

MEDIA RELEASE

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DANDENONG RANGES MUSIC COUNCIL WINS COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANT

The **Dandenong Ranges Music Council** has been awarded a **\$5032.50** federal Community Heritage Grant to fund a **Preservation Needs Assessment**.

The grant was announced at the National Library of Australia in Canberra on 25 October, 2016.

This year, grants worth \$415,075 have been distributed to 77 community groups and organisations from around Australia to assist in the identification and preservation of community owned but nationally significant heritage collections. In addition, first time recipients attended a three-day intensive preservation and collection management workshop held at the National Library, the National Museum of Australia and the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra.

Ray Yates said the grant was important in supporting the effort to preserve the **DRMC collection** at the grassroots level. "While the grant provides the funds, the workshop offers the expertise to help us protect our collection and make it accessible while it remains in the local context," **he** said. The outcome of the project will be recommendations for the methodology and priorities to plan for the conservation activities and collection management.

Director-General of the National Library of Australia, Ms Anne-Marie Schwirtlich, said the CHG program showed the commitment by the National Library, along with its partner institutions and the Federal Government, in encouraging communities to care for the nation's heritage, be it in small country towns or capital cities.

CHG is managed by the National Library. It is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Communications and the Arts; the National Archives of Australia; the National Film and Sound Archive; the National Museum of Australia and the National Library.

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