



MEDIA RELEASE
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WALDHEIM NEGLECTED

It is over 30 years since Gustav Weindorfer's historic home at Cradle Valley was re-built out of split King Billy pine shingles on the site of the original accommodation house that the 'Man of the Mountain' built for his visitors almost 100 years ago, and that he named 'Waldheim'.

While the 1976 replica does reflect the character of Weindorfer's rustic abode very well, its function has never been to accommodate the visitors to Cradle Valley but instead to house a number of artifacts and displays.

Now The Friends of Cradle Valley community advocacy group are concerned that this replica of 'Waldheim' is showing signs of neglect.

The President of The Friends of Cradle Valley, Cathy Clayton said, "*We are particularly concerned that the Tasmanian State Government is not providing enough funding, or staff and resources for its Parks generally. As a result, popular places like Waldheim which have special historic and cultural significance, are being sadly neglected.*"

"For instance, from a maintenance viewpoint, there is rotting flooring, roof beams that need replacing, leaking ceilings, outdated displays and access walkways that are in a poor state. From a development perspective, there are inadequate public toilets at the rear of Waldheim, and there's still no toilet facility at all at Ronney Creek, which is the start of many day walks and the famous Overland Track."

"There has been no work done on planning for the whole of the Waldheim - Ronney Creek precinct for several years now, and it appears that Parks and Wildlife staff are being asked to cut costs yet again, while they are already stretched to the limit, resulting in this inexcusable neglect of one of Cradle Valley and Lake St.Clair National Park's most treasured assets," she said.

"Although we're very pleased to hear of Premier Bartlett's plans to create a new National Park at Bay of Fires on the East Coast, how can anyone have confidence in the State Government managing another National Park, when it isn't even looking after one of its major drawcards in Cradle Valley?"

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