NARRYNA NEWS

For Members and Supporters of Narryna Heritage Museum

SUMMER 2018

STOP PRESS

ON 26 JANUARY 2018 the Minister for the Arts, the Hon. Elise Archer MP announced funding of $45,000 per annum over four years towards Narryna Heritage Museum's Collection and Public Program 2018–2022. Narryna Council is very grateful to the Minister for this funding.

COSTUME COLLECTION FUNDING

IN 2016 Narryna received a National Library of Australia Community Heritage Grant to undertake a significance and preservation-needs assessment of its nationally-significant costume collection. In 2017 Narryna received a second grant to acquire archival materials for the collection. This $15,000 project will involve volunteers upgrading the cataloguing and photographic documentation of the collection as it is rehoused. Please contact Joyce Mackey, Narryna's Hon. Curator – Costume and Textiles if you are interested in participating in this project: narryna@tmag.tas.gov.au

Above: Handmade cotton day dress c. 1842 worn by Sarah Butler.

GRANT SUCCESSES

A FUNDING PACKAGE of almost $220,000 will allow Narryna to renovate two of its outbuildings, recreate a 19th century kitchen garden, carry out urgent stone repairs and continue the program of ensuring universal access across the site.

Narryna has become as much a 'doing' as a 'viewing experience. As a reader of *Narryna News* you will be aware of the range of activities Narryna offers – school education programs, exhibitions and related events, weddings and markets. We also participate in Hobart Festivals such as Dark MOFO and the MyState Australian Wooden Boat festival. These events have brought younger audiences to the site, which is essential to handing a museum collection on to future generations. The new infrastructure will allow Narryna to increase its programming and generate income to ensure Narryna's financial sustainability into the future.

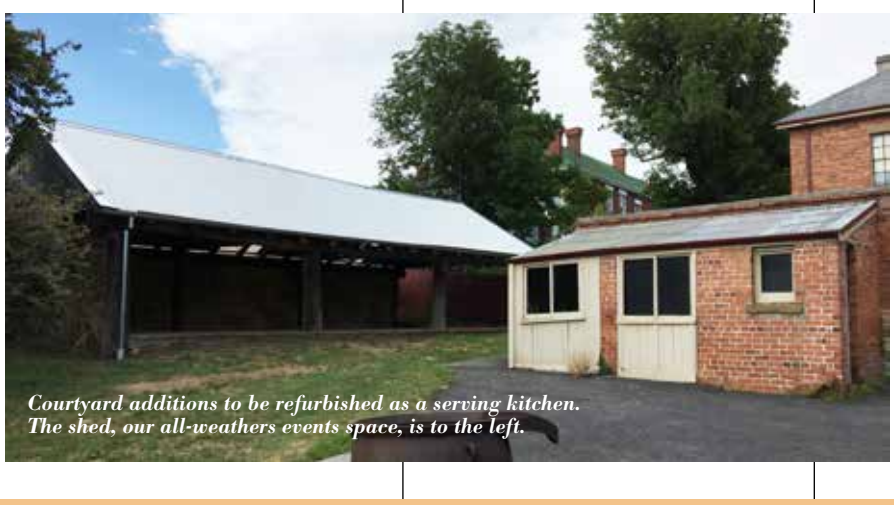
Funding under the Commonwealth Government Stronger Communities Program will allow the fitout of a kitchen as part of these works. Narryna would like to thank Andrew Wilkie MP for the invitation to apply for this funding.

A Tasmanian Community Fund grant will fund the bulk of the works including upgrading the WCs block and extending it with storage for gardening and events equipment, a recreated kitchen garden bordered by a split paling fence, stonework repairs in Narryna's forecourt and fabrication of a metal ramp to Narryna's front door. With this infrastructure under way, Narryna can begin to develop more innovative and interactive education programs.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

These grants require Narryna as the applicant to contribute between 10% and 50% of the cost of the component projects. Why not consider making a tax-deductible donation to Narryna? Your contribution at this time that this will have maximum tangible impact and ensure Narryna's long-term financial security.

To donate please email narryna@tmag.tas.gov.au



Courtyard additions to be refurbished as a serving kitchen. The shed, our all-weathers events space, is to the left.

Refurbishments planned: Narryna's existing WC block and kitchen garden site.

TASMANIAN COMMUNITY FUND

INVESTING IN AND STRENGTHENING TASMANIAN COMMUNITIES

RECENT EVENTS

ELEVEN leading Tasmanian art and antique dealers participated in the inaugural **Narryna Art and Antique Fair** (19-22 October 2017). Together they restyled Narryna's interiors, attracted 840 visitors and raised almost $10,000 for Narryna's refurbishment program.

The second **Christmas Craft Spirit Market** (9 December) was a great success, featuring 17 distillers from the Tasmanian Whisky Producer's Association and the Tasmanian Gin Collaboration. The market reflects that particularly Tasmanian mix of the hand-crafted and the contemporary.

Below left: Remarkable transformation – the Narryna servants' quarters re-presented as Miles Davis-Keilar's bachelor pad during the Narrnya Art & Antique Fair, October 2017.

Right: Christmas Craft Spirit Market, December 2017. The smiling gent in the striped shirt is Peter Bignell of Belgrove Distillery.

VOLUNTEERING AT NARRYNA

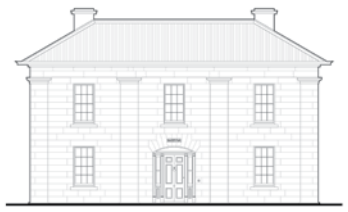
VOLUNTEERING at Narryna is a great way to meet people and give back to your community. We value the skills and knowledge that members of our volunteer family bring to their work.

Narryna is looking for volunteers for a range of roles – providing front of house reception and guiding tours, conducting school education programs, caring for the garden, running fundraising events and assisting in collection care. These roles are perfect for anyone with a passion for Tasmania's history.

If you would like more information about volunteering at Narryna contact Karyn Rendall, House Museums Coordinator, on 6234 2791 or narryna@tmag.tas.gov.au

NARRYNA HERITAGE MUSEUM

103 Hampden Road
BATTERY POINT TASMANIA 7004
E: Scott.Carlin@tmag.tas.gov.au
M: 0419 622 658



NARRYNA COUNCIL

NARRYNA'S governing Council comprises
President: Richard Watson, Secretary: Scott Carlin, Treasurer: Liz Gillam, TMAG Director: Janet Carding, Community representatives: Ann Cripps, Anne Horner, Myfanwy Kernke and Colin Thomas, TMAG representatives: Patricia Sabine and Chris Tassell.

NARRYNA – 60 YEARS A MUSEUM

TMAG DIRECTOR, Janet Carding launched *Elegant Lines* on the occasion of Narryna's 60th anniversary as a museum. Founded in 1955 as the Van Diemen's Land Memorial Folk Museum, the museum opened to the public on 30 November 1957. Its collection was sourced from across Tasmania with descendants of notable pioneering families donating what became highlights of the Narryna collection. Women played a key role in Narryna's development, undertaking collecting, documentation, exhibitions, events and fundraising.

In her opening address, Janet Carding acknowledged that Narryna is an enterprise built on community volunteering and philanthropy and paid tribute to those who had built and sustained the museum over its first 60 years.

TMAG Director, Janet Carding launches Elegant Lines.

MAUDE POYNTER – ARTIST AND STUDIO POTTER
(6 MARCH–10 JUNE 2018)

A MAJOR exhibition of the life and work of Maude Poynter (1869-1945), pioneering Australian studio potter. The exhibition comprises over sixty pieces from private collections and is accompanied by a new biography by curator and historian, Glenda King.

Maude Poynter was born in Geelong, Victoria, and studied at the Slade School of Art, London and at the Kingston-on-Thames School of Art. She came to Tasmania in 1918 to live with her sister Gladys Reid at Ratho, Bothwell, where she established a pottery. Maude Poynter's students included Violet Mace (her cousin) and Mylie Peppin, who became leading art potters in their own right. Maude Poynter had important connections with the British art world (her extended family included Sir Edward Poynter and the Pre-Raphaelite Sir Edward Burne-Jones). Her wide-ranging and inventive work reflects the optimism associated with Federation, women's achievement of voting rights and the growth of the Arts and Crafts Society of Tasmania.

Glenda King's *Maude Poynter – painter and potter*, published by the Australiana Society – Tasmanian chapter will be available to purchase at Narryna. To order contact narryna@tmag.tas.gov.au

Left: Jardiniere with Ottoman Iznic-inspired decoration by Maude Poynter, 1928, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, presented by Mrs Barclay Gray and Mrs BA Lamprell, 1970

EXHIBITIONS

ELEGANT LINES: FASHION IN 19TH CENTURY TASMANIA

Left: Quaker costumes featured in Elegant Lines, *on loan from descendants.*

Below: Visitors to Elegant Lines *with Narryna Councillor, Patricia Sabine.*

ELEGANT LINES features 19th century gowns, accessories and dresses worn or donated by prominent Tasmanians such as the artist and writer, Louisa Anne Meredith, her granddaughter, Violet Mace, and Sarah Butler of Stowell and Shene Estate. Sarah Butler's dress was worn by her descendants in early 20th century historical tableaux, which is indicative of how costume frames our thinking about the past.

Apparel worn by Sarah Benson Walker has been lent for the exhibition by her descendants. Sarah lived at Narryna from 1852 to 1854 with her husband, George Washington Walker and their ten children, The Walker family were Quakers and their religious philosophy regarded simplicity as a virtue. Their dress was modest and combined plain colours and simple lines with beautiful quality fabrics and exquisite stitching and detailing. These rare 1830s-40s Quaker items appeal to a contemporary aesthetic with their truly elegant lines.

This exhibition, curated by Joyce Mackey, celebrates Narryna's 60th anniversary as a museum. Narryna has collected historic costume since the 1950s and has built a collection that is nationally significant. For conservation reasons historic costume can only be placed on exhibition for short periods, so do catch this show before it closes on 24 February 2018.

A LASTING IMPRESSION

FAUX BOIS, the art of imitating one timber in other was all the rage in 19th century Hobart. Narryna's Australian cedar front door was painted in imitation of English oak. The emulation of more expensive (and to colonial eyes, culturally superior) materials created a good impression for visitors.

The Narryna doorcase has been returned to its 19th century appearance through funding from the Copland Foundation, Melbourne. The work was undertaken by historic decorative finishes specialist, Michael Bremer-Trainor, who has worked at Windsor Castle, Spencer House and on the restoration of a range of British and European palace interiors. Narryna's front door involved a sophisticated four-stage process, in contrast with the simpler graining of the house interiors. The work revealed evidence of missing elements of the fanlight and sidelights, which will be reinstated as funds allow.

Above left: Michael Bremer-Trainor restores the oak-grained finish of Narryna's front doorcase.

UPCOMING EVENT

Wednesday 14 March — Exhibition opening and launch of Glenda King's, *Maude Poynter – painter and potter*, published by the Australiana Society – Tasmanian chapter. Australiana Society ticketed event $30.00

Graphic design: Julie Hawkins, In Graphic Detail