



MEDIA RELEASE

Old Timers Gear Up For Heritage Week

This year's annual Heritage Week celebration in Alice Springs is set to become "more authentic" thanks to a pair of long-term Territory residents.

Norma Millard and Isvari Luff have spent much of the past few months volunteering their time and skills towards producing a range of costumes reminiscent of the style worn by residents at the Telegraph Station in the late 1800s.

Ms Millard, a day care client at Old Timers Village in Alice Springs, said she had enjoyed working on the costumes and encouraged other members of the community to get involved in this year's Heritage Week celebrations

"To be involved in the preparations for this year's Heritage Week has been really fun and rewarding and I can't wait until the open night on Friday, April 28," Ms Millard said.

"To see everyone dressed up in their costumes, I am sure it will be one of the highlights of Heritage Week."

Parks and Wildlife Service community education ranger Emily Findlay said Heritage week runs from April 23-29 and culminates at a Heritage Open Night at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station on Friday, April 28, from 5pm.

"Norma and Isvari have done a wonderful job in making the costumes," Ms Findlay said.

"We have tried to make them as authentic as possible using fabrics such as gabardine and calico to make waistcoats, skirts and aprons.

"The clothes will add to the experience and hopefully give a insight into what life would have been like for early settlers who lived here more than 100 years ago.

"The clothes will be worn by Parks and Wildlife Service rangers and volunteers at the open night and we're expecting about 1000 people to come along and enjoy the many heritage activities available to them.

"Activities include bush music, dancing, slide shows, traditional children's games, black smith operating, a sheep shearing demonstration and marmalade making and sales."

Ms Findlay said special guests at this year's Heritage Week celebrations would include the Morse Codian Fraternity from Sydney who will be operating the Telegraph Office during the week and the public can send a Morse telegram to anywhere in the world.

If anyone would like to volunteer to get involved in heritage week events then please contact staff at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station on 8952 1013.

Ends

Media Note _ For more information contact Emily Findlay on 8951 8247

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