

THE FRIENDS OF THE WAITE ARBORETUM INC.



WAITE
ARBORETUM

NEWSLETTER No. 42 SPECIAL 10th ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Secretary
Mrs Rosemary Sawley
8379 7102

Editor
Daniel Carrocci
daniel@treenet.com.au

Celebrating 10 Years of The Friends of the Waite Arboretum! 1994 - 2004

Inaugural Meeting of The Friends of the Waite Arboretum

It was early in 1994 that a group of enthusiastic Arboretum guides comprising Anna Cox, Barbara Crompton, Cate Paull, Isabella Rawnsley, Tommie Siekmann and Mary Tester met with Jennifer Gardner and formed a steering committee with the vision of forming a Friends group to support the Waite Arboretum. Advertisements were placed in local newspapers and newsletters inviting people to attend an inaugural meeting. On Monday 12 September 1994 at 8pm The Friends of the Waite Arboretum inaugural meeting was held in the Drawing Room of Urrbrae House. 54 people attended including the Director of the Waite Institute Prof. Harold Woolhouse and Dr David Symon who was guest speaker.

The aims of the Association are:

- i. To foster interest in the care and use of the Waite Arboretum.
- ii. To raise funds for the development and promotion of the Waite Arboretum or for any purpose which has the approval of the Curator of the Arboretum.

On the 24 January 1995 the Friends formally became Incorporated.



TEN YEARS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE WAITE ARBORETUM by Cicely Bungey AM, President

The past ten years of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum have seen some major changes in the role of the Friends in supporting the Arboretum and the gardens surrounding Urrbrae House.

It has been an exciting time with the growing support of a very dedicated group of volunteers who attend on Tuesday mornings, regardless of the inclement weather at times. The enthusiasm of this band of helpers has encouraged the number to grow so that we rarely have less than 20 each week.

Word of mouth is often the best form of advertising and promotion and so it is with every special function we have. In addition to prepared flyers members take the opportunity to place posters in libraries and other strategic places, to letterbox locally, to contact the media, and to make use of the internet. Our quarterly newsletter is read with great interest and appreciated by our financial members who join us for our quarterly meetings which feature an interesting speaker or take the form of a visit, e.g. to the Urrbrae Wetlands.

We have undertaken a variety of fundraising ventures over the years to ensure that we have funds to assist with the care and upkeep of the Arboretum. The work has included the ongoing need for continuous pruning and the services of an arborist, labelling of trees, interpretive signage, gardening equipment, plants and data base information. Fundraising has included special exhibitions, the sale of cards, publications and jewellery and over the past few years, help with the catering for the TREENET Symposium.

Over recent years we have encouraged closer links with the Friends of Urrbrae House with committee members of the two committees receiving the newsletters of the Friends groups and a representative from the FWA committee also being on the FUH committee. We combine forces to assist with TREENET and special functions and have a joint Christmas celebration early in December.

A major venture of the past few years has been to work in the northwest corner of the Arboretum on the restoration of the original Black Forest understorey species. Dozens of indigenous plants have been propagated and planted in the area and weeds controlled with careful spraying and hand weeding. The precinct of Urrbrae House includes the Sensory Garden, which has flourished while in the care of a small group of volunteers, as has the newer Garden of Discovery. The Rose Garden now has a new look with the installation of labels identifying the roses and their origins. Eventually we hope to see each rose with a label, which will be of value to the many visitors who enjoy walking through the gardens each day.

Some of the memorable events during the past 10 years have been the campaign to ensure the return of the Netherby Kindergarten site to once again be part of Peter Waite's generous gift to the people of South Australia, the celebration of 75 years of the establishment of the Arboretum, the establishment of the Garden of Discovery, the initiation of the regular guided walks through the Arboretum on the first Sunday of each month, the concerned discussions about the maintenance and use of Urrbrae House and the precinct by the University, and the welcome announcement that the Curator of the Arboretum Dr Jennifer Gardner has been appointed the Director of the Waite Arboretum.

As one of the dozens of supporters of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum, I trust that we shall continue to see Peter Waite's generous gift valued and enjoyed by the people of South Australia in the years ahead.

Friends support for Arboretum

Since its foundation in 1994, The Friends of the Waite Arboretum has given almost \$76,000 in grants to the Arboretum which has ensured its ongoing maintenance and its development into an enjoyable and educational public space.

Projects funded include:

Arboricultural work	\$32,200
Permanent Arboretum exhibition in Urrbrae House	\$10,700
Paths in The Mallee	\$10,400
Interpretive signs (12)	\$9,000
Arboretum brochure	\$3,400
Perimeter signs (5)	\$3,400
General development	\$2,800
New trees	\$1,700
New plaques for seats	\$1,000
Tree audit & map	\$750
Small equipment	\$600

In addition, individuals and groups have donated 21 seats, and the exquisite 'Waterbirds' sculpture by Meliesa Judge was commissioned and donated by the Heard family.



NETHERBY KINDERGARTEN / WAITE ARBORETUM Summary of the Resolution 1999 – 2000 by Roger Bungey, President (1998 – 2001)

"The said University shall ... hold the remainder or western half of the said section containing sixty seven acres or thereabout upon trust to preserve the same in perpetuity as a park or garden for the recreation and enjoyment of the public..."

Declaration of Trusts between Peter Waite Esq. and the University of Adelaide, 29 January 1914

In January 1999, the Friends of the Waite Arboretum were alarmed to hear the Minister for Education, Children's Services and Training, the Honourable Malcolm Buckby announce the commencement of a new Netherby Kindergarten building on the site of the old Kindergarten on Arboretum land. He also announced that six sugar gums, 90 years old, on the southern boundary were to be removed as they were considered to be a danger to the Kindergarten.

It was also discovered that an Act had been passed, The Netherby Kindergarten (Variation of the Waite Trust) Act on 17th March 1997, enabling the University to grant a lease to the Kindergarten over the land previously occupied by them and granting the University immunity from liability for breach of trust.

The Committee of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum resolved to oppose the building of the new kindergarten on the Arboretum site as it was in opposition to the Peter Waite bequest. A subcommittee was formed consisting of: the President of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum, Roger Bungey; the Vice President, Cicely Bungey; the Secretary, Anna Cox; Dr Colin Jenner committee member and member of the Netherby Heritage Group; Diana Mayfield, member of the Netherby Heritage Group; and Dr Jennifer Gardner, Curator.

The following actions were taken:

1. A letter was sent to Minister Buckby protesting about the decision to build the new kindergarten on Arboretum land. This was followed by a visit to the Minister by three members of the

subcommittee namely R. Bungey, C. Jenner and D. Mayfield. The Minister listened to the submissions then stated that a decision had been made and would not be changed.

2. Letters of concern were sent to the Chancellor of the University and all members of Parliament.
3. Members of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum and the Netherby Heritage Group were asked to send letters of protest to the Minister.
4. Petitions were prepared for signing by members of the two groups and the public.
5. A rally was held on Saturday 27th March 1999 to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the Peter Waite Bequest. This was to be held in the Arboretum but wet and windy conditions required it to be moved to the Lirra Lirra Café on the Waite Institute grounds. The aim of the rally was to draw attention to the Arboretum and six people were chosen to speak on the importance of the Arboretum. They were:
 - Dr Rob Morrison, Environmentalist and media presenter
 - Malcolm Campbell, well-known horticulturalist, and radio presenter
 - Dr Barbara Hardy, leading SA environmentalist and Chair of Landcare SA.
 - The Hon Sam Jacobs, inaugural Patron of the Friends and former Chair of the Finance & Property Committee of the University of Adelaide Council.
 - Peter Lewis MP, Member for Hammond concerned for alienation of parklands.
 - John Schumann, Redgum lead singer & songwriter, activist.The rally attracted about 400 people and indicated the depth of support for the Arboretum.
6. Submissions were sent to the Development Assessment Commission, the State Ombudsman, the National Trust of SA and Heritage South Australia on the importance of the Arboretum and the lack of opportunity given to the public to protest about the Netherby Kindergarten (Variation of the Peter Waite Trust) Act of March 1997.

In May 2000, the Minister announced the Kindergarten would be shifted to an alternative location on Waite Road next to the Child Care Centre. This was again in conflict with the Peter Waite Bequest but out of the Arboretum.

The campaign had been successful and to celebrate this, a ceremonial tree planting was conducted on Sunday 4th June 2000 on the site of the old Netherby Kindergarten. Seven oaks were planted by selected people who spoke on the significance of returning land to the Arboretum. They were:

- Prof. Mary O'Kane, Vice Chancellor of the University of Adelaide.
- Martin Hamilton-Smith MP, Member for Waite
- Prof. Malcolm Oades, Director of the Waite Institute
- Ms Carlsa Carter, Joint Mgr, Nature Conservation, and the National Trust SA
- Mrs Diana Mayfield, Netherby Heritage Group
- Mr Roger Bungey, President, Friends of the Waite Arboretum.

This function was attended by 110 people and 80 returned to Urrbrae House for morning tea. It was a most successful and happy event.

On 1st June 2000, Martin Hamilton-Smith presented to Parliament, a bill to repeal the Netherby Kindergarten (Variation of the Peter Waite Trust) Act of 1997. This bill was passed in November 2000, thus completing the restoration of the Kindergarten land to the Arboretum in line with the Peter Waite Bequest.

All members of the subcommittee are to be thanked for their assistance, particularly Dr Colin Jenner, for his initiative and ideas. Thanks are also due to the community groups and members of the public who sent letters to the Minister supporting the actions of the Committee. It is possible that this was the factor that made the Minister change his mind.

The Friends of The Waite Arboretum Inc.

Year	Executive	Committee Members	Exhibitions/ Events	Speakers & Topics
1994 to 1995	Pres: Tony Whitehill V.P: Cate Paull Sec: Anna Cox Tr: Jennifer Gardner	Barbara Crompton Barry Dangerfield Dean Nicolle Isabella Rawnsley Tommie Siekmann Mary Tester	'Flowers At My Feet'- Beryl Martin	Beryl Martin - on her work
1995 to 1996	Pres: Tony Whitehill V.P: Cate Paull Sec: Anna Cox Tr: Jennifer Gardner	Barbara Crompton Barry Dangerfield Dean Nicolle Isabella Rawnsley Tommie Siekmann Mary Tester	Elaine Gardner- Tapestry weaving Botanical themes. 'Made from Wood' Community Expo- Burnside Village.	Dean Nicolle - 'Collecting Eucalypts' Dr David Christophel- 'Fossil Arboretum' Prof. Margaret Sedgley - 'Developing Australian Natives'
1996 to 1997	Pres: Tony Whitehill V.P: Cate Paull Sec: Anna Cox Tr: Jennifer Gardner	Robyn Barker Barbara Crompton Dean Nicolle Isabella Rawnsley Tommie Siekmann Mary Tester	'The Richness of Botanical Art' Silver Jewellery- Michael Davidson & Pat Hagan	David Lawry - 'New technologies in advanced Tree production' Andrew Beale - 'Native Foods industry' Valmai Henkel - Rare Botanical Books
1997 to 1998	Pres: TonyWhitehill V.P: Cate Paull Sec: Anna Cox Tr: Mary Tester	Cicely Bungey Barbara Crompton Dean Nicolle Isabella Rawnsley Tommie Siekmann Mary Tester Robyn Barker	'Devil's Own Wood' 'From The Orient' dinner- Ann Oliver/Fiona Pawelski/David Symon. 'A Remarkable Flora'- Beryl Martin Wood Sculpture- Chris Wells.	Prof. Hugh Possingham - 'The Upper South-East: to Drain or Not to Drain.' Des Freeman - Rare Fruits Darrell Kraehenbuehl - Pre- European vegetation of Adelaide.
1998 to 1999	Pres: Roger Bungey V.P: Cicely Bungey Sec: Anna Cox Tr: Norma Lee	Roger Bungey Norma Lee Marlene Lloyd Barbara Possingham Barbara Crompton Isabella Rawnsley Mary Tester Robyn Barker Cicely Bungey	'Food of the Gods'- history of chocolate Construction of Paths in The Mallee. 'The Devil in Waite'- Woodgroup SA. '15 th Century Fusion Food' dinner- Ann Oliver / DrDavid Symon. 'In Pursuit of Nature's Truths'-Botanical & Zoological art	Richard Nolan - 'Trees from Mediterranean Climates' David Lawry - 'TREENET' Andrew Crompton - 'Conservation of the Black Forest'

Year	Executive	Committee Members	Exhibitions/ Events	Speakers & Topics
1998 to 1999 (cont.)			'In Pursuit of Nature's Truths'-Botanical & Zoological art	
2000 to 2001	Pres: Roger Bungey V.P: Cicely Bungey Sec: Rosemary Sawley Tr: Norma Lee	Jill Barge Colin Jenner John Mably Lorraine Nettleton Rosemary Sawley Natalie Stow Isabella Rawnsley Robyn Barker Cicely Bungey Roger Bungey Norma Lee Diana Mayfield	'All in a Day's Work'- Gilbert Dashorst Opening of Palm & Cycad Walk. Excursion to Ian Robert's Gallery & bush garden, Blyth. Tree planting ceremony to celebrate the return of the kindergarten site to the Waite Arboretum 'Arabesque' dinner- Rosa Matto / talk by Dr David Symon.	Dean Nicolle - 'Desert Eucalypts' Heidi Gildemeister - 'Gardening the Mediterranean Way' Dr David Paton / Dr Dagmar Hanold- 'Mundulla Yellows'
2001 to 2002	Pres: Cicely Bungey V.P: Roger Bungey Sec: Rosemary Sawley Tr: Roger Bungey	Pam Brinsley Kevin Kemmis Lynda Yates Cicely Bungey Roger Bungey Norma Lee Jill Barge Colin Jenner John Mably Lorraine Nettleton Rosemary Sawley Natalie Stow	'Beautiful Birds & Botany'- Ian Roberts /Vida Pearson 'Colour, Contrast & Form'- Beryl Martin.	Dr David Symon - 'Waite Arboretum Ornamental Pear Collection' Dr Jennifer Gardner - 'TREENET & Street Tree Trials of Pears'
2002 to 2003	Pres: Cicely Bungey V.P: Roger Bungey Sec: Rosemary Sawley Tr: Norma Lee	Judy Tyler Peter Nicholls Cicely Bungey Roger Bungey Norma Lee Colin Jenner John Mably Rosemary Sawley Natalie Stow Pam Brinsley Kevin Kemmis Lynda Yates	'Landscape South Australia'- Bernd Stoecker. Excursion to Ian Robert's Gallery & bush garden, Blyth. Champagne & Roses- Maureen Ross	Pam Catcheside - 'Fungal Hunting in South Australia' Dr Mark Tester - 'Salty Soils- How Do Some Plants Cope?'
2003 to 2004	Pres: Cicely Bungey V.P: Roger Bungey Sec: Rosemary Sawley Tr: Norma Lee	Bryan Milligan Cicely Bungey Roger Bungey Norma Lee Colin Jenner Rosemary Sawley Pam Brinsley Kevin Kemmis Lynda Yates Judy Tyler Peter Nicholls	Celebrating 75 Years family day Interpretive Signs unveiled	Waldo Bushman- 'Natural Environment'

<p>2004 to 2005</p>	<p>Pres: Cicely Bungey V.P.: Roger Bungey Sec: Rosemary Sawley Tr: Norma Lee</p>	<p>Daniel Carrocci Cicely Bungey Roger Bungey Norma Lee Colin Jenner Rosemary Sawley Pam Brinsley Lynda Yates Judy Tyler Peter Nicholls Bryan Milligan</p>	<p>Tree planting by Prof. David Christophel & David Lawry.</p> <p>Excursion to Andrew Crompton's property – Possum Park</p>	<p>Roger Bungey- 'The Wollemi Pine - A Relic From Antiquity'</p> <p>Peter Cooper - 'Water Proofing Adelaide'</p> <p>Prof. David Christophel - 'I Dream of Trees...a tale of a converted palaeobotanist'</p> <p>Dr Kate Delaporte – "Gumnuts Galore: in pursuit of the ultimate eucalypt"</p> <p>Sarah Cockerell – "Avenues of Honour"</p>
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