



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 30 April 2009

National Trust NSW Receives Funding Boost

The National Trust NSW welcomes the State Government's generous heritage grants which contribute toward funding the Trust's important heritage advocacy work in NSW.

National Trust NSW Director of Core Programs, Scott Woodcock, says the funding is a further indication of the Rees Government's renewed commitment to heritage protection.

"We applaud the State Government for this heritage funding which immediately follows Planning Minister Kristina Keneally's rejection of the Currawong development proposal in favour of protecting this historic site with state heritage listing," he said.

The National Trust is an independent charity, advocating for the conservation of Australia's heritage. The Trust is very dependent on Government grants and funding from the community to maintain its portfolio of over 18 historic properties and to fund the wide range of educational and conservation programs offered to the community.

Under the 2009 – 2011 NSW Heritage Grants Program the National Trust NSW has received \$420,000.

This money will be spent on property maintenance and community advocacy programs.

- \$75,000 will be spent on conservation work at Old Government House, Parramatta. The funds will be used to research and undertake conservation work to preserve Australia's oldest building.
- \$200,000 to support the National Trust Heritage Festival. Held in April each year, the Festival involves over 300 community events across NSW.
- \$46,000 to fund the Trust's quarterly membership magazine which increases community awareness of heritage issues in NSW.
- \$60,000 for the establishment of the National Trust Web-based advocacy service which will provide communities with advice and support on how to protect places of heritage significance.
- \$39,000 for the National Trust Cemeteries Conservation Advisory Service which provides practical advice on cemetery conservation to the community.

The Trust is also hoping to receive additional funding from the Federal Government's Economic Stimulus Package later this year.

Media enquiries should be directed to Victoria Walker, Director of Marketing and Communications on 02 9258 0133 or 0422 957 550 or Kathy Scott, Media & Communications Manager on 02 9258 0123.

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Protecting our Australian heritage through advocacy, conservation & education