
Australian Forest History Society

**Newsletter No. 64
December 2014**

*"... to advance historical understanding of human interactions with Australian forest
and woodland environments."*



Edge of Wirrabara Forest, South Australia (detail)

Men standing at the edge of Wirrabara forest and one man sitting in a horse-drawn wagon, possibly members of the 1890 Royal Pastoral Commission during an inspection.

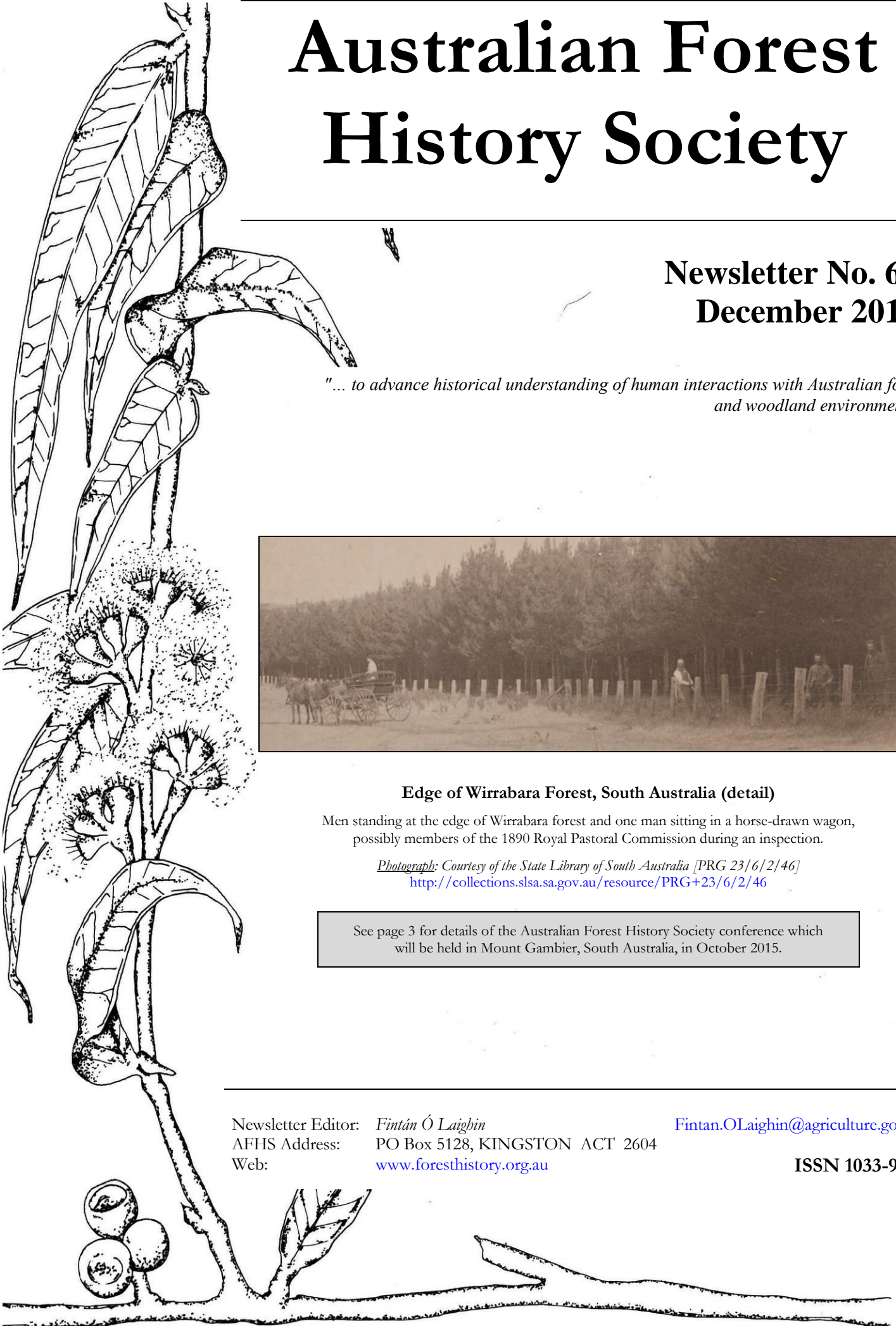
*Photograph: Courtesy of the State Library of South Australia [PRG 23/6/2/46]
<http://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+23/6/2/46>*

See page 3 for details of the Australian Forest History Society conference which will be held in Mount Gambier, South Australia, in October 2015.

Newsletter Editor: *Fintán Ó Laighin*
AFHS Address: PO Box 5128, KINGSTON ACT 2604
Web: www.foresthistory.org.au

Fintan.OLaighin@agriculture.gov.au

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Australian Forest History Society (AFHS) Inc is A\$25 a year for Australian and New Zealand addressees or A\$15 a year for students. For other overseas addressees, it is A\$30.

These prices do not include GST as the AFHS is not registered for paying or claiming GST. **Membership expires on 30th June each year.**

Payment can be made by cheque or money order, or through Electronic Funds Transfer.

Cheques or Money Orders should be made payable to the AFHS and sent to:

Australian Forest History Society Inc.
 PO Box 5128
 KINGSTON ACT 2604

Electronic Funds Transfer can be paid into:

Commonwealth Savings Bank
 BSB 062 911
 Account No: 1010 1753

Please also return this form if you pay by EFT or send an e-mail to the Treasurer -

Fintan.OLaighin@agriculture.gov.au.

**** Please also note the new e-mail address. ****

Name:	
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E-mail	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Please mark the box if you would like a receipt - otherwise an acknowledgment will be sent by e-mail.
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COVER PHOTO

With our 2015 conference to be held in Mount Gambier (South Australia) in October, a photo of Wirrabara Forest seems appropriate. Wirrabara and nearby Bundaleer Forest Reserves, both dating from the late 1870s, are widely acknowledged as the birthplace of plantation forestry in Australia.

The caption ambiguously refers to the "1890 Royal Pastoral Commission" - this was either the 1890 "Pastoral lands commission" or the subsequent 1891-92 "Royal Commission on the valuations of pastoral improvements".

THE 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The society's Annual General Meeting was held in Canberra on Wednesday 19th November 2014.

Sue Feary, Kevin Frawley and Fintán Ó Laighin were re-elected respectively to the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer, although the position of Vice President was left unfilled. Leith Davis, Peter Evans, and Rob Robinson were re-elected to the committee, with Ian Barnes (also a member of the 2013-14 committee) subsequently accepting an invitation to join the 2014-15 committee. Juliana Lazzari was reappointed as Public Officer.

In her report to the meeting, Sue Feary advised that she was looking forward to the society's conference which will be held in Mount Gambier (South Australia) in October 2015. Sue heads the organising committee which also comprises committee members Leith Davis and Rob Robinson. While the main theme of the conference will be planted forests, it will also include sessions on native forests and other aspects of forest history.

In his Treasurer's Report, Fintán Ó Laighin advised that the society's finances were steady but that membership had continued to slowly decline, possibly a consequence of the reduced activity in recent years. However, a positive was that new members continued to join, and some people whose membership had lapsed in recent years had since rejoined.

As part of his report, Fintán acknowledged the contribution of Stephen Bailey who has audited the society's accounts on an honorary basis for a number of years. The meeting extended its appreciation to Mr Bailey.

One item on the agenda was a proposal to change the society's name to the "Australian and New Zealand Forest History Society". However, this motion was withdrawn, pending further consultation with the society's New Zealand members.

THE 2014-15 COMMITTEE

The AFHS committee for 2014-15 is comprised of the following members:

- President:** Sue Feary
- Vice-President:** Vacant
- Secretary:** Kevin Frawley
- Treasurer:** Fintán Ó Laighin
- Committee:** Leith Davis
 Peter Evans
 Rob Robinson
 Ian Barnes
- Public Officer:** Juliana Lazzari





FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Sue Feary

Since my last report in August 2014, we have had an AGM when I was re-elected as President - thanks to everyone for your support. The 2014 committee and Public Officer from 2014 were also re-elected unopposed and I am very much looking forward to working with you all during 2015.

I would like to welcome our newest member - Michael Bleby from South Australia.

A short report on the AGM appears elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter, but I will refer to one matter. I put forward a motion to change the name of the society to *Australia and New Zealand Forest History Society*, to recognise our members from across the ditch (and because I'm a Kiwi by birth). The motion was withdrawn, pending further discussion with New Zealand members. I subsequently contacted the New Zealand contingent who suggested that we leave the name as it is for the moment in the hope that more New Zealanders will join and give more meaning to a title with "New Zealand" in it.

Fintán has done a great job as newsletter editor, with three issues coming out in 2014 (including this one). However, we would like to go back to our earlier system of having a guest editor for each issue, with Fintán taking an oversighting and quality control role. We have volunteers for two of next year's issues - August (Sue Feary) and December (Peter Evans), but not for the April issue. A volunteer would be welcomed! Please contact Fintán if you are interested.

In November, John Dargavel and I met with folk from the Australian Dictionary of Biography (ADB) at the ANU and Alison Carmichael, CEO of the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA), to discuss the Obituaries/Biographies project. This has progressed very well, due in no small part to the great enthusiasm of the ADB staff, with over 200 obituaries of foresters now compiled. There are plans for a publication of themed essays to give context to the obituaries and John is pursuing funding to this end. We hope to link the obituaries information to our website in the near future.

One project I am pursuing is digitising publications on the forest histories of several timber production forests in western NSW. These were commissioned by State Forests of NSW (now Forestry Corporation of NSW) in 1997 as part of the regional forest agreement process. Unfortunately only a few copies of these carefully

researched and fascinating forest histories were printed but fortunately I have the full set, having been on an advisory committee for the project. It has been a journey tracking down copyright permission for digitising the books as the Pennant Hills (Sydney) forestry office has been closed and all records moved to the Department of Primary Industries office in Orange - an increasingly common story we are hearing for government records. The good news is we have permission to digitise the books and include them on our website with appropriate acknowledgement of course. Once I get quotes for digitising, we can see if the project is feasible within the confines of the society's finances.

Conference organising is going ahead apace, with the dates and venue finalised as 21st-24th October 2015 at Mount Gambier, South Australia (see box). Mount Gambier is a great location for exploring plantation history and it also boasts some very interesting geological formations which I hope we will visit during the field trips. I encourage all members to attend the conference and to definitely consider giving a presentation. Although

planted forests are the theme, any forest history related presentation is most welcome. Conferences are good places to renew old acquaintances, exchange information and learn something new. The IFA may use our conference to celebrate its 80th year in 2015. Notices about the conference will appear in later newsletters and on the website. Please contact me on suefeary@hotmail.net.au or (02) 4441 5996 if you have any queries or ideas for the conference. See you there!

I wish the society a productive and satisfying 2015, when ever more forest history is revealed and our understanding and appreciation of it is enhanced.

2015 AUSTRALIAN FOREST HISTORY CONFERENCE UPDATE

SAVE THE DATE!!!

The 9th Conference of the Australian Forest History Society Inc. will be held in Mount Gambier, South Australia, from **Wednesday 21st to Saturday 24th October**. The conference will take place over three days, with at least one short field trip, and will be followed by a one day study tour of the region.

South Australia was home to Australia's first plantations and, fittingly, our theme for this conference is the "Social and Environmental History of Planted Forests", although papers on any forest history related topic are welcome. To judge from comments received to date, it's likely that there will be at least one session on non-plantation forest history.

More details, including a call for papers and conference registration, will appear in subsequent newsletters, and will be published on the AFHS website in early 2015.

Mount Gambier is about 450 kms from Adelaide and 420 kms from Melbourne by road. Regional Express (Rex) has regular flights to Mount Gambier from both cities - see www.rex.com.au. For information on Mount Gambier, see www.mountgambiertourism.com.au.

The SA Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) has information on forestry history in South Australia on its website at www.pir.sa.gov.au/forestry/home/forestry_in_south_australia.

For further information on the conference, please contact a member of the conference committee:

- * Sue Feary suefeary@hotmail.net.au or (02) 4451 5996.
- * Leith Davis davis.leith@gmail.com.
- * Rob Robinson Rob.Robinson@sa.gov.au.

LONE PINE PUZZLE - FOLLOW UP AND POSTSCRIPT

The September 2014 issue of the newsletter included an article by Roger Underwood titled "Lone Pine Puzzle" and an accompanying abstract of a 2007 article by Mike Wilcox and David Spencer titled "Stand up the real Anzac Lone Pine of Gallipoli" published by the *New Zealand Journal of Forestry* (NZJF). These articles attracted some comment and even a postscript.

One of our New Zealand members, Mike Roche, said that he "enjoyed the Lone Pine piece. My home town has its own 'lone pine' seedling - supposedly as well - it wasn't covered in the article in NZJF and I did correspond with them about it. If you like I can did out my photos and write a paragraph for you." [*Note: We hope to have this in the next issue - Ed.*]

Another member, Judy Jeffery, wrote to say she would like to draw on both articles in a summary for the South Australian Branch of the Professional Historians Association (www.sahistorians.org.au) which, if accepted, will hopefully appear in the March 2015 edition. Her interest in the Lone Pine arose from coming across one in a park in Jamestown in South Australia's mid-north. This is in Memorial Park and the accompanying plaque is inscribed:

SEEDLING FROM
 ORIGINAL LONE PINE
 GALLIPOLI 1915

One of the points that Roger made in his article was that many memorials to the Lone Pine incorrectly state that the pine tree growing nearby was grown from a seed from the original Lone Pine, even though sometimes it is not even the same species. He wasn't questioning the importance of the symbolism but was rather concerned about the botanical and historical inaccuracies being perpetuated.

Roger cited a planting in Kings Park in Perth which makes such a claim, although it is likely that the Perth tree was grown from seed taken from the Aleppo Pine growing at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. Noting that the Aleppo Pine is not indigenous to Turkey or the peninsula on which the Gallipoli campaign was fought, Roger wrote that the "flaws in the plaque at the 'Lone Pine' in Kings Park were drawn to the attention of the park managers some time ago, but no attempt has been made to correct the message".

However, a postscript to the story is that Roger sent me an e-mail saying that "no sooner was it published than I received word from Kings Park that they would be immediately replacing the incorrect sign on the 'lone pine' at the war memorial". (Before the AFHS newsletter takes the credit, I have to note that Roger's article was also published by Quadrant - see <http://quadrant.org.au/opinion/qed/2014/08/lone-pine-puzzle>. The AFHS newsletter published the article with Roger's permission.)

Also of note is that a quick search of the "Monuments Australia" website (<http://monumentaustalia.org.au>) results in numerous references to "Lone Pine", but also "Aleppo Pine", "Gallipoli Pine" and "Gallipoli Lone Pine", quite a number of which refer to the pine having been grown from a seed taken from the original Lone Pine.

FOREST FIRE LOOKOUTS - FOLLOW UP

Another article which generated some follow up - thanks to Ian Bevege - was my article on "Forest Fire Lookouts". Ian, quite rightly, wondered why I hadn't mentioned Peter Holzworth's 2006 book *Silent Sentinels. The story of Queensland's forest fire towers and the people who built them*.

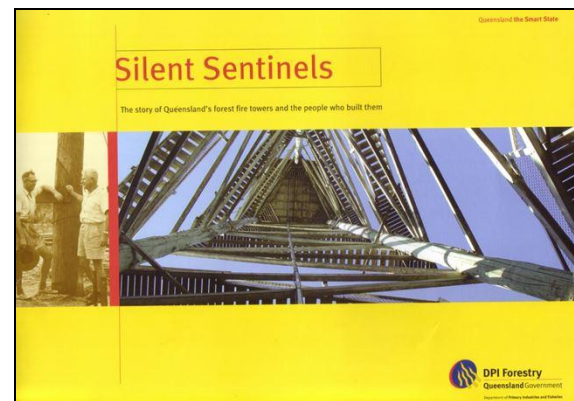
I have to confess that I wasn't aware of Peter's book - forest fire towers are not something I know much about. My article included links to a few sites, one of which I had come when I was researching something else and thought it sounded interesting, so I put it aside for the newsletter. I was planning to do a little bit more investigating before I published the article, but I needed to fill a page, so in it went.

In his e-mail, Ian says that:

"As well as providing an interesting historical and social overview, Peter has reproduced photos of 96 of the towers used by Queensland Forestry."

Details of the book are:

Peter Holzworth, 2006. *Silent Sentinels. The story of Queensland's forest fire towers and the people who built them*. DPI Forestry, 45 pp illus. Soft cover A4 Landscape.



On a separate but nevertheless related note, Ian also said that he's working with Ian Barnes on the final part of the Woodburn Forest (NSW) story (see newsletter no. 58 (Dec 2011) and no. 59 (June 2012)) and plans to have it for the next issue. It focuses on the old nursery and the firetower there, which was an ironbark pole with caged metal ladders - the burnt remains still survive.

BIOGRAPHIES OF FORESTERS

By John Dargavel

The Biographies of the Forestry Profession project being run in ANU's National Centre for Biography in partnership with the Australian Forest History Society and the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) has made good progress and will have met its target of having the obituaries and biographies of well over 200 foresters on-line by Christmas.

The project is creating a resource that can be analysed in different ways using the search functions of the web site. Here are three examples of how to find out about the lives of Australian foresters.

Tip: If you already have the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* in your favourites, start there and click on "People Australia" shown in small print in the banner at the top of the page.

Q1. Which foresters are included?

- a) Go to the *People Australia* web site: <http://peopleaustralia.anu.edu.au>. This is the site that searches all the National Centre for Biography's sites, so you can see the full biographical entries in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, those in *Obituaries Australia* (the main focus of this project so far), and some in *People Australia*.
- b) Go to "Faceted Browse" >Browse Records by: >"Occupations". Hit "Browse" button.
- c) Select "forester".

Answer: There are 173 foresters listed so far. They range from Charles Beale, born in 1835 and appointed by South Australia's first Conservator of Forests, to the New South Wales forester and former President of the IFA, Roy Free, who died in 2013.

Q2. Who trained at the Victorian School of Forestry?

- a) Go to the *People Australia* web site: <http://peopleaustralia.anu.edu.au>.
- b) Enter "Victorian School of Forestry" in the "Search box".
- c) Select "lists".

Answer: There are 25 foresters listed so far. They range from Charles Carter who was Principal there from 1916 to 1926, to Peter Grose who followed in the steps of his grandfather and was a student there from 1976 to 1977, but died at an early age. We can also see that Alf Lawrence who became Chairman of the Victorian Forests Commission was a fellow student with Bill Muir who became NSW Commissioner of Forests.

Q3. Who worked in Papua New Guinea?

- a) Go to the *People Australia* web site: <http://peopleaustralia.anu.edu.au>.
- b) Go to "Advanced Search".
- c) Click "Occupations".
- d) Click "Agricultural, pastoral, forestry and fishery" >"forestry">"forester".
- e) Click "Add Term" box and "forester" appears.
- f) Click "Papua New Guinea" box and "Search".

Answer: Ian Grundy, Jim McAdam and Robin Morwood who also died at an early age, have been listed so far.

WESTBOURNE WOODS WALK

Westbourne Woods in Canberra is an area established in 1913 by Charles Weston as a site for experimental plantings. A local group - Friends of ACT Trees (FACTT) - conducts a walk on the first Sunday of each month, highlighting different aspects of the woods.

The walk in December 2014 was led by Max Bourke (a speaker at a number of AFHS conferences) and had the theme of "The History of Australian Arboreta". Max discussed how arboreta played a role in the history of both urban and commercial forestry (street trees, gardens and plantations) around the world. From the mid-19th century, foresters had used arboreta to trial species in different climates and locations. Weston continued this tradition when he planted Westbourne Woods as a test site for species to be used in the emerging landscapes of the new national capital. The walk looked at some of the results 100 years on.

Max started his presentation with a history of arboreta, advising that the term "arboretum" was first used by Scottish botanist/garden designer John Claudius Loudon in 1833, although the concept had been well established by then. In 1839, Loudon was commissioned to establish the Derby Arboretum in the UK, and this use of public space was an influence on parks and gardens around the world, including Central Park in New York designed in 1858 by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux.

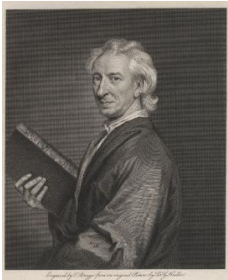
The Westbourne Woods site now forms part of the Royal Canberra Golf Course which moved there in the 1960s from what is now the bed of Lake Burley Griffin. Max spoke of the role of Max Jacobs, head of the adjacent Forestry and Timber Bureau and principal of the Australian Forestry School - and a keen golfer - in securing the site for the golf course. Just near the club house stands an old tree, a *Robina pseudoacacia*, that was relocated from the old course. Max didn't know why this was the tree that was moved from the old site.

At one stop, Max spoke about the contribution of Ken Eldridge from the CSIRO Division of Forestry to the retention of Westbourne Woods and also to the genetic improvement of Radiata Pine. Ken was a distinguished tree breeder and in the 1950s he and his team went to the three sites in North America where radiata grows naturally (Guadalupe and Cedros islands in Mexico, and California in the USA). A plaque commemorating Ken stands near a circle of radiata - "Dr Ken Eldridge 1934-2010 played a leading role in conserving Westbourne Woods". Discussion at this stop also included mention of a 1999 book called *True Gardens of the Gods: Californian-Australian Environmental Reform, 1860-1930* by Ian Tyrrell, published by the University of California Press. (More on that in a later issue.)

Max also noted the part that Westbourne Woods plays in species conservation; for example, in the 1980s, officials from the USDA collected seed from its Torrey Pines (*P. torreyana*), the rarest pine species in the USA.

For details of forthcoming walks, see the FACTT website at <https://sites.google.com/site/facttcanberra>. The walk in January 2015 will be led by Paul Scholtens with the theme of "Trees in the Urban Landscape".

A CANBERRA CELEBRATION



The 350th anniversary of the publication of John Evelyn's *Sylva* or a *Discourse on Forest Trees* was marked by a seminar at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra that showed how the ideals of restoration and delight in Evelyn's work infused the creation of Canberra's arboreal landscape, and continue

in the restoration of the city's catchment by Greening Australia. The accompanying flyer described it as:

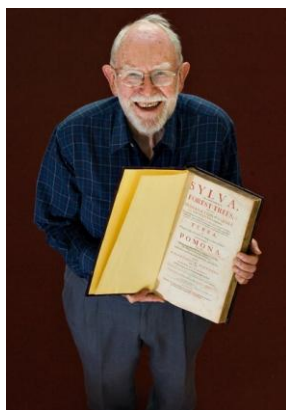
... just cause for celebration and optimism. Evelyn envisaged a "diverse plantation of all the sorts of trees" to restore England's woodlands. He gathered the information needed to raise and plant young trees for their utility and their beauty in the landscape.

A century ago Thomas (Charles) Weston started to transform the bare Canberra plain into what is now one of the world's great arboreal landscapes. He found the species to protect, shade and colour the emerging city that we enjoy today.

In this century Greening Australia is restoring the catchments of our region. Like Evelyn centuries before, it is planting "all the sorts of trees" and shrubs to heal the landscape. It is a new stage in the never-ending story of restoration and delight for the future.

The seminar featured presentations from John Dargavel (of AFHS fame), Cris Brack (from the ANU's Fenner School and a Board Member of the National Arboretum) and Lori Gould (from Greening Australia).

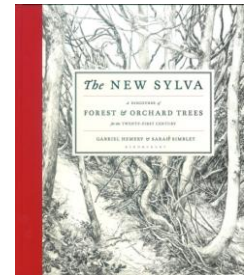
The evening concluded with John Dargavel celebrating the occasion by donating his copy of the third edition (1679) of *Sylva* to the ANU's library. He had bought it as forestry student in Edinburgh and hand brought it with him when he came to Australia in 1956. He was delighted to find it such a good home.



BOOK REVIEW

By John Dargavel

Gabriel Hemerey and Sarah Simblet, 2014. *The New Sylva, A Discourse of Forest and Orchard Trees for the Twenty-first Century*. Bloomsbury Publishing, London. ISBN 978 1 4088 3544 9. 390 pp. £50.



This is a glorious, sumptuous, big, heavy book, a feast for any book lover, a treasure for forest historians, a lift in the spirits for any forester, and a wonderful celebration of the 350th anniversary of the publication of the John Evelyn's *Sylva*. Its relevance to Australia is zero, at least so it seems at first glance. The first thing you notice is its heft in your hand, then the profusion of its drawings, the quality of the paper, and the elegance of its design by Peter Dawson and Louise Evans who revived a typeface first used in 1760. It is a labour of love and purpose.

"It is a modern-day clarion call for the creation of a new wood culture that may help to ensure a sustainable and enjoyable future for us all"; so writes Sir Martin Wood, a wealthy engineer who teamed up with Dr Gabriel Hemerey, an experienced forester to start the charitable Sylva Foundation that works to improve the management of private woodlands in Britain; a cause that mirrors Evelyn's.

The book is organised much as Evelyn's was with general introductory chapters, followed by a few pages for each of forty-five species grown in Britain. The number had to be increased from Evelyn's original so that many conifers, that were unknown or barely-known to Evelyn, could be included. The text describes the biology, silviculture, timber and uses of each species, and evaluates its future. For example, for larch (*Larix* spp.), it warns that "until some resistance to *Phytophthora ramorum* has evolved ... the role is probably limited in British woodlands".

The book concludes with chapters on management and what the future holds. The artist, Sarah Simblet, did not follow the tradition of scientific botanical illustration but drew over 200 specially commissioned pen and ink draws to show "the innate character and active behaviour of every plant I drew". Many of her drawings are striking, and many beautiful; together they take the book beyond a silvicultural text to stimulate us to reflect on the nature of trees. They are a joy.

Is the silviculture relevant to Australia? No. Is the endeavour to restore woods and forests relevant? Yes, as always. Will this book lift your spirits? Yes. You need it and you deserve it, don't you?

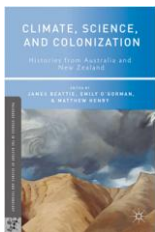
NEW BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS



Oliver Raymond and Roger Underwood (Eds) 2014. *Firefighters: Stories from Australian Foresters*. York Gum Publishing, Palmyra (WA). ISBN 978 0 9942 2710 2. \$35 + \$5 p&p. Available from Roger Underwood (Contact: 7 Palin Street, Palmyra WA 6157, yorkgum@westnet.com.au.)

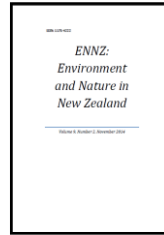
This book is an anthology of memoirs by Australian foresters recalling occasions on which they faced up to bushfires or to the challenges of bushfire research. The stories range from Chris Done's account of tackling spinifex "bombs" in the Bungle Bungles, to Dick Chuter's miraculous escape from a fire in the most inaccessible forests of Tasmania. Readers will travel to northern Queensland with Dick Pegg and Norm Clough, to the Gibson Desert with Neil Burrows, to the karri forest with Paul Jones and the Victorian Alps with Jim Williamson and Peter Fagg. At one extreme there are the horrors of Ash Wednesday and the night Dwellingup burnt; at the other extreme, there is the story of a "simple" two-man fire in the red gum country along the Murray River (where nearly everything that could go wrong, went wrong). There is travel in aeroplanes, steam locomotives, helicopters, Austin gang trucks, Blitz tankers and Mark I Land Rovers. There is death, and life, in the forest.

Some stories are dramatic and gut wrenching, others humorous or whimsical, and others still informative. But basically they are stories about an era in the Australian bushfire experience which is now almost past: the era of the forester-firefighter and their professionalism and dedication.



James Beattie, Matthew Henry and Emily O'Gorman (Eds.) 2014. *Climate, Science, and Colonization: Histories from Australia and New Zealand*. Palgrave Studies in the History of Science and Technology. Hardback ISBN 9781137333926. 306 pp. www.palgrave.com/page/detail/climate-science-and-colonization-james-beattie/?K=9781137333926.

Offering important new historical understandings of human responses to climate and climate change, this cutting-edge volume explores the dynamic relationship between settlement, climate, and colonisation. The contributions gathered here consider a wide range of interrelated topics, among them the use of scientific evidence in historical research, the physical impact of climate on agriculture and land development, and changing understandings of climate, including the development of "folk" and government meteorologies. They reveal Australasia to be a remarkably varied and fertile area for analysing cultural responses to climate as well as the wider social ramifications of historical climatic events.



ENNZ: *Environment and Nature in New Zealand*, Vol. 9, No. 2, November 2014. ISSN 1175-4222.

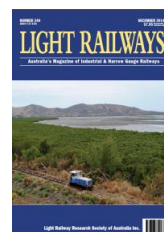
<http://environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/2014/11/new-issue-of-ennz-nov-2014>.

This journal, edited by AFHS members Paul Star and James Beattie, provides a forum for debate on environmental topics through the acceptance of peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed articles, as well as book and exhibition reviews and postings on upcoming events, including conferences and seminars.

The current issue contains two feature articles, including one titled "Timber Town: A History of Port Craig" by Alistair McMechan which is an abridged version of an essay he submitted in 1997 as part of his Honours degree at the University of Otago in Dunedin.

The article discusses the establishment of Port Craig as a timber settlement in 1916 by the Marlborough Timber Company and follows its development and decline up to its final abandonment in 1931.

The Port Craig site is within Waitutu Forest and is now managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). The DOC website has information at www.doc.govt.nz/conservation/historic/by-region/fiordland/southern-fiordland/port-craig-sawmill-and-settlement-site, including links to the Port Craig heritage management plan.



Light Railways: Australia's Magazine of Industrial & Narrow Gauge Railways, No. 240 December 2014. Light Rail Research Society of Australia. ISSN 0727-8101. \$7.95 + p&p. 48 pp. www.lrrsa.org.au/Lrr_LRi.html.

Described on the LRRSA website as "a special 'bumper' issue of 48 pages packed with much of interest", the magazine includes a number of items of interest to forest and forest industry historians, including the second part of Ian McNeil's feature on the British Australian Timber Company in Woolgoolga (northern NSW) - part 1 was published in the August 2014 issue.

The "Looking Back" section has a photo of the Don Tramway in northern Tasmania, built in the 1870s for logging purposes, as well as a photo of horse drawn log hauler on its way to the Southport mill in southern Tasmania. Mike McCarthy's article on Wilsons Promontory (Victoria) includes sections on the sawmill at Sealers Cove and the Franklyn River Sawmills.

Letters include ones on the Hudson Brothers timber tramway and the Narani sawmill (both in NSW), while the book reviews include Frank Stamford's account of "The McIvor Timber & Firewood Company".

A jam packed issue!



FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

Australian Society for the Study of Labour History, Biennial Conference, Melbourne, Feb 2015



The 14th Biennial Labour History Conference will be held at the University of Melbourne from **11th to 13th February 2015**. More info at <http://labourhistorymelbourne.org/2015conference>.

American Society for Environmental History, Washington USA, March 2015



The theme of the ASEH conference will be "Turning

Protest into Policy: Environmental Values and Governance in Changing Societies". It will be held in Washington, USA, from **18th to 22nd March 2015**. More info at <http://aseh.net/conference-workshops/dc-conference-2015>.

Nature and Technology in Environmental History, Beijing, China, May 2015



The Center for Ecological History at the Renmin University of China and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in



Munich are organising a conference titled *Manufacturing Landscapes: Nature and Technology in Environmental History*. The conference will be held in Beijing, China, from **28th to 31st May 2015**.

More info at www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/events_conf_seminars/calendar/china-conference-2015.

European Society for Environmental History, Biennial Conference, Versailles, France, June-July 2015



The ESEH's 8th biennial conference will be held in Versailles, France, from **30th June to 3rd July 2015** at the University of Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines. More

info at <http://eseh.org/event/upcoming-conference/call-for-proposals>.

Australian Historical Association, Annual Conference, Sydney, July 2015



The AHA annual conference will be held at the University of Sydney from **6th to 10th July 2015**, with the theme of "Foundational Histories". More info at

www.theaha.org.au. (The AHA website also has a useful list of history-related events - see www.theaha.org.au/conferences.html.)

Oral History Australia, Biennial Conference, Perth, Sept 2015



The Oral History Australia, Biennial Conference will be held in Perth from **9th to 12th September 2015**. The theme will be "Fast Forward: Oral History in a Time of Change". More info at www.oralhistoryaustralia.org.au.

History Teachers' Association of Australia, National Conference, Melbourne, Sept-Oct 2015



The HTAA National Conference will be held in Melbourne from **30th September to 2nd October 2015**. More info at www.historyteacher.org.au.

History Queensland Conference, Brisbane, Oct 2015



The History Queensland local and family history conference is being held at Indooroopilly in Brisbane on **3rd & 4th October 2015**. For details, see

www.historyqueensland.org.au/services/conferences/conference2015.htm.

Australian Garden History Society, National Conference, Adelaide, Oct 2015



The AGHS 36th Annual National Conference will be held in Adelaide from **15th to 18th October 2015**. For details, see www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/news/details/6.

Australian Forest History Society, National Conference, Mount Gambier, Oct 2015



The AFHS 9th National Conference will be held in Mount Gambier from **Wednesday 21st to Friday 23rd October**, followed by a one day study tour of the region on **Saturday 31st**. Details will be available at

www.foresthistory.org.au.

Royal Australian Historical Society, Annual Conference, Oct-Nov 2015 (tbc)



The RAHS annual conference is held in October/November each year. The date for the 2015 conference is not yet available, but a report on the 2014 conference is at

www.rahs.org.au/2014-rahs-annual-conference.

New Zealand Historical Association, Annual Conference, Dec 2015

The 2015 NZHA conference will be held at the



University of Canterbury in Christchurch from **2nd to 4th December 2015**. More details will be available early in 2015 - see <http://nzha.org.nz/2014/12/08/2015-nzha-conference-dates>.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue will be published in **April 2015**, with issues also planned for **August** and **December**.

Input is always welcome.

Contributions can be sent to the editor at Fintan.OLaighin@agriculture.gov.au.

**** Please also note the new e-mail address. ****