

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY

Southern Highlands Group

...your local native garden club

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After rain *Hakea petiolaris* shows off its magnificent foliage.

Welcome to SHAPS for 2018. Your committee has been working on an interesting programme of speakers and outings for the year. We hope you will be able to join us for as many activities as possible. Please bring along interested friends on a 'visitor' basis and encourage them to join our group.

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Diary Dates for 2018

General Meetings - These take place on the first Thursday in the months of February, April, June, August and November

Place: Moss Vale CWA rooms, Elizabeth St, between the Wingecarribee Council building and the Fire Station. Time: 2.00pm

Outings - Outings are arranged for the first Thursday in the month following the CWA meeting.

Months: May, July and September (two outings). 2.00pm unless otherwise advertised.

Committee Meetings - These take place on the third Monday of the month at 2.00pm (no meeting in December). Any member is welcome to attend.

January First committee meeting of the year. 1pm at the Roundabout, Kangaloon Rd, then at Kris's

February

February 1st 2018. Don't miss our first meeting when we are privileged to have [Elizabeth Jacka](#) as our speaker. With her husband, Ken, Liz has recently moved to the Highlands after retiring from her Melbourne career as an esteemed Landscape Architect and Town Planner. Below, from Liz, the title and subject of her talk which will be illustrated with photographs. Please come and bring interested friends.

[Boddy's Eastern Park Nursery, Geelong - recollections and reflections](#)

In 1951 my parents, Morton and Mollie Boddy, took the brave step of establishing an Australian Plant Nursery at a time when Australian plants were not at all in vogue. I plan to talk about their motivation for

doing that, who and what their early influences were, how the nursery evolved, how they sourced their plant materials, and their work in promoting the use of Australian plants in the home garden and the broader landscape. Liz Jacka

Feb 19th - Committee meeting at Erica's

March 1st *Excursion to Roma Dix's native garden. Bourne Close, Mittagong (RHS at the end of the cul de sac) at 2.00pm to see this delightfully modest natural garden developed and nurtured over years by one woman.*

Monday, March 19th Committee Meeting Louise's

April 5th General meeting with speakers and photos of ANPSA January Conference in Tasmania

Monday, April 16th committee meeting Bill's

Sunday 6th May outing to Grevillea Park

Monday, 21st May committee meeting Trisha's

June 7th General meeting - speaker subject - Birds

Monday, 16th June Committee Meeting Kay's

July 5th Outing to Erica's Mittagong garden followed by lunch at the pub

Monday, 16th July Committee meeting Sarah's

August 2nd General meeting with speaker Pat Hall on black cockatoos

Monday, 20th August committee meeting Erica's

September 6th Bushwalk at Caves Creek, off Wilson Drive at Hill Top

Monday, 17th Committee Meeting at Kris's

October 4th General Meeting with speaker, Bushcare Officer, Jennifer Slattery

Monday, 15th Committee meeting at Bill's

November 1st AGM with speaker wombat rescuer/carer.

Monday, 19th Committee meeting at Louise's

Sunday December 2nd Christmas Gathering

	General Meetings 1 st Thursday 2pm Feb. April, June, August, Oct, Nov. CWA Moss Vale	Outings 1 st Thursday in next month after CWA meeting 2pm.	Committee Meetings 3 rd Monday of month at 2pm
Jan			22nd Jan Kris
Feb	1st Feb - speaker Elizabeth Jacka/an early native nursery in Victoria		19th Feb Erica's
Mar		1st March - visit to Mittagong private garden. Optional afternoon tea together in Mittagong cafe.	19th March Louise's
April	5th April presentation - ANPSA Conference/Tasmania Jan 2018		16th April Bill's
May		Sunday 6th May Visit to Grevillea Park	21st May Trish's
June	7th June Speaker / subject - native birds		18th June Kay's
July		5th July 10.00am Mittagong garden visit. Lion Rampant for a pub lunch	16th July Sarah's
Aug	2nd August Speaker : Pat Hall (we hope!)		20th August Erica's
Sep		6th September Caves Creek walk - off Wilson Drive, Hill Top	17th September Kris's
Oct	4th October Speaker, WSC Bushcare officer, Jen Slattery		15th October Bill's
Nov	1st November AGM Speaker - Wombat rescue/carer		19th November Louise's
Dec		Sunday 2nd December Christmas Party Lunch	

Snippets



Proposed Native Planting - Kangaloon/Boardman Roads Roundabout

SHAPS Committee is always seeking ways to heighten the profile of native plants in the district and display them as desirable plants for gardens and parks. Kristine Gow made the suggestion that we take up

an idea seen in the Northern Tablelands where various garden groups have 'ownership' of roundabouts in Armidale and have planted them up in representative styles.

Discussions are underway with WSC for our group to undertake a similar project here in The Highlands.

We are encouraged by discussions so far and have been asked by WSC officer, Greg Bray, to submit a plan and planting list for the recently refreshed Roundabout mentioned above. SHAPS can either make a financial contribution to WSC for plant purchase, or buy/donate the plants. WSC will plant, weed, prune and water the planting once it is installed.

There are restrictions in height (no more than 400mm) for Roundabout plantings, and given the site fairly harsh growing conditions (very hot sun and frost exposure), ideas are centring around simple architectural forms and the use of texture and foliage colour rather than emphasis on flowers. Plans are leaning towards a sectioned, mosaic-style planting using repetition of five hardy species.

SHAPS has asked that we be permitted to install a sign nearby bearing our logo in order to heighten our profile and advocate for native plants in the district. There is no answer on this question so far.

Committee is working on a plant list and we will keep members informed of progress with this project.



Remember this line of *Melaleuca linarifolia*? They are in the car park at Moss Vale on the north side of the huge new Police Department building.

Last year I expressed concern that their root systems have been cut severely to make way for the new build and that the trees might die. But it seems that all is well, so far. In early January I walked past the building works and took this photo which shows new growth appearing on the south side of the trees where they were previously deprived of light. Amazingly, they look quite healthy.

Here's hoping that this show the possibility of a recovery underway.

Erica found an interesting and unusual plant on Sylvia David's plant stall at the Bundanoon Ramble last year. Formerly known as *Humea elegans* it now goes by the name of *Calomeria amaranthoides*. A tall, aromatic, biennial herb, it grows vigorously for the first year after germination, forming a large-leafed plant similar to tobacco. In the second year it flowers profusely, displaying spectacular plumes of coral-pink bracts terminating in tiny, white flowers. These give off a heady perfume, resulting in the common name, Incense Bush. It produces masses of seeds, but relatively few are viable. After flowering, the plant dies.

Seedlings transplant readily. Naturally growing on moist river flats, it prefers a sunny to semi shaded position and likes water in the hot weather.

Calomeria amaranthoides is said to be difficult to source, but now we know it is in the district, you might be lucky and find for one for your garden.

Reference: Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants - W R Elliott and D L Jones. SC

Hakeas in general and *H. petiolaris* in particular...(see photos front page)

Fran Mullard

Belonging to the Proteaceae family, the Hakea genus contains some 150 or so species, all of which are endemic to Australia. Over half of these species are confined to the south-western area of Western Australia, the remainder being endemic to areas of the east coast. Hakeas are attractive, small to medium woody shrubs to tall trees, most of which have conspicuous flowers.

Many hakeas have terete (circular in cross-section), sharp-pointed leaves, and are often known as "needle-bushes". Others have broad, stiff leaves and are excellent foliage plants. All hakeas have nut-like, woody fruits of various shapes and sizes, which split in two to release two-winged seeds. In all but a few species, the fruit remains intact, or persistent, until the bush dies or becomes damaged by fire. Due to the persistence of the wood follicle, the seeds are easy to access and easy to propagate.

Generally, hakeas are quite hardy but still like a sunny, well-drained position for good flowering. Like most Proteaceae, they are susceptible to wood-borer and eriophid mite attack. As we know, plants selected for growth in The Southern Highlands need to be frost-hardy to -7 degrees C in normal rainfall conditions. There are some hakeas which fulfil this requirement and indeed possess many more of the properties which gardeners love.

One such example is *Hakea petiolaris*, which is endemic to the south-west of Western Australia, in a range between Wongan Hills and Hyden, and is usually associated with granite outcrops and hills.

H. petiolaris is also known as the "sea-urchin" hakea, due to the appearance of its purplish flowers, in globular heads, with white styles protruding. These beautiful blooms appear in autumn and winter and are of great interest to honeyeaters! The leaves are leathery, blue-green and spathulate (spoon-shaped) to ten centimetres.

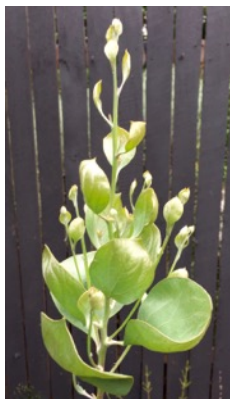
H. petiolaris is handsome, tall and erect, growing up to five metres in height by two metres in width. It is relatively frost-hardy (check position and severity of frost) has attractive foliage, lovely blooms in winter which are very attractive to birds and it works well as a screen or foliage plant.

Ticks a lot of boxes!

Some other hakeas which could be suitable for Southern Highlands conditions follow. Note that the list is not definitive and that some names may have been changed.

<i>H. microcarpa</i>	small fruited hakea	<i>H. constablei</i>	(rare)
<i>H. lissosperma</i>	mountain needlewood	<i>H. nodosa</i>	yellow hakea
<i>H. salicifolia</i>	willow hakea	<i>H. teretifolia</i>	dagger hakea
<i>H. trifurcata</i>	two leaf hakea	<i>H. ulicina</i>	furze hakea

References Australian Native Plants 3rd Edition - John Wrigley, Murray Fagg 1992 Ang/Rob
 APS NSW Website
 ABC Gardening Australia FLORA'S NATIVE PLANTS Publisher Gordon Cheers 2004



Note from the photographer: Interesting that *H. petiolaris* is from WA where soils are most commonly thin and sandy/not water retentive. The specimen in the photos is in a pot and receiving good nutrition and plenty of water. Recently I saw a plant of this same species growing on a steep, gravelly hillside in Tasmania in very dry conditions. The leaves were elongated, sparse and lacked lustre and colour. Goes to show that natives will grow in harsh conditions but if you give them good conditions they will more than likely 'show off' and grow even better!

SC

Propagating Native Plants

Kristine Gow and Sarah Cains

A growing interest in the propagation of native plants has been kindled amongst our members by the beautiful plants Kris Gow brings to sell at our meetings. Due to this activity, our SHAPS bank balance has



grown from around zero, to a modest pile that enables our group to pay our way and to support native plant-promoting activities. On the 'more-the-merrier' basis, committee members persuaded Kris and Eileen Burnus to give a few of us a lesson in propagation so that more of us might become successful propagators; more growers = more plants for sale = more natives getting out there into gardens= more dollars for projects. We asked Kris and Eileen to give a trial workshop with committee members as participants. There was great enthusiasm for this idea and, just before Christmas, the whole committee piled onto Kris's little back verandah to pick up a few 'how to' hints.

Here is what I learned:

Bags of vermiculite, coarse sand and perlite were provided and, for cuttings, we mixed these at the following proportions - one part vermiculite, two parts perlite and coarse sand to firm up the mix. If growing seeds, sprinkle additional sand on top like salt. Wet the mix and press firmly into plant trays.

Sharp, pointed-end cutters were used to take the cuttings. Because they were soft tip cuttings (this is variable according to season) pieces of approx 5cm in length were used. Lower leaves are cut away to make a little stem. If the species has large leaves, these can be cut in half to reduce water loss.

Eileen dusts the cut ends with cinnamon to help prevent fungus growth. Kris prefers to use a commercial plant rooting hormone (Clonex purple) to dip the cutting ends before planting. Using a chopstick (or similar) as a 'dibbler', a hole is made in the mix and plant pieces are gently firmed into the hole.

For seeds, magnesium sulfate (Epson salts) can be used to soak seeds overnight to increase germination rate.

When trays are planted up, label your species and spray gently with a weak Seasol (or similar) mixture. Place trays in a shaded, protected spot and keep damp, but don't over water.

These species are relatively 'easy' and likely to succeed for beginners wanting to have a go... *Correa sp*, *Myoporum sp*, *Eremophila sp*.

The Naming of Plants (Part 2)

Jenny Simons

When plants are being named, it may be necessary to proceed beyond the genus name (e.g. Pomaderris) and the species name (e.g. andromedifolia) if the plant is a sub-species (e.g. subsp. confusa). (I wonder why confusa was chosen?)

A level of naming which is even more detailed is variety, abbreviated to var. (e.g. *Acaena echinata* var. *echinata*.)

If two species regularly cross with one another, the cross may be given a name of its own, as when two native raspberries hybridise (*R. moluccanus* var. *trilobus* and *R. parvifolius*), the new hybrid is given a name, R. X novus (a very suitable name.)

'Flora of New South Wales' ed. Gwen Harden records for each species the person who named it. One entry reads *Leptospermum thompsonii* J. Thompson. This was named by our local botanist Joy Thompson in honour of her husband. If you look through the *Leptospermum* entries you will notice that many of them were named or renamed by Joy when she undertook a revision of the genus at the request of the New South Wales Herbarium. When a species has to be renamed the original namer or namers appear in brackets and then the person who renamed the plant, e.g. *Leptospermum macrocarpum* (Maiden & E. Bechte) J. Thompson. When a species is known but hasn't yet been named, it is referred to as species A. (or B. or C. as needed.) e.g. *Zieria* species A. or else *Cardamine* species aff. *flexuosa*, when the plant has an affinity with *Cardamine flexuosa*.

Before a plant is placed in a genus, it is first placed in a family, such as the Proteaceae, to which the waratahs, grevilleas and banksias belong; or the Myrtaceae, to which the eucalypts, callistemons and leptospermums belong. Most families have large numbers of genera. The Proteaceae have about 80 genera and 1500 species throughout the world; the Myrtaceae have about 140 genera and 3000 species worldwide. More populous families such as the Orchidaceae have about 850 genera and 25 000 species worldwide.

My Adventures in Natural Dyeing using Australian Plants

photos and story, Trisha Arbib

I still remember about seven years ago watching a friend, Carolyn, dyeing with gum leaves. I couldn't believe the rich red of the wool from the silver leaves, the circular patterns achieved by tying marbles into the cloth with string, and how folding the fabric into a pile of squares with sawn wood clamped on each end produced rows and columns of white circles among the red. I was hooked. The Eucalypt was the Argyle apple, *Eucalyptus cinerea*. Natural dyes, namely flowers, leaves, seeds, bark, roots, lichens, spices and vegetables are much more effective on animal derived fabrics like wool and silk than on plant derived cotton, linen, bamboo and hemp. Even the colour may vary according to the fabric. The rich red of Argyle apple on wool becomes salmon on silk (see photos at left).



Mordants are compounds that help fix the colour. Eucalypts do not need mordants to be colour fast and there is disagreement on whether any dyeing on silks does. Chrome and tin that will also move colours into

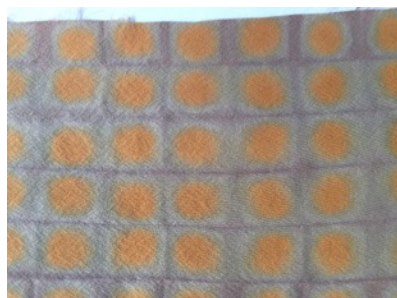
yellows and greens are now considered too dangerous to use. Using chemicals to me seems counter intuitive to natural dyeing. Where necessary I use alum, a harmless aluminium compound, and occasionally iron sulphate available from nurseries.

I use both native plants and exotics to obtain dye. My favourite dye pot materials are yellow coreopsis daisies that grow in abundance along the road in Penrose in summer, pittosporum leaves, wattle flowers and pods, damson plums, *Eucalyptus cinerea* leaves, lichen and purple plum leaves. These give me yellows, orange, green, plum, reddish brown, red and salmon. The kitchen provides rich golds from onion skins and turmeric, russets from tea and cochineal pinks.

I usually simmer plant material in a saucepan of water over a portable gas burner to get a dye pot, and then simmer my fabric, my preference is silk, in the dye obtained. To get the best colour from wattle flowers I always use alum and only simmer briefly then keep in the hot dye pot to cool. Otherwise the colour becomes beige rather than a lovely yellow.

Having had an old fashioned nursery of exotics with display garden beds for twenty-eight years, and now also a reasonably sized native garden, I've had a lovely lot of plant material to experiment with. Not everything gives any colour at all, and many give a disappointing beige. Some are unexpected like a brown dye pot from red autumn leaves, and not everything gives the same colour every time. I've had both golds and greens from pittosporum leaves which can be frustrating. The time of year, amount of moisture in the plant, the soil it grew in can all have an effect. So I can sort of see why commercial dyers seized on consistent artificial dyes when they were discovered. But I love that sense of not knowing quite what to expect, and the subtlety of colour especially.

When I don't wish to just achieve a uniform colour, I use a simplified form of Japanese shibori techniques, and this is a whole topic in itself. This involves making patterns by stopping the penetration of dye in parts, by folding and clamping and sewing and using resists such as pieces of wood or shaped perspex or metal, rubber bands, bulldog clips and rope. Tie dyeing is a simple form of this.



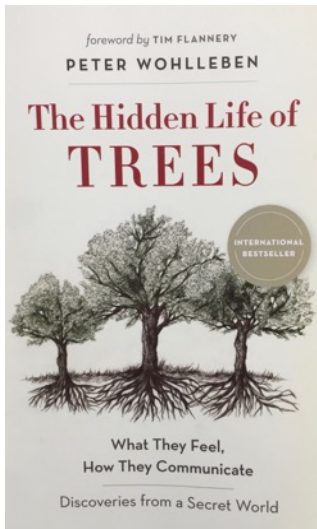
I also particularly love eco-dyeing with its resultant coloured imprints of e.g. a leaf on the cloth. Here botanicals like flowers and leaves are tightly folded into the piece of fabric which is then steamed, or simmered in water or in a natural dye pot. I've had great results with purple plum leaves, red and brown onion skins, reddish brown wattle pods and textured rugosa rose leaves. I've produced orange imprints from flimsy strands of grey lichen, purple circles from purple carrot, and peachy imprints of *Eucalyptus cinerea*.

Again it needs experimentation to see what plants leave an impression. Shifts of colour can be made by the use of mordants and different dye pots, overdyeing, combining with shibori.... I love it that there is so much to learn and discover. A wonderful reference and inspiration is India Flint's book, *Eco Colour*.



Holiday reading in our house: book reviews by Geoff and Sarah Cains

Geoff Cains



The Hidden Life of Trees: What they Feel, How They Communicate (Black Inc. 2015) In a chatty style reminiscent of a curator, the author of this important book, Peter Wohlleben takes the reader through his careful observations of trees in a much-loved forest in Germany where he works as a forester. From these observations Wohlleben has made a number of deductions about the nature of communication between trees. Underpinning his commentary is the science described by Dr, Suzanne Simard of the University of British Columbia in the prestigious journal *Nature* in 1997. Whilst the symbiosis of fungal mycelium and heathland shrubs had been described in England in the prior decade it was Simard who coined the term “the wood wide web” after her description of the vast network of fungal mycelium that facilitated the communication of trees in the temperate forests of Europe and North America. This association was an addition to the already recognised manner in which trees communicate through their roots intermingling.

The benefits to the forest trees of this communication are described with joyful enthusiasm by Wohlleben; some advantages are scientifically confirmed others speculative. The benefits include the distribution and generation of nutrients, the generation of defence mechanisms against pathogenic fungi after damage to the tree and the orderly and controlled growth of the forest.

And what an amazing range of plants are involved; all trees in the temperate northern hemisphere including both deciduous trees and conifers and the author suggests, all shrubs and even grasses.

All this seems to confirm what many gardeners and other people have suspected for some time, that trees, their roots and the soil in which they live are a single living organism. The reader cannot help but be inspired by the information in this book. If Wohlleben is correct, and it must be noted that some of his speculations are at present outside of science, we must do more to protect the world’s forests; we will become extinct if we do not do so.

The reviewer has some caveats about the text; the anthropomorphism used by the author can be irritating and the analogy he uses to describe the functions of tree bark and human skin are incorrect and downright silly. Some repetition of fact occurs but is acceptable in this powerful book since it reinforces the author’s important message.

Critical for us in Australia, with our unique flora, is the question, does the “wood wide web” occur in this continent or is it an exclusive northern hemisphere adaptation of coniferous and deciduous forests. It seems to me that this question needs to be urgently answered since so much of the current agricultural activity in Australia depends on the answer. I am thinking of the contentious issue of frequent land burning. Would frequent burns destroy such a network of fungal mycelium? Certainly, it has been demonstrated that there is a marked reduction in terrestrial invertebrates after burning and a rapid re-accumulation of litter secondary to a reduction in decomposition (R J Raison, 1986). But it’s not just burns, there are proposals to expand agriculture into areas that have greater rainfall, such as northern Australia, as regions in south west Australia dry out due to climate change impact. This will require

considerable tree and other vegetation clearing. Broad acre farming in NSW is already carried out in marginal areas with the long-term consequences completely unknown.

The Australian connection in the book continues with a scientist's work on plant bioacoustics; this work is favourably noted by the author who explains that electrical signals detected by Monica Gagliano are thought to be the conductors of the information being trafficked in the tree roots. If proven, then the corollary would be to query the existence of a 'brain' in plants. So far there is not a lot of evidence, but Wohlleben argues that the line of demarcation of animals who are credited with brains and that of plants is blurred and the demonstration by Gagliano that *Mimosa* (a herb species) can learn, after training, not to close their leaves after repeated challenges, suggests there must be a site in the plant for storage of information. On p47 Wohlleben states that 'they [trees] don't have brains to function as databases...' but on p.83 quotes an opinion from researchers at the University of Bonn who are 'of the opinion that brain-like structures can be found at root tips.' Clearly there is much research work needed in the area of plant biology to resolve this practical but also a deeply philosophical question.

As a measure of the depth of the author's thinking, he challenges the current botanical orthodoxy in chapters such as 'The Mysteries of Moving Water'. Tenets such as hydrostatic pressure being responsible for stopping trees from falling over, and that it is a combination of capillary action and transpiration that are responsible for pumping water to the topmost foliage are explored. Water in the trunk of Eucalypts must be involved as you can hear water movement at certain times just by pressing your ear against the trunk. Other tree phenomena commented on by the author are, the question of what triggers bud burst in spring and why leaf colour changes in autumn.

Clearly this is an important book; easy to read and stimulating. The informed and interested gardener will feel reassured and rewarded that their instinctive best tree practices are sound and increasingly confirmed by science. It would be wonderful to see this book read by politicians and for the budget of the CSIRO to approximate that of ASIO; also to be read by those planting coniferous plantations. Perhaps they would pause for a moment and wonder if this activity really represents a form of 'sustainable agriculture.'

The book is well produced with a clear sans serif font of good size and is a credit to the copyeditor. The unaccredited line drawings of northern hemisphere trees don't add a lot but are welcome as text breaks. The 'Notes' section at the end is really a collection of pertinent and contemporary references. The book includes an index, a foreword by Tim Flannery and at the end, an invitation to join the David Suzuki Foundation, with an address for the cheque. GC

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Memories of gardens past have been rekindled for me by a lovely book I was given for Christmas. I haven't finished it yet, but so far have found much to enjoy. It is called, *Life in the Garden*, by Penelope Lively.

Lively is an English writer and gardener, a woman with accrued years of skill and experience in both disciplines. So I'm transported back to a time before I fell in love with natives and all they have to offer the Australian gardener. If you are a long-time garden addict and, on your gardening journey, have enjoyed plants and writers from other parts of the world, English gardens and garden writers in particular, you are sure to find this a great read.

In an engaging and conversational style, Lively covers a wide range of garden topics including memoirs and garden history. Amongst the many books she discusses, we found an old friend. It is called *We Made a Garden*, by Margery Fish (first published in 1957).

Together with my husband, Geoff, we devoured this practical and informative book in our 'English Garden Phase'. We would sit up in bed, balancing cups of morning tea and careful to be quiet so not to wake the children (who are now in their 40s) and scour books such as this one, dreaming gardens with writers like Fish and researching every detail of the plants they grew.

Lively's account of Margery Fish's book and its gardening marriage partners made us laugh - again.

In practical detail, Fish describes how, in 1937, she and her husband, Walter, started their garden at East Lambrook Manor in Somerset. She tells of the "Herculean task of turning two acres of former farmyard and rubbish deposit into an intricate area of winding paths, beds, walls and enclosed areas." Amusingly, she includes intimacies of rubbish the brave Fishes removed from their site. Next come the plants. "... when it came to plant preferences, she (Margery) was in a state of constant negotiation". Clearly this is an oblique way of telling us that Walter was an uncompromising old curmudgeon. Adding to his sins, he displayed the worst of garden manners, "never picking up his pruning or dead-heads but leaving them for her to clear away". Lively declares that "There is a subtext of forbearance throughout the book:" Showing prim restraint in comparison with today's writing styles, she observes that " I find myself not much caring for Walter."

Margery favoured small, subtle plants and the cottage garden style. She worked tirelessly at nurturing her beds of delicate treasures. "His taste was for large showy stuff with a passion for dahlias." When it came time to plant out his dahlia tubers, Walter would tramp over her beds to commandeer the best positions for "his precious dahlias, the loudest and flashiest possible."

Out walking and talking in summer evening cool, I reminded Geoff about Margery and Walter Fish and their garden. He recalled another 'Walter' story that made us laugh. Predictably, Walter was passionate about the neatness of their gravel driveway. Every leaf and twig was to be removed and the gravel kept in clean, raked lines. (How he would have delighted in the modern-day garden blower!) Margery mildly tells us that she was often found to be at fault when exchanging plants with friends as soil would drop onto Walter's gravel.

Likely Geoff and I are members of a legion of fond admirers of the long-suffering Margery Fish. It is a commentary on the times that she did not hurl down her tools and storm out of the garden gate and out of her marriage with the over-bearing Walter. Perhaps this is best explained by the fact that Walter died in 1947, after only ten years gardening at Lambrook Manor. This left Margery to forge ahead with a solo and uncompromised journey into gardening history.

As a side note, Lively tells us that a large majority of plants grown and loved by English gardeners are not actually native to Britain. Rather, they have been collected from all over the world.

All this fun reading and remembering and I still have the other half of the book to go. SC



Amazing Macquarie Island plants seen at Tasmanian Botanic Garden (in a cold house) by those of us lucky enough to attend the ANPSA conference in Hobart - January 2018.

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Thanks to contributors to this edition of the NL. Fran Mullard, Tricia Arbib, Jenny Simons, Kris Gow, Geoff Cains and Erica Rink (calendar/plant notes in Snippets).

