

MEDIA RELEASE

11th of October 2011

Celebrate Australian Innovation & Invention!

From the boomerang, to the Victa lawnmower, to the hills hoist and the Harbour Bridge, Australian innovation and invention has shaped our past, present and future.

In honour of this legacy, the National Trust invites community organisations and companies to register an event to run throughout the Trust's Heritage Festival.

In what will be the 32nd year of the National Trust Heritage Festival community-hosted events will be held across metropolitan and regional NSW from **Saturday 14th of April to Sunday 29th of April 2012**.

This year the Heritage Festival will for the first time be hosted on a national level bringing all states together under key elements including the Heritage Festival theme and design concepts.

The Trust's Events Manager Natalie Gross said talks, tours and exhibitions are all examples of how organisations can explore Australia's innovations and inventions.

"Australians were the first to fly across the Pacific, we created the black box flight recorder and bravely built the extraordinary Sydney Opera House, while lesser known examples of ingenuity include trousers with permanent creases, the 'Ute', the automatic totaliser, multi-focal contact lenses and the first feature length film in 1906!" she said.

"Throughout Australia you will find local inventions and firsts, such as the first inland city of light, in Tamworth NSW, the first town in Australia to light its streets by electricity in 1888. The first metal mine in Australia opened at Glen Osmond, South Australia in 1841; while the Courthouse at Berrima NSW, was the site of the first trial by jury" she said.

By registering an event with the National Trust Heritage Festival, the activity and organisation will be promoted free of charge via the Trust website and social media sites and in the Heritage Festival Program.

35,000 programs will be distributed to National Trust members, National Trust properties, event organisers and the general public through motor vehicle registries, councils, libraries, visitor information offices, and cultural organizations.

To register your event, please complete the online form at:

<http://www.nationaltrust.com.au/heritagefestival/register/nsw/>

by **Monday 14th of November 2011**. For further information about the 2012 Heritage Festival including the nation-wide program visit:

<http://www.nationaltrust.com.au/heritagefestival/>

Media Enquiries: Amelia Freeland – Media and Communications Officer Ph: 02 9258 0131 Mob: 0402 623 462 Email: afreeland@nationaltrust.com.au

The National Trust is a not-for-profit non-government organization that relies on donations and member contributions to continue advocating and conserving heritage sites. Please show your support for Australia's heritage and add your voice to the Trust visit <http://www.nationaltrust.com.au/>