

Dear Friends,

The main focus for our attention in recent weeks has been our Launch event on 3 October, with other events planned as a lead-up to this.

House Maintenance Working Bee – Saturday 5 September.

Max Joffe led a team of eleven enthusiastic workers – see pictures on next page. We washed down the weatherboards, cleaned the windows inside and out, replaced a few broken shingles, prepared the flag pole for receiving the flag, replaced some broken light bulbs and made some other repairs. We were very satisfied to note, as we left the Cottage that afternoon, that there was a quite noticeable improvement in the appearance of the building.

John Pascoe Fawkner called in while we were there to ensure that all would be ready for his appearance on 3 Oct.

Visit to McCrae Homestead – Friday 18 September

Ten FOLTC members were treated to a special tour and Morning Tea by Sharon Bowen and her team. We were all inspired by their passion and dedication, and we learned much from the way they present their property. Sharon is bringing several members of her team in costume to our celebrations on 3 October.

Information Sessions:

East Melbourne Library, North side of George St, between Powlett & Simpson Sts, Mel. 2G 4E.

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September: La Trobe the Man: Dr Dianne Reilly, AM.

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Jolimont and its Times: Professor Miles Lewis, AM.

The presentations are due to start at 6.00pm, preceded by refreshments at 5.30pm. Entry will be free to Friends of La Trobe's Cottage, but the general public will be charged \$10.00. Parking is restricted in this area, and we are advised to use public transport – the 48 or 75 trams in Wellington Parade or the 246 bus in Punt Rd. Jolimont station is not far. There is limited meter parking in Clarendon St.

I am attaching here a copy of our flier for these talks – please circulate these to your local libraries and other appropriate public areas.

Garden Working Bee: Friday 2 October 9.30am

Gills Nursery Beaumaris are supplying some plants and flowers which will greatly assist with Sandi Pullman's team's work to prepare the garden.

Drinks Party: Friday 2 October 6.30pm

Our Secretary and Treasurer, Dianne Reilly and John Drury, invite all Friends of La Trobe's Cottage for drinks and nibbles at their home, 77 Swallow St. Port Melbourne, Friday 2nd October at 6pm to talk about the event on Saturday. Invitations will be sent out by email or phone; please let Dianne and John know if you are able to attend.

Saturday 3 October:

Activity is due to start at the Cottage at 1.30pm – the Cottage will be open to visitors from that time. John Pascoe Fawkner is expected to be there, anticipating the arrival of our would-be Governor at 2pm. The ceremonial part of the day will follow, with flag-raising and speeches. The National Trust and the La Trobe Society have sent invitations, and many have replied that they will be attending. It will be a wonderful opportunity to bring the Cottage, and La Trobe, to the attention of the Victorian public and some influential public groups.

**Committee**

<b>Chair</b>	Helen Botham	9583 1114	<b>Vice Chair</b>	John Botham	9583 1114	<b>Secretary</b>	Dianne Reilly	9646 2112
Garden	Sandi Pullman		Master Plan	John Botham	9583 1114	Fund Raising	Cecily Adams	
Guides	Lorraine Finlay	9563 6363	Building	Max Joffe	9563 6363	Events	Dianne Reilly	9646 2112
Education	Loreen Chambers	0419364570	<b>Treasurer</b>	John Drury	9646 2112	Publicity	Vacant	
<b>NT Rep</b>	Martin Green	9656 9822	A Treasurer	John Botham	9583 1114			

Lorraine Finlay's team of Guides will then open the Cottage to the public, with donations sought. Dianne Reilly will oversee the afternoon tea - tea and cake will be for sale on the lawn. John Drury will manage the small shop where books and cards will be for sale. The official party will circulate amongst the crowd. The Cottage will close at 4pm.

Many of you have volunteered to assist on the day, and I will be contacting you individually about this. We still need volunteers for Crowd Marshalling, and a few volunteers to take a spell as security for one of the tents which will be erected on the day. Please email or phone me – 9583 1114. Please bear security in mind if you are volunteering, don't leave possessions in public view – unfortunately there is very little space to store things, so you may need to keep everything with you.

Please note that the National Trust requires that, if you volunteer to assist and you are not registered as a Trust Volunteer, you will be asked to complete an Event Volunteer Registration Form. These will be available for you to complete on the day.

### Sunday Cottage Openings

Remember that the Cottage will be open every Sunday from 4 October from 2-4pm for tours. Entry will be \$5.00; free to FOLTC, National Trust and La Trobe Society members.

### Other Matters

While all these festivities proceed, we are not losing sight of our main goal – fund raising to secure the preservation and development of the site. The outcome of the Trust's application for a Federal Grant is still not yet known. Our sub-committees continue to work on these matters.

Following the overwhelming desire of the membership at the General Meeting on 19 August that a \$20 Membership should be requested, our Treasurer, John Drury will soon let you know how this will be collected.

We are seeking some artefacts to place in the kitchen. Please contact Lorraine Finlay on 9563 6363, [lorrainefinlay@netspace.net.au](mailto:lorrainefinlay@netspace.net.au) if you have suitable items (circa 1840-50), in good condition, you wish to donate. She would be particularly pleased to receive plates and jars suitable for the period.

We look forward to seeing you on 3 October.

Helen Botham  
Chair

