

## Newsletter February 2019

### *The Friends of Urrbrae House*

Urrbrae House, The University of Adelaide, Waite Campus,  
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#### **President's Report**

Accompanying this Newsletter is an invitation to renew your membership as a Friend of Urrbrae House for 2019. We value very much such continuing support and are delighted also to be welcoming good numbers of new Friends.

We are pleased to be continuing our very popular Twilight Concert Series in conjunction with Vivente Music. As you will read in this newsletter the Vivente Music Group recently did a tour to China and prior to this presented the program prepared for the tour to the three Friends groups at the Christmas party in December. This was very much appreciated.

Other functions being considered for 2019 include another afternoon jazz concert and a film event at the Capri Cinema.

Those of you who have attended any of our events will know that we have a very hard working committee with respect to the provision of refreshments at such events. At such functions and committee meetings there is a joyful interaction between members of the committee.

We do however have an issue of concern that relates to a succession plan for positions like President, Treasurer, Secretary and Manager of our database. We have good procedures in place so none of the above is overly onerous.

We only have five committee meetings each year.

I know that filling executive positions is an issue for many committees today but I am hoping that we can overcome this. Making such a contribution to the work of Urrbrae House is a very rewarding experience.

If you would like to know more about the above Executive positions I would love to hear from you. One could learn more about what is involved by acting initially as an assistant to an Executive member of the committee. If you know of someone who might be suitable for such a position please ask them to consider it. They do not need to be a current Friend of Urrbrae House.

*Bill Wallace*

President, Friends of Urrbrae House Committee

*We welcome the following new members:*

Susie Clarke  
Lenore Jansen and Quentin Moreau  
Rosie and Peter Newland  
Geraldine and Bob Shuttleworth

## Upcoming Events for your Diary

**Monday 25th March - 5.30 for 6.00pm**  
***Vivente Music Twilight Concert***

Please note this concert will be held in the Ballroom with access via stairs only.  
Booking details at [viventemusic@yahoo.com.au](mailto:viventemusic@yahoo.com.au)

**Monday 21 April, 5.30 for 6pm**  
***Annual General Meeting and a talk by Rick Moore,***  
***President of the John McDouall Stuart Society, 'Golden Age of Exploration'***

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 5.30 for 6.00pm**  
***Twilight Concert***

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30 for 3pm**  
***Keith Conlon Trio – 'Ages of Jazz'***

***SA History Festival***  
***28<sup>th</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> May***  
***Urrbrae House event details on page 6***

## **Manager's Musings**

### UNESCO Achievement Award for the Urrbrae House Schools' Program

I was thrilled to learn just before I went on long service leave last year that the UNESCO Clubs – Adelaide Chapter had awarded one of only four annual Achievement Awards to our Urrbrae House Schools' Program. The award recognizes initiatives that foster the dissemination of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) objectives in society. The award was presented by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, and Mrs Lan Le (who are patrons of the UNESCO Clubs – Adelaide Chapter) on 30 October 2018.

Urrbrae House and the School of Agriculture, Food and Wine were ably represented at the award ceremony by Urrbrae House volunteer co-ordinator Amanda Jackson, volunteer Yujia Gao, Professor Eileen Scott and volunteer Lyn MacKay (pictured above).

The award is a great recognition of the wonderful team of volunteers and staff who have contributed to the program for more than a decade. It also recognizes the value of interactive, hands-on history education and object-based learning.



### University Donors and Alumni welcomed to Urrbrae House

On 24 November 2018 we were delighted to welcome University of Adelaide donors and alumni to Urrbrae House for a special brunch hosted by External Relations at the University. “Mr Peter and Mrs Matilda Waite” (Allan Woodman and Lyn MacKay - pictured right) and their friend “Mrs Joanna Barr Smith” (myself) were on-hand to chat with visitors during the morning.



### Thank you for supporting The Smith Family at Christmas

Thank you to those who put new toys and books under our Urrbrae House Christmas tree. Support for our annual collection for The Smith Family’s “Toy and Book Appeal” was greatly appreciated. Each year The Smith Family aims to deliver over 75,000 toys and 50,000 books to disadvantaged children around Australia.

### Plant and Food Research Australia at the Waite

Plant & Food Research Australia is establishing a base at the Waite Campus which will boost research and innovation in South Australia’s horticulture and agri-food sectors. Already working with the University on agricultural product development, and almond orchard systems and harvest technologies, the co-location will drive research collaborations aimed at enhancing production, sustainability and value-adding in the horticulture, food and agriculture industries. Plant & Food Research Australia is a wholly owned subsidiary of the New Zealand science organization, Plant & Food Research, a NZ Government-owned Crown Research Institute.

The University of Adelaide's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Rathjen (pictured), Plant & Food Research Group General Manager, Marketing and Innovation, Dr Gavin Ross, and SA Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, the Hon. Tim Whetstone launched this important new development for South Australia at Urrbrae House on 30 January.





### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags raised at Waite

Members of the University of Adelaide's Wirltu Yarlu Aboriginal Education, the Waite Campus and broader community came together on the McLeod Lawns on 30 January 2019 to witness a flag raising ceremony. This significant event marked the first time that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags have been flown together with the Australian flag at Waite Campus.

According to the University's Professor Shane Hearn, Dean of Indigenous Research and Education Strategy, flying these flags is one of the most widespread and fundamental ways universities recognise and respect Aboriginal people. The flags are a visual representation of Aboriginal peoples' connection to their country and an important symbol to welcome Aboriginal people to the University.

The Ceremony began with a Welcome to Country by Kaurna Elder Uncle Rod O'Brien, followed by a short speech from Professor Hearn. The Australian flag, Aboriginal flag and Torres Strait Islander flag were then raised by Professor Hearn and Interim Dean of the Waite Associate Professor Chris Ford, Kaurna Elders and Cultural Advisors Uncle Rod O'Brien and Rosemary Wanganeen, and Wirltu Yarlu staff members Teegan Bryant and Hamish Press.



The three flags are now installed and flying proudly over the Waite adjacent to the rotunda on the McLeod Lawns.

## Treasures from the Richardson family



In January, Belinda Powles, the great granddaughter of Professor Arnold E. V. Richardson, donated two boxes of books belonging to Richardson to the Urrbrae House library. In addition Belinda brought in a box of family treasures relating to the life of Lilian Richardson for us to scan for our records including a hand coloured photograph of Urrbrae House c. 1930.

Lilian lived in Urrbrae House in the 1920s and 1930s when her husband was Director of the Waite Agricultural Institute. A talented singer, Lilian used her position as hostess at Urrbrae House to promote the arts and education in South Australia.



I am very grateful to Belinda's family for their generous donation and for sharing precious family material with us.

## Book launch by Elephant House Press

On 9 February new independent South Australian publisher, Elephant House press launched their *Love Story: Volume 1* at Urrbrae House. The event included readings by contributing authors, D.C. White, Jeanie Wood (pictured) and John Standingford. Proceeds from the book launch were donated to the Human and Hope Association, a grassroots community centre in Siem Reap, Cambodia that focuses on education, vocational training and community support projects.



### Adelaide Fringe at Urrbrae House 2019

Urrbrae House is the venue for two concerts during the Adelaide Fringe. On 7 March at 10.15am and 12.30pm Emma Knights will perform **"The Piano Men"** in the Drawing Room. Using songs of Emma's favourite piano men, this performance is an exploration into historical stories of women pianists and Emma's own experiences as a woman in the music industry. Emma will share the story of the men she has aspired to be like and the women she had to search to find. Bookings can be made on the Fringe website: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/the-piano-men-af2019?venue=166%3A587>

Then on 8 March at 7.30pm Tim Barton will perform a piano recital, **"Prelude: Chopin, Debussy, Jazz"** in the downstairs Ballroom. The recital will include the Chopin Preludes, 5 Debussy Preludes and original Jazz, Blues and Boogie by Tim. To book: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/prelude-chopin-debussy-jazz-with-pianist-tim-barton-af2019>

### First Sunday of the month tours of Urrbrae House

I am happy to report that the power of social media has meant increased numbers for our free tours of Urrbrae House on the first Sunday of the month, held from February to November. Despite hot weather and Urrbrae House having no air-conditioning, 180 keen visitors turned up for our February tour! Given the increased public interest, we will be scheduling some additional free tours of the house in the coming months. Please check our webpage for dates in the future <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/waite-historic/whatson/> In addition, from mid-year we will be introducing a new online booking system for the free tours to help ensure we have plenty of guides on hand to take visitors around the house.

### SA History Festival

Each year the South Australian History Festival gets bigger and better. This year the Festival will start with an Open Doors weekend from 27-29 April and then continue until 31 May. We have a variety of events planned, full details of which will be on our website, Facebook page and the SA History Festival brochure in due course. But here are preliminary details of our program at Urrbrae House so you can save the dates:

- a) 28 April – ***The Door is Open at Urrbrae House***: Open House afternoon with staff and volunteers (in period dress) in the rooms to answer visitors' questions.
- b) 1 May (which is May Day) - ***The Pedigree of the Rose***: talk by Tate Hancox about the 4,000 year old history of the development of roses.  
Tate is a postgraduate researcher in the School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, and is passionate about roses. He exhibits plants and volunteers in the horticultural section at the Royal Adelaide Show. Tate is a member, exhibitor and accredited pruner with the Rose Society of South Australia. In 2014 he was the runner up in the Gardening Australia Young Gardener of the Year competition. In 2017 he filmed a segment with Gardening Australia on Pruning Roses.
- c) 5 & 21 May – ***Free Guided Tours of Urrbrae House***
- d) 8 & 11 May – ***Senses and Sensibility for Kids: plants and Victorian crafts***: children's tours of the Sensory Garden and craft sessions using plant materials.

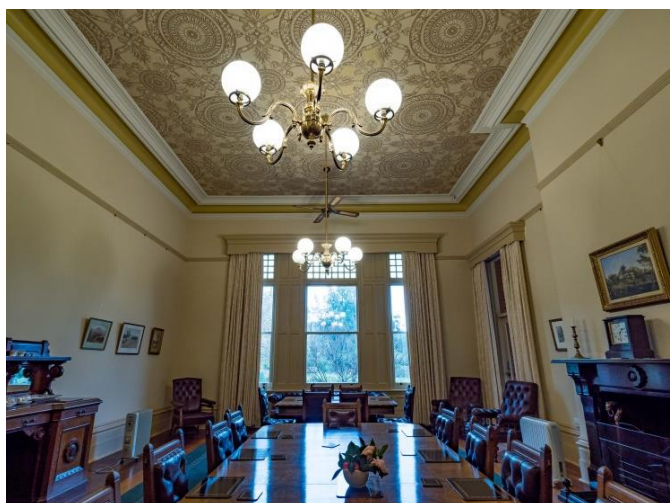


- e) 19 May – **Ages of Jazz (with the Keith Conlon Trio)**: concert with insights into jazz history by Keith Conlon. This Sunday afternoon concert is being offered by the University of Adelaide and the Friends of Urrbrae House.
- f) 1-23 May – **Keith Phillips Photographic Exhibition**: Keith Phillips was the University of Adelaide and Waite Agricultural Research Institute photographer from 1945-1963. The display will include photographs of the Waite Campus held by University Collections and will be able to be viewed during our general public opening hours and special events.
- g) 23 May – **University Collections Cultural Conversation about Keith Phillips**: talk about the life and work of photographer Keith Phillips.  
 Phillips (1898-1973) was a photographer for most of his life and made his first pin-hole camera at the age of 12. After serving in the RAAF in World War II, Phillips worked for the University of Adelaide and became an official photographer at the Waite Research Agricultural Institute in 1945. He produced a 16mm movie about Adelaide and the University used to recruit academics from the United Kingdom in the post-war period. In 1960 Phillips accompanied the Royal Society of South Australia expedition to Pearson Island. He also covered many social events for the University until 1963 when Phillips left to take to become Pictorial Editor of Rigby Publishing. He was an active member of the Royal Photographic Society and became an Artiste of the Federation International del'Art Photographique in 1962. He produced two books of his photographs *The Flinders in Colour* (1968) and *Barossa Valley* (1972). [This biographical is courtesy of the State Library of South Australia.]
- h) 1-31 May – **Wildlife Learning and Orienteering Trail in the Historic Waite Arboretum**: A new discovery trail of animal interpretative elements in the Arboretum will be available to encourage young and old to explore this wonderful collection of trees and to look at animals from a new perspective.

#### Waite Historic Precinct Photography Group

If you have looked at our Facebook and Instagram pages in the last year you may have seen some of the beautiful photographs taken by members of the Waite Historic Precinct Photography Group. Last year volunteer Paul Stokes helped establish this group for photographers who would like to practice their art photographing the Waite Campus.

The group meets once a month on a Sunday morning and members are encouraged to focus their lens on Urrbrae House, the Urrbrae House gardens, the Waite Arboretum and Waite Conservation Reserve. The group has a program of both practical and discussion sessions. New members are welcome. If you would like to know more about the group please contact Paul: email - [pstokes028@gmail.com](mailto:pstokes028@gmail.com)



*The Dining Room (above) by Paul Stokes*

### Urrbrae House Book Club

The Urrbrae House Book Club meets once a month at lunch time on the fourth Monday of the month in the Dining Room of Urrbrae House. Books are borrowed for the group by one of the members from the Burnside Library. Books are collected and returned at the monthly meetings. New members are welcome.

### Australian Museums and Galleries Association Incorporated (AMaGA)

The national association and peak advocacy body representing museums and galleries (of which the Urrbrae House Historic Precinct is a member) has a new name: Australian Museums and Galleries Association Incorporated (AMaGA). Previously known as Museums Australia, AMaGA now encompasses a wide and diverse range of national, state, regional and community museums, galleries, historic sites, botanic and zoological gardens, research centres, Indigenous cultural centres, and Keeping Places across Australia.

*Lynette Zeitz*

Manager, Urrbrae House Historic Precinct

### **Christmas Celebration 2018 – Vivente Music Treat**

On Monday evening 3rd December, the Vivente Quintet presented a concert in the Ballroom as part of the Christmas Celebration for the three Friends Groups of the Urrbrae House Precinct. The Vivente group presented a program they were preparing for a tour of China in January. This included a wide selection of music ranging from classical pieces to settings of Irish folk songs, and including some Chinese airs from different provinces- all presented in Vivente's typical warm and engaging manner. Erna sang a song from the Merry Widow with great acclaim.

The Friends attending proved to be an enthusiastic and appreciative audience for the selected programme, which was a great preliminary to the Christmas Party that followed in the Main Hall and Drawing Room.



*Vic Rowe*

From left:

Jacky Chang (Double Base)  
Erna and Minas Berberyan (Violin)  
Linda Garret (Viola)  
and Cameron Waters (Cello)

The committee of the Friends of Urrbrae House arranged the food for the Christmas Party while drinks were served in the drawing room by Terry Langham and Jo Crosby on behalf of the Friends of the Waite Arboretum. Joy Middleton (Friends

of Urrbrae House), Dr Wayne Harvey (Friends of the Waite Arboretum), Peter Bird (Friends of the Waite Conservation Reserve) and Lynette Zeitz (Manager, Urrbrae House Historic Precinct) thanked all the committee members for their support during the year. Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, recently elected Mayor of Mitcham, was in attendance.

*Joy Middleton*



**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
**Carols around the World -**  
**Kapelle Singers**

Emma Horwood, Guest Director and Harpist  
Steve Peterka, Percussion

This was a wonderful afternoon with visitors appreciative of the Urrbrae House grounds and the welcome of the seasonally decorated rooms. Afternoon tea was served before the audience members descended to the ballroom where the Kapelle Singers, directed and accompanied on Harp by Emma Horwood, entranced with choral celebrations of Christmas. The program included songs dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century *Qui Creavit Caelum* (The Song of the Nuns of Chester) to beautiful arrangements of familiar carols, many different eras and nationalities, magnificent in presentation and effect. Steve Peterka's percussion, in particular on the cajon, added passion and drama.

*Sandra Morrison*

*In memorium*  
**Gaye Boehm**

Gaye died suddenly at her home on January 7, 2019 in her 92<sup>nd</sup> year. She was a Friend of Urrbrae House since its inception and Yvonne Routledge and Peggy Rowe recall her appreciation of our functions, which she regularly attended. Until recently she was attending the Twilight Concerts.

We extend our sympathy to her family circle.

*From the archives*

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA: 1931 - 1954), Monday 5 November 1934, page 10

**Blind Entertained At Urrbrae**

At Urrbrae on Saturday, Professor and Mrs. A. E. V. Richardson entertained 25 members of the Royal Institution for the Blind. Mrs. Richardson received her blind guests, each of whom was escorted by a friend, and they then moved to a huge bower of roses, where an orchestra played. Here Mrs. Richardson related the story of Urrbrae. This was followed by a short programme of music. Mrs. Richardson sang a serenade, and Mrs. E. Reeves recited Tennyson's "Brook." The guests were next led round the pathways and terraces of roses in the garden, across the huge lawn to the lavender walk, and up an avenue, hemmed in on either side by roses. The guides of the guests were given permission to pick the lavender and roses. Before afternoon tea was served in the underground ballroom, Professor Richardson gave a short talk on the Waite Research Institute and what it meant to this State. The ballroom was decorated "with roses and other flowers", and afternoon tea was served by Mrs. Richardson, her sister, Mrs. Wells, and other friends of Urrbrae. During afternoon tea Mrs. Richardson played a pianoforte solo, "Berceuse" her own composition. The manager of the Royal Institution for the Blind (Mr. S. E. Fuller) thanked Professor and Mrs. Richardson, and other members of the institution who also thanked them were Messrs. J. A. Pavy and G. J. Lyons.

**National Library of Australia**<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article35016516>