

FRIENDS' NEWSLETTER

Successful launch

We were delighted with the turn out on Sunday 14th April for the launch of the Lyall Gillespie collection exhibition and the official naming of the home of the collection as the GILLESPIE building. It was a great team effort, led by Ken Heffernan.

The exhibition will be on display for the remainder of the year.



Gillespie family members and the new Gillespie building sign

Community & school groups

Terms 2 and 3 are our busy times for school visits and the bookings are beginning to come in both for excursions and the *Heritage in a Suitcase* resources.

We have also hosted a group from University of the Third Age (U3A) who were completing a course called *Let's talk history*. We received valuable feedback about their experience at the centre and our intention is to utilise some of their ideas to further improve our visitor experience program.

Rotary members from the local Deakin branch visited recently to soak up the local history and their feedback was very positive.

MLA for Yerrabi visits the centre



Suzanne Orr has recently been appointed Labor Spokesperson for Heritage. To help her get across the interests and issues involved she spent two hours at the Heritage Centre meeting volunteers, including Alastair Crombie, Ken Heffernan and Tony Morris, and being briefed about the Centre's work.

National Trust Open Day – March 20



Our display at the open day and Mick De Britt and Jane Southwell 'classing' the wool shorn by local shearer Ian Elkins

Several of the centre's volunteers participated in the open day events at the Yarralumla wool shed as part of the 2024 Heritage Festival. Our display featured Fred Young who designed and built the woolshed for Frederick Campbell and 'Babe' Curran, a Ginninderra-based wool breeder who broke world records in the 1950s for the quality of his clip.