



MEDIA RELEASE

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National Trust calls on Goulburn's charitable spirit

Goulburn's prestigious historical property, Riversdale, needs the town's help.

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) is calling on volunteers to help form a fundraising committee for Riversdale, the charming, romantic former Inn and home to the Twynam family, is the only surviving building of the 'Old Township' of Goulburn as sited by Governor Macquarie.

Katrina Durham, South West Regional Manager for the Trust, said, "This is a new and exciting opportunity for Goulburn residents to get involved in the preservation of this important landmark of Goulburn. This committee will perform an integral function, and without their help, Riversdale may not receive the care and attention it so desperately needs. The primary aim of the new committee will be to raise funds for Riversdale, which will help pay for its upkeep and maintenance, thus ensuring the longevity of this historic property.

"The National Trust is a charity which relies on volunteers for the maintenance of most of their properties. We have 2,000 volunteers, statewide, but we always need more on board. Volunteers are the life blood of the National Trust. They help with planning and running events and tours, managing food and beverage operations at properties and fostering membership of the National Trust, among other duties.

"National Trust volunteers come from all walks of life – history enthusiasts, retirees, skilled tradespeople, art lovers, gardeners, and those who just want to give something back to their community. It's also a great way to make some new friends with like-minded interests. I'd encourage all of the Goulburn community to come and get involved with one of their most important local treasures."

Set in flowering gardens, Riversdale is furnished as a mid-19th century colonial cottage and is an important living educational property as well as a venue for weddings, christenings and other special occasions.

You must be a member of the National Trust to join a committee, but interested parties can join on the night. For details on joining, please contact Debbie Sibbick, manager of Riversdale on 0402 129 682 or attend the meeting which will form the Fundraising Committee at Riversdale, Maud St on Tuesday 27 October at 7pm.

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Notes to Editors:

The National Trust was originally established in NSW by Annie Wyatt in 1945. The Trust movement is now Australia-wide, and is the nation's largest community-based conservation charity.

The Trust's role is to safeguard our natural, built and cultural heritage and to encourage Australians to appreciate that each generation has a responsibility to preserve our Nation's heritage for the next generation.