

## ***Australian Garden History* October 2022: knowing our landscape**

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Bringing stories back from the past can deepen our connections to place. So does gardening. It's a potent combination.

In the October 2022 issue of *Australian Garden History*, Trisha Dixon recounts, paradoxically just as we are told to expect a third La Niña, her journey towards dry gardening. The rains will eventually stop and her article is a guide to seeing our dry landscape with new eyes.

Wet or dry, wattle lifts the spirits at this time of the year. John Dwyer sets out the strong feelings for and against the popular Cootamundra wattle.

It's an occasional thrill that keeps historians plodding through their archival research. For Margaret and Chris Betteridge, matching a charming photograph from the 1930s to a wishing well placed in the front garden of *Westridge House* in Canberra has resulted in the Venetian well head's return to *Yarralla* in Sydney. John

Viska's reconstruction of Bishop Hale's garden on St George's Terrace, Perth, started with a line in a letter bought at auction.

This issue takes us to the north and to Central Australia. John Dowe recounts the contribution to tropical horticulture of the Gulliver brothers, who ran the *Acacia Vale* Garden and Nursery in Townsville from 1881 to 1938. Francesca Beddie interviews Professor Anne Boyd about her new opera, *Olive Pink*, that will premiere in Alice Springs on 7 October. Set in the Olive Pink Botanic Garden, this musical drama is a tribute to a woman who strove for the rights of the Walpiri people, and to the landscape of the Australian outback.

Also offered are extracts from *Gardeners, Plant Collectors, Friends – Hobart Town and Beyond* by Ann Cripps and from Trevor Nottle's forthcoming book, *Potpourri for Ursula*, which will offer a different view of garden and rose history in Australia.

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*Australian Garden History* is the quarterly journal of the Australian Garden History Society (AGHS). For a digital copy of the journal or to arrange an interview with any of the journal's authors, contact Francesca Beddie, [editor@gardenhistorysociety.org.au](mailto:editor@gardenhistorysociety.org.au) or 0418 645 181.

The mission of the Australian Garden History Society is to promote awareness and conservation of significant gardens and cultural landscapes.