

Australian Garden History Society ACT Monaro Riverina Branch



Newsletter February 2009

Australian Garden History Society
www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au

ACT Monaro Riverina Branch, PO Box 1630 CANBERRA ACT 2601
For an e-copy of the newsletter email expertco@ozemail.com.au

BRANCH DIARY

Forthcoming Events

**SUNDAY 15
MARCH**

Heritage Apple Orchard
Visit

HERITAGE APPLE ORCHARD VISIT

SUNDAY 15 MARCH, 4 PM

Location: 133-135 Wickerslack Lane, home of Richard and Ozmat Jefferson.

TUESDAY 7 APRIL
Launch in English
Garden

Directions: From the main street in Queanbeyan, Canberra Avenue/Farrer Place, turn into Lowe St which becomes Cooma Road. This intersection is next to the Queanbeyan Showground. Approximately 3.5km from this turn off, turn left into Wickerslack Lane. After another 1km, the Lane turns sharply right. Immediately around this corner, on the left, are the gates to 133-135. The entry road is rough dirt, and, in just under 1km the house and a cement drive become visible. Immediately at this point (when the drive is visible), there is a dirt turnout on the left, where cars can be parked.

**SATURDAY 18
APRIL**
Visit to Micalago Station

From the car park we will walk around the right side of the house, and down the hill to the orchard. Richard and Ozmat will have information on the orchard for us. We are welcome to harvest as many apples as we like, so bring your own bags. Afterwards we will have light refreshments.

**WINTER LECTURE
SERIES**
6 May, 3 June, 8 July

Cost: \$10 member, \$15 for non-members. Booking form attached.

BRANCH COMMITTEE

LAUNCH IN ENGLISH GARDEN

TUESDAY 7 APRIL, 10.30 – 11.30 AM

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

The Chief Minister has been invited to launch new information on the English Garden in Weston Park on 7 April at 10.30 am as part of the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival. The launch will be followed by a guided tour of the garden.

The English Garden, located next to Weston Park, has an interesting and significant collection of specimen trees and shrubs. It has been an experimental site used by various managers at the Government Nursery at Yarralumla to trial species and cultivars for both the private and public domains in the ACT. Visiting arboriculturists also donated seeds and specimens over the years. Some of the trees within the English Garden are likely to be the genetic parents of many of Canberra's mature exotic trees, especially those that have survived in the older areas of Canberra. Overall the garden provides Canberrans and visitors with a great resource for both learning and pleasure.

In 2008 the AGHS, with the assistance of grants from the ACT Government, carried out a condition assessment of the English Garden and also produced an interpretation pamphlet and signage. AGHS members Madeleine Maple and Max Bourke together with Frank Grossbechler undertook this work.

The Canberra and Region Heritage Festival will take place from 4 -19 April. More information will be on the ACT Government website www.events.act.gov.au shortly.

Location: Weston Park opposite the Yarralumla Nursery (off Banks St) near the Oaks Brasserie. **No cost** but bookings required – booking form attached or email nclarke@grapevine.com.au.

VISIT TO MICALAGO STATION

SATURDAY 18 APRIL, 2 – 4.30PM

Micalago Station, established in 1835, is a garden of exceptional beauty and simplicity, with archways and stepping stones leading from one courtyard space to another. Pergolas invite exploration of the outer reaches of the garden where there is much to discover including a pond, sculptures and old roses.

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

It is a property steeped in history and was featured in Trisha Dixon's latest book *Under the Spell of the Ages: Australian Country Gardens*. The painter George Lambert was a regular visitor, and his painting *The Squatter's Daughter* in the NGA collection was painted there. The Station was used as a set for the films *My Brilliant Career* and *Somersault*.

Directions: Drive south along the Cooma Road to Michelago. Just past the turnoff to Michelago village turn left into Micalago Road. Drive 7 km along this road until you come to the gate to Micalago Station.

Cost including afternoon tea: \$20 member, \$30 for non-members. Booking form attached.



Photo: Elizabeth Hawkes

WINTER LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday 6 May, 6pm

On Ellis Rowan

Presenter: Barry Hadlow

Wednesday 3 June, 6pm

Charles Darwin - Gardener

Presenter: Max Bourke

Wednesday 8 July, 6pm

On Charles Lane Poole

Presenter: John Dargavel

More details on this lecture series will be available in the next newsletter, but please note the dates for your diary.

Of Interest

PLANT FAIR AT HUNTLY : 21 – 22 MARCH

Organised by the Australian Open Garden Scheme. More details can be found at <http://www.opengarden.org.au/>

5TH COLLECTORS' PLANT FAIR, BILPIN : 18 & 19 APRIL

More details can be found at www.collectorsplantfair.com

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>

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS

EXHIBITION

Current – Sunday 29 March

Generate – exhibition to celebrate Charles Darwin by Julie Ryder

STUDY OF THE SOCIAL VALUE OF LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN

AGHS member Shirley Pipitone has been engaged by the National Trust (ACT) to undertake this study. The ACT National Trust is seeking to establish the significance of Lake Burley Griffin to the people of Canberra.

There are redevelopment pressures on Lake Burley Griffin at present, such as the proposals for Kingston foreshore, the Immigration Bridge, the Albert Hall Precinct, the Weston Park Masterplan and the Convention Centre for West Basin, but there is no evidence of public perception of the natural and created beauty associated with the lake. This study will provide a valuable base to identify and conserve the beauty of the setting.

Responses to the survey will be collected from February 13th until 5pm on the 6th March. To do the survey click on this link <http://www.nationaltrustact.org.au/survey/>

MOTH (MINDERS OF TUGGERANONG HOMESTEAD)

Minders of Tuggeranong Homestead, a founding member of the Southern ACT Catchment Group, is a small but active and very committed group of volunteers in the Tuggeranong Valley. Since their formation in 1992 they have been dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment of this heritage listed property. They are keen to widen their active membership and invite people to consider joining them in their work.

For more information contact Jenny Horsfield, 6231 4535, robhorsfield@bigpond.com or Rebecca Lamb, 6231 5548, rebflamb@hotmail.com

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"/>	Heritage Orchard Visit (15 March)	Members \$5 Non-members \$10		
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Garden launch (7 April)	Members Free Non-members Free		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Micalago Station (18 April)	Members \$20 Non-members \$30		

Return with payment to:

AGHS, GPO Box 1630, Canberra ACT 2601

Make cheques out to ***Australian Garden History Society***