



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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YARRANGOBILLY CAVES HOUSE IN KOSCIUSZKO OPENS AFTER \$2.5 MILLION RESTORATION

Environment and Heritage Minister Robyn Parker has opened the Yarrangobilly Caves House in Kosciuszko National Park following a \$2.5 million heritage restoration.

It is the first time the house has been fully operation in 40 years following the opening of the grand two-storey section of Caves House.

“Tourism provides a great deal of employment in and around the Snowy Mountains, and tripling the number of visitors who can stay longer at Yarrangobilly will boost the regional economy,” Ms Parker said.

“The restoration took nearly two years to complete and those who visit Yarrangobilly Caves each year will have access to a further 26 beds, bringing the total to 42.”

Caves House was built in two stages with a single story structure built in 1901 and a two-storey section added in 1917.

“The \$2.5 million restoration of this newer section included improved bushfire protection, off-grid power generation, innovative water and waste water management, and a modern heating system,” Ms Parker said.

“The Yarrangobilly Caves precinct attracts a diverse group of visitors, including those interested in caves, karst environments, heritage architecture and engineering.

“In the basement of Caves House visitors can now tour a power generation and heating system that operates in the most environmentally friendly fashion possible.

“This power system combines heritage and modern technologies by blending an original 1936 hydro-electric Pelton wheel with integrated battery storage and a gas co-generation plant.”

The restoration of the two storey section of Yarrangobilly Caves House was jointly funded by the NPWS Kosciuszko National Park Centenary Fund and the Office of Environment and Heritage’s.

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Photos for news media:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/nswnationalparks/sets/72157633346236940/>

Read more about Yarrangobilly Caves:

<http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/kosciuszko-national-park/yarrangobilly-caves/historic-site>