

Heritage Apples, Pears, Quinces, plums & citrus – who, what where?

C.6000 apple cultivars were listed in the UK (AGJ, 1996); c.1000 listed in Australia (ibid). Today (2005) there are around 10 cultivars of apples commercially grown in Australia.

The Society has for some time fielded a number of enquiries from people wanting to rescue threatened orchards or dying fruit trees, replant or reinstate depleted or lost orchards in historic gardens. As well as from people wanting to contact skilled budders and grafters to 're-work' over-grown old trees in –situ, and donate bud-wood to propagators who can keep 'out-of-fashion' old varieties alive etc.

The following list is a start, responding to these kinds of needs. We would welcome further information on growers, collections, sources of expertise etc around Australia.

Tasmania

1. [Woodbridge Fruit Trees](#) (Bob Magnus) PO Box **Woodbridge Hill**, Bruny Island, Tas 7162
Ph: (03) 6267 4430
Heritage apples (300 cultivars, only 100 cultivars grown each year, grafted on dwarf stock), quinces (11 cultivars – the national collection), hazelnuts, plums and pears. Runs workshops and demonstrations. It is best to mail /phone first, best between 8-10am. For a catalogue of his cultivars, send a stamped addressed envelope.
2. **Allen Gilbert & Laurie Cosgrove**, Coolangatta Road, **Bruny Island**, Tas
Ph: (03) 6293 1214
Wrote the 2002 *Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens* entry on orchards / pomology and a 3/2007 *Australian Garden History* journal article on historic apples, lost cultivars, and conservation issues arising.
3. [Huon Valley Apple and Heritage Museum](#) / Grove Research Station, **Huonville**, Channel Highway, south of Hobart.
Ph: (03) 6266 4345
Open 9-5/ 7 days Sept-May; 10-4 June-Aug, great display of some 400 – 600 cultivars of apple fruit including origins and dates, range of 'apple' packing case labels, machinery and more (great fun!). The Grove Research Station lists around 600 cultivars of apples, pears, quinces and dessert apples (and at least 20 cider apple cultivars) in their collection. The Tasmanian Government closed the Research Station in 2/2010 and leased the station to Oak Tasmania's Tahune Fields Nursery which continues to look after the collection. www.abc.net.au/rural/content/2010/s2823593.htm
Grove Heritage Nursery (DPIWE-owned, leased in 2010 to OAK Tasmania, a disability support enterprise. Manager: Mark Robertson is promoting cider apples, grafting over 400 cider apple trees (30 cider apple cultivars) in 2012 (Simpson, 3/4/12).
4. **Dan & Jude's Heritage Orchard**, 10 Beadles Rd, **Flowerpot**, Tas. 7163. Huon Highway south of Hobart (A6) to Kingston, 5km south of Woodbridge on the Channel Highway (B68)
Ph: (03) 6292 1611
Half an acre established 1896, layout unchanged, many original cultivars still there and bearing.
5. [Free Settlers Historical Plant Nursery](#) (TAS), Cradoc, varieties of apple grown by Grant Horne, 0429 023 696, www.weednwenches.net/free-settlers-historical-plant-nursery.html

Victoria

1. **Libby & Gary Jewson, Bannockburn**, near Geelong, Vic
Ph: (03) 5281 1406
Quinces (15) in a 1998 orchard (scion wood used from NSW Dept. of Agriculture, Orange; rootstock ex *Ausbud*, Frankston North, Victoria and ex Murphy (see 3 below).
2. [Ripponlea orchard](#), (National Trust property) 192 Hotham Street, **Elsternwick**, Vic.
Ph: (03) 9523 6095

Formerly managed by Richard Heathcote (see SA below), 120 cultivars of apple, c40 cultivars pears, orchard open each Sunday in March.

3. [Petty's Antique Apple Orchard](#), 1 Homestead Road, **Templestowe**, Vic.
Ph: (03) 9846 4499 M: 0432 747 791
Part of *Yarra Valley Park*, run by Parks Victoria. Open selected weekends June-July (pruning); Sept-Oct (blossom); and Feb - March (harvest, grafted cultivars for sale). The organic store is open Friday and Saturday 9.00am - 5.30pm and also by appointment.
1861+, 217 apples, including cultivars from 1600s (2ha antique cultivar orchard, 25 ha commercial orchard, museum in packing shed).
4. **Burnley Horticultural College** Melbourne School of Land and Environment, Burnley Campus, The University of Melbourne, 500 Yarra Boulevard, **Burnley**, Vic 3121
Ph: (03) 9250 6800 or 1800 815 803
Established in the mid 1800s by the Royal Horticultural Society – by 1863 this had 1400 cultivars of fruit including 319 apple cultivars, 354 pear cultivars, 147 plum cultivars, 111 cherry cultivars – this was depleted over time to make way for a commercial orchard. Campus later run by Vic. Dept. of Agriculture, who set up a Plant Research Institute here in 1929; it is now part of the University of Melbourne. Currently it has a remnant collection (once this was much larger).
<http://www.horticulture.unimelb.edu.au/contact.html>;
5. [Heritage Fruit Trees](#), Rob Pelletier, Glenview Park Farm, 297 Back Raglan Road, near **Beaufort**, PO Box 35, Beaufort, Victoria 3373
Ph: (03) 5349 2888 E: enquiry@heritagefruittrees.com.au
Nursery of heirloom fruit trees especially pome fruits (apples), also blueberries, raspberries – collection of over 400 cultivars of heritage and some modern cultivars.
6. [Strzelecki Heritage Apples](#) 1699, Korumburra-Warragul Road, **Strzelecki**, Vic 3950,
Ph: (03) 5659 5242, E: strzapples@wideband.net.au
300 apple cultivars, more than 40 regularly propagated, also pears, plums, others by request. Mail orders of 1 yr. old trees to all states except Tas/WA. Open Sat 9-5/Sun10-5, July - Aug for bare rooted sales.
7. [Werribee Park Heritage Orchard](#), K Road, **Werribee**, 3030 Werribee.
Richard Hawkey Ph: (03) 9741 5118, e: wph.orchard@gmail.com
Parks Victoria have revived / restored the former Chirnside Family property orchard which is now maintained by local volunteers.
8. **Belmont, Beaufort**, Central Goldfields.
An 1858+ farm property with an orchard that was commercially viable between the 1880s and 1930s. Remaining fruit trees and vines are over 100-120 years old, many rare or unique cultivars in Victoria. A 1986-8 AGHS-funded programme of grafting these old trees, with the assistance of Burnley Horticulture College, Nursery Supervisor Mark Bartetzko – Burnley have also been selling propagules to offset costs.

New South Wales:

1. [Borrodell on the Mount](#), Lake Canobolas Road, **Orange**, 2800.
Borry Gartrell Ph: (02) 6365 3425, M: 0418 865 217 E: wine@borrodell.com.au
Has a modern orchard with 170 cultivars of heritage apples collected from the district, 2007: moved Roy Menzies' & Dept. of Agriculture's (Bathurst Research Station) collection of plum cultivars to Borrodell.
2. [Orange Botanic Gardens](#), 1 Yellow Box Way / Kearney Drive, **Orange** (PO Box 356 Orange 2800).
Administered by [Orange City Council](#) (& volunteers)
Ph: (02) 6393 8680 / 6393 8691 Ph: 1800 069 466
E: (Friends of OBG) c/o murray.fletcher@agric.nsw.gov.au

Gardens have a collection of old apple cultivars via Dr Jill Campbell of the Dept. of Agriculture's district research station, planted 1986.

3. [Camden Park Estate](#) / Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute, **Camden South/Menangle**, NSW. Camden Park Manager, John Hodge Ph: (02) 4655 8117; NSW Agriculture contact Sean Griffin, manager, special projects, Ph: (02) 4640 6333, F: (02) 4640 6300, Woodbridge Road, Menangle 2568, PMB 8 Camden 2570, Camden Park/Belgenny Farm contact is manager/special events: Maryke Archbold-Hession, Ph: (02) 4655 9651, E: maruke.hession@agric.nsw.gov.au or Colin Mills, volunteer propagator/ reinstator of Camden Park pleasure garden/parkland, e: camdenparknursery@gmail.com Have some remnant apple trees /offspring from the Macarthur orchard.
4. [Hill End Historic Site](#)
Ph: (02) 6337 8206 Rosanne Paskin is ex Rose Deco P/L. M: 0438 455 979
E:rosanne.paskin@gmail.com
Cabonne Shire Council has three (mostly pome fruit) orchards, management plan by Rosanne Paskin & High Ground Consulting for the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (now Office of Environment & Heritage).
5. **Sully Consultants P/L** ([The Old Cheese Factory](#)), 92 Sawyer's Road, Reidsdale, near Braidwood, Ph: (02) 4846 1999
Offers a pressing service for locally grown apples to make cider or juice, run workshops on cider apples, historic apple cultivars. Operator Gary Watkins-Sully is working with David Pickering from NSW Department of Primary Industries to identify cider cultivars which no longer exist in Europe.
6. **Cooerwull**,
993 Great Western Highway, South Bowenfels, Lithgow, NSW 2790
Central Tablelands, Central West NSW
Ph: (02) 6352 5893 / Ph: (02) 9436 3183 M: 0418 252 807
Megan Jones' family estate, has an orchard with heritage apples in it (pers. comm., MJ)
7. [Small Acres Cyder](#) 12 Akhurst Road, Borenore, NSW, 2800
Ph: (02) 6365 2286 M: 0434 086 081
The only orchard in the Orange district growing heritage cider apples and making cider. It has 500 trees, 20 cultivars, which were planted in 2005

South Australia

1. [Carrick Hill](#) Historic House & Estate, **Stirling**, outside Adelaide
Manager Richard Heathcote, Ph: (08) 8379 3886, F: (08) 8379 7588,
E: heathcote.richard@saugov.sa.gov.au
Carrick Hill has a reinstated historic orchard with apples and pears primarily – is also setting up a museum of garden history to house the "Old Mole" collection of gardening tools, some dating to Greek/Roman times.

ACT

1. [Loriendale Orchard](#) 16 Carrington Road, **Walleroo**, NSW/ACT border 2618
Ph: (02) 6230 2557
This boutique organic orchard set up in 1982 has an international selection of over 110 varieties of heritage and modern apples from 20 countries and with 24 varieties from Australia. The orchard also grows cherries, nectarines, peaches, nashi pears, hazelnuts and a selection of berries.
2. [Lanyon](#) Lanyon Drive, Tharwa, ACT.
Has a remnant orchard. Run by the ACT Heritage Unit as a house museum, Open Tuesday-Sunday 10am - 4pm. [Brochure](#)

Note:

Quarantine regulations restrict the importation of plant material (plants and parts of plants, including fruit and seeds) into Tasmania and Western Australia. Only permitted species of plants or parts of plants can be imported, and these must satisfy applicable treatment and certification requirements. For more information please click on the links below:

[Quarantine WA](#)

[Quarantine Tasmania](#)

Sources

- Brown, Jennie, 'Food Front – the flavour and fragrance of the apples of yesteryear evoke memories for visitors to this "museum"' (about *Petty's Antique Apple Orchard*, Templestowe, Vic.), in *Australian Gourmet Traveller*, 8/1991, 107-8;
- Buckley, Justin, 'Forgotten Fruits make a comeback', in National Trust of Australia, *Trust News Australia*, August 2011, 11;
- Crone, Nina (ed./author), 'A Pioneer horticulturist' in *Australian Garden History* 13(5), March/April 2002, 23 (re Charles Draper, apple orchardist of Charnwood, Arthur's Creek, Vic. (1863+; 1876 he exported 97 cv.s of fruit to the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, USA, and won silver medal at the Colonial & Indian Exhibition (London), 1886), he exhibited 200 cv.s of apple at Melbourne's 1888 Great Exhibition, winning first prize for 50 cv.s. First to export apples on a commercial basis to London was Mr James Lang & Mr H.Ely/Eley of Harcourt, Vic.;
- Davey, Gwenda Beed, 'Documenting the Everyday', in *National Library of Australia News*, January 2007, 18-21 & cover, (article about Tasmanian apple industry, and apple box labels);
- Draper, Bruce, 'Everything's apples – fruit collections past and present', in *Australian Garden History* 18(4), Feb./Mar./April 2007, 16-17;
- Erllich, Rita, 'Food Australia – Rita Erllich tells us why 'she's apples'', in *This Australia*, Spring 1986, 31;
- Gelding's Victoria Nursery, Canterbury Road, Petersham (now Dulwich Hill) catalogue of 1889 listed 133 apple cv.s; also 1897 catalogue: copies in Mitchell / State Library of NSW;
- Gilbert, Allen, *All about Apples*, Hyland House, 2001;
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- Harper, Fred, 'Open for Crunch' (article about Loriendale, Wallaroo), in *Regional Food Australia*, issue 2, Spring-Summer 2005, 32-34;
- Jones, Megan, personal communication (email, 10/2011);
- Kienapple, Brian, 'The Heritage Apples of Nova Scotia', and Bowman, Barbara, 'A Hull full of Apples', and Pollen, Michael, 'Apples in American History', all in *Slow – the magazine of the Slow Food Movement*, April-July 2005, article on America's apple heritage (pp.92-97, 98-102, 103-105 respectively);
- Mabberley, David, Dr., 'An Australian Apple for Linnaeus', in *The Gardens*, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney & Domain Trust (magazine), Summer 2001-2, 11 (noting Oxford University, Dept. of Plant Sciences Dr Barrie Juniper's project examining DNA of wild apple species, comparing these with cultivated apples' DNA);
- McDonald, John H. & Russell, Ashley, 1999, 'The Garden at Belmont, Beaufort, Victoria – a history and guide', in *Australian Garden History*, vol.10(4), January/February 1999, 9-20;
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- Thomas, G., 'Quintessential Quince', in *Australian Horticulture*, 3/2006;
- Watson, Julia, 'Olden Delicious', in The National Trust for Scotland, *Scotland in Trust*, Autumn/Winter 2007, 51-55, article about reinstating and replanting old orchards on Trust properties;

Winmill, Clive, *About Apples – old and new*,

http://books.google.com.au/books/about/Apples_Old_New.html?id=WLIvXwAACAAJ&redir_esc=y

Websites:

(USA) www.cornell.edu Cornell Orchards, Ithaca, New York, US Dept. of Agriculture at Cornell University – programmes and projects including commercial fruit production, trips to Kazakstan to collect germplasm of *Malus*, notably *M.sieversii* (1993, 5, 6);

(USA) www.crfg.org – California Rare Fruit Growers’ network – fruit facts; old cv.s’

(USA) www.citrusvariety.ucr.edu – University of California, Riverside – citrus cv. Collection – extensive info on citrus fruits.

(Australian) with descriptions, origins, cultivars available for sale etc –

www.heritagefruittrees.com.au

(Australian) http://rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/72786/Tel9Mab421.pdf

(Dutch) with descriptions, historic pictures of apples, bibliography etc –

http://library.wur.nl/speccol/fruithof/dmb1/BgCdEng/Tekst_PI/Tekst092.htm

www.abc.net.au/rural/content/2010/s2823593.htm closure of Tas.Grove Research Station

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/telegraph/content/2012/s3455143.htm>

Further Australian specific information can be found at

[Heritage Fruits Society](http://www.heritagefruitsociety.org.au)

Including this 1863 catalogue:

http://www.heritagefruitsociety.org.au/links/old_catalogs/Horticultural%20Society.pdf