

Glen Ewin Estate, Houghton Visit Friday 17 March



Wendy Wauchope, owner of Glen Ewin and her son Wila provided an exceptional tour and commentary on the history of this fruit farm that became an industrial scale centre for jam production in the twentieth century. Adelaide region's agrarian history is exemplified by Glen Ewin, established by George McEwin (1815 -1885) in 1843, who began planting vines and fruit trees.

Close by was viticulturalist George Anstey's (1841-1895) property now Anstey Hill Recreation Park.

Lower down the hill is Newman's Nursery developed between 1857-1871 by Charles Newman and continues to operate as a fine nursery specialising in Camelias. At 371 meters above sea level the area has its own microclimate and views across the hills to Gulf St Vincent.

Despite a disappointingly small group of members, we had a very special visit to Wendy's wonderful stone house to see the interiors and then enjoyed a great lunch of platters and glasses of wine. I think we must return later in the year and see more of this historic property.



Encroachment of the Park Lands – Action Alert

Following reports in the media and articles quoting Jane Lomax Smith, Lord Mayor of Adelaide's opposition to taking over Park Lands for re-siting the displaced Mounted Police Barracks, the AGHS SA Branch Committee agreed on issuing this statement below which has been sent to the Premier, the Police Minister & Commissioner for SAPOL.

The Adelaide Park Lands Association (APLA) are organising a public meeting to be attended by Premier Malinauskas at 10.30 Saturday 1 April at Cinema, North Adelaide. On the same day from 11.30am to 1.30pm there is a Protest Rally at Mirnu Wirra (Cnr. Sir Lewis Cowen Ave & Greenhill Rd). Members are asked to make every effort to attend one or both these events and encourage friends to do the same. A petition is being circulated organised by Unley Councillor, Chris Crabbe to have the matter raised in Parliament. Information on how to sign to follow.

AGHS Statement opposing the encroachment of the Adelaide Parklands

We, the Australian Garden History Society, believe the SA Government's intention to locate a new SAPOL Mounted Police Operations Unit at Mirnu Wirra in the south Parklands is an act of vandalism. This decision compounds the disruption brought about by siting the new Women's and Children's Hospital in the location of the current SAPOL facilities.

The Parklands are on the National Heritage Register List (Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S238, 7 Nov 2008) and regarded as a cultural landscape of the highest significance. Their value both as natural open space for recreation and as a unique environmental zone is a defining element in the City of Adelaide's historic and cultural character.

Every encroachment reduces the scale and natural environment contained in the Parklands by diluting and destroying what distinguishes Adelaide as a city. It will be resisted vehemently by the Australia Garden History Society and many other community groups.

We urge the Premier and his Police Minister, Joe Szakacs, to select one of the other sites listed for consideration outside the Parklands.

Richard Heathcote, Chairman SA Branch of the Australian Garden History Society.

N.B. Centennial Park Visit, 10.30am Friday 21 April

The history and horticulture of the Centennial Park cemetery site on Goodwood Road has been part of Adelaide's life since 1936. It includes over 30 gardens spread across 100 acres (40 hectares) of landscape with many trees. This fascinating guided tour comes highly recommended and is free. Please meet at 10am at the Wildflower Cafe for the tour commencing at 10.15am. Maximum number 10 people. Please book early.

RSVP Richard Heathcote 0401 984 242 or richard.heathcote99@gmail.com

Expressions of Interest in helping to organise the 2025 AGHS Conference in Alice Springs.

As a member of AGHS Nation Management Committee, Dot Evans was asked whether our SA Branch would be willing to organise the 2025 Conference in Alice Springs, because there is no AGHS Branch in the NT, but there was keen interest from the other Branches to go there. Dot has done some preliminary research – it looks to be not only possible but should be absolutely fascinating! What we need now is a strong committee to undertake the organization. AGHS head office has a very useful manual that previous organisers have put together to share their experiences. It details timelines, budgets, and duties of subcommittees. Now we need you to all put on your thinking caps, reach out to your NT contacts and come up with some ideas and volunteers. See Dot's letter attached separately.