

38TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE FRIDAY 27 TO SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER 2017 MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

# **Previous AGHS Conferences**

1980	Vic Melbourne - Society formed at first conference held in Melbourne.
1000	Dame Elizabeth Murdoch elected Chair and Peter Watts Secretary.
	Constitution drawn up and founding papers published.
1981	NSW Mount Victoria, Blue Mountains
1982	TAS Hobart
1983	SA Adelaide
1984	VIC Gardens of the Gold Mining Era
1985	ACT Canberra
1986	Tas Launceston: Tasmania the Garden - a Changing Landscape
1987	Southern Highlands: Planning for Change
1988	Vic Melbourne: Open to View - Historic Gardens and the Public
1989	(Cancelled due to pilots strike)
1990	Vic Albury: Australian Plants in the Designed Landscape
1991	NSW Southern Highlands
	Goulburn: Todays New Gardens- Tomorrow's Heritage
1992	SA Adelaide: Plants from the Past
1993	Tas Hobart: Cottage Gardens and Villages
1994	Vic Melbourne: A Changing Landscape. The Garden in the Landscape
1995	NSW Sydney Northern NSW: From Wilderness to Garden.
	Early Colonial Gardens - Their Future?
1996	QLD Toowoomba: Embracing Paradise - Temperate Conditions Meet the Tropics
1997	ACT Canberra: The City as Garden
1998	WA Fremantle: Gardening in a Mediterranean Climate
1999	SA Mount Gambier : Gardens Vineyards and Forests.
	the Changing Rural Landscape
2000	NSW Southern Highlands Bowral: Riches in Diversity from Grasslands to
	Forests, from Stonewalls to Potagers
2001	Vic Melbourne 2001: A Federation Odyssey Australian Gardens and
	Landscapes 1840-1914
2002	Hobart: Gardens of Imagination
2003	QLD Brisbane: Tropical Pleasures
2004	NSW Sydney: Browned Off - Old Gardens in a New World.
2005	WA Perth: From Sea to Scarp
2006	SA Adelaide: Adelaide's Botanical Riches: Keeping History in Garden Design
2007	NSW Albury: Meandering About the Murray Interpreting the Landscape
	of the Murray Region.
2008	NSW Southern Highlands Bowral: From Wilderness to Pleasure Ground.
	Discovering the Garden History of the Southern Highlands
2009	Vic Geelong Cultivating Australia Felix: The Pastoral Legacy
2010	Tas Launceston: The Vision Splendid
2011	Qld Maryborough: From Colonial River Port to the Hinterland - It's All About Mary.
2012	Vic Ballarat Gardens of a Golden Era
2013	NSW Armidale Gardens with Altitude. The High Lean Country of New England
2014	WA Albany The Great Southern Region
2015	SA Adelaide Garden to Table: Productive Garden History
2016	ACT Canberra The Scientist in the Garden

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Saturday 28 October 7:00pm for 7:30pm	
The Terrace Café - Royal Botanic Gardens, South Yarra, 3141	- Gardens Entrance A -
Corner Anderson St and Alexandra Pde.	
AGHS shuttle coaches will be travelling between the <b>Melbourne</b>	Day Tours Centre on
the Russell Street Extension and the Royal Botanic Gardens from	om 6pm to 7:30pm
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A return shuttle service will be available at the end of the evening	J.
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# From the Patron



### Sue Ebury - Countess of Wilton

Change, as our Melbourne committee recognised when planning the events of the next four days, is like the nettle (or Urtica dioica, as former Chair John Dwyer would say): it has to be grasped. Lisa Tuck and all who devised the 2017 conference in near-record time have responded magnificently to the challenge of presenting speakers to define and describe Marvellous Melbourne: then and now. From streets built for urban horsemen to the 'Autopia' of highways, toll roads and tunnels, we have moved through periods of planning, protest and no planning at all to the present state of our city and its satellite suburbs.

Planners, architects, philosophers and visionaries have come and gone. During research for the Kenneth Myer biography I was fascinated by the symbiosis between retailing, city planning, traffic engineering, population geography and new suburbs, and their connections with the design of cultural and recreational precincts. Planning, infrastructure, conservation, architecture, design and planting – the theoretical underpinnings of our environment - have intersected to create this city founded by John Batman on the banks of the River Yarra over 180 years ago. And two days spent 'walking the ground' –essential fieldwork – will enhance our speakers' subjects. The society has travelled far since the first conference at Illawarra, and the 2017 programmeme reflects our broadening mission.

Sue Ebury

# From the AGHS Chair



## Richard Heathcote National Chair

Gardens and parks humanise the environment we live and in cities this is essential to the quality of life for all inhabitants. The theme of this years conference brings to our attention the legacy that Melbourne's creators and makers bequeathed us and the responsibility we have in caring and valuing its richness for the health it gives to our lives. To relax our gaze for a moment from the threats and shallow values that would sweep away the mighty achievements of Melbourne's garden heritage would be a grave mistake. The Society's watchfulness and interest is part of our dynamic and advocacy is central to our purpose. We also gather to expand our knowledge and in the process increase our enjoyment and understanding in the company of like minds - welcome to our thirty eighth conference.

I congratulate the Victorian Branch and its Conference Committee for shaping such a relevant and rich programmeme for us all to enjoy. I particularly thank all those members who have worked so hard to deliver what I believe will be a marvel-lous conference in this great city.

Richard Heathcote

# Marvellous Melbourne



#### THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE

### Day 1 - Friday 27 October

## **Presentation Programme**

8.00 am Registration

8.50 am Introduction by Lisa Tuck

8.55 – 9.00 am Welcome. Sue Ebury, Countess of Wilton

### **Session 1: Boomtime City**

Session Chair: Sue Ebury, Countess of Wilton

9.00 am - 9.40 am

Keynote: Marvellous Melbourne from Boomtime to Now. A City in Constant Change

Speaker: Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison, Monash University

9.45 am - 10.00 am

MMBW Plans – An Underrated Resource? Speaker: Malcolm Faul, AGHS Victorian Branch

10.00 am - 10.40 am Morning Tea

# **Session 2: Adapting to Constant Change**

Session Chair: Dr Jess Hood - AGHS Vice Chair

10.45 - 11.15 am

Planning a City in Constant Change

Speaker: Ian Shears, Head of Urban Planning at Melbourne City Council

11.15 - 11.45 am

An Enduring Campus Landscape: the South Lawn at the University of Melbourne

Speaker: Andrew Saniga, University of Melbourne

11.45 - 12.15 pm

Conservation Challenges in Constant Change Speaker: Mary Chapman, City of Melbourne

12.20 - 12.25 pm

Housekeeping announcement:

Buses, dinner, taxis

12.25 - 12.40 pm

AGM

12.40 - 1.40 pm

Lunch

# Marvellous Melbourne



#### THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE

# **Presentation Programme**

### **Session 3: A Changed Future**

Session Chair: Stuart Read - AGHS NMC

1.40 - 2.30 pm

Keynote: From Dump to Botanic Garden

Speaker: Dr Peter Sergel, Director Hamilton Botanic Gardens, NZ

2.30 - 3.00 pm

Greening Melbourne One Roof and Wall at a Time

Speaker: John Rayner, Head of Urban Horticulture, University of Melbourne

3.00 pm - 3.30pm Afternoon Tea

#### **Session 4: Garden Histories**

Session Chair: Malcolm Faul - AGHS Victorian Branch

3.30 pm - 3.50 pm

Cremorne Public Garden, Richmond. Speaker: Peter Freund

3.50 pm - 4.10 pm

Ephemeral Gardens and Biodiversity. Speaker: Mike Hammer

4.10 - 4.30 pm

'Longacres' Olinda

Speaker: The Hon Justice Dodds-Streeton

# **Session 5: Conference Summary**

Session Chair: Dr Jess Hood - Vice Chair, AGHS

4.40 pm – 4.50 pm

Southern Highlands AGHS Conference 2018

Speaker: Dr Meg Probyn

4.50 pm – 5.00 pm

Conference Summary

Speaker: Dr Jess Hood, AGHS Vice Chair

5.00 pm

Housekeeping

# Speaker profiles and synopses of lectures

# Day 1 Friday 27 October

# Marvellous Melbourne from Boomtime to Now. A City in Constant Change

#### **Graeme Davison**

Graeme Davison AO is Emeritus Sir John Monash Distinguished Professor of History at Monash University. He is the author of *The Rise and Fall of Marvellous Melbourne* (1978 and 2004), *Car Wars: How the Car Won Our Hearts and Conquered our Cities* (2004), *The Use and Abuse of Australian History* (2000) and *City Dreamers: The Urban Imagination in Australia* (2016) and co-editor of *The Oxford Companion to Australian History*. He is a former President of the Australian Historical Association, Chair of the Heritage Council and a Fellow of the Academies of Humainities and Social Sciences.

Melbourne was first called 'marvellous' by the visiting English journalist George Sala in 1885, just as the city entered the landboom, its second period of phenomenal growth after the 1850s goldrush. Naturally the locals savoured the compliment. 'Marvellous Melbourne' was a title that captured the city's astonishing physical and demographic growth, its dominance over other Australian capitals, its vast suburbs and its metropolitan ethos. This lecture dissects the myth of Marvellous Melbourne. What was the secret of the city's growth and dominance? And was it really as 'marvellous' as Sala thought? The myth was short-lived for with the 1890s crash the city suffered a mighty fall. For a long while it was more famed for its sobriety than its glitter. Yet in recent times, the title 'Marvellous Melbourne' has returned to favour. Is 'the world's most liveable city' also its most 'marvellous'?

### **MMBW Plans - An Underrated Resource?**

#### Malcolm Faul

Malcolm is a long standing member of AGHS, having been involved in the Society for 30 years, including service as a past National Treasurer. He has a special interest in gardens and gardening, and, inspired by his wife, Fran, a wider interest in plants, landscape design and history. Malcolm is currently Head of the Mediterranean Garden Society, Victorian Branch.

The aim is to increase the interest in and the use of an undervalued resource for exploring garden history. Our conferences tend towards the large gardens embellishing impressive villas. The talk centres on the modest gardens of the middle class.

From the 1890s when Melbourne was being sewered and the advent of the flushing toilet required sewer lines to each house, the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (established 1891) was formed to carry out the works. It prepared detailed maps of each suburb of the city in the process. So detailed were the maps that many

showed the garden designs of middle class and worker cottages. Not only the gardens, but the stables, paths, outhouses, fowl yards and the like are recorded. This is a tremendous historical record, being a productive resource and source of interest for garden historians, designers, owners and amateur historians. The State Library of Victoria and local libraries hold copies of these maps.

Due to the transient nature of gardens, very few of these designs or gardens survive. This talk looks at those that have survived, the modifications that have taken place in the intervening 120 years and the efforts of those present day owners who have utilised the old designs as a base for creating a modern garden in sympathy with their historic surroundings.

# Planning a City in Constant Change

#### Ian Shears

lan Shears is the Manager Urban Sustainability at the City of Melbourne. In this role, lan leads work which combines the urban landscapes climate adaptation programme with Council's sustainability strategies and programmes. He has specialized in green infrastructure management for over 20 years.

Melbourne's environment is facing three primary challenges: population growth and intensification, urban heating and climate change. The cumulative impact of these is creating less healthy urban environments; the flow-on effects include the social cost of heat-related illness and morbidity, damage to vital infrastructure, and diminishing quality of city life and liveability.

How do we respond to these challenges whilst increasing the resilience of our public realm and creating a legacy for future generations? A holistic adaptation approach that acknowledges the critical nature and multi-functionality of green infrastructure interventions is clearly required. It's time for green infrastructure to transcend its niche function in public policy as an aesthetic amenity. This presentation will outline how City of Melbourne is embracing a multidisciplinary approach to responding to these challenges.

It will detail a response that seeks to transform Melbourne's urban landscape with ambitious city targets for urban forest development, integrated water management, green infrastructure development, open space and permeability expansion and urban landscape cooling strategies.

Being guided by nature and emulating natural systems in the creation of a healthy city ecology provides a foundation for regional and urban scale green networks and the multiple benefits they provide.

# An Enduring Campus Landscape: the South Lawn at the University of Melbourne

#### **Professor Andrew Saniga**

Andrew's research and teaching focusses on landscape design, landscape history, and the conservation and management of heritage landscapes. His book, *Making Landscape Architecture in Australia* (UNSW Press, 2012), profiles the people who have shaped the nation's landscape and forged a profession. It tells the story of battles fought over the right to determine the distinctive shapes and forms of the landscapes that make Australian cities. He is currently working on an Australian Research Council funded project titled 'Campus: Building Modern Australian Universities' and is a member of DOCOMOMO (International Committee for the Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement).

University campuses are considered to be a city in microcosm. Their complexity amongst other things can be defined in terms of function, social interaction, and importantly, environment. Likewise, their designed landscapes are important not only for recreational amenity but also for the potential to inscribe institutional identity, often by way of particular emphases in plant materials.

Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne was built in a park-like setting and was initially valued as a pleasure garden for both the university community and the general public. Over time its picturesque qualities waned largely as a result of opportunistic and haphazard development. By the 1960s, roads and buildings had obliterated most of the original landscape and car parking had become a major problem. In a new masterplan of 1970 by Sydney-based firm Ancher, Mortlock, Murray, and Woolley Pty Ltd, the development of a large central space and a series of connected spaces, or outdoor rooms, were seen as a radical step towards reclaiming visual harmony. The key project that eventuated, known as the South Lawn, gave the campus an impressive new look that has stood the test of time: it included feats of engineering, bold administrative manoeuvring, and a unique combination of design aesthetics that made it one of the most vital and iconic spaces to define the university's presence in Parkville at the dawn of the 1970s. This presentation will briefly explain hallmarks of its creation, including recent attempts to ensure its successful conservation and management into the future.

# Carlton Gardens, Conservation Challenges in Constant Change

### **Mary Chapman**

Mary is a Landscape Architect with a special interest in the design, management and maintenance of designed landscapes. Her teaching career in New Zealand, Malawi and Australia focused upon ensuring her students fully understood the interrelationship between planning, design, management and maintenance of our designed landscapes. This is essential if a landscape is to develop, mature and change over time while still realising the original design intent.

Since the late 1990's, she has a worked on parks projects in Melbourne, firstly as a consultant, later as a capital works manager with an open space contractor and now as a project manager with the City of Melbourne. In this role she is responsible for many of the capital and renewal projects that are undertaken within the parks and reserves of the City of Melbourne. She has implemented many of the projects proposed in the 2005 Carlton Gardens Master Plan.

The Carlton Gardens, established in the 1850's and redesigned for the 1880 Melbourne Exhibition and the 1888 Centennial International Exhibition form the setting for the Royal Exhibition Building. Together, they were included on the World Heritage list as Australia's first listed built environment. The 2005 Master Plan sets out the broad planning framework for the future direction and management of the Gardens and the forecourts of the Royal Exhibition Building. The Master Plan has guided development and management of the Gardens by the City of Melbourne within the North and South Gardens but not the three Exhibition Building forecourts. Most of the recommendations relating to heritage and conservation with projects to 'enhance the heritage values' of the Gardens have been completed.

This presentation will discuss the implementation of these projects and the ongoing management and maintenance issues associated with them both now and into the future. These range from the daily issues of managing tourists and possums to the long term rejuvenation of trees and garden beds, the challenges associated with global warming and the desire to increase biodiversity in our cities.

# How a Community Turned the City's Rubbish Dump into a World Class Garden

#### **Dr Peter Sergel**

Many talented people have been involved in the development of Hamilton Gardens over the past 40 years but Peter Sergel is generally recognised as the driving force behind the Garden's development and the extent of community involvement. He was initially involved as the landscape architect then becoming increasingly involved in promoting his vision for the Gardens. Since 1994 he's been the Director of Hamilton Gardens but in his spare time he's still researching, designing and fundraising for each new garden.

Until the early seventies the Hamilton Gardens site was the city's official rubbish dump. Previously it had been used as: a Maori pa site, early settler defensive redoubt and then a sand quarry. The Council approved a plan for the Park in 1980 but no funds were made available for its development. However different groups within the community took up the challenge: volunteering, raising funds and securing discounted materials. That work was initially supported by Government subsidised labour schemes and more recently by a Council targeted rate. Hamilton Gardens is now the region's biggest visitor attraction and receiving increasing international recognition. There are over 1.1 million visitors each year with constantly growing numbers that are creating new challenges around access and parking.

There are lessons to be learnt from how this was achieved. One of the earliest challenges was for people to understand and support a garden that had a completely different concept. The rich history of garden design is generally overlooked. But as an art form it has often reflected the lifestyles, social structures, religious beliefs, philosophies, the arts and sciences of different cultures. A collection of 35 different gardens are being developed within Hamilton Gardens that will tell that story of gardens and through them the evolution of civilization over the past 4,000 years.

There are still many more theme gardens to develop to achieve this very ambitious project. But with strong community support and involvement anything is possible on the top of an old dump site.

# Greening Melbourne, One Roof and Wall at a Time!

## John Rayner

John Rayner is the Director of Urban Horticulture in the Faculty of Science at the University of Melbourne. Based at the Burnley Campus John's research and teaching interests are focussed around the design and use of plants in the landscape, particularly green roofs and walls, children's gardens and therapeutic landscapes. He helps to lead the Burnley Green Roofs, Australia's only dedicated green roofs research and outreach facility. John is a passionate educator, has published widely and regularly acts as a consultant to the landscape industries. In his spare time John gardens on one hectare in the Dandenong Ranges, torturing and nurturing plants with abandon.

Green roofs and walls are becoming very common in cities across the globe. This is also the case in Australia, where commercial and residential buildings are increasingly covered in some form of plants or vegetation. This is particularly true in Melbourne, where significant investment over the last decade in the planning, research and implementation of green infrastructure has ensured that the city leads the nation in urban greening outcomes. This presentation will define green roofs and walls and explore a history of their use across Australia. It will also examine the reasons why green roofs and walls are becoming so popular, including summarising the evidence of benefits and current research, both in Melbourne and elsewhere, that is driving further science outcomes and industry development. Case studies of green roof and wall projects across Victoria will be discussed, particularly those that applied local research and technologies. The presentation will conclude with a summary of green infrastructure investments that are helping to reshape the city, in turn making Melbourne not just marvellous, but a lot greener, one roof and wall at a time!

#### **Cremorne Gardens**

#### **Peter Freund**

Historian, raconteur, actor, singer and current Marketing and Public Programmes Officer at the Art Gallery of Ballarat, Peter Freund has a long association of bringing history to life both through his research.

Using research on a painting of the Cremorne Gardens which came into the collection of the Art Gallery of Ballarat, Peter will present a paper on the entertainment gardens of early Melbourne and their effect on the recreational experience of the colonists.

# **Ephemeral Gardens and Biodiversity**

#### Mike Hammer

Michael is a research engineer working for Agilent Technologies and a fellow of Monash University, and his wife Inge is a retired nurse. Both have a very long-standing interest in gardening, plant propagation and biodiversity. Michael is a past president of the Australian Rhododendron Society and both are members of the Australian Rhododendron Society and Ferny Creek Horticultural Society where Inge runs the plant propagation training group.

Gardens require a suitable climate, good soil and space in order to flourish. The climate of the Dandenongs while cooler is less extreme than Melbourne with both fewer extremely hot and extremely cold days. Coupled with 60% more rainfall than Melbourne, well-structured volcanic soils and large allotments it all adds up to a unique environment for growing a wide range of cool, temperate and warm climate plants. A potential mecca for biodiversity.

If people are to appreciate and value the beauty of nature they need to be able to experience it first hand. Biodiversity enriches our lives just as gastronomic diversity does and almost the only vehicle for preserving and displaying biodiversity locally is via gardens. Yet nature is about change and any one garden is ephemeral, as the history of our garden shows. Security comes not from any one garden but rather from an enduring network of diverse gardens.

Yet this network of diverse and individualistic gardens is under pressure not just from development and population pressures but also from strident advocacy seeking to limit diversity to just indigenous plants and to control individual landowners freedoms. Political correctness and increasingly intrusive council restrictions are placing the future of our diverse gardens at risk.

# Longacres, Olinda

#### The Hon. Justice Dodds-Streeton

The Hon Justice Julie Dodds-Streeton has served as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria, the Victorian Court of Appeal and the Federal Court of Australia. She is currently a reserve Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria. Prior to her judicial appointment she worked as a barrister specialising in commercial law, lectured at the Law School, University of Melbourne, and taught Tudor history.

In 1996, with her late husband, Roger Streeton, Julie became the owner of Longacres, the 5 acre garden and retreat of artist Sir Arthur Streeton, Roger's grandfather. She will talk about the rich history and creation of the house and garden, their significant features and the challenges they present.

#### **Committee Members**

Melbourne Conference Organising Committee

Chair: Lisa Tuck

Secretary: Robyn Robins Treasurer: Kathy Wright

Lorraine Powell Malcolm Faul Jackie Courmadias

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Anthony Menhennitt

Sarah Wood Lindy Neylan Annie Woodside Wendy Dwyer

#### **Supporters**

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Branch Representatives ACT: Kay Johnston

South Australia: Elizabeth Ganguly

NSW: Meg Probyn Queensland: Wendy Lees Tasmania: Lynne Paul Victoria: Wendy Dwyer

Western Australia: Carmel O'Halloran

# PROTOCOLS FOR THE TAKING AND PUBLISHING OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER IMAGES OF PRIVATE GARDENS

These protocols have been introduced to protect the privacy of garden owners following a visit to their gardens organised by the AGHS. In these protocols the words 'photographs and/or other images' include any photographs, videos, drawings, paintings etc which may enable the garden to be identifed.

These protocols cover two areas:

- 1. Photographs and other images of private gardens taken for personal use.
- Prior to a visit to a private garden those responsible for organising the visit should:
- Ascertain from the garden owner, prior to the visit, whether the taking of photographs and other images for personal use is permitted. Note the response on file.
- Inform visitors, prior to the visit, of the wishes of the garden owner. If the taking of images is permitted, visitors should be informed of this, together with any conditions set down by the owner.
- Gather contact information of garden owner to facilitate fulfilling the requirements set out in Paragraph 2.
- 2. Photographs and other images of private gardens taken for use in any form of publication, whether commercial or otherwise. This protocol applies to all forms of publishing including branch newsletters, journals and the World Wide Web.

The photographer or image creator should:

- Seek preliminary advice from those responsible for arranging the visit to determine the suitability of the request set out below.
- · Obtain contact details of the garden owner.
- Once permission to take images has been granted and images have been selected for publication, make a
  request in writing to the garden owner for permission to publish, outlining the nature of the publication and the
  extent of its distribution.

Branch newsletters for example will be distributed to AGHS members but will also be published on the AGHS website and the garden owners should be made aware of this.

- Images in question should be included with the letter of request. The request must ask for permission in writing.
- If written permission is not forthcoming, images cannot be published.

Revised March 2011 (previously entitled - Protocols for the Taking and Publishing of Photographs and Other Images of Private Gardens Visited by the AGHS')

# NOTES


# **NOTES**


