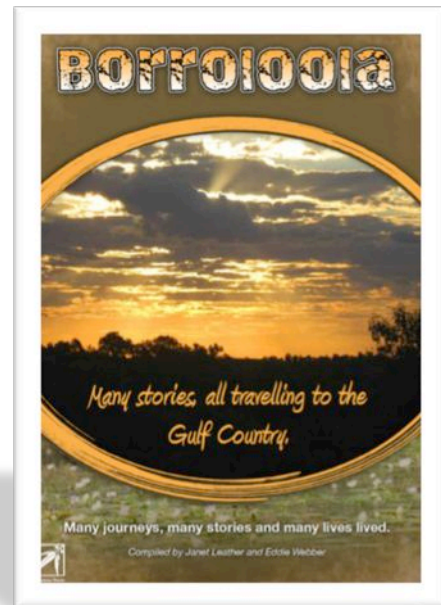
Meeting on the third Saturday of the month from May to September, the Croquet Club is in its third successful and enjoyable year – mainly due to the wonderfully tranquil and appropriate setting of Burnett House and its gardens.

Orchard Somerville-Collie looks after the House, and the Donations Tin, for the afternoon and gives the occasional visitor a guided tour of the House out of hours.

The Club would like the National Trust Larrakeyah Branch to know how much they appreciate the opportunity to play at Burnett House and are looking forward to next year already.

Branch News from Gulf Branch

On the 20th of September at Borrooloola, the Old Borrooloola Police Station saw the Launch of the Latest book of Borrooloola and Gulf Stories the following speech was made by Branch Chair and Author Eddie Webber, whom with fellow author and Co-compiler Janet Leather and fellow writers Annette Bradford and Gerry McCarthy were present for the launch.



Excerpt of speech..

Good morning ladies, gentlemen, the honourable member for Barkly Gerry McCarthy, Mrs McCarthy and distinguished guests. The history of the area revolves around the local indigenous people, and I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the Borrooloola and Gulf area the Mara, Garawa, Karanja and Yanyuwa people. Some years ago we started out to collate a few of the stories we had gathered. That was volume one and now we have pleasure in presenting volume two with the prospect of a number three in the series. We have been able to produce the second volume with the generosity and financial assistance of the Darwin based Larrakeyah Branch of the National Trust. The stories are based around characters and events garnered from local sources and with a considerable amount of research by Gulf Branch National Trust members. As all good books it contains villains rogues and heroes with poddy dodgers, pastoralists, policemen, Nackeroos, politicians, miners, explorers and crocodiles just to name a few getting a mention. It is up to the reader to determine which category each falls into. All in all a balanced collection of stories featuring a number of well know identities. I personally think it is exceptional value with the story of the Nackeroos probably worth the price of the book by itself. As mentioned we are starting on number three and all contributions are welcome, if you have an idea or a story you think worth while lets get it recorded.



PICTURE: Gulf Branch Members: Trish Elmy, Annette Bradford and Sue Morgan

I would now like to present Gerry McCarthy the honourable member for Barkly to officially launch Volume 2 of stories from Borroloola. Gerry went on to stress how critical it was to record all History of the Region and he felt even more so for Teachers or workers who come into the Gulf Region both books should be standard reading to help new comers have a better understanding of the People and the region and how it has evolved over the years..

Gulf Members were very happy with the turn out and have now got the latest Gulf book on sale in Borroloola at two locations, Darwin and Katherine Museum. We would like to thank all writers, sponsor especially Larrakeyah Branch and supporters who have helped this project come to fruition!



PICTURE:
MLA for Barkley Gerry McCarthy extolling the Virtue's of the Book



PICTURE: Chloe Gibbon from the Art Centre



PICTURE: Janet Leather & Eddie Webber



PICTURES:
(Above & Right)
Watching the proceedings

Stella Maris is now in National Trust stewardship.

After the Commissioner investigating the matter of Stella Maris handed down his recommendations, a call was made for Expressions of Interest in managing and developing the site.

The Council of the National Trust agreed to submit an EOI and this was subsequently prepared and sent to the Government.

It transpired that the National Trust was the preferred candidate and it then entered into discussions with the Department of Land Administration to determine the best lease for the site.

The Council of the National Trust has now been granted a Crown Lease Term over the 1 McMinn Street site. Initially this Lease is for 6 months while the Trust explores the viability of its plans for the site. Once the way forward is satisfactorily determined, the initial lease can be converted into a ten-year lease.

There is much to be done on the site and the Trust will need the support of its members and the community in general if this unique and fascinating site is to be attractive and accessible to the general public. Your involvement with the Trust on this journey is very welcome. Let us know how you can help or any suggestions you may have that could help with the use and management of the site.



Connect with us on Facebook or simply write to Stella Maris, GPO Box 3520 , Darwin, NT, 0801, or email the Office at foh.ntnt@internode.on.net