

Heritage Officer Report to Council

April 2010

The following report has been arranged under the current Strategic Plan strategies for heritage and heritage related activities.

Strategy 1.1 – Promote heritage issues and information to the community

- **Centenary Walks Project** – This project is underway. The plan is to devote one day of my three day week to doing the research and field work for the project. So far I have I have spent 23.35 hours of Trust time and 17.45 hours of voluntary time jointly in the NAA and in the field. First drafts of the walks in Little Mulligans Flat (North Mulligans) and along the Old Coach Road have been written.
- 13 February – Gave a lecture on Aboriginal history for the Canberra and District Historical Society.
- 4 March – Gave a lecture for U3A Military History course on Trust's involvement with conservation issues at Gallipoli. The lecture was followed by discussion and debate of heritage issues and responsibilities.
- March 9 – Met with Dr Josephine Flood to assist her with information for the republishing of her book on ACT Aboriginal History, *The Moth Hunters*.
- March 20 – Conducted a public walk/talk tour of West Basin for Acton Tours.
- March 25-29 – Led a five day tour (22 people) on the Lake Mungo Tour.
- April 1 – Discussed and assisted Ms Moko Ede conservation of grave stones and cemetery restoration.

Strategy 1.2 – Promote heritage awareness for students in schools and tertiary institutions.

- 9 February – met with Margaret Ferguson, a UC student I am mentoring, to discuss her program and how I can assist her.

- 1 April - second meeting with Margaret Ferguson to discuss and advise on her current assignments.

Strategy 2.1 – Advocate for identification and conservation of heritage places and objects in the ACT region.

- 2 February – meeting with Heritage Committee at NT Office to discuss the 2010 Heritage at Risk Programme. Prepared a listing of top places assessed as being High Risk, Medium Risk and At Risk.
- 30 March – met with Mr Jerry Fitzgibbons, Committee member Griffith/Narrabundah Community Association, on their Heritage at Risk nomination for Griffith Oval No.1.
- 23 March - Discussion with Representative of Lovell Chen who have completed the first draft of the CMP for Yarralumla Nursery.
- 11 February – Submitted NT comments on the proposed Nishi development at Acton.
- 30 March – Submitted NT comments on the draft City Action Plan

Strategy 2.2 – Monitor ACT places and objects of heritage interest

- Visited- Ginninderra Blacksmith Shop, Old Coach Road, Mulligans Flat School Site, Mulligans Flat Aboriginal Stone Procurement Site, West Basin, Limestone Outcrops.

Strategy 2.3 – Liaise with Governments on heritage matters

- 12 February – Attended with President a meeting with senior management and staff of DEWHA regarding Jerrabomberra Wetlands and general discussions on submission of future planning proposals.
- 26 February – Met with Mr Gary Byles CEO of TAMS to advise him on the NT submission and concerns over the Jerrabomberra Wetlands proposed development.
- 10 March – Attended a meeting with NCA staff and consultant at York Park to discuss and plan a tree trimming project which is to facilitate the construction of a planned path through the park.

Strategy 2.4 – Manage National Trust Classified and Recorded Places List & Heritage database.

- This project is proceeding very well with the work put in by our volunteer team. The Classified Places records have now been rationalized. One volunteer is now working on rationalizing the former project records and data; one volunteer is

now scanning and digitizing the classification citations and one volunteer is uploading the digitized citations on our web site. The digitization is a

Strategy 3.1 – Promote membership involvement in ACT heritage

- Ongoing discussion and assistance to volunteer members working on the Classification files.

Strategy 3.2 – Promote community involvement in ACT Heritage

- Through my membership of – Canberra Archaeological Society (Vice President), Centre for Archaeological Research (ANU), Canberra and District Historical Society & ICOMOS Canberra I regularly promote community involvement in ACT Heritage.
- I am currently assisting in the organization of the third Archaeological & Historical Workshop organized by Canberra Archaeological Society and University of Canberra.

Strategy 4.1 – Conduct an active heritage media information program

<p>29 March – Media Release - ACT National Trust welcomes decision to abandon Immigration Bridge proposal</p>	<p>Interviewed by ABC TV News – segment on 7pm news.</p> <p>Interviewed by 2CC Radio for bulletins</p> <p>Article in CT 30 April</p>
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Strategy 4.2 – Comment professionally on material planning and heritage issues

- Comments and submissions have been sent to: ACTPLA on Jerrabomberra planned development and the Draft City Master Plan.
- Work has begun on forthcoming submissions on Belconnen Naval Transmitting Station – I am attending a public information session on Thursday evening 8th April- and ACT Heritage Legislation review.

Strategy 4.3 – Promote high quality discussion & debate of heritage issues

- During a five-day tour to Griffith, Mildura, Lake Mungo in the Willandra Lakes World Heritage area and Rutherglen I provided relevant literature to the group

and lectured on the significance and heritage issues of the area. These lectures precipitated discussion and debate from members of the tour.

Strategy 5.8 - Manage Trust heritage resources

- Liz and Alan have begun the next stage of rationalizing further files on heritage related places and preparing the Trust classification citations for uploading on the web site. They have developed a very efficient working relationship and methodology with this project and are now coming in two days a week. Keith Farquhar is also part of this team and is organizing the uploading of citations on our website. The digitizing of the classification citations and their uploading on to the website is, by its very nature, a time-consuming job which requires skill and a strict routine to enable a continuity of comparable data being created for the website. This is being done very efficiently by our three volunteers who are now working as a well-oiled composite team.

Peter Dowling
Heritage Officer
1st April 2010