

13 November 2022



Time to adapt landscapes to climate change



AUSTRALIAN
**GARDEN
HISTORY**
SOCIETY

The AGHS promotes knowledge of historic gardens, significant landscapes and research into their history.

www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au

This week, at its 42nd annual conference, the Australian Garden History Society (AGHS) launched its first climate change position statement which outlines the key actions that need to be taken to protect landscapes and plant species from climate change impacts.

“It’s time those of us who care for gardens take a stand against climate change,” said AGHS’s Patron, Professor Tim Entwisle. “There is more we can do to reduce our own carbon footprint, and much more needed to adapt gardens to an already changed climate.”

The statement calls for all gardens and amenity landscapes to be managed sustainably, and for planting choices to be based on the garden’s intent, alongside the very best available scientific evidence.

The statement commits AGHS to the following actions:

- Foster a low-carbon (ideally a net carbon neutral to positive) approach to all our activities
- Assist garden owners and custodians of cultural landscapes to understand and conserve heritage values in the context of responding to changing climatic conditions

- Support research on climate change adaptation, mitigation and management in the field of gardens and landscapes, particularly in regard to understanding and driving action in historic gardens and landscapes and their evolving interpretation
- Promote up-to-date alternatives to unsustainable practices
- Collaborate with other organisations to increase awareness of the importance of gardens and landscapes in responding to climate change and to the conservation and adaptation of heritage gardens and landscapes.

“This statement is more than well-meaning words”, Professor Entwisle said. “It is a living document that creates a framework for action by garden owners and custodians. It forms the basis for a continuing conversation about how to garden sustainably, while also preserving our important garden heritage.”

Read the statement at:

<https://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au/2022/11/climate-change-position-statement-2/>

For more information or interviews please contact:

Tanya Hendy

Communications and Media Coordinator

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

0421 848 948

Communications@rbg.vic.gov.au

13 November
2022

MEDIA RELEASE

13 November
2022



Professor Tim Entwisle

Prof. Entwisle is a highly respected scientist, scientific communicator and botanic gardens director. He is Patron of the Australian Garden History Society and has been Botanic Garden Director and Chief Executive at the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria since 2013.

He previously spent 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. He is an Honorary Professorial Fellow in the School of Botany at The University of Melbourne and an expert in freshwater algae but has a broad interest in plants.

Tim is a regular contributor to ABC and other radio stations and writes for science, nature and garden magazines. He is active on social media, including his popular 'Talking plants' blog. His most recent publication is a memoir, *Evergreen: The Botanical Life of Plant Punk* (Thames and Hudson, 2022).

For more information or interviews please contact:

Tanya Hendy
Communications and Media
Coordinator
Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria
0421 848 948
Communications@rbg.vic.gov.au



Royal
Botanic
Gardens
Victoria