

SUPPORT



Your Trust in Action

Welcome to the 2022 Impact Report.



Bringing heritage to life in NSW

From the Chief Executive Officer

Without question, 2022 has been another challenging year. In 2021, National Trust (NSW) continued to respond to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and flooding throughout the state, while also managing our robust conservation program and supporting new projects.

During the rollercoaster of the pandemic, when properties were closed for several months, we focused on a number of conservation projects which enabled deeper and more impactful efforts.

Similarly, we have seen the power of collaboration – for both funding and knowledge sharing. Tackling formidable challenges requires true partnership with like-minded foundations and individuals, because by working together we can create greater impact and move faster than we can by working solo..

'Your support through the COVID-19 pandemic has been humbling and heart-warming'



Building on work we covered in the 2021 *Your Trust in Action*, we remain inspired by our donors and supporters about the future and we sincerely thank you all. Your ongoing support is vital to protecting and discovering our precious heritage. Without you, we would not have recovered a valuable 400-year old Dutch master painting. We share how this artwork was found and restored in this report.

The report that follows highlights some of this year's progress and offers a preview of what is to come.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Debbie Mills'.

Debbie Mills



An investment in the future

In the last financial year, the National Trust (NSW) fundraising and bequest income remained strong.

3,162 🎁

Gifts

1,673 ❤️

Donors

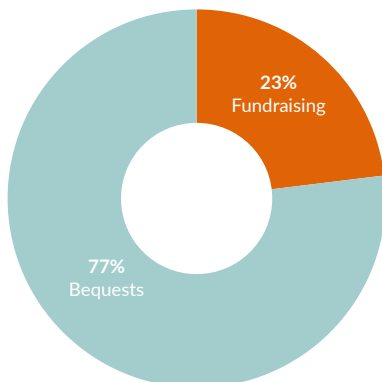
32% ↑

Patrons & Guardians

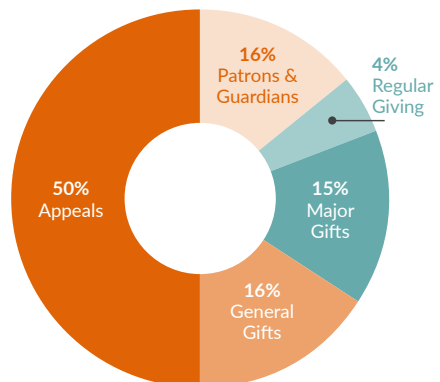


Maze at Harpers Mansion

**Total income (bequests & fundraising):
exceeded \$2.87m**



**Fundraising income:
exceeded \$649,000**



Leaving a lasting legacy

The funds raised through the generosity of our members and supporters play a critical role in the maintenance and repair work needed to keep our properties safe and open. We are very thankful to those who have made an enduring contribution to the National Trust.

Claire Heasman, Senior Paintings Conservator at International Conservation Services, retouching Still Life 17th century (photo by ICS).





HOW OUR COLLECTION BENEFITS

A generous \$1 million bequest, held in the National Trust Heritage Foundation, helps us look after our collection of over 60,000 items, including paintings, furniture, household items and agricultural equipment. As a direct result of this bequest, we've been able to undertake the following:

- inspection by specialists of the furniture collections held at every Trust property. By updating our knowledge of each piece we can further improve our understanding of the collection's significance and care requirements.
- implementation of integrated pest management, an environmentally sensitive approach to pest eradication, which includes freezing and low oxygen treatments.
- ongoing assessment and cataloguing of 35,000 items in regional properties.
- employment of a part-time staff member to assist with cataloguing, auditing and care of our collection.

MAKING CARS THE STARS

A generous bequest dedicated to vintage and veteran cars supported a rally in Orange with over 100 pre-1931 vehicles and a week-long celebration in Narrandera with 140 people and over 70 pre-1919 vehicles.

'Bequests are an important revenue stream representing a significant proportion of our overall income'

Soma Somavarman,
National Trust (NSW) Finance Director

PROTECTING OUR PROPERTIES

Funds raised allowed us to repaint and repair the external timber at Woodford Academy, a former schoolhouse and one of the oldest buildings in the Blue Mountains.

Generous donors supported essential works to the formal pond at Everglades. This included painting, re-waterproofing and the installation of a pump to prevent flooding on to the surrounding lawn.



Formal pond at Everglades House & Gardens

Bringing magic back to Norman Lindsay Gallery

*"The grass is green, the day is fair,
The dandelions abound.*

*Is this a time for sad despair
And sitting on the ground?"*

Bunyip Bluegum, The Magic Pudding



Norman Lindsay Gallery



Garden fountain with Norman Lindsay sculpture



The former home of artist Norman Lindsay is one of our largest and most popular properties. The park-like garden is surrounded by native bush and provides the perfect setting for the house and studios.

This year, thanks to an \$80,000 gift by a Life Member, much-needed work including the stabilisation of the 1916 swimming pool and the building of pathways to improve visitor safety and access, is continuing.

Extensive garden maintenance, involving the replacement of dead and diseased trees and the establishment of new garden beds, has also commenced with funds raised in the 2021 Garden Appeal.

Inside the gallery, a family foundation has funded the installation of state-of-the-art lighting which has greatly enhanced our visitors' viewing experience.

Right from top: Repaired pathway to the swimming pool; Jane Watters, Galleries Director inspecting new gallery lighting.





Still Life 17th century attributed to Gerrit Willemz. Heda

The impact of appeals

This year, our appeals raised crucial funds and again highlighted the vital role our donors play in achieving our goals.

RESCUING, REVIVING AND REVEALING OUR ART

As a direct result of our Art Conservation Appeal, 36 historically-significant artworks from various National Trust properties have been conserved. Many of these pieces will be on display at the S.H. Ervin Gallery in the Prized Possessions exhibition from 12 to 27 November 2022.

One painting made headlines around the world when conservation work revealed it to be a 17th century Dutch Master. The painting, a dull, unframed, still-life from Woodford Academy's storeroom, underwent

a \$30,000 treatment which uncovered the signature of Gerrit Willemz. Heda, son of famous Dutch Master, Willem Claesz Heda.

The painting, likely to be a father-and-son collaboration, is a significant discovery for the art world. Rebecca Pinchin, National Trust (NSW) Collections Manager, was amazed when conservators found the signature on the painting.

'To have found an authentic 17th-century painting in our storeroom was beyond exciting, it left me breathless'



Everglades House & Gardens



RETURNING EVERGLADES TO ITS GLORY DAYS

The funds raised in our recent Everglades Appeal are being used to take the iconic Everglades House in Leura back to its 1930s art-deco origins. An extensive schedule of work including bespoke cabinetry and furnishings, electrical work, and maintenance to windows and bathrooms is planned.

Retford Park

MAKING OUR GARDENS BEAUTIFUL AGAIN

Our 2021 Garden Appeal was a great success and now, thanks to the generosity of our members and donors, work has commenced renewing and reimagining the gardens at Norman Lindsay Gallery and Vienna Cottage, with plans for Tomago House also being finalised.



Vienna Cottage



SHORT TERM INVESTMENT FOR LONG TERM CHANGE

Our Regular Giving program continued to make an impact during the pandemic. Generous monthly or quarterly donations from individual donors allowed us to plan long-term conservation projects. Recruiting and retaining regular supporters requires an ongoing investment and is one of the most effective ways to support the National Trust. A strong retention rate of over 80% is testament to this groups' commitment to heritage.

More highlights from the past year

Thanks to our members and supporters, conservation and maintenance work continued at our heritage properties, while a generous donation added to our Archives.

PROTECTING AND RESTORING

In historic Riversdale, replacement of a wooden verandah frame which had been attacked by white ants has been completed.

A water pump has also been installed to prevent flooding of Riversdale's large cellar which has been inundated during the recent rain.

Meanwhile, the chandelier at Lindesay House, Darling Point, has been carefully cleaned and restored. Today, it shines brightly in the grand dining room.



Riversdale

A FASCINATING HISTORY

The AMP Foundation donated original material primarily relating to the heritage-listed AMP Building in Circular Quay, to our Archives. The fascinating collection of 120 items pre-dates the building's construction and includes master plans, photographs, decorative menus and other ephemera. Key pieces were exhibited at the National Trust Centre as part of our role of promoting this unique site's history.

Built in the late 1830s as a coaching inn, Riversdale in Goulburn continues to be a popular destination for travellers and locals alike.



The year ahead

The next 12 months promises to be a busy and exciting time. A new appeal was recently launched to raise funds for urgent conservation work to Cooma Cottage, the former home of explorer Hamilton Hume. Upgrading the cottage's electrical and communication circuits and installing new lighting, security and fire detector systems is a priority along with ongoing maintenance and repair work.

Our large textile collection, spanning Old Government House, Grossman House, Riversdale and Saumarez Homestead, is also the focus of a major research project by the J. Permsew Foundation. The project will document the collection's themes, identify significant items, ascertain their conservation needs and then undertake conservation where required. One item, an exquisite, newly restored yellow dress, will be on display at Grossmann House in Maitland in February 2023.

Refreshing the display of significant furniture held in the National Trust collections will take place following completion of a major furniture survey. Undertaking an assessment of the rug and carpets in the collections and upgrading collection documentation for these items is also planned.

Along with efforts to better understand and catalogue our collections, we are investigating storage requirements across all properties to ensure items are appropriately identified and stored.



Volunteer at Old Government House

Subject to funding a training program for volunteers on the care and display of paper based objects and photography collections will be delivered on site at key properties.

Meanwhile, important maintenance to the main home and caretaker's cottage at Tomago House will soon commence. Work will include the replacement of rusted internal roofing.

Thanks to a car lover's bequest, an important mentoring program is being funded to ensure that the traditional skills involved in caring for vintage and veteran cars will be passed on to the next generation.

Finally, we're working hard to ensure that adequate resourcing and effective legislation for our natural and built heritage is an important consideration at the upcoming State election.

Thank You

Only through your ongoing support will we continue to bring heritage to life for future generations in New South Wales.



S.H. Ervin Gallery. Cover: Collaborating on Collections at Old Government House.

To discuss supporting the National Trust (NSW) please contact our Philanthropy Manager, Tim Arrowsmith, on (02) 9258 0154 or email tarrowsmith@nationaltrust.com.au

To make a gift go to nationaltrust.org.au/donate-nsw

 @nationaltrustau  @nationaltrustau  @nationaltrustnsw



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the places in which we live, work and play. We recognise and respect the enduring relationship they have with their lands and waters, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.