THE HERITAGE TOOLKIT

OUR PAST IS OUR FUTURE

"A GUIDE TO KEEPING IT ‘REAL’
IN AUSTRALIA’S FIRST NATIONAL HERITAGE
LISTED CITY"
Above: The Line of Lode Mine’s Memorial is an iconic piece of architecture that sits proudly above Broken Hill.
AUSTRALIA’S FIRST HERITAGE CITY

The past, present and future.

As Broken Hill locals, we know this place is something special. From its rich mining history, to its unique outback location and the colourful, brilliant characters it has produced, Broken Hill has always been just a little bit different. But in January 2015, the entire nation stood up and acknowledged just how important Broken Hill is by adding our whole City to the National Heritage List – an Australian first. Created for the residents of Broken Hill and the surrounding region, this Toolkit is a celebration of our City and an examination of how our rich past will pave the way for our bright future.

What is a heritage place?
A heritage place is an area or site valued for its natural or cultural significance – or in Broken Hill’s case, both. It’s a place with outstanding bio-and geo-diversity, a place with aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and spiritual value for past, present or future generations.

Why protect heritage places?
Not just a link to the past and a reminder of special moments in lives, history and culture, heritage places are also a part of a place’s identity and can contribute to the economic success of that place. When communities work together to conserve heritage places, they celebrate the past and build stronger bonds for the future.

BROKEN HILL’S PAST

NATIONAL HERITAGE LISTING
Inclusion in the National Heritage List

AN ANCIENT HISTORY
Cremorne Ancestry

WHY BROKEN HILL?
So, just what is it that makes Broken Hill so special?

POWERING THE NATION
Off the sheep’s back

FAIR GO, MATE
United we stand

BROKEN HILL’S PRESENT

A LIVING MUSEUM
The buildings of yesterday

PERFECT LIGHT
A picture paints a thousand words

CUSTODIANS OF THE PAST
Sharing our story

BROKEN HILL’S FUTURE

A CLEVER CITY
Resilient and original

MORE VISITORS FROM “AWAY”
Discover your own backyard

FACES OF TOMORROW
Future generations
NATIONAL HERITAGE LISTING

Our past is our future and our National Heritage Listing is forever.

INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST

After 10 years of continuous advocacy – led by former Mayor Wincen Cay, Professor Simon Molesworth, Liz Vines (Council’s Heritage Advisor) and Peter Olden (former Broken Hill City Council Sustainability Manager) – inclusion on the National Heritage List was achieved for Broken Hill.

The National Heritage List is the highest honour in Australia. It recognises and protects our most valued natural, Indigenous and historic heritage sites. It is truly representative of the nation’s most outstanding places. The comprehensive assessment and listing process is helping to build a living and accessible record of our evolving landscapes and thecritical elements that truly define Australia as a nation.

There are currently 106 places of outstanding value to the nation on the National Heritage List, including iconic landmarks such as Bondi Beach, Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park and the Great Barrier Reef.

On 20 January 2015 the Minister for the Environment, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, entered Broken Hill and its National Heritage values in the National Heritage List.

The National Heritage values of Broken Hill are protected under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). Information on the EPBC Act and the National Heritage Listing is available at http://www.environment.gov.au

THE CRITERION ACHIEVED BY BROKEN HILL INCLUDED:

1. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia’s natural or cultural history.
2. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Australia’s natural or cultural heritage.
3. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s potential to yield information that would contribute to an understanding of Australia’s natural or cultural history.
4. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of:
   a. A class of Australia’s natural or cultural places; or
   b. A class of Australia’s natural or cultural environments.
5. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics, as viewed by a community or cultural group.
6. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.
7. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
8. The place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place’s special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia’s natural or cultural history.

AN ANCIENT HISTORY

While Europeans had to learn how to live in the outback, the Wilyakali people have flourished in the Broken Hill region for thousands of years.

DREAMTIME ANCESTRY

No celebration of Broken Hill would be complete without acknowledging the long aboriginal presence in this region. The Wilyakali people are the traditional custodians of the land in and surrounding Broken Hill, and have strong connections with surrounding groups including the Pitjantji people of the Darling River near Wilcannia. The Wilyakali people acknowledge there are a number of other tribal groups that live in the region surrounding Broken Hill. The Pinnacle, approximately 10kms west of Broken Hill, is a protected area and has been identified as a sacred place for the Wilyakali people.

Whilst the modern era has changed the way of life for many members of the Wilyakali tribe, some still use traditional hunting, gathering and cooking methods when it comes to their food and also obtain the traditional medicines from the flora within the region.

Indigenous Art

There are many ancient examples of local aboriginal art that can be found at Mutawintji National Park, north of Broken Hill and throughout the private properties surrounding it. Modern examples from prolific local artists and sculptors can be found in the galleries and art spaces throughout the City. The Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery has a wonderful collection of aboriginal art, while West Darling Arts facilitates gallery space for the display and sale of local Indigenous artwork.
WHY BROKEN HILL?

As the first Heritage Listed City in Australia, now’s the time to reflect on what makes Broken Hill so special.

SO, JUST WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES BROKEN HILL SO SPECIAL?

A rainforest in the Outback
Broken Hill is a ‘mineralogical rainforest’, comprising over 300 mineral varieties that tell the story of 2.3 billion years of the Earth’s history. It’s home to a rare volume of minerals and one of the world’s richest deposits of silver-lead-zinc.

Economic success
Mining in Broken Hill was vital to the development of the nation, moving Australia into an industrial, economic powerhouse and one of the world’s biggest resource suppliers.

Workers’ rights & safety
Broken Hill helped shaped modern Australian society thanks to early workers fighting for their rights and safety. Broken Hill even created the eight-hour working day — it’s no wonder this city is so well loved!

Invaluable source of information
Broken Hill’s rich and formative mining history, its stories and anecdotes regarding protests and union action and its natural geological significance make it an invaluable source of information and research relevant to Australia’s understanding of itself.

The broader mining story
The quintessential mining town, Broken Hill represents the boom and bust nature of mining communities across Australia. A ‘living museum’, our City tells the broader story of our nation’s mining heritage.

Technology and innovation
The birthplace of revolutionary mining innovations that became standard throughout the world, Broken Hill has long been a place of brilliant minds and ground-breaking technology — quite literally!

An oasis in the desert
Aesthetically unique, our City combines grand, boom-era buildings with ramshackle miners’ huts literally in the shadow of the “Line of Lode” and mining relics — and all of this within the exceptionally beautiful, sprawling Australian Outback. Broken Hill is unlike anywhere else in the country.

A HISTORY OF INNOVATION
Did you know in terms of testing and infrastructure, Broken Hill leads the way?
- Australia’s first large scale mining activity
- World’s first development of Kalgoorlie underground
- World’s first development of Longwall mining techniques
- World’s first large scale underground mining
- World’s first large scale desalination plant
- World’s first large scale underground mining
- World’s first development of ventilation
- World’s first development of Savannah exploration

Contribution to the arts
Thanks to its unique aesthetic and outback landscape, Broken Hill has produced some of Australia’s greatest artists and inspired photographers and filmmakers the world over. From the “Brushmen of the Bush” to “The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert”, our representation in the arts has been staggering.

Australian heroes
Broken Hill has produced some of the greatest minds in Australian history. From the lode’s discoverer Charles Rasp to engineer and metallurgist Guillaume Daniel (GD) Debrez, union organisers Percy Brookfield and Eugene O’Neill, environmentalist Albert Morris and artist Pro Hart, we have made far more than our share of contributions to the list of Aussie legends.

A spirited bunch
Lastly, you can thank yourself and your ancestors for earning Broken Hill its heritage listing. We were recognised for our unique and enduring sense of community, and our self-sufficiency and resilience in the face of our harsh outback location.
POWERNING
THE NATION

The wealth of resources discovered in Broken Hill would mean big things for our young nation – and mining throughout the world.

OFF THE SHEEP'S BACK

An environmental pioneer:
Albert Morris

In the 1930s mining and pastoralism prospered in Broken Hill. The environment, however, did not. Soil destroying dust storms resulted from the huge amount of land clearing around the City. Environmental innovator Albert Morris’s concept of a ‘green belt’ around the City was strongly supported by mining legends WS Robinson and AJ Keast. These men of vision shared Morris’s belief that a vegetation zone surrounding the city would shield it from the destructive force of dust. Volunteers planted eucalypts, saltbush, wattles and other natives over 22 acres of denuded land to re-anchor the soil. A rabbit-proof fence encircled the area to prevent animal access to the seedlings. This is a common occurrence now but was visionary in the 1930s.

The innovative work of Albert Morris, William Sydney (WS) Robinson and Asaduebol James (AJ) Keast earned them reputations as pioneer environmentalists whose ideas have since been copied by mining cities across Australia and the world.

World’s richest deposits
Broken Hill was among the world’s richest known source of silver-lead-zinc mineral deposits. This graph compares Broken Hill against the world’s other great mineral deposits.

TOP 30 Stratiform Sedimentary Zinc (Zn) - Lead (Pb) Deposits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zn + Pb million tonnes of contained metal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broken Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howards Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.Y.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Isa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sullivan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Broken Hill’s rich mining history played a major role in earning the City National Heritage status, just as it played a major role in revolutionising the Australian economy more than a century ago. Australia was very much an agricultural country, but the wealth that came from Broken Hill took our young nation off the sheep’s back and set it up as an industrial powerhouse that would remain one of the world’s biggest resource suppliers for years to come.

Where it all began:
The ‘Syndicate of Seven’

When boundary rider Charles Rees (pictured) discovered a boomerang-shaped ‘broken hill’ in 1883 at Mount Gipps Station, he wasn’t to know his discovery would form the basis of the world’s two biggest mining companies, BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto.

With the support of George McCulloch, Rees formed the ‘Syndicate of Seven’. The syndicate comprised Rees, McCulloch, Philip Chesham, David James, James Poole, George Urquhart and George Lind.

When the initial shaft sunk, Poole, Urquhart and Lind sold their shares. The remaining members decided to raise the capital necessary for further investigation, and in 1885 BHP Billiton its first prospects. For the next 15 years, BHP experienced a boom period, with profits from high-grade ones, low labour and equipment costs, and high silver, lead and zinc prices.
our City’s importance on the national stage, encouraging investment and collaboration from big businesses to secure Broken Hill’s future.

Not-so-cheap thrills

The famous Australian coin tossing game of Two Up was once one of Australia’s favourite pastimes, albeit not quite legal. For fifth century miners in Broken Hill, having a punt at the pub was the perfect way to blow off steam after a hard slog underground. This would often empty their pockets prematurely, much to their wives’ dismay. Mine managers in the 1950s were sympathetic to wives of repeat offenders and allowed the women to collect their husbands’ fortnightly pay. Two Up is illegal throughout Australia every day except ANZAC Day, but in classic, rule-bending Broken Hill style, the tradition here lives on. Council holds a year-round licence for this raucous historic game which is played at the Palace Hotel, much to the delight of visitors.

Priceless innovation: froth flotation

Melbourne-based chemist Charles Potter and Broken Hill engineer Guillaume Delprat developed the ‘Froth Flotation Process’ in 1902. This process revolutionised the treatment of sulphide ore and was one of Broken Hill’s most significant mining innovations. It expanded the life of mining operations and enabled the recovery of lead and zinc from existing mine tailings. By 1915 the new process had recovered 35% of the value of $62 million. Talk about a worthwhile innovation!

Bushy White - Mineral Artist, former miner and current owner of White’s Mineral Art and Living Mining Museum

“Nowadays it’s amazing what they do with computers and equipment, but back when I was in the mines, comradeship and mateship were what it was all about. You worked in a team, and looked after each other. And Broken Hill has looked after Australia for 100 years, with the wealth it has come out of mining here. If it weren’t for mining, Broken Hill wouldn’t be here. The mines gave people jobs, let them build homes and allowed them to do all the wonderful things people have done in Broken Hill.”

Brilliant minds of Broken Hill

Over 130 years, mining operations at Broken Hill have trained and influenced generations of Australian miners, engineers, managers and technical staff who have gone on to discover and mine ore deposits around Australia and beyond. This expertise spread and contributed to the development of many metal, coal mining, engineering, chemical and manufacturing industries, notably steel and its associated operations.

Big backs and long hauls

After more than 130 years of mining in Broken Hill, the 75km-long, 16km-deep ‘Line of Lode’ has yielded 300 million tonnes of ore and generated over $100 billion. With the average lifespan of a mine being approximately 20 years, the continuous operation of largescale mining at Broken Hill is unique. The wealth and influence of Broken Hill mining operations stretched to the isolated outback community to the South Australian towns of Port Pirie and Whyalla, Toowoomba’s Mt Lyell, the steel mills of Newcastle and the financial centres of Melbourne and London.

WINCEN CUY - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL MAYOR, DECEMBER 2009 – SEPTEMBER 2016

Like so many in the community, I was elected when the Federal Minister for the Environment, the Honourable Greg Hunt MP, visited us on 20 January 2005 to dedicate Broken Hill as Australia’s first Heritage Laid City. This was a huge milestone that celebrated a solid 10 years of work in representing Broken Hill to make this listing possible...and then the next 20 years or more in preserving, protecting and promoting this great mining City in the outback.

In January 2016, the BHP Billiton Foundation committed an enduring legacy to the City through its contribution of $5.7 million for projects involving Argent Street and the Broken Hill Archives, proving that partnerships can be forged, with government and other sectors, to achieve our vision for sustaining employment and wellbeing for all who choose to live in Broken Hill.

I find that people are always intrigued and surprised when I tell them that Broken Hill also sits about one of the world’s great ‘mineralogical rainforests’, with over 300 mineral species reliably confirmed. More inspiring still is that research into the geology of Broken Hill contributes to an understanding of the formation of the Australian continent itself and more than 2 billion years of the Earth’s history. When reflecting on the National Heritage Listing, I think of the soul of Broken Hill and the resilience, boldness and courage that led us here. I think also of the challenges we will need to face as a community in order to achieve our bold and courageous vision to transform Broken Hill’s economy away from its traditional reliance on the mining sector.

We know the going will be tough but each and every one of us carries a piece of Broken Hill that led us here. I think also of the contribution to ensuring our City remains a relevant and inclusive place to live, visit, invest and play for the next 130 years at the very least.

Our past is our future and our National Heritage Listing is forever.
Broken Hill is the birthplace of workers’ rights and safety, but they didn’t come without a fight.

Broken Hill’s contribution to Australian society and culture was a key reason for its National Heritage Listing. The Broken Hill union movement was integral to the establishment of workers’ rights and safe conditions in Australia, and this echoed throughout the world. So how did it all start?

Workers continued to be exploited as mining shareholders grew richer following Broken Hill’s boom. Miners worked in deadly underground conditions for arduously long hours. Countless men lost their lives to lead poisoning, lung conditions and freak underground accidents, leaving behind wives and children to fend for themselves in what was then a harsh, frontier outback town.

Broken Hill residents learnt early they would have to establish a self-sufficient society whose members took care of one another, and the community quickly became protective of its own. Unions were established and strikes instigated, resulting in a bitter fight and social unrest that would span several decades. Between 1889-1920 workers and their families sacrificed their salaries and often their freedom during extended strikes, a legacy of this is that the people of Australia enjoy today’s safe work conditions and lifestyle balance. Australia is indebted to Broken Hill for that contribution to our way of life.

Women’s Brigade
Broken Hill has a history of producing tough women, and it all started with the Women’s Brigade which was formed during the first of the strikes. The Women’s Brigade was a protest group who used direct action methods and social disturbance to fight for safe work conditions, and therefore better social conditions.

Irreverent and fierce, the Women’s Brigade was responsible for picketing, public disturbances, tarring and feathering. They physically attacked police and refused to serve ‘scab’ workers in their shops, while instigating a coupon system for strikers in exchange for time spent on the pickets. Many of these formidable women were arrested and jailed. They refused to accept the status quo and stood up to do something about it. They helped make Broken Hill a place that celebrates equality and freedom of speech. The lesson in all of this: don’t mess with Broken Hill women!

Christine Adams - historian
“My family has a long history in the mines of Broken Hill, stretching as far back as my great grandfather who

‘Great Strike’
While earlier strikes had caused bitter unrest and civil disobedience, it was the Great Strike of 1919-20 that resulted in real change for workers and saw the introduction of work conditions Australians still enjoy today. During the Great Strike, previously disparate unions came together as the Amalgamated Miners Association (AMA), which pushed for reduced hours, workers’ compensation and safer conditions. But the fight and great suffering paid off when the AMA eventually claimed victory, winning the first 35-hour week in Australian history, a two-day weekend, full compensation for work-related injuries and the installation of ventilation in underground mine shafts.
was employed on the Big Mine by 1886. At the time of his death in 1948 the local newspapers described my grandfather Charles James Leonard as 'a member of the AMA during the 44-hour strike and big strike and was a good unionist too. He remained highly respected amongst unionists till he left the industry'.

The strikes were tough on the people of Broken Hill. Families had little money and food was restricted. Unions had a levy to provide food for their members: 'spuds and onions' supplemented occasionally with jam and rabbit. My grandmother's two young children died during strikes as did so many others. Infant mortality in 1918 was 99 per 1000. In 1919 that figure jumped to 147 per 1000. The Government Medical Officer of the time blamed 'malnutrition and the illnesses of the strike for the drastic increase in deaths'. He also stated he was appalled at the 'enriched and anaemic condition of the women folk'.

There were also several storekeepers who were sympathetic to the miners' plight and gave credit to customers knowing it was unlikely they would be compensated.

Conditions improved after the introduction of the 21 recommendations of the Chapman Report (1921) and the creation of the Broken Hill Industrial Council (1925). The Chapman Report actually stated that one in seven Broken Hill miners had dust on the lung."

Tom Mann

In 1908, due to falling company profits, mine workers faced a 12 per cent wage reduction. Union organisers called on renowned activist Tom Mann to visit Broken Hill in an attempt to bring workers' solidarity to the city. Mann was born in England in 1876 and had risen to international acclaim on the strength of his leadership of the 1889 London dock strike. He answered the call to Broken Hill in 1908.

Mann preached legendary speeches on street corners and the strength of his conviction saw union membership rocket to 98 per cent after only three weeks of his residency in Broken Hill. Union leaders took their demand for a wage increase to the Federal Arbitration Court, which angered BHP and caused them to lock out all union workers, hiring instead free 'scabs' to cover the shortfall. This put 4500 people out of work, and Mann quickly organised ongoing pickets of the mine with the aim of blocking access for the 'scabs'.

Mann was charged with conspiracy, riot, and unlawful assembly and was bailed on the proviso that he would not hold or address any public meetings in the city.

In an unprecedented move, an estimated 3000 passengers travelled on what was dubbed 'The Tom Mann Train' to the South Australian border to hear him speak — they stood in New South Wales, while Mann placed himself on the other side of a barbed wire fence in South Australia. He told them that 'they have said of me that I encouraged you to disorder, and that I encouraged you to fight. I only encouraged you to fight for the rights of citizenship and for the rights of your wives and families to live'.

The Broken Hill dispute lasted for five months, at which point the Arbitration Court agreed to workers' wage increases and improved conditions. Tom Mann was acquitted in April 1909, after a trial that ran for eight days.

Percy Brookfield

With a swag on his back, little known prospector Percival Stanley (Percy) Brookfield arrived in Broken Hill in 1910, in time the rest of Australia would know his name. Brookfield was an industrial militant, anti-war activist and parliamentarian. He was also a proud Labor man who led him to become an official of the Amalgamated Miners' Association and passionately lead Broken Hill in an anti-conscription campaign which saw him jailed and fined 700 pounds.

Whilst holding the Broken Hill seat of Sturt under the Industrial Socialist Labor Party, on March 22, 1921, Brookfield was shot at the Riverton Railway Station in South Australia. He would die as a result of the wounds inflicted upon him by a Russian enquirer when trying to disarm him.

“No other single mining field of the future will ever exert as much influence on Australian life as has Broken Hill.”

— Geoffrey Blainey, 1982
A LIVING MUSEUM

Celebrating and preserving our unique ‘boom and bust’ architecture.

Visitors to Broken Hill are quick to remark on our city’s unique appearance. In the shadow of the ‘Line of Lode’ and its mining relics, our main street is a visual feast of grand boom-era buildings, our laneways a quirky mash-up of corrugated iron and weathered bricks, and our wide residential streets eclectically lined with ramshackle miner’s cottages and the odd slatted manor.

Broken Hill’s built environment helps keep our history alive and endears our City to travellers, artists, filmmakers, photographers, prospective residents and future generations of Broken Hill locals. It’s for these reasons we must honour and protect our historic architecture as one of our greatest assets and preserve our city as a ‘living museum’ while simultaneously supporting growth and innovation.

THE BUILDINGS OF YESTERDAY

Paula Williams and Susanne Olsen
- Charming Miner’s Cottage

“In 2012 we bought a dilapidated two-bedroom miner’s cottage on Thomas Street, thinking we would do it up and either sell or rent it out to a long-term tenant. What we hadn’t counted on was how we’d fall in love with the place, as we peeled away then reinstated the layers of its history.

We decided against selling, and now what started as a project on the side has become a business for us. Within a year we had recouped the money we spent restoring the cottage by offering it for short and long-term holiday accommodation. Feedback from our guests indicates people visiting Broken Hill want to tap into the history of the town, and staying in an authentic historic miner’s cottage is a great way of doing that. We’ve now been able to invest in a second historic home, which we have also restored and established as an artist’s residence and gallery space.

The process of restoring this heritage home has been such a pleasure, particularly the way the history of the house has become apparent. We were contacted by an elderly lady in Adelaide who was born and raised in this house and asked if she could come and stay. She shared her childhood memories of the house and confirmed that indeed her father was a miner. She and her sister shared the front verandah as a sleep out bedroom, and there was a bunker in the backyard to protect them from enemy attack during the war. It’s amazing how, through bringing an old house back to its former glory, we have also breathed life into its stories and can now share those with visitors and locals alike.”

Above: Broken Hill’s heritage listed Synagogue.
Left: Broken Hill’s laneways are an eclectic mishmash, including weatherboard brick buildings.
For left: A trip down memory lane.
“Getting National Heritage Listing once and for all confirms that Broken Hill is extra special.”

– Professor Simon Molesworth

Maxine Purcell - Volunteer, Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery

“I was born and bred in Broken Hill; my father was a miner who moved here from Tibooburra. It was fascinating as a child to come into Sully’s as a young girl. I would love to go with dad to the hardware store, as it was such a special old building with delicate charm and character and with so much going on within; you would be amazed and excited every time.

Nowadays it has been restored as the art gallery, and I come in every Wednesday afternoon to help out as a volunteer. It’s such a beautiful building that has a real mystical effect about it, which is a real drawcard for people. This building is what heritage is all about – timeless charm and history.”

Liz Vines - Broken Hill heritage advisor

“The civic and commercial buildings express great confidence and grandeur owing to the wealth of the mines. The typical wood and iron family residences evolved from practicality and uncertainty of the future of the mines. There is a mixture of architectural styles and this is one of the unique aspects of Broken Hill’s architectural character. Broken Hill’s stables are woven throughout its architecture. For example, in 1889 a competition was held for the design and construction of a hotel for the corner of Argent and Sulphide streets. Melbourne architect Alfred Dunn’s design was chosen for a three-storey brick hotel and the Coffee Palace opened in December 1889 – this is now the Palace Hotel.”

Mandy Nelson - The Grand Guesthouse

“Born and raised in Broken Hill, I’ve been looking up at the Grand Guesthouse my whole life. In its heyday it was the best hotel in Broken Hill, so these walls have seen honeymooners, mining executives and the rich and famous, as well as plenty of mine workers who would board here. I started running the guesthouse around six years ago, and have just fallen in love with the building. I’m always wondering around looking at the beautiful heritage details. Thinking how I could fix them and return the building to its former glory. In particular, I noticed what great potential the rear courtyard and beautiful big external kitchen had as an art gallery and workshop space. I thought to myself, well why not? Why shouldn’t I just go for it?

Fortunately, one of our regular guests and a good friend of mine, Paul Adcock (picture), is a community development specialist, and under his mentorship I was able to form strong community partnerships to get the project under way. We are connected with the Sustrans work for the dolerite program, whose participants gain skills on-site and connect with the town’s history as they help with the restoration. We are also partnered with Broken Hill Art Exchange and West Darling Arts to help us realise our dream of creating a beautiful public art space within a stunning heritage setting. Our ethos is very much that this project belongs to the community, so we’re planning community heritage restoration workshops led by specialist craftsmen so the people of Broken Hill can become skilled, confident and, most importantly inspired to restore our incredible heritage architecture.

We’re hoping to create public access to the courtyard from the town square, and I’m so excited to see how our art space with its central gallery and outdoor mazes will interact with the Council’s Living Museum + Perfect Light project.

“You don’t need a huge amount of knowledge or skill to undertake something like this, and while there are plenty of grants available (and people in town that can help you write applications), the best bit is to just start; just get the ball rolling. Talk to people in the community, ask questions, brainstorm and form partnerships, and before you know it you’ll have a work in progress. This project is a huge undertaking, maybe it’ll take 5-10 years to finish, but that’s nothing compared to the 130-old years the building has been standing and the way I see it, this is just the next phase in the Grand Guesthouse’s history.”
When reflecting on the National Heritage Listing, I think of the soul of Broken Hill and the resilience, boldness and courage that led us here.

– Former Mayor Wincen Cuy

The housing in Broken Hill is as interesting and varied as the public buildings and ranges from simple cottages to more substantial residences built either in stone or iron. The need for lightweight, easily transported building materials resulted in an almost universal use of galvanised iron for roofing, fencing and sometimes cladding.

Home and commercial business owners now recognise that the appearance of the city and its buildings is important for all who live and visit the place. This has been occurring incrementally since the 1980s when the first heritage programs were introduced and will continue into the future as Broken Hill builds its reputation as Australia’s first heritage listed city."

Where can you find help?

Council offers a free Heritage Advisory Service. A heritage expert travels to Broken Hill to provide on-site advice to property owners. Whether you’re seeking advice regarding a paint scheme for your residence or design advice for your large-scale commercial development, the Heritage Advisory Service can help.

A range of grants and loans are available through Council, including the Local Restoration Fund, Veranda Restoration Program and House Painting Grants. For further assistance and information visit www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au or call Council’s Customer Service Team on (08) 8080 3300 to find out more.

What about the extra red tape?

A common community misconception surrounding Broken Hill’s National Heritage Listing was that there would be far more red tape, and that all residents and businesses would have to gain Council approval to make any alterations to their property. This is not true; there is no extra ‘red tape’ for general domestic and small scale development as a result of our National Heritage Listing. As was the case prior to the City’s Heritage Listing – and as is the case in towns and cities around the country – properties individually heritage listed on Council planning controls (Broken Hill Local Environmental Plan 2013) will require Council approval for external alterations and renovations. That part hasn’t changed. And for everyone else, it’s business as usual.

Veranda Restoration Program

Does your commercial heritage property have a veranda that could use a little TLC, or perhaps even needs a complete rebuild? The Broken Hill City Council’s Veranda Restoration Program can help. The program offers funding for renovation or construction of post-supported verandahs in the form of a grant, part grant, or a loan. Twenty per cent of the cost of the work is provided as a grant, with the remaining 80 per cent is repaid to Council as a low-interest loan.
When it was announced Broken Hill was to be added to the National Heritage List, the city’s vibrant art scene and rich contribution to the arts was nationally recognised. Broken Hill has inspired artists from all walks of life. Painters, sculptors, photographers, writers and filmmakers alike have been enthralled by its colourful outback landscape, its huge skies and perfect light, and the unique character of the town itself. Broken Hill has earned an international reputation as a creative hotbed, with world-class artists and hobbyists alike coming here to produce work, which then lives on to tell the story of Broken Hill throughout the world.

Badger Bates - artist
“When I said I’d make echidnas out of saw blades people laughed at me, but to me, when I make this porcupine I bring this piece of rust back to life. If you look at rusted things and you look at red ochre, that rust has got ochre on it; the colour that the old people used to do their rock painting. If you look at the rust and look at the red ground out here it’s nearly the same, and that’s my inspiration.”

Cherry Pratt - West Darling Arts
“The ethos of West Darling Arts is to support and advocate for arts and culture in our region. We run and assist in community arts and cultural projects across all genres of art and for all walks of life, including indigenous and non-indigenous people, older people, young people, disabled people, people in gaol, drug and alcohol affected people. We aim to engage all aspects of the community in all areas of art, from painting and sculpture to filmmaking and theatre.

We have an Aboriginal arts officer and a designated area here in our beautiful heritage building for Aboriginal arts and cultural pieces, and we sell for local artists who might not have the opportunity to promote and sell their works elsewhere. Each month we have an exhibition for emerging artists to give them a platform – complete with an official opening, media coverage and promotion in our e-newsletters. The community engagement with our Gallery and organisational cultural projects and development has increased since activating our space at the Broken Hill Town Hall façade.”

Hollywood in the Outback
The story of Broken Hill’s modern moviemaking career begins with 1971’s Wake in Fright, a film described by legendary Australian film critic Bill Collins as “one of the best films ever made in this country.” The film’s success kicked open the door to a whole new industry, with hundreds of feature films, TV series, documentaries, commercials and music video clips being shot in Broken Hill and the surrounding region in the decades that followed.

‘Brushmen of the Bush’
Formed in 1973, the ‘Brushmen of the Bush’ was an eclectic collaboration of five Broken Hill-based artists drawn together for a single exhibition in Sydney which began an artistic journey that has led to international acclaim. The group comprised founders Eric Minchin plus Hugh Schultz, John Pickup, Jack Abraham and Broken Hill’s most famous artist, Pro Hart, and went on to showcase the art of outback Australia to the world.

Dubbed the ‘Brushmen of the Bush’ by journalist Lorraine Hickman for a feature article in the Australian Women’s Weekly magazine, the group enjoyed a prolific demand for their paintings while exhibiting throughout Australia as well as Los Angeles, New York, London and Rome.

“One of Australia’s great artistic hubs, Broken Hill’s stunning outback setting has inspired creativity for decades.”

Robin Sellick - photographer

“Isolation fosters really robust imagination.”

“A PICTURE PAINTS A THOUSAND WORDS...”

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!
Grab some popcorn, sit back, relax and enjoy the show.

- Wake in Fright
- A Town Like Alice
- Mad Max II
- Razorback
- The Flying Doctors
- The Long Way Home
- Alive to Nineveh
- A Place to Call Home
- Badlands 2005
- Outback Bound
- The Adventures of Pinokio, Queen of the Desert
- The Creek
- Mission: Impossible II
- Dirty Dozen
- Deadliest Catch
- Wild
- Jeremy Lees: Murder in the Outback
- Cactus
- Broken Hill
- Prince Mover
- Strongerland
- Last Cab to Darwin

PERFECT LIGHT
CUSTODIANS OF THE PAST

Broken Hill boasts many historical museums and a staggering 12 State Heritage Listed buildings.

Broken Hill’s unique heritage also encapsulates its major buildings. From the railway station, built by the NSW Government, to the BHP Chimney Rain, which marks the site of the hut built by BHP in May 1885.

Broken Hill Family History Group Inc. The Family History Group is a wonderful resource for all visitors to Broken Hill who wish to find out about their family history in the area or to discover the rich history and heritage of the region. Visitors are also welcome to simply visit and browse. The extensive collection held by the Family History Group covers the Broken Hill district as far as Wilcannia, Menindee and White Cliffs.

Broken Hill Cemetery A City’s history is said to be in its Cemetery and the Broken Hill Cemetery on Rakow Street definitely tells a story. Let the gravestones at the Cemetery help you understand more about Broken Hill and its remarkable history. Visit www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au and search ‘Cemetery’ to obtain your copy of the self-guided ‘Cemetery Walk’ which highlights some of the burial sites within this once isolated outback community. The Cemetery tells the story of many different Broken Hill residents and a series of historical events that have helped shape the City.

Outback Archives Soon to be digitised, the Outback Archives takes care of important historical records detailing many of the remarkable stories from the Broken Hill region. The archives boast impressive collections of documents, photographs and publications that provide a wealth of resources to casual visitors and dedicated researchers alike. Whether you simply wish to browse the incredible history of the area or conduct in-depth research on specific topics, you won’t be disappointed. A dedicated Archives Officer and enthusiastic volunteers are available to assist all visitors in their searches. In addition to a comprehensive newspaper collection from the local area, some of the highlights of the collections include early mining history of Broken Hill, the White Cliffs collection, as well as stories of the Barrier Field Naturalist’s Club, best known for developing the Regeneration Area around the city to combat the relentless dust storms that plagued Broken Hill in the early days. Visit www.brokenhillaustralia.com.au/expose-and-discover/outback-archives/archives to find out more.

OUTBACK MUSEUMS
- Albert Kersten Mining & Minerals Museum (Geo Centre)
- Sulphide Street Railway & Historical Museum
- Synagogue of the Outback Museum
- West Dailing Machinery Preservation Society
- Broken Hill Museums
- Outback Archives
- White’s Mineral Art & Mining Museum
- Bell’s Milk Bar & Museum
- Silverton School Educational Museum
- Silverton Gaol Museum
- Broken Hill Family History Group Inc

Albert Kersten Mining & Minerals Museum
If you’ve ever wondered what Broken Hill was all about, you need to visit the Geocentre to experience the stories of how the rich ore body was formed and the wealth of minerals found in the region. The formation of the ore body is told in an 8-minute audio-visual program that takes the visitor from the Big Bang through to the discovery and mining of Broken Hill’s vast, rich resources. The gallery, with its wonderful lighting, shows off the beauty and complexity of the extensive range of minerals found in the region. Housed in the former offices and bond store for the South Australian Brewing Company (built 1892) at the corner of Crystal and Blandstone Streets, visitors can enjoy the rich geological history on which Broken Hill was built.

STATE HERITAGE LISTED BUILDINGS
- BHP Chimney Rain of First Offices
- Broken Hill Mosque
- Broken Hill Post Office
- Broken Hill Railway Station and yard group
- Broken Hill Synagogue
- Central Mine Manager’s Residence (former)
- Police Hotel
- Seppelts Warehouse
- St Joseph’s Convent, Chapel & Site (former)
- Traders Hall
- Water Supply Pumping Station
- Wesley Uniting Church and Hall Group

For more info on outback museums go to www.outbackmuseums.com.au

LAVING THE GROUNDWORK
Here are some handy tips for researching a building:
- Commence with an online heritage search through the NSW Heritage Database
- Contact the Broken Hill Archives & Broken Hill City Council for old plans/images
- Search the building name and address including the Google picture view
- Search any organisations that may have dwelled in the building
- Search for the architect
Our forefathers had to innovate to survive in Broken Hill, and our modern-day businesses are doing the same.

**John Hart - presenter of Hart of the Kitchen**

“Technology in the kitchen is something I'm passionate about. I have a commercial grade kitchen in my house and together with my friend, renowned photographer Robyn Sellick, I produce an online cooking show called Hart of the Kitchen. Robyn comes around and sets up basic lighting, then we shoot the show after a few red wines on an idiot-proof point-and-shoot Sony mirrorless camera. I then edit it myself using Apple’s standard editing suite, something I taught myself to do, and upload it to our YouTube channel each week. You don't need a load of fancy equipment to make something people will love.

The idea for the show came about in response to popular TV cooking shows, which I hate. I think they've ruined home dinner parties, made people feel inadequate and given them unrealistic expectations — people are scared to cook because they think they can't do it as well. So we wanted to create something unpretentious, showing people how to make simple, affordable meals out of ingredients they can find quickly after work at the supermarket. I've found the recipes people like most are the unpretentious classics that aren't used to make — my partner’s gran has been an invaluable source of material to that end. I take the recipe, modernise it a little and away we go. In that sense, digital technology is bringing back old-fashioned favourites that had been lost in history.”

**Linda Nadge - Outback Astronomy**

“What started as a business plan to recoup the cost of my husband’s very expensive telescope has grown into a flourishing business at a dedicated facility. For a long time we operated out of a shipping container at the racecourse; literally on operation of folding chairs, blankets and laser pointers. But we’ve recently expanded, and our new headquarters is the old Royal Flying Doctor Service Base, just out of town on the road to Sydney. It’s wonderful to own a piece of Broken Hill history, and the iconic building is a great addition for our customers.

We have managed to leverage Broken Hill's remote location to help us grow our business. The iconic image of the outback is red earth and huge skies full of stars, so there is a demand for visitors to get ‘up close and personal’ with the incredible night sky when visiting Broken Hill.

We take on board all feedback from our customers and document all questions asked during our shows as research to help us develop our existing products and create new themed shows that we know will be well received.”

**Emily Keenan - The Silly Goat**

“We're a family business, run by myself, my brother, sister and mother. Mum has run a cafe in this same location on Argent Street for years, but when I moved back to Broken Hill after living in Brisbane I had heaps...
of ideas for how we could change and evolve the business, and do something that no one else was doing in Broken Hill. We changed the name and ethos of the cafe, moving away from lots of fried food to offer a healthy, creative menu that caters to dietary restrictions while still being totally delicious.

We also moved away from the conservative view of hospitality. We’re a family and our staff is part of our extended family; we like to have fun and to make our customers feel relaxed and welcome. You’ll often hear us joking and laughing, and our chef can regularly be heard singing from the kitchen. That casual hospitality atmosphere was new to Broken Hill, but the community has been really receptive to what we’re doing and we’re packed every day.

Maybe some people were a little surprised at first, but I had a vision and I believed it could work, which is really important in building a business. I figured if Broken Hill is going to move forward and evolve as a town, it would take people with bold ambitions to take the plunge and do something different.

We’ve been so successful that we’ve outgrown our current premises, and so are moving. We’ve purchased a larger shop in a heritage building, and we’re setting it up as a cafe from scratch. It’s a lot of work and still in progress, but the plan is to offer city-style modern cafe food while remaining true to Broken Hill – we don’t want to just imitate a city cafe, as that’s not what we are. So our interior scheme will be Broken Hill industrial – lots of old mining equipment and relics that celebrate our history. We want to be genuine and authentic, as well as bold and a bit different.”

Dionne Devlin – Business Advisor, Small Biz Connect

“Broken Hill is an isolated community, and that sometimes stops people from giving something a go. They assume it’s too hard, that they won’t be successful. But that’s not necessarily true, and I’ve observed that those who connect themselves to something wider – beyond Broken Hill – are the ones that kick the goals and open themselves up to new possibilities.

My advice for anyone looking to start or evolve a business in Broken Hill is to take advantage of the networks available. The Chamber of Commerce is well linked with Council and others and can help you connect.”

**TOP TIPS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS**

- Contact the Broken Hill Chamber of Commerce, which offers free one-on-one business consultation and advice. Visit brokenhillchamberofcommerce.com.au for more information.
- Apply for business grants and interest-free loans via Foundation Broken Hill, a philanthropic community foundation aimed at building Broken Hill’s economy through business investment. Visit foundationbrokenhill.com.au for more information.
- Visit railfest.org.au to peruse a range of business grants and programs available to support local businesses.
- Here are some tools and ideas to get your business online:
  - Google Maps
d  - Email marketing
  - Social media
  - Mobile apps
  - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube
  - Business and marketing courses
- Get online savvy. Today’s users, a strong digital presence is a must. Build a website where there are free, easy-to-use website building programs online. If you cannot afford to pay someone, be active on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube, TripAdvisor. Monitor these sites closely and engage with your audience there.

**BROKEN HILL BRAND MANIFESTO**

All Broken Hill we’re the real deal. We believe true experiences, real places, real friendships and real values.

We are surrounded by the most beautiful things in life – magnificent open landscapes, connection to land, the purest air and more food Kata from Kata which aren’t afraid to be broken.

We believe in hard work and getting things done. We say what we really think, and act on what we really feel. Feels, virtual living and thousands of new stories.

We fight for what’s true and real.

When you come here what’s real gets into your pants. Broken Hill delivers a dose of reality that will put you in touch with the real things in life – so we can all carry on the fight for the things in life that really matter.

Our Brand

Our brand is how we represent our city, and captures how we think, speak and act.

We’re ill – The Hero: Where there’s a will, there’s a way.

We’re the Champion for what’s new.

We value: Openness, Originality, awe-inspiringness, Humility. Fearlessness.

MORE VISITORS FROM ‘AWAY’

Broken Hill’s National Heritage Listing means big things for tourism.

DISCOVER YOUR OWN BACKYARD

At the heart of Broken Hill’s successful future is its rich past. With the mining industry steadily declining, tourism is a major economy of tomorrow. And, thanks to Broken Hill’s National Heritage Listing, the future looks bright. Heritage tourism bolsters regional economies across Australia, but as Broken Hill is the first entire City to become a heritage attraction, it is in a uniquely advantageous position.

For left: A rich mining history attracts a myriad of visitors to the region.
Left: Taste history at Bells Milk Bar.
Below: Outback tours are a popular way to see the sights, like Award Winning Hi State Saloon.

Domestic and international tourists alike seek heritage places to visit because of the rich stories associated with them, stories that speak of the values of Australian society at large. As this Toolkit has expressed, Broken Hill is abundant in such anecdotes, and is now well and truly ‘on the map’ for tourist-seeking heritage experiences. Our rich mining and union history means visitors flow through the doors of mining attractions and museums, our flourishing art scene offers countless outlets for the personal and purchase of our unique outback-flavoured art, while our character-filled heritage buildings offer charming dining and accommodation venues for visitors wanting to sink their teeth into our City’s history.

Broken Hill already welcomes 150,000 tourists a year, and that number is expected to expand in light of our National Heritage Listing.

Jason King - Bells Milk Bar

Encourage friends and family to come and visit you in Australia’s first Heritage Listed City, then show them the sights. Post photos on social media. Nobody knows Broken Hill like its locals, so post photos offering glimpses of our unique City on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Use hashtags to draw attention to your posts. ‘Like’ your favourite local businesses on Facebook and share their posts. ‘Check in’ at your favourite bars and restaurants.

Write reviews and leave star ratings on websites like TripAdvisor to support local businesses.

Take a ‘Staycation’. Often visitors experience more local attractions than locals, so make some time to see the sights and visit the attractions of your home town. And don’t forget to photograph and ‘share’!

More capacity for events

Broken Hill’s events calendar is growing, and with the Broken Hill City Council’s upgrade to the Civic Centre, the City will be in a stronger position to host meetings, conferences and events.

This will help fill out Broken Hill’s events calendar, drawing money into our local economy.

Do you have an event that you would like included in the Broken Hill City Council Event Calendar? Visit www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au/events

More capacity for events

Broken Hill’s events calendar is growing, and with the Broken Hill City Council’s upgrade to the Civic Centre, the City will be in a stronger position to host meetings, conferences and events. This will help fill out Broken Hill’s events calendar, driving money into our local economy.

Do you have an event that you would like included in the Broken Hill City Council Event Calendar? Visit www.brokenhill.nsw.gov.au/events

Jason King - Bells Milk Bar

“When I first got involved with Bells, we tried to compete as a funky café; we had paintings on the walls and tables, and focused on good coffee and good café food. But then we changed direction when we got our hands on an old counter which inspired us to change all the furniture back to 1950s style, added the milk-bar museum, and we decided to make it all about the milkshakes and spiders; all about the history and heritage of the place. That really paid off, and we were recognised for it as well.

We’d been entering tourism awards for a few years, then eventually entered the Heritage and Cultural Tourism category and won at the regional and state levels, and came runner-up at the national level where we were up against places like Port Arthur and Aboriginal cave paintings in the Northern Territory. Focusing on the heritage tourism element is what has made this business successful. If we were able to take what was essentially a rundown old milk bar in South Broken Hill and put it up there on a national tourism stage, imagine what we can do as a community of heritage-focused business owners and residents.

The thing that excites me the most about Broken Hill being Australia’s first National Heritage Listed City is the opportunity it gives us to pave the way. One of the things that makes Broken Hill so special is that it’s paved the way in a lot of areas throughout history, overcoming obstacles to be a long-lasting and vibrant community. Those same skills and that same spirit of innovation and survival are what is still here, and what we can use to pave the way for our future as the first Heritage Listed City.”
As well as safeguarding their future, Broken Hill’s National Heritage Listing is a source of pride for our youngest residents.

**FUTURE GENERATIONS**

They’ve grown up in the shadow of the ‘Line of Lode’, they’ve heard the countless stories of Pop’s time underground and they may even live in a historic miner’s cottage. But for the youngest residents of Broken Hill, the City’s National Heritage Listing only further enhances the pride they have in their outback home, while also keeping it safe for their future.

We asked some of Broken Hill’s youngers to share their thoughts on the history of their town, their family stories and their hopes for the future.

*Emma Vandenheuvel*
**Primary School Teacher**

Students are proud of their town and recognise the important aspects of Broken Hill that make it a special place to live and be a part of its community.

In our class, in particular, we have recently begun researching iconic parts of Broken Hill and looking at their history and importance. Continuing to represent our school in community events helps students to understand the importance and significance of our town. And having conversations with your child about important aspects of our local community and history helps to keep the history of Broken Hill alive.

*Cooper Wellington, 16*

Growing up in Broken Hill is a lot of fun. To me, the two most important parts of Broken Hill are mining and soccer. The lessons about the Pipe Train Attack in school, it was important in the way warfare attack on Australian soil in the First World War. My great-grandfather was raised in Broken Hill and my great-grandfather owned Theodore Bakery. And the Roddick Hotel before it burned down. My dad told me a story when they were selling their grandparents home to his brother once got stuck in the coal room for two hours when he fell into a big vat of cream and couldn’t get out.

*Elke Turley, 9*

I’m pretty sure Broken Hill was one of the first places to open up in 1886. I like Silvinton because it’s out bush and there’s an animal park. Somewhere, my dad took us for a drive out to the old north mine through the gates to look at the open cut and the houses. I like that Broken Hill is the country and we get out bush sometimes I like to travel to the city, you don’t get to get get to the bush. I love going out bush. I think Broken Hill is cool. We go up there, it is a country town and everything’s close by, but it has streets and other things you find in the city.

*Willow Pascoe, 15*

Broken Hill is such a unique outback town with things that you wouldn’t get in other places in Australia. There are some great experiences here that you wouldn’t get anywhere else, like the Sculpture, the Big Picture, Bell’s Milk, and Silvinton.

It’s still kind of the way it was originally, that’s what makes it so special. I love Silvinton, and I have lots of really good memories growing up spending time out there. Not everyone knows how great Broken Hill is, and I think we should do social media to tell everyone about the important parts of Broken Hill and its history.

*Tommy King, 6*

Broken Hill is special because there are a lot of valuable jewels underground. They’ve been mining them for a long time. Some things in Broken Hill are really old. My dad says Bell’s Milk Bar is it’s 100 years old. They have cool milk bottle dispensers.

**LIVING MUSEUM + PERFECT LIGHT PROJECT**

The Broken Hill City Council has committed to a major project to preserve and enhance the aesthetic of our city, entitled Living Museum + Perfect Light. The project aims to enhance what is unique about Broken Hill, the strong colours of the environment, its perfect light, the rich geology on which it is founded and its heritage. The project aims to secure Broken Hill for future generations.

*Above:*

The possibility of large public art installations, projections to enhance the Argent Street civic presence.

*For left:*

Broken Hill’s younger generation are proud of its rich history.