



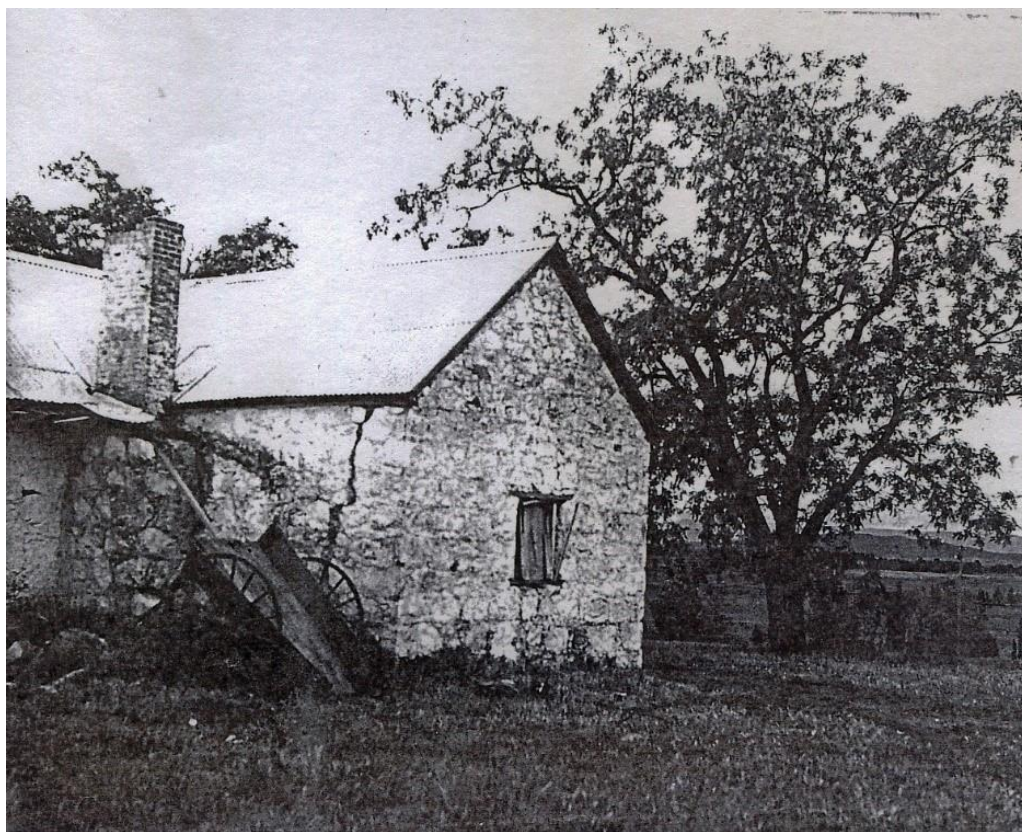
NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA

Heritage in Trust

(ACT)

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North-western corner of School House, showing old fireplace and part of original building that Ainslie and his men would have lived in until the rest of the hut was completed

The early history of St John's School House

There is some controversy about the age and the use of St John's School House.

What really happened when James Ainslie came to the Limestone Plains in 1824? Where did he and his shepherds live? Little is known about shepherds, their sheep and the huts they lived in on the Limestone Plains, in those early days. Where did Ainslie and his shepherds live if not in the hut which later became the School House?

The Duntroon House area would have been unsuitable because it was too far from the sheep-grazing area.

On the other hand, the hut was built in an area of 4,000 acres carrying 3,000 to 4,000 sheep with six or seven shepherds.

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Unfortunately, Campbell documents that could provide evidence are gone. According to John Gale's *Canberra History and Legend* (page 11):

"There are two insuperable difficulties confronting the writer of anything purporting to be the history of Canberra and its adjacent country. First, the loss of documentary evidence as to the exact dates of events. Alluding to this, Fred Campbell, in a letter referred to, writes: 'In the eighties I had access to documents in Messrs Campbell and Co's office (in Sydney) which would have given me the information that we are seeking, but such records, as far as known are now burnt.'"

Secondly, Gale states that all the documents held by the Queanbeyan Court House had also been destroyed.

Finally, Fred Campbell lost his records in a fire at 'Bishopthorpe', Goulburn in 1912, after the resumption of Yarralumla.

We now look for the reasons why I believe the School site was the home for Ainslie and the shepherds. The area selected for their abode had to be in a place where the sheep could be guarded from wild dog attack. This would require open country for the sheep to camp at night. In addition, the site was ideal for sheep handling as it is on a knob of land overlooking and adjacent to the surrounding grazing area. While the hut was being built, the shepherds/stone masons could keep an eye on the sheep grazing around the adjoining pastures.

Ainslie had very quickly realised that the open sheep country where he had arrived would be very windy and cold in the winter, and that a substantial building would be necessary. The only building material readily available was stone. In his book *Spirit of Wharf House*, CET Newman states that the Commonwealth valued the building on 24 April 1918. Mr Oldershott reported then that the School House was occupied by a tenant who described it as a church cottage (not a school house). The building, old and dilapidated with rough stone rubble walls, shingles and covered with iron, was valued at fifty pounds.

Further to this, Professor Robinson, in his book, *Canberra's First Hundred Years and After*, page 55, writes:

"But it was hard to forgive the designer who placed the "front" of the new house at the side, close up to the church fence, with an exclusive

view of the church burial ground immediately before it."

The new building was already there long before the church was built in 1841.

This little building would have played a very important part in the building of the church in 1840-1845, to sleep in and store materials while the church was being built.

There was no cement available at the time Ainslie was building his shepherd's hut. Lime mortar is much softer and does not have the strength and durability that cement has, but was readily available from Mr Moore's property at Acton. I believe that it is possible that Robert Campbell, after the School House/Ainslie's hut was built, would have asked Ainslie to help build Moore's Acton stone building in return for the help that he had been given by Moore in 1845.

While Ainslie was establishing himself at the School House site, most of the men would have been at Duntroon beginning to build the main house and associated buildings. Robert Campbell would have sent stone masons, who he had previously employed in Sydney, for the more skilled work on the main house. Eric Martin of Eric Martin & Associates, points out that lime mortar was used on the early part of Duntroon House and the School House. We are certain that the entire School House was built at the same time.

See photo below, that we brought back from Scotland in 1985, which clearly shows three chimneys standing and a large burnt building.



The building second from far right is the burnt hut with collapsed iron roof (the original Shepherd's Hut, now known as the School House). The building on far right is a small shepherd's hut for management of the area, built after the original Shepherd's Hut.

The burnt building has what looks like a big flat sheet of iron on the roof which must have been added when iron

was available, somewhere between 1840 and 1864. Note the thatched hut in the photo, where farm workers would have lived to supervise this area of the property after moving from the School House, about 1835, when Charles Campbell took over the management of the property after Ainslie. About this time there would have been a lot of fences built for sheep management. There would need to be only one or two shepherds to manage the sheep.

The only evidence of extension of the School House is on the southern wall. Ainslie may have felt it was going to be too small to live in. He subsequently enlarged it for himself.

My father, George, and his elder sister, Susan, would have attended church with Marianne Campbell (Robert Campbell's daughter-in-law and their grandmother). They would have been told about the old hut. This is why I feel so strongly that the age of the School House must be told.

Robert Campbell

Photos provided by the author

National Trust (ACT) Members Reward Card

If you attend 3 member activities then the 4th activity is free for you, or you can bring a friend (non-member or member) free of charge.

Your card can be stamped at fee-paying events which cost \$20 or more, including bus trips and the Christmas party but can only be redeemed at events to the value of \$25. New and renewing members will receive new Reward Cards but existing cards can also be used.

It's up to members to mention when booking for an event that you are due for a free event. In order to redeem your free activity, you must produce your card (with 3 stamps) and have the 4th ticked off on arrival at the event.

Mary Johnston, Chair, Tours Committee

ACT National Trust Heritage Awards

are happening again in 2019. They will be advertised shortly, with submissions due mid-year.

Watch the website for further information.

ACT Trust News

President's Update

Dear Members

It is with much pleasure that I write to you for the first time as President of the National Trust (ACT).

Since assuming this role in December, I have been hugely impressed with the number and variety of activities conducted by the Trust and the commitment and enthusiasm of the members of the Council and our volunteers. It is a very busy and productive organisation whose contribution continues to be valued by the community.

I have much to learn but hope I will be a worthy successor to my predecessors. Thank you to Chris Wain for his hard work as your President in 2018.

Our built, natural and cultural heritage is constantly under threat from a range of benign (and occasionally malign) forces. We must remain vigilant and well-organised, so we continue to play the leadership role outlined in our charter.

To this end the Council held a very productive **planning meeting** on Saturday 2 February. This was the first step in the development of a new Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 and a Business Plan for the year ahead. Our discussions, which were frank and broad-ranging, addressed our organisational challenges and how best we can help preserve Canberra's heritage for future generations. The meeting focussed on several key strategic themes. These included:

- how to ensure the continued organisational and financial viability of the Trust by identifying new sources of revenue from our commercial activities and sponsorships
- upgrading our public-facing communications capacity
- the need to expand our advocacy and community awareness activities
- how best to engage with political parties in advancing our objectives in the lead-up to the rapidly-approaching Federal and Territory elections
- strengthening our relations with other like-minded organisations.



We hope that the outcome of the planning day will be a refreshed and reinvigorated organisation ready to face the challenges ahead. **Some of the immediate priorities** we have identified (amongst many) include:

- the ongoing battle to achieve the heritage listing of Canberra (which has been languishing for years on the desk of successive Federal Ministers)
- the need to coax the ACT Government into finalising its Five-Year Heritage Strategy
- progressing our proposal for an Innovation and Technology Park in Canberra.

The Trust is well served by our three Council Committees: Heritage, Tours and Events, and Business Development. They will continue to work hard during the coming year to implement the Trust's ambitious policy agenda and program of activities.

I enjoyed meeting so many of you at our Christmas Party at the historic Cliftonwood property on 2 December. I look forward to catching up with many more of you over coming months to learn about your aspirations for the Trust.

Gary Kent

New Council 2019

The National Trust ACT is kicking off to a great start in 2019 with a full complement of 12 Council members.

Gary Kent is our new President - his twitter profile says he is "A Melburnian who has made his home in Canberra and loves it. Enjoys family, friends, rare books, genealogy, community activities, reading and politics". Gary co-founded the Inner South Canberra Community Council and served for five years as Chair of the Friends of the National Library of Australia.

We have four other new members:

Jane Goffman, planning specialist and active member of the Dickson Residents Group;

Marianne Albury-Colless, President of the Reid Residents' Association and member of the North Canberra Community, with extensive museum experience at AWM and NMA, and nearly a decade spent overseas in India, Malaysia and China;

Trevor Wilson, graduate of the ANU (1961-66) and an Australian foreign service officer for 36 years, while being based in Canberra, currently a Visiting Fellow, Department of Political and Social Change at ANU; and

Gary Watkins who comes with strategy and management experience and has a keen interest in railway heritage.

Chris Wain resigned from Council at the AGM last year, but the other seven members continue to serve on Council. They are Scott McAlister (Treasurer/Vice President), Mary Johnston (Secretary), Graham Carter, Eric Martin, Ian Oliver, Linda Roberts and John Tucker.

Special General Meeting, Sunday 2 December

As the auditor had requested additional information which delayed the presentation of his report and balance sheet at the AGM in October, a special meeting was held at the Christmas gathering on Sunday 2 December at Cliftonwood, Yass to present these reports to members. More than 60 members of the National Trust (ACT) were present.

The Treasurer reported a profit of around \$5,000 for 2017-18 as a result of increased membership, income from tours and a grant for the Heritage Festival Open Day. The Treasurer drew attention to the note about Contingent Liabilities arising from the tender for the Beyer-Garrett engine from the Liquidator of the Australian Railway Historical Society. It appears unlikely that this claim would proceed but would be defended if it did. Members will be kept updated on developments. The financial report was accepted and Bandle McAveney were appointed auditors for 2018-19.

Volunteer of the Year, 2018 – Alan Kerr



Alan has just completed 20 years voluntary service to the National Trust ACT. Back in 2009 he was joint Volunteer of the Year, along with Elizabeth Kennedy, for digitizing the classification citations. He

again received a joint award in 2013 as part of the Centenary Rally Volunteer Team. In 2017 we recognized Alan's many years of voluntary service by awarding him Honorary Life Membership. He continues to support the Trust and is very deserving of the award of Volunteer of the Year for 2018. We very much appreciate his generosity of time and his support, in particular over the past year, in playing a major role in the recent move of the Trust's office from the third floor to the second floor of the Griffin Centre. This is in addition to his regular work each week with Judy Brooks updating, sorting and rationalising the Trust's Classification Files.

Congratulations and thank you, Alan.

20 Years of Service – Judy Brooks

Judy's loyalty to the Trust as a volunteer goes way back, initially in the UK, then at Lanyon Homestead and in recent years in the office. Her assistance came to the fore during the Trust's car rally in 2013 and since then as a great support to Liz in the office, especially during two office moves over the past five years! She received Volunteer of the Year in 2016 for her dedication to the Trust, and she continues to visit the office each week, helping Alan with the Classification Files. Thank you, Judy.

Honorary Life Membership – Liz McMillan

Under our Constitution, Honorary Life Members are persons who have rendered distinguished service to the National Trust and who are elected by members of the National Trust. At the Special General Meeting on 2 December, Mary Johnston proposed that Honorary Life Membership be awarded to Liz McMillan, the ACT Trust's Office Manager. Mary noted that Liz is so much more than an employee of the Trust. She also does a lot of things on a voluntary basis. This includes catering and helping regularly at events such as the AGM, the Heritage Awards, Open Days and the Christmas Party. In 2018 she was also helping Wendy Whitham with our publication, *Heritage in Trust*, on a voluntary basis. In recent months with the move of the office, she worked well beyond her paid hours - even coming in on her birthday! Liz's nomination was agreed by acclamation and the party resumed!

New members

The National Trust (ACT) warmly welcomes the following new members:

Mrs Gillian & Ms Jennifer Allen
Mrs Karen Brown & Mrs Anne Smith
Mrs Susan Burns
Mrs Trish Chalmers
Mrs Alisia & Mr Nicolas Chaseling
P Clacher & D Hobbes
Ms Lucy Crommelin & Mr Ben Passmore
Mr Paul Costigan & Ms Gael Newton AM
Mr Paul & Mrs Pam Ferrar
Miss Sandra Greener & Mr Andrew Cohn
Mr Phil & Mrs Julie Greenwood
Mr Bryan & Mrs Bernadette Griffin
Mr Grant Hawley & Dr Wendy Craik
Ms Jacqueline Howard
Ms Pauline Jennings
Mr T C Layton & Mr J Tabone
Mrs Kay Leach
Ms Helen Liszczyński
Ms Heather Macgregor
Mr Geoffrey McDougall & Ms Kerry Veness
Miss Tanya Mowbray
Mr David Newman & Ms Patricia Vincent
Mr Alex Ochmann & Mrs Rebecca Levitt
Mrs Ann Pleasants
Mr Robert & Mrs Margaret Quodling
Mr Alexander & Mrs Colleen Smith
Ms Sharyn Sullivan & Mr Barry Hugg
Mr David & Mrs Maureen Warnes
Ms Gwendelene Whitford
Mr Ally & Irena Willcox

In Memoriam

Bruce Kent – he and his wife, Ann, became Patron members in May 2015 and took a keen interest in the redevelopment on Northbourne Ave. Ann is still a member.

What's next – coming up

Heritage Walks

On **31 March**, the walk at Oaks Estate with Dr Karen Williams will give us a different look at Oaks Estate, exploring the residential area of that very different suburb.

The **28 April** walk, to the Duntroon Dairy and Duntroon, is also a Heritage Festival event. There are two other Heritage Walks as part of the Heritage Festival – see page 7 for more information.

On **26 May**, there will be an opportunity to explore the Yarralumla Nursery and learn about its heritage from people who know it very well!

If this has whetted your appetite, check out www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks or the Heritage Walks Facebook page www.facebook.com/HeritageWalksACT where details can be found when bookings open. Bookings are on Eventbrite not through the National Trust office. If you have any questions, suggestions for walks or would like to receive a copy of a monthly newsletter about the walks, contact us on heritagewalksact@gmail.com.

Special Tours

NORFOLK ISLAND, 23-30 August

Our tour of Norfolk Island, organised by Potter Travel, will include tours of World Heritage Listed Kingston, the Pitcairn Settlers Village Experience, the Colleen McCulloch Home Tour and other highlights with Baunti Escapes. There will be several Island dinners, including a Progressive Dinner which takes you to three lovely homes in three completely different parts of the island.

AUTUMN SPLENDOUR IN JAPAN, 4-17 November

Japan is truly spectacular in autumn. This two-week tour is planned to visit some of the well-known sites, such as Tokyo, Nikko and Kyoto, plus some places perhaps not so frequently visited by foreigners. We will start in Tokyo, travel north to Sendai and Matsushima, then across Japan through the mountains to Kanazawa, then down to Kyoto.

For more information on either of these Special Tours, both of which are currently fully booked, contact Liz McMillan on 6230 0533 or info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

Looking forward...

The 14th Reid Open Houses and Gardens will be held in **late October or early November 2019** and will be advertised in *Heritage in Trust* and the Trust's e-Newsletter. For the first time, a 1930s two-storey house in Booroondara Street will be opened. Those interested in the event are urged to book early to avoid disappointment.

National Archives of Australia

The National Archives' East Block building in Parkes is undergoing an exciting redevelopment.

While this is happening, our reading room and *Charters of our Nation* gallery will continue to operate just around the corner at

**Old Parliament House
18 King George Terrace
Parkes, Canberra ACT**

Free after admission: \$2 adults, \$1 concession and children over five

Leave some *space* in your diary for the Heritage Festival



At last year's Festival I drank champagne at the Irish Embassy, *held* a satellite at Mt Stromlo, listened to live baroque music at the former mortuary station and met Enrico Taglietti at Giralang School. What will we get up to at the 2019 Canberra and Region Heritage Festival?

Each year the Festival is refreshed with a different theme allowing for new perspectives and possible new partnerships. For 2019 the theme is 'Space'. In July the world will celebrate 50 years since man walked on the moon and *that* footage came from Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station here in the ACT!

Part of this year's Festival will act almost as a final dress rehearsal for 20-21 July commemorations for Apollo 11. Aided by ACT Heritage Grants and works undertaken by Parks and Conservation Service there will be an array of activities. Be part of the attempt to have the most people photographing the Milky Way at the former Orroral Valley Tracking Station on May the fourth. Enjoy the many intimate local stories in connection to the moon landing through a range of talks, walks, exhibitions and films.

However, space is more than 'outer space'. Walter Burley Griffin said: "Architecture is a space art". In 1967 Enrico Taglietti stated: "Architectural experience is the experience of space. A space in total communion with its users". So what does this mean for this year's Festival? A program with wonderfully diverse and exciting events that will be promoted using Trevor Dickinson's quirky Canberra-centric images.

The National Trust continues to be an important stakeholder as an event organiser. Revived and new partnerships will see an Open Day, grandparents day and tours fill up our calendar. You will find a listing below and in the Heritage Diary on pages 8 and 9, and Mary Johnston would certainly appreciate any offers of help from our members, especially at the 13 April Open Day at Gungahlin Homestead.

The program will be up on the web (see address below) from 13 March and reservations can then be made—but be quick, even free events sometimes need a booking so

that your experience is the best it can be. Is getting inside the National Carillon or Scrivener Dam on your bucket list? The printed program will again be inserted into the Canberra Weekly in their 28 March issue.

I look forward to seeing you in April.

Linda Roberts

Heritage Festival Co-ordinator

ACT Government

<http://act.gov.au/heritagefestival/>

Linda has written about the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival above with its exciting theme of 'Space'. Our events are more down to earth but can still be linked to space – exploring and surveying are all about finding new 'spaces' and we will explore the spaces inside and outside some of Canberra's heritage buildings!



Gungahlin Homestead

Our annual **Open Day** kicks the Festival off with a bang, we hope! We are delighted to be holding the Open Day at Gungahlin Homestead again – thanks to the tenants, CSIRO and Soldier On, and to the ACT Government for a Heritage Grant to run the event. In 2017 we were amazed by the interest in Gungahlin Homestead which is rarely open to the public. Our three guides were run off their feet showing people through the building. This year we will issue tickets for the tours to manage the potential crowds. While waiting for a tour, visitors will be able to wander around the grounds, inspect stalls with interesting displays and enjoy entertainment and refreshments. Circus Warehouse and the face painter will be there for the younger visitors. It's on Saturday 13 April from 10am to 3pm. Gungahlin Homestead is in Bellenden St, Crace.



Duntroon Dairy

We have three **Heritage Walks** – Scrivener's Marks that Defined Canberra (Saturday 20 April), Duntroon Dairy and Duntroon (Sunday 28 April) and Democracy Heritage (Sunday 5 May) – exploring different aspects of Canberra from the early settlers and the surveying of Canberra to our military and national heritage. Our **Trust Talk at the Hotel Kurrajong** (Monday 15 April) will be on the unusual topic of 'Lt James Cook's Links with Canberra'!

As it will be school holidays, Elizabeth Burness and the National Trust will open **Old Tuggeranong Schoolhouse for a 'Grandparents' Day** (Wednesday 24 April). If you are looking for something to do with some little ones, go along and show them what school and life were like early in the 20th century.

The final event is a joint **visit to Mt Stromlo Director's Residence and Garden** with the Australian Garden History Society on Sunday 5 May.



Director's Residence, Mt Stromlo

More details will be on the National Trust website closer to the date.

We welcome volunteers to help at events, particularly the Open Day at Gungahlin Homestead on Saturday 13 April. Just send an email to events@nationaltrustact.org.au to let us know if you are able to assist.

Mary Johnston

Chair

ACT National Trust Tours and Events Committee

Heritage Diary March-September 2019

A selection of heritage-related events that may be of interest to members

Details of National Trust (ACT) events are provided on page 5 and 6

Entries in blue are National Trust Heritage Festival events – for details see pages 7

Date and time	Event and location	Organiser	Contact
Friday 1, Saturday 2, Friday 8 and Saturday 9 March 6–10pm	National Archives of Australia - a special display during the Enlighten Festival relating to the 50 th anniversary of the moon landing.	NAA	naa.gov.au/visit-us
Tuesday 12 March 12 noon	Canberra Day Oration. Speaker is Dr Marie Coleman. National Library of Australia Theatre.	CDHS	Phone (02) 6281 2929 or email admin@canberrahistory.org.au
Wednesday 20 March From 6pm	CAS Seminar. Michael Pearson on <i>Industrial Archaeology in Japan</i> . National Museum of Australia	CAS	\$5 entry fee; CAS & Friends Full Members free. Bookings essential: https://friendscaslectures.eventbrite.com.au
Sunday 31 March 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk – Oaks Estate with Karen Williams	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Friday 29 to Sunday 31 March	Joint U3A ACT and National Trust ACT Tour to Millthorpe and Carcoar	Garth Setchell, U3A Tours Officer	For queries, email Garth at tours@u3acanberra.org.au
Saturday 6 April 3.00-7.00 pm	Cooma Cottage Twilight Autumn Picnic Fair	NSW National Trust	https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/cooma-cottage-twilight-autumn-picnic-fair/ No bookings required. Gold coin donation.
Tuesday 9 April 5pm for 5.30pm	CDHS Monthly Meeting Venue to be advised	CDHS	Phone (02) 6281 2929 or email admin@canberrahistory.org.au
Saturday 13 April – Sunday 5 May	Canberra and Region Heritage Festival	ACT Government	http://act.govt.au/heritagefestival/ and Canberra Weekly 28 March issue.
Saturday 13 April 10.00am-3.00pm	National Trust Open Day – Gungahlin House Bellenden St, Crace.	National Trust	Gold coin donation
Monday 15 April	Trust talk at the Hotel Kurrajong. The topic is Lt James Cook's Links with Canberra.	National Trust	More details will be available on the Trust website closer to the date.
Wednesday 17 April From 6pm	CAS Seminar. Sue McIntyre-Tamwoy on <i>Beyond buildings and sites</i> National Museum of Australia	CAS	\$5 entry fee; CAS & Friends Full members free. Bookings essential: https://friendscaslectures.eventbrite.com.au
Saturday 20 April 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk – Scrivener's Marks that defined Canberra	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Wednesday 24 April	Grandparents Day at Old Tuggeranong Schoolhouse	National Trust	More details will be available on the Trust website closer to the date.
Sunday 28 April 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk – Duntroon Dairy and Duntroon	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Sunday 5 May 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk – Democracy Heritage	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/

Date and time	Event and location	Organiser	Contact
Sunday 5 May	Visit to Mt Stromlo Director's Residence and Garden	National Trust and AGHS	More details will be available on the Trust website closer to the date.
Sunday 5 May 9.30am-4.30pm	Bell's Line in Autumn. Self-drive tour.	NSW National Trust	https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/bells-line-in-autumn/ For enquiries please contact booking officer on (02) 43592463. This tour will be limited to 40 people. Bookings essential: Book before 24 April at nt.hawkesbury@gmail.com .
Tuesday 14 May 5pm for 5.30pm	CDHS Monthly Meeting Venue to be advised	CDHS	Phone (02) 6281 2929 or email admin@canberrahistory.org.au
Sunday 26 May 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk – Yarralumla Nursery	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Tuesday 11 June 5pm for 5.30pm	CDHS Monthly Meeting Venue to be advised.	CDHS	Phone (02) 6281 2929 or email admin@canberrahistory.org.au
Sunday 23 June 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Tuesday 9 July 5pm for 5.30pm	CDHS Monthly Meeting Venue to be advised.	CDHS	Phone (02) 6281 2929 or email admin@canberrahistory.org.au
Sunday 28 July 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Tuesday 13 August 5pm for 5.30pm	CDHS Monthly Meeting Venue to be advised.	CDHS	Phone (02) 6281 2929 or email admin@canberrahistory.org.au
Friday 23 - Friday 30 August	Norfolk Island: 8- day tour	National Trust	Fully booked
Sunday 25 August 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/
Sunday 22 September 9.30-11.00am	Heritage Walk	National Trust	For more details when available, go to https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/

Note: AGHS is the Australian Garden History Society. CAS is the Canberra Archaeological Society. CDHS is the Canberra and District Historical Society. NAA is the National Archives of Australia. Information on events run by organisations other than the National Trust (ACT) is provided in good faith, but readers should check dates and times with the contacts indicated above.

Tours and events – what's been happening

Heritage Walks

The final 2018 walk was a journey to the Brindabella Ranges and a guided walk through Bendora Arboretum

with forestry expert Dr John Turnbull. A wonderful day in the high country where many of the party had never ventured before.



Bendora Arboretum walk. (Heritage walk photos by Joan and Trevor Lipscombe)

The first walk for 2019 was much closer to town – the suburb of Campbell. The weather was kind, given the hot days we had in January, and this, combined with some carpooling, meant that it was a shorter walk than usual but equally enjoyable based on the feedback received.



Campbell walk. (Heritage walk photos by Joan and Trevor Lipscombe)

By the time you read this, we will have had a walk in the Cotter Dam area on 24 February, exploring early Canberra's water supply, guided by members of Engineering Heritage Canberra.

Mary Johnston and Trevor Lipscombe

Other Tours and Events

Hunter gathering: Joint U3A/National Trust trip 19-22 October 2018

Thanks to arrangements made by U3A ACT's Tours Officer, Garth Setchell, 26 U3A ACT and 19 National Trust (ACT) members enjoyed a 4-day trip to Newcastle and the Hunter region in October last year, organised around inspections of private homes and other properties that were being opened over the weekend

of 20-21 October specifically at the request of the NSW National Trust's Women's Committee.

Our first main stop, on Friday's journey from Canberra to Newcastle, was at Old Government House in Parramatta where we were treated to a guided tour of the main building by National Trust volunteer guides. I think most of us were surprised to realise that the exterior is not, in fact, stone but wood or rendered brick painted to look like sandstone. There simply weren't the resources available at the time of construction to make a more substantial building.



Christchurch Cathedral, Newcastle

Saturday was largely occupied with visits to four of the properties being opened for the National Trust. The first was a tiny cottage hidden away, while the second, Hill House, was a grand 2-storey house with a view over the ocean. The latter was built for the first mayor of Newcastle. Lunch was provided for us at the Anglican Cathedral. It was slightly odd to be sitting in a pew, munching on sandwiches, home-made cakes and fruit.

After lunch we travelled to the suburb of Merewether to visit another cottage. This was followed by a very different kind of building, the Soque Apartments in the suburb of Islington, where the historic woolstores have been converted into 96 upmarket warehouse apartments.

On Sunday morning, there were three properties to be inspected: the very modern and innovative NeWSpace building belonging to the University of Newcastle; Coutts Sailors' Home – an even larger grand home than Hill House, originally built to provide accommodation for sailors while on shore (to keep them out of the pubs) and now largely restored from an almost derelict state; and Tomago House, a National Trust property built in the 1840s as the homestead for a large agricultural estate.



Coutts Sailors' Home, Newcastle

These visits having completed the Women's Committee's programme for the weekend, we headed immediately for Maitland where lunch was waiting for us in the garden of the National Trust's property, Brough House. We looked over next-door Grossman House, also owned by the Trust, which has been restored as a Victorian gentleman's town house.

On the drive home on Monday, we called in to Hill End for morning tea and to Mayfield Garden for our boxed lunch (no-one starves on Garth's trips) and a quick walk around the main part of the garden. This was an interesting last day on an enjoyable, informative and well-organised trip.

Wendy Whitham (text and photos)
U3A and National Trust member

13th Reid Open Houses and Gardens Sunday 18 November

Sixty-four people, including a few from interstate, took part in this annual event which sold out for the third year running. After expenses, about \$1,030 was raised for the Trust, \$300 for the Reid Residents' Association (RRA), and \$325 for the Reid Pre-School which put on the usual delicious afternoon tea.

Three houses and gardens, which are part of the ACT Heritage-listed *Reid Housing Precinct*, were opened for inspection. None of the properties had been opened previously for the event. The properties opened comprised two late 1920s Federal Capital Commission (FCC) Type 9 houses, the most popular of the FCC-designed houses, and a post-FCC 1934 Type "L" house.

The Type "L" house is unique, as it was modified before its construction to suit the needs of its purchaser, the noted Federal Capital Architect, Cuthbert Whitley, then of the Public Works Branch, Dept of Home Affairs.

Cuthbert and his wife, Mabel, lived in their Currong Street Type "L" house for 8 years. Cuthbert passed away in 1942, but his wife and two children continued to live in the house until 1951 when it passed to their daughter, Jean, and her husband, Alf Nicholls. A third generation, in the form of Dr Warren Nicholls and his wife, Joanne, now live in the same house and have carefully made a number of sympathetic changes.



*Warren and Joanne Nicholls' Type "L" house in Currong Street, Reid
(photo: Google)*

One of the two late 1920s FCC Type 9 houses opened for inspection counts as its former owner the noted author, Bryce Courtney. He and his wife, Christine Gee, purchased the house in 2008 and extended and renovated it, and created a writing room for Bryce. In March 2015 the home was purchased by John McNee and Jenni McMullan, the present owners, who made further renovations. The former original brick garage was turned into a study and other sympathetic changes followed. Substantial work has also occurred in the garden.



*Front of the McNee-McMullan House (FCC 9) October 2018
(photo: Jenni McMullen and John McNee)*

Special thanks go to Heritage Architect Ken Charlton AM FRAIA, Nadine Nielson, Graham Carter OAM, the Reid Pre-school, RRA and other volunteers who assisted to make the event a success.

John Tucker

Trust Christmas Party

Sunday 2 December



Members enjoying the Christmas party (photo: Jane Goffman)

Despite some showers in the morning, the day was fine – if a little windy! This didn't prevent 60 plus people enjoying the beautiful surroundings of Cliftonwood, and the opportunity to inspect the house and the outbuildings and see work on restoring the shed. We are grateful to the Yass and District Historical Society for being there to talk about the house and its contents and to the Yass Antique Farm Machinery Club who were working on the shed and providing information about the outbuildings. These two groups are working with the owner of Cliftonwood, Tony Wade, to ensure the conservation of the property, and we thank them all.



At the Christmas party. From the left, Cedric Bryant, Councillor & Chair of the Heritage Committee Graham Carter, new Honorary Life Member Liz McMillan, new President Gary Kent, and new Councillor Gary Watkins (photo: Linda Roberts)

Mary Johnston

ACT Region Heritage Symposium 2018: Heritage on the Edge: Continuity with Change in Canberra?

The 2018 ACT Region Heritage Symposium, held on Saturday 18 August, looked at continuity and change in heritage practice within the Canberra community. It was hosted in the RN Robertson Building on the ANU campus, which is a heritage building that has recently been upgraded.



ANU Chancellery (photo: Hannah Griffiths)

The day opened with Edwina Jans giving a brief history of the building the symposium was being hosted in, followed by a welcome to country. The first talk of the day was given by ACT Government Architect, Catherine Townsend, who discussed the relationship between new and old in Canberra, a theme that would carry on throughout the day. Glenn Harper then spoke on Brutalism in NSW public architecture, an often-overlooked aspect of Australia's built heritage. Something that is happening locally and across the country is the demolition of university campus residences with heritage values. Duncan Gibbs spoke on the protection of Robb College (University of New England, Armidale) and the issues supporters faced in getting the college heritage recognition. Graeme Trickett discussed Canberra's modern architecture, a major feature of the symposium, and the hidden aspects of the heritage value these buildings hold.

After morning tea, David West and David Priddle spoke about the marble cladding of the National Library of Australia. Before hearing this talk, I did not know that marble could bend and warp over time. The second talk was given by PhD student Amanda Gruzas who discussed the air quality in Canberra's cultural institutions, and how this affects the preservation of material culture.



Inside the RN Robertson Building (photo: Hannah Griffiths)

After the second session, Amy Jarvis hosted a campus walk, showing ANU's iconic mid-century architecture. With all the construction happening on campus, it was a valuable opportunity to see parts of ANU that have been there for decades and have helped shaped the university experience for thousands of students.

The third session began with a talk by Katie Hayne on the Northbourne Flats which have mostly been demolished over the last twelve months as part of the ACT Government's urban renewal project. Marianne Albury-Colless discussed living in Reid and negotiating heritage whilst living in a heritage precinct, with particular focus on 'Mr Fluffy' rebuilds and population growth. Another interesting perspective on Canberra heritage was presented by Virginia Rigney who discussed the impact of living in a planned city on children growing up in Canberra. The final speaker in this session was Richard Hekimian whose topic was the struggles of working in the heritage industry. Richard received a lot of questions from the audience, primarily directed at ACT Heritage as an organisation. It was good to see ACT Heritage engaging with the community.

Amanda Evans started the final session for the day, discussing Haig Park, another heritage project that has received a lot of publicity lately. Paul Johnston discussed the relationship between Moorilla and MONA. Then followed questions and a panel led by Will Gardner and David Hobbes. The final talk was given by Phillip Jones who looked at cocktail culture in the home.

The symposium would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of Sarah, Amy, Anna, Glenn, Marilyn, Hannah, Eric, Edwina, Liz, and Bronwynne. And a special thanks to this year's sponsors and partners: Australia ICOMOS, Canberra Archaeological Society, Canberra & District Historical Society, the National Trust of Australia (ACT), GML Heritage, The Australian National University, Canberra Modern, Philip Leeson Architects, and Eric Martin and Associates Architects.

Bronnagh Norris

Canberra Museum and Gallery purchase of the CS Daley desk and chair

This article is an edited version of the full article written by John Tucker. The longer article has been placed on the National Trust (ACT)'s website and can be found at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/news/canberra-museum-and-gallery-purchase-of-the-cs-daley-desk-and-chair/>



The CS Daley office chair (c 1926-27), after conservation (Photo: John Tucker)

In October 2018, the National Trust (ACT) approached the Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG) to gauge the Museum's possible interest in purchasing CS Daley's office desk and chair. The approach was prompted by the Trust's imminent move to a new, smaller office on the 2nd floor of the Griffin Centre and the belief that the desk and chair, so significant in the formative history of Canberra as the new national capital, really belonged in a museum where it could be easily displayed to the people of the ACT and Australia.

After the Trust's contact with CMAG, an inspection by a CMAG conservator and an independent valuation of both items of furniture, the desk and chair were purchased by CMAG for \$5,000.

The partner's - style desk and chair had been donated to the National Trust (ACT) in about 2001 by the family of Mr Thomas Talbot Colquhoun MBE (1904-81). Both items are reported by him as first being used in the mid-1920s by Mr CS Daley, Secretary of the Federal Capital Advisory Committee (FCAC) and, from 1 January 1925, the Secretary of the Federal Capital Commission (FCC). Mr Colquhoun recorded the desk's history in a

hand-written note which was found in a drawer of the desk at the time of donation to the Trust.



The CS Daley Queensland maple desk – circa 1926-27. (Photo: John Tucker)

Charles Studdy Daley (1887-1966) was an exceptional man who played a pivotal role in Canberra's early history and development. His career was centred on the planning and development of the new capital in Canberra, including the conduct of the international competition for the design of the city in 1911-14. He remained a Public Servant and took up residence in Canberra in 1924. Following abolition of the FCC in 1930, he became the Civic Administrator of Canberra in

the Department of Home Affairs as well as becoming a member of the Capital Territory Advisory Council.

He was awarded an OBE in 1927, was a member of the Council of the Canberra University College and the Australian National University for 28 years, and a founding member of the Canberra & District Historical Society in 1953. In 1963 he was made an honorary associate of the (now) Australian Institute of Architects (AIA).

He recorded his memoirs in a weekly series of articles, *As I Recall*, published in *The Canberra Times* between 1964 and 1966, which were also published as *As I Recall – Reminiscences of Early Canberra* (Mulini Press 1994). Charles Daley died in Canberra on 30 September 1966, aged 79 years.

John Tucker

Sources:

'*This Desk & Chair*.' (handwritten and typed one-page note on the history of the items). TT Colquhoun (undated). NT (ACT).

'*As I Recall – Reminiscences of Early Canberra*' (Mulini Press 1994).

Daley, Charles Studdy (1887-1966), by Peter Harrison. Australian Dictionary of Biography.

Conservation Report to National Trust of Australia (Tax Invoice No 271), by Greg Peters. 26 February 2002. NT (ACT).

Heritage Happenings

2019 will see a number of heritage issues evolve as there will be final proposals that should be prepared for:

Former CSIRO Headquarters Site in Campbell

Despite the site having identified heritage values for cultural and material aspects it has been demolished and the site will be redeveloped.

Old Canberra Brickworks

Proposals will evolve after several years of work.

Light Rail Stage 2

The impact it may have on the Lake, Parliamentary Triangle and other heritage sites.

Anzac Park East and West and the adjacent cafeteria

Proposals will emerge.

City and Gateway with the ACT Urban Design Framework and NCA Draft Amendment 91

Out for comment till early March.

Haig Park Conservation/Masterplan

Kingston Powerhouse Precinct

Possible future of Manuka Arts Precinct

Robertsons' Cottage, Oaks Estate

The property is deteriorating and urgent conservation work is required. The site is also listed on the 2020-2021 land release which concerns the NT and we are following this through.

Other areas that the NT is keen to consider are:

Canberra in the next 100 years

Griffin's garden city is continually under pressure but what are the heritage values we should aim to conserve in the next 100 years.

National heritage listing of Canberra

This is something the NT supports and will continue to press for as it is worthy of listing.

The ACT National Trust's Heritage Committee continues to be involved in numerous activities and provides advice on questions/queries from the community in many diverse ways. Any member interested in working with us generally or on specific issues is always welcomed.

Eric Martin, AM

RELOCATION OF THE ACT HERITAGE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVESACT TO 255 CANBERRA AVENUE, Fyshwick

The **ACT Heritage Library** is excited about the new opportunities this move offers for the history and heritage community. The new [opening hours](#) are 9.30am-5pm Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm on Saturday. Some free parking is available nearby and unmetered 2-hour parking is adjacent to 255 Canberra Avenue, Fyshwick. Buses which serve this address include the 80 and 200 Red Rapid.

Website: <https://www.library.act.gov.au/find/history>

ArchivesACT is also now at 255 Canberra Avenue, Fyshwick. The business processes will remain the same. To have access to ACT Government records you can fill in a [request form](#) describing your research topic and ArchivesACT will identify any relevant ACT Government records that are available and contact you to arrange a time for you to visit their Reading Room. To speak to an archivist in person you are most welcome to drop in for a chat. Opening hours are 9.30am-5pm weekdays.

Website: <https://www.archives.act.gov.au/>

Letters

The Trust Office and individual members of the Trust have received the following correspondence.

Following the Special Tribute to Dianne and Peter Dowling by Geraldine Martin and Mary Johnston, in *Heritage in Trust*, November 2018

1. Letter by email to Geraldine and Mary

Hi Geraldine and Mary

I was just scrolling through the latest edition of *Heritage in Trust* and came upon 'that' article. I read it with a great feeling of humbleness. I immediately called Dianne in from the garden and pointed it out to her and she, like me, was very surprised and overcome.

What can we say?

Both of us had a wonderful time on the overseas trips we did for the Trust and the members and friends who came with us. To be sure, the planning of each tour, the development of the itineraries, the arranging of the

programmes, and the research that went into each tour took much of our time before we even left, but to see how you and Eric and all the others enjoyed the experiences visiting the historic and out-of-the way places we went to, has been very rewarding to us as well. (I will be truthful here - many of the places we went to were on my history and archaeology 'bucket list'. I used many as subjects for the archaeological tutorials I gave to students when at ANU).

Finally visiting these places and walking through their history was a strong learning experience for both of us, made even more so with the on-site lectures I gave to the groups. The enjoyment and deep thought expressed on your faces after a visit and also on the bus when you all had to 'learn a bit' will always be remembered and the drinks and conversations we all had in the hotel bars after a busy day of touring.

The local tours we gave added to our enjoyment and experience. Whether it was telling the human stories of the deep past at Yankee Hat and Birrigai Rock Shelter (and the walks to and from these places), trudging up the slopes in the rain to the ACT border fences and markers, the many talks about Ginninderra Blacksmith Shop, and Duntroon Dairy, the landscapes and ancient lake systems along the Hay Plains, and the human history of Lake Mungo – all were enjoyable experiences for us.

So, all we can say to you and all those who came with us to have fun and learn a bit, is thank you all. And thank you also to the National Trust for giving us the opportunity to travel to all those wonderful places. It was all worth it.

Cheers

Peter and Dianne

2. Letter by email to Liz McMillan

Thanks Liz

Very interesting newsletter - thanks again to the Trust for the awards - a very important contribution to raising awareness and rewarding excellence in heritage conservation.

Really enjoyed the piece on Peter & Di Dowling - two people truly committed to supporting heritage in the ACT.

Cheers

Edwina

(Edwina Jans, Community Member, ACT Heritage Council)

Following the 13th Reid Open Houses and Gardens on Sunday 18 November 2018

Dear Sirs

I just [thought] I would write you and express my appreciation for your recent visit to Reid.

We had wanted to see the Roman exhibition at the NMA and the Cook display at the NLA. We were waiting for another event to justify our travel and your Sunday visit provided more than ample justification.

We had seen some TV programs on the British Garden Cities and so could very much appreciate the approach taken with Reid.

It was wonderful that the residents were willing to open their homes and gardens for the National Trust

visit. Their willingness to answer questions and provide the history of their properties and the various changes was also most appreciated.

Your comment about the lack of ACT funding caused me to write the Chief Minister and explain the value from a tourism basis that the Trust and its properties provided.

As I doubt my correspondence will do much good, please accept a small \$200.00 cheque as my support for your activities.

Yours sincerely
Michael Skully

Malvern East, Victoria, 25 November 2018

DONATION FORM

The end of the financial year isn't far away. Now is a good time to make your donation to the ACT National Trust and help us to conserve and safeguard places of heritage significance for future generations. Please copy and fill in the form and send to the Trust or you can donate on-line at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/donate-act/>

Name: (in full)

Address:

Suburb: Postcode: Tel:

Email:

For the amount: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other A tax deductible receipt will be sent for donations over \$2.

Become a major donor on our Patron Program (your name will be listed on our website):

Patron ☐ \$1,000 **Major Patron** ☐ \$2,500

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Please select one of the following payment options:

☐ I enclose a cheque made out to the National Trust of Australia (ACT) for the amount indicated above.
Or

☐ Please charge the above amount to the following credit card:
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express

Cardholder's name:Signature:

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Please send me information about:

☐ The National Trust of Australia (ACT) Program of Events

☐ The National Trust of Australia (ACT) Benefactor Program

☐ Making a bequest to the National Trust, as I have included/would like to include the National Trust of Australia in my will

Please return to National Trust of Australia (ACT) Office. PO Box 1144 Civic Square ACT 2608 or email to: info@nationaltrustact.org.au

The National Trust of Australia (ACT) is collecting the information on this form to process your contribution and your preference for further information about the National Trust fundraising, and where relevant, to update your membership details. This information will not be given to a third party other than in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988*

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

ABN 50 797 949 955

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NEW Office Location: Unit 2.03, Level 2, Griffin Centre, 20 Genge St, Canberra ACT 2601

Normal Opening Times:

9.30am to 3.00pm Tuesday to Thursday

Patron: The Hon. Margaret Reid AO

President: Gary Kent

Secretary: Mary Johnston

Treasurer: Scott McAlister

Council: Linda Roberts, Graham Carter, John Tucker, Eric Martin, Ian Oliver, Trevor Wilson, Gary Watkins, Jane Goffman, Marilyn Albury-Colless

Office Manager: Liz McMillan

Keeping up with the Trust

E- news

To join our E-news list, email info@nationaltrustact.org.au with the subject heading of: Subscribe to E News

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To sign up and follow us on Facebook, simply go to <http://www.facebook.com> and enter your email and some personal details to get started, then navigate to <http://www.facebook.com/nationaltrustact> and click the like button near the top of the page.

For Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com> and enter your name and email, and choose a password to sign up and then navigate to https://twitter.com/NatTrust_ACT and click the follow button.

NEW Membership Rates as at 1 January 2019

Joining fee \$35

Annual Membership

Individual \$75

Individual Senior \$70

Individual Concession \$55

Household \$105

Household Senior \$95

Household Concession \$85

Life Membership

Single \$1,662.50

Household \$1,837.50

Benefits for National Trust Members:

+ Reciprocal visiting arrangements within Australia, plus 19 NT organisations worldwide, including the UK and Scottish National Trusts.

See www.nationaltrust.org.au/international-places/

+ Member rates on shop items which are for sale online or through the ACT Office.

+ ACT Members Reward Card.

+ Access to the *Friends of the NLA* lounge and discounts at the NLA bookshop.

+ Regular national and ACT magazines, invitations to participate in outings and tours.

+ Access to archival information held in the Trust office.

+ Access to events and other benefits arising from collaboration with organisations having similar interests to the Trust.

+ Concession entry to ACT Historic Places and 10% discount at Lanyon Homestead shop.

About Heritage in Trust

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The editors invite articles and letters from Trust members with an interest in the heritage of the ACT and these should be addressed to The Editor, *Heritage in Trust*, at info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

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