



THE FUTURE OF THE FEDERATION – PLEASE HELP SAVE US

The work of the FAHS has been recognised for more than thirty years with small operational grants from the Commonwealth government. In recent years it has been \$80,000 p.a., which is miniscule as a proportion of federal government spending. Nevertheless, this support is being discontinued and without it the FAHS will face severe cutbacks and most of its volunteer community support functions closed.

The FAHS welcomes any community support that you can offer, both as societies and as individuals. We believe that Minister Frydenberg (Minister for Environment & Energy, 695 Burke Rd, Camberwell VIC 3124) should be informed of the valuable work of the FAHS, both directly and through your local federal MP, and urged to renew the funding.

WHAT IS THE FEDERATION?

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies is the peak body representing Australia's community volunteer historical and heritage societies. Its constituents are the peak State and Territory organisations or equivalent. Through them FAHS represents approximately 1,000 societies and approximately 100,000 members across the nation.

Our volunteers provide hundreds of thousands of hours of voluntary work to: collect documents, images and other historical material; research and publish history; present public lectures and exhibitions; protect and preserve built and place heritage; collect material objects and exhibit them in museums; make an invaluable contribution to heritage tourism; and to foster community sustainability and wellbeing through community activity and a sense of heritage.

WHAT DOES THE FEDERATION DO?

Connects community historians throughout Australia, sharing skills and information

Employs an Executive officer and Outreach Officer to assist and guide societies and their members

produces a *Newsletter* and an *e-Bulletin* on a regular basis

Informs the work of historical societies by publishing free of charge guides on such topics as:

identification and preservation of heritage sites

digitisation and other management of collections and movable heritage

writing and publishing of history

heritage tourism

working with the National Curriculum

operation of societies and recruitment

promotes communication and mutual assistance within the historical society movement;

provides a forum for the exchange of ideas

promotes the views of constituents

provides a national focus on matters of general concern to Constituents

performs an advocacy role with all levels of government

makes submissions and recommendations to government agencies

serves on government bodies addressing history and heritage issues

develops strategies to strengthen interaction between constituent members and governments

encourages the study of Australian history and the preservation and publication of historical material

For more about us see www.history.org.au