

# ACT Monaro Riverina Branch

## Newsletter July 2023 No 4



Australian Garden History Society  
[www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au](http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au)

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### BRANCH DIARY

#### 2 AUGUST

*Nominations close for the  
Branch Committee*

#### 9 AUGUST

*AGM and Annual Lecture*

#### 14 SEPTEMBER

*Annual AGHS & Friends of  
the NLA Lecture*

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#### AGHS NATIONAL CONFERENCES

#### 43<sup>RD</sup> AGHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

IPSWICH, QLD

29 SEPTEMBER –

1 OCTOBER 2023

*2 optional days – 28 Sept  
and 2 October*

#### 44<sup>TH</sup> AGHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BUNBURY, WA

18 – 20 OCTOBER

2024

### BRANCH COMMITTEE

Bronwyn Blake, Chair  
Sue Cassidy, Treasurer  
Anne Claoue-Long, State  
NMC Representative  
Nancy Clarke, Secretary

Lynne Curran  
Louise Gaudry  
Susan Phillips

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST, 5.30 P.M. BRANCH AGM

#### AGENDA

1. Attendance
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 25 August 2022 - distributed
4. Chair's report - distributed
5. Treasurer's report – distributed
6. Election of Branch Committee for 2023/2024. The Chair will stand aside and the Returning Officer will conduct the election

Nominations close on 2 August 2023.

Further nominations from the floor will be accepted.

7. The Chair will resume the chair. Confirmation of Anne Claoue-Long as ACT State Representative on the AGHS National Management Committee.

Following the meeting the Branch Annual Lecture will take place with refreshments being served at the end of the evening.

### BRANCH COMMITTEE

Our current Committee is smaller than it has been in previous years. Without adequate representation on the Committee, the work of our branch will suffer. The need for members to stand up and be ready to serve is made more pressing with the retirement of one of our current Committee members, Lynne Curran. If you think that working with a group concerned with the preservation of historic gardens and cultural landscapes is something you could contribute to, come and join us!

The Committee meets monthly and works collaboratively to develop a program of activities for members as well as to advocate for the preservation of landscapes of significance. The Branch Committee also works closely with the Society's national office and other Branches. Committee members are elected for a three-year term, with the option of one renewal.

If you are interested in joining the Committee, or know someone who you think might be interested, please contact Bronwyn Blake, [blakesos@hotmail.com](mailto:blakesos@hotmail.com) or 0439 718 580

A nomination form is available from Nancy Clarke, [clarkenancy624@gmail.com](mailto:clarkenancy624@gmail.com) or 0423 690 626.

If you cannot come to the AGM and want to send an **apology**, please send this to Nancy [clarkenancy624@gmail.com](mailto:clarkenancy624@gmail.com) or 0423 690 626.

THE AGM WILL BE FOLLOWED AT 6 P.M.  
BY THE ANNUAL LECTURE

**AUSTRALIAN GARDEN HISTORY: GROWING  
THE AGHS JOURNAL  
SPEAKER: FRANCESCA BEDDIE**



Francesca took on the role of editor of *Australian Garden History* on 1 April 2020, just as the first border closures of the pandemic were implemented. In her second term, she looks forward to meeting members of the Society in person, rather than just via email and Zoom.

That's why she's travelling to Canberra to speak after the AGHS ACT Monaro Riverina Branch's AGM. Her talk will explain how a non-gardening ex-diplomat came to the job of editing the AGHS's journal.



Francesca will also take you inside the process of putting together each issue, from commissioning articles, finding the right cover – always a thrill – to editing, proofing and distributing the final product.

Over its long history *Australian Garden History* has evolved, and Francesca will give us a brief rundown of some of the changes over the years. Importantly, the Journal will continue to evolve as rapid environmental, economic and social changes have an impact on the Society. In a changing publishing environment, Francesca is keen to hear members' views about possible future directions for *AGH*. So do come prepared to engage in a lively and rich conversation.

Francesca Beddie was born in Canberra and studied history at the Australian National University. She started her career as diplomat and served in Jakarta, Moscow and Berlin. She then worked on tertiary education policy, as executive director of Adult Learning Australia, and subsequently general manager, research at the National Centre of Vocational Education Research. She is a member of the Professional Historians Association, where she edits the book review blog.

**Venue** The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall St Barton

**Bookings** There is no charge for the AGM and Annual lecture but it's really important to book for catering purposes: <https://www.trybooking.com/CJQKP>

## SAVE THE DATE

### THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER, 5.30 P.M. SPEAKER JULIAN RAXWORTHY – LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND GARDENER

#### The annual AGHS and Friends of the National Library joint lecture

Julian is Associate Professor & Discipline Lead: Landscape Architecture at the University of Canberra. Unusually he came to landscape architecture through practical gardening, and this experience has shaped his understanding of how the longstanding tension between design and practice in these two fields can be resolved.

In his talk he will speak on some aspects of his book *Overgrown*, in which he calls on landscape architects to create a new form of practice from gardening, and 'optimises the exciting properties of plants through changing the way landscape architects work'.

To be held at the NLA. More information will be provided in the August Newsletter.

## PAST EVENTS

### THE FILM DAY AT GUNDAROO

A report on this event will appear in the August newsletter along with the much sought after recipe for the truly delicious soup served at lunch.

## BRANCH NEWS

### WELCOME TO A NEW MEMBER

The committee would like to welcome the following new member who has joined since the last Newsletter.

- Marian Turner, Canberra



The City of Ipswich with a population of over 233,000 is in sub-tropical southeast Queensland about 40 kms inland from Brisbane. New suburbs are growing fast, bringing younger people to the area. Ipswich, once down-at-heel, and environs have become attractive because of more affordable land, excellent transport, high-quality health services and liveability.

In the 19th and 20th centuries Ipswich was a coal mining and industrial town. The wealth this brought can be seen in the city's fine public buildings, houses and gardens. In the mid-19th century Ipswich was proposed as Queensland's capital.

The first European settlement in the Ipswich area was in 1827 during Brisbane's time as a convict settlement. Limestone was discovered on the Bremer River and a small party of convicts was sent to make lime for mortar. The settlement was initially known as Limestone Hills, then Limestone before being named Ipswich after the English town in 1843.

The geological riches of coal are key to Ipswich's history and its fortunes. The early thriving industrial base led to the construction of Queensland's first railway line and the immense Railway Workshops.

Ipswich was built on the floodplain of the Bremer River. The river also contributed to Ipswich's mixed fortunes. It was entirely navigable to Brisbane but has regularly flooded, the first and worst recorded flood of the modern era being in 1893.

Local Indigenous populations lived with flooding. The non-Indigenous population from 1893 onwards would take a more interventionist approach, settling in the low-lying areas, sometimes leading to catastrophe.

The conference speakers will explore these themes:

- Evolution of the landscape and its geology
- Responding to the river
- The beauty and diversity of original landscape
- Gardening and cultural landscapes in the sub-tropics within an industrial city
  - remnants of early public gardens and the challenges of climate

For more conference details go to the AGHS website.

<https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au>

## OF INTEREST

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS

[www.anbg.gov.au](http://www.anbg.gov.au)

**Friends Thursday Talks** - for program details and for bookings go to <https://www.friendsanbg.org.au/calendar> This calendar also provides information on other talks, walks and activities in the Garden.

Thursday 27 July, 12.30 our AGHS member Dr Anna Howe will be speaking on ***Pepper Trees Grow in the Old School Yard.***

Anna will look at how pepper trees came to be planted in many school yards across Australia, and other sites such as country police stations, many rural gardens of note, Avenues of Honour, and the ANU. What is the future of these old trees and what of the next generation?

### NATIONAL TRUST (ACT)

For details on monthly Heritage walks go to:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/act/heritagewalks-act/>

### NATIONAL ARBORETUM CANBERRA

[www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au](http://www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au)

For details on walks, workshops and other events visit the Arboretum website.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF CANBERRA  
<http://www.hsoc.org.au>

LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN GUARDIANS (LBGG)  
<http://lakeburleygriffinguardians.org.au/>



For more information go to <https://icomosga2023.org/>