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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Her Excellency Mrs Marlena Jeffery welcomes Shelter donation at the Botanic Gardens**

Her Excellency Mrs Marlena Jeffery will dedicate the new Rock Garden Shelter at the Australian National Botanic Gardens on **Thursday 29 March at 11.00 am**.

The Shelter is the newest landscape feature and the first project to be financed by the Public Fund of the Friends of the Gardens.

“The Friends of the Gardens play a significant role in building support for the Gardens,” said Brendan Lepschi, Acting Director of the Gardens. “Those who have donated so generously through the Public Fund have made today’s event possible.”

“The support of the national capital community is fundamental to our continuing development as a national centre of excellence.”

The shelter structure incorporates an iconic, subtle reference in form to the sculptural qualities and structure of a leaf. It integrates textural contrasts of rough and smooth, light and dark, natural and fabricated to create a truly unique design. The project was designed by Canberra architect, Tony Trobe, from TT Architecture (ACT) Pty Ltd, and constructed by Mark Taylor from GSM Constructions. The Rock Wall work was done by Spinning Gum Landscape Design and Garden Maintenance.

“The shelter is a wonderful addition to one of the most popular areas of the Gardens,” added Mr. Lepschi. “The Rock Garden lawn is a particularly popular spot for wedding couples.”

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