

Announcing this very special APS excursion in October

This excursion for members and friends, is going to be a very special day, so I am looking for definite numbers who would like to participate. Please contact either John Murphy or myself. This is important, because it determines the size of vehicle that we hire.

First of all it is not just to see a garden as most would suspect, but many other surprising wonders as well.

This is an excursion that can be one where you can choose how you wish to get there.

You can travel there by your own means, or you can choose to travel as a group with us in a minibus, or small vans which I intend to hire, similarly to our last big excursion to Dean Nicholle's property a few years ago.

The date is Sunday the 17th October 2021, and it is proposed that we meet at 10.00 am at the Unley Community Centre, where we have our general meetings each month.

Depending on the numbers, is to the particular type of vehicle/s we hire.

There will be a charge per head, which will be \$20.00 and that basically will cover the majority of the hire charge. It will be an all day event, and will include a scenic trip through the Adelaide hills which will lead us to the home of Kaye and Paul Bartlett, in Jervois, which is close to the river town of Wellington.

Now we all know Kaye, as she was the main driving force behind what is known now as the Pangarinda Botanic Gardens, which many of you have visited on occasion.

It is not intended that we go to Pangarinda, however if time permits, we may just get a chance to see a part of it.

A sandwich lunch will be provided, and Kaye will have tea and coffee facilities.

Be prepared with camera's and possibly some additional money, as Kaye may have some plants for sale if you decide you would like to buy some from her.

No Kaye has provided some information about the property, which gives you a little history about their home, and what it is you are likely to see, also some images, so have some thoughts about if you would like to attend, because it is quite important that we get some accurate numbers.

Now here is Kaye's information with some images:

Kaye & Paul Bartlett's Garden by Kaye Bartlett

When Paul and I married in 1962 we moved into a home on Pauls parents' dairy farm, built as a workman's home in 1954, with only one family using the home for a short period. Built on a sandy hill, next to the dairy, with no shortage of cow manure, we soon had a lawn and garden growing. The first trees planted were a *Ficus macrophylla* and a *Schefflera actinophylla* both a gift from Paul before we married and kept as pot plants. Both are still growing. The *Ficus* is today a huge spreading tree.

A track around our home which the milk tanker used to pick up the milk from the dairy alongside the house became the boundary to our garden, the watered area. We named our property "Winpara." Yes it is where the *Grevillea* hybrids Winpara Gem, Gold and Sunrise originated from.

Growing up on a property with 1000's of acres of natural Mallee scrub, I was growing local vegetation to plant along fence lines and driveways. After a trip to Darwin and down the East Coast of Australia in 1967 we had our first contact with plants of the rainforest. Then visiting a cousin and given a bag of tropical plants, which in those days were declared and sprayed at the border and issued a permit. 1969 and a trip to Darwin and down the west coast showed us plants we had never seen and our love of WA plants began. Once again the ease of permits and declaring at the border seed collected for inspection. Being off land we were always aware of not introducing bugs and would seal seeds up with

naphthalene flakes on them. These two trips were over 5 weeks for each, this was to be shortened to 3 weeks taking in school holidays with two boys at school. We still managed to travel to WA or Qld.

In 1977 part of a sandy paddock behind the houses was fenced for planting of the WA plants, as the area surrounding the sheds, houses and dairy had filled with plantings. Being home during the winter due to Covid has seen us planting out new plants into paddocks again, this time with excess from our growing for Pangarinda Botanic Garden. Pangarinda has been where most of our plants have been planted since we started in 1993 as the neutral soil there allows the growing of a huge range of plants, which is not possible at "Winpara".

Brachychiton are well represented in the garden with seven species all growing well may be too well with *Brachychiton rupestris* coming up self sown. Three seedlings are up to 3 metres.

Our garden surrounding our home is 58 years since planting started. Today towering trees surround the house. We have no need for air conditioners, turn on a mister amongst them on a hot day and not only us but a varied bird population enjoys the cooler air.



The Bartlett home in 1962



The Bartlett home now in 2021