

## Newsletter – Autumn 2019

WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH



### *Roses of Woodbridge* *Heritage Roses from Charles Harper's Nursery*

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019**  
**10am to 4pm each day. Entry is free.**  
**Woodbridge, Ford Street, Woodbridge 6056 WA**

*Please support this important event being held during the National Heritage Festival.*

At his property Woodbridge, Charles Harper had a commercial orchard and nursery that operated from 1894 to 1915. As well as supplying fruit trees and vines to the developing state he also had a selection of rose varieties numbering over one hundred. He supplied them to the customers throughout the state by utilising the developing railway network.

Over two days the Australian Garden History Society (WA) and Heritage Roses in Australia Inc. (HRIA) and NTWA Woodbridge Volunteers will showcase a selection of roses that were in the original catalogue and still available today.

Floral arrangements using heritage roses will be on display throughout the house to complement the exhibition. The display and information about the enterprise will be held in the Billiard Room of the historic NTWA property Woodbridge during National Heritage Festival.



Alfred Columb Hybrid Perpetual: The first rose listed in the 1897 Woodbridge Nursery Catalogue.

**Reference:** Beales, P., Cairns, T., Duncan W., Fagan, G., Grant, W., Grapes, K., ...Williams, T. (1998). *Botanica's Roses*. Sydney, Australia: Random House.

For further information about the Woodridge Nursery, see a recent article in the Australian Garden History Journal by John Viska titled *Rare Ephemera on Woodbridge Nursery*. AGH Vol. 29 No. 4 April 2018 on pages 24 and 25. The article explains that very little ephemera of the early nurseries of Western Australia has survived. The author's discovery of some rare nursery ephemera – a 1908 catalogue, a nursery order form and a 1911 postcard – provides insight into the operation of one of the state's former horticultural enterprises.

Heritage Festival website link:

[https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/explore/?keyword=woodbridge&ahfdate-search=&ahf-region=&region-lat=&region-Ing=&content=ahf\\_event](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/explore/?keyword=woodbridge&ahfdate-search=&ahf-region=&region-lat=&region-Ing=&content=ahf_event)

## ***Pioneer Hostess***

*Talk by Gillian Lilleyman*

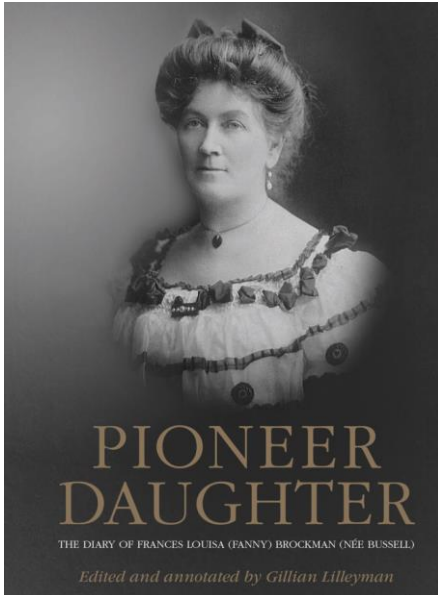
Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 / 2pm to 4pm / Entry: \$10

The Grove Community Learning Centre,

1 Leake Street, Peppermint Grove

(Basement parking off Leake Street available)

RSVP required: Sue Monger h 9384 1575 / mob 0417 187 376 or [susanmonger@yahoo.com.au](mailto:susanmonger@yahoo.com.au)



***Gillian Lilleyman will talk about her latest book titled Pioneer Daughter***

Mention Margaret River and we think surfing and wineries. But this is a relatively recent phenomenon. At the close of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century caves were the drawcard. Frances Louisa (Fanny) Brockman was a pioneer in providing accommodation for early tourists at her property Burnside, along with her brother John Bussell at Wallcliffe House and her sister Edith at Ellensbrook. Drawing upon Fanny Brockman's diary and family letters, Gillian Lilleyman will trace the beginnings of caves tourism, an important industry in the region still. Books will be available for sale - \$55.

## ***Planning Day and NMC meeting in Melbourne: 9-10 February 2019***

*Patsy Vizents NMC Representative*

Saturday 9 February, 2019 Planning Day

Eight key topics were identified from 2017 and 2018 NMC planning days

Morning groups

1. 2019 Conference: AGHS relationship with NZ post conference
2. Membership Survey
3. 2019 National Marketing Strategy
4. NMC Restructure

Afternoon groups

5. Sponsorship of National Conferences
6. Reassessment of Membership Categories
7. Young Professional Engagement /Student Bursary/Annual Awards
8. National Partnership and Engagement Strategy

Some of the topics covered in the groups included how we are all capable of assisting to spread the word of AGHS advocacy for conservation initiatives and enjoyment of historic gardens through sharing our journal with others. The focus of both groups 3 and 8 was on building relationships with like-minded organisations and joining forces to share a common goal.

Copies of these discussion group notes are available through WA Branch Secretary, Lynette Peterson – [lpetersen@aapt.net.au](mailto:lpetersen@aapt.net.au)

## ***2020 Celebrations***

Next year AGHS celebrates 40 years of formation and the NMC has been keen to encourage branches to celebrate this with activities but also to link up all the branches to share a “virtual garden party”. The WA Branch Committee has come up with a few commemorative events, including participation in a garden party. These include the publication of a book that combines the research work undertaken in presenting two exhibitions on Historic Gardens of Perth. The two exhibitions; 2011 and 2018, showcased extraordinary gardens in both the city of the Perth inner city and the Western Suburbs. This will make a wonderful publication and document for the future. Also planned is a practical workshop featuring Recording Gardens, a recent AGHS publication. If you have any ideas of how to celebrate 40 years of AGHS, please send them through to WA Branch Secretary, Lynette Peterson – [lpetersen@aapt.net.au](mailto:lpetersen@aapt.net.au)

## ***Landscapes at Risk***

*The Australian Garden History Society promotes awareness and conservation of significant gardens and cultural landscapes through engagement, research, advocacy and activities.* This is a reminder that we are all advocates for landscapes at risk. Please contribute to this section with information and suggestions for action on those landscapes and places that you feel are under threat.

## ***Register of Significant Trees***

The National Trusts of Australia have collaborated to create a National Register of Significant Trees. This Register is consistent with their mission to protect and celebrate Australia's heritage.

To find out how you can contribute please follow the link to the website:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/services/significant-tree-register/>

## ***Historic Gardens of Perth Publication***

We are calling on our members for advice and expertise to guide us through the challenge of self-publishing the AGHS(WA) book on Historic Gardens of Perth.

Please contact John Viska [johnviska@gmail.com](mailto:johnviska@gmail.com) / 9328 1519 if you are willing to assist. Your contribution will be much appreciated.

## ***Oral History***

Congratulations to Patsy Vizents as the WA Heritage Award 2019 winner for Individual Professional Contribution to WA Heritage through the development and management of the Rottnest Island Oral History Program from 2007 to 2018. John Viska received a similar award – Outstanding Contribution to Heritage in Western Australia by an Individual – in 2008. Patsy is now undertaking oral histories for AGHS and contributes to the National Oral History Committee for AGHS.

## ***AGHS 40th Annual National Conference 2019***

25 October - 27 October 2019

National Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington.

There are still some vacancies to the conference although the pre and post tours are fully booked.

Link to website: <https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/events-conference/aghs-40th-annual-national-conference-2019/>

## ***Guildford Heritage Festival***

The Guildford Heritage Festival was cancelled so we were unable to promote AGHS(WA) at this venue.

## ***Enderslea Chittering Valley***

National Heritage Festival 2019

Friday April 24, Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 five performances of *Moondyne and Me: the making of a bushranger* which explores the legend behind Joseph Bolitho Johns, better known as Moondyne Joe. Referencing the novel written by John Boyle O'Reilly the play explores their experiences in the Swan River Colony of the 1860' and '70's.

Link to website for more information and tickets:

<http://www.endersleafarm.com/events/>

## ***2018 AGHS(WA) Christmas Function***

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the formation of the WA branch a special birthday function was held on Sunday the 9th December 2018 at the Mosman Park Golf Club which 26 members and four invited guests attended. Members were pleased to catch up with Anne Willox, founding Secretary and Tessa Watson a former Branch Chairperson.

Prior to the main function Ron Norris, the former mayor of the Town of Mosman Park, provided an informative walk and talk through the Memorial Park to mark the centenary of the end of World War I.

A panel devoted to the park was featured in the branch's recent exhibition *Historic Gardens of Perth Western Suburbs*. The highly competitive and eagerly awaited Chairman's Christmas Quiz was held with the winners taking home some excellent prizes after having swatted the 2018 AGHS Newsletters.

### *History of AGHS(WA), John Viska (Chair)*

The branch was inaugurated on the 15th of November 1988 following a public meeting held at Bentley TAFE. Since its inception as well as running regular functions it has hosted three national conferences, mounted two exhibitions on historic gardens of Perth, and held a seminar on trees as well restoring gardens. Invited members contributed to *The Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens* and *A Guide to Conserving and Interpreting Gardens in Western Australia* published. An index to the *West Australian Gardener* magazine was produced, three grants for garden restoration projects have been allocated as well as advice and information on gardens of heritage listed properties provided. Members of the original committee were invited plus previous chairpersons who together cut the cake to celebrate 30 years of the branch's operation.



2018 AGHS(WA) Christmas Function attendees.  
**Photo Credit: Leon Tang**



Blowing out the candles are the four AGHS(WA) Chairpersons: John Viska (current), Sue Monger, Caroline Grant and Tessa Watson.

**Photo Credit: Leon Tang**

## ***Heritage Regulations 2019***

Consultation has opened regarding the new draft heritage bill and it is now out for discussion. Submissions can be made until Friday 3 May 2019. Please visit the Heritage Council's website at:

<https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/about/the-department/news-and-public-engagement/news/2019/march/views-sought-on-draft-heritage-regulations>



## ***Recent Events***

### **Lost Grottoes of Queens Gardens**

A power point presentation on the Lost Grottoes of Queens Gardens, City of Perth, was given to the Mosman Park Probus Club by the chairman.

### **Historic Gardens of Perth Western Suburbs**

The West Coast Gardening Club requested the presentation on the branch's recent exhibition Historic Gardens of Perth Western Suburbs. The Grove Community Library recently displayed part of the exhibition at the Grove Community Library to coincide with it. The Hollywood Kings Park Probus Club has requested the presentation for their April meeting.



Display of gardening implements from the Historic Gardens of the Western Suburbs by Kazz Morgan.  
**Photo Credit: Patsy Vizents**

### **Town of Bassendean Consultation**

The branch has liaised with the landscape architect contracted by the Town of Bassendean and provided advice on plants and layout for the garden of the 1850's Pensioner Guard Cottage, 1 Surrey Street, Bassendean.

<https://www.bassendean.wa.gov.au/community/places-to-visit/pensioner-guard-cottage.aspx>



Pensioner Guard Cottage,  
Bassendean.

**Photo Credit: Patsy Vizents**

### ***For Interest***

A seed packet issued by Dawson and Harrison's Nursery in the 1920's was purchased recently at an Antique Collectors' Fair by a member of the branch. The seed packet is in mint condition and is a rare survivor from the first decades of the 20th century.

### ***New Members***

A warm welcome to Pauline Basso, Jenny Latham, Jane MacArthur, Helen Rietveld and Jeanie Williams. We look forward to meeting you at a function soon. Sue Davis has rejoined and attended the Christmas function as did new members Maxine Alden, Pip Gavranich, Valerie McAlpine, Barb Stockton and Meg Thompson.

### ***Thank you!***

A big thank you goes to Sue Monger who after many years is stepping away from compiling the AGHS(WA) Newsletter. New committee member Lyn Oliver is taking over the compilation role but happily Sue will still be involved in editing and ensuring it is distributed it to members. Thanks Sue!

If anyone would like to contribute to the publishing and content of the Newsletter please contact John Viska [johnviska@gmail.com](mailto:johnviska@gmail.com) / 9328 1519.