

3 Coane St

HOLDER ACT 2611

22 November 2017

Dear Minister Gentleman,

I am writing to you to formally thank the staff of the ACT Parks and Conservation Service's Googong and Stromlo depots for the massive effort they have put into the protection and conservation of early European structures in the Glenburn Precinct over the past 10 years. (I am writing now because the Friends of Glenburn is scaling back – but not abandoning - its involvement in the Precinct.)

Many people have been involved at both depots. And it is always difficult to list those who have contributed most. But I feel that I must especially thank Dean Darcy (who has retired) and Colin Schofield from the Googong depot and Lois Padgham from the Stromlo depot.

Dean and Colin have supervised and helped carry out almost all of the work that has been done in the Precinct from things such as poisoning blackberries, capping the walls of Colliers Homestead ruins and erecting protective fences at some sites to having the foresight and commitment to conceive and construct the recently opened heritage trails for walkers and cyclists. They and their fellow enthusiastic and committed staff members at the depot have done a wonderful job with some assistance from the Friends of Glenburn volunteers. Thanks everyone.

Lois has prepared all the texts for the 14 interpretative signs that have been erected in the Precinct and the text for the brochure on the Precinct. She distilled the large amount of research material provided to her by the Friends of Glenburn on the sites and the people associated with them, to produce informative and interesting material. Thanks Lois and other staff at the depot who have helped with work in the Precinct.

There is still a lot of work to be done in the Precinct, particularly at Glenburn Homestead and the Glenburn shearing shed complex to make the buildings structurally sound and safe. The Conservation Management plan (CMP) that is nearing completion, will provide the Parks Service with the first comprehensive plan to guide all future work in the Precinct.

The Googong depot will, however, need more funds if it is to make a worthwhile dint into what is required to protect and conserve the fragile early European structures in the Precinct for the benefit of current and future generations of Canberra and Queanbeyan residents.

Yours sincerely,

Colin McAlister

Convenor

Friends of Glenburn

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage

ACT Legislative Assembly

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