



Northern Territory Government

Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts



media release
from the Australian War Memorial
NATIONAL TREASURES



Australian War Memorial
Travelling Exhibitions

MAGNT Open on ANZAC Day

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) is inviting tourists and Top End residents to visit its *Australia Under Attack 1942-43* exhibition on Wednesday to coincide with ANZAC Day.

MAGNT director Anna Malgorzewicz said this year's visitor numbers reached 54,000 last week, a 10 per cent increase on the previous corresponding period.

"A large part of this success in visitor numbers can be attributed to the popularity of the Australian War Memorial's touring exhibition *Australia Under Attack 1942-43*, which has resonated well with thousands of visitors," Ms Malgorzewicz said.

"This exhibition provides a unique perspective on Australia's involvement in World War II, a time during which Darwin was bombed by Japanese fighter planes.

"The Australian flag that flew over the Administrator's Residence on that fateful day has been one of the standout attractions but many other items that make up this object rich display have also been popular.

"One of the key objects in the display is an original Anderson air raid shelter, which has been meticulously restored to illustrate the tangible precautions Australians were taking during World War II to protect their safety."

Ms Malgorzewicz said that visitors to MAGNT could also enjoy the National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries exhibition that opened earlier this month.

"The National Treasures exhibition has been extremely popular with Territorians and tourists from all walks of life keen to view items such as Ned Kelly's helmet and Don Bradman's cricket bat," Ms Malgorzewicz said.

"National Treasures features more than 170 items and is a journey into Australia's history and tells some amazing stories of how we came to be the country we are today.

"Other items that have proved extremely popular include the last convict uniform and James Cook's *Endeavour* journal."

MAGNT is open from 10am to 5pm on ANZAC Day and admission is free.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Anna Malgorzewicz on 0401 110 296

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