



AUTUMN GARDENS AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN NORTH WESTERN TASMANIA

FRIDAY 9TH, SATURDAY 10TH and SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2021

HOME HILL, ASIMATREE, TASMANIAN ARBORETUM,
GLENCOE, WYCHWOOD, MARAKOOPA CAFÉ,
OLD WESLEYDALE, BENTLEY

AUTUMN GARDENS AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN NORTH WESTERN TASMANIA

Enclosed by the Great Western Tiers and Mt Roland to the south, this region of north west Tasmania is an area of visually stunning landscapes, fertile soils, and is home to the internationally significant limestone karst renowned for its spectacular caves. The plains in this region were fire-farmed by Aboriginal people and have been overlaid with European settlement which dates from the earliest land grants in the 1820s.

Diversity is the defining feature of this long weekend visiting gardens and cultural landscapes in the north west of Tasmania. These include the early colonial properties of Old Wesley Dale and Bentley, the rural landscape and garden of Glencoe, C20 heritage at Home Hill, the trees of the Tasmanian Arboretum, the artistic garden of Asimatree and the creative gardens of Marakoopa Café and Wychwood.



HOME HILL, 77 MIDDLE RD, DEVONPORT

Home Hill is the heritage-listed, former home of Joseph and Dame Enid Lyons. Joseph (Joe) was the first, and to date the only, Tasmanian Prime Minister of Australia and Dame Enid was the first woman elected to Federal Parliament and the first female Member of Cabinet. The garden at Home Hill has heritage significance primarily due to its association with Dame Enid, who was a keen gardener and created and maintained the garden over a 65-year period. Some of the original plantings and features are extant, but the original character of the garden is changing dramatically. In 2018, AGHS funded a landscape management plan for the garden. A house tour and garden talk are included in our visit.



ASIMATREE ART GARDEN, 49 BUCKS RD, TARLETON

Noel and Cheryl Sims established Asimatree in 1990, building the house, establishing the garden, and '*putting their creative mark on things*'. Now 30 years old, the garden has grown out of their hard work, enthusiasm and creative energy into a haven filled with a variety of plants and sculpture. The garden is approximately one hectare of an eclectic mix of trees, shrubs and perennials with artwork inspired by the life cycle of the garden.

Explore the garden and enjoy Devonshire tea. The on-site nursery sells plants, art work and sculpture made by Noel and Cheryl.



TASMANIAN ARBORETUM, 46 OLD TRAMWAY RD, EUGENANA

The arboretum was established in 1984 by a small group of people who shared a vision of creating a unique tree park comprising representative collections of Tasmanian native trees, together with exotic species from around the world and in particular Gondwanaland species. The Arboretum now has the world's largest collection of Tasmanian living woody plants, Southern Hemisphere conifers, and plants from Northern Hemisphere forests in a 66-ha park. Phil Parsons will give a talk about the Arboretum, assisted by Sue Small; and a variety of self-guided walks are available. BYO picnic lunch or buy a simple lunch from the kiosk.



GLENCOE, 1468 SHEFFIELD RD, BARRINGTON

Originally a dairy farm, Glencoe is situated on the fertile Kentish Plains with stunning views to the surrounding rural and natural landscape, including Mount Roland. The early C20 homestead has been restored, and is surrounded by beautiful gardens with historic trees. The head gardener, Robert Gower, will talk about the garden and local historian Peter Cocker will talk about early agricultural history of the area, including an early potato digger patented by his great grandfather, Joseph Cocker of Lower Barrington. Afternoon tea will be provided.



EPICUREAN CAFÉ, MAIN ST, SHEFFIELD

Epicurean Cafe is a small, gourmet cafe located in the heart of Sheffield. The cafe is home to aromatic coffee, quality food, a selection of providore goods and one of Sheffield's iconic murals, Echo of the Mountain, local artist Julian Bale. Epicurean Café will provide drinks and a tapas-style dinner.



WYCHWOOD, 80 DEN RD, MOLE CREEK

Described as one of the world's most magical gardens, Wychwood is located with a backdrop of the Great Western Tiers and a boundary to Mole Creek. Previous owners Peter Cooper and Karen Hall began the garden in 1991 with sweeping borders of rare perennials, grasses and old roses; a productive garden of fruit and vegetables; an orchard of rare and heritage apples; a woodland area and many cool climate trees. There are also artworks and Wychwood's signature medieval-style grass labyrinth.

In 2016, Wychwood was bought by Melbourne city gardeners, David Koukidis and Matt Bendall, who arrived in Tasmania in time for the June, 2016 floods that swept away a third of the garden. David and Matt have restored it, including some of their favourite plants, and redeveloping the nursery, which specialises in rare and exotic perennials. David and Matt will talk about the garden, before we explore it and visit the nursery.



MARAKOOPA CAFÉ, 186 MAYBERRY RD, MAYBERRY

Lars and Sarah Cooper moved to Mayberry in the early 2000s and began planting trees for shade and shelter. With inspiration from brother Peter and sister-in-law Karen, who established nearby Wychwood garden, they began creating a beautiful garden of shady woodland and borders filled with flowers, a vegetable garden and an orchard. Almost 20 years later, the garden is full of fruit and nut trees, blueberries under a copse of silver birch, a willow arbour, an edible front border and a circle of pollarded sweet chestnut trees. The grassed amphitheatre hosts musical events and Lars and Sarah have organised a string ensemble to play for us as we enjoy morning tea and explore the garden.

<http://www.marakoopacafe.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/CS-AUG-2016-Garden.pdf>



OLD WESLEYDALE, 1970 MOLE CREEK RD, MOLE CREEK.

Dating from 1829, Old WesleyDale is one of the most important properties in northern Tasmania. Scott and Deb Wilson bought the 97-hectare property, with its 1830s Georgian homestead and fortified compound, in 1998 and moved there in 2001. Scott and Deb have restored and added to what were rather haphazard garden features using traditional horticultural and landscape crafts such as topiary, hedgelaying and stonewalling to create a peaceful, English-style garden with some delightful and surprising elements. They didn't have an overall plan for their garden but their flexible approach has enabled the garden to evolve incrementally over the past 20 years. This garden is constantly changing and Jennifer Stackhouse says it is always one of the best gardens in the state. Deb and Scott will give a talk on the development of the garden.



CHUDLEIGH HALL, 53 SORELL ST, CHUDLEIGH

Nestled at the foot of the Great Western Tiers, the tiny village of Chudleigh with its population of 150, has a strong sense of community. In 2001 it was decided to beautify the village by planting roses along the length of the main street. About 500 roses were planted by volunteers, and Chudleigh is known as the 'Village of Roses'. These may be in bloom when we visit in April. Lunch will be provided by the local community in the Chudleigh Memorial Hall to assist in raising funds for the Hall.



BENTLEY, MOLE CREEK RD, CHUDLEIGH

Established on an Aboriginal fire-farmed landscape with an 1829 land grant, Bentley has been owned by a number of prominent Tasmanians. The house was constructed in 1879 by the Cameron family, and more than doubled in size by current owners, John Hawkins and Robyn Mayo-Hawkins. Bentley's heritage-listed landscape consists of grand landscape gestures: *more than six miles of hawthorn hedges* planted by C19 owner Philip Oakden, a founding member of the Launceston Horticultural Society; 700m of dry-stone walls surrounding the homestead; the revegetated creek corridor planted with 50,000 native trees; a lake; and an enormous stone sculpture framing a vista to the surrounding landscape. Robyn, an artist, is responsible for the planning and design of the grounds and John's English background has inspired the extension to the homestead, the building of dry-stone walls, and traditional laying of the hawthorn hedges. The Hawkins will talk about the history of the property and the development of the homestead and garden.

ITINERARY

FRIDAY 9 APRIL

2pm/3pm

HOME HILL, 77 MIDDLE RD, DEVONPORT

House tour with National Trust volunteers, garden talk and visit

SATURDAY 10 APRIL

10 am

ASIMATREE ART GARDEN, 49 BUCKS RD, TARLETON

Morning tea

Garden visit

11.45 am

Depart for Tasmanian Arboretum

12 noon

TASMANIAN ARBORETUM, 46 OLD TRAMWAY RD, EUGENANA

Talk by Phil Parsons, assisted by Sue Small

Self-guided walk through Arboretum

Lunch - BYO picnic, or buy basic lunch from kiosk

2.45 pm

Depart for Glencoe

3 pm

GLENCOE, 1468 SHEFFIELD RD, BARRINGTON

Talk by head gardener, Robert Gower

Talk about local agricultural history by Peter Cocker

Garden visit and afternoon tea

6.30pm

EPICUREAN CAFÉ, MAIN ST, SHEFFIELD

Drinks and tapas style dinner

SUNDAY 11 APRIL

8.30am

WYCHWOOD, 80 DEN RD, MOLE CREEK

Talk and garden visit, nursery

9.45 am

Depart for Marakoopa Café

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| 10 am | MARAKOOPA CAFÉ, 186 MAYBERRY RD, MAYBERRY Morning tea Music (string ensemble) Garden visit |
| 11.10 am | Depart for Old Wesleydale |
| 11.30 am | OLD WESLEYDALE, 1970 MOLE CREEK RD, MOLE CREEK Talk by Scott and Deb Wilson Garden visit |
| 12.50 pm | Depart for Chudleigh |
| 1 pm | CHUDLEIGH MEMORIAL HALL, 53 SORELL ST, CHUDLEIGH Lunch provided by local community |
| 2 pm | Depart for Bentley |
| 2.15 pm | BENTLEY, MOLE CREEK RD, CHUDLEIGH Talk by owners John and Robyn Hawkins Garden visit |

ACCOMMODATION FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT: Not organised by AGHS, please make your own arrangements. Asimatree, Glencoe and Old WesleyDale have accommodation. See also Sheffield Visitor Information Centre. <https://www.sheffieldtasmania.com.au/accommodation>

NOTES

All properties we are visiting are likely to have uneven paths and surfaces, level changes and some water features. Care is recommended at all times.

Due to COVID, do not join this event if you have fever, runny nose, cough, sore or itchy throat or shortness of breath. All guests will be expected to practise social distancing, hand washing and sanitizing.

COST

The cost will be \$160 for members, \$190 for non-members. Non-members are only able to purchase tickets from 7 April and only if places are available.

This covers:

- garden visit fees, house tour fee (Home Hill)
- morning teas at Asimatree, Marakoopa Café
- lunch at Chudleigh Hall, Chudleigh
- drinks and tapas-style dinner at The Epicurean Café, Sheffield

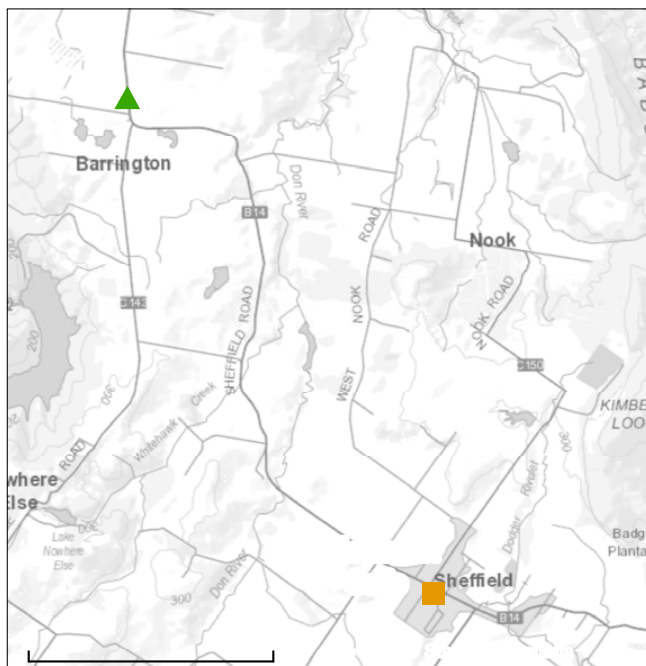
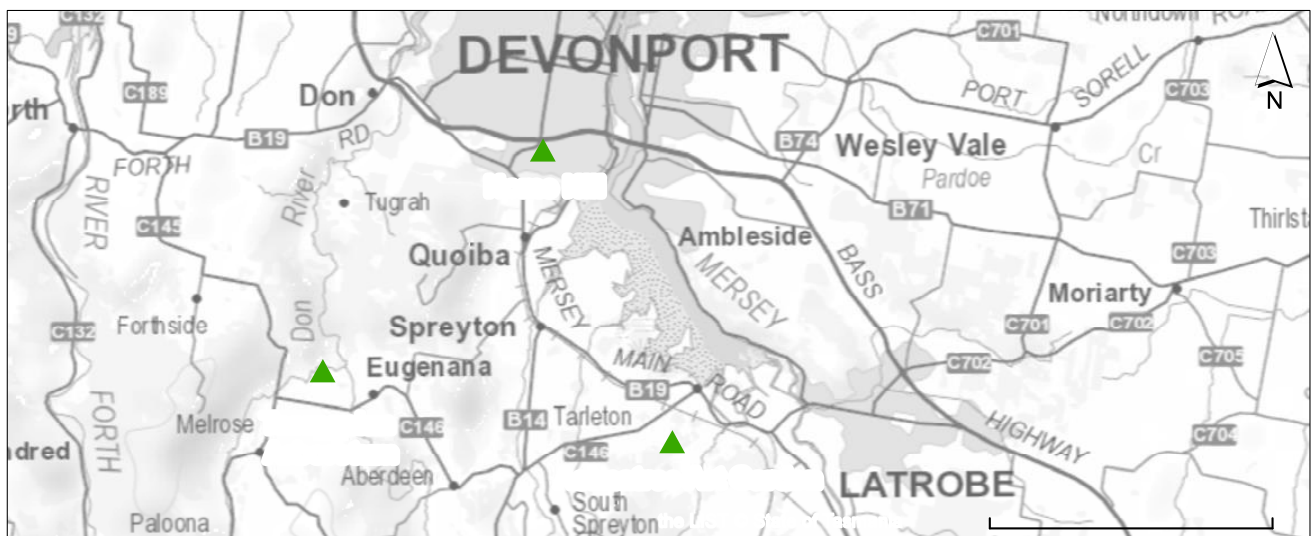
WHAT TO BRING

- Picnic lunch (optional) for arboretum. Picnic shelters are available
- Sturdy shoes, especially for walking tour of arboretum
- The usual clothing suitable for all-season Tasmanian weather

BOOKING

As numbers are limited, priority will be given to members. Only members will be able to purchase tickets up to 5pm, Wednesday, April 7. Members will not be able to purchase tickets for non-members during this time. After this time, if places are available, tickets will be made available to non-members. The booking site has the option of a waiting list.

CLICK HERE TO BOOK <https://www.trybooking.com/BPURN>



| Site | Address |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Home Hill | 77 Middle Rd, DEVONPORT |
| Asimatree Art Garden | 49 Bucks Rd, TARLETON |
| Tasmanian Arboretum | 46 Old Tramway Rd, EUGENANA |
| Glencoe | 1468 Sheffield Rd, BARRINGTON |
| Epicurean Cafe | 72 Main St, SHEFFIELD |
| Wychwood | 80 Den Rd, MOLE CREEK |
| Marakoopa Cafe | 186 Mayberry Rd, MAYBERRY |
| Old Wesley | 1970 Mole Creek Rd, MOLE CREEK |
| Chudleigh Hall | 53 Sorell St, CHUDLEIGH |
| Bentley | Mole Creek Rd, CHUDLEIGH |

