



**Stand up for Australia.  
Stand up for real action.**

## Media Release

**The Hon Greg Hunt MP**  
Shadow Minister for Climate Action, Environment and Heritage

Tuesday August 17 2010

### **COALITION SUPPORT FOR AUSTRALIA'S HERITAGE**

The Coalition has a plan to provide more support to preserve Australia's heritage.

A Coalition Government would seek National Heritage listing as a priority for existing parkland areas within the iconic Dandenong Ranges.

The listing would be part of the Coalition's **Dandenong Ranges Wildlife Recovery, Weed Management and Fuel Reduction Programme.**

The Dandenongs are home to some of Australia's finest bush and cultural heritage. It is also a region at significant risk from bushfires.

Listing existing parklands in the Dandenong Ranges on the National Heritage register would provide further recognition and support for this spectacular bushland area.

Places on the register are protected under federal legislation (the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*).

As part of this programme, a Coalition Government would also provide \$3 million for wildlife recovery, weed management and fuel reduction.

The tragedies and devastation of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires provide a stark reminder of the importance of proper fuel load management in bushland areas.

#### **Bringing Australia's Birth Certificate Home – Historic Matthew Flinders Chart**

The Coalition will provide \$200,000 towards bringing home a key part of Australia's historical heritage.

Captain Matthew Flinders' original 1804 chart of Australia from his 1801-03 circumnavigation of the continent in HMS *Investigator* was the first time the modern name of our continent and nation was ever officially used.

A Coalition Government will work cooperatively with the United Kingdom Government to have Flinders' chart returned to Australia on permanent loan and placed on public display at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra.

This chart represents a national treasure that should be displayed in Australia. We would be bringing home the nation's birth certificate.





**Stand up for Australia.  
Stand up for real action.**

## Media Release

### **Changi Wall Heritage Project**

A Coalition Government would provide further support to remember the Australian soldiers and other personnel who suffered and died at Changi during World War II.

The Coalition will provide \$500,000 towards the establishment of a Changi Wall Heritage Project at the Changi Museum in Singapore.

Little remains of the original Changi prison, a place where thousands of Australians and our allies suffered during years of captivity.

The Wall would list the names of all known Australian service personnel who died, were injured or were imprisoned in Changi during the war.

The design and list of names would be a joint project between the Australian War Memorial and the Changi War Memorial and would be subject to the advice of the RSL and the Singapore Government.

### **Australian National Heritage Icons Program**

The Coalition will provide \$200,000 towards an internationally identifiable Australian National Heritage Icons Program.

They will fund a National Icons website and awards programme, which will designate and promote national icons annually in the categories of: national landscapes, national coasts, national trails, national monuments and national rivers.

It will also promote and recognise work done by organisations and communities to rescue, and renovate places of national significance.

### **Community Heritage Support Grants**

The Coalition would support efforts to preserve our history at a local level.

Community heritage groups around Australia play an important role in collecting, researching, recording and preserving our heritage.

This important work is generally done by volunteers who can invest considerable time and personal cost in their endeavours.

A Coalition Government would invest a further \$1 million to support our heritage through grants up to \$10,000 for community history and heritage organisations for the conservation, development and exhibition of cultural heritage.

**Media contact: John Deller on 0400 496 596**

