



Mark Speakman
Minister for the Environment
Minister for Heritage
Assistant Minister for Planning

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday 12 April 2015

NSW GOVERNMENT TO BOOST LOCAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

Heritage Minister Mark Speakman today announced \$28.5 million in additional NSW Government heritage funding over the next four years under the new *Heritage Near Me* initiative, which will primarily support local heritage assets.

Under the new *Heritage Near Me* initiative, the NSW Government will fund a new Heritage Roadshow team of experts and a series of grants, namely the Heritage Activation Grants Program; the Local Heritage Community and Local Government Grants Program and Heritage Green Energy Grants Program.

“The *Heritage Near Me* program will provide substantial new NSW Government funding for heritage items that local communities across the state hold dear,” Mr Speakman said.

“The new Heritage Activation Grants Program will support heritage asset owners such as local councils to reactivate heritage spaces and precincts through works to support public access, ongoing heritage activities and safety improvements.

“There will be funding for minor conservation works and to help provide expert technical advice and service through the Local Heritage Community and Local Government Grants Program, which will help enhance local heritage assets.

“The Heritage Green Energy Grants Program will support energy efficiency upgrades for businesses using heritage listed buildings.

“The *Heritage Near Me* initiative will also fund a new team of eight specialists who will visit local areas to record historical information, support the community to protect important places and help local councils improve skills among their heritage staff.

“This new Heritage Roadshow Team will work with local communities by assisting with technical advice; leveraging public and private investment in heritage items; and assisting local councils to identify, manage and protect local heritage.

“Funds will also go into developing two new apps for local councils and communities to report and identify local heritage, and a new website containing records and information about NSW heritage.”