Gerry McCarthy
MINISTER FOR ARTS & MUSEUMS

31 January 2011

Goyder Exhibition On Show At Northern Territory Library

Arts Minister Gerry McCarthy today invited Territorians to visit this year’s annual Goyder Survey Exhibition opening tomorrow at the Northern Territory Library.

Mr McCarthy said the 13 day exhibition features 19 stereoscope photos taken during George Goyder’s expedition from South Australia to the Northern Territory in 1869-1870.

“George Goyder was a remarkable Surveyor-General who is best known for the siting, planning and initial development of Darwin, known back then as Palmerston,” Mr McCarthy said.

“Working for the South Australia Department of Lands and Survey, Goyder and his 150 man team identified land to grow tropical products as part of their survey of what is now known as the Northern Territory.

“Within a few years of Darwin (Palmerston) being selected as the Northern Territory’s capital city, the Overland Telegraph arrived from England via Indonesia, enabling fast communication between Australia and the rest of the world.

“I encourage Territorians and tourists to visit the Goyder exhibition where visitors will be able to view 19 stereoscope photos depicting members of the 1869-1870 expedition, new settlement and scenery of the region, men at work and around the camps.

“These are significant photos that record how Darwin began its life as a small collection of tents and huts, which, 140 years later, is now one of Australia’s best cities to live in.

“Goyder and his team arrived in Darwin on 5 February 1869 and every year on this day the National Trust commemorate his arrival by re-enacting his arrival in Darwin at the foreshore near the Deckchair Cinema.

“Not only is the Goyder’s story fascinating but also the photos that make up this annual exhibition, which are examples of an early method of 3D photography, first used in 1840.

“Stereoscopy gives an illusion of depth by using two separate images printed side by side that are then seen through a stereoscopic viewer or 3D glasses.

“This exhibition is a great opportunity to learn more about an integral part of Darwin’s history and entry is free.”

Go to www.ntl.nt.gov.au for more information about the Goyder exhibition.

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