
National Trust of Australia

Victoria

Magazine



Issue 12
Winter \$7.00

LIQUID FORM: ANCIENT AND CONTEMPORARY GLASS

13 MAR – 28 OCT 18



POTTER
MUSEUM
OF ART

The Ian Potter Museum of Art
The University of Melbourne
Swanston Street
Parkville Victoria 3010

Tues to Fri 10am to 5pm
Sat to Sun 12 noon to 5pm
Monday closed
FREE ADMISSION

Cup
Roman, 1st – 4th century, glass
The University of Melbourne Art Collection
Classics and Archaeology Collection

Media partner

SATURDAY PAPER



This Issue

4	Welcome Messages	30	Living in the Landscape
6	Making News	33	In Conversation
10	People	34	Books
14	Super 70s	35	Vale
19	Melbourne's Search for a Square	39	What's On
24	Advocacy Watchlist	40	Exploring Italy with my Membership
28	Advocacy Tool Kit		

ISSN 2204-3997

Publisher
National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Editor
Rita Loiacono

Head of Design
Michelle Nightingale

Advertising Manager
Lee Tierney

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and recognise the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past, present and future.

National Trust of Australia Victoria magazine is published triannually by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) for members and subscribers.

nationaltrust.org.au/vic

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
Tasma Terrace
6 Parliament Place
East Melbourne VIC 3002
Phone: (03) 9656 9800

ABN 61 004 356 192

Cover: Photography by John Jovic

Advertising: For advertising rates contact Lee Tierney (03) 5956 6585
zoerethers@bigpond.com.

This publication is printed on Maine Silk stock which is:





Message from the Chairman

Kristin Stegley

A very warm welcome to the winter edition of Trust Magazine. The year to date has been an incredibly busy and successful time for the National Trust. It gives me great pleasure to report on just some of our activities, all of which have been firmly focused on the core work of the National Trust to ensure that we are the best heritage advocacy and conservation organisation in the country.

Restoration projects that have either been completed this year or are currently underway include painstaking works at Captain Mills Cottage in Port Fairy, generously funded through a DELWP Living Heritage Grant. Our team has been working to stabilise the building, and complete essential carpentry, wallpaper restoration and repainting work. Abercrombie House, one of our Portable Iron Houses in South Melbourne, is also receiving much-needed conservation attention, in conjunction with the Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation. Restoration continues at the Polly Woodside, Barwon Park and, recently, the Gardeners Cottage at Rippon Lea, which has now been fully restored with the kind assistance of the Rippon Lea Endowment Fund. I am also pleased to announce that restoration of the Como House gates has now been completed, thanks to the generosity of our members through our 2017 Annual Appeal. It has been such a joy to watch this meticulous process, and I encourage you to have a look when you are next at Como House.

Our cultural heritage continues to be under ever-increasing threat of pressure from the development industry, as ongoing

development is required to grow and evolve our cities. The position of the National Trust is that our heritage should not, and must not, be sacrificed in the process. There is a point of balance where the two can coexist for the benefit of all, and our advocacy team works tirelessly to achieve this outcome. Despite concerted efforts, we are not always successful, largely on account of forces beyond our control whose power often trumps heritage values. However, we remain dogged in our efforts to stand up for heritage and assist those doing the same. For this purpose, the National Trust recently launched the National Trust Advocacy Toolkit, a free online resource developed by our team to support communities wishing to advocate for the protection of places of cultural heritage significance. The kit can be found at nationaltrust.org.au/advocacy-toolkit.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Geelong, Ballarat and Mornington Peninsula branches on another outstandingly successful year of Community Heritage Awards, working in partnership with their respective local councils to identify and celebrate the community's extraordinary work in preserving their built and environmental heritage. These awards reflect the significant contribution of heritage to local communities, demonstrating excellence in retention, restoration, conservation or creative reuse of heritage places. We thank our branches for all the tireless work they do on behalf of the National Trust, and encourage our members to join their local branch if they are willing and able.



Message from the CEO

Simon Ambrose

Welcome to the Advocacy issue of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Magazine. Advocacy is at the core of what the National Trust does. Since our foundation in 1956, the National Trust has campaigned to save thousands of buildings, gardens, cultural landscapes and significant trees from demolition, redevelopment or removal. Today, our Advocacy work is more important than ever as Melbourne and many key regional locations are experiencing inordinate population growth which is placing significant pressure on our historic urban fabric.

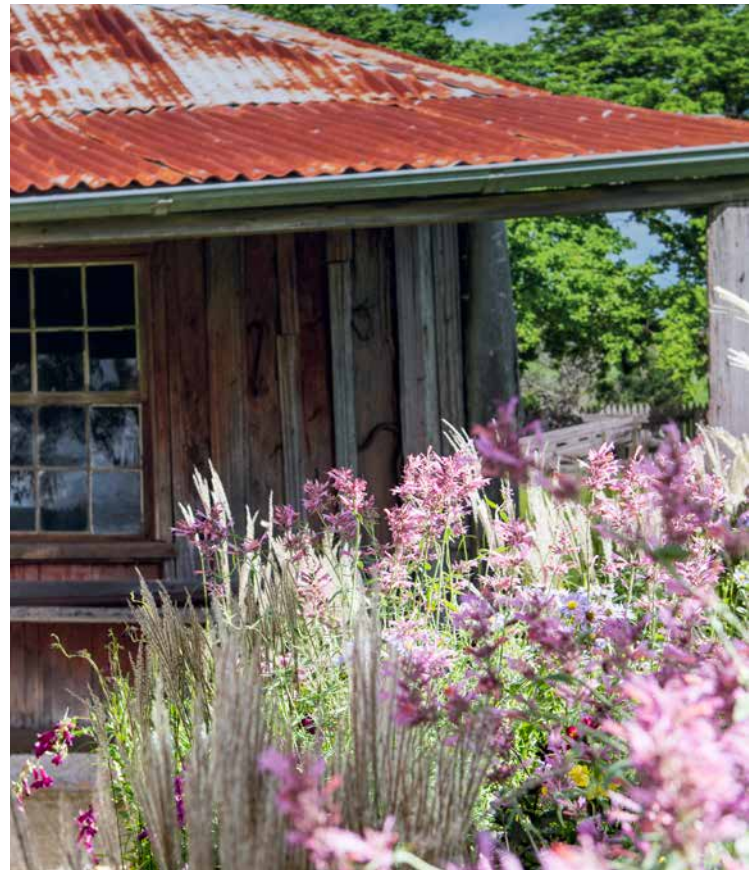
A walking tour of East Melbourne held during the Australian Heritage Festival, recreating a 1964 itinerary developed by the 'Junior Committee of the National Trust', highlighted the important work the National Trust has been doing for over five decades. Of the 12 properties visited on the tour, nearly all had a story regarding the National Trust and an advocacy campaign to ensure the buildings preservation. This year we look forward to continuing this legacy and refocusing our Advocacy efforts.

On the topic of protecting our heritage, this is not done without the grateful support of our members. I am delighted to announce that our two major fundraising efforts for the year, our Annual Appeal and Charidy Campaign were both a great success. I would like to sincerely thank all of you who were able to, that gave their time, effort and funds to both initiatives. Funds raised from these campaigns will be used to help continue to strengthen the support and work we do

in Advocacy as we look forward to continuing our ongoing protection of Victoria's urban, cultural and environmental assets for decades to come.

While winter is a time that many stay inside, I would encourage you to get out and about and explore the beautiful seasonal contrasts that many of our properties gardens offer. In Melbourne, Rippon Lea Estate and Como House come to mind, while in regional Victoria it is worth paying a visit to Endeavour Fern Gully, Mulberry Hill or Mooramong which has a beautiful garden designed by Edna Walling.

Lastly, the 62nd Annual General meeting will take place on Saturday 24 November at Rippon Lea Estate. This is an important part of our business reporting activity and is also our opportunity to inform our membership of the year's successes. It is also a great opportunity for the Board and team to spend time with our members and we look forward to welcoming you there.



Making News

LAUNCH OF INNOVATE RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Caitlin Mitropoulos, Community Advocate – Built Heritage

On 13 March, the National Trust welcomed guests to La Trobe's Cottage for the official launch of our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2017–2019. The location was chosen because it is a National Trust property where we are yet to undertake an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey and, therefore, will provide opportunities for stories to be uncovered regarding Governor La Trobe and his relationship with Kulin Nation tribes during early settlement. La Trobe's Cottage is also located in close proximity to the nationally significant Kings Domain Resting Place. The decision to fly the Aboriginal flag at the property reflected the National Trust's commitment to recognising and interpreting the many heritage layers of our properties. Wurundjeri Elder Uncle Perry Wandin and Boon Wurrung Foundation CEO Gheran Steel both provided a Welcome to Country, reflecting on their connections to place and the importance of Reconciliation in acknowledging and communicating the stories of our collective past. Guests also heard from National Trust Chairman Kristin Stegley; Board Director and Chair of our Aboriginal Advisory Committee Ian Hamm; and Chair of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council Eleanor Bourke. The support of the volunteers at La Trobe's Cottage was invaluable and made the event possible.

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

Laurie Staub, Head of Engagement and Philanthropy

The National Trust's recent return to the iconic Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show made waves with a brilliant exhibition that featured the Trust's Gulf Station property in the Yarra Valley. This was all made possible due to the kind generosity of a number organisations and individuals.

At the last minute, the Trust was gifted a large exhibition space, thanks to our new partner the Nursery and Garden Industry Victoria (NGIV) and show organisers IMG.

Then magic happened. Our long-term member Paul Bangay (Paul Bangay Garden Design), globally renowned landscape designer, responded within 24 hours of our initial 'help' cry inquiring about whether he would be willing to donate a design for the exhibition. His answer was yes!

More magic happened, thanks to the Trust's own Justin Buckley, who project-managed the execution of Paul's garden concept, bringing in the Trust's gardening staff and volunteers. Justin's magic was supported by the Trust's head of design, Michelle Nightingale, who cleverly masterminded the barn façade and photographic panels.

Image: Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show by Jessica Hood.



THOMAS CLARK 1814 - 1883

(The Mahogany Ship)

oil on panel 14 x 36.3 cm

Lauraine Diggins

Fine Art

Lauraine Diggins Fine Art is a leading Australian art gallery specialising in Australian Colonial, Impressionist, Modern, Contemporary and Indigenous Painting, Sculpture and Decorative Arts.

Our website offers a comprehensive introduction to the extensive range of artworks and services available.

Sign up to the Gallery e-newsletter via the website to receive correspondence regarding upcoming news and exhibitions. Select National Trust of Australia Magazine on the signup page to receive an exclusive offer when utilising some of the Gallery's services. www.diggins.com.au.



HENRY BURN c.1807 - 1884

(View from Richmond to South Yarra Hill) 1868

watercolour on paper 29.3 x 41.4 cm



ELIOTH GRUNER 1882 - 1939

(Figures on the Beach) 1917

oil on canvas on board 22 x 30.3 cm



STEPHEN BOWERS 1952 -

Stubbs Meets Spode II 2016

wheel-thrown earthenware, underglaze colour, clear earthenware glaze 8.5 x 58 cm

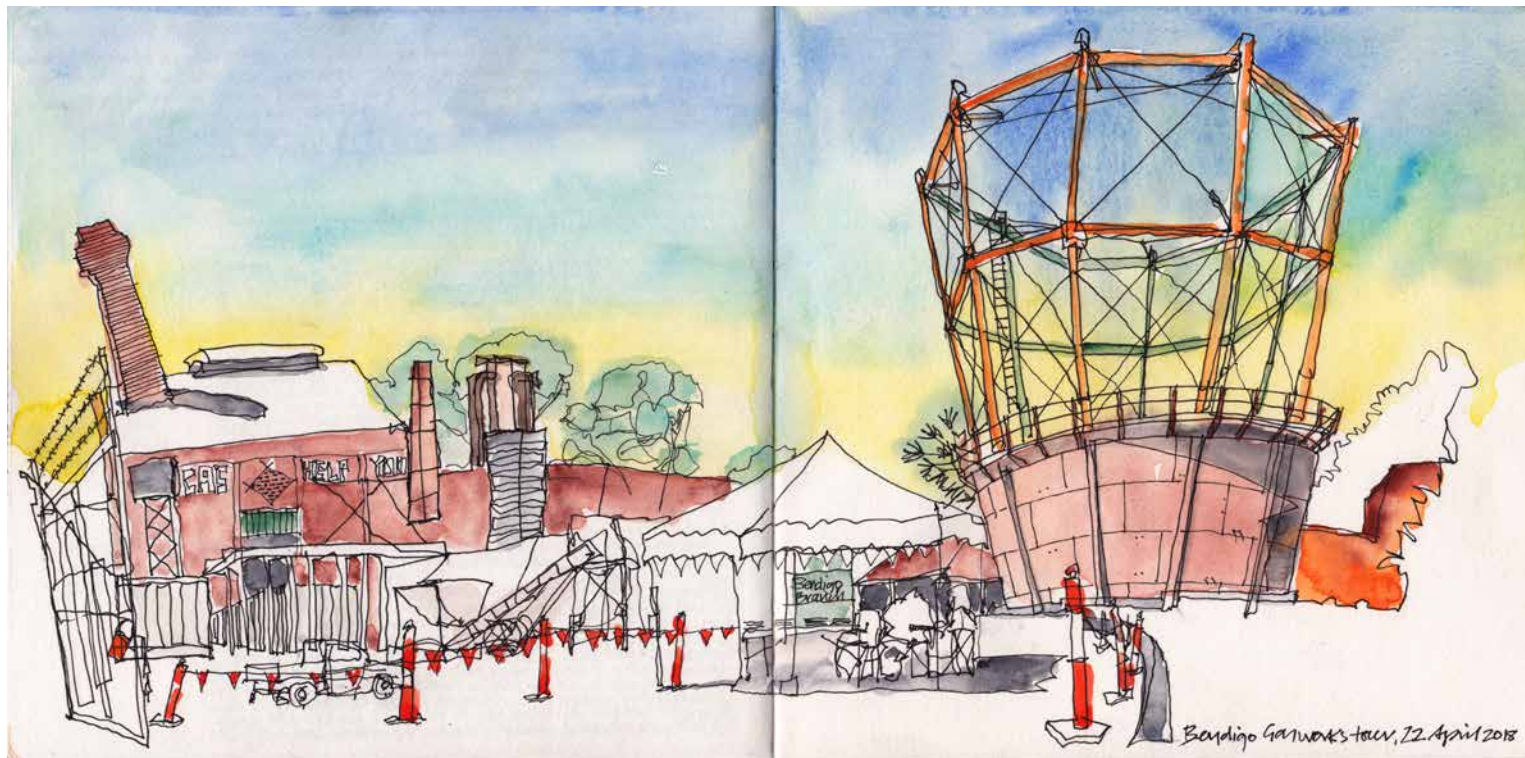
We stock and source works, but not limited to:

JULIAN ROSSI ASHTON
CLARICE BECKETT
THOMAS BOCK
EMMA MINNIE BOYD
KNUD GEELMUYDEN BULL
RUPERT CHARLES BUNNY
HENRY BURN
ABRAM LOUIS BUVELOT
ETHEL CARRICK FOX
JAMES HOWE CARSE
UGO CATANI
NICHOLAS CHEVALIER
THOMAS CLARK
CHARLES CONDER
DAVID DAVIES
HAUGHTON FORREST
EMANUEL PHILLIPS FOX
ALBERT HENRY FULLWOOD
SAMUEL THOMAS GILL
JOHN GLOVER
WILLIAM BUELOW GOULD
HENRY C. GRITTEN
ELIOTH GRUNER
EUGENE VON GUERARD
HANS HEYSEN
TOM HUMPHREY
H. J. JOHNSTONE
SYDNEY LONG
FREDERICK MCCUBBIN
CONRAD MARTENS
JOHN MATHER
GIROLAMO PIERI NERLI
JOHN FORD PATERSON
GEORGE EDWARD PEACOCK
WILLIAM CHARLES PIGUENIT
JANE PRICE
JOHN SKINNER PROUT
CHARLES DOUGLAS RICHARDSON
HENRY RIELLY
TOM ROBERTS
GEORGE ROWE
JOHN PETER RUSSELL
CLARA SOUTHERN
FREDERICK STRANGE
ARTHUR STREETON
HORACE HURTLE TRENNERY
TUDOR ST GEORGE TUCKER
JAMES ALFRED TURNER
THOMAS GRIFFITHS WAINE-WRIGHT
ISAAC WHITEHEAD
WALTER WITHERS
FREDERICK WOODHOUSE JNR

LAURAINNE · DIGGINS · FINE · ART

5 Malakoff Street North Caulfield Victoria 3161 • Telephone: (+61 3) 9509 9855 • Email: ausart@diggins.com.au

Website: www.diggins.com.au • Gallery Hours: Tues – Fri 10am – 6pm or by appointment.



AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Jessica Hood, Community Advocate – Environmental Heritage

The Victorian program of the Australian Heritage Festival continues to gain momentum as the most significant grassroots, community-led festival recognising and celebrating heritage places across the state. This year's festival, which ran from 18 April to 20 May, saw over 250 events presented by more than 180 organisers across Victoria.

Participation in the Aboriginal cultural heritage theme increased this year, with events showcasing contemporary experiences of culture and connections to Country. We highlighted the importance of community-focused advocacy and the role of custodians in the ongoing conservation of heritage places. Events took festival attendees to some of Victoria's most beautiful and highly valued natural and cultural landscapes and gardens, and opportunities were available for visitors to experience sites of industrial and maritime heritage, including some that are not regularly open to the public.

We thank all of this year's event organisers for their valuable contributions to the program. The festival relies on the support of local communities and volunteers who generously contribute their valuable time, both during the festival and in the custodianship of heritage places. We also recognise this year's Friends of the Festival, whose financial support has ensured the ongoing viability of the festival as we look toward increasing our audiences for the 2019 festival.

Correction: The photograph of Serviceton Railway on page 68 of the Heritage Festival program was incorrectly attributed to Neville Gee and Ted Payne. The photograph is by Ted Payne. A full version of the photograph can be found on display at Serviceton Railway Station, and in the publication Closed Stations—Lost Locations Victoria Part 2, which is available from good hobby shops and some retailers, or direct from Train Hobby Publications Pty Ltd.

CARRIAGE COLLECTION A FEATURE OF THE BEECHWORTH GOLDEN HORSESHOES FESTIVAL

Martin Green, Cultural Engagement Manager

The annual Beechworth Golden Horseshoes Festival is an Easter event that attracts over 40,000 people. The event commemorates the legendary story of Daniel Cameron, state MP and member for Ovens, who rode a horse shod with golden horseshoes through the streets of Beechworth in 1855. The festival provided the perfect opportunity for the Trust to display its collection of locally made horse carriages, which are permanently on display at Billson's Brewery in Beechworth.

This year, the Trust contributed selected carriages from its collection to the festival, including a locally made magnificent 19th century hearse, which became part of the street parade. Carriages from the Trust's collection were also put on display for the day in the town square.

All of this was achieved through the great assistance of Cameron Auty, manager of the Burke Museum, and his able volunteers, who supervised the installation of the display. Nathan Cowen of Billson's Brewery organised the display of the hearse in the parade. The tremendous response from visitors to the festival has inspired more local interest in the Trust's carriage collection. We look forward to making them a regular feature in Beechworth's annual parade.

Images left to right: Bendigo Gasworks during the Australian Heritage Festival, illustration by Richard Aitken. Classic car interior by Clem Onojeghuo on Unsplash



RIPPON LEA GARDENERS COTTAGE

Justin Buckley, Horticulture and Projects Manager

The Rippon Lea gardeners cottage has recently been restored, thanks to the generous support of the Andrews Foundation. This building had been used since the 1970s by National Trust garden staff as a workshop, office and lunch room until it was deemed unsuitable and badly in need of repair in 2013.

The history of this building is not entirely clear. It is comprised of two separate parts: A simple timber section of the cottage appears on site plans from 1873, and a three-roomed brick section was later added to the timber building and appears on plans in 1902. It is not clear what the purpose of the building was and whether it was used by the property or was a residence in 'the village' that adjoined the estate. During restoration works, newspaper (used to cover the timber lining boards) was discovered dating from 1862. This dates the building earlier than anyone had anticipated. Whether it was built on the current site at this time or relocated from elsewhere, it would appear the cottage predates Rippon Lea mansion itself by six years and may well have a claim to being the oldest building on the site today.

The cottage will once again be the base for the National Trust's team of gardeners and will be more than capable of providing another 150-plus years of service.

MOORAMONG CAR RALLY

Charles Robinson, Mooramong Property Manager

The 22 April was a beautiful sunny autumn Sunday, perfect weather for a car rally. The RACV Florence Thomson tour of the Goldfields district culminated with a visit to Mooramong for lunch and tours of the homestead and surrounding outbuildings.

Who was Florence Thomson? And why is she celebrated in this way? Florence Thomson was the only female competitor in the 1905 Dunlop Reliability Motor Contest in a field of 23 drivers who started in Sydney, and she was one of the 17 who reached the finishing point in Melbourne.

The route followed the old coach road between Sydney and Melbourne (later the Hume Highway), a distance of 920 kilometres. Mrs Ben Thomson, as Florence was then known, had been driving for two years and was behind the wheel of a 6HP Wolseley imported from England for the event.

Because of her pluckiness and spirit, this event is held annually to celebrate her achievements. The current event reflects this spirit, with all drivers being female, and all cars and one motorbike this year being at least 30 years old.

The guests began arriving at about 11am and continued to drift in until about 1pm. Following a lunch of tasty baguettes and some exceptionally good French pastries, the guests were treated to a homestead tour. All were fascinated by the extent of the collection and noted the event as a highlight.



People

NATIONAL TRUST ADVOCACY TEAM

The National Trust of Australia (Victoria) has been lobbying for the preservation of Victoria's heritage since 1956, and advocacy remains at the heart of all that we do. As the largest community-based heritage organisation in Victoria, the Trust is the lead voice campaigning to protect our irreplaceable heritage.

Our advocacy team engages in planning issues across Victoria, objecting to inappropriate development, campaigning for the protection of significant cultural and natural heritage across the state, and participating in planning panels and VCAT hearings. The team coordinates the Australian Heritage Festival program in Victoria, provides support to our 11 National Trust branches across metropolitan and regional Victoria, and coordinates eight expert advisory committees. The team also manages the extensive archive and register of significant places, as well as the National Register of Significant Trees.

The Trust's advocacy campaigns and programs are driven by a small team of heritage specialists based at Tasma Terrace in East Melbourne. Advocacy Manager Felicity Watson has been with the team since 2013. She was appointed manager in late 2016, and has more than 15 years' experience in heritage planning and public history. Felicity's vision is to grow the

community's capacity for the protection and celebration of our heritage in all its forms and raise awareness of the social and economic benefits of heritage.

Caitlin Mitropoulos, Community Advocate—Built Heritage, joined the team in 2016 as a graduate of the Master of Urban and Cultural Heritage from the University of Melbourne. Caitlin is passionate about Reconciliation, and leads the Trust's engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities, and the development and implementation of the Trust's Reconciliation Action Plans.

Dr Jessica Hood joined the team in 2016 as the Trust's Community Advocate—Environmental Heritage and Heritage Festival Coordinator, after more than two years spent volunteering with the team. Jessica has a PhD in Fine Arts from Monash University and is Vice-Chair of the Australian Garden History Society.

Image (from left): Caitlin Mitropoulos, Felicity Watson, Dr Jessica Hood.

ACADEMY TRAVEL

Fine Art and Design | Archaeology | History | Music | Villas and Gardens

Since 2004 Academy Travel has been offering carefully-planned, expert led tours for travellers who want to get more from their travels than a catalogue of names and places. Our unique range of tours includes long stay 'residential' tours, small ship-cruising, private visits to homes, galleries and gardens and world-class orchestral music and opera. Maximum 20 in a group.

A selection of our upcoming tours

- Yarra Valley to Bendigo: art and history, November 2018
- Opera in New York, January 2019
- Cuba by land and sea, January 2019
- Sicily and the Aeolian Islands, April 2019
- Lakes and Villas of Northern Italy, April 2019
- The Venice Biennale, June 2019



Visit academytravel.com.au Call 1800 639 699

- EXPERT TOUR LEADERS
- MAXIMUM 20 IN A GROUP
- CAREFULLY PLANNED ITINERARIES



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Hayley Jenkins, Director of People and Culture

National Volunteer Week is an annual national celebration. During this week the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) acknowledges the generous contributions of our volunteers. The 2018 theme for National Volunteer Week is 'Give a little. Change a lot.' This year's theme represents the volunteers who make a profound impact in their communities and in society as a whole by giving a little bit of their time.

Volunteering is something many do, with an estimated 3.6 million Australians and rising contributing each year. A recent NRMA Insurance survey found the majority of Australians are committed to helping others, with nearly three-quarters giving up their time to help the community, and with 41 per cent of respondents formally volunteering. Volunteers are the Trust's lifeblood, and in some cases, we simply wouldn't be able to function without the tireless support we receive from our volunteers. It's very reassuring to see that this spirit of giving and support is alive and well in Australia.

This year marks the fourth time the Trust has run our all-inclusive thank you morning tea for volunteers. Registered Trust volunteers were invited to come along to the annual celebration, which gave us the opportunity to thank our amazing volunteers for helping us to inspire the community to appreciate, conserve and celebrate its diverse natural, cultural, social and Indigenous heritage. In previous years, the event has been held at The Heights in Geelong, at Como House in South Yarra, and at Rippon Lea Estate in Elsternwick. This year, the event was held at the McCrae Homestead, and next year's event is scheduled to be held at the Old Melbourne Gaol in May.

Our volunteers' selfless spirit is recognised by the Trust's Years of Service Awards and STAR Awards, which were presented at this year's annual volunteer morning tea. A full list of award recipients is included below.

Thank you to Tesselaar for the generous donation of 'volunteer camellias', which were presented to some well-deserving volunteers at the morning tea.

We also wanted to do something special to say thank you to our volunteers, so this year, the People and Culture team initiated a partnership with the Abbotsford Convent Foundation, the National Wool Museum, the Heide Museum of Modern Art, the Melbourne Cricket Club, the Grainger Museum, the Jewish Museum of Australia, the Old Treasury Building Museum, the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne (Aboriginal Heritage Walk and Garden Explorer tours), the National Vietnam Veterans Museum, the Sovereign Hill Museums Association, the Public Record Office Victoria, the Phillip Island Nature Parks, the Melbourne Museum, the Melbourne Zoo, the Werribee Open Range Zoo and the Healesville Sanctuary to facilitate free entry or special offers to their institutions and programs during National Volunteer Week. We would like to thank each of the above organisations for participating in this year's volunteer cultural free access exchange as part of National Volunteer Week. We would love to continue to run and grow this program for volunteers across Victoria, and we hope everyone will participate again next year.

Thank you to all the amazing volunteers, whether it's in the garden, researching, guiding, on branch committees, at events and exhibitions, on specialist committees, with interns, with international placements, in digital volunteering, customer service, tea rooms and much more. Weekly or intermittently, your contributions are greatly appreciated.

We would also like to say congratulations to the following award recipients who attended this year's annual volunteer thank you function and received a Years of Service Award:

Image: 2018 Volunteer Morning Tea, McCrae Homestead



Name	Number of years of service	Location/committee
Beky Tully-Gibbons	5	Rippon Lea Estate / Collections
Eva Youl	5	Rippon Lea Estate
Elaine Rickards (resigned this year)	15	Rippon Lea Estate
Patricia Confoy	15	Rippon Lea Estate
Rowena Kidd	20	Rippon Lea Estate
Helen Botham	20	La Trobe's Cottage and Rippon Lea Estate

A further 27 registered volunteers will receive a Years of Service Award in 2018:

Name	Number of years of service	Location/committee
Doug Burns	10	Barwon Park
Ray Luke	5	Barwon Park
Chris Ryan	5	Barwon Park
Olwyn Ryan	5	Barwon Park
Maureen Stahl	10	Barwon Park
Cornelius (Kees) Klep	30	Caine Tool Collection
Doug McIver	30	Caine Tool Collection
Sandy Brigham	15	Como Estate
Judy Lawson	10	Como Estate
Maria Liberogiannis	10	Como Estate
Liz Orr	15	Como Estate
Harvey Clark	10	Gulf Station
Stanley Hardidge	5	Gulf Station
Pam Viccars	5	Gulf Station
Julius Holt	25	Lake View
Alexis Jarvis	5	La Trobe's Cottage
Colin Mickleburgh	5	La Trobe's Cottage
Bruce Johnson	10	Old Melbourne Gaol
Nerolie Powell	5	Old Melbourne Gaol
Brian Scott	5	Portarlington Mill
John Carpenter	10	Rippon Lea Estate
Tricia Confoy	15	Rippon Lea Estate
Rosemary Jane Rose	10	Rippon Lea Estate
Sam Teed	25	Rippon Lea Estate
Jaye-Ann Olarenschaw	5	Rippon Lea Estate
Lorraine Webb	5	Rippon Lea Estate
Janice James	10	Rippon Lea Estate
Ken Worland	10	The Heights

That's a collective total of 350 years!

If you would like to volunteer with us, we have many diverse opportunities available.

Please contact us through volunteers@nattrust.com.au or visit www.nationaltrust.org.au/about-us-vic/volunteers-vic



Super 70s

Elizabeth Anya-Petrivna, Exhibition Producer

The Super 70s exhibition celebrates one of the most eclectic decades in fashion history—a time of dynamic creative experimentations when many rules were broken and individual self-expression was the style. The exhibition will focus on party wear—what Melburnians wore to discos, rock concerts and even pool parties. Fashions were diverse, unconventional and often contradictory. Daywear could be worn in the evening, and gender fluidity and progressive and feminist politics challenged the prevailing trends and social ideologies.

Today, even the most conservative fashions can still defy and challenge our contemporary ideas about elegance and taste. But despite misplaced criticism, many major design achievements occurred during this period. Fashion has the power to change and push against expectations. This was especially evident in the freewheeling fashion experiments of the 1970s. It was a heady multifarious visual mix and a far cry from the etiquette of previous years, where stricter dress codes for ‘evening wear’ were imposed.

The spirit of casualness and countercultural rule-breaking can be seen in two garments that have recently been acquired by the National Trust, both of which were designed by Prue Acton. Acton was one of Australia’s most successful designers. Her designs during the 1970s ranged from a utopian ethnic styling to slick jersey disco dresses with signature appliqué and shoulder treatments. Acton could uniquely merge countercultural elements with sophisticated design. One of these garments—a skirt—is made from printed Indian cottons and appears to be daywear. It is delicate with a soft and flowing patchwork aesthetic. Interestingly, the fabric was reversed, with the bright colours of the print on the inside of the skirt. The prints appear washed out and aged, beautifully subtle and wistful. Whatever the designer’s intent, the woman who owned this peasant skirt wore it out dancing, often teaming it with an ivory silk shirt and cork platforms to complete the look.

"The era of
glossy spandex
and slinky
polyester jersey
was upon us."

– Elizabeth Anya-Petrivna,
Exhibition Producer



As with inexpensive printed cotton, denim was now worn to party the night away. Originally worn as workwear, denim became an established fashion mainstay. Another Acton design donated for the exhibition is a pair of denim overalls, or 'chevies', embellished with red stitching and buttons. These jeans were worn to see iconic Australian rock bands Sherbet and Skyhooks. During the 70s, men and women began swapping modes, and the terms 'unisex' and 'gender bender' came into popular use. The glam aesthetic of men in satin and feather boas—like David Bowie or the bands Hush and Sweet—and women in denim or dinner jackets—pioneered by Yves Saint Laurent—redefined gendered dressing.

Change during this decade was relentless. This included everything from new technology, like the introduction of colour TV and the launch of the first space station in 1971, to shifting gender roles and sexuality. In Melbourne, the 70s opened with anti-Vietnam War demonstrations and the trauma of the West Gate Bridge collapse. The timeline of major events during these years shows an astonishing number of reformist achievements and political actions. These include a progressive government policy that saw a generation able to attend tertiary education for free, the establishment of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra in 1972 to advocate for Indigenous land rights, mid-decade immigration from South East Asia, maternity leave legislation in Victoria in 1979, and the beginning of progress in the fight for gay rights with the inaugural Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in June 1978.

In contrast to these upheavals and the cultural and sexual adventurism of the time, fashion itself looked to the past for inspiration. Revivals in Art Deco and Art Nouveau motifs and silhouettes could be transgressive. Their unstructured informality ran counter to the more rigid constructions of formal eveningwear, which was often made from metallic brocades and heavy silks. In the latter half of the decade, the 1940s and 1950s became dominant fashion influences, especially after the release of the movie *Grease*.

1970s fashion in Australia initially followed London's lead, where labels such as Biba and Ossie Clark had set the tone. This aesthetic was heavily influenced by the 1920s and 1930s, with capped sleeves, ruched bodices and lush fabrics. In Australia, the House of Merivale and Mr John became the benchmark for stylish bohemian high fashion. Launching in Sydney in 1960, the boutique opened its Melbourne store on Collins Street in 1970. The Super 70s exhibition will feature treasured pieces purchased from the House of Merivale, many of which were kept by former employees. Examples of Mr John's suits are included and show an exaggerated Edwardian style with long frock coats reminiscent of 1950s teddy boys in bright corduroy.

Local designers and boutiques in the 1970s had a unique homegrown flair that incorporated overseas influences with their own entrepreneurial creativity. Interest in vintage clothing became a serious fashion development as pioneering creatives used fabrics from the early 20th century or reworked garments from these eras. Second-hand clothes, affectionately called



'tat', were transformed into high fashion. Designer Clarence Chai opened the iconic antique dealership Paraphernalia with his partner Paul Craft in the early 1970s. Working with Linda Jackson, and later Jenny Bannister, Chai would repurpose antique and vintage clothing to resell. Trading in the decorative arts, Chai's focus began to drift exclusively toward textile and fashion, eventually opening Chai Clothing in 1974 where he sold his original designs.

Super 70s features examples of Edwardian fashion bought by designer Sally Browne from the Chelsea and Kensington Markets in London. The London vintage clothing scene was dominated by Vern Lambert, a Melburnian whose famous stall Emmerton Lambert dressed celebrities like Anita Pallenberg and collaborated with fashion legends like Anna Piaggi. Sally Browne established her fashion career in the late 1960s working for Sportsgirl and then struck out with her own label in 1970. Many remember her aesthetic as whimsical, and adept at mixing textures, patterns and romantic flourishes like frills and lace. Her personal style was reflected in her designs.

In Australia, the first disco hit to reach number one on the singles charts was Donna Summer's 'I Feel Love' in 1977. In the previous year, Hot Chocolate, and KC and the Sunshine Band had made the local charts. The era of glossy spandex and slinky polyester jersey was upon us. Spandex coated the body in a skin-tight sexuality, while flowing asymmetrical knitted fabrics skimmed the curves of the body. As the decade closed, punk espoused the antithesis of the communal, holistic ethos of the early 70s and pursued an individualistic nihilism with a do-it-yourself attitude.

Super 70s invites you to discover what Melburnians wore during this iconic decade, whether rocking out to Sherbet at Festival Hall, attending social gatherings in South Yarra, or partying in a student share house in Carlton.

The Trust would like to thank Prue Acton, the Brighton Historical Society, Sally Browne, Clarence Chai, Lori and Peter Dietze, and the RMIT Design Archives for their kind and generous help.

[1] www.express.co.uk/news/uk/412597/Growing-up-in-the-decade-that-style-forgot. Turner, Tracey, 2004, 70s The Decade that Style Forgot, Prion UK.

Images: Photographer: Gerard O'Connor.

Retoucher: Matthew Ryan.

Stylist: Marc Wasiak.

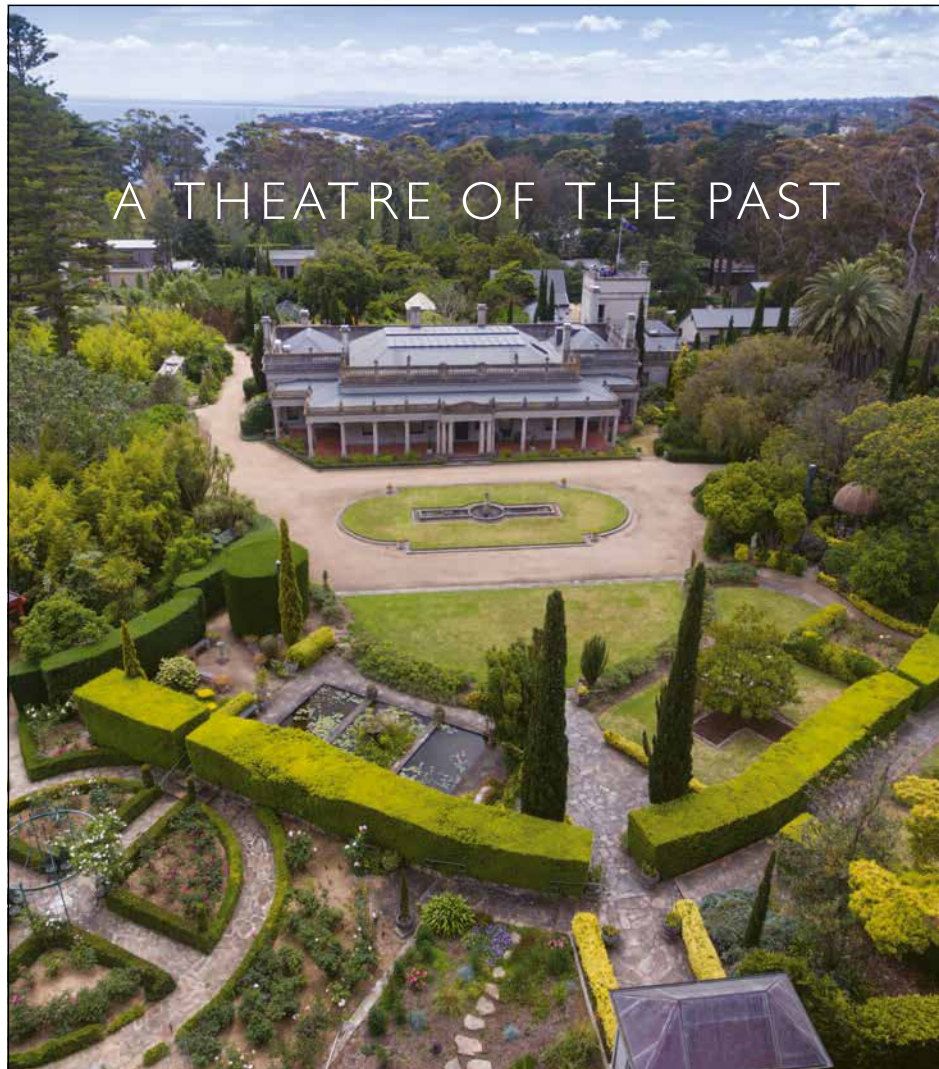
Assistant stylist: Chloe Chilver.

Hair and makeup: Kim Tavares.

Assistant hair and makeup: Christian Cairns,

Vicky Marcela, Ally Jenkins.

Models (FRM Management): Ellie Dewhurst, Ella Tremontii



A THEATRE OF THE PAST

BELEURA

Beleura is a wonderful time capsule, an Italianate villa erected in 1864 and a theatre of the past. Its magic is the depth of its provenanced collection of household things – some grand but much ephemeral, trivial, amusing... The auction of Beleura in 1916 attracted Sir George and Lady Tallis. Their youngest son, John Tallis, acquired the estate in 1948 and bequeathed Beleura to the people of Victoria in 1996.



BELEURA HOUSE & GARDEN MORNINGTON

To visit, telephone or see our website.

Open: Select days throughout the year

A: PO Box 1198, Mornington Vic 3931

T: 03 5975 2027 E: info@beleura.org.au

W: www.beleura.org.au



INTO LIGHT

French masterworks from the Musée de la Chartreuse

23 June – 9 September

Discover the romance, drama and beauty of French painting. Coming exclusively to Ballarat from a major collection in regional France

ART GALLERY OF BALLARAT

For tickets and enquires visit
artgalleryofballarat.com.au

Henri Le Sidaner *Le Dimanche*
[Sunday] 1898. Oil on canvas
© Musée de la Chartreuse, Douai





Melbourne's Search for a Square

Graeme Davison, Emeritus Sir John Monash Distinguished Professor of History, Monash University

This article was originally published at theconversation.com.

For 150 years Melburnians dreamed of a square. A great ceremonial space where people could relax, celebrate, protest or simply enjoy the company of their fellow citizens.

They had a word for their dream—a civic square. The word 'civic' means 'of the city' or 'belonging to the citizens'. What they wanted was not a market, a park, an arena or a mall—Melbourne already had plenty of those—but a grand piazza where people met and celebrated their identity as citizens. It would be Melbourne's agora or forum, a place for conversation, relaxation and celebration rather than commerce.

In 2000, after decades of imagining, planning, debating and lobbying, the dream came true. Fed Square, as we now fondly call it, is not a traditional public square in the European manner, with Greek statues and cold monumental architecture, but an ingenious mix of piazza and wintergarden in a quirkily post-modern idiom. People love it. Fed Square is a small miracle, a new public asset won against the tidal advance of privatisation.

Founded by land speculators, Melbourne had always been a commercial city, a place where pragmatism often trumped idealism. Robert Hoddle, the government surveyor sent down from Sydney to draw up Melbourne's first town plan in the late 1830s, briefly glimpsed the possibility of a town square near the site of the present-day State Library but the idea was soon lost in the stampede of speculation.

A few enlightened souls, mostly men of conservative and classical taste, yearned for a city built on more idealistic lines. Lieutenant-governor Charles La Trobe created the precious belt of parkland that enabled Melbourne to call itself a 'Garden City'. Judge Redmond Barry, who championed other public institutions, such as the University and Public Library, may have been the anonymous author of an 1850 pamphlet sketching a vision of what Melbourne 'ought to be'.

'Melbourne boasts no large central square,' he lamented. The best site, between Collins, Swanston and Elizabeth Streets, opposite the Town Hall, was already in private ownership and buying it back would cost 'a rather alarming sum'. But for 'an object of such paramount and permanent importance', he argued, 'the money would be well spent'.

With the coming of the goldrush, the cost of reclaiming a site soared beyond reach. The dream returned only in the 1920s when city councillors debated a scheme to create a square on the site of the eastern market in Bourke Street. In 1929 a Metropolitan Planning Commission recommended a 'a spacious city square' adjacent to a new City Hall at the top of Bourke Street opposite Parliament House'. Such a complex 'dedicated to the city's ceremonies, art and administrative activities' would enhance a sense of 'community pride'.

Artists and writers, influenced by European experience, also called for a square as an antidote to Melbourne's notorious puritanism. 'Public squares, with their surrounding cafés and orchestras, the pleasures of the promenade free to the poorest, refreshment cheap and good at any hour—when these are denied there is little for people to do but make a dash for the pub, frequent the cinema or go back to their hutches like good little rabbits', artist Norman Lindsay declared in 1935.

After the war, a new mood of civic idealism reignited interest in a civic square. Plans for squares at the top of Bourke Street, in Swanston Street and over the Flinders Street railway yards were unveiled, energetically debated—and shelved. Journalist Keith Dunstan, a fond but sceptical observer of the Melbourne scene, mocked 'Melbourne's square dance'.

By the 1960s, as shoppers migrated to suburban malls, retailers joined the cause, arguing that a city square would enliven the city centre and keep the threat of a 'doughnut city'—a dead centre surrounded by lively suburbs—at bay. The idea that the square might pay for itself through the 'external' benefits to city traders introduced a new set of expectations into the public debate. The shift was denoted by a subtle change of language. People began to speak of a 'city square' rather than a 'civic square'. The idea of a square that would pay for itself was appealing to civic leaders and city businessmen alike.

When Melbourne at last got a kind of square in the early 1980s it was in the bastardised form of a 'civic' space that doubled as the forecourt of an international hotel. The council purchased a narrow strip of land along Swanson Street between St Paul's Cathedral and the Town Hall, split it in half, selling one portion to the hotel and retaining the other as an ineptly named 'square'. It was neither fish nor fowl and it never really worked. It was crippled by compromise.

The people who designed and managed Federation Square seemed to have heeded the lessons of that failed attempt. The space is as generous and inspiring as the old square was cramped and miserable. At the time I took a keen interest in the arrangements to ensure public access by community groups and political protesters. They appear to have been administered in an impressively generous non-partisan way.

From the beginning there was an expectation that, along with the public bodies like NGV, ACMI and SBS that would occupy the main spaces, provision would be made for restaurants, pubs and other commercial activities that complemented its civic character. But the square Civic and Cultural was carefully written to ensure that civic values would predominate. When



I read it, I was reassured by the repeated use of words like 'public', 'civic' and 'meeting place'. I took comfort from the requirement that any commercial activity would have to link to the purposes of its main (cultural) users and be subordinate to the 'civic and cultural' character of the square as a whole.

The proposal to locate an Apple Store, of jarringly unsympathetic design, in a prominent place on Federation Square is a surprising and dispiriting surrender to the spirit of compromise that has dogged the best efforts of Melburnians for more than a century to give their city an inspiring civic space. It dishonours their legacy. It breaches the public trust expressed in Federation Square's own charter. It turns the square, or at least a section of it, into a shopping precinct. It may be a first perilous step down the slippery slope towards full commercialisation.

The proposal appears to be inspired, in part, by the expectation that the Square should pay for itself, and that since it is currently running a deficit, it must find a lucrative new tenant. Fifty years ago Melbourne's City Fathers (as they all were then) believed that a square would pay for itself through the benefits it brought to the city as a whole. That argument is still advanced, but selectively, to justify government subventions in support of the Grand Prix and the Australian Open, which run for a weekend and fortnight respectively. Federation Square



runs 365 days a year and draws locals and visitors for events that draw on a much wider constituency than motor racing and tennis enthusiasts. The external benefits it brings to the city are literally immeasurable. Yet because they are not easily computed they are apparently left out of the equation.

It would not occur to the average Briton to ask whether Trafalgar Square is paying for itself, much less to install an Apple Store beside Nelson's Column. Isn't it time we grew up and recognised that not everything that is important to our collective life has a price? That commercial values do not trump civic ideals? And that by signing over part of a sacred civic space to a multinational company we may undermine the very ideals for which it was created?

Opinions of the proposed architecture of the Apple Store may well differ. But the most important issues posed by the proposal are not architectural, or economic. Federation Square is already an important part of Melbourne's history, not just as a monument to the centenary of the nation, or for the symbols of civic and national identity it incorporates, but as the legacy of a long tradition, going back to the ancient Greeks, and reinforced by successive generations of Melburnians who fought for a square, that puts civic values and virtues, our responsibility to our fellow citizens, at the heart of our collective life.

Image (previous page): Gas and Fuel Corporation Buildings prior to demolition, Ian Harrison Hill, 1996, State Library of Victoria.

Image (above): The Yarra Building at Federation Square, John Jovic, 2018.



Cultural Tours for an inquiring mind

*ASA provides extraordinary travel experiences • expert lecturers & local guides
• access to private homes & palaces • behind-the-scenes visits to museums, libraries & studios*

Great Libraries and Stately Homes of England

1 – 16 OCTOBER 2018
7 – 22 OCTOBER 2019

Led by [Shane Carmody](#)

Oman: Arabia's Ancient Emporium

11 – 26 OCTOBER 2018

Led by [Assoc. Prof. Alex McKay](#)

Autumn & the Art of the Japanese Garden

14 – 29 NOVEMBER 2018

13 – 28 NOVEMBER 2019

Led by [Jim Fogarty](#)

Ancient Kingdoms and Empires of Southern India

28 DECEMBER 2018 –
19 JANUARY 2019

Led by [Em. Prof. Bernard Hoffert](#)

Art and Architecture in California: Palm Springs, Los Angeles, The Big Sur & San Francisco

15 APRIL – 1 MAY 2019

Led by [Prof. Chris McAuliffe](#)

Romania Revealed: Saxon Villages, Transylvanian Cities and Byzantine Monasteries

15 – 28 MAY 2019

Led by [Christopher Wood](#)

AUSTRALIANS STUDYING ABROAD

Call +61 (0)3 9822 6899 Email info@asatours.com.au



Great Castles, Country Houses & Gardens of Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Wales

28 MAY – 16 JUNE 2019

Led by [Richard Heathcote](#)

Poland, the Heart of Europe: Krakow, Warsaw, Torun & Gdansk

29 MAY – 10 JUNE 2019

Led by [Dr Iva Rosario](#)

A Designer's Guide to the Gardens of England incl. the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

20 JUNE – 4 JULY 2019

Led by [Jim Fogarty](#)

Russia's Romantic Soul: Moscow, Novgorod & St Petersburg

30 JUNE – 15 JULY 2019

Led by [Dr Adrian Jones, OAM](#)

Venice: Jewel of the Adriatic

26 SEPTEMBER –
10 OCTOBER 2019

Led by [Em. Prof. Bernard Hoffert](#)

Art and Culture in Spain

27 SEPTEMBER –
18 OCTOBER 2019

Led by [Anneli Bojstad](#)

For detailed itineraries & a complete list of tours visit:

www.asatours.com.au

Advocacy Watchlist

Advocacy Team – trustadvocate.org.au



BAYSIDE MID-CENTURY MODERN HERITAGE STUDY

At a council meeting in April, Bayside city councillors unanimously voted to abandon plans to undertake a comprehensive mid-century modern heritage study, voting instead to proceed with a 'voluntary nomination process'. The National Trust wrote to councillors prior to the meeting to strongly oppose this option, but unfortunately, councillors were persuaded by the objections of a small group of residents who did not want their properties to be assessed or included in a future planning scheme amendment. The decision is a disappointing outcome and one which we believe will leave many significant places vulnerable to demolition and inappropriate development.

Image: Buchanan House, Wolfgang Sievers, State Library of Victoria.



MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

In late March, the Maribyrnong City Council considered a report regarding the implementation of a Significant Tree Register for the municipality following the loss of a large historic oak tree in Footscray in December 2017. The National Trust made a submission at the council meeting in which we recommended that the council undertake an arborist review of the entire municipality to identify all trees of potential significance on public and private land, in addition to a call for nominations from the community. The council agreed to endorse the draft Significant Tree Register Policy and undertake further consultation with the community and the Trust to take these views into account prior to finalising the methodology for the register.



EPSOM PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING

In late 2017, following concerns raised by the National Trust's Bendigo branch, the Trust contacted the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) to object to the proposed demolition of a historic building at Epsom Primary School. Despite our submission and community concerns, the school building was demolished at the start of April. This demolition has highlighted the broader issue of the Department of Education's exemption from the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act, including the requirement to apply for the demolition of places protected by Heritage Overlays. We plan to meet with the VSBA in the coming months to communicate these concerns.

Image: Epsom Primary School building during demolition, by Bendigo Advertiser, 2018.



ST VINCENT'S PRIVATE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

St Vincent's Private Hospital is proposing a major expansion to its Fitzroy site, including minor demolition of the existing hospital and the construction of a multi-storey tower. To facilitate the construction of the tower, demolition is required across a number of historic buildings, including the former Eastern Hill Hotel and Dodgshun House, both of which are included in the Victorian Heritage Register, and Easthill House, which has a Heritage Overlay under the local planning scheme. Following an appeal by the council, the community, and the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, VCAT has approved the development with conditions requiring the retention and restoration of the façade of Easthill House, and a reduction in the bulk of the building. A further permit will be required from Heritage Victoria.

Image: ArchitectureAU.



RIVER RED GUM TREE PROTECTION IN WHITTLESEA

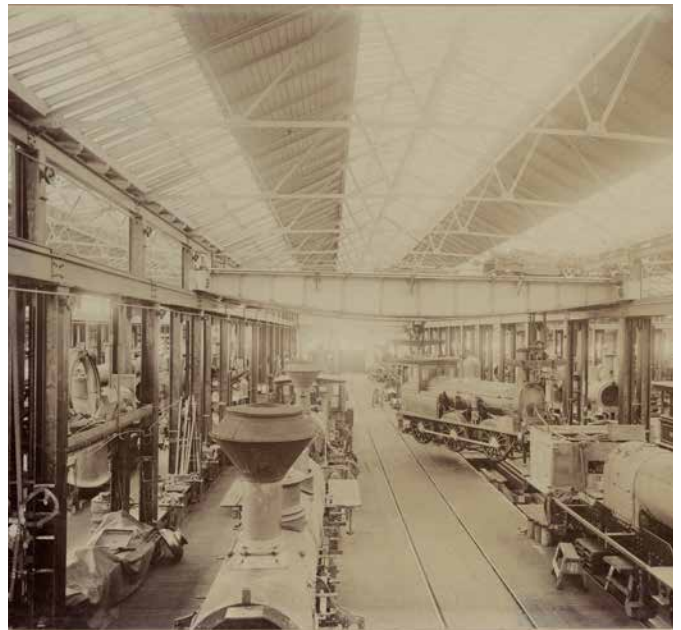
In April, the City of Whittlesea advertised a planning scheme amendment to strengthen its River Red Gum Protection Policy, ensuring that Council will remain relevant and effective in guiding planning decisions. The National Trust commends the City of Whittlesea for undertaking this work. Overall, the proposed amendment emphasises early recognition of river red gums in planning processes, which is extremely important for ensuring their ongoing viability, protection and enhancement. It is essential that the City of Whittlesea's significant river red gums are treated as an integral component of any development design, given the ongoing development pressures in the area, and the proposed amendment recognises the significance of this species to the area's local character.

Lyle Fowler, 1957, Harold Paynting Collection, State Library of Victoria.

NEWPORT RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

The National Trust has objected to a permit application by VicTrack for partial demolition, conservation and security-related works at the West Block Southern Extension at Newport Railway Workshops, one of the state's most significant industrial sites. While the justification for the works put forward in the application is to secure the site and render it safe following 2015 fire damage, it is unclear what VicTrack's broader plans are for the site, as there is no overall masterplan to guide the works. Specifically, we have objected to the demolition of the Machine Shop Extension and Garage, Truck Building Yard, Westinghouse Brake Shop, Smithy Annexe and Blacksmiths Extension.

Image: Railway Workshops, Newport, 1899, State Library of Victoria.



QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET

On 28 March, Heritage Victoria formally issued a refusal of the City of Melbourne's permit application to conduct works at the Queen Victoria Market, including the dismantling, restoration and reconstruction of the western sheds A-D, and the construction of a three-level basement beneath the market sheds. In response, the National Trust issued a statement demanding immediate consultation between Heritage Victoria and the City of Melbourne to resolve this current planning issue, arguing that the uncertainty for traders regarding the renewal plans threatens the cultural fabric of the market. We will continue to advocate strongly for the City of Melbourne to accept Heritage Victoria's decision and consult with the community and traders on an alternative plan.



FORMER HOFFMAN BRICKWORKS

In January, we objected to a permit application lodged with Heritage Victoria to demolish the former Brick Pressing Shed and the former Engine House at the Former Hoffman Brickworks to allow for the construction of a 24-storey tower. The National Trust has been working with community representatives to advocate for the retention and restoration of these buildings, an approach which was originally envisaged as a measure to mitigate the impact of the new built form on the site.



ST PAUL'S BOYS' HOME, NEWHAVEN

Built in 1927, the St Paul's Boys' Home is one of Phillip Island's most significant heritage buildings. The National Trust Bass Coast branch has supported the Bass Coast Shire at several VCAT hearings in opposing inappropriate development at the site. None of the proposed developments have proceeded. While the previous owner employed a caretaker to carry out routine maintenance and security, we understand that the present owners have not continued to maintain the building. The building is currently unsecured, with the lack of routine maintenance resulting in damage to heritage fabric. Requests from the Bass Coast Shire to the owner to secure the site have largely gone unheeded, and the property is now for sale. We will continue to advocate for the retention and restoration of the building.



HMVS CERBERUS

In April, the National Trust made a submission to Heritage Victoria regarding a proposal by the City of Bayside to stabilise the National Heritage Listed shipwreck in Half Moon Bay with concrete to prevent the anticipated catastrophic collapse of the wreck, which would impact on its visibility within the landscape. Risks to public safety are also a factor. Our submission has also advocated for a reversible solution to be pursued, in line with Burra Charter principles, and for interpretation of the wreck to be improved. Heritage Victoria is now considering public submissions and will make a determination in the coming months.



RICE HOUSE, ELTHAM

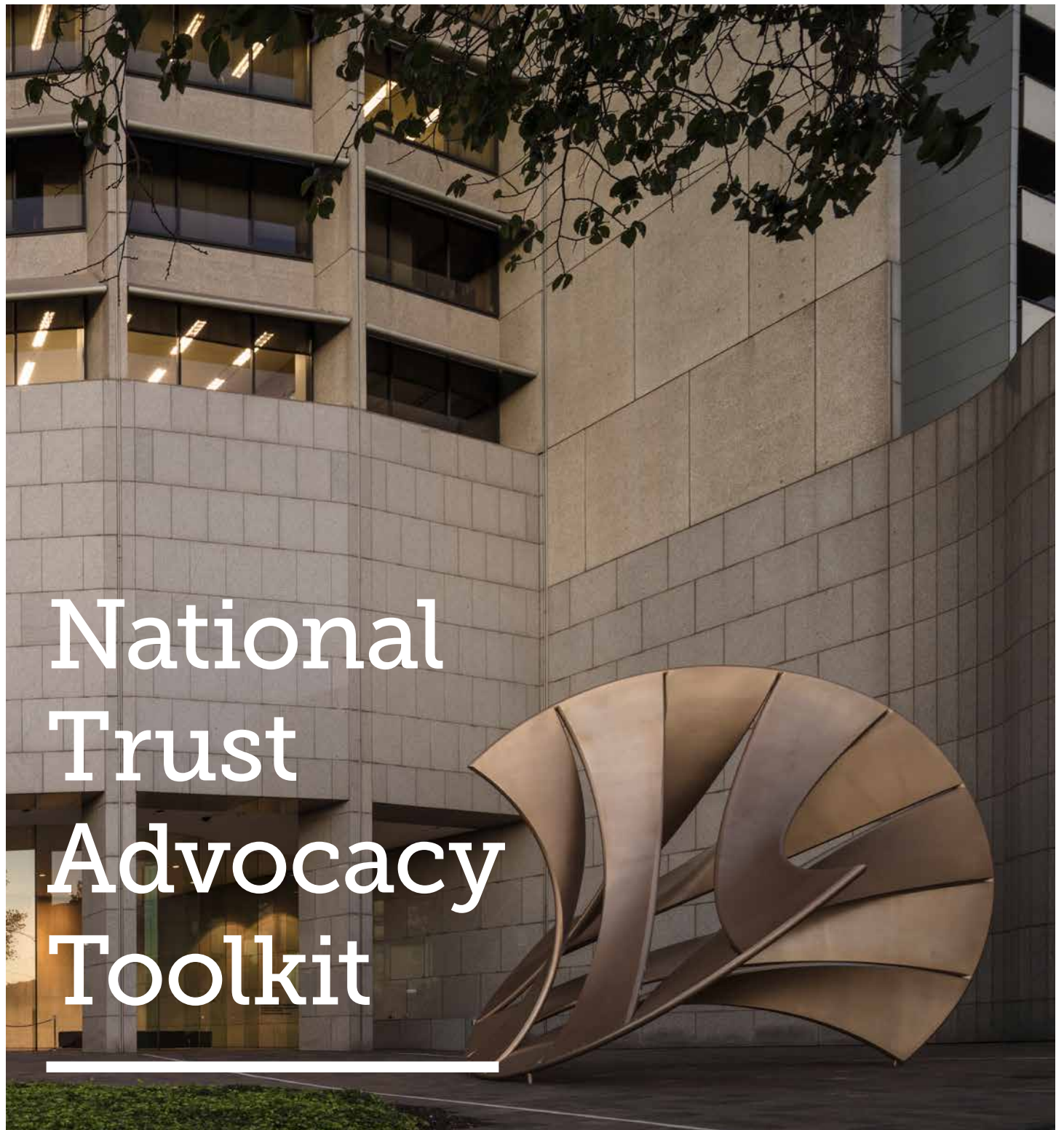
In March, the National Trust made a submission to Heritage Victoria regarding a permit application to undertake repair and restoration works, and construct an extensive addition and associated landscaping works for Rice House in Eltham. Rice House consists of two monolithic concrete structures—the main house and the children's house—and was designed by noted Melbourne architect Kevin Borland in 1951. In our submission, we commended the owners of the property for taking on the immense challenge of addressing substantial structural issues while also advocating for works to remain in step with the identified heritage values of the place.



VICROADS YAN YEAN ROAD UPGRADE

In May, the National Trust became aware of Stage 2 of the Yan Yeon Road upgrade in Doreen by VicRoads, part of a \$96.6 million upgrade funded by the Victorian Government. To date, only the preliminary project design has been released, which we understand threatens a number of historic sites, including two river red gums protected within the Heritage Overlay. We will be working closely with the Nillumbik Shire Council and local community groups to advocate for the best outcome at this site. The Trust continues to advocate for the retention of natural and cultural heritage in this project and other key infrastructure projects across the state.

Image: Save the Doreen Red Gums.



National Trust Advocacy Toolkit

Advocacy Guide No. 1:

Nominating a place or object for inclusion
in the Victorian Heritage Register

National Trust Advocacy Toolkit

Felicity Watson, Advocacy Manager

On Wednesday 16 May, as part of Law Week 2018 and the Australian Heritage Festival, the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) launched the National Trust Advocacy Toolkit, a free online resource created to support individuals and communities to advocate for the protection of places of cultural heritage significance.

The launch at the Art Deco Australian Army Medical Corps Drill Hall in A'Beckett Street was presented in partnership with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, which represents more than 320 historical societies across Victoria. More than 80 community advocates, National Trust members, and representatives of local and state government enjoyed a panel session chaired by National Trust Advocacy Manager Felicity Watson. Speakers included National Trust Chairman Kristin Stegley OAM, Glen McCallum of Protect Fitzroy North, and Jamie Paterson of Beaumaris Modern, all of whom spoke of the importance of community activism in the recognition and protection of heritage.

In the development of the Toolkit, the Trust has worked with heritage experts, planners, lawyers and communities across Victoria to develop advocacy guides covering key areas of heritage planning. The Advocacy Toolkit will continue to grow and evolve along with the challenges we face in the recognition and conservation of our heritage places.

The Advocacy Toolkit recognises the need to empower individuals and communities to take an active role in the protection of heritage places that are significant to them, enabling the Trust's advocacy team to focus on strategic planning issues, research, policy development, advocacy at all levels of government, and communicating the historic, social and economic value of heritage.

Advocacy Guide No. 1: Nominating a Place or Object for Inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register

This Advocacy Guide provides all the information you need to prepare a successful nomination to the Victorian Heritage Register. The Guide also covers the process for applying for an interim protection order for a place or object under imminent threat, as well as the Heritage Council registration hearing process.

Advocacy Guide No. 2: Objecting to an Application for a Permit to Change a Place or Object Included in the Victorian Heritage Register

This provides guidance for anyone wanting to object to a permit application to change a place or object in the Victorian Heritage Register, or for anyone wanting to get involved in permit reviews by the Heritage Council. The Guide covers how to link your objection to the significance of the place or object, and how to write and present an effective submission.

Advocacy Guide No. 3: Objecting to an Application for a Planning Permit for Properties Covered by a Heritage Overlay

Our guide to the Heritage Overlay describes the planning system in Victoria and how it relates to local heritage places. It covers how to object to a planning application and how to lobby councillors making planning decisions affecting heritage places.

Advocacy Guide No. 4: Appealing a Permit Decision at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

Our guide to VCAT appeals outlines the different ways you can become involved in a VCAT appeal, as well as providing clear guidance on how to write a convincing statement of grounds and detailing when you need to engage an expert.

Advocacy Guide No. 5: Heritage Overlays and Planning Scheme Amendments

This Advocacy Guide outlines the processes for applying for a Heritage Overlay for a place of local heritage significance through an amendment to the planning scheme, and includes tips for supporting local councils to undertake and implement heritage studies. This guide also covers how to participate in hearings conducted by Planning Panels Victoria.

Download the National Trust Advocacy Toolkit at nationaltrust.org.au/advocacy-toolkit

The Advocacy Toolkit was generously funded by a grant from the Victoria Law Foundation.

Image: Shell House, Spring Street, Melbourne, by Damien Kook.

Living in the Landscape

Justin Buckley, Horticulture and Projects Manager

I recently had the pleasure of reading Dr Anne Vale's upcoming book on gardens of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). It was a reminder that garden heritage is about more than just the grand and spectacular spaces that capture our attention. A broad range of ambition and sophistication is displayed across National Trust gardens, with necessity and resources two crucial influences that are not always apparent. At one end, for example, the 35-year development of a grandiose garden by the Sargoods at Rippon Lea; at another, the short-lived efforts of the McCraes to temper the harsh realities of a peninsula farm run with bulbs and cuttings from their former home. Both examples speak of their owners' use of a garden to express pride in who they are.

It's a concept that hasn't really gone away, and one that continues to be shaped by the resources at hand. Some might think the genteel world of parks and gardens are a step removed from the hustle and bustle of a 21st century world in a city pushing 5 million people. Managing these spaces, though, demands the same constant drive for efficiency as elsewhere. In the process, some old-fashioned gardening techniques fall out of favour, particularly where 'old-fashioned' means 'labour-intensive'. One particular garden technique that has found itself at the efficiency crossroads in more recent history is the annual display or 'carpet bedding'—hundreds or thousands of flowering annual seedlings planted to form a single mass of colour. For years, these displays took pride of place in nearly every public park. Adorning the entrance to council chambers, they became an essential expression that civic pride exists herein. In some places, civic pride reached levels where even roundabouts received this treatment. The aesthetic merits of intense colour saturation were never called into question, but the effort required to produce this certainly did about 20 years ago.

The time, money, water and maintenance required for carpet bedding means many gardeners today haven't learnt the intricacies of the practice. The steps are many and it's exhausting just listing them. There is significant soil preparation required, enriching the soil and making it light and friable to optimise growth. String lines are required to keep rows regimental so they look perfect before they merge into their characteristic carpet. Dibble sticks are used to ensure even spacing and, if you are really serious, raised boards to enable planting to be carried out without anyone trampling the carefully prepared soil. And planting them is the easy bit. Next comes removing would-be blooms to encourage denser growth before plants are allowed to flower. Then there is frequent but gentle watering (preferably from a dedicated seedling watering rose) and frequent but fiddly weeding.

All the while, there is the growing-on and tending of replacement plants to fill in any gaps from failures, vandalism or simple theft. Regular deadheading is also required so the blooms keep coming, and after all this, within six months you will pull them all out and start again. It's not hard to see why you don't see so many of them anymore. Of course, there is a place to focus resources and keep these skills honed. The St Kilda Road floral clock (52 years young) is a great example: If you're going to do it, do it well and make sure a lot of people are going to see it. It's also tailor-made for return visits.

However, if that's not to your taste, I'd suggest visiting the first Trust garden covered in Dr Vale's book, Endeavour Fern Gully at Red Hill. The garden is designed by nature—one of the most skilled gardeners going around!

Magazine advertising

To advertise in the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) magazine please contact:

Lee Tierney
zoerethers@bigpond.com
(03) 5956 6585





92 Burke Rd
East Malvern
duldig.org.au

inspiring
creative
journeys



Katja Wettstein

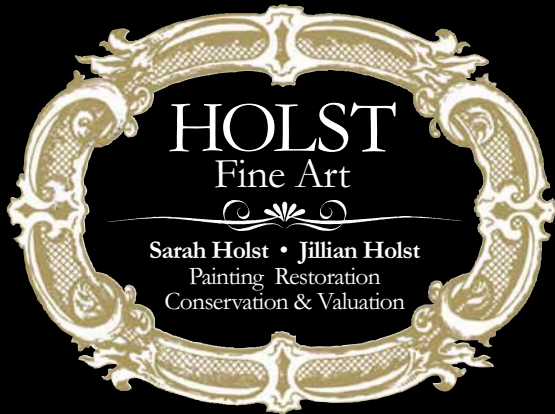
GILDER

- FRAMES • FURNITURE
- RESTORATION • ANTIQUES

0401 478 065

katjawettstein@icloud.com
Melbourne

 katjawettstein23karat



Sarah Holst • Jillian Holst
Painting Restoration
Conservation & Valuation



(03) 9815 0011 Located in Hawthorn 0409 213 662
www.holstfineart.com.au • holst@holstfineart.com.au



H A N D M A D E
H E I R L O O M S

anton

ANTON GERNER FURNITURE

- 24 Victoria Rd, Hawthorn East Vic 3123
- Phone (03)9813 2422
- Showroom by appointment
- www.antonerner.com.au

RICH & DAVIS

Artisan Frame Makers
Melbourne

Specialising in Ornamental and
Gilded Frames

Experts in Frame Restoration
and Repair



INCREASE THE VALUE AND BEAUTY OF YOUR ARTWORK

Frame your artwork with custom designed and hand-made
traditional and period-style frames

Australia's Premier Picture Frame Makers

Open Tuesday - Saturday
10:00am - 5:00pm

Contact: info@richanddavis.com.au | 0402 528 757

WWW.RICHANDDAVIS.COM.AU

Head: Wilson

Jenny Richards

Lucy McEachern

ASSOCIATION OF
SCULPTORS OF
VICTORIA

2018
ANNUAL AWARDS &
EXHIBITION

AUG 06-24
600 BOURKE St.
MON-FRI 9-5.30pm

OPENING **AUGUST 09**
6-8pm

Sponsored by

PaperCut

ADFA-Yarra

Dalchem

MERIDIAN
SCULPTURE

BOURKE PLACE

sculptorsvictoria.asn.au

Notice of Board Election

In accordance with the Constitution of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) (NTAV)

Three (3) Directors shall retire as Directors at the Annual General Meeting to be held in November, 2018. Retiring Directors are eligible for re-election.

The Board of the NTAV has determined that three (3) Director positions shall be available for election by Members.

Nominations are invited for Directorships and must be received by the Company Secretary by 5.00pm, Friday 21 September, 2018 at the Registered Office of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Tasma Terrace, 6 Parliament Place, East Melbourne, 3002. Nomination forms are available from the Registered Office.

Each candidate is required to lodge a background summary not exceeding 100 words and a photograph with their nomination. This summary should include age, academic qualifications, awards, service to the National Trust, involvement in preservation and conservation matters, offices held and date of joining the National Trust.

If a vote of Members is required for the three (3) Director positions, ballot papers will be sent to members for a postal ballot. The completed ballot paper must be returned by 4.00pm, Friday 16 November 2018, addressed to the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Tasma Terrace, 6 Parliament Place, East Melbourne, 3002 in the envelope provided. The election results will be announced at the 2018 Annual General Meeting and published in the following edition of the National Trust Magazine.

CLOSE OF VOTING ROLL

Please note that the voting roll will close at 5.00pm, Monday 1 October 2018 and only members who are financial at that time will be eligible to vote.

62nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are advised that the AGM will commence at 11.00am on Saturday 24 November 2018 at Rippon Lea 192 Hotham St, Elsternwick Victoria, 3185.

Andrew Logie-Smith, Company Secretary

Jenny Pihan Fine Art



...the tradition continues!

TWENTY MELBOURNE PAINTERS SOCIETY INC. 100th Annual Exhibition



FREE ADMISSION - FREE ART TALKS

Glen Eira City Council Gallery
Cnr. Hawthorn & Glen Eira Rds, Caulfield

Opening Night | Wednesday 22nd August @ 6pm
Open Daily | 23rd August - 9th September, 10am - 5pm

Jenny Pihan Fine Art - Online Gallery & Select Exhibitions
Jenny: 0417 368 807 Deborah: 0419 879 725
www.jennypihanfineart.com.au



Image: Gam Blossoms - Peter Smiles, Oil on Board, 40x50cm

JOIN US FOR A MONTH LONG
FESTIVAL OF ARCHITECTURE
INCLUDING OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND
28 + 29 JULY 2018

OPENHOUSEMELBOURNE.ORG



Art Conservation Framers

- Archival Framing and Artisan Gallery
- Specialists in Gilding and Frame Restoration
- Conservation of Fine Art and Textiles

118 Bridport St
Albert Park Vic
Ph (03)9696 9066
Tuesday - Friday 9-5
and Saturday 10-4
Established 1986

www.artconservationframers.com.au

In Conversation with Nathan Cowan

Alice McInnes

I spoke to Nathan Cowan, the Melbourne entrepreneur who recently bought Beechworth's historic Billson's Brewery, which also houses the National Trust's carriage collection.

You recently bought Billson's Brewery in Beechworth. What is it that you're doing there?

Billson's is an extraordinary tower brewery with a remarkable history. Our plan is to revive George Billson's original vision by providing world-class beverages and a truly unique visitor experience. George chose our location in Beechworth for its abundance of pure alpine spring water. We hope that our ability to combine heritage, craft and pristine local ingredients will excite our visitors.

Billson's first started operating in 1865. How are you incorporating that heritage into what you're doing today?

Our history is what will set us apart and will be incorporated in every aspect of Billson's. We will recreate our old handwritten beer recipes and reprint our 1870s cordial labels. We are continuing to use our 1920s bottling line and use traditional techniques wherever possible. We recently introduced a working barber and blacksmith onsite. We're working with a wonderful local historian Jacqui Durrant, who continues to uncover past treasures worthy of revival.

Did you always intend to be working with the brewery's heritage? Or was that an idea that grew as you uncovered the place's history?

The heritage has always been our focus; it's what first attracted us to Billson's. Having said that, the sheer amount of history we've been able to uncover has blown us away. We intend on sharing the countless stories for people to enjoy. In fact, we're working with an architect who just happens to be the great-great-grandson of George Billson.

You also look after the National Trust's carriage collection. How did that come about?

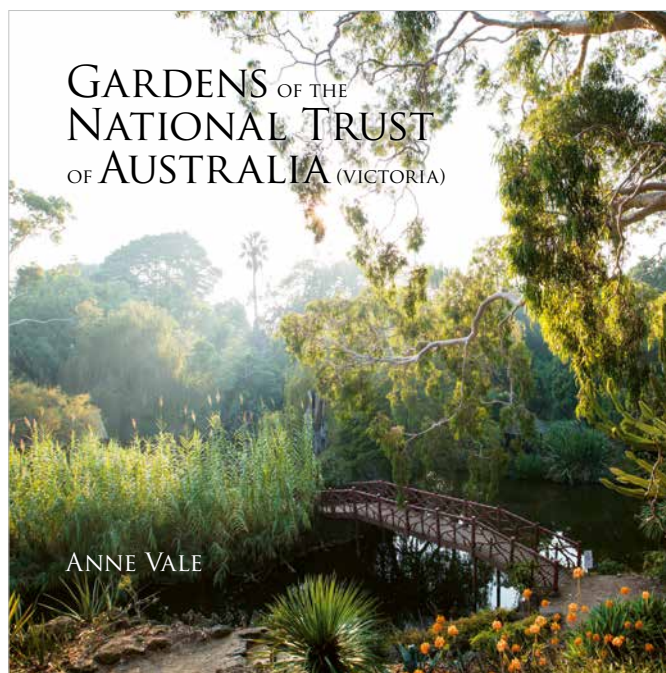
The carriages were moved to Billson's approximately 15 years ago. They are a wonderful connection to the town's past. We're working alongside the National Trust and the Burke Museum to showcase the collection.

What would you say to other small business owners who are thinking of incorporating history and heritage into their businesses?

Engaging visitors is our primary focus. We believe today's visitors are looking for truly unique and authentic experiences; there is often nothing more unique and authentic than a brand's heritage. We've also found that heritage projects attract passionate, like-minded people. The support of these people has been an invaluable resource.



Books



GARDENS OF THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

Anne Vale, Author

The National Trust is delighted to announce the forthcoming release of *Gardens of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria)*, an illustrated book on a selection of our gardens by acclaimed garden historian Dr Anne Vale. Anne is a writer, garden historian, garden photographer, public speaker, a past chair of the Australian Garden History Society's Victorian branch, and a retired university lecturer. She is the author of *Influential Australian Garden People: Their Stories* (2016), the sequel

to her award-winning *Exceptional Australian Garden Makers* (2013). Well versed in the recording and assessment of gardens with history, Anne operates the consultancy practice Heriscapes. Having written garden guides and histories on significant Australian heritage gardens, we were pleased to have worked with Anne on the publication of this book.

Anne has expertly woven together the stories of Trust gardens in Victoria by using the rich collection of primary sources held by the Trust and by drawing on the wider scholarly community to which she belongs. The narrative of the book makes use of gardens as sites linking people and cultures across various time frames and places. Connections extend out into the community, with public and private plant material and collections shared and celebrated between multiple generations, cultures and locations. The book also draws on the role of our volunteers in the ongoing custodianship of our historic gardens and landscapes. *Gardens of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria)* is an important instalment in our evolving knowledge of our properties, unlocking their natural and environmental history, which is often overlooked in architecturally based studies.

***Gardens of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria)* is a limited edition publication of only 1,500 copies. You can purchase the book now from the Trust for \$49.95 plus \$15 postage using the order form below. Pre-sale starts now, with the book distributed from November 2018.**

Personal details

Name Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____

Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Phone (H) _____ (M) _____ Email _____

Order

Number of copies _____ at \$49.95 plus \$15 postage and handling. GST included.

Payment details

Please charge my card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex

Credit card number

Cardholder's name _____ Expiry date ____ / ____ Signature _____

*Cheque made payable to: The National Trust of Australia (Victoria). Please return your completed form to the National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
6 Parliament Place, East Melbourne, VIC 3002, or scan and send to retail@nattrust.com.au.*

Vale



DAVID FRANCIS

*Jock Murphy, Board Director,
National Trust of Australia (Victoria)*

The Trust has learned with great sorrow about the recent passing of David Francis and the Trust extends its deep condolences to his family.

David was one of the Trust's longest-serving members, having joined in 1957 and remaining a member for the rest of his life. This was an association lasting more than 60 years, reflecting David's deep commitment to the preservation of Victoria's heritage.

When David joined the National Trust, the organisation was in its formative stage, and there was no legislation in existence in Victoria to ensure the preservation of historic buildings and places. One of the critical things the Trust did in 1957 was to establish a Survey and Identification Committee. The role of this committee was to go out into the field and identify buildings of historic and architectural importance throughout Victoria. This was an essential step in building public awareness of Victoria's heritage. Many of the buildings the Trust classified in this period eventually found their way onto the register of what was then known as the Historic Buildings Council, achieving legislated protection.

David was in the thick of this as a member of the Survey and Identification Committee. The work that David and his fellow

colleagues undertook in that early period, identifying key elements in Victoria's heritage, provides a continuing legacy for us today.

David was a Trust board member from 1970 until 1976, and again from 1980 until later in the 1980s. He served on the Mooramong, McCrae, Labassa and Melbourne Properties committees. During a period of staff change, he served as Honorary Properties and Special Projects Officer at Tasma Terrace between 1981 and 1985, in effect as an unpaid staff member. During this time, he was also Acting Administrator of the Trust, prior to Douglas Hill's appointment.

The immense voluntary commitment of time that David, and others of that period, gave was critical to building and elevating the Trust to the position it occupies today. As one of his former board colleagues has noted, David was 'sensible, quiet and very determined, and in for the long haul'.

In recognition of his achievements and dedication, David received the Trust's highest recognition, being appointed an Honorary Member in 1991 and an Emeritus Councillor in 2002.

We owe an enduring debt to David for his contribution, from which we continue to benefit today.

Vale



JUDY MORRISON

Liz Cunningham

President of former Women's Committee

Jude joined the committee in 1994 and remained a completely involved member until it was dissolved in 2010. From the moment she joined, she was entirely indispensable to the committee.

Both Judy's business acumen and aesthetic judgment were invaluable. It was thanks to an inspired suggestion from Judy and her twin sister Janet that the shop was moved from the top of Jackson Street into the Village Arcade, with the resulting hundreds more footsteps past the door and a vast boost in sales.

With that came exhausting annual visits to trade fairs when Jude's aesthetic skills were depended on to select beautiful and saleable goods. She always put up her hand, she never said no, and she gave endless time, advice and energy, always cheerfully and enthusiastically.

Jude's almost-constant presence in the shop created a friendly atmosphere that drew people in. It became a happy meeting place, which boosted sales and promoted the public face of the Trust.

Everyone enjoyed working with her and gained from her kind friendship and happy nature.

We all loved her and the Trust has a very great deal for which to thank her.



BARBARA BOBBE

23 January 1936–8 March 2018

Fay Kent, Ken Scott, Jennifer Bantow

Barbara was born to Charles Bobbe and Ada née Manson in Liverpool, England.

She spoke French and German fluently, and became the headmistress of a British Forces school in Germany. She volunteered as a guide at Liverpool Cathedral and National Trust property Speke Hall.

As a geographer, Barbara travelled widely, including to Australia 12 times before immigrating in 2001 to live in Geelong. Having been a member of the English National Trust, she then became a staunch supporter of the National Trust in Victoria.

Barbara undertook research for National Trust property Barwon Grange, and was for a while Deputy Manager of The Heights. She travelled to Como for many years, volunteering as a guide on Sundays and for other special events. She wrote a Como history, including for the Councner, Tuckwell and Armytage families, and was generous to Como and Barwon Grange, with donations of collection items and funds for particular purposes.

As a teacher, Barbara was an outstanding guide because she was essentially an educator. Message extracts from Como visitors reveal her fine intellect and thorough approach to everything she did.

Our guide Barbara was wonderful. Her obvious love of Como and its history and her enthusiasm for her job made it a memorable experience. Her anecdotes will enable us to remember.

Compliments to Barbara on her presentation, good humour and detailed knowledge. My children were fascinated by insights provided on life before PlayStation, flushing toilets and refrigerators.

While in Germany, Barbara indulged her passion for opera and classical music, and after immigrating, she subscribed to the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra series.

Barbara also loved sport. She won tennis championships in England, and joined the Geelong U3A Fitness Class. She closely followed the Liverpool soccer club, and then the Geelong Cats in Australian Rules Football. Barbara was a Waurin Ponds Probus Club foundation member and organised regular group walking activities with local history themes.

Barbara loved living in Australia and she had no regrets about moving here. She was great company, was well-informed, contributed wholeheartedly in whatever she was involved in, taught us a lot, and she enjoyed a good laugh. Barbara was a dear friend to many and she will be sadly missed. We are privileged to have known her.

100% PERIOD APPEAL WITH NO LOSS OF MODERN AMENITY



Reliable advice on options for:

- repair or replacement of key elements
- typical-to-period decorative treatments
- achieving sensitive alterations/extensions

Includes identifying the originality of a building's features, with emphasis on practical approaches for works.

Our extensive report covers internal & external aspects, modern fittings, garages, gates and fences, including recommended suppliers, trades and specialists.



Tel: (03) 9818 4324 info@authenticage.com.au

www.authenticage.com.au



GARGOYLES & DRAGONS

ARCHITECTURAL SCULPTORS SINCE 1978

21 Newlands Road, Reservoir, Victoria, 3073
www.gargoylesanddragons.com.au
Ph. 03 9462 0721

WANT TO DISCOVER THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE?
A SPECIAL PLACE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
OR A PROPERTY FROM YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?

THE HISTORY DEPT.

CONSULTING HISTORIAN ABIGAIL BELFRAGE MPH
0405 527 770 www.thehistorydept.com.au



HOW TO CORNER A RAT...



Leaders in commercial and industrial pest control since 1944.

adams.
PEST CONTROL

CALL US NOW 1300 933 789
adamspestcontrol.com.au

INCORPORATING PETER THE POSSUM MAN

Rich reds delivered by National Trust's wine service



SAVE
\$102

**Yours
FREE**

2 Crystal
Glasses PLUS
2 Gold-Medal
Shiraz
(worth \$112)



Plus **FREE DELIVERY**

Friends of the National Trust are invited to taste 12 rich reds ideal for any occasion, delivered by the National Trust Wine Service at below cellar-door prices. These quality reds are \$139.99 – **SAVE \$102** – plus receive **2 FREE Crystal glasses** (worth \$40) and **2 FREE bottles of the magnificent Dark Corner Reserve Barossa Shiraz** (worth \$72) – plus **FREE DELIVERY**. Stocks are limited – call **1300 763 403** for these top reds from champion smaller estates, delivered to your door.

Best of all, each purchase helps support the valuable work of the National Trust.



NATIONAL TRUST
WINE SERVICE

Order now on 1300 763 403 quoting '4253002'

(Lines open Mon-Fri 7am-7pm, Sat 8am-6pm AEST)

or visit www.nationaltrustwineservice.com.au/4253002

brought to you by

Laithwaite's
..... WINE PEOPLE

Terms and conditions: Offer available while stocks last. Valid for new customers only. Two crystal stemless glasses and two bottles of Dark Corner Reserve Barossa Shiraz per household. Order acceptance and the contract between you and us will only be formed on the dispatch to you of the product(s) ordered. Orders not accepted (nor will wine be delivered) to persons under the age of 18 years. Most orders are fulfilled within a week but please allow a few extra days if you live in a remote area. Unfortunately due to rising postage costs from our carriers, we are now unable to ship to the Northern Territory and we do not deliver to parcel lockers. If a wine becomes unavailable, a similar wine of equal or greater value will be supplied. Stemless glasses stock is limited and if unavailable will be substituted with a bottle of wine. If you are unhappy with the substitute we'll refund you. \$102 saving is off normal retail prices of the reds case only as provided by the wineries at time of printing. All our wines are covered by our guarantee – if you don't like a wine for any reason Wine People will refund you and arrange to collect the wine. Please see our full Terms and Conditions of Sale and details of our Privacy Policy available here: www.winepeople.com.au/privacy or call us on 1300 763 403. Wine People Pty Ltd (licence No. 514 00724, LIQP770016550) 90 Chalk Hill Rd McLaren Vale SA 5171.

What's On

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
First Sunday of each month	Pirate Sundays	Polly Woodside
27 July to 4 November	Super 70s exhibition	Rippon Lea Estate
28 and 29 July	Open House Melbourne	Como House, Labassa, La Trobe's Cottage, Portable Iron Houses and Tasma Terrace
Every Tuesday starting July 31 for six weeks	Art Classes at The Heights	The Heights
12 August	Rippon Lea record fair	Rippon Lea Estate
12 August	Talks with the La Trobe Society: La Trobe and his horses	La Trobe's Cottage
18 August	Winter floristry workshop	Como Estate
19 August and 16 September	Team of Pianists	Rippon Lea Estate
2 September	Mulberry Hill Father's Day Out	Mulberry Hill
8–9 September	Bonsai exhibition	Rippon Lea Estate
9 September	Talks with the La Trobe Society: Gulf Station in the La Trobe era	La Trobe's Cottage
18 September	Friends of La Trobe's Cottage annual lecture: Eliza Nelson and Dr John Singleton—eventful lives in colonial Victoria	La Trobe's Cottage
27 September	Garden tours at Rippon Lea	Rippon Lea Estate
28 September	To The Max – 1970s car show	Rippon Lea Estate
7 October	Garden Day at La Trobe's Cottage	La Trobe's Cottage
23 October	Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour	Mooramong
27 October	Disco Inferno	Rippon Lea Estate

TO BOOK

Call (03) 9656 9889 or visit nationaltrust.org.au/vic to view all open days and operating hours. Please note that events will appear on the website eight weeks prior to the event date. This calendar is correct at the time of print and may be subject to change.





Exploring Italy with my Membership

*Glen McIntyre, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) volunteer
(Italian translations by Paul McIntyre)*

I only recently became aware that my Australian National Trust membership card could be used in Italy. I have visited many wonderful places in the UK—castles, forts, historic sites, gardens and more—but I knew nothing about the Italian equivalent of the National Trust.

Therefore, I decided to plan a tour of Italy focusing on the north. I was wanting to see where my National Trust membership card could take me, aware that it entitles me to either free or discounted admission to places owned or managed by Fondo Ambiente Italiano (FAI). This is the Italian equivalent to the splendid UK National Trust. Given that I knew nothing about FAI, I was curious as to its beginnings. Did it pre or post-date the UK National Trust?

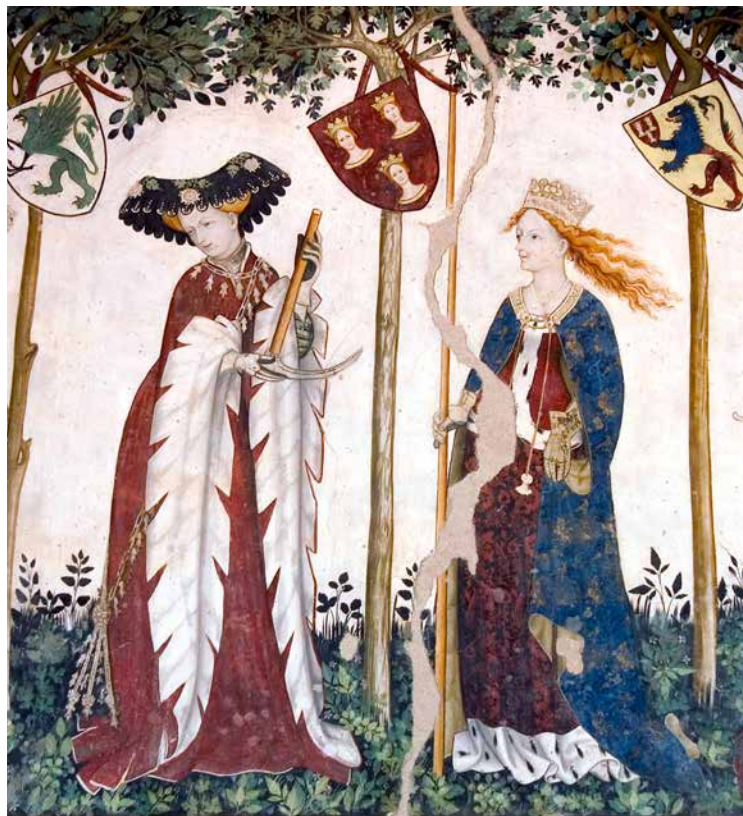
I soon learnt from its website that the UK National Trust had been the inspiration for the foundation of FAI in 1975. One of the first properties to be donated (in 1977) to FAI was the World Heritage listed Monastero di Torba, located in northern Italy—the perfect start to my planned journey.

My research tells me that Monastero di Torba, located in Castelseprio Archaeological Park, north of Milan, dates back to the 5th century, when its Roman fortress was built to repel the barbarians. In the 8th century, the Benedictine nuns built the monastery. In the 1200s, the site was a battleground of some aristocratic Milanese families. The Archbishop of Milan also entered the battle and dealt a merciless blow to his enemies

by destroying all the buildings except the religious ones and the Roman tower. When Napoleon suppressed the religious orders, the site was taken over for agricultural purposes, frescos were whitewashed and all religious significance was lost. Fast-forward to the 1970s, when it was acquired by Giulia Maria Crespi, who donated it to FAI in 1977. She was one of the founders of FAI and its honorary president. In 1986, FAI completed the restoration of the site and it is now open to the public.

My second stop was FAI's Villa del Balbianello, which is located on a wooded promontory of Lake Como and is an hour's walk from the small town of Lenno, which looked like an idyllic spot to stay a night. This 18th century villa was originally commissioned by Cardinal Durini, a patron of the arts, who saw this as the ideal location for exclusive literary retreats. It was left to FAI by Guido Monzino on his death in 1988. He was an entrepreneur, collector, inveterate traveller and the first Italian to climb Mount Everest. This beautifully maintained villa sits in a magnificent garden that has been impeccably maintained. So beautiful is this villa that it is often selected as a location for filming, including for films such as *Star Wars*.

Still in the mountains, but moving towards the French border, I planned to visit FAI's Castello della Manta, with Monte Viso providing a breathtaking backdrop to this 13th century fortress. Monviso, as it is known by the Italians, is the highest mountain in the Cottian Alps and can be seen from the spires



of the Milan cathedral on a clear day. This castle was on my itinerary not only because of its stunning location, but also because it has a baronial hall with magnificent medieval frescos inspired by the aristocratic cult of chivalry.

I then visited the Abbey of San Fruttuoso, below Genoa, another FAI gem. This church built in the 8th century became a Benedictine monastery in the 1100s and has now been lovingly restored as a museum. Its fate became intertwined with the wealthy Genoese Doria family, who donated it to FAI in 1983.

Part of the interest here lies in the actual journey to the abbey. It seems best to travel to Portofino, an idyllic Italian fishing village and holiday resort famous for its beautifully located harbour which is much frequented by artists. From Portofino, you either walk for 90 minutes through forested hills or take a 30-minute scenic boat ride to arrive at the abbey.

There are many other special places in northern Italy that FAI manages, such as Villa e Collezione Panza, now a centre for contemporary art, and Palazzina Appiani in Milan, which is connected to Napoleon's 1796 invasion of the city.

Before hastening on to Rome to catch connecting flights, I made one final stop: San Gimignano.

San Gimignano is a World Heritage listed site and it is one of Italy's most famous medieval villages. Located south of

Florence and in the heart of Tuscany, it is famous for its "skyscraper" medieval fortified tower houses, its medieval laneways, its location on the crest of the hill and its intact fortified medieval wall. Of the original 72 tower houses, only 14 remain today. These tower houses were testimony to the wealth and status of their owners; the taller the tower the greater the wealth. One of these tower houses was owned from the early 19th century until 2005 by the Campatelli family. Lydia Campatelli, the last owner, left the tower house to FAI on the condition that it was open to the public.

Unfortunately, my trip had to end far too early, with most of FAI's special places left unexplored. Staff of FAI have informed me that they manage more than 60 throughout Italy, so a return visit is well in order.

For those who are off to Italy to avoid the depths of winter, the following website provides information in English on many of these special places: www.fondoambiente.it/fai-properties

For Italian speakers, the following website provides more comprehensive information: www.fondoambiente.it

**Join today with the form overleaf
and save the \$35 joining fee**

Images (left to right): Castello della Manta by Dario Fusaro, Fresco Castello della Manta by Giorgio Majno, Villa del Balbianello by Alessio Mesiano. Photos courtesy of FAI.

Reward your friends and family with a three year membership



Membership Categories – select one

Single	3 years	Household (2 adults and 4 children under 18)	3 years
Single	<input type="checkbox"/> \$203	Household	<input type="checkbox"/> \$284
Single Senior (60+ years)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$189	Household Senior (60+ years)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$257
Single Concession (Pensioner or Student)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$149	Household Concession (Pensioner or Student)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$230

One card
over 800
destinations

Free entry to
National Trust
properties around
the world

Personal Details

Name 1 Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____ Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

Name 2 Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____ Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

Address

Street _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact Information

Phone (H) _____ (M) _____

Email _____

Payment Details

Please charge my credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex

Credit card number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Cardholder's name _____

Expiry date ____ / ____ Signature _____

☐ Cheque made payable to: The National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

**Please return this completed form to the
National Trust of Australia (Victoria) 6 Parliament Place, East Melbourne, VIC 3002.
Or scan and email to membership@nattrust.com.au**





Vintage Clothing Sale

Donations wanted

We are now collecting vintage and designer clothing from the late 1800s to present day for the National Trust Vintage Clothing Sale at Como House on 16 & 17 March 2019

This includes quality women's, men's, and children's clothes, as well as formal garments, hats, gloves, belts, handbags, scarves, jewellery, materials and collectables including haberdashery, textiles, household linen, furnishings and luggage.

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

Thank you for your support

Contact us to donate

Libby 0408 038 129 jehowcroft@bigpond.com
Nance (03) 9889 1042 Deborah 0418 334 475

27 JULY
4 NOV

OPEN
DAILY

SUPER 70S

A FASHION
EXHIBITION

Rippon Lea Estate, Elsternwick
superseventies.com.au



NATIONAL
TRUST