



COMMONWEALTH BANK OFFERS FREE SAFE CUSTODY AND STORAGE OF PERSONAL VALUABLES FOR ACT RESIDENTS

Sydney, 21 January 2003: The Commonwealth Bank in Canberra is offering emergency free safe custody of personal valuables for ACT residents concerned that their property may be in the firepath.

The Commonwealth Bank branch at 33-35 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra, will extend its hours to enable people to lodge jewellery, personal documents, family photos and other valuables in sealed safe custody conditions.

Other loose valuables can be stored in archive boxes provided by the Bank, subject to available space. These boxes are 390cm x 260cm x 220cm.

This branch will close for normal business at 4pm but concerned residents can lodge their valuables until 6pm today and Wednesday, or during regular banking hours.

"Available storage space is limited so we urge people who are concerned for their valuables to lodge them at the Northbourne Avenue branch immediately," said the Bank's Group Executive, Retail Banking Services, Mr Hugh Harley.

"One of the most distressing impacts of the fires is the loss of irreplaceable and valuable personal items. The Bank wants to make its safe custody facilities available to give people some level of comfort."

Mr Harley said this offer is open to all Canberra residents. Under the offer, the Bank will store items without charge for six weeks. People lodging their valuables will need to provide identification and insurance over the items will be their responsibility.

Further Information please contact

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