



NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA

Heritage in Trust (ACT)

August 2016

ISSN 2206-4958



Old Parliament House Rose Gardens

(Photo – Wendy Whitham)

Canberra's Garden Heritage

This special issue of Heritage in Trust focuses on the gardening heritage of the ACT. The first article is on the Old Parliament House Gardens, a much loved and significant part of Canberra's heritage, which in 2015 celebrated ten years as public gardens. The second article is about the possibly less familiar Fetherston Gardens in Weston, while the third tells the story of the Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust, two organisations with long and deep ties (as noted by the author of the article) and a shared interest in gardens with heritage values.

Inside

Canberra's Old Parliament House gardens – Now public gardens	p2
Weston's Fetherston Gardens	p10
Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust	p23
ACT & Region Heritage Symposium report	p21

Canberra's Old Parliament House gardens - now public gardens



Plan of the gardens (Source NCA)

In 2015, the National Capital Authority published *Roses, Tennis & Democracy: The story of the Old Parliament House Gardens, Canberra* to mark the passing of ten years since the completion of the reconstruction of the Old Parliament House Gardens as public gardens. In the National Capital Authority's book, the author, Dr John Gray, sketches the story of the gardens from their origins in the 1920s. He records why they were originally created, how the parliamentarians used them, and how they have been converted to public gardens.

Reconstruction of the gardens

The reconstruction of these gardens has been achieved with the support of the Commonwealth Government that wanted, in particular, to see the retention of both the gardens and the Provisional Parliament House itself because of their historical and heritage merits, despite having moved the Parliament in 1988 to the new Parliament House on Capital Hill. The gardens comprise separate oblong-shaped gardens on each side of what is now called the Old Parliament House: the House of Representatives Garden and the Senate Garden. In addition there are two semi-circular-shaped areas on each side: Constitution Place and Magna Carta Place.

The Government spent \$6.7 million on the reconstruction of the gardens. This was supplemented by raising over \$400,000 from the community through a rose patronage scheme. By 2005 over 3,000 individuals and/or organisations from all over Australia had become patrons and some 4,200 roses were planted to enable the renewal of the original rose beds. Mrs Tamie Fraser, wife of a former Prime Minister, was the Patron of the scheme.

The original design, layout and character of each of the two gardens have been retained. In particular, the borders of formal tree and hedge planting, enclosing irrigated grass spaces divided into four quadrants containing patterned rose beds or recreation facilities have not been altered. A new pathway network surrounds each garden, defining the quadrants and, in turn, directing visitors, including those using wheelchairs, into each rose bed. Replacement of some of the older trees and all of the hedges was required.

Some new features were added, including a fountain in the House of Representatives Garden to commemorate the centenary of women's suffrage. It comprises a water pond and associated time-line.

From the Editors

Welcome to the August 2016 edition of *Heritage in Trust*. Given the time of year, we thought that some articles on heritage gardens would lift our spirits and remind us that spring is not far away. Our thanks to authors John Gray, Stephen Utick and Max Bourke for their contributions. Are there other heritage gardens in Canberra or the region that you would like to know more about? Let us know and we will endeavour to follow up.

By chance, the theme of this year's ACT and Region Annual Heritage Partnership Symposium, held on Saturday 23 July, was *Inside out/Outside in – the Urban and Regional Landscape*, so it also had an outdoor flavour. In fact, intrepid participants were taken on a walk to see some of the Mt Stromlo Heritage Trail – the apparent temperature at the time was 2.8 degrees. Eric Martin provides a report on the symposium on page 21.

Members are clearly keen to participate in the excursions organised by the Trust's Tours and Events Committee. The two outings coming up, one in September and the other in October, have been fully booked already.

Please feel free to provide us with suggestions or feedback. These should be emailed to info@nationaltrustact.org.au or write to the editors at the ACT National Trust office.

Along the latter one finds the names of 16 women, all of whom have served the Parliament, from 1943 onwards.



The Centenary of Women's Suffrage Commemorative Fountain

Also added are refreshment pavilions, public toilets, lights for tennis players and a maintenance building. In addition Wisteria-planted pergolas and climbing-rose arbours now provide additional summer shade.

The original rose bed patterns cut into the grass have been restored; however the reinstatement of the original rose selections and arrangements proved to be impossible. Most of the original roses had been lost and replaced and sketchy records provided insufficient evidence to make confident statements about the original rose beds. It was decided instead to select new roses systematically. The surviving original roses of interest or unknown variety were placed in a small bed adjacent to the bowling-green pavilion for later identification.



The Senate Garden as a public garden (Source NCA)

On the Senate side, the Rex Hazlewood rose bed traces the history of the rose. In addition the Broinowski rose bed displays mainly English shrub roses.

On the House of Representatives side, the Ladies rose bed displays Hybrid Tea and Floribunda roses and the Macarthur rose bed displays roses popular at the turn of the century, including Tea and China roses and Noisette climbing roses for the new arbours.



Contents

Canberra's Old Parliament House gardens - now public gardens	2
From the President	7
People and Places/ Trusted Recipe	8
Notice of AGM	9
ACT Election Forum	9
Weston's Fetherston Gardens	10
Heritage Diary	13
Travels and at home with the Trust	15
Trust Tours and Event Reports:	
- Speaker's Night: Gallipoli 101 years on	15
- Richlands & the backstreets of Goulburn	17
Heritage Happenings	20
ACT & region Heritage Symposium Report	21
Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust	23

Canberra's Old Parliament House gardens -now public gardens (cont)



House of Representatives Gardens

There is another notable addition to the gardens. In 1996 the Australia–Britain Society facilitated, by public donations, the construction of a Magna Carta monument, costing \$900,000, in Magna Carta Place. The monument was the Society's Centenary of Federation project that incorporated a substantial Centenary of Federation gift from the government of the United Kingdom.



Magna Carta Monument

The involvement and support by the community in the reconstruction project have given the gardens a special quality. Mrs Tamie Fraser remarked in 2004 that the sponsored rose gardens give "the whole place quite a spiritual quality. When people put their money and their heart into having a rose planted, they come back and have an association and stake in the gardens themselves. People from as far away as Esperance, Christmas Island, Mackay and Broome have all given roses to the gardens. So all Australia is here really".

The reconstructed gardens are visited by many people wanting to learn about their history and they are popular with rose lovers. Many see the gardens as a place for a special family event, and weddings are numerous.

The idea for the gardens

The idea for the Old Parliament House Gardens came from the grounds of the Victorian Parliament House where, from 1901, the Australian Parliament sat for 26 years. The Victorian building was, and still is, set in extensive grounds, containing a bowling-green, a tennis court and an elegant garden pavilion with stained-glass windows. Cricket was also played there and the grounds were well planted. The Commonwealth Parliament's Joint House Committee maintained responsibility for the gardens throughout the Parliament's stay in Melbourne. A similar arrangement was to apply in Canberra.

The construction of the gardens in Canberra

The construction of the gardens in Canberra took over 10 years. The boundary hedges were planted in 1926 and the completion of the planting of the rose gardens was not achieved until 1937.

John Smith Murdoch, the architect for the Provisional Parliament House, saw the gardens as an integral part of his building. He visualized that the main access to the gardens should be through the Senate and House of Representatives courtyards, and then to a pavilion flanked with tennis courts in each garden and a bowling green in one of them.

However Members and Senators were greeted in May 1927, when the Provisional Parliament House was opened, with very underdeveloped gardens – a far cry from the attractive mature gardens they had left behind in Melbourne.

Eventually the tennis courts, bowling green and concrete cricket wicket were completed in 1928. But the remaining un-irrigated weed infested dry grassed areas (formerly a sheep paddock) persisted.



Tennis Courts in the Senate Garden

Eventually in 1931 a solution was found when Robert Broinowski, the then Secretary of the Joint House Department, initiated a rose bed scheme set in irrigated grass in the Senate Garden. To finance his scheme, Broinowski recruited the National Rose Society of NSW to help him prepare a plan for the first rose bed. He also sought donations of roses from many sources, in turn widening the support for the gardens around

Australia. Donors included rose societies, municipal councils, companies and individuals. The latter included staff working within the Provisional Parliament House, who soon found themselves contributing one shilling and four pence to purchase and plant a rose!

In 1933 he extended his scheme to the House of Representatives Garden with the establishment of Ladies Rose Beds and later, in 1937, additional rose beds in memory of John and Elizabeth Macarthur, because of their association with the merino wool industry in Australia.

A Special Place for Members and Senators

For parliamentarians, press reporters and staff working in the Parliament House, the gardens were a valuable safety valve. Here were places close to the Parliament to which they could retreat from the 'pressure cooker atmosphere' of the building. The bordering clipped hedges helped to maintain privacy.

Many parliamentarians and staff enjoyed their lunch there and political deals were no doubt finalized or speeches practised on occasions. There were also opportunities for parliamentarians, of whatever political allegiance, to meet one another on an informal basis. They were also able to enjoy the many roses and the sporting facilities. Many took roses back to their wives when returning to their electorates.

Tennis was the most popular recreation. Tournaments were often staged and many played tennis during the weekends. Squash courts were constructed in 1965. Some parliamentarians found other ways of using the gardens. One continued his interests in bee-keeping by bringing several hives to the gardens, and the honey was available in the parliamentary refreshment rooms.

One of the nation's treasures

The retention and reconstruction of the Old Parliament House gardens as a permanent public place in Canberra has been a highly successful initiative. Those who visit them in the years ahead will surely be grateful that they

and future generations can continue to enjoy this special place in our National Capital.

The Old Parliament House gardens comprise one of the nation's treasures.

John Gray

John Gray is a retired Canberra landscape architect who has spent much of his professional career in Canberra. In his retirement he has been researching Canberra's landscape history and has published a number of books. He is a member of both the National Trust (ACT) and the Canberra & District Historical Society.

Figure and photo credits

Figure 1, *Plan of the Gardens and The Senate Garden as a public garden, 2006* are from John Gray, *Roses, Tennis & Democracy: The story of the Old Parliament House Gardens, Canberra*, 2014, published by the National Capital Authority (NCA). The Figure and photo are reproduced with the permission of the NCA.

All other photos by Wendy Whitham.

Printed copies of John's book, *Roses, Tennis & Democracy*, are available from the author (9/146 Shackleton Circuit, Mawson, ACT 2607) for \$17.50 including postage within Australia. It is also available electronically at:

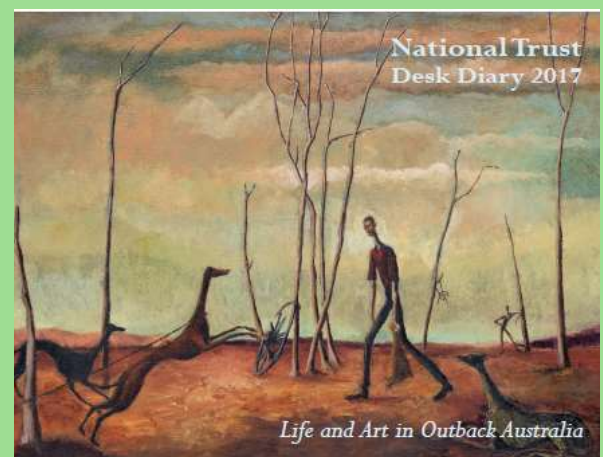
www.nationalcapital.gov.au/attachments/article/232/roses-tennis-democracy-2014-web.pdf.



Wisteria-covered pergola in Senate garden

2017 National Trust Desk Diary Life and Art in Outback Australia On Sale from mid -September!

This diary hopes to show, through the art of painting and of photography, some of the ways that people come to terms with life in the Outback....from pre-colonial Indigenous communities to the first European settlers, to explorers, cattlemen, miners....to present day Indigenous Rangers caring for country, mainstream environmentalists working to preserve wilderness; the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the School of the Air, modern transport all making life safer and more enjoyable for outback communities, while revealing to all Australians the wonders and glories of Outback Australia.



Produced by the Women's Committee of the National Trust of Australia (NSW)

Members: \$22.50
Non-members \$25.00

To pre-order your copy call 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au



Do you have a friend travelling overseas?
Tell them about the advantages of joining the National Trust including free entry into over 2000 National Trust properties around the world.

From the President

Dear Members

Another financial year has come and gone and while we don't have final accounts yet it appears that the Trust will record an operating shortfall in the vicinity of \$10,000 which is disappointing given the hard work and excellent outcomes that were achieved with our major events associated with the Heritage Festival. Our biggest Achilles heel continues to be our declining membership which is now down 30% on a few years ago and the ongoing costs of staffing our office in the city, remembering that we no longer receive any financial support from either local or Federal governments. While I appreciate we would all like to have a fully functional office the reality is that the Trust does not have the financial resources to absorb ongoing losses, so your Council will continue to review how we can make our operations more efficient with the least change to our services. The first step in this process will be the engagement of the NSW National Trust to manage our membership processing requirements. Rest assured this will not mean any change to your status as a member of the National Trust (ACT), but it will mean a significant saving to the Trust and will result in a more professional end-product for members, particularly with your membership card which will be hard plastic with relevant details on the back.

While on the subject of membership cards, there has been significant work at a national level to produce a "national" membership card which will have a uniform appearance on the front for all National Trust members across the country, with the reverse of the card containing State/Territory specific details (membership number, name, State of issue etc). This new card will also have a barcode and/or chip to record membership data. The National Trust is a unique brand with national appeal and the desire is to leverage off our Australia-wide coverage by projecting a national image (notwithstanding our underlying State and Territory membership profile) which will be enhanced with a fresh new national magazine and retail operation. There is still significant work to do but

these changes will make us more appealing to major sponsors/supporters and in this regard there are currently detailed talks being undertaken with a number of national companies regarding strategic relationships.

A couple of months back we invited members to complete an online survey and give us some feedback on a number of issues. Firstly, thank you for the more than 100 members who responded (not a bad rate out of a membership of 800). The results were reassuring to the Council in that the dominant reason for joining the National Trust was out of concern for/interest in heritage. Members were also very supportive of our tours and events program and the consistency of e-mails outlining these. One issue that raised a significant amount of comment was the difficulty (or poor experience) in having to read the national magazine on-line. We will look to address this when the new format comes into being but it is an unfortunate reality that the cost of postage can be prohibitive in posting a hard copy to each of our 800 members three times a year.

Scott McAlister
President



Partnership with the Friends of the National Library

<http://www.nla.gov.au/friends>

Trust Member Benefits

A reminder of the benefits of your National Trust membership at the National Library of Australia.

- 10% discount at the NLA bookshop,
- Friends discounted price for Friends events
- Access to the exclusive Friends Lounge at the NLA.

Reciprocal Benefits

In return the Friends of the NLA members can attend National Trust ACT events and tours at the Trust member prices.

People and Places

New members

The National Trust (ACT) warmly welcomes the following new members:

Steven Bittinger
Gordon Cheyne and Brigit Braamhorst
Richard Bradhurst
Susan Brodie
Ursula Brunnscheiler
Scott Burns
Margaret and Charles Cazabon
Karin Hosking and Andrew Davidson
Bronis and Rosalyn Dudek
Douglas Ferguson
Brendan Godfrey and Carol Flanagan
Wendy and Rod Gooding
Ron and Carol Hosking
Glenn and Meryl Jackson
Kathryn Joyce
Andrew and Bev Lamb
Henry and Beverley Lawrence
Pamela Mathie
Ruth and Graeme Nicholls
Graham and Margaret Patrick
Susan Price
John and Kerry Reid
Greg and Teena Russell
Sandra Thomas
Brian and Lynette Wenn
Lynda White
Matthew James and Bond Wong
Roberta and William Wood

Life Members - Pamela and John Kung

The National Trust acknowledges the support of
our Corporate Members and Benefactors:

Museum of Australian Democracy
ContentGroup

Benefactor: Mr Rob McL Johnston

Trusted recipe

Lemon Slice

The following recipe is a favourite of Mrs Glenys Ziegler, a citrus grower from Ramco in South Australia. The photo shows a batch freshly cooked by Di Dowling.



Ingredients

2 cups SR flour
1 cup sugar
4 oz butter (chopped)
2 eggs lightly beaten

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to 180 degrees.
2. Sift flour into bowl and add sugar. Mix well.
3. Add butter and rub in until like fine breadcrumbs.
4. Stir in egg to form soft crumbly dough.
5. Press two thirds of dough into a Swiss roll tin lined with baking paper. Spread lemon butter (see recipe below) evenly over base. Crumble remaining dough over lemon butter.
6. Bake 30 minutes or until golden. Cool in tin. When cool cut into slices.

Freezes well.

Lemon Butter

Ingredients

4 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 oz cornflour
rind and juice of 2 lemons
2½ oz butter

Method

1. Mix eggs, sugar and cornflour to form a paste. Add lemon rind and juice and butter.
2. Place in a microwave bowl and microwave on high stirring every minute until thick.

I have tried and tested this many times and it is a favourite with our family as well.

Dianne Dowling

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 41st Annual General Meeting of the National Trust of Australia (ACT) will be held in the Menzies Room at the National Archives of Australia on Thursday 20 October 2016, 6.00pm for 6.30pm.

Council vacancies will be notified in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association prior to the meeting.

Members are invited to nominate persons for election to Council. Nominations must be made and seconded in writing and signed by current members of the Trust accompanied by signed consent from the nominee.

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Trust office (Phone 02 6230 0533 or email info@nationaltrustact.org.au) and must reach the office 30 days before the AGM.

Please RSVP by 18 October for catering purposes.

For further information please check our website www.nationaltrust.org.au/act

ACT National Trust 2016 Council

Your current council is:

Scott McAlister	President /Treasurer
Dianne Dowling	Vice President
Mary Johnston	Secretary
Elizabeth Burness	
Graham Carter	
Bethany Lance	
Eric Martin	
Jim Nockels	
Linda Roberts	
John Tucker	
Chris Wain	

Graham Carter is Chair of the Heritage and Grants Committee and Mary Johnston chairs the Tours and Events Committee.

Members are welcome to volunteer with the committees or on other tasks and activities including Heritage Tourism Project and Internship program. EOI and enquiries to info@nationaltrustact.org.au

Heritage Election Forum

Over the last eight months the NT (ACT) Council has been meeting with representatives of the Labor and Liberal Parties as well as the ACT Greens to discuss key issues that we believe need to be addressed in their respective policy platforms for the ACT election on 15 October. These issues include:

- Heritage Listing of Lake Burley Griffin and foreshores and Master and Management Plans
- Government approval of National Heritage Listing for Canberra
- A review of Planning policy and processes - Ministerial call-in powers and standing (the right of an appellant to appeal to ACAT)
- Introduction of local/territory classifications of heritage significance in the ACT
- Redevelopment of Yarralumla Brickworks
- Development of Conservation Management Plans for Heritage Housing Precincts
- Introduction of Operational Assistance Funding for peak heritage/history/conservation bodies
- Conduct of a Social and Economic Impact Study of the Heritage and History sector
- Development of a new heritage/ history/ conservation hub near Blundell's Cottage site
- Development of a History and Heritage Tourism Plan.

So far the spokesmen for the Liberal Party (Mr Alastair Coe) and the ACT Greens (Mr Rattenbury) have been receptive and actively engaged. As yet the Labor Party has not responded.

The Trust intends to hold a public Heritage Election Forum on Thursday **22 September** and representatives of the parties have been invited to outline their policies and the initiatives they propose for the next term of government. Some Independent candidates may also be invited. More details about the location and time of the Forum will be provided to members once the political parties have responded to our invitations.

Your comments or ideas about the Forum are most welcome. We would also love to hear from members who would like to assist with the work to conduct the forum or progress the issues listed above. Your input is appreciated. Many hands make light work for everyone. Emails should be sent to info@nationaltrustact.org.au or telephone Graham Carter on 6247 2095.

Graham Carter

Weston's Fetherston Gardens – Preserving a Contemporary Garden Heritage

When it comes to preserving and restoring garden heritage, the public might usually imagine a garden set around a colonial mansion or homestead with stately trees, or perhaps a specially landscaped property in a home representing the finest of architectural styles in Australia's post-Federation era. Fetherston Gardens, on the corner of Fetherston Place (where its main entrance is located) and Heysen Street in Weston ACT, is nothing like these examples at all, being established as late as 1974. However, this garden's heritage rests on two important aspects.

First, Fetherston Gardens - specifically the remaining 3.5 hectares preserved for public usage - represents what survives of the teaching collection and garden facilities of the former TAFE/Canberra Institute of Technology School of Horticulture that operated until 2009. Named after Tony Fetherston MBE (1915-1980), the School's first and longest-serving Head of Horticulture, the gardens reflect Fetherston's own vision of what a great teaching garden might be. What remained of the garden itself was recovered from the brink of oblivion in 2010, following representations by the local and horticultural community led by Weston Creek Community Council.

The garden is currently being restored and maintained by volunteers from the Friends of Fetherston Gardens with underlying assistance by staff from the ACT's Territory and Municipal Services. As a purpose-built educational garden facility, it represents past substantial investment by the ACT in wonderful landscape features, including a woodland garden, a pond and extended arbour walk, an arboretum, fruit tree trellises, a herb garden, a native garden and a 'secret' garden complete with gazebo. As an indicator of recovering profile, a newly landscaped Gallipoli memorial garden (featuring plants found in that famous region) was added to Fetherston Gardens' features in November 2015.



Tony Fetherston



Fetherston inspecting original site in 1973



Entrance to the woodland garden

Second, Fetherston Gardens still features a wonderful horticultural collection of trees and shrubs that have withstood a period of neglect and (until recently) no permanent water supply. While much did not survive, a considerable proportion remains and is being nurtured back to health. From a heritage perspective this too is significant, given Tony Fetherston's penchant for collecting and exhibiting rare and/or indicative shrubs and trees from around the world in this garden. There is much evidence to suggest that he intended to establish a botanic garden featuring exotic (and native) ornamental plants.

As volunteers from the Friends of Fetherston Gardens carefully uncover many horticultural and arboricultural treasures, further detail is coming to light about some of these gems. Among the most significant of these, contained within the arboretum and the woodland garden, is a stately collection of *Quercus* (oak) species from around the world. These display magical leaf colours in autumn. One of the most stunning of these oak tree specimens is the Japanese *Quercus acutissima* with its indicative saw-toothed leaves; other species uncovered include *Quercus marilandica* (the Blackjack Oak from the United States) and *Quercus macranthera* (the Persian Oak from the Caucasus and Iran).



Rectangular pond feature



Foliage of *Quercus acutissima*



Secret Garden with gazebo



Oak collection in arboretum during autumn

Scattered throughout the featured gardens are additional reminders of Tony Fetherston's individual selections. For example, *Catalpa ovata* (from China) and red-stemmed dogwoods *Cornus alba* (native to Siberia and northern China) are on display in the secret garden. From an entirely different part of the world, the amazing *Illicium mexicanum* (the red flowering 'Aztec Fire' anise bush from Mexico) flourishes in the woodland garden, seemingly impervious to several years of neglect and drought.



Feature blossoms on
Catalpa ovata

Of special note is a collection of 40 or so camellia bushes located in the woodland garden, many of which are being nursed back to more robust health through an intensive pruning and feeding program. Foremost among the gems in this particular collection is an outstanding wild camellia species from southern China, *Camellia saluenensis*, with single pink flowers. Another camellia of special note is an exquisite, mainly white, formal double *Camellia japonica* 'Paolina Maggi', of nineteenth century Italian ancestry, going back to 1855.



Camellia saluenensis blossom



Camellia japonica 'Paolina Maggi'

With respect to its camellias, Fetherston Gardens is but one public garden that will benefit as a result of potential donations from Camellia Ark Australia Inc., a newly formed national association that aims to preserve Australia's rarest camellias. Of interest to National Trust readers, this association will be working with a number of National Trust and Sydney Historic Houses Trust properties in preserving our nineteenth century camellia heritage. These activities include research on and identification of historic camellias at famous Vaucluse House in Sydney, as well as a new heritage camellia garden being established at Harper's Mansion in Berrima in the Southern Highlands. For more information about these, as well as about the Fetherston camellia collection, please contact sutick@grapevine.com.au.

Slowly, new sunrays of promise are filtering through Fetherston Gardens at Weston. It is an example that demonstrates the value of preserving a contemporary garden heritage, although one senses that the late Tony Fetherston would be more relieved than delighted given how close it all came to being irretrievably lost.

For information about volunteering as a Friend of Fetherston Gardens, please contact Lesley Pattinson on lesley_pattinson@netspace.net.au.

Stephen Utick

Dr Stephen Utick is a volunteer with the Friends of Fetherston Gardens, and Secretary of Camellia Ark Australia Inc. Photos of Tony Fetherston courtesy the Friends of Fetherston Gardens. Photos of the Gardens courtesy the author.

Heritage Diary August to December 2016

A selection of heritage-related events of interest to members

Details of National Trust (ACT) Heritage Festival events are provided on page 15.

Date and time	Event and location	Organiser	Contact
On-going Every Saturday 11.30am - 2.30pm	Blundell's Cottage. Open every Saturday with tours at 11.30am and 1pm. New exhibits interpret Ginn and Sainsbury families – the first and last families in occupation. Numbers limited, bookings recommended.	NCA	https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/blundells-cottage-families-of-workers-tickets-16854262553
On-going monthly Second Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm <i>other times by appointment</i>	History with a Difference. Popular Canberra storyteller Elizabeth Burness brings stories of Canberra's pioneering past alive with tales of the old schooldays. Admission: gold coin Tuggeranong Schoolhouse, 34 Enid Lorimer Circuit, Chisholm	Tuggeranong Schoolhouse Museum	Elizabeth Burness 6161 6383 or 0400 391 440 http://www.historywithadifference.com.au/tuggeranong-schoolhouse-museum/index.html
On-going Each Saturday and Sunday 1pm – 4pm	Calthorpes House. Open each Saturday and Sunday afternoon, taking you back to Canberra in the 1920s. Tours at 1.00, 1.45, 2.30 and 3.15pm. 24 Mugga Way, Red Hill	ACT Historic Places	http://www.historicplaces.com.au/calthorpes-house
On-going Tuesday–Sunday 10am – 4pm	Lanyon Homestead. Exhibitions include <i>Within Living Memory</i> , <i>The Convict Years</i> and <i>Cunningham Family album</i> . Tharwa Drive, Tharwa.	ACT Historic Places	http://www.historicplaces.com.au/lanyon-homestead
On-going Each Saturday and Sunday 1pm – 4pm	Mugga-Mugga cottage. A testament to the one of the Limestone Plain's great pastoral estates. Conserved and furnished with household items that belonged to the Curley family. 129 Narrabundah Ln, Symonston ACT 2609	ACT Historic Places	http://www.historicplaces.com.au/mugga-mugga-cottage
To 4 September	Faith, Fashion, Fusion: Muslim Women's Style in Australia. Exquisite garments, sleek fashion shoots, designers, retailers and bloggers. Discover emerging modest fashion trends and the work of a new generation of Muslim fashionistas. National Archives, Queen Victoria Terrace.	NAA	Bookings not needed. 6212 3600 naa.gov.au/visit-us/exhibitions
To 30 September	And the Band played on. A tribute to the power of music and song in boosting morale to Anzac forces revealed through an outstanding collection of vintage sheet music. Treasures Gallery, Ground Floor. National Library	NLA	Bookings not needed https://www.nla.gov.au/exhibitions/and-the-band-played-on
Tuesdays, Thursdays & weekends 10.30am To 16 October	Australian Sketchbook: Colonial Life & the Art of S.T. Gill. This 30 minute guided tour gives insight into life in colonial times through the art of S.T. Gill, once Australia's most popular artist but now a forgotten name. Exhibition Gallery, Foyer Ground Floor, National Library	NLA	Bookings not needed https://www.nla.gov.au/node/9166
Saturday 13 August 1-4 pm	Celebrate the Curley family's move from Duntroon to Mugga-Mugga on a 'cold, wet, windy day' in August 1913, with warm apple cider and free entry to the cottage. Tours at 1pm, 1.45pm, 2.30pm & 3.15pm Mugga-Mugga Cottage	ACT Historic Places	http://www.historicplaces.com.au/mugga-mugga-cottage
Wednesday 17 August 6.00pm	CAS/CAR lecture – Dr Rebecca Parkes on Googong Project Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU	CAS	www.cas.asn.au/

Thursday 25 August 5.30pm for 5.45 pm start	AGHS Annual Lecture. <i>Marrianne Collinson Campbell- A privileged life – 1827 -1903</i> Speaker: Leonie Norton. Menzies Room National Archives	AGHS	Booking form in AGHS newsletter www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au
Sunday 11 September 11am – 3pm	Springtime walk to Sherwood	National Trust	FULLY BOOKED
Wednesday 14 September 6.30 for 7.00pm	CAS/CAR lecture – topic TBA Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU	CAS	www.cas.asn.au/
From Thursday 15 September to Sunday 13 November	The Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize 2006. Features finalists from Australia's premier natural science art prize. A travelling exhibition developed by the South Australian Museum. National Archives, Queen Victoria Terrace.	NAA	Bookings not needed. Free 6212 3600 naa.gov.au/visit-us/exhibitions
Friday 16 to Sunday 18 September	Canberra Embroiderers' Guild Exhibition Annual exhibition highlighting the guild's work. Albert Hall.	Canberra Embroiderers' Guild	www.embroiderersact.org.au/
Thursday 22 September	National Trust Heritage Election Forum	National Trust	info@nationaltrustact.org.au or 6230 0533 Details on place and time to follow
Tuesday 4 to Saturday 8 October	The People's Ground - National Trusts of Australia and Australia ICOMOS Conference, Melbourne	National Trusts and Australia ICOMOS	www.thepeoplesground.com.au
Friday 14 to Sunday 16 October	Australian Garden History Society, 37th Annual Conference, <i>The Scientist in the Garden</i> Canberra Rex Hotel, Canberra	AGHS	www.trybooking.com More information on www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au
Wednesday 19 October 6.00pm	CAS/CAR lecture – <i>Ben Keaney on Brindabellas Project</i> Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU	CAS	www.cas.asn.au/
Thursday 20 October 6.00 for 6.30pm	National Trust AGM – more details to follow	National Trust	Please RSVP by Tuesday 18 October for catering purposes info@nationaltrustact.org.au or 6230 0533
Sunday 30 October Day bus trip	Bus trip to Young and Iandra Castle	National Trust	FULLY BOOKED. Waiting list.
Saturday 5 November 9.00am – 5.30pm & Sunday 6 November ~7.00am – 4.00pm	Highway 31 Heritage Run. Join a self-drive tour in pre-1980 vehicles on Old Hume Highway 31 from Old Government House, Parramatta to Cooma Cottage, Yass led by Trust President Scott McAlister. Saturday concludes with dinner and Classic Yass Rock and Roll show. Sunday (10 – 4) is an Open Day at Cooma Cottage.	National Trust	Contact Chris Wain on 0407 181 196 or email Kay Proos on kproos@nationaltrust.com.au More information on https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/highway-31-heritage-run/
Sunday 13 November 1.30 – 4.30pm	11th Reid Open Houses and Gardens. Three homes and gardens from 1920s and 1930s will be open for inspection. Numbers limited.	National Trust	Bookings required. info@nationaltrustact.org.au or 6230 0533
Wednesday 16 November 6.00pm AGM 6.30pm Lecture	CAS/CAR lecture – <i>Amy Way on Lake George Project</i> Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU	CAS	www.cas.asn.au/
Sunday 4 December	National Trust Christmas party – to be held at the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse. More details to follow.	National Trust	Bookings required. info@nationaltrustact.org.au or 6230 0533

Notes: AGHS is the Australian Garden History Society. CAS is the Canberra Archaeological Society. CAR is the Centre for Archaeological Research. NAA is National Archives of Australia. NLA is National Library of Australia. Information on events run by organisations other than the National Trust (ACT) is provided in good faith, but readers should check dates and times with the contacts indicated above.

Travels and at home with the Trust

Two outings advertised by E-News in June are already FULLY BOOKED.

- **Springtime walk to Sherwood** - Sunday 11 September 2016
- **Bus trip to Young and Iandra Castle** - Sunday 30 October 2016

National Trust (ACT) AGM

Thursday 20 October, 6.00 for 6.30pm.

See the Notice of Annual General Meeting on page 9 for further details.

Highway 31 Heritage Run

Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 November, 9.30 – 5.30pm

Join a self-drive rally in pre-1980 vehicles on Old Hume Highway 31 from Old Government House Parramatta to Cooma Cottage Yass led by Trust President Scott McAlister in his Triumph Spitfire and Minister Mick Gentleman in his MGA. Saturday concludes with dinner at Yass Golf Club followed by a Classic Yass Rock and Roll show. Sunday starts with breakfast at the Yass Railway Museum followed by an Open Day at Cooma Cottage (10am – 4pm) including vintage tractor pull, draft horse ploughing, pony cart rides and other family fun activities.

More information: Chris Wain on 0407 181 196 or email Kay Proos on kproos@nationaltrust.com.au
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/highway-31-heritage-run/>

11th Reid Open Houses and Gardens

Sunday 13 November 2016, 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

Once again, in collaboration with the Reid Residents' Association (RRA), three privately-owned houses and gardens from the 1920s & 1930s in Reid's Heritage precinct will be available for inspection that have not been previously opened. Meet the owners and view inside the houses and also their gardens. Ticket price includes a copy of "The Heritage of Reid" by Shibu Dutta, an introductory talk, a hand-out on each house & garden and a delicious afternoon tea at the Reid Pre-school. Numbers are limited.

Cost \$25 (Trust, U3A & RRA members)

\$35 (non-members).

Walking involved. Not suitable for children.

National Trust (ACT) Christmas Party

Sunday 4 December, to be held at the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse. Further information will be provided in the November edition of *Heritage in Trust*.

Trust Tour and Event Reports

Trust Speaker's Night

Peter Dowling, *Gallipoli 101 years on – memory, commemoration, myths and facts*, National Archives, 8 June

Around forty National Trust members and friends gathered on 8 June 2016 to hear a talk by Dr Peter Dowling entitled *Gallipoli 101 years on – memory, commemoration, myths and facts*.

Peter was introduced by Trust Council member Linda Roberts who outlined Peter's career, highlighting that Peter has visited Gallipoli six times, including leading groups on historical tours, and has undertaken research on the conflict using Australian, British, Turkish and other sources.



Dr Peter Dowling.

Photo: John Tucker

Peter identified five myths about the Gallipoli campaign that he had encountered at school and later during his time in the armed forces, which many still believe to be factually true.

These are:

Myth 1: They landed at the wrong place

Myth 2: They could have succeeded

Myth 3: The Australians fought like lions but were led by (British) donkeys

Myth 4: Simpson and his donkey saved hundreds of lives

Myth 5: There were no Australian women at Gallipoli.

They landed at the wrong place

Peter explained that Anzac Cove where the Australians landed was in fact part of the wider beach area where the first landings were planned to take place over an intended 1,500 metre frontage. Contrary to the suggestion of the official historian, Charles Bean, there was no undetected current off the coast of Gallipoli that swept the landing craft north to Anzac Cove. Although the Commanding Officer of the Anzac force, General Birdwood, later made contradictory statements about the landing place of the 3rd Brigade at Anzac Cove, it seems clear that it was a misplaced landing rather than the wrong place. This may partly be explained by the unfamiliarity of the geography, poor visibility, and the difficulty of maintaining an orderly amphibious formation of twelve boats towing the Australians which were required to travel about two kilometres in darkness to reach the shore.

They could have succeeded

In this regard Peter pointed out that the reality was that the Anzacs were fighting two enemies: the Ottomans, who were skilled in defensive warfare and were defending their home soil, and the extremely difficult and steep terrain. The Anzacs were hemmed in with little room to manoeuvre with the sea at their backs. There were thus overwhelming odds facing the Anzacs which meant that such a campaign was unlikely to succeed against a determined Ottoman army.

The Australians fought like lions but were led by (British) donkeys

This misconception was promoted by the 1981 Australian film 'Gallipoli'. A scene in the film accurately depicts Australian soldiers being mown down in successive waves by Turkish machine gun and rifle fire at the battle of the Nek. However, in the film the order

to continue to storm the Turkish positions is given by a Colonel Robinson with an educated British accent, despite protests by Australian soldiers. In fact, the order to "Push on" into the withering fire was given by Colonel John Antill, a second generation Australian from NSW who was serving as the temporary commander of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade. Peter added that those on the Allied side in command of the planning and prosecution of the Gallipoli Campaign had little experience in the type of warfare that was to be faced and tactical mistakes were made.

Simpson and his donkey saved hundreds of lives

Simpson is the most recognised and eulogised person taking part in Gallipoli and is credited with saving some 300 lives – almost certainly an exaggeration – before he himself was killed by machine gun fire on 19 May 1915. But John Simpson Kirkpatrick was one of many in the medical corps bringing back wounded to the aid posts. Peter pointed out that the difference was that Simpson worked alone, unlike other stretcher bearers working in teams who also saved countless lives.

Peter gave the example of Earnest Albert Corey, an Australian from the 55th Battalion fighting on the Western Front. He volunteered as a stretcher bearer and, until he was severely wounded and evacuated in 1918, was awarded the Military Medal and three Bars over 14 months: the equivalent of four separate Military Medal awards. No other Australian achieved that during the War. After his recovery and discharge, he worked in Canberra as an unskilled cleaner of government offices. But unlike Simpson, whose legend began in a 1916 book *Glorious Deeds of Australasians in the Great War*, Corey was not killed in the War and is largely unknown.



Simpson commemorated at the AWM (P. Dowling 2015)

There were no Australian women at Gallipoli

Peter pointed out that this myth ignores the great contribution of Australian nurses. Aside from the nurses based at Cairo, Alexandria and the island of Lemnos from where the landing was launched on 25 April 1915, many nurses volunteered or were posted to the hospital ships which evacuated the wounded from Gallipoli. Such nurses did come under shell fire from Turkish positions and faced real danger, as contemporary dairies attest. One Australian nurse, Sister Madeline Wilson, recorded that, while treating a wounded soldier on the deck of a ship off Anzac Cove, a fragment from a shell burst 12 feet away, narrowly missing causing her a serious injury. He pointed out that there were many other such incidents with nurses on ships coming under fire.

Conclusion

Peter concluded his talk by analysing what makes a myth and why they arise. He observed that the Gallipoli myths have arisen and been sustained by our seemingly deep desire to find heroes and to commemorate the deeds of our past military actions, particularly those at Gallipoli and in the First World War. And then link them to a perception of nationhood. He added that from this need to commemorate, which he thought is right and proper for us as a nation, has come the need to venerate those who served.

Peter also made the point that we owe it to those who served to tell the truth, or as close to the truth as we can, about what happened at Gallipoli and not to allow the myths and untruths to cloud our knowledge and perceptions of the battles on Gallipoli. We should always question the veracity of myths.

The Speaker's Night raised \$345 for the Trust. These events provide thought-provoking presentations by experts in the field, are important financial contributors to the Trust and enable Trust members and their friends to gather in a very pleasant and central location in convivial company. The Trust greatly appreciates Peter Dowling's talk, the generosity of the National Archives in making available the venue, and the Trust volunteers who helped with the organisation of the event.

John Tucker

Richlands and the back streets of Goulburn

Sunday 22 May



Plaque at Richlands Homestead

Setting off on a misty autumn Sunday, we settled down to enjoy the amazing commentary by John Jervis. John's knowledge of all things historical, geological and nature-based seemed limitless as we sped along the Federal Highway, destination Goulburn, Taralga and the elusive *Richlands Homestead*.

Despite the mists, especially around Lake George, John painted a verbal picture of the vast holdings of families such as the Guises, the Bywong gold diggings and the rich mineral resources still hiding in our region. John was able to point out the now defunct churches and inns along our route, which had attempted to alleviate the hardship of the old families in this area.

His commentary included how the early explorers had accessed this area, and the area near Taralga, often on the lookout for useful water sources, and how the pioneer families following them had attempted to settle and subdue the land. The mercurial Lake George had stories to tell on both the way to our destinations and on our way back home.

Moving through Goulburn, 'Queen City of the South', John pointed out interesting architectural features: Kenmore Mental Asylum, the Goulburn Gaol, old cemeteries, old schools, the first church, toothbrush factory, wool stores and the importance of this large railway city. We would be exploring Goulburn more thoroughly on our way back.



Morning tea stop at Taralga

Our first stop for refreshments and to stretch our legs was the picturesque village of Taralga, a former lifeline for the more remote homesteads such as *Richlands*, further out in the wilderness. By now the weather was beautiful, and Linda, who had organised the trip and carefully scoped out the venues for us, served the morning tea. I reckon she must have been baking for days beforehand and my new travelling companion, who had tasted Linda's largesse on a previous trip, was eagerly anticipating the baked 'goodies'! She was not disappointed – cakes, slices, gluten-free and gluten full, Linda looked after us all.



Listening to Stephen Horn at Richlands

On to *Richlands* where Stephen Horn, a descendent of the old families and custodian of the homestead (first stage completed in 1843) shared his knowledge of the 170-year history of the site which was once a property of the famous Macarthur family.

Stephen's talk was supported by a most interesting little booklet we got as part of the trip. Stephen paid tribute to the astuteness of the Macarthur family, especially James and William, in selecting the best artisans, convict and free, just off the ships in Sydney, to establish such a solid homestead, and other out-buildings, which have withstood the vagaries of time.



Exterior of Richlands and the magnificent holly



Interior at Richlands

Hospitality was of great importance in these remote, cold areas (it still snows out past Taralga) and the 'stranger' rooms at each end of the veranda were of interest, as any 'blow in' could find a warm bed, but not be in the actual house and thus be able to 'nick' the family silver! Other small rooms were used in a benevolent capacity by the landlords or their managers for the largely Scots Gaelic-speaking workers on the property.

Back to Goulburn for a delicious lunch at the bowling club – I recommend the fish and chips – then onto St Saviour's Cathedral, surely one of the most handsome architectural edifices in our region. A drive along the streets above the Cathedral, admiring the beautiful homes and gardens of a period earlier than most Canberra properties, compensated, especially for my travelling companion, for not seeing inside the Cathedral. It also gave us more time to enjoy our afternoon tea in Belmore Park and to visit the substantial 1843 residence, St Clair Villa, now the home of the Goulburn Historical Society. While the building is currently undergoing extensive restoration, the guides were still able to bring back a sense of times past.



St Clair Villa Museum and Archive, home of the Goulburn Historical Society

Back on the Hume and Federal Highways on our way home, luckily with still enough light to appreciate more of John's commentary, this writer, who travels this way frequently with her husband, can't wait to share her new knowledge. She is especially keen to share where the Police 'hidey holes' are, as they wait to entrap speeding motorists, especially on the Federal Highway!

Many thanks to Linda, our able driver Brian and the National Trust (ACT) for facilitating this trip, and special thanks to John Jervis for adding so much to our knowledge of this fascinating region, so close to where we live in Canberra.

Elizabeth Burness

Photos by Linda Roberts and Wendy Whitham



Wedding couple at St Clair Villa



A surprisingly large premise from the back of St Clair Villa

National Trust Membership benefits

Did you know your National Trust membership gets you entry into Lanyon Homestead, Mugga-Mugga and Calthorpes House at concession rates, and 10% discount at the Lanyon Homestead shop?

Heritage Happenings

Key activities of the Heritage Committee over the past few months are outlined below:

Manuka Oval

The National Trust has expressed its concerns about the future development and sought details from the interested parties such as Grocon, Greater Western Sydney Giants and the ACT Government.

Only the ACT Government has responded. They advised that they have received an unsolicited offer which they are considering but that due process and consideration of heritage issues would occur. In the process we found that a Conservation Management Plan for the area was prepared in 2013 without public input or consideration. We will continue to monitor the proposal and press the need for conservation of the heritage values of the site and area, of which there are many.

Federal Golf Club

A proposed housing development on the Golf Club is under consideration again. The National Trust is aware of the natural heritage values of the area and has co-signed a letter of concern about any development if it potentially affects these values. In response to a separate letter to the Golf Club the National Trust was advised that the proposal is in an early phase and we would be consulted. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Australian Parliament House

This icon is an important part of our heritage and an internationally recognised design of high architectural merit. This should be recognised by listing on the National Heritage Register. However at this stage, despite the National Trust request for a nomination, Parliament is not supporting the proposal.

Dickson/Lyneham Flats

The National Trust lost the ACAT appeal on heritage listing of the Dickson and Lyneham sites although the ACT Heritage Council acknowledges that all the site has heritage value. The ACAT decision indicated that future development considerations and opportunities should be considered in the heritage listing process. Only a sample of the current precinct will be retained, with the future development unknown as the "called in" DA is for demolition of the heritage buildings.

The National Trust considered a Supreme Court appeal for which there were considered to be solid grounds but decided not to proceed with it.

Lake Burley Griffin and City to the Lake

This is of ongoing concern. There needs to be a formal recognition and listing of Lake Burley Griffin and the ongoing protection of the lake and surrounds. There also needs to be a review of the City to the Lake concept as many heritage issues and places are potentially under threat. The National Trust supports the action of the Lake Burley Griffin Guardians, who are strong advocates for the place, and will continue to monitor the situation.

Canberra Brickworks

Proposals have been sought by the Land Development Authority and we await an outcome which hopefully will see the important heritage site used sympathetically.

National Trust Heritage Awards

We are pleased to have received eight nominations. They are diverse which highlights the wide interest in what is our heritage. These are being assessed at present and an awards presentation will occur between mid-September and mid-October at a time and date to be advised. Details will be circulated to members when known.

Heritage Partnership Symposium

The 2016 Symposium was held on Saturday 23 July. A separate report on this follows.

Eric Martin AM



Australian Parliament House
www.aph.gov.au/Visit_Parliament/About_the_Building

ACT and Region Heritage Partnership Symposium 2016 Inside Out | Outside In: The Urban and Regional Landscape



The location for the symposium - the Common Room of the Commonwealth Solar Observatory

65 enthusiastic heritage practitioners braved the wind and rain to enjoy the annual heritage partnership symposium at Mount Stromlo on Saturday 23 July.

This joint exercise by the Canberra and District Historical Society (CDHS), Australia ICOMOS, the Canberra Archaeological Society (CAS) and the National Trust (ACT) is unique in Australia and demonstrates the effectiveness of a partnership in bringing people together to listen, discuss and debate heritage issues.

This year's event opened with an enthralling description of how natural landmarks were used by Aboriginals in astronomical ways to assist with monitoring time, seasons and solstices. The presentation by Trevor Leaman, PhD researcher at UNSW, explored the examples of Wurdi Youang, Wiradjuri Seven Sisters Ridge and the Rock near Wagga Wagga.

The ACT Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment, Kate Auty, gave the keynote address on the subject of the State of the Environment 2015 report, and discussed the trends, pressures and findings. She highlighted that what is currently listed, particularly Indigenous sites, is just a small sample of what exists in reality.

The challenge is to talk about the future, embrace heritage, remember that there is an urban heritage landscape, and to consider strategic assessments.



Dr Kate Auty giving the keynote address

There were presentations on new-found information and research such as that by Jenny Horsfield on the solidier settlement at Freshford and the difficulties faced by returned soldiers working the land, and by Nick Swain on the just-found Jefferis and Whelen 1920 journals *Around Australia's Capital* which include an extensive range of photographs and sketches.

The personal association with the land was illustrated by Steve Brown and his property *Gozinta* - history is around us in rural landscapes. Wally Bell expanded on the importance of the area for the Ngunawal people.

It was interesting to learn from Kate Gardiner about the programs established to conserve and present landcare and the natural environment at Mugga-Mugga. Brett McNamara told us how the ACT Parks and Conservation Service's Artist in Residence program can demonstrate a creative connection with nature.

Hot local topics were also raised and discussed including the need to protect Lake Burley Griffin (Juliet Ramsay) and Ginninderra Falls (Doug Finlayson).

Another concept discussed was the HUL (Historic Urban Landscape) which is buried within our cities and often not understood. Marilyn Truscott reinforced this in an international context, referring to the ICOMOS Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas, Xian, China, 2005. This was further reinforced by Anna Foley (National Trust, Victoria) who stressed the need to connect people with natural and landscaped areas within cities in order to promote healthy people in healthy communities.

We all enjoyed the brisk walk in the wind along the heritage trail at Mount Stromlo which was well guided by Amy Jarvis and Rachel Jackson.



Well rugged-up participants outside the Director's house



Amy Jarvis from ANU introducing the walk

The full day was stimulating and presented some new information and ideas.

Thanks are extended to the organising committee of Hannah Griffiths, Edwina Jans, Marilyn Truscott and Lucy Blackam and to the helpers for a wonderful effort and day.

Eric J Martin AM

Photos by Wendy Whitham



Inside the Director's house

Australian Garden History Society and the National Trust

The Australian Garden History Society (AGHS), ACT, Riverina and Monaro Branch will host the annual conference of the AGHS in Canberra in October. This year marks the 30th year since the founding of this Branch of the Society and the third time it has hosted the Society's Annual Conference.

The AGHS and the National Trust have long and deep ties. Peter Watts, the distinguished former head of the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, had been working for the National Trust in Victoria in the 1970s, and undertook a research project on historic gardens. Similar studies, often associated with the National Trust, were carried out in other states, and to co-ordinate these studies a conference was called in 1980 by the National Trust in Victoria.

This conference was convened by the then Chairman of the Australian Heritage Commission, Mr David Yencken AO, who just happened to have a constitution up his sleeve. This led to the formation of the AGHS, with Dame Elisabeth Murdoch as inaugural Chair and Peter Watts as Secretary.

The Society, both nationally and locally, has been concerned, like the National Trust, with the heritage values of gardens and landscapes. AGHS became more actively involved in the academic study of gardens as cultural artefacts with the publication of its successful *Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens*. David Yencken had prophetically believed when the Australian Heritage Commission was established that the way to secure ongoing support for heritage conservation was to ensure solid community-based groups focussed on specific areas, so he argued for and supported the establishment of heritage-focussed bodies in garden history, industrial archaeology and geological sites. Today those bodies still exist and the Australian Heritage Commission has long been abolished!

The ACT, Riverina and Monaro Branch of the AGHS is a very active body for a small organisation. It runs a regular program of stimulating lectures and garden

visits, publishes a newsletter, promotes research and publication and is active in advocacy. The Branch's founding President in 1986 was Richard Ratcliffe and the Secretary/Treasurer Ken Taylor.

After holding national conferences in all capitals except Darwin, the Society has now held extremely successful, usually sell-out, conferences in many major regional centres like Albury, Ballarat, Albany and Mt Gambier.

This year the Canberra-based conference will focus on the long history, almost 100 years, of scientific research in gardens and Canberra in particular. 2016 marks the bicentenary of Australia's oldest scientific institution, the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney. The conference will look at scientific gardening ranging from a perspective of the Indigenous people of Australia (Bill Gammage) to work on soils (Dr John Passioura) and seeds (Dr Cathy Offord and Dr Lucy Sutherland), and will visit a number of important gardens in the region.

It is called "The Scientist in the Garden", and will take place from 14 to 16 October this year. Bookings opened on 2 May. Attendance is restricted to members but non-members of the Society can join at the time of registering to be among 300 enthusiastic participants.

Much more about the AGHS is at www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au.

Max Bourke AM

Max Bourke AM was the founding Director of the Australian Heritage Commission and has been Deputy Chair of the AGHS and Chair of the local Branch at various times.



Illustration from AGHS June 2016 newsletter advertising Annual Lecture: Leonie Norton on Marianne Collinson Campbell – A privileged life. Thu 25 August 5.30pm Menzies Room, National Archives. Booking form in AGHS newsletter or see Heritage Diary p14.

Keeping up with the Trust

E- news

Are you up with the latest National Trust happenings? Maybe you have been missing out on our E News bulletins! Make sure you are on the E News list to keep up to date with events and find opportunities to contribute to the valuable and important work of the Trust.

Email info@nationaltrustact.org.au with the subject heading of: Subscribe to E News

Social Media

For a more interactive communication with the Trust follow us on Twitter and like us on FaceBook and join the conversation!

Like us on  follow us on 

To sign up and follow us on Facebook, simply go to <http://www.facebook.com> and enter your email and some personal details to get started, then navigate to <http://www.facebook.com/nationaltrustact> and click the like button near the top of the page.

For Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com> and enter your name and email, and choose a password to sign up and then navigate to https://twitter.com/NatTrust_ACT and click the follow button.

We encourage you to join us on Facebook and Twitter and look forward to hearing from you!

National Trust of Australia (ACT)

ABN 50 797 949 955

Postal Address: PO Box 1144 Civic Square ACT 2608

Telephone: 02 6230 0533

Fax 02 6230 0544

Email info@nationaltrustact.org.au

Net www.nationaltrust.org.au

Office Location: Unit 3.9 Griffin Centre, Level 3
20 Genge Street Canberra City

Normal Opening Times:

9.30am to 3.00pm Monday to Thursday

Patron: The Hon. Margaret Reid AO

President: Scott McAlister

Office Manager: Liz McMillan

National Trust (ACT) Membership Rates

Joining fee \$35

Annual Membership

Individual \$65

Individual Senior \$60

Individual Concession \$45

Household \$95

Household Senior \$85

Household Concession \$75

Life Membership

Single \$1,137.50

Household \$1,622.50

About Heritage in Trust

Heritage in Trust ISSN 2206-4958 is published quarterly in February, May, August and November as an electronic magazine (complementing the national magazine) specifically for ACT members. It is produced and edited by Maree Treadwell and Wendy Whitham assisted by Dianne Dowling and Mary Johnston.

The editors invite articles and letters from Trust members with an interest in the heritage of the ACT and these should be addressed to The Editor, Heritage in Trust, at info@nationaltrustact.org.au.

Deadlines for copy

mid January (for February issue)

mid April (for May issue)

mid July (for August issue)

mid October (for November issue)

The views expressed in *Heritage in Trust* are not necessarily those of the National Trust of Australia (ACT). The articles in this e-magazine are subject to copyright. No article may be used without the consent of the ACT National Trust and the author.