

Meet your new Board of Directors

Ken Wilson and Martijn Wilder have been elected as two new Board members to the National Trust at the AGM which was held on Saturday 28 November 2009. A Partner and Head of Global Climate Change Practice, Baker & McKenzie, Martijn is regarded as one of the leading legal advisors in Australia. Ken was formerly Managing Director of National Engineering and has been involved in restoring two of his own properties in Berrima since retiring. Martijn and Ken join the 2010 Board of Directors of the National Trust.

President, Ian Carroll is a Director of Zurich Financial Services Australia Limited and firmly believes in good governance and strategic risk management. Deputy President, Donald Godden is the former Chairman of Donald Mackay Logan Heritage Consultants, and has an in-depth understanding of the importance of conserving heritage. William Holmes á Court was appointed Acting Executive Director. He has been a Board member since 2000 and has over 30 years of management experience in IT, finance and accounting.

Treasurer Julian Bickersteth trained as a furniture conservator and now runs a conservation and museum planning company. Robyn Christie is a heritage consultant, specialising in the preparation of historical reports, and has been closely associated with the Trust since 1982. Janine Kitson is a former Ku-ring-gai councillor and an educator whose duties have included teaching, writing learning materials and consulting for the Samoan Government. Helen Lochhead is Assistant Government Architect, with over 20 years experience in architecture and urban design. Peter Lowry OAM is a Company Director involved in property investment, urban planning,



National Trust Board - William Holmes á Court (currently stepped down), Robyn Christie, Martijn Wilder, Ken Wilson, Helen Lochhead, Julian Bickersteth, President Ian Carroll OAM, Professor Ross Griffith, Don Godden, Peter Lowry OAM, Maureen Pike and Janine Kitson (not pictured).

restoration of heritage buildings and housing development. Maureen Pike has been involved in voluntary work during most of her life and has served the Trust on the Central West Women's Committee. Ross Griffiths has been the Principal at Griffith Services Consultants from 1997, with a lifelong interest in Australia's heritage.

The 2009 National Trust Honour Awards

To recognise and celebrate the valuable work undertaken by our members, The National Trust Honour Awards are awarded annually. The recipients of the 2009 Honour Awards are listed below. For more information about the recipients, please visit www.nationaltrust.com.au/volunteer/.

- **Honorary Life Memberships** - Jill McCann, Margaret Henry
- **The Posthumous Award** - Tony Matthews
- **Voluntary Services Awards** - Patricia May, Susan Solling, Ronald Bottrill
- **Trust Commendations** - Jillian Kennedy, Lavinia Montgomery, Thelma Scanes, Werner Schwarz, Brian Stevens
- **Employee Award** - Toni Maher

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Do you have the right will?

For most people, a will is their primary way of ensuring their wishes are carried out after they have passed away. After all, a will is the legally recognised means of setting out instructions for how your assets are to be distributed after your death.

Your will is also your way of appointing someone as your executor. If you're unsure about who to appoint, you can choose a trustee company who will act on your behalf to protect your assets, carry out your instructions and defend any claims on your estate in an independent and professional manner.

A will is so important that no one should be without one. If you die without a will, the government or the courts will decide who gets what, which may be completely different to what you had intended.

Estate planning

If you have a relatively uncomplicated personal and financial situation, a simple will and power of attorney may be enough.

However if any of the following circumstances apply to you then you may need more than a simple will:

- you have substantial assets beyond the family home
- you have superannuation or manage your own superannuation plan

- you operate a family trust or a business
- you have remarried or live in a de facto relationship and have children from previous relationships
- you have beneficiaries who are disabled or need long term assistance or protection
- you anticipate someone could challenge your will or you wish to place conditions or limits on gifts in your will

You may need a more complex will as well as advice in relation to superannuation nominations, tax effective estate planning, protection of beneficiaries and potential challenges.

Making a bequest via your will

Making a bequest through a will is one of the simplest ways to make a charitable donation. The bequest can be in the form of a specified sum or item, or a share of the estate, or your will can be used to establish a perpetual charitable trust.

Whether you need a simple will or more complex estate planning, you should consult an estate planning professional to ensure that your wishes are properly carried out. If you require assistance with your will or further information, please contact Trust Company Limited on 1800 650 358.

Jennifer McMillan
Head of Trust Legal Services

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