



Diocesan e-News

COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANT

The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat has been awarded a \$4,500 Federal Community Heritage Grant (CHG) to fund a significance assessment of the Diocesan Historical Commission collection. The grant was announced at the National Library of Australia in Canberra on October 25, 2016.

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

Michael said the grant was important in supporting the effort to preserve the Ballarat Diocesan Historical Commission 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. Over the next six months members of the Historical Commission will work with the assessor to complete the survey enabling it to implement strategies for protecting this important historical collection.

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.

Media Release National Library of Australia, Canberra

Top Photo: Michael Taffe pictured with Senator Zed, Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs.

Bottom Photo: Recipients of the CHG

