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Web version



Newsletter February – 2011

WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

Happy New Year to all our members! We hope you enjoyed your Christmas and New Year holidays, and have a prosperous year in 2011. You will have received a flyer advertising the upcoming events for the first six months of the year, and here they are set out in more detail.

HONOUR FOR AGHS WA MEMBER - MARION BLACKWELL

In our last newsletter we were pleased to announce an honour for our member Marion Blackwell in having a collection of rare botanical books named after her at the Australind Library. In this newsletter we are thrilled to announce that she has been made a Member of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honours List 2011, for service to conservation and the environment, particularly through the Australian Native Plants Society, and to the profession of landscape architecture.

Congratulations, Marion!

UPCOMING EVENTS

THIS FRIDAY'S LECTURE – THE EXPLORATION OF NEW HOLLAND: A BOTANICAL PERSPECTIVE

Friday 11 February 2011 10am lecture - Dr Michael McCarthy of the WA Museum North West Shelf Shipping lecture theatre in the Fremantle Maritime Museum at the end of Peter Hughes Drive on Victoria Quay. Parking is available nearby. N.B. Entry is free, but let the museum administration know you are attending the AGHS lecture.

In the course of studying the early European explorers Dr Michael 'Mack' McCarthy has become knowledgeable about the botanical pursuits of some of these courageous people and their patrons. We are privileged to be able to gain his services and have gained to use the maritime museum North West Shipping theatre in Fremantle. The theatre is air conditioned and has been provided for free by the WA Museum. Members are welcome to bring guests, but be sure to arrive in good time as the event is being advertised throughout our society's networks. Catering is up to individuals – we suggest morning tea afterwards.

LANDSCAPE FORUM - 'UNDERSTANDING PLACE: THE RESOURCE OF LANDSCAPE' including a presentation from Richard Aitken on *The Garden of Ideas*.

Saturday 12 March 2011 8.15am - 7pm University Club of Western Australia, Hackett Drive, Crawley. Free parking available on Hackett Drive and some UWA car parks.

Cost: \$100 for AGHS members and National Trust members, \$150 for other participants. Tea breaks, lunch and cocktail party included in the price.

Promotion for the landscape forum is well underway, with interest being shown from different sectors of the community including local government, historians, heritage practitioners, architects, engineering services and the rural sector. This is exactly as we had hoped; to get a round-table discussion. If you are interested in attending, please forward your registration form to Jackie in Melbourne without delay, as numbers are limited. If you would like a copy of *The Garden of Ideas* it would be helpful if you would place an order with your registration. A registration form can be downloaded from the website. Richard Aitken will be available to sign copies of his book. You may wish to order a copy via the AGHS website for \$58 including postage and handling.

CONSERVATION ANALYSIS: COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE

Sunday 10 April (afternoon) with Ann Forma, landscape architect, working with the Landscape Management Plan. More details in the next newsletter.

EXHIBITION OF EARLY PERTH GARDENS – PERTH TOWN HALL 13-23 MAY

Official opening on Friday 13th May

The exhibition subcommittee of John Viska, Lisa Williams, Gillian Lilleyman, Elizabeth Hof and Ruth Morgan met regularly over the summer break. They have uncovered some very interesting information and images including images of *The Bungalow*, Sir John and Lady Forrest's residence in Hay Street, images of Government House in the 1860s, and Mount House. An official opening with afternoon tea is planned for Friday 13th May.

RECENT EVENT

Christmas party 12 December 2010 at Victoria Park Croquet Club

On 12 December we enjoyed our Christmas party at the Victoria Park Croquet Club, with a few keen garden history members enjoying instructions in the game. The club faces an uncertain future so it was good to enjoy a game from a more relaxed era while it is still available. We thank Sue Monger for very kindly donating the hamper prize for the raffle won by Carmel O'Halloran. Some delicious refreshments were enjoyed by all.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Royal WA Historical Society

On the first Wednesday of every month March to December from 2pm to 3pm the RWAHS runs a program of interesting talks, usually at Citiplace Conference Room at the top of the escalator on Perth Railway Station. For more information see <http://histwest.org.au>

Perth Writers Festival Thursday 3rd to Monday 7th March 2011

This year's Writers Festival features a lecture by Tim Flannery called *Here on Earth*, the title of his book which traces our shared histories. In his renowned style he offers provocative and visionary solutions. Go to <http://perthfestival.com.au/events/pwf/highlights> for more information or look for a Perth Writers' Festival guide in your local bookshop. Festival bookings can be made by telephoning 6488 5555.

WA Branch committee: Caroline Grant (chair), Theresa Putland (minute secretary), Joy Hill (membership secretary), Gillian Lilleyman (treasurer), John Viska (chair of exhibition subcommittee), Ruth Morgan, Carmel O'Halloran and Lisa Williams

To catch up on what other branches are doing, and on National Office information, visit the Australian Garden History Society web site at www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au