



NATIONAL TRUST

THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NSW)

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Telling it like it is: National Trust and Storytelling Guild work together to bring back the art of storytelling to the masses

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) and the Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW) have been telling tales...of the storytelling variety, that is.

The two non-profit organisations have dreamed up ‘Tales and Tunes at the Trust’, a program of storytelling and music for both children and adults. The program gets underway in late July at three National Trust properties.

The sessions take place at the Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge (second Saturday of the month), Experiment Farm Cottage, Harris Park (fourth Saturday of the month) and Vienna Cottage (third Sunday of the month) from now until March 2008. The stories will focus on tales from the past, from long ago, from faraway and include ‘local colour’ stories from the Blue Mountains, Hunters Hill and Parramatta.

Norman Lindsay Gallery: 11 August, 8 September, 13 October, 10 November, 8 December, 12 January, 9 February 8 March

Experiment Farm Cottage: 25 August, 22 September, 27 October, 24 November, 22 December, 26 January, 23 February, 22 March

Vienna Cottage: 19 August, 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 17 February, 16 March

Stories for children are held from 1.00 pm -2.00 pm followed by a half hour musical interlude and then an hour-long storytelling session for adults from 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

“Storytelling is not a lost art. The sharing of stories makes us a real community. They are not just for children either. Adults enjoy stories too which is why we have created some grittier, more complex stories to entertain grown ups,” said Australian Storytelling Guild Coordinator Jo Henwood.

“The Trust properties are all wonderfully atmospheric, with stories of their own. They lend themselves to a story-telling initiative. We are delighted to showcase the talents of Sydney’s storytellers,” said Trust Executive Director, Tina Jackson.

The storytelling sessions are free with property admission. To find out more ring Jo Henwood on 0408 875 137 or jo7hanna@optusnet.com.au

The Trust and Australian Storytelling Guild are also offering a 10-week course in how to tell historical stories, beginning on Monday 17 September at the Trust Centre, Observatory Hill. Costs for the course are \$120 adults/ \$100 Trust or Guild members/\$80 concession.

The National Trust is Australia’s oldest conservation charity. It is not-for-profit and independent, relying on support from its members and the community to assist its work – which includes advocacy for the protection of built, natural and cultural heritage, conservation and education.

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Topics include what makes a good story, story telling dos and don'ts, what stories can do for people, using your voice, stage presence, adapting stories from other sources, body language and interacting with your audience.

For more information:

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