

The National Trust of Australia (New South Wales) Annual Report Financial Year 2019/20

Our review of an extraordinary year of conservation, celebration
and advocacy at an extraordinary time in Australian history.



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President's Report

The year 2020 has made its mark. It is in the context of natural disasters and global pandemic that we report to you – our Members, sponsors and partners, donors, the visitors who usually fill the grounds of our heritage properties and attend our events – with this review of the 2019/20 financial year at the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

The summer of 2019 brought with it catastrophic bushfires that devastated natural heritage, including our property at Bargo, and came incredibly close to endangering Norman Lindsay Gallery, Everglades House & Gardens and Woodford Academy. We took steps to protect the collections at those properties. We had floods and then, of course, the coronavirus – which saw us close our properties in March of this year and in June started planning to gradually reopen in July. At all times, the safety of our people and visitors has been our governing principle.

The health, social and economic challenges we face as a community are vast. The National Trust is evolving rapidly to meet the requirements of a post-COVID world. We continue to focus on our Strategic Plan priorities: investing in the systems, processes and policies that will strengthen us for the future. We are adapting through technology and digital communication. These times are far from ideal, but they have presented the opportunity to connect people with heritage virtually. I am impressed by the ingenuity of our sector. I am incredibly proud of us at the National Trust.

In saying this, I acknowledge the caution with which we must progress through this global health crisis. There is more challenge to come, but the support and dedication of those who share in our Vision and Mission will mean that we walk onward with a steady stride.

Neil Wykes OAM



Chief Executive Officer's Report

2020: SUSPENDED IN DISBELIEF

I will forever think of this as the year that should have been. I should be reporting to you on how we have advanced our Strategic Plan. I should be reporting to you on the celebrations we have had so far for our 75th Anniversary, and what is yet to come in the latter half of 2020.

We were ready to bring in the 2020 Australian Heritage Festival with the theme 'Our Heritage for the Future'. We were going to be launching our Trust Talks series. Exhibitions and events were in the calendar, weddings were to be held at our properties. I was looking forward to our special events program to mark 75 years of the National Trust. I was very much looking forward to meeting more of our volunteers and members throughout the year and thanking them for their contribution, support and loyalty to the National Trust.

What we didn't do this year was stand still. Bushfires and COVID-19 might have slowed us down, but it didn't stop us.

You will read in the pages that follow that, while we had to shut our properties to the public in March, behind the closed doors our conservation program was busily progressing and we continued to care for our properties. Our advocacy work continued apace. The Powerhouse Museum campaign got the headlines and in parallel with that, our advocacy department and taskforces developed and implemented new policies and positions on conservation. The National Trust Register accrued new listings and we put 60 submissions to Government and consulted on key developments that would impact heritage. We continued to bring you the stories of heritage – sharing our history with you via social media with our #75TrustStories series and providing the community with some relief from isolation with our #HeritageAtHome series. We embraced new opportunities to connect with our Members and Donors virtually. Our Bushland Management Services continued to operate safely in the COVID world and produced an enormous \$500k of revenue growth whilst regenerating our natural environment.

It is not the year we thought or hoped it would be. We remain optimistic that everything we had planned will come to life in the future. For now, I am proud to report that our organisation has acted – above all else – with a 'people and community first' approach.

Debbie Mills

Our Leadership Team

(As at 30 June 2020)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Neil Wykes, OAM (President)
Susan Hunt (Deputy President)
David Pratt (Treasurer)
Noel Burgess
The Hon. Justice Garry Downes, AM QC
Meredith Hutton
Fenella Kernebone
Dr Clive Lucas, OBE
Caroline Mackaness
Debbie Mills (Chief Executive Officer)
Keith Parsons
Kathryn Pitkin, AM
John Richardson
Ian Stephenson

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Debbie Mills: Chief Executive Officer
Richard Silink: Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Nicole Crabb: Director, Development, Membership, Philanthropy & Bequests
Graham Quint: Director, Conservation
Yarran Quint: IT Manager
Gaetano Sanacore: Director, Bush Management Services
Soma Somavarman: Director, Finance
Anja Stride: Director, Commercial
Lyndal Stuart: Director, Marketing and Communications
Anne Weinman: Director, People



Above: Everglades. Cover: Photography of Dundullimal Homestead by Barbara Scott, who generously donated her images to the National Trust as in-kind support.

In Review: Advocating for Heritage

Heritage has been under threat from bushfires and flooding in the past year. As the smoke cleared, Australia also found itself in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has imposed a sense of disconnection across the community. In these times, it is our built, natural, Indigenous, colonial and multicultural heritage that reminds us of a sense of place and what being Australian means. As it has been for 75 years, the National Trust's role of advocating for the recognition and protection of our heritage has sustained despite these barriers.

WINS

The announcement that the Ultimo Powerhouse Museum would not be sold and would remain open and operating came just four days into July 2020 – however the effort from the community and the National Trust in the year prior to this news was monumental. The National Trust was also successful in progressing its nomination of the historic Ultimo Powerhouse for listing on the State Heritage Register. The Heritage Council is also considering the State Heritage Register listing of the National Art School Group, former Darlinghurst Gaol and the former East Sydney Technical College on the corner of Forbes and Burton Street in Darlinghurst. The National Trust's nomination of this site noted that, in its view, this place is of both state and national significance. The National Trust listed East Sydney Technical College on the National Trust Register in April 1976 and had inspected the National Art School in July 2016 with a view to nominating it for listing on the State Heritage Register.

Other wins in 2019/20 included the State Heritage Register listing of Segenhoe Flats and Rose Cottage in Newcastle, the decision not to demolish the Wilkinson Building at SCEGGS, Darlinghurst (designed by Emil Sodersten) and successful efforts by our Blue Mountains Branch to encourage the new owners of the former Ritz Nursing Home in Leura to attend to the conservation and maintenance of this local heritage site.

LOSSES

Jack Munday's passing on 10 May 2020 was a very sad day for the National Trust and the many people who had worked with Jack to recognise and protect our rare heritage places. The Green Bans that were synonymous with Jack are believed to have been the derivation worldwide of the political term 'green'. Jack was a regular guest of honour at the annual National Trust Heritage Awards and he will be sorely missed.

Regrettably there have been major losses to New South Wales' built heritage during the year, including the 1829 Royal Oak Hotel in Church Street, Parramatta and the Sydney Football Stadium at Moore Park. The most severe bushfires in living memory destroyed a number of historic buildings at Cobargo, and many of the National Trust Register-listed landscape conservation areas and World Heritage listed sites, as well as the Trust's own property at Bargo, were severely damaged by the fires.

Other losses to heritage included the Pin Oaks and Camellias in Bowral, which the National Trust's Southern Highlands Branch and local Garden History Society fought so hard to save. Thompson Square at Windsor was severely impacted by the bridge and road upgrade despite years of fighting to save it by the local community and the National Trust.



The National Trust campaigned strongly to keep the Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo, and to have the Powerhouse and its collection recognised on the State Heritage Register.

The National Trust continues to campaign for the protection of Parramatta's heritage, including the preservation of Willow Grove and St George's Terrace.



ON THE LIST

New entries on the National Trust Register were the Dubbo Driftwells, Kulnura at Neutral Bay, Soldiers' Memorial Hall at Bellingen, Cross Street Parking Station at Double Bay, the Dr Bassler House at Castle Cove, the 1900 Kiama Reservoir, Lugarno Early Settler Landscape Conservation Area, Corrimall Coke Works, the Third Theatre Royal in Sydney, the former Kwong War Chong & Company Buildings in Haymarket, the former Chippendale Flour Mill (pre 1850), the Octagon Building in Parramatta (1987/90), 1874 Bawden Bridge over the Orara River at Grafton, Dee Why Lagoon Landscape Conservation Area, Little Bay Geological Site, 1930 Interwar House at Vacluse, St Francis Xavier's Catholic Church (1933) at Arncliffe, Mulgoa Irrigation Scheme, Burwood Bath Arms Hotel, Golden Sheaf Hotel at Double Bay and Rockdale Park.

The Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo and the Ultimo Tram Depot (Harwood Building) were nominated for listing on the State Heritage Register and the National Trust's nomination of the Mudgee Regent Theatre to the State Heritage Register was successful.

POLICY

In September 2019, the National Trust adopted a Koala Conservation Policy. This policy responded to current trends, which suggest koalas could be extinct in New South Wales within 30 years unless urgent and effective action is taken. Within a few short months, Koala populations were further devastated by the summer bushfires. The National Trust strongly supported the National Park's urgent call for action to protect remaining populations of koalas and the protection of remaining habitat from clearing and logging.

CAMPAIGNS

Notwithstanding the impacts of bushfires, floods and then the global pandemic, many National Trust campaigns continued and new threats to New South Wales' heritage emerged. We continued the campaigns at Windsor, for Thompson Square and the Old Windsor Bridge; the Ultimo Powerhouse Museum and subsequent threats to Willow Grove and St Georges Terrace at Parramatta; the Roxy Theatre at Parramatta and the Sirius Building in The Rocks.

New campaigns included: our opposition to the Pyrmont 66-storey Star Casino proposal; raising the Warragamba Dam wall; Corrimall Coke Works; conservation of Yarra and Frenchman's Bays (Botany Bay) where there are proposals for a cruise ship terminal; the demolition proposal for the former Globe Theatre and Dudley House in George Street Sydney, and the Pyrmont Planning Strategy.

In the 2019/20 financial year, we made over 60 submissions to Government to safeguard and protect the built, natural and cultural heritage of New South Wales.

"We made over 60 submissions to Government to safeguard and protect the built, natural and cultural heritage of New South Wales."

In Review: Conserving Heritage

The National Trust has had a busy year in the field of conservation, making a positive impact when it comes to caring for and protecting our built and natural heritage.

HERITAGE UNDER FIRE

On 19 December 2019, the National Trust's wildlife sanctuary at Bargo was significantly damaged by bushfire. Although the animals were moved to a safe place, the infrastructure and native vegetation throughout the property was devastated. Cottages, a laboratory and education facility, an amenities building, storage structures and fencing were all destroyed. The National Trust, along with the staff and volunteers from both the Australian Wildlife Sanctuary and the Bargo Dingo Sanctuary, worked tirelessly in the aftermath of the fires to protect the remaining structures and start the slow process of recovery.

The very next day at Faulconbridge, National Trust staff and specialist contractors commenced the monumental task of evacuating all the artwork from the Norman Lindsay Gallery as the Gospers Mountain megablaze threatened the region. The National Trust found a silver lining, taking the opportunity of repainting the gallery after the threat of fire had passed and the site remained closed to the public.

"These plans are a road map for site management and interpretation, ensuring the significant heritage fabric of the property is protected while realising new and engaging programming for visitors."

PROJECTS

Conservation Management Plans: New conservation management plans have been completed for Old Government House and Saumarez Homestead. These plans are a road map for site management and interpretation, ensuring the significant heritage fabric of the property is protected while realising new and engaging programming for visitors.

Painting Lindesay: As a result of the generosity of the late Dr Flynn and volunteers directly associated with Lindesay at Darling Point, painting of the external walls and joinery plus necessary repairs were able to be completed for the first time in 20 years. The grand house and its manicured gardens will provide an elegant backdrop for weddings and other events, including the Lindesay Christmas Gift Fair, in the future.

Verandah at Vienna Cottage: Also funded by the late Dr Flynn, with Community Building Partnership funding, the verandah at Vienna Cottage, which dates back to 1871, was repaired at Hunters Hill.

Cooma Cottage: The original louvered lantern on the roof of the historical stables at Cooma Cottage was brought out of storage, reconstructed and reinstated in its rightful position. This project was also funded by the late Dr Flynn.



Cooma Cottage.



KNOWLEDGE

At Attingham: The National Trust's Collection Manager, Rebecca Pinchin, was the recipient of a scholarship from the Copland Foundation and completed a fellowship at the Attingham Summer School in 2019. Since its foundation in 1952, the Attingham Trust has made an outstanding contribution to heritage around the world. It provides opportunities for tuition and exploration of British historic houses to conservation experts around the world. Rebecca was one of 49 participants in the program, with other scholars from the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe. Learning focused on the management of collections held in the country houses of England.

Staff training: The National Trust provided training for staff and volunteers with a focus on safe object handling and methods for cleaning different types of collection objects.

COLLECTIONS

Ongoing care: The National Trust undertook regular pest inspections and specialist treatments throughout the year to protect our valuable textiles, framed works and furniture. We placed these valuable items in a bespoke low oxygen tent to prevent carpet beetle and moth infestations. Other items were placed in a large freezer to ensure that insects were unable to damage important carpets.

Documentation: Significant work has been undertaken to assess and document items in our collection. The process involves painstaking research into the provenance of the item, assessment of the condition of the item and entering this information into our Collections Management database. This year we focused on the documentation of the Folk Textile collection. The garments were re-boxed and placed into new shelving units installed in the big larder at Old Government House.

Images of the entire collection at Miss Porter's House, which includes over 4,500 items, was added to the Vernon Collection Management System. This takes us one step closer to consolidating the National Trust's collection data and increasing access and opportunities for engagement, servicing staff, academics and the industry.

Acquisitions: In the 2019/20 financial year we acquired items with a strong association to Cooma Cottage and Hamilton Hume, including half gill drinking mugs and an 1850s cabinet; a sketch of vase by Norman Lindsay, and the Shay Lewis bequest of four works including *Summer Idyll*, Norman Lindsay, oil, 97 x 121.5cm c.1938 plus an 1840s Australian Cedar Hat tree (hat rack) for Old Government House.



Bushland regeneration in action.

BUSHLAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The National Trust's Bushland Management Services (BMS) successfully completed over 200 projects for 18 councils across greater Sydney during the 2019/20 financial year. The projects varied in size and complexity through a range of vegetation communities, including some endangered and critically endangered communities.

New clients: Following a rigorous tender process, BMS has been reinstated on five existing preferred supplier panels for councils in the north of Sydney. BMS was also successfully placed on panels for two new clients: the City of Sydney and Randwick City Council.

Accreditation: BMS was successful in gaining recertification for the department's Integrated Management Systems (IMS). An IMS combines all related components of the business into one system for easier management and operation. BMS Quality, Environmental and Safety management systems are combined and managed as an IMS. Our IMS has resulted in vastly improved efficiency for the organisation as it guides our procedures and processes, and improves risk management assessment. The system demonstrates our commitment to improving employee and customer satisfaction, and a desire for continuous improvement in daily operations.

New department structure: BMS completed a staffing restructure of management roles, with the aim of improving workplace culture, loyalty, productivity and profitability – all of which will inevitably improve service delivery and client satisfaction. BMS has appointed three regional managers who will manage projects led by six permanent site supervisors to deliver projects and develop field staff. These permanent appointments replaced a predominantly casual roles, and are already demonstrating the benefits of continuity in quality of service.

In Review: Celebrating Heritage

Bringing heritage to life for the community at our properties has been a challenge when we have all had to stay very close to home. We held some great events and exhibitions, and opened our properties for the community to discover heritage and beautiful outdoor spaces in 2019/20. However, we have felt the impact of diminished visitor numbers due to COVID-19 closures – an impact shared across the arts, culture and tourism sector.

VISITORS

The National Trust closed its properties across the state from mid-March until the end of June in 2020. The organisation took these steps in line with public health orders – and we are proud that in doing so, we contributed to a nation-wide effort to reduce COVID-19 infection rates. This had a significant impact on our regular event programming, and limited our opportunities to open our historic properties and gardens to the community. By way of comparison, in the 2018/19 financial year we welcomed just over 139,000 visitors to our properties and in the 2019/20 year, we welcomed just over 79,000 visitors to our properties.

EXHIBITIONS

Rose Lindsay Model and Wife: This exhibition at Norman Lindsay Gallery told the story of Rose Lindsay – who personified Lindsay's concept of the 'feminine dominant'.

Sirens – The Movie: Based on the 1994 film, this exhibition at Norman Lindsay Gallery showcased the cinematic memorabilia and photographs of the cast in action.

A Private View 2020: This showcase of works from private collectors, rarely seen by the public, took place at Norman Lindsay Gallery.

Women of Distinction: Exploring the stories of women who lived in, worked at and influenced the history of Old Government House, the exhibition opened in August 2019 with an extended program of events exploring relevant themes of women's influence in the public and private arena over time. The event program included the first of our *Dangerous Discussions in the Dining Room* evenings.

Shakespeare and the Leura Garden Festival: Everglades House & Gardens was once again the stage for the Leura Shakespeare Festival. The property was also a key feature of the Leura Garden Festival in 2019.

Margaret's Gift: Celebrating the philanthropic legacy of Margaret Olley, this exhibition of works from state and regional collections at the S.H. Ervin Gallery was supported by the Margaret Olley Art Trust.

River on the Brink: Inside the Murray-Darling Basin: Also at the S.H. Ervin Gallery, this exhibition was curated by Gavin Wilson and featured the work of Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists, who responded to the environmental crisis in the Murray-Darling region.

At Home with Art: A reveal of what's on the walls of Australian artists, including ceramist Merran Esson and painters Steve Lopes and Guy Warren, who kindly shared their private collections for display at the S.H. Ervin Gallery.

The Portia Geach Memorial Award and Salon des Refusés: The People's Choice Award at Salon des Refusés celebrated its 21st year, generously supported by Principal Sponsor, Holding Redlich.



River on the Brink: Inside the Murray-Darling Basin Exhibition, Artwork by Amanda Penrose-Hart (2019).



Lindesay Christmas Gift Fair.



Retford Park Rehung – the Art of Collecting: This exhibition, curated by Justin Miller, featured the works of Rosalie Gascoigne, Sidney Nolan, Margaret Preston, Brett Whiteley, Grace Cossington Smith, Jeffery Smart, Arthur Boyd, John Olsen and Tony Tuckson.

It's In Our Hands to Make a Difference: Retford Park presented this exhibition of the works of Matthew Willman – Nelson Mandela's former photographer. The opening event featured a line up of speakers, including Matthew Willman, our Director, Conservation, Graham Quint and Reece Proudfoot, Head of Innovation and Impact Investment at WWF Australia.

Schools Reconciliation Challenge: We continued our partnership with Reconciliation NSW and displayed the exhibition of school students' visual art and written work inspired by Reconciliation to National Trust properties.

Fashions of Yesteryear: This exhibition of antique clothing was created by the Dundullimal Dubbo Support Crew and raised around \$3,000 for Dundullimal Homestead.

EVENTS

Lindesay Christmas Gift Fair: Celebrating a hugely successful year in 2019, including a choral performance by the SCEGGS Darlinghurst Choir. Young shoppers also got a chance to register their wish list with Santa.

Riversdale Rare Plants and Garden Market: A signature event at this heritage property in Goulburn, which is renowned for its award-winning garden.

Dundullimal Homestead, Everglades House & Garden, Retford Park and Saumarez Homestead showcase the arts: These properties provided space for the exhibitions of various artists, including: Brett "Mon" Garling; Fresh Arts; Owen Thompson; U3A photography students; Jane Melville and Erin Brique.

MEMBER AND DONOR EVENTS

Women of Distinction Members Event: The Women of Distinction exhibition VIP opening at Old Government House was celebrated with an afternoon tea for donors and attended by special guests, the descendants of Emily Phillips, whose portrait was on display for the exhibition. Thank you to Emily Phillips family for generously funding the portrait's restoration.

Donor Tour of the Blue Mountains: In late October, 30 supporters of the National Trust enjoyed a private bus tour to the Blue Mountains. The group visited Woodford Academy and enjoyed lunch at the iconic Norman Lindsay Gallery, where guests saw first-hand the need for investment to conserve the 100-year-old historic site.

Viewing of the Margaret Olley Exhibition: Our Patrons, Guardians and Annie Wyatt Bequest Circle Members attended a morning tea and a private guided tour of the S.H. Ervin Gallery's first exhibition for 2020, *Margaret's Gift*.

AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL AND THE NATIONAL TRUST HERITAGE AWARDS

The Australian Heritage Festival for 2020 was cancelled nationally to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the community, our staff and volunteers. We also postponed the National Trust Heritage Awards. These programs are generously supported by the NSW Government through the Heritage Council of NSW.

CONNECTING TO HERITAGE VIRTUALLY

The National Trust launched two online initiatives to provide the community with a continuous connection to heritage during the COVID-19 lockdown. Our #HeritageAtHome content told the stories of natural, cultural and built heritage from across Australia, around the world, and in the communities surrounding National Trust properties and branches through social media. The National Trust also commenced its celebration of our 75th Anniversary with our #75TrustStories series shared via Facebook and Instagram. In the 2019/20 financial year, the National Trust shared the story of heritage through digital communication with 37,000 people monthly (around 400,000 people annually), with a further 20,000 people enjoying the stories of our properties shared via Facebook each month.

NEW LOOK MAGAZINE

In 2020, the National Trust (NSW) refreshed its much-loved *New South Wales National Trust Magazine* with a new design and editorial direction. The magazine is published quarterly and posted to the households of National Trust members in New South Wales.

In Review: Our People

The National Trust is a diverse organisation of dedicated staff and volunteers. For 75 years, we have worked with the community to achieve our vision of bringing the heritage of New South Wales to life for future generations.

“Our staff and volunteers are the lifeblood of our organisation, and we thank you for your service.”



National Trust Lithgow Branch members were recognised at the 2019 State Volunteer Awards.

In what has been one of our most challenging years to date, the National Trust has endured as a result of the unfailing support of our staff, volunteers, partners, donors and patrons. Our staff and volunteers are the lifeblood of our organisation, and we thank you for your service.

TASKFORCES AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The National Trust (NSW) has 12 Board-appointed taskforces and technical committees, which provide professional expertise, technical and specialist advice on matters of advocacy, collection management, curatorial direction, finance, property and cemeteries conservation. Our taskforces and committees also have oversight of special projects. As a result of the expertise and specialist skills of our advisors, the National Trust maintains its reputation for rigorous assessment and conservation processes; evidence-based, objective and informed advocacy positions; and dynamic and relevant curatorial and content direction for interpretation.

Board Appointed Technical Committees and Taskforces

The National Trust's Board appointed Taskforces and Technical Committees are:

- Built Heritage Conservation Committee
- Butler Bequest Committee
- Cemeteries Committee
- Collections Committee
- Conservation Policies Taskforce
- Education Committee
- Finance Audit & Risk Management Committee
- Industrial Heritage Committee
- Landscape Conservation Committee
- National Trust Honours Committee
- Properties Committee
- S.H. Ervin Gallery Advisory Committee



National Trust Branches and Committees

The National Trust has 29 branches and committees, which provide advocacy and fundraising support for the organisation in regional areas. The valuable work and commitment undertaken by these volunteer bodies continues to raise awareness of heritage in the community, advocate on local heritage issues across the state, and care for and celebrate our properties.

- Bathurst and District Branch
- Blue Mountains Branch
- Central West Open House Weekend Committee
- Far South Coast Branch
- Friends of Ahimsa
- Friends of Everglades House & Garden
- Friends of Grossmann House
- Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery
- Friends of Old Government House and Experiment Farm Cottage
- Friends of Sir Henry Parkes Memorial School of Arts
- Gulgong Mudgee Rylstone Branch
- Harpers Mansion Management Committee
- Hawkesbury Branch
- Hunter Regional Committee
- Illawarra Shoalhaven Branch
- Lachlan Branch
- Lindsay Management Committee
- Lithgow Branch
- Miss Porter's House Management Committee
- Miss Traill's House Management Committee
- Norman Lindsay Gallery Advisory Committee
- Parramatta Branch
- S. H. Ervin Gallery Events Committee
- Saumarez Homestead Advisory Committee
- Southern Highlands Branch
- Tours Committee
- Vienna Cottage Management Committee
- Women's Committee
- Woodford Academy Management Committee

We would also like to acknowledge the support of the Dundullimal Dubbo Support Crew.

VOLUNTEERS

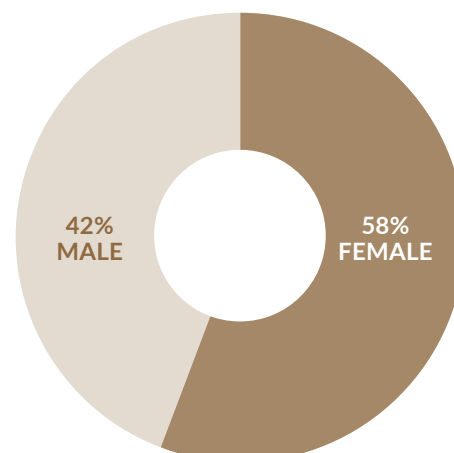
Over the last 12 months, we have focussed on new ways of enhancing the volunteering experience and engagement across the National Trust as well as diversifying the demographics of our volunteers and developing a skills-based approach to recruiting volunteers. One key initiative commencing this financial year is a new partnership with the University of Western Sydney and the engagement of heritage and tourism students to digitalise the collection at Woodford Academy. The National Trust has also invested in training for volunteers to develop skills and meet compliance requirements. Despite property closures due to COVID-19, more than 1,500 volunteers have provided 104,800 hours of service to the National Trust.

In the 2019/20 financial year, 22 volunteer teams and 14 individuals were nominated to receive a Certificate of Acknowledgement through the NSW State Volunteering Awards. Three outstanding volunteers: Ramsay and Susie Moodie from the Lithgow Branch and Holly McNamee, Chair of Grossmann & Brough House, were nominated for the Judging Category.

DIVERSITY AT THE NATIONAL TRUST

The National Trust has a diverse workforce with an even gender balance in the team of Executive Directors. Staff across the state are predominantly female. We have a talented state-wide team with a vast array of specialist skill sets including conservation, heritage property management, interpretation and curatorial, collection conservation, bushland regeneration management, advocacy and government relations, finance, human resources, fundraising, marketing communications and administration.

Gender Diversity



“We have focused on new ways of enhancing the volunteering experience and engagement across the National Trust.”

In Review: Membership and Giving

The National Trust has had a record year of fundraising, which is a testament to the strength of our community's belief in our commitment to heritage conservation, education and advocacy.



Top: Saumarez Homestead. Bottom: Chief Executive Officer, Debbie Mills, meeting key donors and supporters of the National Trust.

Our vision of bringing the heritage of New South Wales to life is not possible without our members and supporters. Investment in the National Trust is always valued, especially in the context of the past year. From severe drought, to wild storms, savage bushfires and COVID-19, the past 12 months has presented numerous challenges. To all of you who support the ongoing work of the National Trust, we thank you.

MEMBERSHIP

The National Trust first welcomed membership subscriptions in the late 1940s. Since then we have grown primarily because of our members, whose collective advocacy and support has helped save countless buildings and landscapes across the state.

New members: The National Trust had 806 new members join in 2019/20. As at 30 June 2020, we had over 21,000 members.

Loyal members: We acknowledge and thank our long-standing members. In 2020, over 660 people celebrated being members of the National Trust for 50 years or more. Alan Burton, who joined the junior group in the late 1960s, said: "I could see old places being pulled down and appalling buildings being put up in their place. I wanted to join an organisation that would fight for the preservation of our history."

CONNECTING

Virtual Member and Supporter Events: The COVID-19 pandemic created significant barriers to engagement with our members and supporters as we all had to keep our social distance. Adapting to these times meant going online. On 27 May 2020, we hosted the National Trust's first webinar with Patrons, Guardians and Annie Wyatt Circle Bequest Members in attendance with our CEO, Debbie Mills and Director, Conservation, Graham Quint who spoke of the numerous advocacy initiatives in play across the state. In June 2020, 140 members tuned in to our webinar to hear from Deputy CEO, Richard Silink, on how we had protected New South Wales' heritage through bushfires, storms and drought.

Our post-webinar survey indicated that our members enjoyed these online events with 98 per cent saying they would participate in another webinar in the future.



GIVING

The National Trust fundraising program benefited from significant support throughout 2019/20, with over \$8m of income generated from donations through trusts, bequests, foundations and individual giving.

Major Gifts and Bequests: Gifts in wills continue to be the most significant source of financial support for National Trust's conservation and advocacy work. We received a total of \$7.2m in bequest gifts this year. Notable gifts were received from the following generous supporters who donated over \$5,000 or more this financial year:

- Mr Jacques and Lynn Calluad
- Dr John H. Casey
- Mr John Church
- The Corella Fund
- Mrs Louise Cox AM AO
- Mr Peter Flick
- The J. Permew Foundation
- Mrs Ingrid Kaiser
- Maple-Brown Family Foundation
- Ms Susan Milliken
- Miss Helen Molesworth
- Mr Howard N Tanner
- Mrs Susan Thomas
- Mrs Sally White

We also received gifts from the following estates in 2019/20:

- Miss Cynthia Brew
- Miss B Ellison
- Mr Neville Grace
- Ms Heather Korber
- Mr Donald Taylor
- Mrs Genelle Thomson

Individual Giving: Two fundraising appeals aligned to conservation initiatives made a significant contribution to the National Trust this year. The Christmas 2019 Appeal raised funds for the renovation and repair of the much-loved Norman Lindsay Gallery in the Blue Mountains. Over \$106,000 was raised to restore the former home of Norman Lindsay to its former glory. Works included repairing the front verandah, painting the external facade and replacing the cafe roof. The 'Ready for Rain' Appeal aimed to make three regional properties more drought-resilient by investing in new water tanks, improving water collection by replacing damaged pipes and guttering, and funding feasibility studies on historic bores and wells. Thanks to the generosity of our community, over \$240,000 was raised from over 600 donors making this one of the largest fundraising projects for a National Trust restoration project.

Patrons & Guardians Program: The Patrons and Guardians of the National Trust continue to make valuable contributions to our organisation. These individuals make a yearly commitment to donate to where funds are needed most. We acknowledge our Patrons in each edition of the *New South Wales National Trust Magazine*.

Regular Giving: Every gift counts, and regular donations were received from 161 supporters, contributing \$37k to the National Trust's ongoing operations in 2019/20.

Read *Your Trust in Action* for a full report on the impact of giving to the National Trust.
Go online nationaltrust.org.au/publications-nsw

"We have grown primarily because of our members, whose collective advocacy and support has helped save countless buildings and landscapes across the state."

In Review: Finances

The National Trust achieved an overall surplus in a challenging year.

The financial results presented are for the consolidated entity of The National Trust of Australia (New South Wales), together with the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Heritage Foundation Limited, being the Trustee company for the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Heritage Foundation Trust and National Trust of Australia Heritage Foundation Ancillary Fund.

The National Trust is a charity – a not-for-profit organisation. We generate revenue through entry fees at the historical house museums and gardens we care for and at events; through venue hire and retail sales. Our Bush Management Services team works on a fee-for-service basis and our Members pay to join the National Trust. This revenue is further supported by donations and bequests, our Patrons and Guardians program, and our corporate supporters and partners. Our committees actively fundraise to support the National Trust and grants are also received from the Government and other organisations.

Our income was significantly impacted by the events discussed earlier in this report. The revenue we did earn directly supported the conservation and protection of our significant properties, our collections, natural landscapes, our advocacy campaigns and communications, and programs we develop to engage the next generation of heritage advocates – all of which is core to us delivering our Vision and Mission.

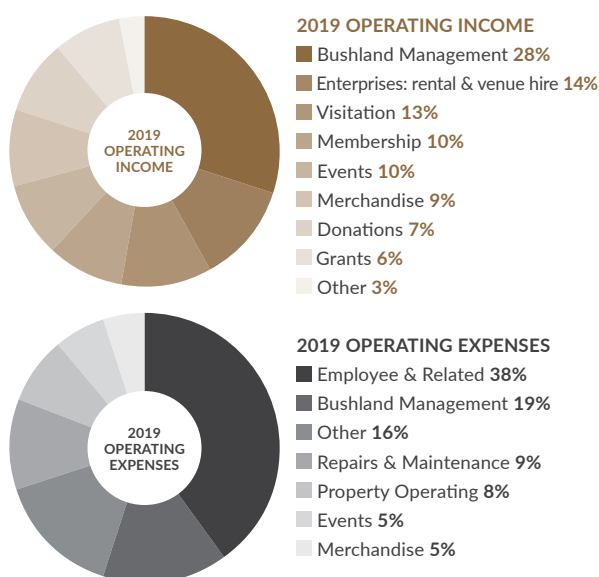
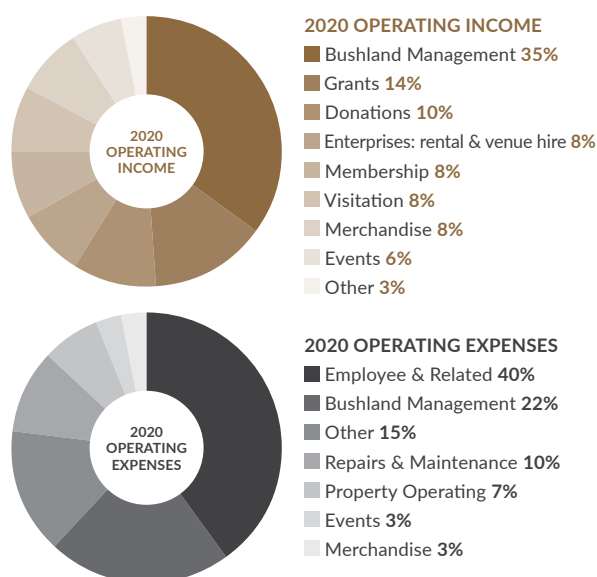
HIGHLIGHTS

This financial year the consolidated entity achieved an overall surplus of \$3m, compared to \$13m in financial year 2018/19. A significant contribution of the surplus was the last gifts made by many of our supporters.

There were a number of highlights during the year:

- In between bushfires and pandemics, our visitors contributed by paying to see our historically significant places, exhibitions and events. We also raised income through strong merchandise sales and commission from the sale of art work.
- The fees paid to research our National Trust Register Listings as well as for tax-deductible Restoration Appeals to facilitate fundraising for conserving churches achieved close to \$200k.
- Our revenue from rental income and investment income collectively added over \$3m of income.

Our Bushland Management Services revenue was a significant at \$2.783m, delivered through successful tenders for the conservation of native areas throughout Sydney. This was an increase of over \$500k from financial year 2018/19.





	FY 2020 \$000's	FY 2019 \$000's
INCOME		
Bushland Management Income	2,783	2,247
Conservation Services	193	298
Donation	788	575
Enterprises (including rental and venue hire)	605	1,087
Events	509	757
Grant Revenue	1,095	494
Membership	668	767
Merchandising	595	684
Visitation	599	996
Sponsorship	21	20
Operating Income	7,856	7,926
EXPENSES		
Bushland Management Services	2,399	1,871
Cost of Merchandising	343	483
Employee and Related	4,438	3,805
Events	355	545
Legal Fees	96	137
Heritage Consultancy Fees	169	189
Other Office	659	613
Postage and Printing	200	308
Property Operating	793	783
Repairs and Maintenance	1,126	857
Other	436	400
Operating Expenses	11,013	9,991
Net Operating Result	(3,158)	(2,065)
Investment Income	2,601	2,476
Net Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(557)	412
Net Bequest	7,289	10,990
Donation - Extra Ordinary and Collection Gifts	429	1,450
Unrealised Gain/(Loss) on Revaluation of Investment and Asset Value Adjustments	(4,135)	151
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	3,026	13,002

SUPPORTERS

Grants

Our total grants revenue was \$1.095m, of which we acknowledge the generous support of the Federal Government for \$763k as part of the JobKeeper program.

The NSW Government and Heritage Council of NSW supported the Australian Heritage Festival and National Trust Heritage Awards as our continuing principal sponsor in 2020, providing significant grant funding. We are also grateful for the ongoing support provided for Old Government House and the National Trust Cemeteries Conservation Advisory Service.

The National Trust would also like to recognise the grant support from Auto and General Holdings, Department of Communities and Justice, Department of Industry, Department of Infrastructure, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Museums and Galleries NSW; and The Copland Foundation.

We have also received support from many regional Councils, including Armidale, Dubbo, Maitland, Lithgow and Wingecarribee Shire Councils.

S. H. Ervin Gallery

We acknowledge the generous support provided to the S.H. Ervin Gallery by Allen & Unwin, Art Gallery of New South Wales, City of Sydney, Miss H. Molesworth, Holding Redlich, Laithwaite's Wine People, the Margaret Olley Art Trust, and Perpetual Trustees.

Corporate Supporters

A special thank you to our Corporate Supporters, including: Aurora Expeditions; International Conservation Services; Laithwaite's Wine People and Lucas Stapleton Johnson & Partners. We are also very grateful to our Corporate Members including: Allen Jack + Cottier; Cox Architects Pty Ltd; Design 5 Architects Pty Ltd; GML Heritage; Lucas Stapleton Johnson & Partners; Winten Property Group and Wollongong City Council. You can see a full list of supporters on the back cover of the *New South Wales National Trust Magazine*.

We would also like to thank our 75th Anniversary sponsors; Australian Government, Bathurst Regional Council, Budget Direct, City of Sydney, Edelman, Laithwaite's Wine People, Museums & Galleries of NSW, Tenterfield City Council and The Diggers Club.

The full details of the Audited Financial Statements can be found at nationaltrust.org.au/about-us-nsw

National Trust Honours

The following volunteers and staff were recognised at the 2019 Annual General Meeting with a National Trust Honours award.

Honorary Life Membership

Rosslyn Sweetapple, Women's Committee

Meritorious Service Award – More than 15 Years of Outstanding Service

Fran White, Bathurst and District Branch

Iain McPherson, Bathurst and District Branch

William Blackledge, Cemeteries Committee

Margaret Hargraves, S.H. Ervin Gallery

Maureen Young, S.H. Ervin Gallery

Yvonne Cloros, Killara National Trust Shop

Deirdre Siddall, S.H. Ervin Gallery (Posthumous)

Voluntary Service Award – Over 10 Years of Service

Gwenda MacDiarmid, Women's Committee

Kevin Shaw, Parramatta properties

Patti Latimer, Killara National Trust Shop

Lavina Montgomery, Women's Committee

Maria Syriatowicz, Saumarez Homestead Advisory Committee

Sis Honner, Dundullimal Dubbo Support Crew

Jennifer Wass, Miss Traill's House

Catherine Derriman, Central West Women's Committee

National Trust Commendation – Over Five Years of Service

Janice Light, Everglades House & Gardens

Sach Killam, Cemeteries Committee

Anne Moore, Southern Highlands Branch

Robyn Simond, Illawarra Shoalhaven Branch

Ian Wallace, Miss Traill's House Management Committee

Michele Wallace, Miss Traill's House Management Committee

Christine Abbott, Woodford Academy Management Committee

Beverley Meldrum, Friends of Norman Lindsay Gallery

Felicity Anderson, Woodford Academy Management Committee

Pamela Marely, Miss Porter's Management Committee

Pamela Wells, Parramatta Branch

Rod Holman, Friends of Old Government House & Experiment Farm Cottage

Staff Distinguished Service Award

Yarran Quint, IT Manager, National Trust Centre

Honours Committee Discretionary Award – Outstanding Achievement for 2019

John de Veau, Saumarez Homestead Advisory Committee

Our Vision

The National Trust (NSW)'s vision is to bring the heritage of New South Wales to life for future generations.

Our Mission

- Advocate for the conservation of built, cultural and natural heritage by engaging with the community and government.
- Identify, conserve and protect our built, cultural and natural heritage by example, advice and support.
- Educate and engage the community by telling our stories in ways that awaken a sense of place and belonging.

Contact Us

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