23–27 MARCH 2018
MELBOURNE CONVENTION CENTRE
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

DESIGN WITH NATURE
Reconnecting People + Place

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A REVAMPED CONFERENCE!

While our 2015 Conference was largely one of ideas, our 2018 Conference is rather more about nature—including plants, living creatures and all those interrelationships that comprise the living garden or landscape.

Our recent conferences have sought new design templates from around the world and steered away from the herbaceous borders of northern Europe, which reached such heady heights in the 1990’s. Some designers looked ahead to new trends involving great drifts of repeated grasses and perennials pioneered by nurseryman Piet Oudolf (the ‘Dutch Wave’), and others commonly known for their ‘New Perennials’ and ‘naturalistic’ plantings. They have profoundly influenced Europe, the USA and we have echoes in Australia.

Have we ever offered such a brilliant collection of speakers? We think not, and for the first time, we have 12 presentations by key international speakers and two Australians. Since we have more international presentations, they will all be a little shorter but, we feel, they will all be a good deal punchier.

Another major change has been the partnering of our Conference with the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show (MIFGS) which has seen enhancements with their Show Gardens in recent years. Our visitors to Melbourne may now see MIFGS at their leisure, or come on an exclusive Show Gardens Tour led by Warners Nurseries on Saturday evening culminating in the Speakers’ Dinner within the Great Hall of the World Heritage Exhibition Buildings.

The Friday Garden Tour will again be very popular and 4 of the 5 gardens are not normally open to the public—so book early!

We must mention the unstinting support of our Sponsors and especially Warners Nurseries who are for the third time acting as Major Sponsor. We also acknowledge the support from advisors and staff who have all worked far beyond the normal call of duty. It is the sum total of all this support that has made this Conference what it is. Thank you!

Warwick and Sue Forge

WORKSHOPS

This year the conference again offers invaluable practical workshops including ten classes by leading international experts plus twelve by popular Australians. In an exciting highlight, much loved previous ALC speaker and world authority Ed Snodgrass provides two roof garden workshops, which include access to the marvellous Burnley Roof Garden. A man of great charm, Ed’s nursery was the first in the USA to focus on green roof plants and he brings huge experience of roofing systems, soil mixes, designs, climates, etc.

Claire Takacs is now back from Europe having been recently described by Noel Kingsbury as, the world’s leading garden photographer. We all know the value of stunning photographs and how critical they can be to illuminate, excite and sell a garden and its creator!

Native gardening expert and media personality, Angus Stewart, also features, along with tropical garden luminaries Arno and Noel Kingsbury. Both are accomplished horticulturists, educators, and authors who will bring a lifetime of knowledge and experience to share with students.

You may choose from a range of 90 minute design and horticultural workshops from 14 presenters, with half day workshops by Noel Kingsbury.

Small, informal, interactive groups offer genuine learning experiences and the chance to personally engage with presenters. This is a very rare opportunity to meet and learn from leading international and Australian experts. (Numbers limited—priority booking for delegates but open to everyone after 30th Nov, 2017. So please spread the news!)

Biographies and a synopsis of each workshop available via the Workshop Menu on our website.

DATE Monday and Tuesday 26 and 27 March 2018 TIME 8.45am–5pm Monday and 8.45am–12.30pm Tuesday (Refer to ALC Workshop Program on p.7 for session times) VENUE Burnley Campus, University of Melbourne, 500 Yarra Boulevard, Richmond cost $95 / $125 / $195 depending on workshop (see Workshop Program p.7 for details) BOOK via registration form or website CONTACT jennywade@bigpond.com or 0409 000 089
SATURDAY 24 MARCH 2018

8.00 – 8.50 : Registration

9.00 – 9.10 : Welcome
Warwick Forge, Conference Director

9.10 – 10.00 : Kathryn Gustafson
Influences: Including the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fountain

10.00 – 10.45 : Dr Kate Cullity
Beauty, Aesthetics and Care: Poetic Expressions of Landscape and Culture

10.45 – 11.15 : Morning Tea

11.15 – 12.00 : Dr Noel Kingsbury
Wild Style (Naturalistic) Planting

12.00 – 12.45 : Bernard Trainor
Designing Spaces: with the borrowed landscape or for place, privacy, and solitude

12.45 – 1.00 : Rapporteur
Morning Speakers with Peter Watts

1.00 – 2.00 : Lunch

2.00 – 2.45 : Miguel Urquijo
Continental-Mediterranean Gardens: from Andalucian grandeur to ignoto (unexplored) gardening in Castile.

2.45 – 3.30 : Professor Cassian Schmidt
Formulaic Mixed Perennial Plantings: new ways to green our cities

3.30 – 4.00 : Afternoon Tea

4.00 – 4.45 : Andy Sturgeon
Sources of Inspiration: ideas and allegories for our projects

4.45 – 5.00 : Rapporteur
Afternoon Speakers with Peter Watts

5.00 : Close

5.15 : Coaches depart for Gardens Tour, Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show

5.45 : Drinks and MIFGS Show Gardens Tour

7.00 : Dinner at the Great Hall, Exhibition Buildings, Carlton.

SUNDAY 25 MARCH 2018

9.00 – 9.05 : Welcome
Warwick Forge, Conference Director

9.05 – 9.50 : Professor Cassian Schmidt

9.50 – 10.35 : Andy Sturgeon
Making the Modern Garden: the history of garden design as a springboard.

10.35 – 11.00 : Morning Tea

11.00 – 11.45 : Miguel Urquijo
Interpreting the Site and Landscape Integration

11.45 – 12.30 : Sam Cox
Naturalism in Australian Landscape Design: hands on and soft edges

12.30 – 12.45 : Rapporteur
Morning Speakers with Peter Watts

12.45 – 1.45 : Lunch

1.45 – 2.00 : Michael Warner, Warners Nurseries, Major Sponsor
Reimagining the Urban Landscape

2.00 – 2.45 : Dr Noel Kingsbury
Women, Men and Gardening

2.45 – 3.30 : Bernard Trainor
Planting Design: thoughtful planting strategies and methods.

3.30 – 4.00 : Afternoon Tea

4.00 – 4.45 : Kathryn Gustafson
Landscape Architecture in Asia: Including Singapore’s Marina One and Hong Kong’s Taikoo Place

4.45 – 5.00 : Rapporteur
Afternoon Speakers with Peter Watts

5.00 : Conference Closure

Planting the Seeds of Hope
www.globalgardensofpeace.org

Proudly supported by Australian Landscape Conference
**ANDY STURGEON**

Andy Sturgeon is one of the UK’s leading garden designers and has received many awards including twice winning the coveted Best in Show award at the Chelsea Flower Show. His modern designs are a fusion of traditional, natural materials with contemporary styling known for their timeless architectural qualities, innovative planting and sculptural characteristics. He recently told Centurion Magazine, New materials will always play a role in ringing the changes but after a flurry of stainless steel, plastic and glass 15 years ago, all the best contemporary gardens I see nowadays rely on natural traditional materials like stone and timber as well as concrete.

Andy describes himself as a design junky ... Interested in furniture, set design, art, architecture, window dressing and underpinning it all, the natural landscape and is increasingly interested in garden history as there is so much to learn from it.

Commissions range from private roof gardens to iconic commercial projects including public spaces and country estates across the UK and projects in Russia, Hong Kong, Rwanda, Europe and the Middle East. Andy collaborates with Melbourne based designer Jim Fogarty from their shared Singapore office, Garden Design Asia.

Andy lectures around the world and is a published author, journalist, broadcaster and an active commentator in the international garden design sector.

**BERNARD TRAINOR**

In 1995 Australian-born garden designer Bernard Trainor arrived in California and made it his life’s work to capture the wild soul of California with gardens that celebrate their setting.

Growing up on Victoria’s Mornington Peninsula, Bernard had been fascinated with landscape while roaming dunes and beaches and observing plants that thrived despite harsh conditions. These deep-rooted experiences created the foundations for his practice. Along the rugged Pacific coast of California, he found echoes of Australia and his gardens now capture much of the living spirit and beauty of California.

A cornerstone of Bernard’s approach is resource conservation. He says I aim to be frugal with design and materials, stripping away ornament, focusing on what’s essential and logical ... seeing how little I can do for the greatest impact.

I came in through horticulture ... hadn’t been exposed to concepts like sustainability or, the genius of the place. I figured them out for myself the hard way—made mistakes—and taught myself along the way.

Bernard mines the details of each place—its native plants, rocks, soil, climate, topography, architecture, culture and history and conceives contemporary landscapes that belong where they are.

Bernard was a wonderful speaker at our 2007 Conference and many have sought his return. We are in for quite a treat!

**PROF. CASSIAN SCHMIDT**

He is truly the German perennial master right now and leads the European Movement for his work on perennial plantings. —Noel Kingsbury

As Director of Hermannshof Gardens in Germany, Professor Schmidt remains at the forefront of planting design, developing signature methods and using natural plant communities as models for sustainable, low maintenance plant combinations, at home in private gardens and public landscapes.

Hermannshof is a renowned experimental botanical and trial garden of 6 acres of parkland. Evolving over 30 years The New Perennialist says it, set the benchmark for naturalistic planting design in Germany blazing new frontiers with ... ecological prowess and imaginative artistry ... by leading landscape architects, horticulturalists and designers. Seamlessly combining perennials and grasses in myriad ways ... to replicate natural plant habitats [and] to use the garden ... for horticultural creative expression. Like the New Perennial Movement, Hermannshof lives at the crossroads of nature and imagination—fusing both to create a living artform rooted in ecological integrity.

Cassian’s research at Hermannshof trial gardens includes plant ecology, performance and coexistence of plants in designed plant communities. He believes, despite climatic differences with Australia, that his approach to using natural plant communities as a template for urban planting design is universal, especially when resulting in economic, plus ecological, maintenance techniques.

**DR KATE CULLITY**

In 2016, international landscape commentator Tim Richardson, in considering the tercentenary of Capability Brown’s birth, queried, Who are the Capabilities of today? The first landscape portrayed in his article was an Australian garden — the Royal Botanic Garden, Cranbourne, Victoria, by Taylor Cullity Lethlean (TCL), of which Kate Cullity is a founding partner.

The Garden Design Journal (UK) described Kate Cullity as the leading Australian landscape architect. Her partner, Perry Lethlean, describes her as, a hybrid designer, part artist, sculptor, botanist, landscape architect. Where she excels, in all of these hybrid states, is in the beauty of small things and in the crafting and making of things.

Kate is a consummate collaborator, involving all manner of people to enrich the design outcome. She, loves to tease out a problem, slowly. She prefers not to find the answer right away. The conversation about design is actually often more important than getting to the solution.

Her approach has led to many outstanding projects that draw inspiration from the Australian landscape — the redevelopment of North Terrace and Victoria Square in Adelaide, the National Arboretum in Canberra as well as many smaller projects. All are invested with a poetic expression of the Australian Landscape and contemporary culture.

We look forward to Kate discussing her extraordinary and inspirational work.
KATHRYN GUSTAFSON
It is not about flowers. It is not about emptiness. It is about shape. Kathryn Gustafson and her various collaborators on two continents bring landscape architecture back to its most basic act: that of shaping the land.
—Aaron Betsky

Renowned for creating distinctive sculptural landscapes, which engage at a fundamental level, Kathryn’s form-making practice with terrain frames the art of landscape as a composition, combining complex elements both visible and otherwise, such as light, sound, and atmosphere. Elegant fluidity and elasticity define her designs. Her form-making practice and the way she shapes figural terrain is all about movement, as gestures become drapes on surfaces. Her Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fountain in Hyde Park, London, exemplifies this approach.

With an assertive and radical agenda, Kathryn has led projects which continue to challenge the role and meaning of landscape. With over 35 years of distinguished practice, Kathryn embodies landscape design’s keen observation and quick reaction, capturing elusive moments of interaction between manmade environment and nature.

Through partnerships of over 35 years, in Seattle and London, her works are recognised as innovative, contemporary designs that incorporate the sculptural, sensual qualities that are fundamental to the human experience of landscape.

Kathryn sits at the peak of her profession and was aptly termed, the grande dame of landscape architecture.

MIGUEL URQUIJO
Good gardens can’t be made if you don’t know and love growing things … we just try to replicate the forms, shapes, mood and manners of nature. —Miguel Urquijo

Visiting gardens with Miguel reveals a passion for plants developed while studying biology. He sums up the challenges of gardening in his Mediterranean climate.

Spain has taught the world about gardening for centuries. There’s no better model for minimal water use than the Alhambra Gardens of the 13th century. He believes sustainability is the future for gardens, with indigenous and well-adapted exotic plants to create gardens for people, wildlife and the environment. Miguel says, by modeling landscapes on native ecosystems, we are responsible land stewards.

He works in Spain’s central plateau with rainfall of 14–20 inches PA, scorching summers and freezing winters. However, a garden not beautiful in summer, is not a beautiful garden … in our Mediterranean ecosystems … shrubs must be dominant.

Structure is essential. We build definition and well-shaped plants. With light intensity, colours fade so we rely on interplay between light and shade and mass and void … Structure is also vital for garden qualities: sequencing, contrast, rhythm, repetition and most importantly—connection and fluidity within the garden.

Miguel works closely with wife and business partner Renate Kastner who studied horticulture and landscape in her native Germany.

DR NOEL KINGSBURY
Noel Kingsbury is the great chronicler of contemporary planting design … (and) has been involved in over twenty books … on the topic of design inspired by nature and ecology. Few garden writers are as prolific or as influential. —Thomas Rainer

Dr Noel Kingsbury hails from the Welsh borders and is well known as a writer and lecturer, promoting an ecological or naturalistic approach to planting design. He relishes examining gardens through the lens of art, society, politics, philosophy, economics, and the wider natural environment.

At the heart of his work is his study on the long-term performance of plants in gardens and designed landscapes.

Noel is passionate about developing teaching methods and has run his Rabbit’s Eye View workshop in some 12 countries, and with others, developed workshops and teaching materials, with courses on MyGardenSchool, a leading digital education provider.

He has written some 25 books on plants and gardens and is a regular contributor to many magazines and newspapers. Books of particular interest include: The New Perennial Garden (1996) which helped introduce the English-speaking world to contemporary German and Dutch planting design; Planting Green Roofs and Living Walls (2004), with Professor Nigel Dunnett, and four books with Piet Oudolf, including Planting: A New Perspective (2013) and Designing with Plants (1999).

SAM COX
Sam Cox Landscape has designed natural style gardens in Victoria for 17 years. Sam learned his craft under renowned landscape designer, the late Gordon Ford, and continues the philosophies and practices of noted landscape pioneers like Edna Walling and Ellis Stones, creating the timeless appeal of gardens in the Australian naturalistic school.

Sam’s hands-on approach integrates both design and construction. Designs are based on carefully honed construction techniques learned from Ford. Rock placement, earth shaping, and the use of layered and group plantings are essential techniques for creating these naturalistic landscapes. Sam blurs garden edges creating seamless transitions with the wider environment.

Sam believes his naturalistic approach can be adapted for standard house blocks and small courtyards by distilling a few essential elements. Mass and void is a principle he applies to all design, regardless of scale. Its application creates balance and contrast between the mass—boulder outcrops, mounds and native or indigenous plantings, with voids—pathways, grassed areas, ponds, pools and paved areas.

The small and experienced construction team, headed by Sam, has worked alongside some of Australia’s most noted architects on residential and public projects. His gardens are regularly opened and have featured on the ABC’s Gardening Australia program. Sam is a regular guest lecturer at the University of Melbourne and elsewhere.
GARDEN TOUR
FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2018

Our 2018 tour is a plantaholic’s dream. Swathes of perennials, edibles, natives and ornamentals are skilfully interplayed in our five beautifully designed Central Goldfields gardens that are complemented en route by the Wombat State Forest and picturesque rural landscapes. Book early as numbers are limited (confined to delegates. Walking distances of up to 1km).

BOLINDA VALE, CLARKEFIELD
MAIN HOUSE GARDEN
Phillip Johnson Landscapes/KML Design
Within the majestic surrounds of the historically significant bluestone residence (with a family connection to the Ashes) a bare paddock is transformed into an unparallelled nature inspired, integrated and sustainable wetland and billabong complex.

OAK HOUSE GARDEN
Sam Crawford/KML Design
An adjoining, evolving family garden featuring an oak linked to Burke & Wills, romantic perennials and roses, reflecting pool, natural style lagoon—cum swimming hole, double flowered almond walk and historic edible plots harmonised in its broader rural setting.

WOODEND NORTH GARDEN
Michael McCoy
A minimalist natural basalt ground plane on arrival contrasts sharply with a dramatic, secret garden that mystically materialises in the landscape. Akin to a living art installation, masterfully chosen perennials and evergreens thrust skyward and envelope occupants in a heady mix of colour and texture.

TRENTHAM GARDEN
Simon Rickard
Celebrating (and perfecting) the art of wild style planting, this inspirational town garden is a cornucopia of living treasures—animal, edible and ornamental! Both wild and ordered, this expertly designed and maintained plant lover’s paradise is a delight to behold.

THE GARDEN OF ST ERTH
The Diggers Club originally created by Tommy Garnett
Cocooned by majestic mountain ash, this enchanting property celebrates the traditional art of organic gardening. Despite every environmental challenge, rare plants, espaliered fruit, perennial borders and heirloom edibles all thrive in the forest glade. Café, gift shop and nursery on site.

DATE Fri 23 March 2018 TIME 8.15 – 5.30pm (Confirmed to delegates in advance) INCLUDES Lunch, refreshments, coach, guide, entry fees, garden notes DEPART/RETURN Melbourne Convention Centre, 1 Convention Place, South Wharf COST $195 BOOK Registration form or website CONTACT Jenny Wade t: 0409 000 089 or e: jennywade@bigpond.com Bookings subject to availability. Tour may be varied or cancelled if circumstances change. 75% refund for cancellations prior to 1 March 2018. No refunds after that date.

SPEAKERS’ DINNER
To celebrate the inaugural ALC/MIFGS partnership, this year’s Speakers’ Dinner takes place at the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show. We are delighted to offer delegates an exclusive, private, after hours viewing of the Designer Show Gardens as an added highlight of the evening. The professionally designed international standard display gardens are the Show’s feature and a fitting addition for our conference. Guided tours by plant experts from Warners Nursery will bring the designs to life through their superior plant knowledge and design expertise.

So join with our speakers for this special Warners Guided Tour followed by dinner in the World Heritage Great Hall of the Exhibition Buildings, amidst the Show’s spectacular floral displays. Don’t miss this special evening of world-class garden design, good company and conversation at one of the nation’s most beautiful historic buildings with its breathtaking dome influenced by Brunelleschi’s 15th century Florentine Duomo.

DATE Sat 24 March 2018 VENUE Great Hall, Royal Exhibition Buildings, Carlton (Museum Entrance) TIME 5.45 – 6.45 Meet at Museum Entry to Great Hall for MIFGS Show Garden viewing, then dinner from 7.00 – 10.00pm (Museum Entry) COST $125 pp at cost, includes MIFGS entry and Tour; Set Menu: entrée, main, tea/coffee and chocolates, Welcome Drink and 2 bottles of wine per table of 10. Additional drinks at cash bar TRANSPORT Optional one way coach transfer MCEC to MIFGS—$15 (Limited seats and subject to numbers—see registration page for booking options); City Circle Tram or City Loop Train Spencer St to Parliament Station (15 min walk to venue); Underground parking at the Melbourne Museum (via Nicholson or Rathdowne Sts) or street parking BOOK Via registration form or website. (Non-delegate partners welcome) DRESS Smart casual.
REGISTRATION FORM

Please register at www.landscapeconference.com or forward this application to: ALC, 2 Kilsyth Ave., Toorak, Vic., 3142.

One delegate (plus partner) per form. For each additional delegate, copy form and complete.

Please use CAPITAL letters.

First name .................................................................
Surname .................................................................
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Company name (for name badge) ................................
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Are you employed in the Horticulture Industry? ..............
If yes, in what capacity? ................................................
How did you hear about the Conference? .......................  
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REGISTRATION FEES

TWO DAY CONFERENCE
24–25 March 2018
(See right-hand column) $ ........................................

GARDEN TOUR (see p.6)
23 March 2018 ($195.00) $ ........................................

SPEAKERS’ DINNER (Partners welcome)
Sat 24 March 2018 Exhibition Building Carlton
(see p.6) ($125.00/person) No. ........ x $125.00 $ ..............
One way transfer MCEC to MiFGS
No. ........ x $15.00 $ ........................................

Special Diet ....................................................................
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WORKSHOPS Burnley College (See opposite, please tick appropriate box) 26–27 March 2018
No. ........ x $95.00 $ ........................................
No. ........ x $125.00 $ ........................................
No. ........ x $195.00 $ ........................................

TOTAL $ .................................................................

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Cheque payable to ‘ALC/Visa/Mastercard’
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Expiry date ___ / ___ / ___ CVV No. ___ ___

Name of cardholder: ...........................................................
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ALC WORKSHOP PROGRAM
MONDAY 26TH MARCH & TUESDAY 27TH MARCH 2018
Please note that workshops may be added or deleted dependent on bookings.

Noel Kingsbury (UK) Half Day $195
‘The Rabbit’s Eye View’: Understanding Long-term Plant Performance
9–12.30PM MON / 1.30PM–5PM MON

Bettina Jaugstetter (Germany) $125
Planning Strategies and Planting Types for Perennial Plantings
9–10.30AM MON / 11–12.30PM MON

Claire Takacs (Australia) $95
Light in Gardens and Landscapes: Maximising the Impact of Images
9–10.30AM MON / 11–12.30PM MON

Andy Sturgeon (UK) $125
Design Q & A
9–10.30AM MON / 11–12.30PM MON

Cassian Schmidt (Germany) $125
Maintenance Regimes for Perennial Style Planting
1.30–3PM MON / 3.30–5.00PM MON

Angus Stewart (Australia) $95
New Australian Cultivars – Sneak Preview: Selection and Maintenance
1.30–3PM MON / 11–12.30PM TUE

Anna Turner (LibeRATE) (Australia) $95
Understanding Construction Costs and Designing to a Budget
3.30–5PM MON

Ed Snodgrass (USA) $125
Green Roof Design and Maintenance
9–10.30AM TUE / 11–12.30PM TUE

Kate Cullity/Lisa Howard (TCL)
(Australia) $95
The Art of Collaborating
11–12.30PM MON

Sam Cox (Australia) $95
‘You can’t draw this’: Design/Construct Synergies in Landscape Naturalism
1.30–3PM MON / 9–10.30AM TUE

Andrew Laidlaw (Australia) $95
Designing Gardens from the Inside Out
11–12.30PM TUE

Mel Ogden (Australia) $95
A Sculptural Practice with Landscape
11–12.30PM TUE

Aron King (Australia) $95
Turning up the Heat: Using Bolder Form and Texture and Addressing Planting Design Principles in Warmer Climates
11–12.30PM TUE

General Information

Registration
Registration covers the two day conference 24–25 March 2018 and includes lunch, morning and afternoon teas each day.

• Early Bird booked prior to 1 December 2017 $645.00 per person
• Booked after 30th November 2017 $695.00 per person

Register at: www.landscapeconference.com or forward your completed registration form to: Sue Forge, ALC, 2 Kilsyth Avenue Toorak Vic., 3142 or scan and email to sueforge@icloud.com or Sue Forge 0438 181 578 or Jenny Wade 0409 000 089

Student concessions are available on the above terms at a 40% discount (conference registration only) for full time students or apprentices studying garden design/construction, landscape architecture and related disciplines. This year, Secondary School students pay a special registration fee of $200. Student registrations are not transferrable and student ID and proof of course must be submitted at the time of registration and carried at the conference.

For Group Booking applications for 10 or more non-concession registrations, contact sue@landscapeconference.com or 0438 181 578.

Transfer of Registration to another person is permitted provided the registration office is informed in writing prior to 1st March 2018. A 75% refund is available for cancellations made prior to 1 March 2018. After that date, no refunds can be given.

Professional Development
CPD points for the conference and related events are available from various professional associations.

Accommodation
The superb location of the Melbourne Convention Centre provides delegates with ample choice.

ALC Garden Tours provide special access to many private homes, gardens and locations through personal associations, such as our special overseas speakers.

They are cultural tours involving local experts with a focus upon the unique features of each region. Hotels, restaurants and coaches are normally 4 to 5 stars. All our guides are very carefully selected for their expertise.

Tour 1: 21–26 May 2018
London & Environ
Tour Leader: Susanne Forge
This provides a natural extension tour prior to France. Five nights in London include a visit to the Chelsea Flower show and Chelsea Fringe Festival plus access to gardens designed by past Conference speakers in London and the country. Brilliant garden writer, historian and founder of the Chelsea Fringe, Tim Richardson, is our chief advisor and guide.

Tour 2: 26 May–6 June 2018
Gardens of Provence, Paris and the Côte d’Azur
Tour Leader: Susanne Forge
Following the London Tour, we journey to Paris on the Eurostar.

This is a ravishing tour with special focus on the most beautiful gardens and landscapes of Provence and the Côte d’Azur.

The tour was designed with advice from Louisa Jones and designers James and Helen Basson who will introduce the gardens to us. Susan Worner, a specialist on the gardens of France, is our daily guide and tour manager.

Tour 3: 28 Oct–3 Nov 2018
Western District, Victoria
Tour Leader: Susanne Forge
The Western District of Victoria was long praised as a kind of pastoralists’ Garden of Eden. — Geoffrey Blainey

We are based for 3 nights in Dunkeld and 3 in Warmambool visiting some of the most iconic and beautiful Western District properties, gardens and historic sites. We meet the families who have nurtured and loved these properties for generations.