



MEDIA ALERT

Thursday March 26, 2009

CELEBRATING OUR PLACE UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The National Trust (NSW) Heritage Festival kicks off on Saturday April 4. Entitled *Our Place in Space*, the festival celebrates our rich cultural heritage and will encompass hundreds of events throughout regional and metropolitan NSW.

Now in its 29th year, the festival offers a wide range of community activities including star gazing, discovery tours, art exhibitions, walks, talks, awards, photography competitions and community fairs.

A full festival program is available online at <http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au/events/festival/default.asp>

Taking our lead from the International year of Astronomy, 2009 celebrates the role of astronomy and its contributions to society and culture. With 90 per cent of Australia's infrastructure for Astronomy lying inside the borders of NSW – CSIRO's Parkes, Narrabri and Coonabarabran Observatories, as well as the University of Sydney's Molonglo Observatory Synthesis Telescope – it's not hard to see why some 20,000 people across the country own their own telescope.

"This year's Heritage Festival theme is about Australia's history and place in the numerous discoveries we have made in the world of Astronomy – one of Australia's most highly cited sciences," says John Neish, Executive Director of National Trust of Australia (NSW).

Media:

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