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## **Australian Golf Heritage Society awarded federal Community Heritage Grant**

The Australian Golf Heritage Society (AGHS) has been awarded a \$4400 federal Community Heritage Grant to fund a significance assessment of the museum collection.

The grant was announced at the National Library of Australia, Canberra, on Tuesday, 8 November, 2011.

This year, grants worth \$408,000 have been distributed to 82 community groups and organisations from around Australia to assist in the identification and preservation of community owned but nationally significant heritage collections. In addition, Emma Williams and Arianna Deer from the AGHS Museum 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.

Museum founder and manager Tom Moore said the grant was important in supporting the effort to preserve the AGHS 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. The significance assessment will help explain the meaning and value of the AGHS collection and provide further information for its management and interpretation.

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.

"It is all about working together to help spread the message that if we don't preserve our history now, it could be lost forever," she said. "Through sharing this knowledge, the information can be taken back to the communities where it is most needed to ensure that local heritage collections are still there for future generations."

The grant money is used for significance assessments, preservation needs assessments, conservation treatments, preservation training, digitisation, and purchasing quality storage materials or environmental monitoring equipment.

The Community Heritage Grants Program is managed by the National Library. It is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Office for the Arts; the National Archives of Australia; the National Film and Sound Archive; the National Museum of Australia and the National Library.

**Media contacts: Tom Moore, 9871 2798**