



An outbuilding at Clarendon House, Evandale. Photography: Renee Hodskiss

A productive year for heritage projects

Heritage Tasmania Director Pete Smith reviews 2009, a significant and productive period for the sector.

This year has been another busy year as the annual reports for the Department of Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts (DEPHA) and the Tasmanian Heritage Council for 2008-09 show.

Thank you to all the heritage property owners, site managers, operators, tradespeople, professionals, planning authorities and groups that we have worked with over 2009. All make a significant contribution to ensuring our historic heritage is recognised as important, is well-cared for and is well-managed.

It is pleasing to note significant gains in our reform process have been made, including the drafting of our proposed legislation. Important gains have also been made in our day-to-day operations through the development of new resources and the achievement of some great individual heritage outcomes, like the reopening of the Lake Margaret Power Station and the reinstatement of its unique wood-stave pipeline.

Three notable highlights include the assessment of the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage nomination, the release of a new Practice Note on the installation of modern (and sustainable) services and the release of Pre-Development Assessment Guidelines.

Efforts to implement heritage surveys in Kingborough, Launceston, Meander Valley and Southern Midlands are

well advanced, and recent Tasmania Together reporting highlighted that a pleasing 87 per cent of works applications made to the Heritage Council had a positive or neutral impact on heritage values during the 2008-09 financial year.

These initiatives highlight just some of the diverse projects that we are involved in. Heritage Tasmania's engagement and work with local planning authorities is something we are particularly proud of. To find out more about examples of this collaboration go to:

www.heritage.tas.gov.au/act_reform.html

Another highlight this year has been the provision of funding for historic heritage through the Federal Jobs Fund and the State's Urban Renewal and Heritage Fund, which have made a big difference to a number of important heritage places across the State.

On a final note, a mixed bag of heritage guys did their bit for men's health and grew a Mo for Mo-vement.



Heritage Tasmania Director Pete Smith helped co-ordinate 'Our Hairy Heritage'

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, PARKS, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



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Tasmania
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Huge thanks go to Brad Williams, Chris Bonner, David Parham, Richard Tuffin, Alan Townsend, and Peter Burridge for their efforts. Together 'Our Hairy Heritage' raised \$1349.00.

Please note that the offices of Heritage Tasmania will be closed from 2pm on Thursday 24 December 2009 until 9am on Monday 4 January 2010. E-news will not be produced in January 2010, so the next edition will be in your email in-box in February 2010.

Until then, I wish all our readers a safe and enjoyable Christmas/summer break with family and friends.

'Clarendon Rediscovered' launched

A brand new project funded by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments will assist in restoring Clarendon House in Evandale to its 1850s glory.

The Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage, Michelle O'Byrne, launched the project 'Clarendon Rediscovered' this month.

"Clarendon Rediscovered acts on the National Trust's vision for this magnificent colonial homestead," Ms O'Byrne said.

"It involves the expert input of Dr James Broadbent into the appropriate replacement of soft furnishings and other materials, advice from the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens on how to manage the trees and grounds, interpretation work for the significant outbuildings, and much-needed maintenance."



The magnificent Clarendon House. Photography: Renee Hodskiss

Ms O'Byrne said Clarendon House was generously donated to the National Trust in the early 1960s but by this time some of its heritage values had been compromised creating challenges for the Trust in restoring and maintaining it.

"Clarendon Rediscovered redresses this wrong and builds upon the fine work and countless hours of support from Trust members and volunteers.

"The Tasmanian Government has provided \$120,000 from the Urban Renewal and Heritage Fund (URHF) for critical maintenance to repair the balustrade, to repair drainage and paint the magnificent exterior of the main house," Ms O'Byrne said.

The funding the Tasmanian Government has allocated adds to the \$800,000 Jobs Fund grant provided by the Australian Government and will fund the interpretive and interior works.

"The State Government through Heritage Tasmania is working closely with the National Trust to ensure the best possible outcomes for Clarendon House," Ms O'Byrne said.

"The intact collection of out-buildings, historic plantings, hedge-rows and irrigation system add to its uniqueness and heritage appeal," she said.

Clarendon House was constructed in 1838 by James Cox, a prominent Tasmanian landowner, merchant and politician. It is one of the finest pre-1850s homesteads in Australia with its wide terrace, magnificent portico and stately rooms.

Clarendon House is open to the public Monday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Admission: General \$10, concession \$8 and children under the age of 18 are free.

Panels in the paddock

A delightful Georgian homestead at Campania in Tasmania's south-east has retained its heritage character while modern technology, in the form of solar panels, have been installed.

The owner of Campania House, Mrs Paddy Pearl, is keen to do whatever she can to protect the environment while also protecting the heritage values of her circa 1840 rural home. So when she decided to install solar panels at her historic property, she contacted Heritage Tasmania for advice about where to locate them.

"I rang Ian Boersma at Heritage Tasmania and invited him to come out and help sort out the best location for them," Mrs Pearl said.

Heritage Tasmania works manager Ian Boersma said he examined three options in consultation with Mrs Pearl and the solar panel contractor. Locating the bank of panels in a paddock near the house provided the most satisfactory solution. It allowed for a cost effective installation and avoided any intrusion on the historic character of Campania House.

It also turned out to be the best option for capturing the sun's energy.



Panels in the paddock at Campania House. Photography: Robyn Shaw

"The panels are far enough removed from the house not to have any visual impact, and because they are located in a paddock they can be oriented to receive the absolute optimum amount of sunlight," Mr Boersma said.

"Because Mrs Pearl came to us before committing to a particular arrangement, we were able to find a solution that had no impact on the heritage values of her beautiful Georgian farmhouse.

"As a result there was no requirement for Mrs Pearl to make an application to the Tasmanian Heritage Council."

Mrs Pearl is passionate about protecting the heritage values of her home while also doing what she can to help the environment and is pleased with the results.

"I can install solar panels and fix the hot water and know that I'm helping the environment. All Australians should have solar panels. We have the sun," Mrs Pearl said.

"By having these panels I'm saving money and helping the environment."

Heritage Tasmania has recently released a practice note 'Installing modern service on heritage buildings' to help guide the installation of modern technologies. The practice note is available on line at: <http://www.heritage.tas.gov.au/> or by calling into our office to obtain a copy.

THC member's favourite heritage place

Tasmanian Heritage Council member Rev Allan Thompson recently spoke to Director Pete Smith about his heritage concerns and favourite heritage place.

Rev Allan Thompson is a recently-retired minister of the Uniting Church who represents the Tasmanian Council

of Churches on the Heritage Council. Rev Thompson says he is overwhelmed by the number of impressive churches, both large and small across Tasmania, which have heritage value.

"I am concerned about the capacity of church communities to maintain historic churches. They will need to be selective about which churches are retained as worship centres and which may need adaptive re-use," Rev Thompson said.

Perhaps surprisingly, Rev Thompson's favourite heritage-listed building is not a church, but the Albert Hall in Launceston.

"This grand old lady which sits on a prominent corner site on the perimeter of the CBD was built in 1891-2 as a venue for the Tasmanian International Exhibition," he said.

"The sheer size of the Victorian style building is impressive, as are its grand entrance steps. Inside the spacious main hall, the balcony around three sides and the magnificent Brindley pipe organ give the auditorium a sense of grandeur and grace."



Launceston's Albert Hall. Photography: Heritage Tasmania

Of particular delight to Rev Thompson is the fact that the Albert Hall is still used for a wide variety of events, including concerts, school speech nights, balls, exhibitions and political rallies.

The Albert Hall is one of Launceston's most significant heritage buildings. It was built by architect John Duncan and built by Hinman, Wright and Manser and Farnillo. It holds about 1200 people. The Australian Government recently allocated \$1,000,000 to improve safety measures and enhance facilities to attract more events.

A home for FOSP

Congratulations to the Friends of the Orphan Schools at St John's Park Precinct (FOSP) for successfully negotiating with the Department of Health and Human Services for the lease of the Sunday School Building. This building will provide a permanent home for FOSP to run their activities and house their research materials. For further information about FOSP visit their website at:

<http://www.orphanschool.org.au/>

DIARY NOTES

Summer activities at Port Arthur

Port Arthur Historic Site, Tasman Peninsula
Summer 2009-10

The Port Arthur Historic Site is the place to be this summer with a public archaeology program, history plays, family games and activities on offer.

Activities are included in the cost of site entry.

For full details visit the website at:

http://www.portarthur.org.au/pashow.php?ACTION=Public&menu_code=700.845, call the Visitor Centre on 1800 659 101 or pick up a leaflet on arrival at the Port Arthur Historic Site.

Cultural heritage sites worth a summer visit

Throughout Tasmania

The Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service manages a large number of cultural heritage sites throughout Tasmania. Many of these are open to the public. Don't miss the opportunity to visit these sites and gain a better understanding of the places and events that have shaped Tasmania. For further information visit:

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=452>

Let's talk about Deviot

Deviot Hall, Deviot
16 January 2010, 9.00am – 5.00pm

This one-day conference includes a number of speakers who will talk about different aspects of the history of Deviot including jetties, river steamers, the supply mill, orchards and vineyards. For further information and to register please contact: Jill Cassidy at mandjcassidy@gmail.com or 0418 178 098.

Summer School in Cultural Heritage Management

17-23 January 2010

University of Canberra, Canberra

This popular seven day Summer School is an intensive course looking at the broader issues of heritage management and is delivered by Dr David Young. It is intended for local government planners and heritage officers, state heritage officers, facilities, site and park managers, rangers, curators, others involved in heritage administration, and heritage practitioners such as archaeologists, architects, engineers and historians. For further information about this course including costs and how to enrol, please visit the website at:

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/arts-design/conservation-summer-schools/cultural-heritage-management>

2010 Tasmanian Heritage Festival

Throughout Tasmania
May 2009

Planning for the 2010 Heritage Festival is well underway. This year's theme is 'Digital to Deco' which is sure to attract some new events and places in addition to the regular events on offer. For further information or to register an event visit the National Trust of Australia (Tasmania) at:

<http://www.nationaltrusttas.org.au/>

If you would like to contribute information, advertise an upcoming event, subscribe to receive this bulletin via email, or cancel your subscription, please contact Robyn Shaw (Communications Co-ordinator) on 6233 2067 or email robyn.shaw@heritage.tas.gov.au.

Please ensure all submissions for inclusion in the e-bulletin are forwarded to Robyn Shaw by the 1st Friday of every month.