

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.



ARAFURA ENSEMBLE & THAT HARPSICHORD

During the performance at Audit House, Arafura Ensemble & local harpsichordist, Scott Trenwith wowed their audience with a historical instrument that Scott is also restoring.

That Magnificent Harpsichord!

Scott has lived in the NT for about 25 years, much of it in remote communities where the majority of restoration was done at Mililingimbi when he was working in the school.

Noteworthy about this particular harpsichord is that when the sound board were put back in the local musicians gave it as special ceremony with singing, dancing, Yidaki and clap sticks.

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New Administrator for the Northern Territory



Vicki O'Halloran AM, chief executive officer of Somerville Community Services has been appointed as the Northern Territory's 22nd Administrator by the Governor-General, His Excellency the Hon Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd).

Mrs. O'Halloran's two-year appointment comes as the term of the current Administrator; the Hon John Hardy AO comes to a close on October 30 this year.

"She has devoted her entire career and many volunteer hours to welfare services throughout the Northern Territory

and in 2014 was made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) for her significant service to people with a disability."

The National Trust has enjoyed the patronage of the Administrator since its inception. We thank the current Administrator, His Honour the Honourable John Hardy AO, for his kindness and interest in our work.

We look forward to inviting Mrs O'Halloran to become our patron once she takes office in October.

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

PRESIDENT
Mr. Trevor Horman AM

VICE PRESIDENT
Vacant

TREASURER
Mr. Colin Beard

BRANCH COUCELLORS

GULF – Ms. Stephanie Hill
LARRAKEYAH – Ms. Lillian Smith
McDOUALL STUART – Mr. Phil Walcott
KATHERINE – Mrs. Stephanie Hill

GENERAL COUNCELLORS
Dr. William Low

MEMBERSHIP 2017

	1 year	3 years
Individual	\$65.00	\$176.00
Household	\$95.00	\$257.00
Senior	\$60.00	\$162.00
Senior Household	\$85.00	\$230.00
Concession	\$45.00	\$122.00
Concession Household	\$75.00	\$203.00

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

Membership is open to everyone.

Katherine Branch News

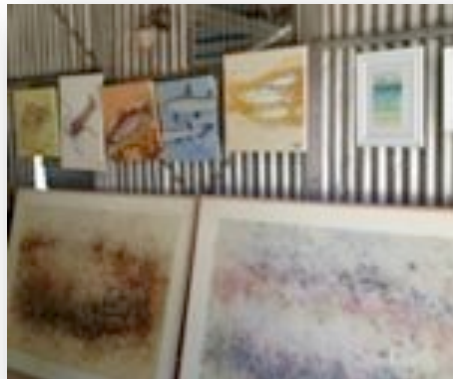
The pace of life begins to settle a little as the weather warms and tourists begin to head southwards, although it is certainly not very warm in Katherine this morning with most locals donning winter wear previously unworn this season.

August has been quite busy around the Katherine branch. During the first week of the month we were delighted to welcome a group of seventy students and their teachers and helpers from a Darwin area school when they visited the Katherine 1926 Railway Station and the O'Keeffe House property. Because of the numbers of students it was necessary to divide them into smaller groups to allow all to view the displays. Many photographs were taken and of particular interest to the students was a Box Brownie camera on display at the railway station.

The coolness felt when entering O'Keeffe House was another point of amazement to the children. They could not believe that on such a warm day the house could be so cool without the use of fans and air conditioners and discussion took place as to how this was achieved. They also marveled that someone who previously lived in such a humble house would be the recipient of recognition from Queen Elizabeth. Children always comment on how they would like to live in this house and we are frequently asked, "Is it haunted?" A very generous donation made by the school to Katherine branch was gratefully received at the conclusion of the visit.

Another major function held during the month was the painting and pottery exhibition of the works of Gillian Banks and Danny Murphy. This was held in conjunction with our annual plant sale. There was a good roll up on both days of the exhibition and patrons also enjoyed visiting the house and having Devonshire Teas in the garden and purchasing some of the handcrafts of one of our members.

Sincere thanks are extended to the exhibitors, helpers, attendees, and in particular to Mr and Mrs Lambert for the kind donation of potted coloured plants.



Roadmasters House – One Year On



It is now a year since the Trust was granted a 10-year lease over the heritage-listed house at 1 McMinn Street, Darwin. The lease provides for the building to be used as a museum on the condition that it is open to the public for a minimum of 15 hours each week. This operation is made possible by a panel of volunteers attending on five mornings each week.

Over the year casual visitors have mostly been senior citizens from interstate whereas locals have patronised the two special events– the Goyder's Day commemoration in February and the Heritage Festival open day in April.

The house was built in the late 1920s / early 1930s for the North Australia Railway and then later used as a Seafarers Centre by the Stella Maris organisation. Visitors are fascinated by the architecture of the house with its surround veranda enclosed with slatted timber walls, push-out shutters, polished timber floor and kitchen stove fireplace. Many are intrigued as how people lived in this type of pre-war house that seems to be quite exposed to the harsh elements of the tropics.

The current exhibition is called *Mapping Darwin's History* and comprises historic maps and photographs that tell the story of Darwin from the early days to the present time. Visitors have commented that the exhibition enlightened them on Darwin's eventful but largely unknown history. The particular exhibits that seem to attract most interest are:

- The collection of maps, photographs and surveying instruments from the 1869 Goyder Survey expedition that led to the foundation of Darwin,
- The historic photographs of Chinatown covering its pre-war heyday to its total destruction by the end of the war. The *Tree of Knowledge* that still stands on the site of the former Chinatown (now the Civic Centre) is shown in the photos to have seen it all, and
- The maps and photographs showing the destruction and recovery of the town from the Second World War and Cyclone Tracy.

A map of great interest is the Japanese copy of a 1938 Australian military map of Darwin that was found by US occupation forces in Tokyo at the end of the war. It is an exact copy but with the legend and marginal notes printed in Japanese. The map was probably produced for Japanese ground forces in the event that an invasion of the Darwin area was to be carried out. However the detail on the map undoubtedly would have provided good intelligence for planning the precise bombing of the town in February 1942.

National Trust members who have not already done so should visit the museum to acquaint themselves with this unique heritage building and its contents so that they may encourage visitors and locals to do so. Opening hours are 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on every day except Monday and Saturday until the end of October when it will close until February.





NATIONAL TRUST

LARRAKEYAH BRANCH NATIONAL TRUST

and the HISTORICAL SOCIETY NT
invite you to a talk by



Craig Bellamy

*"Living and Working at Fenton Field, NT during the
Pacific War"*

Friday night 22nd September 2017



Fenton was an Allied airfield built out of the bush on Tipperary Station in the Douglas Daly in 1942. The airfield was the base for B-24 Liberator bombers of the USAAF's 380th Heavy Bomber Group flying missions against the Japanese.

What was it like living and working in this temporary military 'bush town', eating Yank food and drinking Yank beverages, experiencing the isolation of living in tents, with few creature comforts, in the Territory's wet and dry and the added threats of attack from Japanese bombers?

Craig Bellamy is an historian with an Honours degree from Charles Darwin University. He is currently in his third year of a PhD at CDU which deals with a secret multinational and multi-service organisation that operated within General Douglas MacArthur's General Headquarters during the Pacific War.

Join us under the verandah at Burnett House for a cool drink and nibbles at 5:30 pm before the talk. Entry: \$2 members, \$5 non-members - \$5 food & drinks

Telephone enquiries to Julie: 8946 6835 BH.

- PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE IS A MATTER OF TRUST

Government House Open Day September 2017



Judy Orme & Judy Richardson

The National Trust was invited to participate in Government House Open Day on 2 September 2017.

A huge task for the volunteers as many of the volunteers worked a double shift as they were also on the roster for Afternoon Teas at Burnett House the next day.

Emails were sent out to gather the many volunteers needed for this event.

We act as guides in The House, work in the kitchen jamming and creaming hundreds of scones. We needed others to sell the tea and coffee and scones. People to take money and sell our merchandise and to clear cups and saucers and plates from the tables set out on the forecourt area and wash the dishes needed for Afternoon tea the next day.

Volunteers to transport all our crockery, milk, tea, coffee, scones jam and cream to Government House and back again.

Thanks to Leonie McNally, Lillian Smith, Chris Millowick, Bill Dwyer, Pearl Ogden, Cathy Flint, Renate Mohrbach, Vikki Macleod, Tom Sawyer, Michele Hogan, Hilary Tagell, Joan More, Elizabeth Close, Sharmay Ley, Trevor Horman, Judy Richardson, Judy Orme, Anna Harris, Pippa Featherston, Del Ainslie- Cowles, Bernie Eggington, Kirstin Hannan, Renee Rawhiti, Nola Smith, Di Lunn, Margaret Kirkup, Liz Macleod, Bill Porte, Dee Preston, Joyce Morrison, Brooke Phillips, Penny Baird, Betty Risler, Maxina Parkes, Dee Preston and Roger Davy.

Special thanks to Brooke Phillips, Bill Porte, Joan Moore, Kirstin Hannan, Judy Richardson, Joyce Morrison, Dee Preston and Anna Harris who also had to turn up for Afternoon Tea in the Gardens of Burnett House on Sunday.

It was a very hot and tiring day.

The Larrakeyah Branch of National Trust (NT) thanks you all for donating your time to this special event. Our volunteers are very special people.



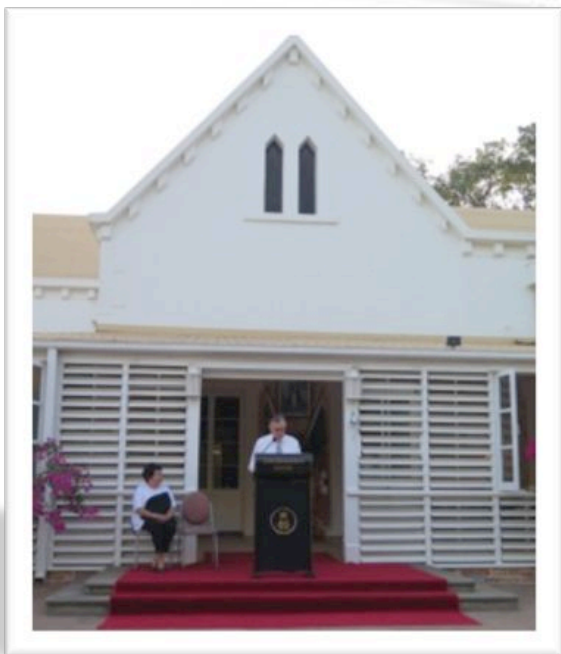
Volunteers for Government House Open Day



Guests at the Government House Open Day



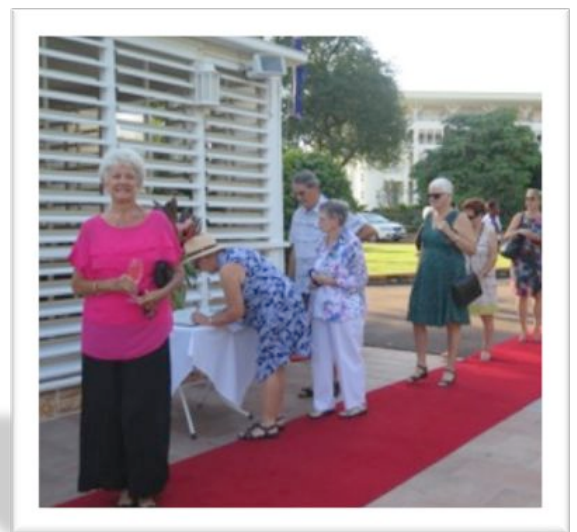
Del Ainslie-Cowles, Nola Smith, Anna Harris



↑ His Honour, the Honourable John Hardy AO and his Mrs. Hardy at Government House.

National Trust volunteers were invited to a reception at Government House by His Honour the Honourable John Hardy AO and Mrs Marie Hardy as a thank you for their assistance on Government House Open Day.

We all enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon on the forecourt of Government House enjoying drinks and nibbles and watching the sun go down over the harbour.



↑ Leonie McNally and other guests arriving at Government House.



↑ The forecourt at Government House at sunset



← Volunteers on the forecourt of Government House