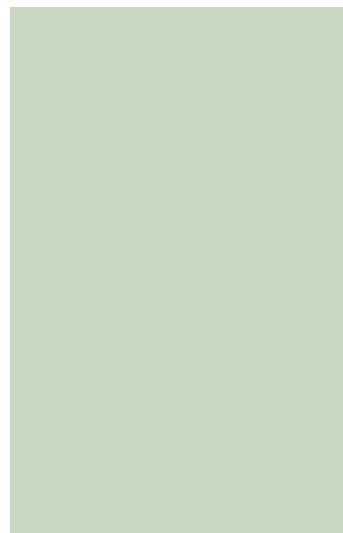




**NATIONAL TRUST**  
South Australia



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2020 – 2021





## PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the *National Trust of South Australia Act 1955* the Trust is mandated to protect and promote our state's natural, built and cultural heritage. In a year of extraordinary highs and lows, our organisation has worked hard and long in the business of protecting our heritage. Despite our best efforts, the heritage cause has suffered some losses along the way.

In November 2020 the Trust was successful in obtaining a Federal National Heritage Project Grant in the sum of \$4.82m for restoration of our Moonta Mines site. The Moonta Mines and our Silver to Sea Way projects mark an important chapter in the Trust's life and will pave the way in promoting our heritage in rural areas.

Applying for and succeeding with applications for significant grants is not an easy task and for that I pay tribute to and express the Trust's significant gratitude to our CEO.

In late 2020 the Trust supported the community uprising against the demolition of the Waite Gatehouse which concluded with the government agreeing to decommission and rebuild the Gatehouse at the southern end of the Waite Arboretum. A pyrrhic victory because so much of the Gatehouse's heritage will be lost on its reconstruction.

The Trust undertook a very extensive advocacy program in relation to the government's draft Planning & Design Code. We contended the Code was deficient in numerous aspects, notably the diminution of heritage protection in our state. Despite our efforts and those of many like-minded organisations and individuals, the Code came into effect in March 2021. We watch with dismay as the negative consequences of the Code unfold daily.

In June 2021 we suffered an extreme low when the Trust received the notice of termination of our lease of Ayers House that we have tenanted for almost 50 years.

As an organisation we have taken much comfort from our members during the Ayers House saga – thank you for your ongoing support.

The North Adelaide Baptist Church has brought us much joy during the year owing to its brilliant acoustics that have enabled outstanding musical events.

Despite all the negative consequences of coronavirus that our organisation has experienced, I am pleased to report at the end of this financial year the auditor's reports show that NTSA achieved a profit of \$1.032m with our total equity exceeding \$41m.

On behalf of Council, my grateful thanks as always to our volunteers, Trust patrons and corporate partners, councillors, committee members and other supporters. I make special mention of retiring councillors Graham Hancock, Eric Heapy, George Hobbs and Dr Nigel Ridgway who have been so generous with their time in the cause of protecting our state's heritage.

Late last year I started to contemplate handing over the president's baton and decided that it would be appropriate for me to do that at the 2021 Annual General meeting. Much of this role is about working with others and I have particularly enjoyed that aspect. I thank you for the honour of the appointment and I wish the Trust well under its new leadership.

As a closing message, the most important thing that the Trust can do is ensure that the generations that follow have access to and treasure our state's extraordinary heritage.

Ms Deborah Morgan  
President



## CEO'S REPORT

In 2020/21 we continued to live within the shadow of the Covid-19 pandemic. We learned to adapt to greater uncertainty and to sudden changes in our operating environment. We showed once again what a resourceful and resilient organisation we are.

There were unexpected upsides to the pandemic, with a boom in regional tourism as South Australians explored their own state, which benefitted many of our destinations including Moonta Mines, Burra and the Limestone Coast. On the other hand, a lack of interstate and international tourists in Adelaide severely impacted visitors to our flagship tourist destination, Ayers House.

Innovation and adaptation became our key strategies for these unusual and unpredictable times. Recognising the impacts of the pandemic and the associated change in recreational activity, we concentrated effort into offering more outdoor events, including staging our normally annual Pioneer Women's Trail Walk twice-in October and May. Despite Covid-related restrictions, which capped the number of participants, we had a record number of walkers for each event.

We also commenced a range of new activities and events in the beautiful gardens of Stangate in the Adelaide Hills, including monthly open garden days, art workshops, our marmalade festival and a Valentine's Day picnic. At Ayers House we replaced the missing tourists with record numbers of school students participating in our hands-on learning programs. We also commenced offering online learning programs for heritage home owners through our Artisan Trades Academy.

As well as teaching conservation skills, we were putting them into practice with an extensive program of conservation works on our buildings. The most significant of these were the works undertaken at the recently acquired North Adelaide

Baptist Church to restore the church ceiling. These works were generously supported by Adelaide City Council through their Heritage Incentives Scheme.

Funding from the State Government helped us to do conservation works on the Beaumont coach house, Burra bank building and Tea Tree Gully Heritage Centre. One of the most remarkable conservation projects was undertaken by the Renmark branch to restore and relocate the Argo river barge to the Olivewood homestead. As always, the National Trust is making an enormous contribution to preserving the state's heritage for all to enjoy now and into the future.

Financially, we remain in good shape, having weathered the impacts of Covid on our income. We have managed to keep increasing our total assets to more than \$41m. Major project funding of \$11m over the next two years from the Commonwealth Government for the Silver to Sea Way and Moonta Mines projects will help us to keep growing and provide new opportunities to create unique and compelling heritage destinations and experiences.

In conclusion, I would like once again to thank all of the National Trust family- members, volunteers, staff, partners and supporters- for your tireless dedication to our mission to protect, preserve and promote our heritage. I would particularly like to thank the National Trust Council for their contribution and support through trying times. Finally, to our departing President Deborah Morgan, I wish to record my deep gratitude for your guidance, support, generosity and good humour over the past four years. You will be missed but not lost to the Trust, I am sure.

Dr Darren Peacock  
Chief Executive Officer



## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The Strategic Plan sets the direction and high level objectives for the Trust. For the period to 2021, six strategic objectives have been identified by the Council:

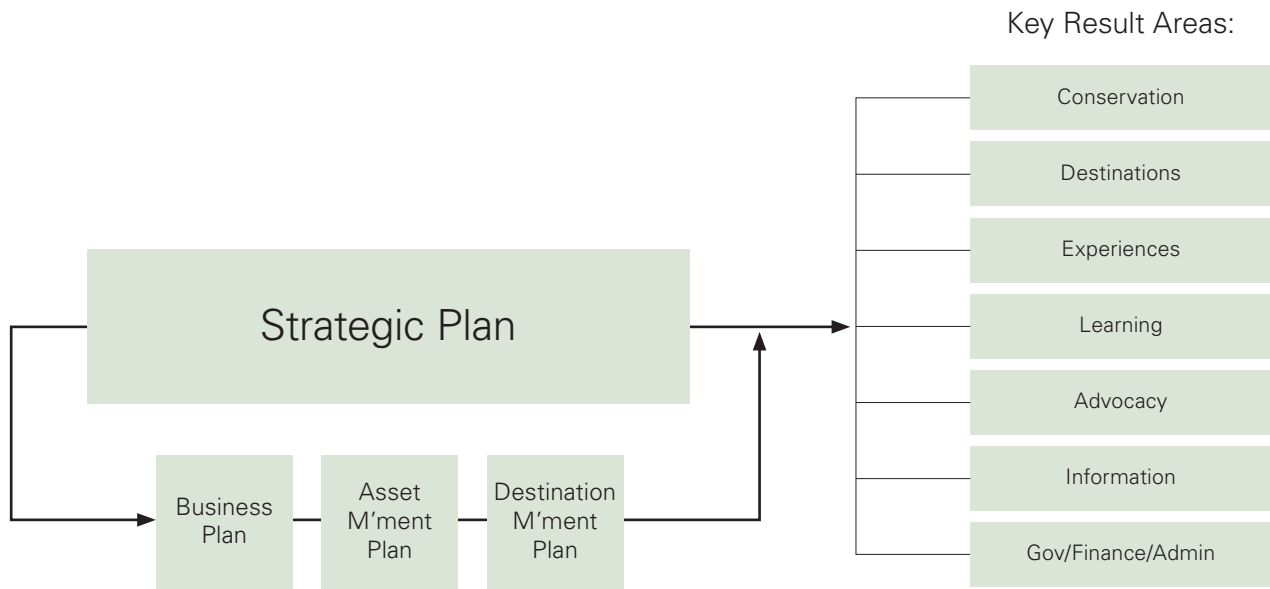
- Being a respected, influential and independent voice for heritage conservation.
- Promoting best practice in heritage protection and conservation.
- Broadening and developing community engagement with heritage conservation.
- Working in partnership.
- Managing our assets for sustainability.
- Building a robust and resilient organisation.

The business planning framework is a tool for planning the activities of our programs, sites and branches, including the development of asset management plans and destination management plans for major sites.

Seven key result areas can be used to set and measure local objectives across conservation, destinations, experiences, learning, advocacy, information and governance, finance and administration.

By applying a consistent planning framework aligned to the Strategic Plan the Trust will be more effective in achieving its purpose in a co-ordinated and integrated way.

## BUSINESS PLANNING FRAMEWORK



## 2021 STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Purpose	To protect and conserve South Australia’s natural, built and cultural heritage.					
Core activities	Advocacy	Conservation	Engagement			
Values	Sustainability	Community	Authenticity	Adaptability	Innovation	Integrity
Vision	A community that values and enjoys its heritage as a living part of who we are.					
Strategic Objectives	Being a respected, influential and independent voice for heritage conservation	Promoting best practice in heritage protection and conservation	Broadening and deepening community engagement with heritage conservation	Working in partnership	Managing our assets for sustainability	Building a robust and resilient organisation
Strategic Priorities	Effective advocacy	Member and public engagement	Valuing our staff and volunteers	Developing skills	Improving communications	Financial strength
	Strategic alliances	Tourism opportunities	Asset management			Education

## BEING A RESPECTED, INFLUENTIAL AND INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION

The National Trust of South Australia was established as an independent community advocate for the protection and preservation of our built, natural and cultural heritage. On occasion, we are obliged to speak out against government policy or decisions that are detrimental to the protection of our heritage. Regrettably, in 2020-21 there were plenty of matters to be concerned about as heritage protections were undermined by new planning rules and a series of government decisions put key heritage sites in jeopardy, including our flagship site, Ayers House.

The Trust participated conscientiously throughout the period of planning 'reform' before and subsequent to the passing of the new *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act* in 2016. We made multiple submissions, attended and made many presentations over more than 7 years. As the new planning system came into full effect in March 2021, we could see that, overall, the new rules and most particularly the *Planning and Design Code*, the 'rule book' for future development decisions failed to meet community expectations, largely disregarded community feedback and has set us on a path to diminished protections for our heritage, trees and open space.

The consequences of a planning system geared towards the interests of development at any cost are becoming more and more evident. The centralising of planning decision making in bodies lacking transparency and accountability and the disenfranchisement of councils and citizens from decision making will have an enduring detrimental effect on our urban and natural environment for decades to come. South Australia may now have the least democratic planning laws in the country as well as

failing to adequately address the urgent issues of climate change and the loss of trees and green space.

As dismal as the situation now appears, we are encouraged that as the extent of the damage being caused by the new planning system becomes apparent, many more people are making their concerns known and advocating for change. Through the *Protect our Heritage Alliance* we continue to raise awareness of what is at risk and to highlight significant threats. Most notable, or notorious in 2020-21 was the Department of Transport's decision to demolish the historic Waite Gatehouse at the corner of Fullarton and Cross roads for an overblown intersection widening project. Fortunately, the community rallied to defend this state heritage listed building from demolition by the government. Two large public rallies, letters and petitions eventually saw a change of plans with the government agreeing to relocate the gatehouse to a nearby location.

In May, the government sprang another surprise, introducing legislation to enable the privatisation of Martindale Hall in the Clare Valley. As members would know the Trust campaigned against an earlier proposal to give the Hall to private operators. Despite pre-election commitments to the contrary, the Liberal government began to proceed down a similar path with its legislation. Once again, we argued strongly for the protection of the Hall in public hands for the benefit of the community. And then, in the final weeks of 2020-21, the State Government delivered a bombshell eviction notice to the Trust at Ayers House, after more than 50 years, and another fight for our heritage began.



Images: L: Protest rally to save the Waite Gatehouse from demolition. R: Heritage at risk in Norwood under new planning rules.

## PROMOTING BEST PRACTICE IN HERITAGE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

The protection of our heritage requires skill and imagination. It is all too easy to dismiss the value of older buildings because neglect or the passage of time has left them in need of conservation or restoration work. New construction appears to be easier and potentially cheaper. However, over time, the long term physical preservation of our heritage has many economic, environmental and cultural benefits which makes heritage protection and conservation worthwhile and cost-effective.

The Trust aims for best practice in the conservation of its own properties and seeks to assist others to do the same. Skills in a number of traditional building trades are in short supply nationally. Two years ago, we launched a new initiative – the Australian Artisan Trades Academy- which helps the Trust and other heritage building owners to undertake cost effective conservation projects and also to train the next generation of tradespeople in heritage conservation skills.

In 2020-21 we worked on a number of regeneration plans for our own properties and completed a major consulting engagement for aged care provider Southern Cross Care in respect of the former Archbishop's residence in the Carmelite development at Myrtle Bank. Using our regeneration methodology, we developed new use cases and a business model for the residence, including restoration and enhancement of key features of the building as an integrated part of the new development. Our plan has been endorsed by Southern Cross and we look forward to being a part of the implementation team in due course.

The Artisan Trades Academy has developed a range of partnerships to deliver training and learning programs in traditional trades. Stoneideas have become our building partner for conservation works, delivering a range of projects and working with us to document the typical issues and interventions required for heritage buildings in South Australia. We are working with leading heritage

architects Swanbury Penglase and Williams Burton Leopardi to develop and document design thinking for the future use of heritage buildings in Burra, Port Pirie and Moonta. We are employing a range of new technologies such as laser scanning and GIS mapping to document and manage conservation works.

We have for many years helped other building owners to fundraise for heritage conservation projects. Through the South Australian Heritage Foundation, we have helped to raise more than \$5m over the past six years. These funds help to support and apply best practice planning and skills to conservation works large and small. In 2020-21 we commenced four new appeals for a range of publicly owned buildings.

With our 24 nature reserves we continued to progress our seven key priorities:

- Controlling pest species
- Addressing fragmentation of native vegetation
- Restoring the health of water resources and aquatic ecosystems
- Preserving urban and peri-urban vegetation
- Addressing climate change
- Enhancing community participation
- Increasing investment in the environment

We also began work on a climate resilience strategy to address the impacts of climate change. We work in partnership with a range of non-government environmental organisations to share ideas and best practice.

As always, we continue to advocate, undertake and support best practice in managing, preserving and interpreting built and natural heritage places and support the efforts of others to do the same.



Images: L: Building apprentices at Z Ward. R: Laser surveying at Port Pirie Railway Station.



## BROADENING AND DEEPENING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH HERITAGE CONSERVATION

One of the main ways we seek to build interest and support for heritage conservation is in designing and delivering engaging experiences at heritage places for people of all ages. We aim to ensure that all those who visit our places or who enjoy another experience, such as a special event, tour or performance, or who use our digital platforms, deepen their understanding of our heritage and develop a sense of its value to them. We hope that positive experiences of heritage, from an early age, will encourage future generations to care for the places, stories and artefacts we have preserved.

Covid-19 restrictions had a significant impact on the types of experiences that people were seeking during 2020-21. Travel was mostly intrastate, with many people exploring regional South Australia including our popular heritage sites in Burra and Moonta. Outdoor activities were particularly popular, with excellent patronage of our nature reserves across the state.

So popular was our rescheduled Pioneer Women's Trail Walk from Hahndorf to Beaumont that we staged it twice, in October and May. On both occasions we drew record numbers of participants, within Covid constraints, establishing the walk as our most popular public event. A number of our branches also had record attendances over Spring and Summer.

This year we initiated a range of new activities and events in the beautiful gardens of Stangate in the Adelaide Hills, including *plein air* art workshops, monthly open garden days, our marmalade festival and a special Valentine's Day picnic.

The North Adelaide Baptist Church continues to develop as a centre for music performance with lunchtime concerts by Recitals Australia – livestreamed over the internet- and special performances in the church by Celia Craig's *Artaria* and Adelaide Baroque.

Ayers House attracted record numbers of school groups as we provided exclusive access to booked groups on week days. Home schooling families were particularly appreciative of the hands-on learning activities offered at Ayers House and Stangate. Z Ward also had its first school group visits, for secondary students only.

Despite Covid restrictions, guided tours of the Old Adelaide Treasury and Z Ward and our regular city walking tours attracted thousands of participants. Our Willunga branch also ran a popular series of guided walks. Monthly open days at the Tea Tree Gully Heritage Centre and Beaumont House provided a warm welcome and excellent refreshments.

We developed and trialled new online and workshop courses, including researching the history of a heritage house and the traditional art of sign writing.



Top: Turning heads with an historic fashion parade at Ayers House.  
Middle: Outdoor classes for school students at Stangate.  
Bottom: A range of courses delivered as workshops and online proved popular.

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

The National Trust works in partnership with a wide range of organisations and individuals. In 2020-21 we continued to build our existing partnerships and to establish new ones. Our collaborations and commercial partnerships help us to do more, connect us with new people and communities and enable us to exchange expertise and resources. As these partnerships develop, new opportunities arise to promote the work of the Trust and to undertake new initiatives.

It was through a partnership with five local councils and Aboriginal nations that we were successful in achieving project funding of \$6.594m from the Commonwealth Government's Building Better Regions fund to undertake Stage 1 of the Silver to Sea Way heritage tourism project, linking Port Pirie to Broken Hill along the former railway line that carried the mineral riches of the original BHP mine to the sea. The project officially commenced in December and will continue over the next two years. Major works at the first site, the railway roundhouse in Peterborough, will begin in November.

We were also awarded a further significant Commonwealth Government grant for conservation and tourism development work at the Moonta Mines national heritage site. Working closely with the Copper Coast Council and our local Moonta branch, this \$4.8m project will enable us to preserve and restore key sites and establish new visitor experiences and amenities.

Both of these major projects- worth \$11m over two years- will enable us to work with a range of industry leaders in construction, conservation, design, interpretation, media production and visitor experience. The result will be a whole new range of heritage experiences stretching from Moonta to Port Pirie, Peterborough and, eventually, on to Broken Hill.



Working with our Kingston Branch and the Kingston District Council, we also developed a concept plan and funding proposal for a redevelopment of the former Cape Jaffa Lighthouse as the Kingston Beacon tourism destination.

We continued the Composer in residence program established in partnership with the Australia Council and the Bundanon Trust and hosted our fifth composer, Matt Laing, at Collingrove in the Barossa Valley. In 2022 our new composer will take up their residency at the North Adelaide Baptist Church in the thriving music performance centre emerging there.

Recognising the value of international networks, we regularly worked with members of the International National Trusts Organisation (INTO) including hosting a webinar on the use of play in heritage places with Holly Gramazio, who is advising us on new strategies in experience design. We continue to participate in the global Climate Heritage Network to identify best practice approaches to reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change.

The Australian Marmalade Awards continued for the fifth year, but this time without Jane Hasell-McCosh, founder of the World's Original Marmalade Awards from Dalemain Estate in England, owing to travel restrictions. However, we did manage to get the shortlisted marmalades to England for final judging. The Marmalade Festival was held at Stangate House in November, with 300 people attending and excellent television coverage on ABC. Beerenberg Farm will produce the overall champion marmalade created by Julie Rubenhold in a special production run.



Images L: Railway roundhouse at Peterborough. R: Marmalade champion Julie Rubenhold with Sally Paech from Beerenberg Farm at the Marmalade Festival.



## MANAGING OUR ASSETS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Our assets comprise the capital, financial and human resources that underpin our efforts to achieve our purpose. Our built asset portfolio, totalling more than 100 built heritage places and nature reserves has reached more than \$35m in value. Sustaining such a portfolio is a major challenge, one which the Trust has met with ingenuity, resourcefulness and dedicated hard work for more than 65 years.

In 2020-21 we undertook the most extensive program of capital works in more than a decade. The previous year we began work on a long-term strategy for developing sustainable management plans for our major properties. Traditionally, the management of built heritage properties has been undertaken through the development of Conservation Management Plans, with a strong emphasis on physical conservation works.

While conservation works are inevitable and essential, the Conservation Management Plans method -pioneered by the National Trust in the 1980s- no longer meets the need for long-term planning to ensure sustainability and the achievement of strategic outcomes. Simply conserving a building is not a sufficient end in itself. There is much more to sustainability than just preserving a building's fabric. Social, cultural, economic and environmental factors also need to be considered.

We have developed a new methodology based on the principle of regeneration and the work of heritage economist Donovan Rypkema to guide our strategic planning for the future of our properties. Our first regeneration project is being undertaken in respect of Collingrove, an historically significant property in the Barossa Valley, donated to the Trust by the Angas family in the 1970s.

With the generous support of the Suzanne Collins Angas Memorial Fund, the accommodation section of Collingrove has been upgraded to accommodate new uses such as weekend 'wellness' retreats, artist residencies and music performances. The original kitchen has been refurbished ready for active use for cooking classes and demonstrations. Unfortunately, Covid restrictions have curtailed some of those activities in the short term.

Major works were undertaken at the North Adelaide Baptist Church to repair and replace timber roof trusses and to replaster and repaint the massive ceiling. Additional works have been required to address issues in the restaurant (former manse) and former caretaker's residence. A full maintenance plan and ten-year master plan for the whole site is being developed.

At Beaumont House, the stone coach house building had significant repairs to external walls and timbers. The former National Bank building in Burra has had extensive works including drainage and stone repairs, repointing and refurbishment of the former banking chamber. The bank will be used as a site office for the Silver to Sea Way project. These works were supported with a grant from the State Government.

In coming years, regeneration plans will be developed for more of our properties as we establish new use cases and business models to sustain their operation and maximise public access and participation in conservation activities.

As we develop these plans, we will consider all options for potential future use/s, thoroughly assess conservation requirements, identify and deliver training programs during building works and look for partnerships with other community or commercial partners to maximise the future utilisation and sustainability of these places.



Images L: Repairing stonework on the Beaumont coach house. R: Preparing for works at the North Adelaide Baptist Church.

## BUILDING A ROBUST AND RESILIENT ORGANISATION

The National Trust has its roots in the commitment of our founding members to defending and caring for the places, objects and traditions that have enduring cultural significance both now and into the future. To fulfill our mission, we need a strong and resilient organisation.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a multi-faceted challenge to our operations, finances and future planning. We have learned to be adaptable and discover the opportunities in a highly volatile situation. This has taken a lot of effort from volunteers and staff to cope with a high degree of uncertainty and change.

It has been pleasing to see how resilient all of our people have been throughout this difficult time. Hopefully, things will return to some kind of new normal before too long. We will also have to adapt to some things that may have been permanently changed by the pandemic.

We have certainly become a more digital, mobile and networked organisation. As zoom video conferencing became the norm for meetings, we have learned that we can work, collaborate and share effectively across distances. Many of our meetings are now a 'hybrid' of on site and online attendance, breaking down distance barriers across the state and around the world.

We have been using broadband connections to work and meet remotely and to stream data and entertainment. Being connected to the Internet was never more important. We now have high speed connections between state office locations at Beaumont and North Adelaide and a VOIP phone system connecting all staff. The *Our Town* Podcast series produced by Gawler and Clare Branch members launched us into on demand digital content.

Volunteering is changing too. We have begun recruiting volunteers for specific project opportunities, including digital volunteering. We welcomed participants in our corporate volunteering program taking on some arduous work in our nature reserves. By bringing people in even for a one-day volunteering opportunity, new people learn about the work of the Trust and how they can contribute. We continue to run an internship program with students and recent graduates from the state's three main universities.

In 2020-21 we continued to improve our financial systems and processes and to integrate financial information across the Trust. There is significant potential to simplify and make our financial management more efficient, making use of 'cloud-based' information technology for financial transactions and reporting.

Our financial position also underpins our organisational resilience. Despite the financial disruptions of Covid-19 we remain in a strong financial position overall, with our net assets climbing to a record amount of \$41m. Major Commonwealth Government funding for new projects provides exciting opportunities for developing new approaches and experiences of our sites.

In the coming year we will continue to develop our organisational capabilities through training, innovation and the use of new technologies in our work. Most of all we will continue to value our people and to make sure that their work with the Trust contributes to their wellbeing, personal and professional development.



Images: Left: Corporate volunteers from Schneider Electric working in HK Fry nature reserve. R: Wellness retreat at Collingrove in the Barossa Valley demonstrating some post-pandemic possibilities for heritage places.



OUR PEOPLE AND PLACES

BRANCHES

National Trust Branch members preserve and manage buildings, reserves and collections throughout South Australia.

Many present public programs through museums, tours and events. Some Branches are primarily focussed on advocacy work to protect heritage places and most participate in local as well as state-wide events such as the South Australian History Festival.

There are 45 local area branches:

Burnside	Whyalla	Renmark	Penola	Strathalbyn
Gawler	Auburn	Waikerie	Robe	Victor Harbor
Port of Adelaide	Burra	Beachport	Coromandel Valley	Willunga
Tea Tree Gully	Clare	Glencoe	Goolwa	Ardrossan
Ceduna	Jamestown	Keith	Hahndorf	Central Yorke Peninsula
Cleve	Port Pirie	Kingston SE	Kingscote KI	Kadina
Koppio	Barmera	Millicent	Mount Barker	Minlaton
Streaky Bay	Berri	Mount Gambier	Penneshaw	Moonta
Tumby Bay	Overland Comer	Naracoorte	Port Elliot	Wallaroo

NATURE RESERVES

The Trust manages 24 nature reserves across South Australia representing a variety of ecosystems and encompassing a total area of approximately 1, 500 hectares.



NATURE RESERVES

2020/21 has been a fantastic year for our nature reserves. Covid-19 has done little to stop healthy outdoor work on the reserves, and we have never had so many visitors, with a lot of people discovering their local National Trust nature reserve for the first time.

Various grant funds have been applied to marking walking trails, designing and printing brochures and signs, preparing conservation management plans, removing invasive weeds and generally improving the reserves for their biodiversity value and for visitor experience alike.

A lot has been happening in Engelbrook Reserve at Bridgewater. A Community Grant from Adelaide Hills Council and Federal Communities Environment Program grant through Federal MP Rebekah Sharkie's office were used to create and erect entrance signs to welcome people to the reserve, print brochures and to add hardy weatherproof brochure boxes and trail markers. Just as important, though not as obvious to the casual visitor, was the removal of substantial stands of invasive weeds. The removal of large areas of these weeds is a remarkable achievement and significantly improves the environmental condition of the reserve and its value to visitors.

Nurragi Reserve turned 30 this year. This is a linear reserve comprising much of the old Milang to Strathalbyn railway corridor. The creation of this reserve is a textbook collaboration of interested parties. The Trust, local government, a newly formed friends group and neighbouring landholders joined to save the disused railway corridor from being disposed of by the State Government. After 30 years the friends group have successfully rehabilitated the land and it is rich with plant and bird diversity. The reserve has even been widened thanks to Alexandrina Council and cooperative landholders which has boosted it biologically and aesthetically as well as improving the walking experience in a significant way.

A volunteer group has been established at Wilabalangaloo Reserve, near Berri. This reserve has been without a friends group for many years and had become neglected. Thankfully this is now being rectified, and the energetic friends group meet weekly to perform a variety of jobs on the reserve. Regular tasks include cultivating, planting and maintaining native plants to revegetate degraded areas. Plantings are protected from rabbits by fencing.

A collaboration with Volunteering SA&NT has facilitated corporate volunteers on our reserves. A team from Schneider Electric with workers of all ages including small children had a fun day levelling and grading a walking trail at HK Fry Reserve. They helped complete a new walking trail on this very hilly reserve with careful grading to ensure almost anyone can walk the track. There are marked points of interest and a colour brochure to inform the visitor.

We encourage all National Trust members to take every opportunity to visit our beautiful reserves around the state. Each Spring the profusion of wildflowers make every reserve a true celebration of nature. With some looking you can find fields of donkey, sun and spider orchids in shades of yellows, blues, purples, pinks, scarlet and salmon, and myriads of other wildflowers in every colour of the rainbow. It is all waiting to be discovered and enjoyed.



Top: Celebrating the completion works at Engelbrook Reserve supported by Adelaide Hills Council and Federal MP Rebekah Sharkie.  
Middle: Spider orchid at Roachdale Reserve.  
Bottom: Corporate volunteers (and family) on a working bee at H K Fry Reserve.



## VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS

The National Trust of South Australia is a membership-based community organisation, which relies on the support of its members for membership funds, for participation in advocacy campaigns and in supporting public programs and events. The generosity of members and partners enables the Trust to achieve its goals and helps promote the conservation of the natural, built and cultural heritage assets of South Australia.

As at 30 June 2021 the Trust had 2,530 memberships, many of which are household memberships consisting of more than one person. There were 140 new memberships in 2019/20. Member benefits include free entry to National Trust properties world-wide and a quarterly magazine about South Australian heritage issues and innovation.

Volunteers are a vital part of the organisation. In 2020/21 more than 1,000 volunteers across the State generously donated many thousands of hours of work to maintaining and looking after our National Trust collections, reserves and buildings and to managing tours and events promoting awareness of the rich heritage of South Australia. The economic value of this contribution can be estimated at more than \$4.5m annually.

Covid-19 has disrupted many volunteering activities and depleted our volunteer numbers. We have responded by introducing new ways to volunteer, with corporate volunteering, digital volunteering and event volunteering. In this way, we provide a diverse range of volunteering opportunities. More than ever, we appreciate the invaluable work of our volunteers and thank them for their generosity and dedication to the work of the Trust.



Above left: Restored Argo river barge finds a new home at Olivewood. Right top: Wonder and learning at Tea Tree Gully blacksmith's shop. Middle: Celebrating completion of work at the Miner's dugouts in Burra. Bottom: Willunga's Wicked Ways presented at the Willunga Courthouse Museum.

## 2020 VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Trust recognises its volunteers with service and achievement awards. **Service Awards** for 10, 15 and 20+ years of service with the Trust are presented annually; **Achievement Awards** are made for a heritage related project or other achievement. The **President's Award** is awarded for outstanding service to the Trust.

In 2020 the AGM was held via the Internet due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The following awards were presented subsequent to the meeting.

### SERVICE AWARDS

#### Jean Baker

Jean has been involved with the Victor Harbor branch for 15 years as a regular volunteer in the museum and shop, and as an office holder on the branch Committee.

#### Theo Ellenbroek

Theo was part of the inaugural Burnside branch committee in 2005 and has given 38 years of continuous membership and service to the Trust. His current role on the committee is Co-ordinator of Media Communication.

#### Russell Sinclair

Russell has been a volunteer bush-care worker at Engelbrook Reserve for 32 years. In this time Russ has carried out substantial weed control, removing weeds carefully to care for beautiful native vegetation. He has also served on the Natural Heritage Advisory Committee for many years before retiring in 2021.

#### Avian Pink

Avian has been an active member of the CYP branch for over 20 years, serving on the committee as Chair, Vice Chair and secretary. He has always been active in promoting the National Trust and the Ardrossan branch. He assisted with the development of the Ardrossan Museum and Gunderson Reserve.

#### Melville Liddle

Melville has been a Volunteer for over 30 years in a number of National Trust reserves, including Fraser, Engelbrook, Nurrutti, H K Fry, Malcom Wicks, Watiparinga and Lenger Reserves. He has excelled in the hard physical work, such as building, weed removal, revegetation and rabbit destruction.

### ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

#### Sandy Whitelaw

Sandy's achievement has involved curating the Ayers House costume and accessories collection. For this she has sewn many replica costumes depicting Victorian dress and in particular costumes of immigrant Irish orphan girls. She is playwright for the dramatisation of early historic events and customs, and speaker for floor talks at Ayers House.

#### Sharon Mills

Sharon has been an Ayers House museum guide since 2019, a *Treasury and Tunnels* Tour Guide, a cast member of the *After Dark* Program, and a Family Programs volunteer. She was also editor of the Ayers House newsletter *Ayers & Graces*.

#### Mark Taylor

The National Trust recognises Mark for his work in managing regular Tea Tree Gully branch events such as the *Whodunnit Murder Mystery* evenings 2009-2015. He is the main photographer for the branch and has won awards. Mark joined the Trust at age 18, joined the Tea Tree Gully Branch Committee in 2007 and became secretary in 2010. Mark created the museum website in 2014 and still manages it and also the branch newsletter *Heritage Happenings*.

#### John and Jan Angas

The National Trust recognises John and Jan Angas for their support of the Trust and active help with the regeneration plan for Collingrove.

#### Ron Boyce

Ron has been Chair of Overland Corner branch since 1994. He managed many other projects *Bookmark Biosphere*, which opened philanthropic and government avenues for environmental work at Overland Corner; the Overland Corner Wetland Project; the management of camping in the Reserve and the development of a conservation management plan for the reserve and the refurbishment of the Riverfront Cottage for holiday rental.

### PRESIDENT'S AWARD

#### Bob Cornwell

Bob is an active leader of the Overland Corner Branch. Bob has also served on the Collections, Regions & Branches Committee, NTSA Council and the Natural Heritage Advisory committee for a number of years. He and Ron Boyce have continually acted as camping and visitor wardens on the on the Overland Corner Nature Reserve, maintained the historic police stables as a rental property, then renovated and brought it to a suitable standard to generate more income as a Bed and Breakfast venue. He has undertaken a number of projects to improve the natural heritage values and visitor experience of the Reserve through a large variety of grants and partnerships.

Perhaps most important has been Bob's outstanding work to return the Overland Corner Wetland Complex to a healthy ecosystem. Much of this has been achieved by maintaining close partnerships and good relations with the Berri Barmera Council, the Berri-Barmera Local Action Plan group, the former Bookmark Biosphere, the state Environment Department, the Murray Darling Basin Authority and other regional conservation groups.

Bob has been an outstanding National Trust member in all aspects - as an organiser, motivator, committee man and administrator and as a very practical, skilled and on-ground hard worker.



SUPPORTERS

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

ABC Radio Adelaide  
Adelaide City Council  
Adelaide Hills Council  
Adina Treasury Hotel  
Art Gallery of South Australia  
Australian Antique & Art Dealers Association  
Beerenberg Farm  
BrainHackr  
Bundanon Trust  
Burnside Council  
Burnside Historical Society  
Celia Craig  
Children’s University  
Community Alliance  
Conservation Council of South Australia  
Conservation Volunteers Australia  
Construction Industry Training Board  
Copper Coast Council  
Country Women’s Association  
Dalemain Estate, UK  
Department of the Environment and Water  
DuluxGroup  
Regional Council of Goyder  
Greening Australia  
History Teachers Association of South Australia  
History Trust of South Australia  
Music SA  
National Australia Bank  
Olives SA  
Piper Alderman lawyers  
Recitals Australia  
Robe District Council  
SA Open Gardens Scheme  
South Australian Nature Alliance  
Stone Ideas  
Theodore Bruce Auctions  
Thyne Reid Foundation  
Trees For Life  
Victoriana Society of South Australia  
Volunteering SA and NT  
Wattle Range Council  
Wines by Geoff Hardy

BEQUESTS

Yvonne Carter

PATRONS

In 2013 the former President, Professor Norman Etherington AM, initiated a patron program for the National Trust of South Australia. Over 8 years the Trust has welcomed the support of more than 60 individuals, couples and families. In 2020/21, many current patrons renewed their commitment and several new patrons joined the program. We greatly appreciate their support.

Current Patrons

Sir George Kingston Patrons

Mrs Joan Beer  
Prof Norman Etherington AM and Prof Peggy Brock AM  
Ms Deborah Morgan  
Mr Edwin Michell  
Dr Patricia Michell OAM  
Mrs Susan Morgan  
Mr Anthony and Mrs Mary Lou Simpson  
Mrs Carla and Mr Derek Carter

Edmund Wright Patrons

Ms Gabrielle Iwanow  
Ms Louise Rigoni

Colonel William Light Patrons

Mr Marcus Beresford  
Judge Michael Boylan QC  
Mrs Barbara Brummitt  
Dr John Davenport  
Mr James Harvey  
Mr Richard Harvey  
Mr George Hobbs  
Mr Paul Leadbeter  
Mr Hugh and Mrs Fiona McLachlan OAM  
Mr David Shannon  
Dr Darren Peacock  
Mr Skip and Mrs Lilly Skipman  
Mr James and Mrs Doody Taylor  
Mrs Pamela Yule

Foundation Patrons

Michael Abbott AO QC  
Cavill Power Products Pty Ltd  
Mrs Anne Jolly†  
Mr Robert (Bob) Piper AO† & Lady Porter†  
Mrs Eve Shannon-Cullity†  
Mrs Marion W Wells†  
Mr Alastair Angas†  
Mrs Margaret Bennett  
Mrs Skye McGregor  
Mr Robin & Mrs Helen Greenslade  
Mrs Cecily Harvey†  
Mr Anthony Hurl  
The Hon Dr Diana Laidlaw AM  
Mr John P Maddern†  
The Hon Rod & Mrs Leonie Matheson  
Mr Peter Morgan†  
The Hon Dr Kemerl Murray AO†  
Mr John Phillips  
Mrs M P Schroder  
Mrs Sue Tweddell  
Mr Cedric Wells† OAM  
Mr R J Whittington QC

OFFICE BEARERS

Members of the Council of the National Trust of South Australia at 30 June 2021

Ms Deborah Morgan (President)	Mr James Harvey	Mr Steve Larkins OAM	Ms Millie Nicholls
Mr George Hobbs JP (Vice President)	Mr Eric Heapy	Mr Paul Leadbeter	Dr Nigel Ridgway
	Ms Gabrielle Iwanow	Ms Caren Martin	Ms Di Wilkins
Mr Graham Hancock			



Ms Deborah Morgan (President)



Mr George Hobbs JP (Vice President)



Mr Graham Hancock



Mr James Harvey



Mr Eric Heapy



Ms Gabrielle Iwanow (Appointed Nov 2020)



Mr Steve Larkins OAM (Appointed Nov 2020)



Mr Paul Leadbeter



Ms Caren Martin



Ms Millie Nicholls (Appointed Nov 2020)



Dr Nigel Ridgway (Appointed Nov 2019)



Ms Di Wilkins (Appointed Nov 2019)



## AUDIT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of National Trust of South Australia ("the entity") which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2020, the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Changes in Equity and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by Members of the Council.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of National Trust of South Australia is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *National Trust of South Australia Act 1955*; including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013*.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

The Council Members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises of the information in the Council's report for the year ended 30 June 2020, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Cont)

#### Council Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Council members of National Trust of South Australia are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *National Trust of South Australia Act 1955*. This responsibility includes such internal control as the Council members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view so that it is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Council members are responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council members either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Council members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (CONT)

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (Cont)

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*Nexia Edwards Marshall*

Nexia Edwards Marshall  
Chartered Accountants

*D. Pozza*

Damien Pozza  
Partner

Adelaide  
South Australia

11 November 2020

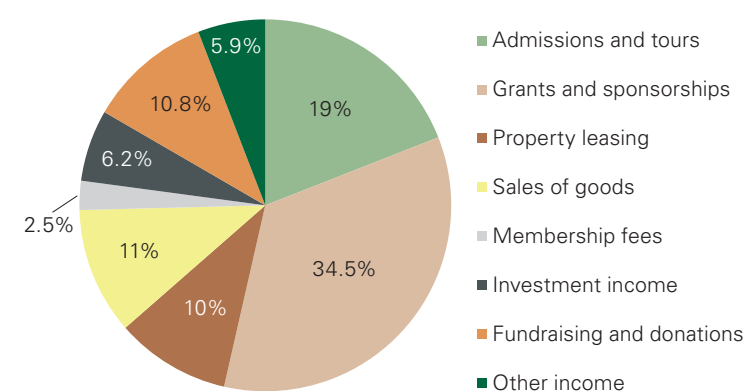
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## FINANCIAL RESULTS

For the year ended 30 June 2021

### SOURCES OF INCOME



The financial results for 2020-21 show an overall surplus of \$1,032,652 compared with a surplus of \$3,784,173 in 2019-20. Total income for the year was \$4,589,505 compared with \$6,807,362 in 2019-20. The greater income and surplus in the previous year reflected the transfer of the North Adelaide Baptist Church buildings to the Trust.

Income has been boosted by major project grants and a recovery in the value of our investments following the downturn in value in 2020. Despite the ongoing impacts of Covid-19 in some areas of activity, customer revenue from admissions, tours and the sale of merchandise rebounded strongly in 2020/21.

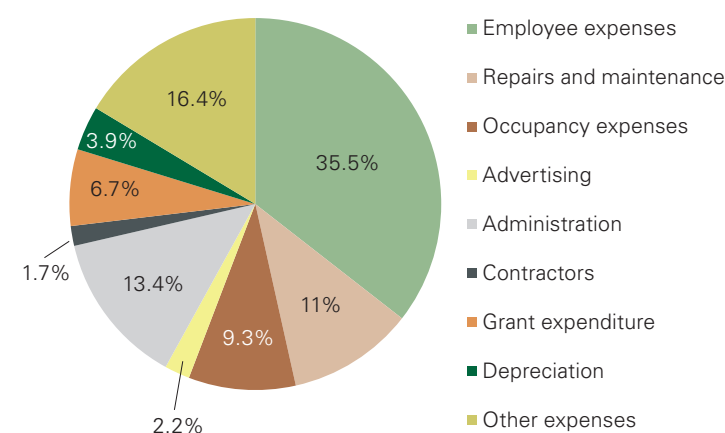
The pandemic has impacted almost all of our sources of income, but the timing, impact and recovery from those impacts is quite uneven. We will probably remain in this unpredictable state for some time. Operating revenue doubled on the previous year, reflecting a strong uptick in visitation, particularly in regional areas, after widespread closures in 2020. Dividend income was down by 30%, but donations and fundraising recovered from a dip in the previous year. The diversity of our income streams has helped manage the ups and downs of the pandemic and enabled us to remain in surplus.

Total operating expenditure for the year was up by 18% on the previous year reflecting a significant capital works program and increased grant expenditure. Our major expenditure items are employment costs and the operation, conservation and maintenance of our buildings, together accounting for more than half of our total expenditure.

Despite the unpredictable impacts of Covid-19, the Trust's balance sheet continued to strengthen to its highest ever level. At 30 June 2021 the net assets of the Trust stood at more than \$41 million, up 43% from five years ago. Our assets are principally held as property. We have, over the past six years, also developed a separate investment fund for the future financial security of the Trust. The Audit, Finance and Governance Committee oversees the management of that fund which rebounded strongly in 2020-21 after a sharp downturn at the time of the first Covid-19 shutdown in March 2020.

Our strong balance sheet provides future security for the ongoing operations of the Trust. The achievement of major project grants from the Federal Government will significantly increase our income and expenditure in the next two years as we deliver those projects whilst maintaining our other operations.

### EXPENDITURE





## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

For the year ended 30 June 2021

NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ABN 45 432 652 725

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Revenue from contracts with customers</b>		
Admission and tours revenue	717,831	442,921
Grant and sponsorship – operating	1,201,419	375,250
Sale of memorabilia	415,938	265,900
Membership fees	95,299	103,126
	<u>2,430,487</u>	<u>1,187,197</u>
<b>Other revenue</b>		
Dividends received	157,415	215,163
Revenue from lease	376,860	315,666
Interest received	77,739	54,652
Assets transferred from other entities	-	4,960,000
Donations and fundraising	406,286	279,609
Bequests received	5,000	60,000
Fair value movement in investments	814,739	(638,285)
Government grants - COVID-19	-	239,500
Capital grant	100,000	-
Other income	220,979	133,860
Total other revenue	<u>2,159,018</u>	<u>5,620,165</u>
Total revenue	<u>4,589,505</u>	<u>6,807,362</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Employee benefit expense	(1,263,921)	(1,218,730)
Administration expense	(475,604)	(457,123)
Bad debt expense	(32,184)	(18,300)
Contractors and consultant fees	(61,281)	(56,388)
Repairs and maintenance expense	(390,112)	(295,449)
Occupancy expense	(331,189)	(224,305)
Advertising expense	(78,229)	(92,433)
Depreciation expense	(137,439)	(121,507)
Fundraising and special events expenses	(4,223)	(12,478)
Grant expenditure	(236,548)	(75,539)
Sundry expenses	(546,123)	(451,937)
Total Expenses	<u>(3,556,853)</u>	<u>(3,023,189)</u>
<b>Current year surplus</b>	<u>1,032,652</u>	<u>3,784,173</u>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2021

NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ABN 45 432 652 725

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,354,364	2,691,915
Trade and other receivables	188,917	345,157
Inventories	173,134	117,545
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>4,716,415</u>	<u>3,154,617</u>
Non-current Assets		
Financial assets	3,197,663	2,939,694
Property, plant and equipment	35,934,787	35,461,832
Intangible assets	21,772	26,126
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>	<u>39,154,222</u>	<u>38,427,652</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>43,870,637</u>	<u>41,582,269</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	1,084,147	739,237
Employee provisions	136,802	115,394
Contract liabilities	1,381,368	515,788
Borrowings	126,189	121,579
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>2,728,506</u>	<u>1,491,998</u>
Non-current Liabilities		
Employee provisions	86,508	67,300
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>	<u>86,508</u>	<u>67,300</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>2,815,014</u>	<u>1,559,298</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>41,055,623</u>	<u>40,022,971</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained surplus	20,726,761	19,694,109
Reserves	20,328,862	20,328,862
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>41,055,623</u>	<u>40,022,971</u>





With thanks to our corporate supporters

WINES BY: GEOFF HARDY

FROM THE  
**BEERENBERG**  
FAMILY FARM

The National Trust of South Australia is a community-based membership organisation established in 1955.

We work to preserve, protect and promote our built, natural and cultural heritage with the support of our members, volunteers and supporters.

This document is available from [nationaltrust.org.au/sa](http://nationaltrust.org.au/sa)

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