

Media Release:

16.12.08

Break-in at Araluen Arts Centre

Two reproduction prints of works by renowned watercolour artist Albert Namatjira were discovered stolen from the Araluen Arts Centre early yesterday morning, Monday 15 December 2008.

Araluen Arts Centre Director Tim Rollason said the break-in has been reported to Police and repairs have been completed to secure the area.

“The offenders smashed a glass panel in a door leading to the Araluen Galleries foyer, and the two reproduction prints of Albert Namatjira were removed from the wall of the Araluen Galleries shop,” Mr Rollason said.

“We have 10 different reproduction prints based on original works by Albert Namatjira which are sold from the Araluen Galleries shop for \$27.50 each.

“Despite the breach in the surrounding entrance area the original works by Albert Namatjira remain safe in the Gallery.

“All originals in the Albert Namatjira Gallery are attached with security devices and are under constant electronic surveillance.”

Mr Rollason said a security review of the Araluen Arts Centre has been recently completed and works to upgrade security is commencing.

“Other reproduction prints by Albert Namatjira have subsequently been removed from view in the Araluen Galleries shop to discourage any further break-ins,” Mr Rollason said.

Police would like to hear from anyone who may have witnessed this incident, or has information that could assist them with their investigation to call 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Tim Rollason on 8951 1126

Image 1. Reproduced print of *Young Ghost Gum, Central Australia*

Image 2. Reproduced print of *Mt Sonder, MacDonnell Ranges*

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