



Inflorescence

July 2018

From the Chair

Dear Members, your committee is working very hard organising the **AGHS National Conference** to be held in the Southern Highlands in October 2018.

The 39th Annual National Conference with the theme **Gardens in Times of Peace and Conflict**, will be held from 25 to 29 October 2018, just a few weeks before the centenary of Armistice Day

The tickets are selling well—in fact we have almost sold out for the full conference. There are tickets available for the Symposium Trip to Joadja—on Thursday 25 October. The coach will leave at 10.45am from the Mittagong RSL.



AGHS Southern Highlands AGM Saturday 25 August 2018

Ahead of the National Conference is our own Annual General Meeting, set down for 10.30am Saturday 25 August at St Jude's Church Hall. Please think about helping our branch by nominating to join the committee. It has to be fun otherwise it's not worth doing. The Nomination Form is included in this newsletter.

The AGM will take place from 10.30am to 11am, then please stay on for two garden seminars. Before lunch, botanical illustrator Tanya Hoolihan will speak about her research *Beyond Exploration; Illustrating the Scientific Legacy of Ludwig Leichhardt*, drawing on the explorer's field notes, diary entries and letters as well as his collection of 4,000 plants in the Sydney and Melbourne Herbariums

After lunch, AGHS member Susan Hand will lead a conversation with Colin Blanch of Essential Gardens about his experience working as a volunteer at Great Dixter in Surrey.

There is more detail and a booking form later in this newsletter

Station Street Bowral

This is an on-going battle and will not be resolved for some time. This very difficult advocacy issue is addressed elsewhere in this newsletter.

In conclusion, I do hope that all our members stay warm and healthy during this winter.

Meg Probyn

megprobyn@bigpond.com

Save the Date

Saturday 21 July 2018 Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens **Hedge Laying Workshop**, Oldbury Farm <https://shbg.com.au/event/hedge-laying-workshop/>

Saturday 28 July 2018 Highlands Garden Society **Winter Seminar**

Saturday 25 August 2018 AGHS Southern Highlands **Annual General Meeting**

25 to 29 October 2018 39th AGHS National Conference **Gardens in Times of Peace and Conflict**

Friday 7 December 2018 AGHS Southern Highlands **Christmas Party**

Editorial

Station Street, Bowral

The Station Street 'Upgrade' threatens the beautiful trees which frame the entrance to Bowral from the north.

Although the planners currently say only two of the pin oaks will be cut down, the plans indicate four of the trees will be cut down. In addition, there will be wholesale removal of trees and shrubs (150+) along the length of Station Street while the engineers widen the road to four lanes and build a roundabout at the northern end.

Unfortunately, it is more than likely that several more of the beautiful and historic pin oaks will be irreparably damaged by the construction work.

These trees left undisturbed will normally live for 120 years. Why make a fuss over these trees in particular? Each of them was planted by a schoolchild in 1937 to celebrate the coronation of King George and Queen Elizabeth. The Girl Guides, the Boy Scouts, Bowral High School, Bowral Primary School, Annesley College, the Convent School, O.L.S.H. School and Anglewood School were all represented at the planting ceremony.



AGHS Southern Highlands organised a demonstration on 22 May 2018 when fifty people turned up in Station Street to tie ribbons on the threatened pin oaks. Meg Probyn was interviewed on ABC Illawarra at 7.00 am and also by Win TV when they came to film the demonstration. The edited news item shown on TV that evening was a travesty as they gave more time to an interview with one of the Wingecarribee Councillors who also happens to be a developer.

Numerous AGHS members have had letters published in *Southern Highland News*.

There are so many issues to be resolved before the Council can proceed. AGHS is concerned that Council doesn't own or control all the land that it needs to build the roundabout and the road through the station carpark. The cost is an overspending of the funds originally allocated—the increase in the estimate for Stage 1 from \$9.5 million to the current \$15.075 million, 59% more than the figure the Council had in front of it when it voted to proceed to tender on 14th February.

The community feels frustrated that Council hasn't allowed debate at the Council meetings to answer pertinent questions, such as:

- Where is an updated economic benefit analysis?
- Exactly which trees are going to be destroyed and which ones are at serious risk?
- Has RMS (Roads and Maritime Services) given approval for the new proposed roundabout?

And a critical one:

- Will Council honour its commitment to a Review of Environmental Factors for the Station Street Upgrade—a commitment made on several occasions to the community?

This is an on-going battle and will not be resolved for some time. A Facebook page called '**Friends of Bowral**' has been launched to keep everyone up-to-date with developments.

AGHS Winter Seminar 24 June 2018

The Southern Highlands presented our members and guests with a sparkling and sunny Winter's day for the Winter seminar held on Sunday 24 June. Visitors from Berry and Canberra joined local members and their guests at the Bradman Centre during the afternoon to hear our guest speakers Leonie Norton and Dr Stephen Utick, and to join them in afternoon tea.

Leonie is a botanical artist and a leading artist in her field. She is an international tutor and author of the book *Women of Flowers: Botanical Art in Australia from the 1830s to the 1960s*. One of the book's chapters is devoted to Marianne Collinson Campbell (1827-1903), the subject of Leonie's presentation.



Marianne came from a family of talented amateur watercolour artists. Her own talent, her love for flora and fauna and her eye for detail were encouraged by her father and aunt, and by her teacher Conrad Martens. Following her marriage to George Campbell she lived at Campbell's Cove, now part of The Rocks area in Sydney, until 1857 when she and her family moved to Duntroon, the Campbell family home which George had inherited. Duntroon is now part of Canberra and the suburb of Campbell is named after George's father Robert.



Marianne transformed the house into an imposing two-storey Gothic revival home and she redesigned the gardens. They included exotic and rare blooms, trees from England and the Australian native plants *Telopea speciosissima*, various *Eucalyptus* and *Callistemon* species.

Marianne continued to paint native plants from Western Australia, the Blue Mountains and Moreton Bay, but the majority of her work reflected the trees and flowers in and around Duntroon and Sydney.

When she was sixteen Marianne began compiling an album *Wildflowers, Fruit and Butterflies of Australia* and she continued to add paintings to the album until 1883. It is now held by the National Library in Canberra. Her other albums are held by her family in Australia and Scotland.

Dr Stephen Utick is an Australian Director for the International Camellia Society (ICS), the inaugural Chair of the ICS Committee of Historic Camellia Preservation and the founder of Camellia Ark Australia. Dressed in his beautifully embroidered camellia vest Stephen entertained and enlightened us with ten wonderful stories which illustrated the significance of the camellia in garden history.



Stephen took us from gardens in China where the camellia is worshipped as a divinity to the towering reticulatas of the Zhang Garden in Old Dali, Yunnan Province; through the delicate wood blocks and screen paintings of the Edo period in Japan to the artistry of bonsai camellias; to the camellias of Galicia in Spain and the white camellias given out to supporters in 1893 by the New Zealand suffragette Kate Sheppard; to the purity of the white camellia chosen by Coco Chanel in 1925 as a symbol of culture and fashion.



Pamela Tallents with new member Ruth Bailey

We finished the afternoon with questions and spoke of the significance to the Southern Highlands of the camellias planted in Station Street Bowral, and the threat they are under if plans to widen the street go ahead.

Elisabeth Heard

Marriane Collinson CAMPBELL, nee CLOSE (1827 - 1903)

Born 30 June 1827 Hunter Valley, NSW. Died Duntroon, now ACT, 2 May 1903.

Marriane Close was born on 30 June 1827 in the village of Green Hills in the Hunter Valley of New South Wales. She was one of nine children and the only surviving daughter of Lieutenant Edward Close and his wife, Sophia. Marriane had a passion for flora and fauna and, with an eye for detail, she recorded many Australian wildflowers.

Lieutenant Close, a talented watercolour artist, gave his daughter lessons in drawing and painting, while Marriane's great-aunt Sophia nurtured her work. In her early teens, Marriane took lessons from the artist Conrad Martens, who influenced her meticulous painting style.

In 1854, Marriane married her second cousin, 36-year-old George Campbell, who had inherited the family home of Duntroon, near what is now Canberra, in 1846. They lived at Wharf House in Campbell's Cove, now part of The Rocks area of Sydney, until 1857, when Marriane, George and their two children moved to Duntroon.

As a widow in her late fifties, Marriane devoted much of her time to painting. Many of her albums are still treasured as valuable heirlooms among family in Australia and Scotland.

Marriane died at Duntroon on 2 May 1903, at the age of 75, and was buried among other Campbell family members in a dedicated enclosure at St John's Church in Canberra, of which she was a benefactor.

The house at Duntroon did not remain in the Campbell family after Marriane's death.

After the creation of Canberra as the national capital, the Australian Government acquired the estate and 370 acres (1.5 km²) of land. In 1911, the Royal Military College of Australia was founded at Duntroon, and the original house became the Officers' Mess.

AGHS Southern Highlands Annual General Meeting Saturday 25 August 2018

Our AGM for 2018 is at St Jude's Hall, 38 Bendooley Street, Bowral, Saturday 25 August, from 10.30am to 2.45pm. Nominations for the Branch Committee are open now.

The AGM will be followed by morning tea, the first presentation, lunch and the second presentation.

Speaker **Tanya Hoolihan** is an invited member of the Florilegium Society at the Royal Botanic Garden in Sydney and regularly exhibits in Botanica. Her work can be seen in local galleries and through various exhibitions. Her topic is: *Beyond Exploration;*

Illustrating the Scientific Legacy of Ludwig Leichhardt.



AGHS member **Susan Hand** will lead a conversation with **Colin Blanch** of Essential Gardens about their shared experiences working as volunteers at Great Dixter in Surrey.

Please complete the attached Booking Form for catering purposes.

Save the Dates for Our Tours in 2019

Planning is underway for two tours in 2019:

From 3-5 April 2019 we will visit the South Coast where the highlight of this tour will be Horse Island located in Tuross Lake and acknowledged as a benchmark for landscaping with a diversity of native plants and something in flower every week of the year. We will also visit Merribee Gardens - 7 acres of sensory pleasure at Numbaa near Nowra with diverse plantings of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants and formal garden rooms. Among the other attractions on this tour will be the garden of well known AGHS member and plant collector Hazel King, Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens and a lunch cruise on the Clyde River.



Departing approximately 18 September 2019, an 11-12 day tour will take us to the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers for five days of horticultural beauty. This tour will travel north through Tamworth and Armidale to Toowoomba and return via Murwillumbah to visit the Margaret Olley Art Centre and the North Coast Regional Botanic Garden at Coffs Harbour. This tour is in the very early stages of planning. The August edition of *Gardening Australia* has an interesting article on the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers.

Further details on the South Coast tour are expected to be released in September and the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers in December. Expressions of interest can be lodged with Ray Bradley (T) 02 4861 4090 or (E) aghs.sh.info@gmail.com.

About Inflorescence

Inflorescence is the newsletter of the Southern Highlands Branch of the Australian Garden History Society.

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2017/18 Committee

Chair: Meg Probyn, **NMC Representative:** Meg Probyn

Vice Chair: Pamela Bennett, **Treasurer:** John Biffin,

Secretary: Jane Clifford, **Editor:** Pamela Bennett

Tour Management: Raymond Bradley

Events: Lyn Barrett, Pamela Bennett, Elisabeth Heard

Conference: Jenny Carroll, Laurel Cheetham, Merryleigh Brindley, Annabel Murray



Australian Garden History Society

Southern Highlands Branch

NOMINATION FORM

Nominations for the 2018/19 Branch Committee

I would like to nominate

Name _____

Address _____

for the Committee of the Southern Highlands Branch of the
Australian Garden History Society.

Proposed by: _____
(Signature of Nominator)

Accepted by: _____
(Signature of Nominee)

Please return to: AGHS Secretary
Southern Highlands Branch
PO Box 2377
BOWRAL NSW 2576
(E) aghs.sh.info@gmail.com

By: 10am 25 August 2018

Inflorescence July 2018

Booking Form
AGHS Annual General Meeting 2018
Saturday 25 August
10.30am to 2.45pm
St Jude's Hall
38 Bendooley Street Street, Bowral

Your Name: _____

AGHS members are reminded please to wear name badges to AGHS events

Names of Guests: _____

*Morning tea and lunch are included,
Please indicate any dietary requirements:*

Email: _____

Phone: _____

<i>Event</i>	<i>Cost per person</i>	<i>Numbers Attending</i>	<i>Amount Incl \$</i>
Saturday 25 August 2018	AGHS Members \$40	_____	_____
Annual General Meeting	Non-Members \$45	_____	_____
Bookings Close:			
Thursday 23 August 2018			
		<i>TOTAL</i>	_____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

By Cheque: payable to Australian Garden History Society, NSW Branch.

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

By EFT: Account name: AGHS BSB: 012 547 Account No: 237 514 077

- Include the following reference information: *the date of the event (25Aug) 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 the above 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 made after the bookings close date.

ENQUIRIES: Pamela Bennett 0401 907 199 or Elisabeth Heard 0417 247 213