

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.



WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR STORIES...

**"MY CULTURE
MY STORY"**



WRITE FOR OUR eNEWS AND CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR COMMUNITY!

For More Information, visit us at:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/get-involved-nt/contribute-to-our-eneews/>



We want to hear stories about your family's Christmas traditions and culture this festive season!

For more information please visit our website:

www.nationaltrust.org.au/nt

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www.nationaltrust.org.au/nt



Larrakeyah Branch volunteers & committee members would like to wish everyone a very

 *Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*



REOPENS FEBRUARY 2018

PATRON

Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AM
Administrator of the Northern Territory

PRESIDENT

Mr. Trevor Horman AM

VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

TREASURER

Mr. Colin Beard

BRANCH COUNCILLORS

GULF - Ms. Janet Leather

LARRAKEYAH - Ms. Lillian Smith

McDOUALL STUART - Mr. Phil Walcott

KATHERINE - Mrs. Stephanie Hill

GENERAL COUNCILLORS

Dr. William Low

Mrs. Claire Kilgariff

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.



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As we start to wind down for the Festive Season its good to reflect on some of the activities of the Trust in 2017. Very early in the year we celebrated Goyders Day (148 years since he landed at Port Darwin) and then later in the year we celebrated the first 12 months of operating the Roadmasters House in Darwin.

In April The Australian Heritage Festival was celebrated across the NT with activities happening in every branch. This required major effort by lots of volunteers and it gained a lot of profile for the Trust.

In Alice Springs Prue Crouch and others completed a major project to digitise records of the McDouall Stuart Branch.

At Borroloola (Gulf Branch) Eddie Weber and Janet completed a long research project to document and interpret the crash of B24 Liberator Bomber "Little Eva" in 1942 in the Gulf of Carpentaria. A ceremony to unveil the displays was well attended.

Eddie and Janet have also done some important conservation work at Jones Store at Newcastle Waters with more in the pipeline in the New Year. Katherine Branch continues to open O'Keeffe House and the 1926 Railway Station. Some problems with white ants at O'Keeffe are being addressed.

At Pine Creek some major maintenance work was performed at the Repeater station whilst the railway employee's house and the railway station were painted in November.

In Darwin the Myilly Point Heritage precinct is receiving some much needed attention to enhance its attractiveness as a performance venue. Power supply and lighting were installed midyear and the grounds have been levelled in recent weeks with lots of pruning being done at working bees.

And of course Sunday afternoon teas have been a highlight in Burnett House Gardens. Providing afternoon teas at Government House Open Day was another big event.

Not forgetting Tennant Creek where a grant has been received to upgrade Tuxworth-Fullwood so that it can be opened to the public.

Needless to say, a big thank you is due to our staff and volunteers who have made all of this (and much more) happen. I am always impressed with the dedication to the Trust and heritage preservation that I find right across the NT.

CHANGES TO PERSONNEL

After the National Trust Council Elections in July we have two new Councillors (Phil Walcott from Alice Springs and Claire Kilgariff). It's very important that we attract new blood and new skills to our Council and Phil and Claire fill the bill admirably. At the same time we said farewell to Dr Jan Hills and David Hewitt, both have given long and distinguished service to the Trust.

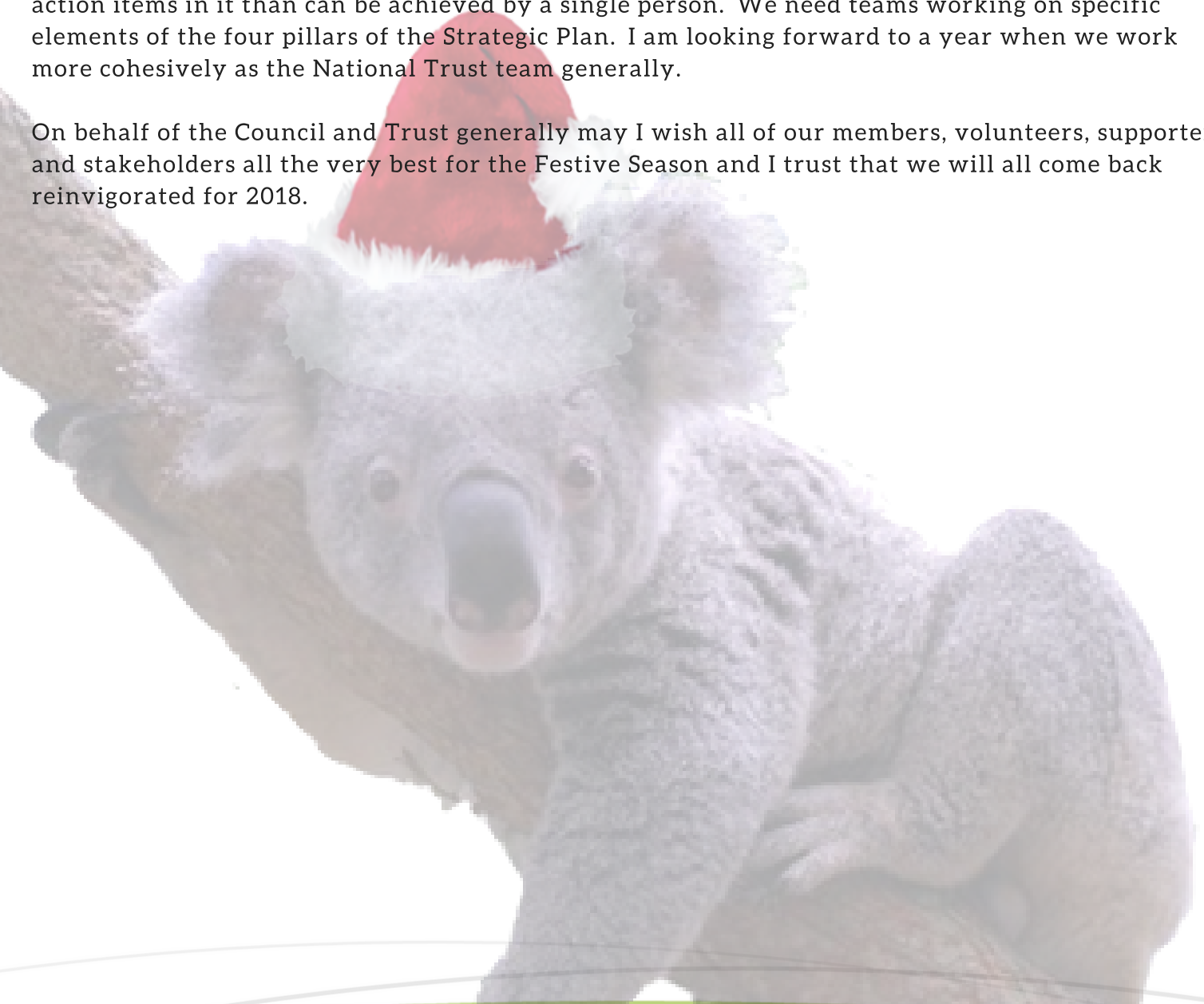
More recently our Director, Elizabeth Close has headed off on Long Service Leave and the Council made a presentation to Elizabeth and wished her a pleasant break after almost 19 years service.

Sadly we lost Orchard Sommerville-Collie and Chair of Larrakeyah Branch. We are pleased to welcome Tom Sawyer to that role.

HERE COMES 2018

2018 looks like being another big year for the Trust. We have a new Strategic Plan with more action items in it than can be achieved by a single person. We need teams working on specific elements of the four pillars of the Strategic Plan. I am looking forward to a year when we work more cohesively as the National Trust team generally.

On behalf of the Council and Trust generally may I wish all of our members, volunteers, supporters and stakeholders all the very best for the Festive Season and I trust that we will all come back reinvigorated for 2018.





National Trust NT Board update for 2017

NT Trust Director Ms Elizabeth Close as she happily hears that Leave has been approved and she gets ready to head south to the cooler temperate climate of Victoria!

At the final NT Trust Board face-to-face meet for 2017 on the 11th November the board bid farewell to long-term director Ms Close and presented her with a silver Pendant to acknowledged 19 years of service to the NT Trust!

Members from across the Territory travel twice a year for face-to-face meetings and the rest of the year attend teleconferences to provide direction for the management of the Trust.

L/R Lillian Smith - Larrakeyah Branch -Darwin, Trevor Horman Darwin - NT Trust President, Dr. Bill Low - General Councilor Alice Springs Region, Elizabeth Close (Director) Stephanie Hill - Katherine Branch Councilor, Treasurer Collin Beard - General Councilor out of pictures Phil Walcott - McDouall Stuart Branch, Janet Leather - Gulf Branch Rep and absent Claire Kilgariff - Darwin - General Councilor,

The recruitment process is underway! And we hope to shortly announce the New acting Director.

The Trust was very fortunate to receive a number Grants a Community Benefit Grant for Tuxworth Fullwood house in Tenant Creek which will start early 2018, Heritage Grants for 2017 including the Annual Operational Grant, Building and maintenance grants for Pine Creek, Katherine, Borroloola, Jones Store and Heritage Festival grants for Alice Springs and Darwin.

Thanks to all the Volunteers who have come along to the working Bees and workers working on the Stahl Block, already looking most improved.

Don't forget Goyder's Day! 5th February 2018

We hope all our Trust Members, Trust Volunteers, Staff have a very safe and Happy festive season and we look forward to working with you all in 2018.



Branch News - Gulf Region

The Wet season build up has been a little more oppressive than usual for this year at Borroloola with consecutive days in the 40-degree range with humidity in the high 90's.

Visitation is down to a trickle and will cease in the near future as roads close to travellers. Just local school students and teachers for end of Term activities and a contingent of NT Police!

With a few early showers and the Poinciana in full bloom has the grounds looking magnificent. Cairns Industries are presently upgrading the old welfare building and Alan

Cairns has given an undertaking to complete works by 25th December. That would be jolly and cause for much rejoicing as the job has dragged on for a considerable length of time.

Work continues on repairs and maintenance to the ancillary buildings these being the meat house and washhouse.

The meat house is almost complete now only requiring stabilisation of the badly crumbling concrete floor. Seems as the concrete pour on the floor progressed the ratio of cement was reduced. Hence a little work's to be done here.

Work to date on the meat house includes.

- Replacement of all rotted structural timbers, sanding and painting of all timber surfaces.
- Replacement of insect screening and Masonite vermin proofing with colour-bond inserts.
- Repair holes in wall sheets and painting. Replacement of rotted facias and rebuilding and painting of the door.
- We were fortunate enough to scrounge enough Cypress pine timber to undertake repairs.

Attached are some images which graphically show the before and after.

Latest addition to our collection is a purple glass inkwell found at the Old Court house site.



Purple Glass Inkwell



Our special Thanks to Master builder Eddie and offsider Glen for all of their hard work on this project, special thanks to Glen for Maintaining the Old Borroloola Police Station grounds and Buildings and entertaining and educating our visitors!

We also give thanks to local Treasurer Sue for keeping the money turning over! Gulf Branch Trust Members for their support and contribution to various projects throughout the year!

The local peoples of the Town of Borroloola for all of your support and assistance in 2017!

Especially Roper Gulf Shire, for cleaning up the Old School, Police Station and accommodation block sites opposite the Old Police Station, is getting ready for some great interpretation.

We look forward to a terrific year in 2018!



Renovations by Cairns Industries (kitchen, bathroom & storeroom) in Old Welfare Building



North West corner after removal of fascia of the Old Borroloola Meat House



Timber corner splice details prior to bolting



Good for another ten years

Branch News - Katherine Region

Vale

Edward (Ted) Fredrick Hart

21/11/925 - 29/10/2017

Katherine National Trust members were deeply saddened following the passing of our much-loved member Ted Hart in late October.

After taking up residence closer to Katherine in 2008, Ted, a keen historian, soon became a National Trust member and supporter of all of our National Trust Branch activities and functions. Until recent years he was always willing to dress for the part and ride in a horse-drawn sulky to take part in our annual Heritage Month events. When he became unable to participate in physical activities he never missed an opportunity to attend our functions and he was always an extremely generous financial contributor and friend to all.



Ted was born in northern New South Wales and spent his early years on his parents' dairy farm with his seven siblings. His mother encouraged her children to love music. One sister became a world-renowned violinist but mother was not quite so successful with Ted. He did, however, have a great singing voice and thoroughly enjoyed a good sing-along or listening to all forms of music, but his favourites recitals were around the piano with, "Good old Slim Dusty," favourites.

Having left school at sixteen years of age, Ted headed out West and made his way to the Northern Territory where he found employment on Limbunya Station. His first venture into property ownership, near Mt. Morgan in Qld, followed but ended in disaster through devastating droughts. He left that property to his mate along with the surviving 50 (out of 500) head of cattle.

He acquired a 32 horse team and did fire ploughing across the Barkley Tablelands and from there moved onto Central Australia where his varied activities included sleeper cutting, contract fencing, and inventing the ingenious fencing machine which allowed him to complete half a mile of wooden post fencing a day. On Ambula Station he started a bull-breeding project and introduced an artificial insemination program, the calves from which were the first AI produced in the NT. Another Territory first for him was an irrigated lucerne crop, which was watered using a pumping system he devised using a charcoal burning gas producer.

Moving to the gentler climate of the Atherton Tablelands, Ted brought a small farm and worked on the artificial insemination program for dairy cattle, produced hay, raised pigs and prepared and presented cattle for showing at district shows and sales. He started his own Drought master stud and these cattle eventually became his foundation stud stock when he purchased Hodgson River Station in the Northern Territory in 1973.

Hodgson River Station was small, underdeveloped and contained only a few cattle but through sheer persistence, hard work and overcoming many challenges it became a viable enterprise and the Drought master cattle produced there were show winners throughout the Territory. Ted and his wife Elizabeth spent thirty-eight years there until declining health decreed a move closer to town. Their home, "Newhaven" near Katherine became a well-known venue for The Biggest Morning Teas where over \$22,000 was raised for cancer research.

Ted passed away, peacefully at home with loved ones by his side.

We will certainly miss this loving, kind-hearted, generous man who was an inspiration to so many.



Branch News - McDouall Stuart, Alice Springs Region



McDouall Stuart Branch The scanning project undertaken by the McDouall Stuart Branch in Alice Springs is now completed.

Prue Crouch, who coordinated the project, and McDouall Stuart Committee member David Hewitt, delivered the 10 Archive boxes of slides, negatives and photos and the Alice Springs School Admission Registers to Elizabeth Marnie at the Alice Springs Archives in December 2017.

The Archives have also been given the high resolution digitised images of all the photos, the Alice Springs School Admission Registers and the Library documents scanned as part of the project.

The Alice Springs Library will be given access to the images by the Alice Springs Archives.

Anne Scherer, who completed a big part of the scanning, has done a magnificent job of cataloguing and naming the images that will assist greatly in searches of the collections.

Volunteers Christmas Lunch

