INFLORESCENCE



DECEMBER 2019

Events 2020—for your diary:

Sunday 23 February	Long Sunday Lunch at The Stables,	
11.15 am to 4.00 pm	Bendooley Estate: Meeting at Book Barn carpark for private tour.	
	See booking form on last page.	
Sunday 22 March 2.30 am to 4.30 pm	Anniversary Birthday Party and Tree Planting at SHBG. <u>Free event for</u> <u>AGHS Members.</u>	
18 & 19 April	SHBG (Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens): Open Gardens and Plant Fair Weekend	
April—Date to be advised	Opening of the Berrima District Museum Exhibition. Free event for AGHS Members.	
3 May	Helping Hands picnic <i>Tirranna</i> <i>Homestead</i> , Goulburn	
21 June	Winter seminar	
23 August	AGM Lunch and speakers	
September—Date to be advised	Opening of the Harpers Mansion Colonial Camellia Walk. Free event for AGHS Members	
October 25 – 27	AGHS National Conference: Sydney	
31 October to 2 November	Millthorpe Garden Ramble and Carcoar Tour	
Friday 4 December 4.30 to 7.00 pm	Christmas Party	

Long Sunday Lunch: The Stables, Bendooley Estate

The first event for 2020 will be a **Long Sunday Lunch** on 23 February 2020 at The Stables, Bendooley Estate 3020 Old Hume Hwy, Berrima NSW 2577. We will be meeting at the <u>Book Barn</u> at 11.15 am for a private tour of the old Bendooley homestead garden before moving to The Stables for lunch.

The Bendooley Estate has an interesting history. One of the early settlers in the area, William Cordeaux of Leppington, near Minto, was a grazier on land owned by his father-in-law, W. H. Moore, early in the 1820s. The three old English oaks and several species of Pinus which dominate the front garden were planted by the Cordeaux family, and the oaks are reputed to be among the oldest and largest in the district.

After the Cordeaux family left in 1919 the property was sold to the Murdoch family, who planted the avenue of trees lining the main driveway. Then several changes of ownership occurred before the property was acquired by its present owners in 1977, partly as a family home and partly as home for their Sydney-based book business. The Book Barn was built in 1982 on the site of an earlier building. The Stables may be a new venue for some of you so here is a diagram of its position in relation to the Book Barn.





It is set across the paddocks from the main buildings and has its own entrance along the Old Hume Highway leading to Berrima. The beautiful landscaping at The Stables has been designed by John Mulqueeny.

Our two exceptional speakers are David Stuart and John Swainston. David is a former Ambassador to Austria who has a fascinating story to tell about Ferdinand Bauer and his journey with Matthew Flinders. John is an enormously talented photograper who will explain the ins and outs of the cameras and is happy to share his knowledge.





David Stuart

John Swainston

David Stuart was Australia's Ambassador in Vienna from August 2012 until October 2016. Arriving as an enthusiast for Ferdinand Bauer's contribution to Australian botanical history, his engagement with the Natural History Museum (NHM) led to the first ever public exhibition in Vienna of its extensive archival holding of Bauer's illustrations of our flora and fauna. The exhibition, held in August 2014, set the path for further collaboration between the NHM and Australian counterparts, including the NSW State Library's 2017 exhibition, 'Painting by Numbers''.

David's presentation will describe, and throw some light on the historical reasons for, the extensive collections of Australian botanical material held in major museums and other institutions in Vienna.

Some 2,000 of Bauer's original pencil sketches and detailed drawings of Australian plants, animals and marine life are archived in the Natural History Museum (NHM). As the natural history illustrator on Flinders' circumnavigation of Australia in 1802-03, Bauer's work is now recognised in Australia. Just as significant, however, was its impact in Europe, conveying in extraordinary detail and accuracy the unique biodiversity of our continent. His work, which included an extensive herbarium from his antipodean travels, was to become a source for some of the major botanical works of the 19th Century, including those of Bentham and Darwin.

The NHM has identified over 20,000 botanical specimens from Australia in its holdings, but believes the total is much higher—the result of the Hapsburg policy of promoting botanical research and the collections left to the Museum by leading German-speaking botanists (e.g. von Mueller). Its archives include the records of several other visitors from Vienna's imperial period, such as the botanical entrepreneur Baron von Huegel and Alpine explorer Lotsky.

John Swainston was born in London, and migrated to Australia in 1979, by way of Chicago. He had a forty-year career in the photo industry in various Australian and International roles. He is a recent past president of the Australian Institute of Professional Photography, of which he is also an Honorary Fellow. John is also a Past President of the Photo Industry Council of Australia. John is an Advisory Board member of the HeadOn Foundation, which stages the HeadOn Photo Festival each year in Sydney.

John is currently completing a book of architectural images of the Anglican cathedrals of England and Wales. After moving to the Southern Highlands in 2016 he has become strongly involved with the gardening community.

In his talk to the Australian Garden History Society he will be explaining some of the uses to which photography can be put in documenting garden development, providing resources for learning and sharing of skills and solutions. He will share some of the opportunities for use of a smartphone, as well as more advanced camera techniques. He will show some Australian and International gardens visited, as well as sharing images made in tentatively starting his own first garden in the Highlands, a journey which started in 2016!

Please book as early as possible —booking form Page 9



The well in front of *Garroorigang*. Sunk in 1857 to supply water for stock and household needs. Traces of gold were reportedly found at the bottom. Pump made by Coalbrookdale Company in England.

Field Trip to Arthursleigh and Garroorigang: Report and Photos from Ralph Suters

Aspects of People and Life in the NSW Southern Tablelands

Wednesday 6 November 2019: After the drive down from the Southern Highlands, our meeting point was the Big Hill Church around 20 kms north of Marulan.



Big Hill Church



"Could you all please come back for Sunday services?"

Our next stop was the property **Arthursleigh**. Originally an 1819 land grant to Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur, Arthursleigh was bequeathed to Sydney University in 1979 by Eric Holt. Arthursleigh today is a sheep and cattle property of approximately 6,600 hectares (almost 7 square kms!) with

around one third of the property fenced off for land conservation and wildlife corridors.



The new shearing shed at Arthursleigh



Steve Burgun, Property Manager

We visited the shearing shed where the property's 10,000 sheep were being shorn over a very busy 10-day period. We were greeted by the property manager—an obviously skilled and experienced person—and invited to observe the shearers, rouseabouts, sorters, classers and packers going about their work in a modern shearing shed.



Shearer-hard at work



The fleeces on the way to the packers

A short walk to the original 1830's stone, timber and iron shearing shed gave memories of times gone by.



Old wool shed

And like it was in the past, today's shearers were still taking time from their lunch break to sharpen their blades and the wool bales were still being packed for export—now bearing the identification "UNIV-SYD, ARTH-LGH". The bales are no longer likely to end up in the mills of England but more probably will be processed in mills in China before the fabric is used by the designers of Milan and Paris.



Another aspect of the sustainable management of Arthursleigh was the way the owners and management are working with NSW Local Land Services (Shane Laverty and Jenny Schabel) and Greening Australia (Lucy Wenger) on a number of land conservation projects. A key objective is to improve the quality of water running into the Sydney water supply catchments.



The work involves fencing off waterways from livestock, building erosion control structures, revegetation and consequently also creating native animal corridors and bird sanctuaries. We were given details of the projects underway and were taken out to see some of the work in progress. Both organisations are keen to hear from landholders who might like to participate in these programs.

(jenny.schabel@lls.nsw.gov.au)



The reels of barbed wire on the trailer and bare landscape of the "before" scene had a Mars lander look about it.



Rick Shepherd from the National Trust Retford Park looking for ideas he could apply to his property.

Garroorigang Homestead and Garden



Garroorigang Homestead

Garroorigang, on the outskirts of Goulburn, was our final stop. Built in the 1850's and opened as the Mulwaree Inn on the road to the goldfields, and then serving up to 1883 as a private boarding school for the "sons of gentlemen", the homestead today is the private home of the Hume family, descendants of the explorer Hamilton Hume.



Stuart Hume

We were greeted by the current owner, Stuart Hume, who took us on a tour of the house—no photos inside please, the insurers will not allow it—before afternoon tea in the rose garden.

A special "Thank you" goes to all the organisers, hosts and guides for a wonderful day looking into the past and seeing how people and places have adapted into the 21st Century.

It was a memorable and most enjoyable day out.

Environmental rehabilitation and Sydney drinking water cleansing at *Arthursleigh:* Report by Annabel Murray

The Millennial drought and the current extended dry period mean historically overcleared lands are now under greater pressure. At *Arthursleigh*, we saw how earthworks and planting are designed over 20 years to reduce sediments and nutrients flowing into Warragamba Dam's supply of Sydney's drinking water, and *Arthursleigh* is in the middle of the catchment. WaterNSW, through the NSW Local Land Services is looking for landholders to partner with them on gully erosion control. Greening Australia (GA) is also sourcing funding for rehabilitation of remnant biodiverse ecosystems. Sydney University has its own Landcare Group, actively involved in this long term plan.



1891 German map of South-east Australia 1: 5 000 000 Adolf Steilers Handatlas.

Our field trip to *Arthursleigh Research Farm* took us to the Upper Lachlan Shire, yet within the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment. The farm lies on the western slopes of the Wollondilly River, northwest of the confluence of Paddy's River, immediately west of Canyonleigh, also reached by Inverary Road.



Parish of Eden Forest, county of Argyle. Land district of Goulburn Sydney NSW Dept. of Lands, 1895, National Library of Australia.

The property's rich historical association with Hume, Mitchell, Macquarie, Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur, and the Holt family, up to the 1979 bequest to the University of Sydney, is documented in Chrissy Fletcher's scholarly publication.



Arthursleigh currently acts as a teaching and research farm set up as a commercial enterprise with self-replacing Merino flock and Angus herd, supporting animal science residencies for University students.

Steve Burgun, the current manager, is the fourth of his family to be manager on *Arthursleigh*—grandfather George was the first manager in 1948, then each of his sons and now Steve. The Burgun's twenty-year vision to rectify the overclearing of the land is supported by WaterNSW, NSW South East Local Land Services (LLS) and Greening Australia. They share the funding of project work on a variable basis depending on the severity of the erosion.

The fencing achieves most of the conservation's success as the main functional structure in gullies and waterways is establishing the grass and sedge buffer, which slows down the water speed and filters out sediment and manure.



Apple Maps— between 2013-2018. showing the eroded gullies and benefit of exclusion to the ground cover.



Before and after images showing how a concrete flume can be utilised to safely convey water



Source: Gully Erosion Assessment and Control Guide, South-east Local Land Services.



Lucy Wenger (GA) and Trisha Dixon at the flume. Vegetation along the Wollondilly river is visible in the distance to the north.

Computer modelling is used to design the flume, a concrete spillway to dissipate the erosive energy over a steep drop to a concrete stilling pond and then a rock-lined gully floor. Concrete, perforated with drainage holes, was chosen as a more cost-effective solution than all-rock structures. Dense vegetation is expected to colonise the gully, mostly brought by birds. Shane Laverty (responsible for the large scale earthworks) and Jenny Schabel both work for the South East Local Land Services' Rural Landscape Program funded by WaterNSW.

Greening Australia (GA) projects on *Arthursleigh* are an extensive effort to not only reduce erosion but also reconnect

fragments of dry forest to the east of the property with the Wollondilly River:

- Rehabilitation by direct seeding of 20 ha over 46 km of the 'Badlands' gully, funded in 2005;
- 2 hectares of tubestock corridors in 2007;
- 65km direct seeding 30 ha along Wollondilly River in 2010;
- A regent honeyeater habitat restoration of 200 tubestock and fencing incentive over 34 hectares in 2015–2016;
- In 2017–2018, ACCOR funded 15 hectares direct seeding and Officeworks funded 160 hectares, 13400 plants over 100 kms and fencing.
- Most recently, the Rivers of Carbon Source Water linkages program; 100 plants over 23 hectares, 8 kilometres with fencing and a crossing.
 - To date, Greening Australia projects have planted 17,220 tubestock, more than 250 kilometres of direct seeding, amounting to approximately 100 000 seedlings.

On leaving *Arthursleigh*, our views of gully floor now stabilised by dense regrowth demonstrated the improvements achieved to date—a relief from the parched pastures.



The greening of the gully

For further information about Source Water Linkages Projects see the website:

http://riversofcarbon.org.au/our-projects/rivers-carbon-source-waterlinkages/



Rivers of Carbon – Source Water Linkages This region was an important meeting place, which means that it wasn't just inhabited by

which means that it wasn't just inhabited by one particular Aboriginal group, but by many. We recognise the Mulwaree, Wollondilly, Wiradjuri, Gundungurra, Dharrook, Tharawal, Tarlo, Pajong, Parramarragoo, Cookmal, Burra Burra, Lachlan and Ngunawal people. We acknowledge their continuing connection with, and knowledge about land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

"Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land." – Luna Leopold, Hydrologist

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More on the camellias in Station Street, Bowral:

Report by Laurel Cheetham

In the December 2016 *Inflorescence* Dr Stephen Utick, Chair of the International Camellia Society Committee for Historic Camellia Conservation, talked about the significance of the seventeen camellias in Station Street Bowral. He stated that "camellias are an unusual streetscape tree anywhere and the collection in Station Street.....is not only a fine one but important because of its aesthetics and its association with Claude Crowe."¹

Other research, by Nick Corbett, (a heritage researcher and resident of Bowral), investigated the "railway terrace", the four levels of dry stone trachyte walls between Station Street and the station entrance, with four street lamps from 1935 and the camellias on the top level occupying the footpath space to Station Street.²

More recently, following the listing of the camellias and pin oaks in Station Street on the National Trust Register (April 2019), further research has shown that most, if not all, of the camellias there today are not the original ones but have been planted during the post-war period.

The researchers included Dr Stephen Utick, Margaret Chadwick, Nick Corbett, Laurel Cheetham, Linda Emery, Chris and Charlotte Webb, and Colleen Morris. Newspapers and archived records of Bowral Council, as well as the Crowe diaries and docket books in the Caroline Simpson library, and the historic photograph collection at Berrima District and Family History Society were searched. Dr Utick visited the camellias several times, identified all of them and their origins, and assessed their significance.

We now know:

The first camellias were planted in 1936 by the Berrima District Horticultural Society, founded in 1935 and based in Bowral. These camellias were planted following the construction of the dry-stone walls by local relief workers funded by a NSW Government grant, with the work managed by the local Bowral Council.³ It is likely that these camellias, or most of them did not survive, or at least they were not thriving in 1946 when the view east of the station was reported in *The Southern Mail*, (22 March 1946) as "An ugly string of deserted shops facing the railway at the northern end. Then, as you alight from the train, beyond the low rockery in the foreground outside the station, the eye is offended by paling fenced yards and the back building of a pub and several shops".

We know camellias were there in 1948. *The Southern Mail* recorded that at a Bowral Council meeting the Mayor noted that camellia trees in the garden near the station had been cut back, when he understood the original intention had been to allow them to grow to hide the backyards along Station Street.

From these articles we can assume that there were at least two plantings, one in 1936 and one between 1946 and 1948.

That there were multiple plantings is supported by the analysis of the camellias by Dr Stephen Utick.⁴ He suggests there were at least three plantings. Four of the cultivars he identified were not available in Australia until the late 1940s. Another only became available in 1960.

Dr Utick divided the camellia japonicas into five groups:

<u>Group 1</u>—linked with the endeavours of William Macarthur at Camden Park.

'Aspasia Macarthur', 1848, a creamy-white informal double with pink and carmine specks and one of the most famous and hardy of the Macarthur camellias—this is the oldest of the camellias and at the northern end of the site;

'Alba Plena' imported from England in 1831, formal double, and now very rare;

'Wellbankiana', imported from China into England in 1816, small informal white. (Editor's note: Dr Stephen Utick in an email 26 November 2019 has removed it from his ID list.)

<u>Group 2</u>—includes cultivars developed by early Sydney nurseries following the Macarthur era.

'Odoratissima', a medium rose-pink informal double;

'Jouvan', medium pink formal double which has almost disappeared;

'Prince Frederick William', released by Sheather's Darling Nursery in 1872.

<u>Group 3</u>—represents a horticultural gem-box of eighteenth and nineteenth century cultivars from Europe and Japan introduced by colonial nurseries up until the Federation era. Nearly all these are formal doubles reflecting the aesthetic tastes of the 19th century. They include:

'Orandakô', 1739 Japan, red with centred white stripe;

'Virginia Franco', 1838 Italy, pink;

'Lavinia Maggi', 1858, Italy, white with carmine stripe;

'Prince Eugene Napoleon', 1858, Belgium, bright red;

'Contessa Woronzoff', 1858, Belgium, pink edged white;

'Beni-arejishi', 1859, Japan, red medium informal;

<u>Group 4</u>—includes sundry Australian camellias released in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

'Thompsonii Rosea', first listed in the Hazelwood (Ryde) Catalogues of 1954, white pink striped informal;

'Rosa Mundi Rosea', first listed in the Hazelwood (Ryde) Catalogues of 1947—there are two of these, one being the most southerly camellia;

'White Tulip', circulated from nurseries in the late 1940s including E.G. Waterhouse's Camellia Grove Nursery at St Ives;

'Warks White', also circulated from nurseries in the late 1940s including Camellia Grove Nursery at St Ives;

<u>Group 5</u>—One camellia called 'Man Size' (1960), probably planted during the 1980s and the most northern of the camellias.

Bowral Council would have been responsible for street planting during this time. We could not find any record of when and by whom the post-war plantings were made or where the camellias were purchased from. They were likely to have come from one of the main suppliers of camellias who were Camellia Grove, Fergusons, and Hazelwood. (Fergusons had a nursery at Mittagong). The Council may have contracted out the supplying and planting of at least some of the post-war camellias to Claude Crowe, horticulturist, landscape designer and nurseryman from Berrima. Claude grew at least two of the cultivars at his Berrima Bridge Nurseries, and was engaged by the Council to carry out planting of street and park trees in Bowral in the in the 1940s and 1950s. But we could find no evidence of his involvement in his diaries and records of purchases, Council records, or newspaper articles. A docket in the Crowe papers previously thought to be for camellias in Station Street has proved not to be for them.

Camellias are an unusual choice for a street tree and the collection includes some colonial garden treasures and some rare and very rare cultivars, such as Camellia japonica 'Jouvan' a Guilfoyle camellia dating from 1866, 'Aspasia Macarthur' 1848 and 'Orandakô' from Japan (1739). They are not the normal choice for street planting, would have been comparatively costly to purchase and require attention in their early years, particularly in such an exposed position. The original plantings can be attributed to the Berrima District Horticultural Society. It is fortunate that later plantings built on these, resulting in this unique collection of camellias which has now been recognised as horticulturally and aesthetically significant by the National Trust.

However, in the words of Charlotte Webb⁵ (and endorsed by Colleen Morris), "the most important heritage significance is the uniqueness of the street planting of Camellias to the district, and possibly the region or the state. The street tree planting of camellias is highly significant, regardless of the individual plant's provenance." Is Garden History's next project to test this uniqueness at the state level?

The National Trust listing Report for the camellias and pin oaks has now been amended to reflect these findings. Listing by the National Trust is an indication that the camellias (and the pin oaks nearby) now have State significance.

- ¹ Utick, Dr. S, Inflorescence, December 2016
- ² Corbett, N.J. (2018) *Heritage Study of Bowral Station Railway Terrace*. Unpublished report.
- ³ ibid

⁴ Utick, Dr. S, email, *Full Report listing on the Heritage Camellias at Bowral Railway Station*, 10 September 2019.

5. Webb, Charlotte, email, 26 November, 2019.



Camellia japonica 'Jouvan' (photo from Camellias Victoria website)

Brief history of landscaping the Station Street site: Report by Nick Corbett

• Before 1935 the approaches to Bowral town from the railway were steep, dangerous and unattractive. Bowral Council lobbied the Department of Railways NSW to improve this important section.

- In 1935 Bowral Council was given permission by the railways to undertake the improvement works using local relief workers. The landscaped area of Bowral Railway Station was historically referred to as the 'railway terrace'.
- In 1936 the newly terraced embankment was beautified with plantings by the Berrima District Horticultural Society. The camellias, first planted in 1936, were the centrepiece of this railway approach beautification scheme.
- In December 1937 after the Council meeting, Mayor Venables entertained the alderman, staff, press and visitors. Following the 'loyal toast' Mr H. Sheaffe proposed a toast to the 'retiring Council' in which he congratulated the Council on the work done during its term of office.
- The achievements listed included the purchase of Glebe Park, building the scenic road on Mount Gibraltar, the celebration of the Coronation, the completion of Loseby Park and the completion of the sewerage scheme and the beautification of the railway approach: *"The railway station approach had been beautified and the Horticultural Society had suggested that it could be improved further. This was a matter which could be discussed by the incoming Council."* (Mayor Entertains, 1937).
- The Railway Terrace is significant as a demonstration of Bowral's civic response to the Great Depression of the 1930s and the many town beautification projects which were undertaken at this time through the use of 'relief work'.

From the NSW AGHS Branch newsletter:

Further Accolades for 'The Green Necklace' Study

AGHS Sydney Chair and Vice-Chair, James Quoyle and Christine Hay, together with Colleen Morris have been further awarded for their study the *AILA (NSW) Landscape Heritage Conservation Listing Project* (also called the *AILA NSW Landscape Heritage Study, case study Sydney Harbour*) focusing on a vision for the Sydney Harbour 'Green Necklace''. As well as the 2019 National Trust Heritage Award for Landscape Conservation mentioned in the July *Branch Cuttings*, they have received the 2019 AILA NSW Award of Excellence for Cultural Heritage and on Thursday 10 October the 2019 AILA National President's Award.

The AILA President's Award recognises outstanding individual contributions to the profession, the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, or to the practice of landscape architecture or urban design. This award is presented to the recipient by the national president. The President's Award is awarded on merit—it is not an annual award. Congratulations once again.

Welcome to new members

Mark and Jennifer Woodwell of Mittagong.

AGHS Southern Highlands Branch Committee

Chair & NMC Rep:	
Treasurer:	
Secretary:	
Tours:	
Research:	
Guest Editor:	

Lyn Barrett John Biffin Jennifer McCormac Ray Bradley Ruth Bailey Meg Probyn

Email: aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

Booking Form for Christmas Party 5 Crago Lane, Bowral



Friday 6 December 2019: 4. 30 – 7.00 pm

Your name/s:

Non-members name/s:

Your email:

Your Phone:

Cost per person	Numbers attending	Amount Included \$
AGHS Members \$35		
Non-members \$45 (Children free)		
	TOTAL	

Payment Options:

By Cheque: payable to Australian Garden History Society: PLEASE NOTE – USE OUR FULL TITLE.

Please return this form and cheque to

AGHS Bookings, PO Box 2327, Bowral 2576

By EFT: Account name: AGHS

BSB: 012 547 Account Number: 237 514 077

- Include the following reference information 6 December and your surname
- Email the above booking details to aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

By Direct Debit: if paying directly at an ANZ branch, record your phone number as the reference.

• Email booking details to aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

Please Note: No tickets will be issued. You will be notified if the event is sold out.

No refunds can be given for cancellations after bookings close on 30 November.

Enquiries: Lyn Barrett 4862 3442

Booking Form for the Long Sunday Lunch

at The Stables, Bendooley Estate 3020 Old Hume Hwy, Berrima NSW 2577



Sunday 23 February 2020: 11. 30 – 4.00 pm

Your email:

Your Phone:

Cost per person	Numbers attending	Amount Included \$
AGHS Members \$65		
Non-members \$70		
Please Note: Drinks are available from the bar at own cost.		
	TOTAL	

Payment Options:

By Cheque: payable to Australian Garden History Society: PLEASE NOTE – USE OUR FULL TITLE.

Please return this form and cheque to AGHS Bookings, PO Box 2327, Bowral 2576

By EFT: Account name: AGHS

BSB: 012 547 Account Number: 237 514 077

- Include the following reference information 23 February and your surname
- Email the above booking details to aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

By Direct Debit: if paying directly at an ANZ branch, record your phone number as the reference.

• Email booking details to aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

Please Note: No tickets will be issued. You will be notified if the event is sold out.

No refunds can be given for cancellations after bookings close on 17 February 2020.

Enquiries: Lyn Barrett 4862 3442