

MEDIA RELEASE

HERITAGE TOUR OF ALBERT HALL AND PRECINCT

Many people in Canberra have fond memories of Albert Hall but do you know about its extensive history and its national heritage significance?

And about the fascinating conservation work currently underway as a first stage in recapturing its former glory for its future as our town hall?

A highlight of the 2009 ACT Heritage Festival will be a free twilight tour of Albert Hall and its surrounds on 7 April. Jointly hosted by the National Trust and Friends of the Albert Hall, the tour will be conducted by Dr Lenore Coltheart. The tour will run from 5.30-7pm followed by tea in the Hall.

It will be a unique opportunity to hear from Canberra's foremost expert on the history and heritage significance of Albert Hall. Dr Coltheart is a well-known local historian, Vice-President of the Friends of the Albert Hall Inc, member of the ACT Heritage Council, and historical consultant for the Albert Hall Conservation Management and Landscape Plan 2007. Her conversations on local history are a popular ABC radio feature and she is a regular commentator on history and heritage issues.

Albert Hall is the focus of ongoing public attention, with the ACT government currently developing a plan for public management of Albert Hall in consultation with community representatives as well as specialist advisors in sustainable and appropriate new uses for key heritage buildings. Albert Hall is listed on the ACT Heritage Register and the ACT government recently nominated Albert Hall to Australia's National Heritage List in recognition of its significance to the national capital.

We invite everyone to come and learn more about the extraordinary history, heritage and community significance of our Albert Hall.

The tour is free but numbers will be limited to 30 people so bookings are essential. Phone the National Trust on 6230 0533 to book a place.