

**MEDIA RELEASE
LORD HOWE ISLAND
FEBRUARY 16, 2009**

New 264-page Photo/Art Book Showcases World Heritage Lord Howe Island

A Guide to World Heritage Lord Howe Island, launched on February 16, 2009, lavishly illustrates the World Heritage values of this tiny, remote oceanic island - often dubbed 'the last paradise', and regarded as the jewel in the crown of conservation areas in Australia – with over 700 images and text contained in 264 pages.

Published by the Lord Howe Island Museum and featuring text and images by island naturalist, Ian Hutton, OAM, (author of numerous other books about the island), the book was funded by the Nature Conservancy (Australia), following a visit by its Director, Michael Looker, who saw the importance of promoting the island as an example of world's best practice environmental management.

Lord Howe Island earned its World Heritage status in 1982 in recognition of its outstanding natural beauty and exceptional biodiversity.

Author, Ian Hutton said of *A Guide to World Heritage Lord Howe Island*, "I felt it was important to illustrate the World Heritage values of the island and to capture the essence of Lord Howe: dramatically beautiful landscapes; an outstanding example of a stage in the earth's geological history; evolution in action and conservation of diverse unique flora and fauna species."

The text also summarises the early recognition by scientists and governments of the unique values of the island, and the reasons why Lord Howe Island is one of the best environmentally managed islands in the world.

The book is available in a soft cover edition for \$65.00 or a special limited edition collectible at \$200.00 from the Lord Howe Island Museum or the Australian Museum bookshop (College St, Sydney), or on-line through the Lord Howe Island museum at lhimusuem@clearmail.com.au.

The sponsor of the book, the Nature Conservancy (Australia) has donated the books to the Lord Howe Island Museum to provide a source of income to continue the Museum operations and to improve displays promoting the World Heritage values of the Island.

A Guide to World Heritage, Lord Howe Island will be launched by the Hon Carmel Tebbutt, MP, Deputy Premier of NSW on February 16, 2009 at the Australian Museum, with guest speaker, Ian Kiernan, AO. The Australian Museum was chosen as the venue for the launch, as the institution has a record of involvement with Lord Howe going back to 1887. Reports from the Australian museum in the 1970s were used in the submission to have the island placed on the World Heritage Register by the Wran government in 1982.

For further information on Lord Howe Island visit www.lordhoweisland.info.

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Cover image and inside spreads available on request