

AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

NEWSLETTER -- 24 FEBRUARY 2017



Dear South Australian Members!

From the Chair – by Elizabeth Ganguly

Welcome to the new AGHS SA Branch year,.We have a full and varied programme planned. The committee has already met twice, at a new venue – The Reade Park Croquet Club rooms in Colonel Light Gardens. This is a fitting venue as Colonel Light Gardens is ‘Australia’s best example of a garden suburb’ and in 2000 the suburb was listed on the State Heritage register.

‘Colonel Light Gardens is steeped in history with tree-lined streets, rounded street corners, wide grassed verges and open space. Colonel Light Gardens was named in honour of Colonel William Light, South Australia’s first surveyor.’ Mitcham Council
Congratulations to the 20 + ‘pioneering’ members who braved the incredibly hot weather to attend the Adelaide Botanic Gardens 1st Creek walk. I was sorry that personal circumstances prevented me from attending – it is always such a pleasure to catch up with AGHS folk.

SA Branch Committee Report

Advocacy

- State Heritage – still no feedback from the Minister/DPTI regarding the planning review “*Heritage reform – an exploration of the opportunities*”
- Martindale Hall – supporting the National Trust
- Significant ‘Black Walnut’ in Glen Osmond that straddles a boundary – under threat from development, letter of support to part owner of tree
- Mt Lofty Ranges UNESCO World Heritage bid – next step application for National Heritage listing currently under way

Advice/Inquiries for assistance from - archivist Anglican Diocesan Office re AGHS past involvement at Bishop’s Court, Nth Adelaide; committee of Charles Sturt Memorial Museum re garden restoration

Treasurer

Andrew has been extremely busy revising the branch accounts and bringing all our banking online. This will make it a lot easier to pay accounts – no more chasing around getting two signatures on cheques or having to make a trip to the bank to deposit cheques. Society funds are still safe-guarded as 2 of the 3 authorised persons are required to log in to the account to approve a payment or transfer of funds. Congratulations Andrew! Richard Heathcote and I are still reeling with the technology, but we are ‘soldiering on’!

Event Booking - ***NEW*******

The SA branch will now be using online booking for any events that involve a financial outlay for the branch. This will mean that members and guests will be required to make a payment at

the time of booking a ticket for the event. Evening talks and simple garden visits will be as usual with payment being made at the event.

On line ticket purchase via **trybooking.com** will be required for the **April day trip to Nor' West**

Bend Station at Morgan and in **May for the Dr Anne Vale presentation – “Australia’s Influential Garden People”**. See attached flyers for these two events

Try Booking charges AGHS 50 cents/credit card transaction -- therefore the more tickets purchased/sale the greater the profit for AGHS. Arrange to buy tickets for a group.

AGHS - National Office News

The PlantHunter – is an online magazine launched in 2013 that is organised around monthly issues, each with a different content theme. The themes are focused on celebrating plants and the varied ways humans interact with them. The journalistic style is very ‘cutting edge’, but a quick browse through the current and back issues will have you enthralled.

The AGHS have paid for a month long focus on the society with feature articles on key AGHS personnel, projects and historic gardens. (<http://theplanthunter>)

Watch for the **new look AGHS website, including an updated SA branch link** – due to be launched soon.

2017 SA Branch AGHS Programme

The theme for this year is 'Gardening in the Driest State', therefore many of our visits and presentations will relate in some way to how gardeners/gardens, past, present and future have coped/will cope with SA's tough climate.

March	Known as Mad March for a very good reason. We have decided not to compete!
April	Sunday 30th Day bus trip to Nor' West Bend Station on the Murray at Morgan Booking details later in Newsletter.
May	Thursday 18th Australia's Influential Garden People by Dr Anne Vale Booking details later in Newsletter.
June	TBA
July	TBA
August	AGM Lunch & speaker
September	Sunday 10th Day bus trip to Coonalpyn – dry land gardening and local art projects
October	27th – 29th AGHS National Conference, Hamilton NZ with optional day and pre and post conference tours. *** Brochure & booking forms available in April edition AGHS Journal and on line ***
November	TBA
December	Sunday 3rd – AGHS Christmas function

**SA BRANCH AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY
NOR' WEST BEND STATION**

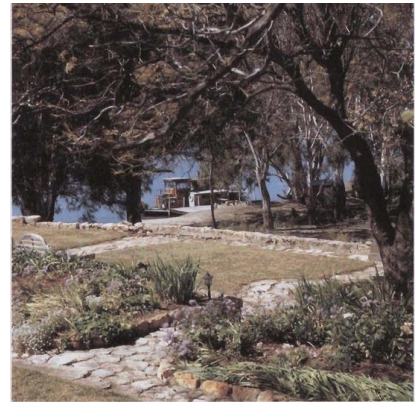
(a day trip exploring SA rural settlement)

Sunday 30th April 2017

9.00 am to 5.30 pm

As we travel through the rural towns of Kapunda, Eudunda, Morgan and return through Blanchetown and Truro a commentary on the history of settlement will be given. Lunch is at Mallyon's Organic Cafe in a circa 1841 barn, then onto Nor' West Bend Station a National Trust listed precinct, on the banks of the Murray River, with an extensive garden that includes hundreds of roses. Guided tours of the homestead and out buildings and afternoon tea in the old wool store.

A trip for garden lovers and history enthusiasts, this event is included in the National Trust Heritage Festival Program



The bus will leave from and return to Burnside Town Hall car park, crn Portrush Road and Greenhill Road, Tasmore. (The bus will depart at 9 am sharp so please allow adequate time to park.) (lunch and afternoon tea included) \$75.00

BOOKING – is essential at

<https://www.trybooking.com/ORRY>

PLEASE NOTE

Ticket sales are LIMITED to 55 and the event will be listed on the National Trust Heritage Festival website. Ticket sales open online on Monday 6th March; therefore it is important to purchase your tickets early to avoid missing out.

Contact Elizabeth Ganguly – Mob 0409 679 944

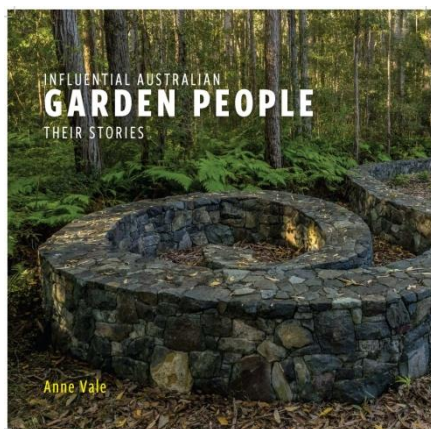
SA BRANCH AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY & THE MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN SOCIETY

Australia's Influential Garden People Dr Anne Vale – an Illustrated Talk

Thursday 18th May 2017

6.30 – 8.30pm

Lecture Theatre, Goodman Building,
Adelaide Botanic Garden, Hackney Road, Adelaide



Discover what has influenced Australia's 'Mind Shapers and Garden Creators' (from Edna Walling to Kate Cullity) and hear how they are influencing contemporary garden making. Marilyn Kuchel, Andrew Laidlaw and Tim Entwisle et al have their own interpretation of what a garden is. They may have shared many similar childhood experiences, such as the scent of rosemary around the sandpit, planting carrots as a five year old, or running free in the Australian bush, but their journeys are diverse. Collectively they offer us a wealth of ideas for garden making in the 21st Century.

\$8.00

BOOKING – is essential at
<https://www.trybooking.com/ORSA>

Open Gardens SA

OGSA continues to be an outstanding success. Congratulations to the hard working committee and selectors, and not to forget the dedicated and enthusiastic garden owners who to continue to share their gardens with visitors.

In a recent newsletter the OGSA reported that despite inclement weather during spring 14,000 visitors still went out in rain, hail or shine, and in doing so raised thousands of dollars for charities.

OGSA selectors are currently sourcing gardens for the 2017 – 18 season, if you are considering opening your garden; please consider the AGHS as the beneficiary for the gate fees or AGHS could assist with morning and afternoon tea as a fund raiser. If either of these options are a possibility please contact Elizabeth Ganguly – Mob 040967994 There are still many wonderful gardens to visit in this year's program, visit the OGSA website for details.

opengardensa.org.au

AGHS(SA) Visits the First Creek Wetlands

Twenty members and guests visited the Adelaide Botanic Gardens on the evening of 8 February for a conducted tour of the First Creek Wetland by Andy Hart, the Horticultural Curator. Being guided through the wetlands made the very hot evening somewhat more bearable.

The Wetlands were established in 2013. It is used to educate the community about wetlands and a large number of wetland plants have been introduced, of which a significant number are rare and endangered South Australian plants.

The Wetlands are an important part of a water security plan for the Gardens with the intention that they will contribute to the sustainability of the Gardens. To achieve this, some water is diverted from First Creek which flows through the gardens (especially stormwater after rainfall). This water is purified as it passes through sedimentation ponds in the Wetlands where silt and litter and other impurities are removed; also plants in a biological pond remove contaminants.

From there the purified water is pumped under pressure into an aquifer which is about 100 meters below the gardens; this introduced fresh water will over time force the saline water already there away from the area. The introduced water will then be pumped from the underlying aquifer to irrigate the Gardens, thereby assuring water security and the long-term sustainability of the Gardens by meeting a large part, if not all, of the Garden's irrigation needs.

We were pleased to meet Dr Lucy A. Sutherland, the recently appointed Director of the Botanic Gardens, who also spoke to the group.

Afterwards many of those present went to the nearby Hackney Hotel for dinner (great air-conditioning and no 'black-outs!').

More information on Wetlands is available on the Internet -- google "First Creek Wetland" for relevant sites.



SA Committee Members 2016-2017

Elizabeth Ganguly, Chair, NMC Representative

Richard Heathcote, Deputy Chair

Andrew Plumer, Treasurer

Julie Tolley, Secretary

Ray Choate Newsletter, Elizabeth Dobson, Jeffrey Jenkinson, Pam Mayer, Patricia Michell, Richard Nolan, and Pamela Tonkin.