



Museums & Properties

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NEWSLETTER

May 2007

Riversdale Goes Retro

On Saturday 5 May, National Trust property *Riversdale*, in Goulburn, hosted an event for the Vintage Sports Car Club of Australia.



Vintage vehicles

Some magnificent cars were on display, proudly polished up by their owners to be viewed by all.

Club members enjoyed a history of the property presented by Property Manager Harry Ostendorf, before a tour of the heritage buildings of *Riversdale*. A highlight for many in the group were the booties found under the floorboards, a remnant of colonial folklore where objects were concealed in floors and voids in order to ward off evil spirits.

Lunch in the grounds, warmed by autumn sunshine, provided another chance for mingling and inspecting the vintage cars. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and has been put on the calendar for a return visit next year.



More vintage sports cars at Riversdale

Brough House Hosts Madrugada

After the successful concert by Irish harpist Claire Roche in March, another interesting musical event was hosted in *Brough House* at the end of April - the Madrugada Quartet - a quartet of classically trained musicians from New Zealand that share an interest in performing different genres of music from around the world. The unusual combination of strings (violin, guitar, cello) created a very colourful and entertaining performance.

The Cecily Mitchell Room in *Brough House* is a fabulous 'boutique' venue for music and the performers commented on its great atmosphere and sound achieved.



The Madrugada Quartet

Handing Over the Reins at Tomago

After 10 years of dedicated service as Chair of the Friends of Tomago House, Marjorie Biggins recently retired from this position, handing the reins over to Fay Woolley. Another dedicated member of the Friends team, Fay is experienced and well-qualified for the job. All here at the Trust know that *Tomago House* is in good hands.

The M&P Department thanks Marjorie for her tireless efforts in overseeing operations at *Tomago House*, and encouraging important support from the local community.



Tomago House

M&P Welcomes New Intern

M&P welcomes our new intern from the University of Western Sydney, Damon Bottrill. Damon is studying Tourism Management and is undertaking an internship over the next 2 months, as part of his final year. He is developing a tourism marketing strategy for Old Government House, Parramatta, and Experiment Farm Cottage, Harris Park.

National Trust Portraits at Grossmann

National Trust Portraits is an initiative between *Grossmann House* and a group of nine artists, where the artists meet to paint local, national or international subjects. Each artist may nominate a subject for portrait sitting. The sitting lasts for 3 hours and the artists then finish the portraits in their own studios.

When all portraits are completed the artists select their preferred works and exhibit them for sale at *Brough House*, adjoining *Grossmann House*. Fifty percent of proceeds made from sales will be donated to the National Trust for the upkeep of both properties.

The portrait subject at the end of April was The Honourable Mahla Pearlman AO, Former Chief Judge of the Land & Environment Court of New South Wales.



Some of the artists hard at work during a sitting

Lens Across the Land

The 4th annual National Trust (NSW) photography competition encouraged entrants to capture natural and cultural landscapes of all kinds, with this year's theme being '*Lens Across the Land*'.

When the competition closed on 18 May, many of our participating regional properties found that they had received some excellent entries, which will inevitably make judging the winners a difficult task. Entries will be on display throughout June, and the winning photographs will be exhibited at the National Trust Centre Café, Sydney, in July in order to judge a State winner.



The State winners will receive a \$1500 gift voucher from one of Sydney's premier photographic specialists, *Georges Electronics*, and the winning image will be reproduced on a postcard.

Lamp Lights Up at Runnymede

An Argand lamp loaned to the Tasmanian National Trust's property *Runnymede* in 2006 will continue to be displayed at the property with the loan recently being extended until the year 2012.

The lamp complements the colonial residence of whaling captain, Charles Bayley, a place that celebrates the importance of whaling in Hobart's history. *Runnymede* was built circa 1836 by Robert Pitcairn and bought by Charles Bayley in 1864. It was named after Bayley's favourite ship.



Argand lamp

Calendar of Events

Celebration of Miss Ida Trill

A series of exhibitions highlighting the significance of Ida Trill's bequest to the National Trust and also the role of volunteers at this unique property and its collection over the last 30 years.
Miss Trill's House & Garden, Bathurst
Until September 2007
Enquiries: 02 6332 4232

Janet Dawson Survey

An exhibition examining the career of one of Australia's most accomplished yet enigmatic artists from the 1950s through to the present day.
SH Ervin Gallery, Watson Rd, Observatory Hill
Until 17 June 2007, Tues-Sun 11am-5pm
Enquiries: 02 9258 0173