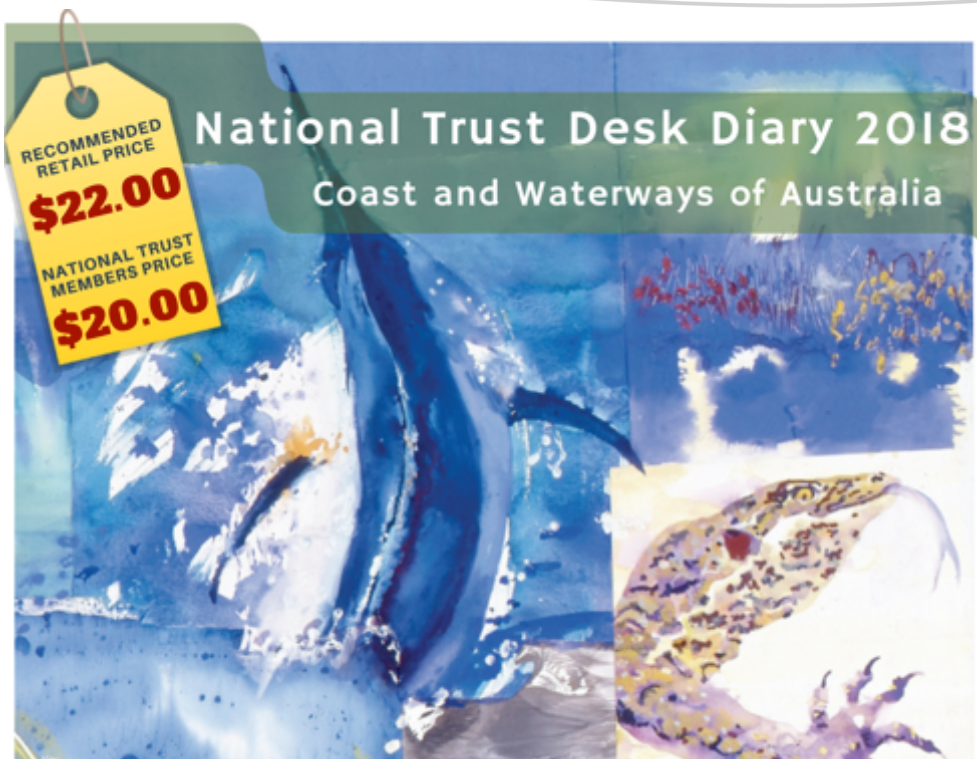


National Trust

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.



The Women's Committee of the National Trust of Australia (NSW) produced the diary and Janie Mason and Judy Richardson of our local Larrakeyah Branch contributed the Northern Territory photos. **Diaries are now available for purchase at Burnett House.**

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www.nationaltrust.org.au/nt

Northern Territory Government Approved Grants

Through the 2017/2018 Heritage Grants Program the Trust has recently received approval for the following grants from the Department of Tourism & Culture, NTG:

\$9,350.00	"Pine Creek Repeater Station"
\$3,000.00	"Goyders Day 2018"
\$27,100.00	"Jones Store Conservation Work"
\$12,000.00	"Borrooloola Old Police Station Ancillary Buildings"
\$24,613.00	"O'Keeffe House Conservation Work"
\$6,000.00	"Alice Springs Heritage Festival 2018"
\$6,000.00	"Darwin Heritage Festival 2018"

The Department of the Attorney General & Justice, NTG also awarded the Trust with:

\$41,000.00	"Upgrade of Tuxworth Fullwood House Museum – Tennant Creek"
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The National Trust is most appreciative of these grants. They assist in the management of our important heritage places.

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 COUICILLORS

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

GENERAL COUNCILLORS
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.

McDouall Stuart Branch News

The McDouall Stuart Branch AGM was held on Sunday 22nd August with 15 people attending.

Elected to the Branch Committee were; Bill Low as Chairman, Committee members David Hewitt, Ian Mann, Phil Walcott and Prue Crouch.

Brenda Shields and Chats Ratnapala have recently joined the MCDS Committee.

Following the AGM Geoff Purdie showed some interesting old films of Alice Springs. The first was of the Alice Springs School students leaving by steam train through Heavitree Gap with a banner on the side of the train which read '1,000 miles to greet the Queen'. The children were going to Adelaide for the Queen's visit in 1954.

A second movie was an old film created to show prospective visitors to the Centre how to keep safe while travelling in the bush in the heat.

The last movie was a film produced by TAA of a group of young women who flew to Alice Springs with TAA and then travelled by bus to Uluru and The Olgas in 1957 on what was then called The Petticoat Tour.

In October 2017 to celebrate 60 years of women travelling in the outback a tourist company has organised a re-enactment of this original journey.

The MCDS National Trust Volunteers continue to keep the Hartley Street School and the Stuart Town Gaol open for tourists.

We welcome two new volunteers who have filled the vacant sitting times of Monday and Thursday afternoons.

One of our valuable and regular volunteers Mary Neck recently turned 90.



Geoff Purdie & Barry Allwrite
at the AGM



Afternoon Tea at the AGM



Although the tourist numbers are reducing by this time of the year, there was an increase of visitors to both the HSS and the STG, at the time of the Midnight Oil Concert held on Anzac Oval recently.

The school was also opened one Saturday morning, which also saw good numbers of visitors.

New pamphlets at the Tourist Centre may also have assisted with increased numbers, and the staff of the Centre has asked to visit the Hartley Street School and the Stuart Town Gaol so that they are better able to talk about these museums to tourist visitors.

In the last few months there have been people seeking information about relatives who attended Hartley Street School or who lived in Alice Springs, and we have been able to find information at the school and on Trove for them and others have given information which has helped identify people in old photographs.

One man with a long family history in the pastoral industry in Central Australia recorded his story with Geoff Purdie. Volunteers use a communication book in the school, which assists follow up of people's requests.

Anne Scherer and Prue Crouch have digitised more documents from the Hartley Street School Library as well as around 5,000 historical images. Anne has produced a catalogue of scanned documents and images.

The 2017 Alice Springs Desert Song Festival held in September, used both the HSS and STG as venues for musical concerts during the festival. Many commented on the excellent acoustics of both venues.



Stuart Town Gaol Concert



Hartley Street School Concert

Raggatts Structure



Last year, Raggatts Structure in the Western MacDonnell National Park was nominated for Heritage listing. It was built in the 1930s when Fred Raggatt, who owned Glen Helen Station at the time, injured himself falling off his horse. Aboriginal men working with him rode down to Hermannsburg Mission and alerted Pastor Albrecht who came 60 kilometres up the Finke River by camel to treat Fred. Pastor Albrecht recommended that he be kept there

for six weeks while he recovered. His stockmen built a shelter from rocks, bush timber and spinifex, to shelter Raggatt and 75 years later the remains of this structure is still standing.

It is not accessible by road, but recently six local people including historian and National Trust member Jose Petrick who wrote about Raggatt in her book *'The History of Alice Springs Through Street Names'* flew in by helicopter to inspect the site.

A photo of Raggatts Structure appears on the front of the latest NT Heritage Council report. The party that visited last month took detailed photos of the structure, of artefacts from years ago and of the surrounding area including the remnants of a sheep yard.

The timber frame is gone, probably destroyed in a fire many years ago and the site has been taken over by buffel grass but the stone walls are much as they would have been 85 years ago.

The flight from the Glen Helen Tourist lodge was over Ormiston Gorge and Bowmans Gap with spectacular views of Mt Zeil, the highest mountain in the Territory and Mt Sonder.

Thanks are due to Parks and Wildlife Commission for issuing a permit to land a helicopter in the Park and to Alice Springs Helicopters for providing the transport.



Artefacts on the site



Rail from the sheep yard



Raggatts Structure from the air



Bowmans Gap with Mt Zeil in the distance



Mt Sonder and start of the Finke River

Gulf Branch Events and Visitors

Visitors are slowed to a trickle with the arrival of build up! Perhaps not as humid as Darwin but very warm at over 42 a bit warmish working in the Old Borrooloola Police Station and Laundry!

Glen our caretaker has had some very interesting visitors with the visit of the Great Grandson Brian Donegan of one of the first Mounted Constables at Borrooloola Michael Donegan who served in 1886-1888 Brian had wanted to see the Old Police station after his sister visited the region a few years ago.

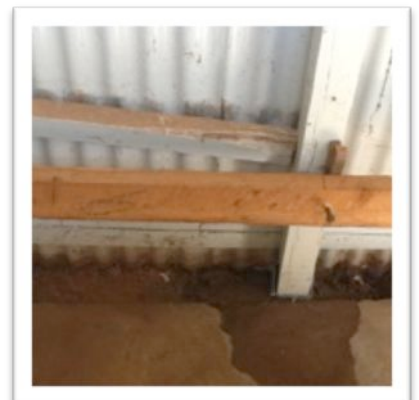
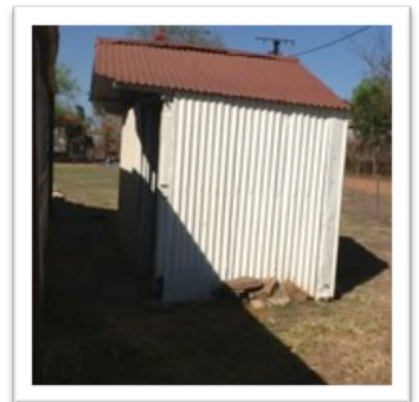
Glen also entertained the Administrator the Honorable John Hardy and Wife Marie whom were able to share a few stories of the Gulf region from when John was a pilot bringing out supplies and servicing outback regional Northern Territory towns and Communities.

Local Contractor Cairns under Allan and team has now completed the Welfare Gallery, Thanks to funding support through the MRM Community Benefit Trust.

On the 13th October they started working on the Demolition of the old welfare storeroom to convert the area into a Kitchen, Bathroom and storeroom, hopefully to be completed before the wet arrives! Our Thanks to **NT Community benefit Grants** for the Grant to undertake this project! Gulf Members are all looking forward to being able to use the finished Rooms, especially member and Caretaker Glen.

The Gulf Branch was also fortunate to get a 2017 Heritage grant to Repair the Old Borrooloola Police Station Meat house and Laundry, to date Eddie has Restumped the Old laundry and replaced all the rotten wooden footings with steel stirrups and new Cyprus, so once again the building is sitting upright and straight, a number of other beams are to be installed to assist with stabilizing and still looking at how best to finish the floor.

He has also started work on the meat house all the fly wire had deteriorated and white ants have eaten a number of internal and external timbers, all need to be replaced, external fascia boards are sun damaged and will have to be cleaned right back or replaced, before any painting. So a lot of painstaking and tedious tasks to be undertaken before the job will be completed, 6 days of work has only scraped the surface as all surfaces have to be cleaned before working on with a buildup of dirt and grime, another visit is planned for in four weeks' time.



A highlight for the Region was the Completion of the **Borroloola and Gulf Graves Book** a joint project that Gulf Branch Members have been working on for nearly 20 years with the NT Genealogical Society, the book was Janet will still continue recording for the Borroloola Graves project, currently looking forward to a more progressive relationship with Roper Gulf shire with new Major Judy Macfarlane to see further work undertaken at the Borroloola cemetery and re-visiting the Borroloola Heritage Trail, Gulf Member Trish is going to try and keep this moving as a very much needed Tourist Activity.

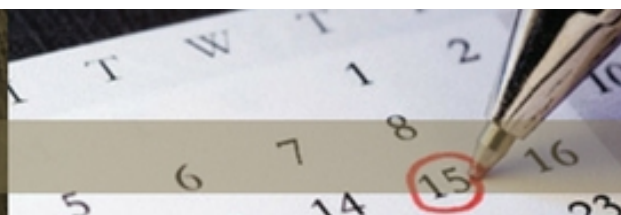
The Gulf Branch has found it hard to meet regularly with members many other private and work commitments, many members have been away for extended periods in 2017, so a meeting was held on the 14th October to try and resolve and ratify a number of outstanding projects.

Displays have been cleaned and updated and pre-cleaning for wet season with the First Rains arriving.

A Special Congratulations to Annette Bradford on all her hard work for a successful 50th Anniversary celebration of the BARC with three days of Camp draft and Rodeo events a massive task of logistic organizing in the bush!

The Branch is happy to welcome a new member to the Gulf Branch long time local Stan Allan.

Upcoming EVENTS



GUEST WRITERS WANTED



SUBMISSION OPENING SOON

We invite your ideas and encourage you to share interesting articles relevant to the Northern Territory's rich heritage.

The most significant and motivating pieces will feature in our local eNews publication(s) as well as shared across our various social media platforms.

We sincerely welcome suggestions from YOU, our members to help us improve & strengthen our local eNews.

More information will be available soon.