From the Director

The annual National Trust Heritage Festival is over until next year! In this edition you can read reports from our enthusiastic (and very tired) heritage festival volunteers. The events are the result of a huge effort and I trust everyone found something to discover and enjoy during the Festival.

Now, with the Dry Season upon us, it is a great time to travel around a bit and have a look at the unique heritage of the NT outback. The National Trust is the custodian of many places across the Territory and we encourage you to visit them.

Pine Creek showcases the former Northern Australia Railway and the fascinating Chinese heritage associated with the goldrush, Katherine has the quaint and beautiful O’Keeffe House on the river bank and the Old Railway Station. Travel out to Borroloola and you have the history of the area told in great detail in the Old Police Station. There is police history at Timber Creek, mining history at Tennant Creek and the romance of droving at the small historic town of Newcastle Waters. Alice Springs features the museum in Hartley Street School and the Stuart Town Gaol. And in between our properties there is so much more to be discovered.

Elizabeth Close

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Elections for Council of the National Trust

Your National Trust is governed by a Council of 10 elected by the membership every 2 years governs the National Trust.

Members of the current Council are:
Trevor Horman (President), Dr Bill Low (Vice President), Dr Jan Hills (Treasurer), Stephen Ehrlich, Julie Mastin, Gillian Banks OAM, Merriel Lawrie, Stuart Traynor, Laurelle Halford

The next election will be held in July 2013 with nominations closing on the 30th June. To take part in the election you must be a current financial member of the National Trust. A call for nominations will shortly be advertised to all current financial members of the Trust and you should each receive information in the mail on how to nominate for Council, should you so desire.

Members of the Trust are encouraged to consider nomination for Council, it is a good way to become involved with the heritage work of the Trust in the Northern Territory.

If you have any questions about the work of Council, its future plans for the Trust and the commitment required you may like to contact the Director on 89812848 of the Branch Councillor for your region.

They are:
Julie Mastin (Larrakeyah Branch) for the greater Darwin area.
Gillian Banks (Katherine Branch)
Janet Leather (Gulf Branch)
Stuart Traynor (McDouall Stuart) for the greater Alice Springs area.

Trusted Recipe – Caribbean Bananas

Trusted Recipe

Caribbean Bananas

Ingredients
6 bananas
¼ cup brown sugar
½ cup orange juice
grated rind of orange
¼ teaspoon each Nutmeg and Cinnamon
¼ cup sherry
30g butter

Method
Peel bananas, place in flat buttered baking dish. Combine brown sugar with orange juice, rind, spices and sherry. Pour over bananas. Dot with butter.
Back 15 – 20 minutes
Heritage Festival 2013

Another successful National Heritage Festival for the Northern Territory. Reports are flowing in from Alice Springs, Katherine and Darwin on how wonderful attendance was at events.

We hope you enjoy the wrap up from our branches and if you missed out this year perhaps we shall see you there next year. If you would like to see more photos of the events around the Territory head over to our Facebook page http://www.facebook.com/nationaltrustnt

Katherine

Heritage Week in Katherine proved to be a busy time but provided some wonderful outcomes and great feedback.

Both properties were open for World Heritage Day and it was most gratifying to see the presence of students from both Katherine South Primary School, as visitors, and Katherine High School students who made a big impact on the weeds situation around the fence line at O’Keeffe House and also worked on their gardening project at the 1926 Railway Station. Our sincere thanks to all concerned.

Heritage activities continued on to Sunday afternoon when The Heritage Trail Bus departed from O’Keeffe House taking passengers on an hour long trip around Katherine’s historical sites. We were extremely grateful to Mr Rob Phillips, who stepped into the role of commentator at very short notice, and to Mr Les Cox, who drove the bus. It was a very warm afternoon and although all who went on the trip came back very hot they were enthralled with what they had seen and heard. All were able to partake of cool drinks and Devonshire Teas or a large selection of cakes, slices or savouries in the cool shade of the garden trees while they listened to the guest speakers.

Guest speakers for the afternoon entertained, educated and amused all with their exceptional, and sometimes hilarious experiences, and knowledge of ‘Community Milestones’ of the Katherine Region in a wide range of fields. Having these speakers videoed as they spoke will be a wonderful resource for many years to come and inspired us to endeavour to capture much more of our local history while the knowledge is still out there amongst us.

Another positive outcome of Heritage Week was interest aroused and an imminent start on the Significant Tree Register for the region.

The Clontarf High School boys are doing a great job clearing weeds from the back of the property and setting up a garden at the railway station. They will also ride the 100 year old railway bike path and make a video of it.

Ian has also made a huge impact on the garden weeds and pruning the old mango trees allowing more sunlight onto the lawns while John, our caretaker, has kept lawns mowed and has trimmed back the bamboo and carted out all the prunings and is now in the process of spreading all of the wood mulch that was produced. Their efforts are much appreciated. Special thanks must also go to Marion, Gillian and Merriel for their efforts in cleaning and preparing both properties for opening.

M.Lawrie

Guest Speaker: Anne Shepherd

Guest Speaker: Mayor Fay Miller

Photo: M.Lawrie
Alice Springs
“Celebrating Our Sporting History”
In celebration of “our sporting history” in central Australia, the McDouall Stuart Branch launched the 2013 Heritage Festival in Alice Springs with an excellent slide show and address by Stuart Traynor at the Hartley Street school.

From a variety of sources, especially the NT Archives Stuart presented some wonderful photos and stories of sports people, their activities and venues dating back to the turn of the century. There were also extra stories supplied by members of the audience who not only remembered the events but had also helped create the venue. For example Maurie Johns remembers when he and others cleared the stones from Anzac Oval and sowed couch grass seed by hand to provide a playing surface. Unfortunately, a local community of ants were grateful for the free tucker and helped themselves to much of the seed.

About 60 locals and visitors made the most of the event and the afternoon tea!
C.Leonard

The Alice Springs Golf Club presented an excellent display which records the history of the Club and the efforts of past members to provide an excellent venue for local enthusiasts. They can truly celebrate the results of their achievements.

Thanks to the Committee for participating in the Heritage Week theme with their impressive display, including maps, plans, record-keeping books and trophies!
L.Braham

This year’s Doreen Braitling Memorial Lecture was delivered by sporting icon in the Territory, Charlie King. A very appreciative crowd of nearly 90 people thoroughly enjoyed his address recalling his early days growing up in Alice Springs, how he became involved in sport and sports reporting for the ABC and the national and international trips he enjoyed as a broadcaster attending both Olympic and Commonwealth Games on more than one occasion.

Over the years he has met many champions and sports people from all over the world, but locally he endeavours to interest young indigenous people to seriously look at sport as a career and a way of life, whenever he has the opportunity.
C.Leonard

Heritage week finished with a talk by Josie Petrick at St Mary's mural - the best kept secret in Alice. The mural has recently been Heritage listed. It is a kaleidoscope of biblical scenes and characters, mainly from the Book of Revelations and the four gospels.

It was painted by Hungarian Robert Czako in 1958, and is an amazing religious mural that needs to be preserved and protected. There have been instances of break-ins to the chapel but thank goodness, so far no damage to the painting.
L.Braham
**Darwin**

The theme for our Heritage Festival 2013 was Community Milestones. This year the Festival was organised and run by Trevor Horman, Julie Mastin and Judy Richardson. After a lot of planning and endless meetings our Program was ready to go.

We started with a film presented by the Historical Society called “From the Red Centre to the Top End”. The event at the NT Library was well patronised and enjoyed by all who attended.

Sunday was a self-drive trip to historic Manton Dam (1939). Here we were met by Norm Cramp and Richard Summerauer who took everyone on a guided tour of the area. Gwen Higgins allowed us to inspect her Beni Burnett designed house at Manton Dam. After the tour, we enjoyed a BBQ lunch cooked by Gary Higgins. An appreciative thank you is extended to Gwen and Gary.

On Sunday afternoon we held “Afternoon Tea at Burnett House”. The House and gardens were looking spectacular as usual.

Monday was our History Colloquium at Burnett House where we were entertained by some very interesting speakers. Janie Mason spoke on Nursing down through the years. Deb Wightman talked about her Dad and a captured Japanese flag during WW2. This was a beautiful story which touched everyone who was there. Pearl Ogden spoke about Disposals after the War at Katherine and what had happened to everything left behind by the departing armies. Alan Mitchell gave an amusing talk on Policing at the ‘Loo and a brief outline of his eventful stay at Borroloola. Patrons enjoyed the food and drinks that were provided after the presentations.

Tuesday, architect Steve Ehrlich lead a group of people on a tour of the old and new buildings around the Darwin central area. Steve spoke from personal experience in terms of remedial work on some buildings and conceptual designs on buildings such as the Supreme Court and Parliament House.

Wednesday was our History Mystery tour around Darwin. This was well patronised and we set off in our Bushtide Coach from the Old Qantas Hangar with our tour guide Peter Poole. Firstly, we visited the 1927 Steam Driven Oil Pumping Station building and Jim Keddie who operated the station was there to give us a talk. Then it was on to the 1913 Coastal Wireless Station site which was used by the Navy in WW1 and WW2. We then travelled to the 9” Gun Emplacement at East Point which was built in 1942. Norm Cramp was there to meet us and conduct the tour. Heading back, we briefly stopped at the place where G-EAOU touched ground in December 1919 to win the prize for the first England to Australia flight. Finally we journeyed back to the Qantas hangar to enjoy a sausage sizzle prepared by Rohan Charrington, who also spoke on the Qantas hangar. Thanks to Motor Vehicle Enthusiasts Club.
Thursday at the NT Library was our inaugural Barbara James Memorial Lecture. Clare Martin presented an interesting and varied talk about Barbara James and her passion for the Territory to a large and appreciative audience.

Friday was our quiz night at Burnett House. A fun evening was had by all who attended, and a group called "The Bearded Boffins" were the winners for the night. Platters of food were provided by the Darwin Convention Centre.

Saturday saw a large group of people following Gavin Perry who led a walk through Myil Aly Point Heritage Precinct and Nurses walk. The Burnett House Revellers (aka Peter Bate, Chris Pemberton, Fritz Risler and Tony Suttor) played music in the grounds of Burnett House. It was very pleasant sitting around the lawns and listening to their music. Food and drink were provided and when darkness fell our movie commenced. It was a 1926 Buster Keaton silent film called "The General" that invited a lot of audience participation.

On Sunday all four houses were open for public viewing. It was great to see people wandering through the Precinct area. After the houses closed several volunteers scurried over to run “Afternoon Tea at Burnett House”. Needless to say by 6pm that evening we were all feeling exhausted from our ‘Heritage Week’ efforts.

The Larrakeyah Branch of the National Trust thanks all our wonderful volunteers who helped out in what was a very busy week for all. Thank you to each and every one of you for your cheerful assistance and for making the week a pleasant experience and a lot of fun.

J.Richardson/J.Mastin/T.Horman

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**Membership**

**Remember your membership with the Trust has many benefits**

- Trust News, The National Magazine – 4 issues per year;
- Trust NT Newsletter monthly;
- 10% discount at National Trust shops (including cafes);
- Members rates at events;
- Free entry to all National Trust properties in Australia that are open to the public;
- Reciprocal right to National Trust properties in Britain and other overseas countries (conditions apply).

If you would like to renew or perhaps you have a friend who would like to join the National Trust, please head over to our website for a membership form [www.nationaltrustnt.com.au](http://www.nationaltrustnt.com.au)

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**Volunteering**

Have you thought about joining our wonderful team of volunteers? We are a not-for profit non-government, community-based organisation dedicate to promoting and conserving the heritage of the Northern Territory.

We are currently seeking volunteers to assist with :-

Darwin
Burnet House – afternoon tea, house attendant
Gardeners – Audit, Mines, Magistrates Houses and Stahl Garden.

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Participants at the quiz night.
**Branch News**

**McDouall Stuart**

**Visit by Seniors from Frontier Services**
The McDouall Stuart Branch hosted a morning tea for seniors from ROST, Central Frontier Services. All are long time residents of Alice with much history between them. They enjoyed looking at the class photos and finding family members there. Lorraine Hayes found a photo of her father John Bray. Maybelle Nangala found her sister Edna Gillen. Stuart Traynor gave a brief outline of the history of the school.

L.Braham

**Darwin**

**Out and about with the Larrakeyah Branch**
Members of the Larrakeyah Branch have been out and about helping the Katherine Branch to paint and clean up the old Railway Station. Our mission was to scrape walls and paint the Station Master’s Office after the Book Shop had been relocated to the old waiting room area. Brian Murphy turned up with trestles for the high spots and we started scraping off the old paint. Sue Festing arrived to help along with Kylie Murphy. Tamara Penniket from the Katherine Times stopped by to see what we were doing and stayed to help us paint. Marion Townsend fed us all weekend with delicious Devonshire teas and sandwiches for lunch. Allison Stefanska also came along to help. Brian Hill called in to mow the lawn and Gillian Banks was painting the fiddly bits. It was all quite a social time with Claire Edwards and Rosemary and Peter Aiken from Pine Creek stopping by for a chat. We helped out on two weekends painting and cleaning and the old Railway Station was ready for visitors. Some of us still have paint in our hair.

J.Richardson

**Up Coming Events**

**Darwin**

Speakers Program: Larrakeyah Branch and HSNT
When:  Friday 31st May 2013
Time:  5.30pm for 6.00pm start
Where: Burnett House, 4 Burnett Place
Guest Speaker:  Earl James: Prison Camp to Tourist Mecca
Norfolk Island – a short history

$2 Sausage sizzle – Refreshments available Entry: $2 for members, $5 for non-members