



# Newsletter

*February 2011*

## Contact Details

### Branch contact:

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Website:  
[www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/branches/south\\_australia/](http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/branches/south_australia/)

### 2010/2011 Branch Committee:

Ray Choate (President & Treasurer)  
Richard Heathcote  
Jeffrey Jenkinson  
Helen Livingston (Secretary)  
Richard Nolan  
Di Wilkins  
State Rep to National Management Committee: Richard Nolan

## Gardens to Visit Ideas Please

Do you know of a garden which we should visit (possibly your own)? We are always looking for ideas for garden visits, future meetings, and for related activities.

Ever felt like getting involved in something **that's fun and sparks** your interest?

We would love to see you join the committee of AGHS SA Branch.

## 2011 Launch

### *And your chance to meet author Richard Aitken*

The Launch of the 2011 AGHS South Australian activities will take place on Saturday, 26th February 2011. Members are invited to attend a special lecture on the exhibition "Garden of Ideas" at the Adelaide Botanical Gardens (Museum of Economic Botany). Richard Aitken, the curator of the exhibition and author of the book by the same title, will conduct tours and discussions on the exhibition.

After the talk, members are invited to bring a picnic and join the Branch Committee for a casual and informal start to the season. The committee will use the opportunity to get new ideas for meetings and garden visits, and of course we would welcome new members for the Committee.

A copy of Richard Aitken's book "Garden of Ideas" will be raffled on the day.

Please plan to join us for this 2011 inaugural event

Date: Saturday 26th February 2011

Place: Meet at Museum of Economic History, Adelaide Botanical Gardens

Time: 2.30pm onwards

Price: Members \$5 and non members \$10

RSVP: by 25 February to [ray.choate@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:ray.choate@adelaide.edu.au)

or 8303 4064 (for catering purposes)





# Out and About

Garden visits in conjunction with the 2010 Conference in Tasmania



Ray Choate at Panshanger



Richard Nolan at the Perth Tabernacle Church (octagonal)



John and Janette Thornton at the Albert Hall in Launceston

The Australian Garden History Society held its 2010 National Conference in Launceston, Tasmania, from 5 to 7 November 2010. There is a report of this conference in the most recent issue of "Australian Garden History" (Jan-Mar 2011), and so I won't attempt to replicate it. In my view, northern Tasmania in the Springs was a wonderful place to hold the conference. Being interested in early architectural heritage of Australia, as well as gardens, the Launceston area was a most suitable place for this event. Being Spring, the countryside was particularly fresh and beautiful, and the gardens we visited were at their best. All together I was able to visit about a dozen gardens, as part of the conference and the two optional day tours; due to the popularity of this event, the conference and the pre- and post-conference tours were almost immediately booked out, and I was not able to attend them. The Tasmanian members of the Society are to be commended for their planning and organisation.

## Visits to "Riverside" and "Manyara"

On the 28th November 2010 about 30 members of the Branch were privileged to visit two Hills gardens rarely open to the public: Manyara Vineyard and "Riversdale". Although the day was a bit 'coolish' (we appreciated the open fire and billy coffee at Manyara), the gardens were in their springtime prime. Many members saw their first 'green rose' at "Riverside". Our thanks to the owners, Lil and Skip Lipman at "Riverside" and Eve and Rex Lipman at Manyara, for sharing their gardens with us.



Margaret Sando at "Old Wesley Dale"



Marion Allen and Lindy Gill at "Old Wesley Dale"

AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY (SA)

2011 ANNUAL ESSAY PRIZE

**'LOST GARDENS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA'**

The South Australian Branch of the Australian Garden History Society sponsors an annual award for an essay (including student papers) on the theme of lost gardens of Adelaide or South Australia. The Society is calling for submissions for the 2011 Prize. The award will be for \$1000.00; in addition the prize winner will receive a one-year membership to the Australian Garden History Society.

Applications for the prize are invited from all interested members of the public, Australia-wide. The Branch has selected for the 2011 Essay Prize – **'Lost Gardens of South Australia'**. **Essays should be about South Australian gardens which no longer exist, due to urban development, subdivision, or for other reasons.**

It is recommended that the paper be between 2500 and 4000 words. There are no limitations on the size or format of the paper or the medium of presentation, but it is expected that the content will advance knowledge about the subject, and be presented in a manner that allows for replication.

All submissions will be forwarded (as anonymous) to a panel of three independent judges who will judge the submissions, and determine whether a prize will be given or not.

The winner will be expected to present a talk on the award-winning paper at a meeting of the SA Branch of the AGHS. In addition, the prize-winning paper may be presented for consideration for publication in the AGHS journal ("Australian Garden History") or other suitable publication (eg. web-site of the AGHS).

**The paper will be kept in the archives of the AGHS, SA Branch.**

**Submissions must be received by 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011. The winner will be announced at the Branch Christmas Party. The Judging Panel, and the President of the SA Branch are excluded from presenting essays.**

If you wish to submit a paper for the 2011 Australian Garden History Society (SA) Annual Prize, please address correspondence to the Convenor of the selection panel (from whom additional information can be obtained) before the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011. Please send submissions to:

Ray Choate

GPO Box 3013, Rundle Mall

Adelaide, South Australia 5000

Email: ray.choate@adelaide.edu.au

## 2010 Christmas Event

The annual Christmas event was held at Reade Park Croquet Club. Members were warmly welcomed and given a mallet, an overview on how to play and off we went. Suffice to say that the President and Secretary went head to head, quickly showing how even genteel lawn games can become very competitive.

As the sun gradually set, we gossiped, sipped, and hit our way through a very enjoyable evening.

Thank you to the Reade Park Croquet Club for allowing us to hold our event at their fine establishment.



## Upcoming Event

3rd April 2011

## Beechwood Heritage Garden Snows Road, Stirling



View of garden  
at Beechwood  
1925.

Beechwood is a large garden spread over 4 ha. The original garden belonged to Francis Hugh Snow—a successful merchant who collected plants from his extensive travels. He employed 6 gardeners.

Beechwood is one of THE great gardens. It was the first garden registered under the State Heritage Act.

It includes a Centenary Fountain—erected in 1993 to mark the 100th birthday of the garden. Francis Snow's grand daughters donated the funds to have it erected.

Beechwood's conservatory is one of only two cast iron conservatories in SA. The present owners are Janet and David Rice. Since purchasing Beechwood in 2002, they've added their own special touches like expanding the rose garden—300 David Austin Roses in all.



View of Beechwood at Stirling  
Copyright National Trust SA

If you have an email address we can send your newsletters to please let Ray Choate know.

Email communication also allows us to quickly contact members of any late changes to plans etc.

If you don't have email and are not sure where to start,

Everyone Start Now!

Collect photos on the theme of lost (and found gardens) of

South Australia

We hope to use them in the future for exhibitions, talks, themes

## 2011 Preliminary Programme



26th February - Picnic & Exhibition "Garden of Ideas with Richard Aitken

March/ April (Autumn) - visit to Suburban Garden Visit

3rd April—visit to Beechwood Heritage Garden 2.30pm,  
Snows Road, Stirling

Early May - SA History Festival -Visit Marble Hill

28 August (tentative) - AGM and Forum

September (Spring) - Suburban Garden Visit

September - 2011 Essay Prize Due

September/October (Spring) - visit to Anlaby

October/November—Strathalbyn

November/December - Christmas Party at Mannum