



AUSTRALIAN  
**GARDEN  
HISTORY**  
SOCIETY  
Queensland Branch

#### COMMITTEE

The committee meets in the State Library, Floor 2, Room 2D at 11 am on the second Friday of the month.

All members are welcome at committee meetings.

#### COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Chair & NMC rep– John Taylor  
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Vice-chair – Maurice Wilson  
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Members –  
Barbara Heath  
Ann Wegener  
Wendy Lees  
Nina Wood

# Newsletter

## September 2011

#### COMING EVENTS:

Sunday 18 September

#### Gold Coast Botanic Gardens and the Rosser Garden

This is a varied visit, to a relatively new garden with extensive themed plantings on a lovely site on the banks of the Nerang River, and to a large old Queensland domestic garden planted by the Rossers on their new block in the early 1930s.

AGHS member Kate Heffernan has produced a report on the Rosser garden and its significance, and recommendations for its restoration. Kate will lead our tour of the garden on Sunday.

**When:** Sunday 18 September at 10.00 am.

**Where:** The botanic gardens are at 258 Ashmore Road, Benowa, opposite the Benowa State High School, Ref 38 N10. Meet at the Friends' Centre for morning tea. Drive around the ring road to the last carpark on the left and then walk across the causeway to the only building.

**Cost:** \$10 for members, \$15 for visitors.

Bring some lunch to share.

**RSVP:** John Taylor, 3862 4284 or [jht@hotkey.net.au](mailto:jht@hotkey.net.au)

#### NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Firstly, my apologies for the lack of newsletters this year. This was due largely to the time and effort devoted by the committee to organizing the Society's annual conference at Maryborough in mid-August. All the work paid off, however, as the conference was a success and the arrangements worked without a hitch. Delegates liked being in regional Queensland and enjoyed Maryborough.

The Queensland branch AGM was held successfully on 24 July and the office holders are shown on the left of this page.

The committee is working to get some new members and to plan the programme of events for 2012. Branch membership is stable at about 100 members.

Welcome to new members...Ms Jan Allen, Ms Alison Banks, Ms Susan Booth, Mr Ley and Mrs Carol Cox, Ms Lesley Faulkner, Dr Susan Mercer, Mrs Kim Rabbidge, Carmel and Stephen Allen, Ken Brooks, Christina Gnezdiloff, Alwyn and Sandra Hyde-Page

I look forward to meeting new members at Society events.

Cheers  
John Taylor

## **Branch News**

### ***Events***

The final two events planned for 2011 are: at Manly bayside on Sunday 23 October and Sunday 27 November for the end of year lunch at “Woodlands” at Marburg.

We will let you know the details as soon as they have been worked out.

### ***Projects***

The branch has contributed to two practical projects.

We paid for removal of dead wood and shaping of two large, old figs at Brennan and Geraghty’s Store, a National Trust property at Maryborough which we visited during the conference.

And we have allocated \$5 000, matched by the national office, to clear and replant a bed at the Myall Park Botanic Garden, at Glenmorgan near Roma. The garden was planted in the 1950s by David Gordon and has a large collection of Australian plants covering 90ha. It is the origin of the famous *Grevillea* Robyn Gordon.

The project is to clear and replant a large bed which was originally planted with 32 species of *Hakea*. Over time several species have crowded out the others and have become weedy. These old plants will be removed and genera from the family Proteaceae, including *Banksia*, *Isopogon* and *Petrophilia* planted. The work includes removal of the old plants, ripping, irrigation, acquiring new plants and planting, mulching and fencing.

This project is part of the National Management Committee’s programme funded by the Garden Restoration Fund, which is directed at works in significant historic gardens. The NMC grants are matched by funds from the relevant branch.

### ***Annual General Meeting***

The Society’s AGM will be held in Melbourne on Saturday 22 October at 11.30am. The meeting will be part of a “Botany behind Gardens” forum held at Melbourne University Botany School, with some expert speakers and a viewing of botanical treasures in the university’s Baillieu library. On the Sunday a trip to the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens has been arranged. A booking form is on the Society’s website, [www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au](http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au)

### ***Conference***

The Society’s 2012 conference will be held in Ballarat from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of November.