

Hean mystery explored



ILL-FATED: Brenda Hean and Max Price board the Tiger Moth for Canberra.

THE secrets behind a 35-year-old Tasmanian murder mystery will create shockwaves when award-winning Australian director Scott Millwood's new film *Whatever Happened to Brenda Hean?* hits cinemas next week.

Whatever Happened to Brenda Hean? explores the disappearance of conservationist Brenda Hean and pilot Max Price in 1972.

Hean was one of the leading environmental campaigners of the early '70s and a founder of the world's first environmental political party.

As part of the campaign against the flooding of Lake Pedder for a hydro-electricity scheme, Hean and Price took off from Tasmania in a two-seater Tiger Moth bound for Canberra, where they planned to sky-write "Save Lake Pedder" over Parliament House — but the plane never made it to its destination.

The governments of the day failed to conduct a public inquiry into the disappearance, so last year Millwood took it upon himself to investigate.

After offering a \$100,000 reward for information and establishing a hotline, he was inundated with phone calls from across the country and had to sort fact from conspiracy theory in order to solve the mystery.

"What we found was an incredible patchwork of information revealing where the plane flew, where the wreckage was seen on the day of the crash, how the investigative process was stifled and who might have had a motive for murder," Millwood said.

"It now seems clear that Brenda Hean was a martyr to her cause."

Whatever Happened to Brenda Hean? opens at the State Cinema in North Hobart on October 3.

For session times, phone 6234 6318 or go to www.statecinema.com.au