



# CRUNCHTIME WEBINAR PROGRAM

**CLIMATE RESILIENCE - UNDERSTANDING NEW CHALLENGES  
FOR HISTORIC GARDENS**

**30 MARCH 2023**

**6:00PM-9.30PM AEDT / 8:00AM-11.30AM GMT**

# WELCOME

Eryldene is a historic house and garden in Sydney, designed by architect William Hardy Wilson in 1914. Eryldene's garden was developed by Prof E.G. Waterhouse from 1913 into the 1970s, creating a camellia collection of recognised international significance. Within the garden, features such as the Garden Study, Moon Gate and Tea House illustrate a fusion of Eastern and Western architectural idiom. Since 1978, the house and garden have been opened to the public by the community-run Eryldene Trust, delivering a regular program of events illuminating the heritage significance of this beautiful place.

Eryldene was severely impacted by lockdowns during the Covid pandemic and a Resilience and Renewal program was developed, with a focus on improving Eryldene's sustainability as a house museum and the gardens' resilience to climate change. Aware of the increasingly intense rain and storm events and the longer-term heat waves being experienced in Sydney in the last decade, in 2021 the Eryldene Trust prepared a Water Management Plan, followed by an Environmental Sustainability Action Plan in 2022 to guide the conservation and management of the garden and buildings ahead. It became clear that other historic gardens were interested to learn more about Eryldene's journey, and we are keen to learn from the experience and knowledge of others.

This webinar aims to focus a timely discussion on sustainability and climate change in relationship to historic gardens through presentations from nine invited international and local speakers talking about their own experiences and best practice models for sustainability in historic gardens. The webinar is also an opportunity for participants to connect with other heritage practitioners, both locally and globally, as we face these issues together. Particular thanks to our speakers, who have generously supported this initiative: Emma Bombonato, Justin Buckley, Tim Entwisle, Kara Newport, Diana Nightingale, Trevor Nottle, John Watkins and Imogen Wood.

Eryldene has been fortunate to receive a grant from Create NSW to implement this webinar as part of our resilience planning for Eryldene, and we are grateful to our organising partners: the National Trust (NSW) and The Australian Garden History Society.

Many thanks to the webinar organising committee - Jane Alexander, Ann Claoue-Long, Matt Devine, Ian Innes, Clare Moore and Colleen Morris - whose enthusiastic commitment of voluntary time and expertise made this webinar possible.

**Sheridan Burke**  
**Chair Eryldene Trust**

## Q&A

As part of our event, we will have a live Q&A / discussion with our speaker panel - we invite all registered attendees to submit their questions either ahead of time or via the chat function during the event. Our moderators will review and submit questions to the panel in real time.

## SUPPORT

If you require technological support either before or during our event, we will have a live support team run by Huddle on standby. If you need assistance please contact Rod Vowell, Director of Events at Huddle Agency via email [rod@huddle-agency.com.au](mailto:rod@huddle-agency.com.au) or on 0402 588 022.

Supported by CreateNSW, AGHS and the National Trust (NSW).



**Create NSW**  
Arts, Screen & Culture



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This is an online event organised and hosted by the volunteers of Eryldene Historic House and Garden, Sydney Australia.

For further information about Eryldene visit our website: <https://www.eryldene.org.au>

To register for the CRUNCHTIME Webinar please visit <https://bit.ly/crunchevent>

SESSION 1		
TIME	PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
6:00pm	Online Lobby Opens	
6:05pm	Sustaining Eryldene	Video Presentation
6:10pm	Welcome	Sheridan Burke, Chair of the Eryldene Trust (AU)
6:20pm	Developing a Sustainability Plan for Eryldene	Emma Bombonato, Manager of Environmental Sustainability at the Sydney Opera House (AU)
6:35pm	Gardening in a Global Greenhouse	John Watkins, Head of the Gardens and Landscape Team at English Heritage (UK)
7:05pm	California Climate Perspectives at Filoli, Woodside, California	Kara Newport, CEO of Filoli Gardens, Woodside (USA)
7:20pm	Climate Change and Visitor Engagement+E19 at National Trust Historic Gardens in the UK	Imogen Wood, Senior National Consultant for Heritage & Climate at the National Trust (UK)
7:35pm	Q&A / Discussion	Moderator: Ian Innes, Landscape Heritage Consultant (AU)

### 7:45pm-7:55pm - BREAK

SESSION 2		
TIME	PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
7:55pm	Looking Ahead - Conserving gardens today for tomorrow	Trevor Nottle, author and garden designer, member of the Australian Gardens Council (AU)
8:10pm	Rippon Lea: Water Stories	Justin Buckley, Properties and Gardens Manager, National Trust Victoria (AU)
8:25pm	Californian perspectives on climate change at Descanso Gardens, Pasadena	Diana Nightingale, Camellia Horticulturist, Descanso (USA)
8:40pm	Tackling climate change with intent	Dr Tim Entwisle, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens of Victoria, Member and Patron of the AGHS (AU)
8:55pm	Q&A / Discussion	Moderator: Ian Innes, Landscape Heritage Consultant (AU)
9:30pm	Event Concludes	

# ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



**Emma Bombonato**  
**Manager of Environmental Sustainability, Sydney Opera House (AU)**

Emma is driven by purpose and inspirational leadership in sustainability, with a passion for the role that both culture and cultural institutions play to support sustainable cities and communities. Emma joined the Sydney Opera House in 2017; her role is to strategically support the implementation of the Opera House's Environmental Action Plan and to help set the future direction of the program. Emma is the Chair of the City of Sydney's Sustainable Destination Partnership leadership and a member of the NSW Heritage Council Heritage Advisory Panel.



**Justin Buckley**  
**South City Properties and Gardens Manager, National Trust Victoria (AU)**

Justin joined the Trust as a Qualified Gardener in 1999. In that time he has held various roles across the organisation, including Manager of Horticulture and Projects and Rippon Lea Head Gardener. Currently, Justin oversees the management of all National Trust gardens across Victoria while also managing the heritage sites Rippon Lea, Como, Labassa and Glenfern. Justin is particularly interested in building close connections with the local community to develop the key role heritage will play in our cities and towns of the future.



**Sheridan Burke**  
**Chair, Eryldene Trust (AU)**

Sheridan Burke trained in planning and architecture, and has worked for government, corporations and NGOs. She is a member of the Sydney Opera House Conservation Council, its Design Advisory Panel, and a range of local planning panels. A long-term member of ICOMOS, she has held executive roles on its international boards and as the foundation president of its International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage. She became the chair of the Eryldene Trust in 2020, and during the pandemic she has strategically built its resilience; equipping Eryldene for recovery through developing an Environmental Sustainability Action Plan and a schools program to engage families in sustaining its future.



**Dr Tim Entwisle**  
**Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens of Victoria, Member and Patron of the AGHS (AU)**

Professor Tim Entwisle is a botanist, scientific communicator and botanic gardens director. He has been Director and Chief Executive of Royal Botanic Gardens since 2013, following two years in a senior role at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, and eight years as Executive Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust in Sydney. Tim is an Honorary Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne and an expert in freshwater algae but has a broad interest in plants and public gardens. Tim is a regular contributor to Australian radio and writes for science, nature and garden magazines.



**Ian Innes**  
**Landscape Heritage Consultant (AU)**

Ian has over thirty years experience in the care and management of cultural landscapes, spanning urban parks, botanic gardens, private gardens and large estates, as well as the care of places of historic and scientific significance. A frequent visitor to Eryldene, and as a garden historian, Ian has long been interested in the great resurgence of popular interest in the cultivation of camellias during the 20th century, and how that legacy of collecting, plant breeding and development can be conserved for the future.



**Kara Newport**  
**CEO Filoli gardens, Woodside (USA)**

Kara Newport joined Filoli, a historic house and garden in the San Francisco Bay Area, as CEO in 2016 and she is leading change to create a welcoming and inclusive place for the community. With a shared passion for plants and history, she has developed resonant programming that connects people to this incredible place. She is also engaged in innovative new models for site adaptation in response to extreme climate destabilization. Kara's professional career has been in philanthropy and leadership at botanical gardens, science museums, a zoo and historic properties and she is committed to elevating the experience through community collaborations.



**Diana Nightingale**  
**Camellia Horticulturist, Descanso (USA)**

Diana is in charge of managing and curating Descanso's historic camellia collections, cycad collections, Ancient Forest, Lilac Garden, and Japanese Garden. She is also designing the new California-native Bioswale Garden. Diana is also responsible for designing the yearly camellia displays and outdoor exhibits, writing for the Descanso magazine, and leading tours and talks about their gardens and plant collections.



**Trevor Nottle**  
**Author, Garden Designer and member of the the Australian Gardens Council (USA)**

Trevor Nottle is a well known Australian author who has written 23 books about plants and gardens including four on managing gardens in times of climate change. As a long standing supporter of Carrick Hill, a heritage house and garden at Springfield, Adelaide, Trevor developed and implemented a 100 Year Tree Replacement Plan to ensure the gardens can be sustained in the future. His background in research and practical gardening brings insights and ideas regarding the long term management of gardens in times of climate change. These ideas and ways of thinking form the basis of his contribution to this webinar.



**John Watkins**  
**Head of the Gardens & Landscape Team, English Heritage (UK)**

John leads English Heritage's Gardens and Landscape Team, who work with historians, landscape architects, arboriculturists, botanists and ecologists to ensure that the settings of our properties and our gardens tell their landscape story. Over the last 22 years at English Heritage, he has worked on a number of major garden and landscape projects, including Chiswick Park, Down House, Eltham Palace, Wrest Park, Bolsover Castle, Witley Court and Kenilworth Castle.



**Imogen Wood,**  
**Senior National Consultant - Heritage & Climate, National Trust (UK)**

Imogen is a heritage consultant with a background in archaeology, environmental science and conservation management planning for buildings and landscapes. Her previous work areas include understanding significance, heritage at risk, rural heritage management, environmental management and master-planning for large estates. She is now working on the adaptation approach for the National Trust's assets and activity in order to build climate resilience across our beautiful places.



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