

For Immediate Release

Walk with Darwin's World War II History in your Hands

Global travel app highlights Darwin's wartime history

NEW YORK CITY and CAIRO – 17 February 2012 – Past Preservers and Crimson Bamboo LLC announced today the launch of their new tour, Darwin During World War II, exploring the devastating impact of the bombing of Darwin in 1942-43.

Darwin archaeologist Karen Martin-Stone, the author of the tour, immersed herself in the Northern Territory Archives Service oral history collection to understand what it was like to live through these events.

“We hear about the Japanese campaign, the Allied response, the number of ships sunk, where the bombs fell and the number of casualties,” Martin-Stone said, “But I wondered what people felt, what they saw, and what stayed with them when the bombs stopped falling. I was determined to write a tour that heard firsthand from people who were there. I wanted to show what Darwin was really like – how even then we were a multicultural city with a healthy mistrust of authority.”

“The bombing of Darwin was such a pivotal point in Australian history, and so little known,” said Michael Carroll, co-founder of Crimson Bamboo, the creator of the Rama app, “Our goal in publishing this tour is to take people through the events in Darwin in the footsteps of people who lived through them. Karen Martin-Stone has done an excellent job of invoking the fear and bravery that came to the surface when Darwin was attacked, producing one of our most engaging tours to date.”

Karen Martin-Stone has spent ten years in Darwin, studying Northern Territory history and working in the museum, archives and archaeology consultancy. This is her first attempt at writing public history.

Rama was voted one of the ten best new travel apps by BBC Travel in 2010 and will be available for Android later this year. Darwin During World War II is the first Australian tour to be included in the app.

The tour is available as an in-app purchase for \$1.99 on Rama. The app can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/iTunesRama>

Past Preservers, founded by Nigel J. Hetherington in 2005, taps into its extensive network of archaeologists, historians, Egyptologist, engineers, geologists and other specialists to provide historical and archaeological consultancy, and professional support to the media industry.

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