

Australian Garden History Society ACT Monaro Riverina Branch

Newsletter August 2009



Australian Garden History Society
www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au

ACT Monaro Riverina Branch, PO Box 5008, LYNEHAM ACT 2602
For an e-copy of the newsletter email expertco@ozemail.com.au

BRANCH DIARY Forthcoming Events

**THURSDAY 27
AUGUST**
**AGM & talk by
Catherine O'Neill**

**AGM FOLLOWED BY
A TIME AND PLACE, AN ILLUSTRATED TALK BY
CATHERINE O'NEILL**

**SATURDAY 12
SEPTEMBER**
Sherwood Spring Walk
Joint event with the
National

**THURSDAY 27 AUGUST (AGM 5.30PM, TALK 6PM)
CONCLUDING WITH DRINKS**

Catherine is a landscape designer who works with gardens of all periods, heritage through to modern. Her aim is to map the gardens she is working on, recording them as they are at exactly that point in time. By adding watercolour sketches to the maps she provides a special sense of place and time.

**16 – 19
OCTOBER**
AGHS National
Conference, Geelong

Many AGHS members who went to the National Conference in Albury in 2007 met her and were impressed by the beautiful watercolour maps (or plans) she had produced of one of the gardens we visited.

**SUNDAY 27
SEPTEMBER**
Visit to Cherry Dell,
Exeter

Catherine will talk to us about her activities, how she tries to capture the feeling of a garden, and then translates that on to the paper.

Venue: Discovery Centre, CSIRO, Clunies Ross Street, Black Mountain
Talk, 6pm: Members free, Non-members \$5 (can pay at the door). Bookings preferred to help with catering arrangements, email Judy Pearce expertco@ozemail.com.au

FOR YOUR DIARIES

**SATURDAY 28
NOVEMBER**
Visit to Braidwood (incl
Manar) and end of year
drinks

N. B. We would really appreciate any assistance that members can give publicising this lecture to friends and colleagues. We have included a flyer for this purpose.



AGM

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST, 5.30-6PM

This will be a short meeting, but an important one and we urge all members to be present. **Please consider** standing for the committee as we would really welcome some new members. If you are interested in standing please contact the Chair, Tony Byrne, tonybyrne@effect.net.au, phone 6247 3642.

**BRANCH
COMMITTEE**

Tony Byrne (Chair)
Kay Johnston (Vice
Chair)
Robbie Henderson
(Treasurer)
Nancy Clarke
(Secretary)
Jill Scheetz
(National Management
Committee rep.)
Helen Elliot
Geoff Evans
Michaela Hill
Rod Holesgrove
Judy Pearce
Linda Spinaze

SHERWOOD SPRING WALK

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

JOINT EVENT WITH NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS

The Sherwood site is a remnant garden first established by Henry and Eliza Phillips in 1863. Very little surface evidence of the homestead where the Phillips raised their family remains, other than a number of exotic trees, but in spring the area blossoms with daffodils which may or may not date back to the time of the Phillips occupation. Catching the display at its best is tricky – contingent on drought, frost and rain but join us anyway to see what we can find of the secret garden on the edge of the forest.

We will need to go into the site as a party as access to the site is through the once dense pine forests devastated by the 2003 bushfires. Bring the children, a picnic, something to sit on, and your camera.

Meet along the left hand side of the Brindabella Road, just past the Uriarra Homestead at 10.30am. From there we will drive, first to the Blue Range camp ground – site of an Italian internment camp during WW2 – an then on to a spot where we can park cars and walk into the Sherwood site. If you have any doubts about where to meet please contact Judy Pearce. Total walking will be less than 5 k on easy forest tracks. We plan to be back in civilisation by 3.00pm. We thank Gillian Bellas for planning this event for us.

Further information: Judy Pearce (expertco@ozemail.com.au, Ph 6257 6970).

Cost \$10 members, \$15 non-members – booking form page 5 – alternatively you can email expertco@ozemail.com.au and pay on the day.

Please make sure you include your phone/email so we can contact you if we have to cancel because of heavy rain.

SPRING VISIT TO CHERRY DELL - EXETER

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

We have planned a visit to the 5 acre garden of Cherry Dell, just south of Exeter, for Sunday 27th September. Cherry Dell was part of a property owned by the Yates family (of seed and bulb fame) during the late 19th/early 20th centuries. The property became Invergowrie, and the garden was redesigned by Paul Sorenson (about 1950?). It was subdivided in 1996, resulting in the present Invergowrie and Cherry Dell. There are beautiful mature trees lining a deep glade, underplanted by azaleas, rhododendrons and hellebores. The garden encompasses stone walls, an original cottage and the field where the bulbs were grown. It may be too late for daffodils, but hopefully there will be some tulips.

Cherry Dell is being opened especially for AGHS members and we envisage that members will combine this visit with one of the many gardens open in the Southern Highlands for Tulip Time. During this weekend there will also be a House and Garden Fair in Bowral. (www.tuliptime.net.au). We thank Linda Spinaze for planning this event for us.

Details: Cherry Dell, Bundanoon Rd, Exeter.

Time: 2-4pm. Afternoon tea included.

Cost: \$10 members, \$20 non-members – booking form page 5.

Directions: Take the Exeter turnoff from the motorway and follow signs to Exeter. Turn Right in Exeter into Bundanoon Rd, keeping the railway on your left. Cherry Dell is on the right immediately after Invergowrie's second set of gates. We will have the AGHS banner out. Please bring folding chairs as we may not have enough seating. Emergency numbers on the day Judy Pearce 0417 2500 58, Tony Byrne 0413 840 931.

FOR SALE

Early Ainslie Gardens,
\$15

Fifield Garden, \$10

Durham Hall Garden,
\$10

Recording Gardens,
\$10

Planting the Nation,
\$20

Studies in Australian
Garden History, Vol 2,
\$20

Documentary Film: A Gardener's City

\$34.95 Members;
\$39.95 Others, postage
\$7.95

Branch News

Post Box Address

It has become increasingly difficult to access the box at the GPO and so we are changing to PO Box 5008, Lyneham ACT 2602. We will keep the city box for a few months and slowly phase it out.

Planning for 2010

The committee is starting planning for 2010 at the September meeting, so if you have any suggestions for the program can you please contact the Chair, Tony Byrne, tonybyrne@effect.net.au, phone 6247 3642.

AGHS NATIONAL CONFERENCE GEELONG

16 – 19 OCTOBER

Geelong is the setting for this year's AGHS conference. From the 1850s it has been a bustling and lively city, a disembarkation point for those seeking their fortunes on the Victorian goldfields and from even earlier days, a gateway to the rich pastoral lands to the west.

This year's conference entitled *Cultivating Australia Felix* explores the theme of pastoral expansion and a series of distinguished speakers will examine the pastoral legacy, the gardens and homesteads built in the area opened to European settlement after the journeys of Major Thomas Mitchell in 1836.

The theme will be explored in three ways – through artists' recording of the settled and natural landscape, through oral history, especially by descendants of significant properties – a rare opportunity to hear them first-hand– and through on-site visits. A highlight is a day in the heart of the Western District, exploring the distinctive volcanic landscape and visiting historic gardens and properties not open to the public. Optional day: Monday 19 October.

Recent Events

LECTURE: CHARLES LANE POOLE AND THE GROWTH OF TREES

Despite a few logistical problems, we were treated to another fantastic lecture by Dr John Dargavel. For those who might like to follow up on Charles and his wife Ruth Lane Poole, Nancy Clarke has provided the following information.

The April 2007 issue of the *NLA News* carried an article *Democratic Arts*, featuring the work of Ruth Lane-Poole, wife of Charles Poole and noted interior designer who received commissions for the interior designs for the Prime Minister's Lodge and Government House (Canberra). This issue is available through the Internet at www.nla.gov.au/pub/nlanews/2007/apr07/apr07news.pdf. As noted in the article, Ruth not only planned interior layouts and selected furniture and fittings, but she also created original designs for much of the furniture in these buildings. The National Library has a good collection of illustrations of Ruth Lane-Poole's designs, both sketches and photographs. These are available digitally. For the NLA's holdings go to www.nla.gov.au/pict/ and search for 'Ruth Lane-Poole'.

The National Archives has a very fine feature on their website on Charles and Ruth Lane Poole - summarising their lives and works and reporting (with illustrations) on the Archives' extensive holdings of files, articles etc. by and about them www.uncommonlives.naa.gov.au – select Charles and Ruth Lane Poole.

As part of Craft ACT's *Designing a Capital: Crafting a City 09*, they are having an afternoon event on Tuesday 1 September, 2 – 5pm on *Living with Ruth Lane-Poole: an Interior Legacy*. For information and a brochure contact Craft ACT 6262 9333.

AGHS News

Nina Crone Award for Australian Student Garden History Writing

The Nina Crone Award is granted annually to encourage students in the writing of Australian garden history. The award comprises a prize of \$1,000 and a certificate – and the prospect of publication in the Society's journal, *Australian Garden History*. Papers should be for

original research relating to Australian garden history and should be limited to 1,000 to 1,500 words. Photographs and illustrations may be included.

Closing date for final submission - 30 September 2009

Expressions of interest, in the form of a brief abstract of 50 -100 words, should be submitted by 30 June 2009. Submissions can be sent electronically to info@gardenhistorysociety.org.au or by post to Australian Garden History Society, 100 Birdwood Avenue, Melbourne 3004

Eligibility and basis of submissions

The award is open to **students only**, nationally. Articles must be on a topic related to Australian garden history and must not have been previously published. All associated research must have been completed within the last two years.

Of Interest

SUCCESSFUL ROSE PRUNING

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST

At Lanyon Homestead with Graham Williams, Lanyon's Head Gardener
Cost: \$20, bookings & payments by 5 August
historicplacesbookings@act.gov.au, 6235 5677

FRIENDS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS

LUNCHTIME LECTURE SERIES

Lectures on a variety of topics are offered at 12.30pm on most Thursdays. Details on all the lectures can be found at <http://www.anbg.gov.au/friends/calendar.html>. Of special interest:

- Thursday 20 August, **A Walk Around the Lake** with Shirley Pipitone (an AGHS member)
- Thursday 27 August, **A Biblical Garden**, Professor James Haire talking about the garden at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture in Barton.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

The booklet is now available for the 2009-2010 season. Our members might be interested in the **Spirit of the Land** event, Lockhart, Saturday 10 & 11 October, which includes three open gardens as well as Australia's National Farm Sculpture Award (where entries must be created from recycled or new farm materials or natural elements of the land), and the annual Weekend Festival features art, performance events, food and wine.

REID OPEN HOUSES AND GARDENS

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

The National Trust, in collaboration with the Reid Residents' Association Inc, will host its fourth Open Houses and Gardens Afternoon in Reid. The guided visit includes four homes and gardens which highlight the sympathetic transition of Federal Capital Commission (FCC) 1920s and Department of Interior 1930s houses in the heritage listed part of Reid to meet the needs of families in the 21st century. The houses and gardens illustrate creative adaptations and plantings for sustainable gardens. Afternoon tea (from 4 to 4.30 pm) will conclude the afternoon's activities.

Time: 1.30-4.30 pm
Meeting Point: Reid Heritage Sign at the corner of the Reid Tennis Court, Dirrawan Gardens, and Currong Street.
Bookings: 6230 0533 or
National Trust of Australia(ACT)
PO Box 1144
Civic Square ACT 2608

BOOKING SLIP

Booking slips need to be returned no later than one week prior to the event to assist committee with planning.

Names _____

Contact phone: (Evening/W/E) _____

Email: _____

Tick	Event	Cost	Numbers attending	Amount Incl \$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>A Time & Place</i> <i>(27 August)</i>	Members \$0 Non-members \$5	Or email numbers to expertco@ozemail.com.au	\$ _____ Pay now or at the door
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sherwood Spring Walk <i>(12 September)</i>	Members of AGHS & NT \$10 Non-members \$15		\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cherry Dell	Members \$10 Non-members \$20		\$ _____

Return with payment or attendance numbers to:
AGHS, P O Box 5008, Lyneham ACT 2602