

Events 2020—for your diary:

Wednesday 30th Sept at 6.30 pm	Stuart Read: Zoom presentation: ' <i>Fabulous at 40</i> ' (see below & p.8)
Saturday October 31st 10 am to 4 pm	Rare Plant Sale at SHBG: where you will be able to find that special plant to celebrate - see below.
Friday 4 December 4.30 to 6.30 pm	Christmas Party at <i>Rotherwood</i> , Illawarra Highway, Sutton Forest

Zooming through the pandemic

The next Zoom session this month will be by Stuart Read:
'*Fabulous at Forty*'.

**To register your interest in taking part in this Zoom
session 30 September, please contact Jenny Woodwell by
email: woodwell@optusnet.com.au**

If you are unsure of how to do it, Jenny will give you a special
tuition session.

We're enjoying the Zoom sessions but we will all be so
delighted when we can safely meet face-to-face. The garden
has been a great place to escape the horrors of the daily
infection tallies—to wander through the paths, smelling the
scents from flowering shrubs and bulbs while we think of
spring—and now it's here—such a welcome relief. Members
and friends joined in our sessions from Southern Highlands,
West Australia, Tasmania, Sydney, Armidale and Canberra.
Many thanks to our presenters—Georgina Reid, Rick
Sheppard and John Pickard—and to Jenny Woodwell (the
newest member of the Branch Committee, who managed all
the technical arrangements) and to Ruth Bailey (now
Secretary and Events Co-ordinator), who compered the
sessions.

The AGM (also held through Zoom) has resulted in no
additional committee members though Meg Probyn and Jenny
Woodwell were formally nominated. They had been co-opted
in June. Ray Bradley resigned from the Committee though he
has agreed to remain as the Tours Co-ordinator and Laurel
Cheetham has agreed to remain as our Heritage expert.

Tours: Ray Bradley

The organisers of the **Millthorpe Garden Ramble** have
announced that this year's event has been cancelled. The
committee have agreed to the tour being rescheduled but at
this stage next year's Ramble appears to conflict with other
events so it may not be possible to conduct the tour until 2022.
The Millthorpe Garden Ramble is traditionally conducted
over the first week-end of November which in 2022 would be
5-6 November.

For a preview of some of what the Ramble offers following is
a link to a Youtube video *Millthorpe Garden Ramble 2019*
Preview www.youtube.com/watch?v=oujZ0mAjH5o

Consideration is being given to the conduct of the 2021 tour
to **Adelaide** scheduled for departure on 27 April. Government
and Health restrictions for Covid-19 are being closely
monitored for New South Wales and South Australia to
determine the viability of this tour being conducted. As
members and friends would be aware, the situation regarding
Covid-19 can change frequently and at short notice varying
from State to State. Taking into account restrictions which
may be in place and the organisation of the tour, an
announcement on its future will be made at the beginning of
January 2021.



Daffodils under the birch trees in SHBG (29 August 2020)

Gift Voucher for Members

To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the AGHS we had
planned to have a champagne party at the Southern Highlands
Botanic Gardens—but Covid-19 interfered. Instead, we are
giving all our members a gift voucher (see page 9) to be spent
at the Nursery of the SHBG to the value of \$12.50. You will
find a wide range of plants priced \$12.50 but if you would like
to buy a larger plant, such as a hydrangea, you can use the
voucher towards the cost of a more expensive one.

Rare and Unusual Plant Stall: 31st October 2020 at SHBG

To celebrate Spring the SHBG will be holding a Plant Stall on
the 31st October featuring a wide array of rare, unusual and
hard to find plants. As our growers were unable to sell their
stock in April at our regular Plant Fair this has allowed all the
stock to grow that much larger. An unintended benefit to the
buyers. Plants for sale will include everything from *Albuca* to
Zephyranthes with many treasures in between. This event will
be following strict Covid safe procedures. Eftpos available.
To be held on site: 10am to 4pm.

Yarrabin House and Garden under threat—former home of Australian Garden History pioneers Tim and Keva North: Dennis McManus writes . . .



Tim and Keva North

Yarrabin is a beautiful 1951 house in a woodland garden at 32 Kangaloon Road, Bowral. It adjoins architect Aaron Bolot designed 1949 moderne style house and more formal garden, *Beatrice Park* on the corner of Bendooley Street and Kangaloon Road. Both are on sites of over 5,000 square metres. Both houses and gardens share a common architectural and gardening history. Both were multiple Open Bowral Town Garden Winners from the late 1950's. 2020 is the 60th Anniversary of both gardens winning first place in their categories in the 1960 Festival of Flowers.

In July 2020 neighbours were told that Yarrabin had been sold and was to be developed for a seniors housing villa development which is incompatible with retention of the house and gardens. *Beatrice Park* is within a heritage conservation area as is also the former orchard section of Yarrabin. But Yarrabin itself is not listed.

Wingecarribee Shire's Local Environmental Planning (LEP 2010) allows medium density seniors housing in its residential zones including heritage conservation areas. This LEP is based on State planning policy and applies across NSW except for Greater Sydney where there is a current moratorium in heritage conservation areas. Bowral is outside of the Greater Sydney Region.

The likely threat to Yarrabin has been a wakeup call to the community and a Save Highlands Heritage group is being established which has already called on the local Wingecarribee Shire Council to apply an Interim Heritage Order to Yarrabin. This was agreed to by the Council at its meeting August 12, 2020 meeting.

Whilst council is to be applauded, the threat to Yarrabin and other heritage sites in the Shire remains. This is because medium density seniors housing is permitted in all its residential zones including long established areas where most heritage items and gardens are located. Seniors housing can

be built on a block of land as small as 1000 m² and 20 m wide and in heritage conservation areas. While Council has some discretion all refusals are appealable to the Land and Environment Court where many decisions go in favour of the applicant.



Tim North at the table with the Bhutan cypress trees behind

The report to Wingecarribee Shire Council included this assessment of the garden at Yarrabin:

*The property is bounded on the western sides by a prominent line of Bhutan cypress trees (*Cupressus torulosa*) and on the east by a stand of Arizona cypress (*Cupressus arizonica*), which are visible from both Kangaloon Road and Bendooley Street and are a characteristic planting.*

*The garden contains a number of significant trees the most important of which is the horse chestnut, *Aesculus hippocastanum*. This tree is significant for its age and comparative rarity for a tree of this maturity. This tree is mentioned in Tim North's, "Garden Cuttings: Reflections from an Australian Gardener". (1999. New Holland Publishers: Sydney). Individual significant trees are the Beech and the 2 Kanzan cherries at the top of the stairs. Also present may be a *Tilia*, also mentioned in the "Garden Cuttings" book. Trees significant as a group (i.e. can remove 1 or 2 but not all) are the row of *Cupressus torulosa* on the western boundary and the collection as a whole of mature trees throughout the garden. The garden is significant locally as an example of a prominent garden open to the public under the open gardens scheme from the late 1950s to the early 1960s. It was featured on the cover of *The Australian Women's Weekly* on 1 November 1961 and featured prominently in descriptions and photographs in Tim North's book "Garden Cuttings". The whole garden has strong landscape significance as a characteristic post-War 'Bowral' house surrounded by a large garden. The maturity of the garden and the height of many of the trees give it landmark significance in the immediate area.*

The garden has a strong association with the Southern Highlands gardening community as one of the many magnificent private gardens opened to the public in what has become a tradition of Open Gardens in the area. 'Yarrabin' was one of the featured open gardens for Bowral's inaugural Festival of Flowers in 1958 (which became the annual Tulip

Time Festival for which Bowral is famed). 'Yarrabin' won awards for its garden between 1958 and 1962 when it was opened by the then owners, Roy and Gwen Green. It was featured on the cover of the Australian Women's Weekly on its 1 November 1961 issue. Socially the garden is significant as a pre-eminent show garden over a period of many years, including the years under the stewardship of the Greens and the Norths. The large gatherings and tours to the garden organised by the Norths contribute to the Social significance, particularly with their association with the Australian Garden History Society.

The importance of Yarrabin for the Australian Garden History Society, apart from its intrinsic value as a heritage site, is that it was the home of Tim and Keva North from 1983-1994 and their association with AGHS. Tim was a Horticultural Journalist and wrote for several publications including *Australian House and Garden Magazine* and *Your Garden*. He corresponded with numerous horticulturists and gardeners in Europe, England and America on a regular basis. Working from their Sydney home in October 1981, Tim and Keva produced a small four page magazine called *Garden Cuttings* for what Tim called "discerning" gardeners.

In 1983 the magazine had grown and the name changed from *Garden Cuttings* to *The Australian Garden Journal*. Tim was Secretary of the then three-year-old AGHS and it was decided by the Committee that *The Australian Garden Journal* was a befitting magazine to promote garden history. The agreement was that the *Journal* was to incorporate two pages of Garden History Society news in each issue which would be of benefit to the *Journal* as well as to the Garden History Society. So it became the official journal of The Australian Garden History Society, but both remained separate identities. Tim remained secretary of AGHS until 1988.

In December 1983 the Norths moved from Sydney into Yarrabin. In his 1999 book, also called *Garden Cuttings*, he devoted many pages to Yarrabin plus 10 pages of colour photos mainly of the garden. Publication details—Tim North, *Garden Cuttings: Reflections from an Australian Gardener* (New Holland Publishers (Australia) Pty Ltd, Frenchs Forest, NSW, 1999).

Tim North wrote that in 1983 they were looking for a romantic cottage but instead found a run-down Art Deco house, unkempt and unloved for 20 years, set in 2 acres of what had once been a prize-winning garden. Work to the house included the addition of a vaulted ceiling room to the north designed by architect Howard Tanner, who is reported as saying to Tim and Keva "if you are going to alter a house you may as well do it properly."

In 1988, with two horticultural students, Jane Cavanough and Anthea Prell, Tim produced a 95-page book on the *Gardens of the Southern Highlands 1828-1988* which remains a useful reference book to the gardens of this area.

In 1989 AGHS decided to publish its own magazine named *Australian Garden History* and it continues to this day. From Volume 8 No 4 April/May 1989, *The Australian Garden Journal* was then no longer the official Journal of the AGHS. In December 1994 Tim and Keva moved to Canberra and this move and their garden there is recorded in his 1999 book

Garden Cuttings. The last issue of *The Australian Garden Journal* Volume 13 No 4 was published in Autumn 1996.

Born in London in 1921, David Arthur Guy North, but always known as Tim, died in Canberra in June 2011. Keva still lives in Canberra and has very kindly provided information and suggestions for this article.

In July 2020 Keva wrote: "I am shocked and horrified, that anyone would even think of destroying such a property. I have just re-read 'Garden Cuttings' and found it quite emotional. Tim and I really considered YARRABIN a little bit of Paradise, and loved working so hard to keep it beautiful, and a serene, peaceful, rather simplistic place ... I now fear it would be a different world (which it obviously is). The Golden Elm, was enormous, and lived not far from the old front door... The outlook through the picture window in the living room and incorporating the beautiful green leaves of the Elm was amazing. They were the happiest days of my life... the entertaining we managed to do in that garden ...



Tim harvesting the vegetable garden, Yarrabin (photo K. North)

In August 2020 Keva was able to recall some of the many well known gardeners and garden writers from overseas and Australia that they were in touch with and of many who visited and often stayed with them at Yarrabin. These included: Rosemary Verey of *Barnsley House* in England, John Sales, Chief Garden Adviser to the National Trust of England and Wales, and Australians John Patrick, Trevor Nottle, Dr Peter Valder and Shirley Stackhouse.

I am fortunate to have copies of many of the issues of the *Australian Garden Journal* from 1986 to 1992, all produced from Bowral, and they are a delight to read. I will endeavour to keep AGHS informed on this matter and in the meantime would very much welcome information from AGHS members on Yarrabin and/or the importance of Tim and Keva to the garden history movement in Australia. I can be contacted at dennis.mcmanus3@bigpond.com

Dennis McManus PSM BA Dip.Town and Country Planning, M.Built Env (Heritage) is a community representative on Wingecaribee Shire Council's Heritage Advisory Committee and a member of AGHS.

Protecting Parramatta's Historic Sense of Place

The NSW Government has wisely done a belated back-flip on its decision to close the Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo. However, incredibly, they still intend to proceed with the half-baked proposal to build what they laughingly call a museum on a flood prone site on the south bank of the river at Parramatta. Let's be clear—this proposal which has been dubbed by its detractors as 'Carriageworks West' or 'Powerhouse Lite', is not a proper museum but a poorly planned multi-purpose event and display space much of which does not meet international museum standards and has no provision for collection storage or materials conservation.

Even worse, the proposal requires the demolition of two significant heritage items, 'Willow Grove', a late Victorian Italianate two-storey villa (c.1870-1880) once used as a maternity hospital and 'St George's Terrace', a row of seven two-storey former houses more recently adapted for commercial uses. Both buildings and their associated potential archaeological sites are listed on Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No.28 – Parramatta. 'Willow Grove' has been assessed as a good, representative example of its type, a local landmark which makes a strong contribution to the streetscape of Phillip Street.



Willow Grove

It is a place of memories for a number of older residents of the area, including AGHS member Chris Betteridge who was born there! St George's Terrace is significant for historical and aesthetic reasons and as a representative example of modest Victorian period terraces constructed during an early wave of development in the area.



St George's Terrace

Since previous NSW governments made the decision to make Parramatta Sydney's second CBD, Parramatta, the second oldest European permanent settlement in Australia, has lost so much of its colonial and more recent built and landscape heritage. Many of those historic buildings which have been retained have had their settings severely compromised by unsympathetic development, much of it of questionable architectural merit. Parramatta is fast losing its sense of place and can ill afford to lose two more of its precious heritage assets.

The Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) has placed a Green Ban on the 'Willow Grove' and St George's Terrace sites and has now been joined by members of the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA) in the decision to blockade the site. Many in the local community have vowed to stand in front of bulldozers to prevent the demolition of these buildings.

Parramatta deserves a world-standard museum devoted to its environmental heritage, its Aboriginal culture and colonial past and its rich, multicultural present, but not at the expense of 'Willow Grove' and St George's Terrace. The many redundant historic buildings on the 30-hectare Cumberland Hospital East Campus at Parramatta North are crying out for sympathetic new purposes including museum and other cultural uses and they're not on a flood prone site.

The North Parramatta Residents Action Group has been fighting tirelessly to save the Parramatta North Historic Sites and the Powerhouse Parramatta site.

More information is available at <http://nprag.org/> and at <https://www.facebook.com/savewillowgroveparramatta>

Chris Betteridge

The Wingecarribee Shire Council Debacle



The trees wearing 'Save Me' banners (photo M. Probyn)

The Minister for Local Government, Hon Shelley Hancock MP, has finally intervened. On 20 August 2020 she issued a Notice of Intention to issue a Performance Improvement Order (PIO) to Wingecarribee Shire Council. Council was given seven days to respond to the Minister.

Her proposal is to 'appoint two temporary advisors to conduct the mediation process to address hostility and acrimony among councillors and provide advice and support to the

mayor to ensure the orderly conduct of council meetings.’ There is real concern from residents, however, that the proposed PIO does not go far enough into the problems of the Council. Wingecarribee Council needs a more thorough investigation into its faults and operations. What many residents believe would be more appropriate is that Council be suspended and an Administrator be appointed until Council can be refreshed by the election of new Councillors in September 2021.

The following is a summary list of some of the mismanaged Council activities and projects provided by Friends of Bowral:

The Station Street Upgrade project in Bowral:

- Mismanagement of the project which has risen in cost from \$9.5 million in 2018 to \$18.3 million in 2020, and Council’s refusal to provide a revised Benefit / Cost Analysis even though the original 2.15km long road has been shortened to 950 metres.
- The impending loss of the iconic northern entry to Bowral by removal of 8 pin oak trees that are listed by the National Trust, the proposed loss of 67 out of 138 car spaces at Bowral Station and offset train commuter parking for 70 cars to be constructed at Mittagong Station at ratepayers’ expense. At the same time the State Government is committing \$ millions to provide commuter parking at railway stations elsewhere.
- Refusal to provide the project’s Environmental Assessment (Review of Environmental Factors) for public scrutiny. Compliance with the EP&A Act is reliant on Council’s own approval of its own Environmental Assessment without peer review or public exhibition.
- The Mayor’s refusal to engage with community members on several occasions after cancelling his invitation to meet and hear community objections to the project.
- Council’s approval of major changes to the project in March 2020 without prior notification or consultation with the community.

There have been other glaring failures too:

- Failure to respond to the Royal Commission into National Disasters and the NSW Bushfire Inquiry in relation to the 2019-20 bushfires until 2 months after the due date for submission, and its very poor response to the affected communities and residents.
- Council’s project management performance on the Berrima Road deviation which caused the loss of a \$4.6 million federal road grant.
- Failure to deal with identified safety issues in the roof of the Mittagong Playhouse which had to be closed as an emergency in late 2019 and is not scheduled to reopen for 2 years.
- Council’s delay in proceeding with the refurbishment of the Bowral Memorial Hall until a grant became available. The architect was engaged by Council in March 2016, nothing has happened since, and the Hall remains closed.

- The sale of asbestos-contaminated recycled materials from the Council’s Resource Recovery Centre.
- Repeated failure of the Mittagong Swimming Pool and its consequent closure over 2 summers.
- The fire in green waste at the Resource Recovery Centre at the height of the bushfires on 4th January 2020 which diverted essential firefighting resources away from the bushfires in the northern and southern parts of the Shire.
- The attempted diversion of funds from the Environmental Levy to partially finance the operation of the still non-existent Art Gallery at Retford Park, and actual shortening of hours at the Resource Recovery Centre for the same purpose: \$500,000 pa x 5 years.

And so it goes on. Station Street has been our focus for concern and we note all the work being done by the Friends of Bowral Group, including TV and radios interviews and letters to the media. Note these recent points by Peter Edwards in the *Southern Highlands News*:

- The design currently displayed on Council’s website has NOT been approved by Council, contrary to Mr Paull’s and the Mayor’s assertions that it has. Only the position of the roundabout at the north end and the removal of 8 pin oaks were approved by Council on 25th March 2020 and re-approved on 27th March 2020 after a rescission motion by three Councillors was defeated. The rest of this road debacle was approved on 14th February 2018 and it remains the approved design, with only those two variations approved this year, that are functionally incompatible with the approved 2018 design.
- The new design has never been formally put on public exhibition for comment by and consultation with the community. Council concealed it from the public until after it approved the two changes on 25th March, and then displayed it with other misleading documents (Eg, parking) on its website in early April. Council did the right thing in 2017 to publicly exhibit the original design, even though it changed that design by deleting the pedestrian bridge across the railway before its February 2018 approval. Why has Council not exhibited the changed design for comment and consultation in 2020? Council requires public exhibition of even the slightest design change to a DA for a private development yet with its changes to this major publicly-funded road project, Council has adopted and followed a policy of non-disclosure, concealment and secrecy.
- The currently displayed design has many unapproved substantial variations from the 2018 approved design. Many of these alterations are not minor and Mr Paull, Mayor Gair and Councillors must be aware that those variations need Council’s endorsement and approval. For example:
 - The 2018 approved road configuration has 4-traffic lanes passing through the existing Council-owned carpark at Bowral Station, whereas the now-proposed design has 2 traffic lanes within the existing carpark.
 - The number of parking spaces to remain alongside Bowral Station has increased in the current design

but the loss of 73 spaces is to be offset by a new carpark at Mittagong to be funded by ratepayers, built on Transport for NSW land at a time when the Government has announced a \$3 billion program to fund and build commuter parking.

- The 2018 design eliminated the inward vehicle ramp to the carpark, this ramp is retained in the new design.
- The land required for the road by Council from Sydney Trains has altered from the 2018 design.
- Parking and the road configuration south of Boolwey Street is now different from the 2018 design, and the traffic lights at Boolwey St, that were dropped in the 2018 approval, have been re-introduced and the roundabout removed along with on-street parking between Wingecarribee St and Boolwey St.

Please note: None of these changes has been publicly exhibited or approved by Council.

We are grateful for all the work that the Friends of Bowral executive and various supporting residents are doing as our small committee couldn't possibly undertake this workload.

We now await to see what will happen next.

The Station Street Camellias

Laurel Cheetham has been liaising with Wingecarribee Shire Council officers over the camellias in Station Street. There is considerable concern about the future of the plantings under current proposals. According to Ned Tripkovic (WSC Group Manager Capital Projects), three of the six camellias to be removed can be replanted, somewhere in Bowral, but not in Station Street outside the Station. Instead, three Tulip Trees are to be planted there to replace the six camellias.

Mr Tripkovic wrote the following to Laurel: *"In the 2020 changes to the design, only six (6) of the northern most camellias at the Bowral Station carpark are now affected by the proposed road realignment and can't be retained in their current locations. They are not being proposed to be put back in the same location as it is considered preferable and ideal if the camellias are transplanted directly to their future and final locations without the need to temporarily store them mid-transplanting. They could go back to where they have come from but this would need them to be temporarily stored out of the ground for several months while the roadworks are completed in that area."*

Liriodendrons (Tulip Tree) have been suggested from the start of the project as the primary roadside street tree for Station Street as they are considered a very suitable medium sized canopy tree for the constrained roadside locations while providing improved streetscape and urban canopy outcomes. Liriodendron was also proposed as it is listed in the Wingecarribee Street Tree Master Plan (Adopted 2015) as the proposed street tree planting for Station Street, apart from a small section at the Memorial Park, where Pin Oaks are identified."

As Laurel noted: 'The removal was supposed to occur in August, which would give the best chance for saving the three to be replanted. Another case of **there is only one solution.**'

Vale Lynette Lamb

We were all very sad to hear of the loss of our friend Lynette on the 8th July. Dennis McManus wrote a moving tribute to her in the Highlands Garden Society *Bulletin*. This has been extracted from that article:

Her husband Brian kindly invited the Highlands Garden Society to a Celebration of her Life at the Bowral Golf Club on 16th July. I was pleased to be able to attend with several other members of HGS including four other past presidents – Claire Daggett, Graham Whisker, Margie Stuart and Judy Keast.



Lynette at an AGHS event in 2018 (photo Pamela Bennett)

I recalled at the Celebration how within a day of arriving in the Southern Highlands in October 1999 Lynette had come across the road to our place to warmly welcome us and to invite us over to drinks with her and Brian the following day. A week later I was at my first meeting of the Highlands Garden Society and shortly afterwards a member! It was an act of kindness to us as complete strangers which I have not forgotten. This act of kindness very much marked her character. And being a member of the HGS has meant so much to me over the 21 years.

Lynette finished her schooling at PLC Orange and trained as a nurse at Dubbo Base Hospital. She retired in 1993 as the Assistant Director of Nursing at Bowral Hospital. Brian was a teacher and before retiring was vice-principal at Moss Vale High School. Lynette was a bush walker and craft maker as well as gardener. She was keen on bonsai many of which have now been claimed by relatives. Lynette's embroidery was regularly prizewinning at Robertson and Moss Vale Shows. Her speciality was Stump Work. Brian is a golfer and a keen member of the Bowral Golf Club on which he has served as President.

Lynette's contribution to our garden society was prodigious. She joined the Society in 1994 and three years later was involved with the trading table. Every third Friday night for years her car would be packed—back seat and boot—with trays of potted plants which she and others had propagated in her backyard in Burradoo. Brian reports that the glasshouse and other protected structures are still filled to capacity with young plants.

In 2003 Lynette was made a Life Member of the Highlands Garden Society. Unlike all other life members at that time Lynette had not been a committee member. She was what we would now call a Quiet Achiever. Her citation in fact read

"Lynette is representative of the quiet worker on whom the life of the Society depends". Vale to a dear garden friend.

Our sincere condolences go to her husband Brian, and her children Lianne and David and their families.

Day trips for Members

It looks as though we may be socially distancing for some time. In the Southern Highlands there are very few cases of infection and if you take care and wear a mask when appropriate we can all get out and about. There won't be any tours planned for this year but we have decided to suggest some day trips for you.

Visit Hurlingham Avenue, Burradoo, to see the spring blossom:

A five-minute drive off Moss Vale Road is Hurlingham Ave, where one side of the street is planted with a mix of KENZA and Fuji cherries and the other side crabapple trees.

Bradman Oval:

The daffodils are a delight at this time of year and you can stop off for morning or afternoon tea at the Bradman Museum.

A detour and then Nellie's Glen, Budderoo National Park

Drive to Robertson and turn right at the Pie Shop on to Jamberoo Mountain Road. Drive until you see the sign 'Missingham Creek' and turn left down a small lane. Continue for about 1.2 km and then bear left and you will find yourself at a lookout where you can see over Lake Illawarra.

From there return to the main road turning left on Jamberoo Mountain Road. At the signpost to Carrington Falls, turn right and follow the signs to Nellie's Glen—a beautiful bushland swimming hole.



Follow us on our Facebook page: AGHS Southern Highlands.

Index of Highlife Magazines

Jeanne Villani and Jenny Simons took on the task of indexing all the gardens that have appeared in the *Highlife Magazine* since the very beginning. The task is almost complete but we are missing a few of the Issues—3, 4, 5 & 6 of volume 3 from 1998/9.

If you have any of these copies, please contact us so they can complete the index.

Our grateful thanks to Jeanne and Jenny for all their dedication to the job.

Photo Competition

As part of the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of its establishment, the Australian Garden History Society the ACT Monaro Branch has helped organize the Society's inaugural Garden History Photo Competition. Entries should reflect the aims of the Australian Garden History Society (AGHS) and could range from a 'historical property or landscape' to garden history in the making:

to promote awareness and conservation of significant gardens and cultural landscapes

Images submitted must be taken by the entrant.

Participants are invited to submit one digital photograph only (in colour, black and white, sepia, etc) along with a brief description (up to 150 words) that describes the subject and how it illustrates 'garden history', in one or more of the following categories:

- A. **Garden view or cultural landscape** – Photographs may include building or hard landscaping, including public landscaping and places like cemeteries. If a private house or garden (other than your own), you must obtain permission of the owner, and confirm this when submitting. Street views, as well as long-distance shots of houses and images of public buildings, parks and National Trust properties, can be accepted without 'owner permission'. Indicate if the image is of a National Trust¹ (or similar) property on the entry form (See Rule 5).
- B. **Still life composition** (garden tools, books, sheds, flowers, etc). This category can include cyanotypes.
- C. **A gardener or gardeners taken under COVID-19.** This is our chance to capture gardeners during the extraordinary circumstances of 2020. To submit images that show identifiable faces, **you must obtain permission** from the person(s) photographed.
- D. **The lawn** (can include lawn maintenance equipment) is a special category for 2020, as part of the celebration of the proposed Australian Museum of Gardening (Carrick Hill, South Australia) exhibition "The Blade", which is scheduled to tour in Australia in 2020 and 2021.
- E. **Garden history imagined** – Entrants can use various photographic tools, filters etc to make composite pictures, cyanotypes etc that capture the competition theme.

Entries are open to non-AGHS members and members alike. The photographs can be taken anywhere in the world! – The competition is not limited to 'Australian' garden history.

The winning entrant in each category will receive an Australian made gardening tool (including delivery to their postal address). Note: Should delivery costs be prohibitive,

¹ The National Trusts of Australia own or manage over 300 heritage places (the majority held in perpetuity) (See <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/>). The United Kingdom, the

USA and other countries have similar heritage organisations See <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/international-places/>.

award recipients who are based in other countries may receive an alternative prize. The overall winner across all categories will receive an additional prize of AU\$500 donated by the ACT Monaro Riverina Branch of the AGHS.

The judges (organised by the AGHS Photo Competition Committee) will be a panel of independent experts and AGHS members with a range of expertise in photography, garden history and art.

Entry fees:

- AGHS members AU\$5.00 for one category or AU\$10.00 for more than one category
- Non-members AU\$10.00 for one category and AU\$20.00 for more than one category.

Entrants should pay using Trybooking, by buying a 'ticket'. Go to <https://www.trybooking.com/BKERZ>. Trybooking will add an additional fee of AU\$0.50 fee for the ticketing. Your ticket will include a unique number to insert on the entry form.

Deadline for Entries: Entries close on 11.59 PM, Eastern Australia daylight saving time (EADT), 15 January 2021.

If you are planning on entering, be sure to read about the competition entry requirements and the rules for the 2020 Competition which can be accessed [here](#) (or go to <https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/publications/aghs-2020-photo-competition/>) where the entry form can also be downloaded as a word document. The email address for enquiries and submitting entries is photo2020@gardenhistorysociety.org.au.

Welcome to New Members

Tim and Glynis Charles, Jill Rogers, Manon Garnock, Janine Armstrong, Frances Cairns

Springcleaning your garden shed?

What we really want you to do is to go on a tool hunt—down to the back of your shed and prove you're not scared of the spiders. The AGHS SH branch is looking for small antique gardening tools, plant catalogues, seed boxes—anything to do with the garden that could go into display cases in Berrima District Museum. Lyn Barrett has been meeting with Linda Emery and Lyn Hall to discuss the project—originally planned for earlier in the year—as part of our celebration of 40 years.

Exhibition of 19th and 20th Century gardens and their designers in the Southern Highlands of NSW

The exhibition will feature 19th and 20th century properties that had gardens designed and planted by notable landscape gardeners/ owners of the time such as Paul Sorenson and Claude Crowe and will include properties—*Camden Park Estate, Bendooley House, Southdown, Hopewood House, Relford Park, Milton Park, Invergowrie* and *Hillview*. The focus will be on plant selection and people.

There are some small display cases which we could use for antique gardening memorabilia. So do have a hunt for us to see what has been hiding in the dark for all these years.

Contact Lyn Barrett (aghs.sh.info@gmail.com) if you find something!

Wednesday 30 September 2020 Don't miss the next Zoom session with Stuart Read: *Fabulous at Forty*

AGHS 'up for air': what next?

Stuart will give a presentation skipping through AGHS's history, asking 'Have we achieved our mission? Do we need a new one?' touching on thoughts for our direction for the next decade. He'll include some notable guests including Bronwyn Blake (and a few surprises!) in quick cameos giving their perspectives on how it happened and how the past can inform our future: where they'd like to see AGHS go ...



Stuart at the Bendooley Lunch on 23 February 2020

Stuart Read is a polymath specialist, advising the NSW Heritage Council on landscape and garden heritage, collaboratively working on Aboriginal Places and state heritage nominations. He has a passion for landscape design, horticulture, plants and economic botany. He is (with Bronwyn Blake) currently co-chair of the AGHS.

To register your interest in taking part in this Zoom session 30 September, please contact Jenny Woodwell by email: woodwell@optusnet.com.au

AGHS Southern Highlands Branch Committee

Chair & NMC Representative:	Lyn Barrett
Treasurer:	John Biffin
Secretary and Events co-ordinator:	Ruth Bailey
Technical Officer:	Jenny Woodwell
Editor/Minutes Secretary:	Meg Probyn

Associate members

Tours:	Ray Bradley
WSC Heritage Rep:	Laurel Cheetham

Email: aghs.sh.info@gmail.com



Gift Voucher

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the AGHS with a Living Memory

To: _____ AGHS-SHB member
Insert Name Here

This voucher entitles a current member (as at 30 September 2020) of the AGHS-Southern Highlands Branch to a plant from the nursery at the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens to the value of \$12.50 or towards the cost of a higher priced plant.

Please present voucher when selecting your plant.

Voucher eligibility will be verified by a staff member or volunteer at the SHBG from a membership list provided by the AGHS-SHB Committee.

Valid for 2 months only - 1 October, 2020 to 30 November, 2020



SHBG Nursery Location:

Corner Kangaloon Rd and Old South Road
Bowral NSW 2576

Website: <https://shbg.com.au>

Opening hours:

Tuesday 9am - 3pm

Thursday 9am - 3pm

Saturday 9am - 3pm