

Contact: Sue Monger
susanmonger@yahoo.com.au
9384 1575

Newsletter – Winter 2017

WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH



FUNCTIONS 2017

Sunday 16th July 10.30 – 4.00 pm

A visit to Pinjarra. This excursion offers a rare opportunity to view two properties established in the mid-1850s. For some of us it will be a trip down memory lane because it's 17 years since our last visit to Pinjarra Park!

10.30 am meet at the Edenvale Tearooms in the historic precinct at the corner of Henry & George Streets.
11.00 am Vince Taylor, caretaker of Old Blythwood, will give an introductory talk on the history of the Pinjarra district before we travel in convoy to view Creaton from the boundary. The property was established in the mid-1850s and though now a ruin, elements of the garden and some significant trees are extant.

Travel to Old Blythwood where we'll enjoy a BYO picnic lunch. Tea and coffee will be available. After lunch we'll visit Pinjarra Park and the camellia walk of which John Viska, in a journal article Vol 19 No 1 July / August 2007, sought to discover the names of various camellias – remarkable detective work! The article was also published in the the National Trust WA Feb/April 2009 magazine.

RSVP Theresa Putland. This is a free event and guests are welcome. It may be possible to car pool either as a driver or passenger; let Theresa know.

Sunday 20th August Annual General Meeting in Armadale

11.45 am meet at Ye olde Narrogin Inne (on the east side of the Armadale Rd and Albany Highway intersection). John Viska will lead us across the road to view the perimeter of Wirra Willa, the garden established by Mary Hargreaves. When the property changed hands in the 1990's AGHS WA advocated for the significance of the property to be recognised on the State Heritage Register and by the the Armadale City Council. Alas, this wasn't heeded and John will point out the effects of uninformed maintenance.

Midday– 1.30 pm: Lunch at the Inne, select from the Lounge Menu at the member's expense,
AGM 2.00–2.30 pm after which Kim Fletcher, former WA Museum Education Officer, will conduct a heritage tree walk. We expect to finish by 4.30 pm.

RSVP Lynette Petersen lpetersen@ aapt.net.au by Friday 18th as Lynette will notify the Inne of numbers. Add this number to your phone as above*

PREVIOUS EVENTS

AGHS WA had a stall at the Guildford Heritage Festival on March 26th A large crowd attended and our presence attracted several interested people.

Sunday 9th April John Viska gave an illustrated presentation on the History of the Use of Native Plants at the Lodge in Kings Park. Following the talk we enjoyed a walk around some of the earliest trees planted in the precinct. Thanks to the Friends of Kings Park for making their headquarters available.

Sunday 7th May Carmel and Kalamunda. A visit to Denise's garden gave us the opportunity to explore a relatively new garden with a great show of perennials, garden rooms of clipped hedges all in glorious autumn sunshine. An apiarist across the road had some very happy bees! We then travelled to Kalamunda to inspect Stirk Cottage built by Frederick and Elizabeth Stirk, settlers from Yorkshire, in 1881. As the Stirk family grew to nine offspring the three room cottage became too small and the overflow house, Headingly Hall, in Lindsay Street was built. On the short walk across Stirk Park to Headingly Hall, so named for the family's Yorkshire

roots, we lingered to view another of Mary Hargreave's gardens. Like Wirra Willa, the garden is now a bit of a tangle with many magnificent trees several of which are in decline. Stirk Cottage is now a museum and Headingly Hall (a grand name for a modest dwelling)! is a community place with a number of flower and vegetable plots tended by schools and local organisations.



Visit to Kings Park Sunday 9 April

The Committee was disappointed by the low attendance at these events so we'd like to hear from members if you have a preference for a different type of function.

Please contact the Chairman John Viska 9328 1519 if you have any suggestions.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to Nancy Anastasios, Jane O'Halloran and to Mavis Greig who has come back to the fold. Members who attended the Albany Conference Optional Day were fortunate to enjoy lunch in Jane and Roberts's rural garden Cherry Tree near Kojonup.

AGHS National Management Committee has appointed Robyn Robins to the position of National Executive Officer following Phoebe LaGerche-Wijsman's resignation. A warm welcome to Robyn **The National Conference is to be held in Melbourne 27th – 29th October.** Carmel O'Halloran the WA Representative on the NMC may be contacted should delegates have any questions about the conference. carmeloh1@bigpond.com

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 2nd August 2.00 pm Citi Place Community Centre Perth Railway Concourse

John Viska will speak on The Lost Grottos of Queens Park Gardens. \$5.00 donation includes afternoon tea.

Sunday 24th September A Vintage Machinery Rally in Waroona at the showgrounds 9.00 am – 3.00 pm Antiques, crafts, food, vintage vehicles and a tractor pull. Something for everyone! A treasure trove awaits those who venture into Drakesbrook Antiques and Collectables where there is an extensive range of china and a display of Moorcroft pottery. 85 South West Hwy.

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