

Inflorescence

September 2017



From the Chair

Dear Members, following our recent AGM I am delighted to be writing to you as your newly elected Chair. I am also pleased that the 2018 AGHS National Conference planning and preparation will be occurring during my tenure as Conference Chair.

It is a great feather in our cap to be hosting the annual Conference again, the last time was in 2008, and I know you will be joining me in showcasing our beautiful Southern Highlands to maximum effect.

I will be asking Members to assist on the conference days 26-29 October 2018, so do please let me know which areas of activity you could volunteer for - catering, garden guide, coach guide, stalls coordination, information guide, communication. All assistance will be much appreciated.

AGHS Members love our region and I expect that many will be expecting a similar experience to 2008, viewing many beautiful gardens. We are so fortunate to have many generous garden owners who are willing to share their piece of paradise. Thank you.

Do keep an eye on our events calendar, there are some exciting plans for you in store. Please feel free to write to me with your comments and ideas.

In the meantime, Spring is here and our gardens beckon with so many jobs to do.....so with apologies to Edna Walling....

Goodbye and good mulching,

Yours decidedly

Meg

megprobyn@bigpond.com

AGHS Southern Highlands Branch Committee

At the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 20 August 2017, Lyn Barrett, Pamela Bennett, John Biffin, Raymond Bradley, Jane Clifford, Elisabeth Heard and Meg Probyn were elected members of the committee.

At the Committee meeting on 24 August, the following positions were filled

Chair: Meg Probyn
Vice Chair: Pamela Bennett
Treasurer: John Biffin
Secretary: Jane Clifford
Editor: Pamela Bennett
Tour Management: Raymond Bradley
Events: Lyn Barrett, Pamela Bennett, Elisabeth Heard
National Management Committee Representative: Meg Probyn



Lyn Barrett, Jane Clifford, Meg Probyn, Pamela Bennett, Elisabeth Heard and Ray Bradley (absent John Biffin)

At the same Committee meeting, Merryleigh Brindley, Jennifer Carroll, Laurel Cheetham and Annabel Murray were co-opted formally to the Southern Highlands Branch Committee from the Conference Committee.

Welcome to New Faces



Lyn Barrett

Lyn Barrett moved from Turrumurra to the Southern Highlands when she and her husband retired.

Lyn studied Nursing at St Vincents, Event Management at Macquarie University. Lyn was recruited to co-ordinate and manage the Kolling Institute of Medical Research Tumour Bank at Royal North Shore Hospital Sydney University Campus. Working in a demanding, fast pace environment reassuring patients and promoting positive outcomes for both patient and International Researchers. Lyn still works for CCNSW 2 days a week as a volunteer.

Lyn's great passions are travel, having lived in Hong Kong, and gardening. In her spare time Lyn helps with the gardens of Harpers Mansion and Golden Vale (National Trust Properties), and is passionate about developing the Botanical Gardens in the Highlands.

Lyn is dedicated to the philosophy and aims of the AGHS and looks forward to promoting AGHS in the Southern Highland environment where so many outstanding gardens still exist today.



Elisabeth Heard

Not long after Robert and I moved from Canberra to live in Moss Vale, I read in the local paper an invitation from Charlotte Webb to join members of the AGHS in a walk through some of the gardens in Burradoo, beginning at Oxley College. I was so pleased to have this opportunity and enjoyed the afternoon so much that I joined the Society. Over the years I have taken advantage of as many AGHS garden visits, trips and seminars as possible; I have made friends and learned so much about Southern Highlands garden and nursery history. I'm very happy to know that in my front garden I have three rhododendrons which were given as a wedding present to the first owners of this home in 1953; the plants came from Jensen's Nursery, Exeter.

Apart from spending time in my own garden, I am a volunteer with the National Trust, help at the Southern Highlands Botanical Gardens when possible, participate in the Bundanoon Garden Club and join friends for monthly book club meetings.

AGHS Events: Save the Date

Sunday 8 October 2017 Lunch at **The Loch** at 12 noon and visit **Upper Woodlands** at High Range, detail page 6 and booking form page 8

27 to 30 October 2017 AGHS National Conference **Marvellous Melbourne** plus optional tours, limited places, go to <https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/events-conference/38th-annual-conference/>

Friday 1 December 2017 AGHS Southern Highlands **Christmas Party** at "Bangala"

Sunday 25 February 2018 AGHS Southern Highlands **Summer Jazz** Sunday 25 February 2018

11 to 21 March 2018 AGHS Southern Highlands Garden Tour **The Beauty of Tasmania**

Sunday 24 June 2018 AGHS Southern Highlands **Winter Seminar**

Sunday 26 August 2018 AGHS Southern Highlands **Annual General Meeting**

25 to 29 October 2018 AGHS **National Conference** in the Southern Highlands

AGM 2017

AGHS Southern Highlands AGM was held Sunday 20 August 2017 at 10.30am at Annesley, Bowral.

Chair, Jennifer Carroll, welcomed 60+ members and guests. Following formalities, she spoke of the important advocacy role AGHS has taken in local affairs, particularly with regard to the threatened removal of trees and heritage camellias in the planned upgrade of Station Street, Bowral. Submissions and objections have also been made concerning the proposed siting of additional villas adjoining Milton Park, a proposed tourist development at Sutton Forest, and the Hume Coal Project EIS. All critical proposals in the view of AGHS.



Immediate Past Chair Jennifer Carroll

Jennifer thanked her committee members, including Jo de Beaujeu, who was concluding her term of office.

Similarly, Jennifer was also concluding her double term of office. Vice Chair, Meg Probyn, thanked Jennifer for her dedication and leadership and presented her with a potted camellia.



Meg Probyn and Jennifer Carroll



Heartfelt thanks to Jo de Beaujeu

Guest Speakers at the AGM

Charlotte Webb gave an updated version of her 2008 Conference talk "Parsnips to Picturesque", which included changes in the past decade and emphasised the importance of heritage listings in the Southern Highlands.

As well as some great views with accompanying history, she presented serious statistics about the relevance and importance of gardens to local economy, environment and tourism.

72 of 436 heritage listings in WSC are gardens alone. More often the garden is included with the building, such as Oldbury, Throsby Park, Wingecarribee.

Historically, the Southern Highlands was a significant place for nurseries including sourcing seeds and plants for the broader market, as well as being a place for stately homes and gardens.

Charlotte highlighted the potential "to lose the lot" with no protection against sub-division by aging/new owners and that "there must be ways other than relying on heritage".

The economic value of gardens in the Southern Highlands includes .5 million visitors each year. who come for Tulip Time, Morton National Park, Springtime vistas, general open gardens and SHBG.

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In 2017 there have been 91 open gardens so far, including those in the open garden scheme, garden clubs and regular private gardens. These gardens are supported by 250 businesses servicing garden needs and 150 allied businesses. If each business averages four employees, generating 1600 jobs plus private gardeners, then there is clearly no case for coal companies to compete.

Greg Johnson, from ACT Branch, presented his second talk in his "By Quill & Spade" series. Entitled "Write To Garden", Greg gave a clever, well researched, overview of the historical events and writings from 1889 to 1938. From Gertrude Jekyll, the "Queen of Spades", to Edward Cole, Joseph Maiden, John "Red Gum" Lockley (the Golden Mile in Erith St Bundanoon is a citizens' planting in his memory) and numerous others.



Chris and Charlotte Webb with Meg Probyn



Meg Probyn with Greg Johnson

This was the era of catalogues, annuals and magazines. The Sweet Pea Annual, Home Beautiful, Australian Rose Annual, The Home, Gardening Simplified and writings by the redoubtable Edna Walling. The era of Griffin and Mahony, Sorensen, Weston, when wattle became the national emblem in 1921.

Greg is now researching two more volumes, covering 1939-1988 "Write On Gardening" and 1989 to present "Write Now Gardening".

Oral History of Golden Vale

AGHS Southern Highlands is delighted to announce a new project, to record the history of Golden Vale through the eyes of Karin Keighley.

Karin Keighley, a valued member of AGHS Southern Highlands, generously has agreed to participate and provide insight to the history of the garden at Golden Vale.

The National Trust now has responsibility for Golden Vale. Following liaison with NT Southern Highlands, the AGHS branch committee enthusiastically endorsed the proposal to support and fund this project.

From AGHS, Lyn Barrett and Laurel Cheetham are preparing a framework for Karin to record her memoirs about making and enjoying the garden at Golden Vale.



AGHS Member Karin Keighley at AGM

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John Biffin and Christopher Blaxland



Lynette Lamb



Pamela Ottaviano and Peppy Evans



Marion Bearup



Leonie and James Furber



Narelle Bowern

**Gallery of
Members and
Guests
at the AGM
20 August 2017**



Tom Carroll and Alison Scott

Next Event: Sunday 8 October 2017

Lunch at The Loch at 12 noon and visit to Upper Woodlands at High Range

Join us for lunch at 581 Greenhills Road, Berrima for **The Loch** experience - tasting plates and dessert \$40pp for members, \$45pp for guests, wine own account, followed by a visit to **Upper Woodlands** garden owned by Charles and Lynne Moore, 490 Woodlands Road, High Range.

Upper Woodlands is a two-minutes-drive from **The Loch**; parking will be near the front gate in a paddock, then walk 150 metres to the courtyard for a briefing by Charles Moore.

Upper Woodlands is a spectacular six-acre woodland park where 100-year-old eucalypts co-exist with a variety of exotic trees. Parterre gardens and formal, flowing spaces provide structure to the landscape. A central east-west axis through the house and the garden divides the north and south areas, one being more internally focused, the other borrowing from the wider outlook.

The ornamental dam, colonial veranda, summerhouse, gazebo, ha-ha, colonnade and valley walk offer interesting perspectives within and outside the garden and there are many opportunities to pause and contemplate the surroundings. The first plantings were made in 1989 and the house and courtyards were completed in 2006. The garden is best seen in spring and autumn when the colours and contrasts are at their most beautiful. It is more about structure and flow than about flowers and features: a place to roam and wander and enjoy. Bring your camera.

The Loch is at 581 Greenhills Road, Berrima, 5.8 km from the Greenhills Road turnoff on the Old Hume Highway at Berrima.

Upper Woodlands at 490 Woodlands Road is 1.9 km from **The Loch**.

From **The Loch**, turn left into Greenhills Road for 0.7 km, then at the crossroads turn right into Joadja Road for 1 km, then at the T-intersection turn right into Woodlands Road for 0.2 km of gravel road, **Upper Woodlands** at 490 is on the left.

Please complete the **Booking Form** on **page 8 asap** as this will go quickly.



Other Events for the Diary

12 to 24 September 2017 Tulip Time in Bowral <https://www.southern-highlands.com.au/tulip-time>

30 September and 1 October 2017 SHBG Bluebell and Sculpture Walk
<http://www.myopengarden.com.au/openGarden.jsp?id=1633>

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October 2017 Bundanoon Garden Ramble
<http://www.bundanoongardenramble.org.au/>

Sunday 29 October 2017 National Trust Harpers Mansion Garden and Plant Fair
<http://harpersmansion.com.au/announcements/garden-and-plant-fair>

23 to 27 March 2018 Australian Landscape Conference Melbourne
<https://www.landscapeconference.com/2018-conference/>

Station Street Bowral

This article is by one of our members, Alan Olsen, Public Officer of Highlands Matters Incorporated
<http://www.highlandsmatters.org.au/>



There was standing room only for the Highlands Matters briefing on the proposed Station Street Upgrade on Thursday 24 August. Wingecarribee Shire Council staff worked through the drawings on display at the pop-up kiosk at 31A Station Street, Bowral.

WSC will continue to exhibit the drawings for the proposed upgrade at the kiosk at 31A Station Street (directly opposite Rivers) until Wednesday 13 September. Opening times for the kiosk are at <http://www.yoursaywingecarribee.com.au/SSU>. Everyone interested in the Bowral streetscape should pop in to the kiosk.

Meanwhile, WSC is planning to hold an open public meeting about Station Street on Wednesday 20 September, at 7pm at the Henrietta Rose Room in Bendooley Street. At that open public meeting, it is hoped that there will be a focus on deeper issues such as

- the current status of the approval process, including an NSW Government grant
- the actual objectives of the Station Street Upgrade
- the data on which the proposal is based
- the future of the transport interchange at Bowral Station, including trains, buses, taxis, community transport and cars
- the relationship between the proposed upgrade and the availability of parking, and the proposed timetable.

Most significantly, the community will seek answers on the future of the pin oaks, the preserved Victorian landscape of the railway station and curtilage, (complete with the row of the specially selected camellias which have survived to this day) and the long avenue of mature elms which have adorned Station Street for almost eighty years, providing a beautiful and historic northern entrance to Bowral.

There is a groundswell of opinion that the only way to preserve this total landscape for the future generations is to reject and reverse the proposed Station Street Upgrade.

The public meeting is scheduled for 7 pm Wednesday 20 September at Henrietta Rose Room, and bookings are essential through <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/public-meeting-about-station-street-upgrade-registration-37510342444>.

About Inflorescence

Inflorescence is the newsletter of the Southern Highlands Branch of the Australian Garden History Society.

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Booking Form

The Loch and Upper Woodlands: Sunday 8 October 2017

Lunch at The Loch from 12 noon

Your Name: _____

Names of Guests: _____

Dietary requirements: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

<i>Event</i>	<i>Cost per person</i>	<i>Numbers Attending</i>	<i>Amount Incl \$</i>
Sunday 10 October 2017 Lunch at The Loch and Upper Woodlands Bookings Close: Tuesday 3 October	Members of AGHS \$40 Non-members \$45	_____ _____ <i>TOTAL</i>	_____ _____ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

By Cheque: payable to Australian Garden History Society, NSW Branch.

- Please return this form and cheque to: Bookings, AGHS, PO Box 2327, Bowral 2576

By EFT: Account name: AGHS BSB: 012 547 Account No: 237 514 077

- Include the following reference information: *the date of the event (8Oct) and your surname.*
- Email the above booking details to aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

By Direct Debit: If paying directly at an ANZ branch, *record your phone number as the reference.*

- Email the above booking details to aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: No tickets will be issued. You will be notified if the event is sold out. No refunds can be given for cancellations made after the bookings closed date.

ENQUIRIES: Lyn Barrett 0401 719 752
Pamela Bennett 0401 907 199
Elisabeth Heard 0417 247 213