

Lochac Herb & Garden Guild

Guild Journal, Volume 4, No. 1. April 2007.



☐☐☐ Guild AGM: Easter Monday, 10 am at the Guild Hall ☐☐☐

From the Head Gardener

Greetings all,

This year sees the guild poised to lose its provisional status at one of the courts of Jarl Alfar and Queen Gudrun at this Rowany festival in A.S. XLI (2007).

Many people have been involved in this process. Caristiona nic Beathain, Sigurd Trygvarsson, and Alessandra Torrigiani have been previous head gardeners involved in the creation of the charter which has been made known to me as acceptable to their majesties. At festival a petition will be presented with as many signatories from the Herb & Garden Guild as I can gather.

In celebration of its impending change in status, the guild is also running an arts & science competition to be judged at festival with details of the competition having been published multiple times in our Kingdom Newsletter Pegasus (and placed onto the guilds posting boards).

Also this year there is the return of the Lochac Garden and Herbal Newsletter thanks to our chronicler Master Cristoval. Master Cristoval does need articles, and I would ask that people record their experiences from the day and forward to him for our next newsletter.

I am also looking forward to reading the competition entries in the next guild newsletter.

Yours in Service

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Herb & Garden Guild posting boards

Website: www.sca.org.au/herb/

Email list: go to www.sca.org.au/mailman/listinfo/garden

Send Garden mailing list submissions to garden@sca.org.au

Arts & Sciences Competition - Festival 2007

The competition is in respect of a garden ornament. This can be to make an example of an ornament that was found in a garden, or simply documenting one or several.

There were some pretty amazing ones such as fountains, other water features, arbours and covered walkways. An entry is not expected to be anything so elaborate, but does not exclude anything complicated, and can be or include design/construction plans and/or scale models.

The herb and garden competition will generally follow the Kingdom of Lochac A&S competition rules. Entry by a group is permitted.

- A) If the competition involves a plant specimen or something organic or something largish, then images (photographs) showing dimensions are acceptable. (eg showing height, width & plant/object next to a ruler). This is as some people would not even be allowed to *bring* these objects through various quarantine regimes, or be able to transport them, let alone take them home.
- B) All entries are expected to have documentation showing relevance to SCA period (ie pre 17th Century). So as is done as with Kingdom A&S guidelines this will rely on the listed primary and secondary sources and how you have presented your entry for it to be judged. Images (photocopies) of relevant sections of primary and secondary sources referred to in your explanations can really help to document an entry.
- C) If any photocopies are not in a language any judges are likely to read (modern English), there should be some reference in your documentation for how this was determined which could be your own translation or another's, or simply stating the known (or estimated) publishing dates.

Winners will definitely be asked to consider publishing in the herb & garden guild journal.



*Roman Wormwood by Wendy Clegg
(drawn from the Roman wormwood
supplied by Greth Gardener for Festival
2006).*

The Festival and Crossroads Guild Hall herb garden

by **Brian le fauchéur**

Sigurd Trygvarsson started the temporary festival herb garden at Rowany festival at the Tara site in 2001. Caristiona nic Beathain provided Sigurd with lots of help with this in respect of research for the plants as well as in a number of plant hunting trips. Sigurd then ran the festival garden until it moved from Tara, and then for the first two years at Crossroads near Yass in 2003, 2004.

This article is by no means the first written about gardens by the Herb & Garden Guild. For example, Sigurd has previously written an article about a kitchen garden in the Lochac Garden and Herbal Newsletter Volume 2 Issue 5, July 2001.



Sigurd at Rowany festival at Crossroads in 2003 with a gourd.

Three pieces of lattice made up the garden which were allowed to be used for the garden by the Barony of Rowany and donations. Loaned plants came from

people including Sigurd, Ciara, Marit and if I recall correctly a couple from myself.



Festival Garden at Crossroads in 2003.

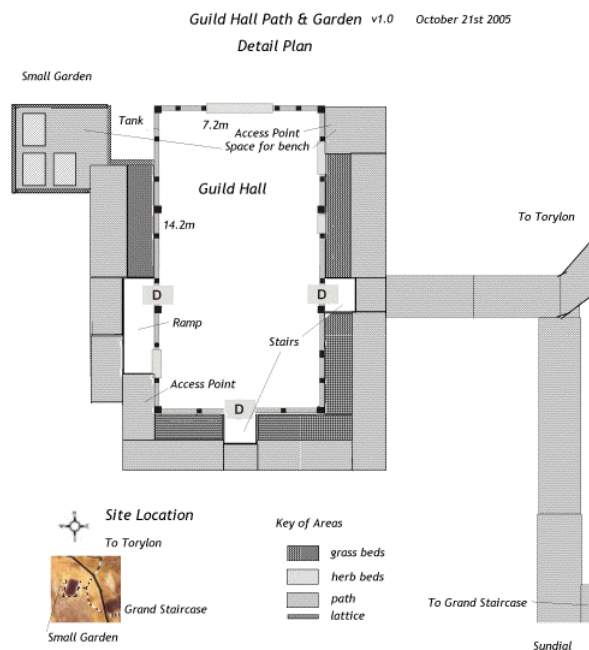
In 2005 a temporary festival garden was created east of the Guild Hall, with loans of plants from Snorri, Crispin and myself (to name the major contributors).

At the Herb & Garden Guild annual general meeting at Rowany festival 2005, several possible sites were discussed for a herb garden. One was adjoining the guild hall (in the current position) and one further down the slope towards the shower block.

A permanent garden at Crossroads is also not a new idea. Master Cristoval wrote about **A Hortus Conclusus at Crossroads** in the Lochac Garden and Herbal Newsletter Volume 3 Issue 3, July 2002.

In 2005 a proposal was made by myself (as a Crossroads member) to construct a permanent garden at Crossroads in the vicinity of the guild hall. I was advised this was not acceptable in its entirety due to the guild hall still being classed as a construction area, and so the beds surrounding the guild hall were not approved by Crossroads, although the garden itself being slightly further away was approved as a project. It should be noted that the ramp for the guild hall is to be located on the southern side and not the west as in the diagram.

At this time the St Florians campsite had already started a rose garden, and the idea for this garden was for a herb garden with plants which could be used for cooking and/or delights of smelling and sight as well as for a bench to make a quiet place to be able to sit down.



Original permanent Festival garden plan proposal

The location of the garden is not optimal. It is on the western side of the guild hall subject to the hot afternoon sun. There is a water tank visible (the long term intention was to get a tank of increased capacity and bury it).

However, there was insufficient room on the eastern side between the guild hall and the road. Water is close with the rainwater tank filled by precipitation upon the guild hall roof. Although the surface was awful (hard rocky sandstone based clay) for a garden, ironically I thought it would be slightly easier to put in a garden with raised beds than actually attempting to grow a lawn over the area.

In terms of use of space for the area, the garden would provide relief from the "stark presence" of the guild hall. That is, it would complement the guild hall presence by adding another "structure".

In addition, by using lattice, it was thought it would provide some shade to the plants,

was thought to also allow the wind to blow through to prevent the structure collapsing.

In the lead up to festival 2006 Crispin Sexi brought some English Box Hedge to the site and asked where they might be planted. A couple of suggestions were made and in the end it was decided to use the three pieces of lattice on site, and plant the English Box Hedge under the shade of the lattice to form the start of the already approved garden.

Crispin and Mercurio dug the dirt, hammered the stakes for the lattice and planted the five box hedge plants brought. At this stage I did not have all the elements for the garden on site, and I merely supplied compost and blood and bone for the planting of the box hedge.

For the rest of the garden surface, it was rocky hard baked clay and not soil. Although the plan was to use slightly raised garden beds it would be better if all the soil had some quality (eg earthworm tunnelling). Using a mattock to break up the entire garden bed locality (including up to lattice) areas were dug to a depth of no more than six inches and had a combination of topsoil, lime and blood and bone mixed in.

Through Adair (use of trailer for transporting) lattice was able to be brought onto the site for festival 2006. Stakes were hammered in and lattice tied to it using the locally available haybale "twine" (sorry - they were bright pink).

Initially, due to the timeframe of Rowany festival for raised beds, planks were used as they made it cheap and quick to implement a slightly raised garden bed. For drainage, the garden is on a slight slope for run off and in heavy rain you can see this, though the straw mulch is otherwise meant to trap moisture for long dry periods.

Having made a garden, plants did come. Greth Gardener supplied many and varied herbs including most of the European lavenders, rosemaries, cats mint and cat nip. Cristoval brought a Lisbon lemon tree as well as olive trees, Crispin brought yet more English Box Hedge and I supplied a number of otherwise unrepresented herbs (eg winter savoury, alpine strawberries).



Permanent Festival garden at Crossroads in 2006 (after festival)

Few plants were dug in in time for festival, and were kept in their pots for the duration. After festival, the Lisbon lemon was transported to the east of the guild hall to offer some protection from the wind (but unfortunately not from the kangaroos who apparently find Lisbon lemon trees very tasty).

The remainder English box hedge and the hardiest plants were planted by myself including Italian, French and English lavenders, as well as English rosemary, cat mint and cat nip.

In the lead up to Festival 2007 in the garden beds only the cat mint flourished (after being nibbled back to stem by (?) kangaroos) with the English rosemary surviving.

However, due to watering from many Crossroads members and friends the English box hedge plants at the lattice edge have also survived. The hedge planted by myself after the initial lot, had some prepared soil, were larger to begin with, and are generally still stronger and larger.

Mulch and Fertiliser was used on the plants to help encourage growth.



English box hedge at Crossroad planted just after Festival 2006.

In the lead up to festival 2007, some major improvements have been made to the garden.

To replace the planks, "mud" bricks were purchased, and brought to the site over several trips. The colour was chosen to complement the colour of render used on the guild hall, and also goes a similar colour when wet. While not strictly 100% mud, the appearance of these bricks (which contain concrete) is that of mud bricks. Rather than continue with three garden beds, a decision was made to extend to four. The largish mudbricks allowed part of them to be buried (for support) and still allow an external raised bed using only one layer of bricks.



Mud bricks used for raised garden beds



The new improved festival garden for 2007 at Crossroads.

The original stakes used have since proven insufficient for keeping themselves and the lattice upright and have been replaced by sturdier (longer, thicker) stakes.

As the unprotected box hedge has not suffered from kangaroos, the chicken wire protecting the originally planted box hedge has also been removed, giving a more friendly version.

And the haybale "twine" is being replaced with green sisal (rotproof) twine, with Allison and myself starting this work. Rowan has also offered various bits of encouragement and as well as myself delivered some more lattice on site to allow extension of the garden, in addition to replacing the haybale twine with natural sisal twine.

The only differences to the garden this year are not the visible garden bricks with the raised bed or the greater number of 180 cm x 120cm square lattice sheets. The quality of the soil has improved greatly. Adding of straw as compost/mulch helped discourage weeds in the beds, but also using "spoiled" straw bales added humus to what is becoming soil. In mattocking the trenches for placing the bricks this year, it was much easier to dig in the dirt (As opposed to what was hard rocky clay). And there is now a noticeable earthworm presence (you will probably find earthworms if you dig).

The garden is now open for planting.

Garden Detail - is it really medieval?

by **Brian le fauchéur**

There were and are many types of gardens. This garden is not meant to satisfy all possible types of medieval requirements and usage for gardens. It is to satisfy the requirements of a small herbal garden, in which some relaxation could be had and pleasure from some fragrances and looks of the plants within.

In the following are selected images from various sources of medieval gardens using lattices and/or raised or rectangular garden beds of which the guild hall garden is a created exemplar. This is part of an ongoing project by Brian le fauchéur (Brian Pinch) in compiling a list of descriptions (graphical and text) of medieval gardens.

In addition to The Medieval Garden providing an excellent overview, there is also a two part article in recent Cockatrice issues for medieval and renaissance gardens (indexed under the topic of Domestic Life) for people who subscribe to this Kingdom of Lochac magazine.

For the full titles of references for books, and the magazine issues please see the Reference.



Flemish Illustration for Roman de la Rose, c1485 - showing trellis and raised garden beds, p6, The Medieval Garden .

That the illustration is in the British Museum is known because it is in Histoire Illustrée Des Jardins and The History of Gardens.



trellised bed edging, c1470, p90, The Medieval Garden

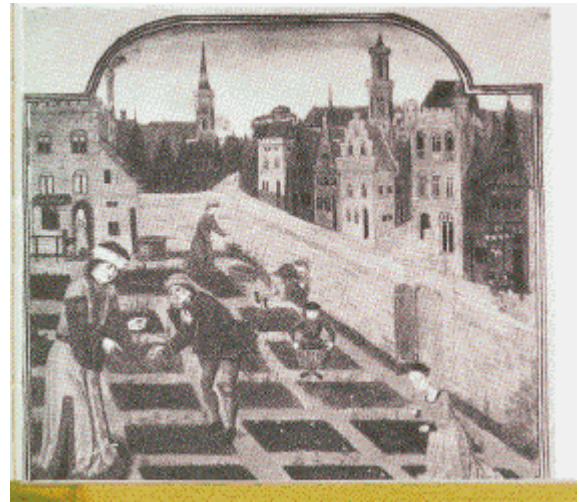


small trellised herber with fountain, c 1475, p134, The Medieval Garden

That the illustration is in the Bibliotheque Nationale Paris is known because it is in Histoire Illustrée Des Jardins.



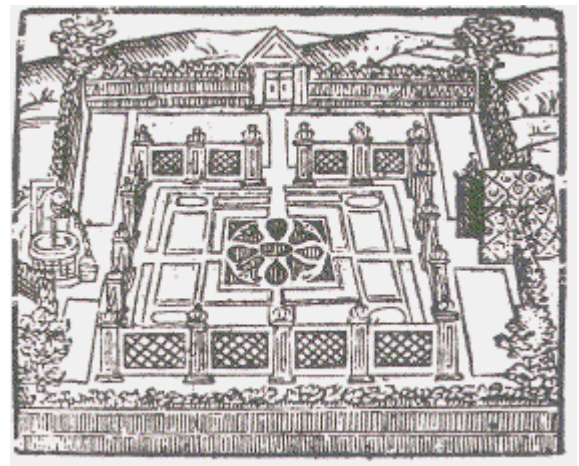
*rectangular garden beds by unknown artist
15th Century, p98, Histoire Illustrée Des
Jardins*



*Working in a walled herb garden, from 15th
Century French M.S. Le Livre du Rusticon
plate 3c (after p118), Some Ancient
Gentlemen*



*rectangular garden bed with trellises -
Suzanne and the ancients, 15th Century,
p98, Histoire Illustrée Des Jardins - held at
the Museum of Art, Philadelphia*



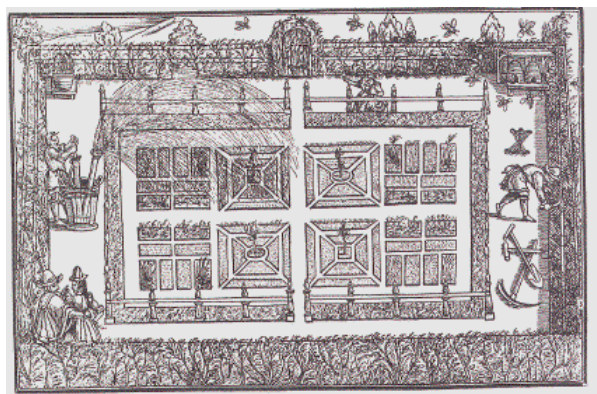
*Enclosed Garden, from Thomas Hyll's A
Most Brief and pleausant tretysse, 1563, p8,
The Illustrated Earth Garden Herbal*



*Flemish Embroidery, c1600, musicians in a
formal garden, p129, The History of
Gardens*



The Leadenhall Sheet, from a Copperplate map of London around 1559 showing wells, fountains, and rectangular beds, p64, A Little History of British Gardening



Watering with a great squirt, from Thomas Hill, The Gardeners Labrynth, 1586 edition, p94, A Little History of British Gardening

References

The Medieval Garden, Sylvia Landsberg, British Museum Press ISBN 0 7141 0590 2

Histoire Illustrée Des Jardins, Julia S. Berral, Viking Press, 1966 (french translation by Robert Laffront, Pont Royal 1968)

Some Ancient Gentlemen, Michael Tyler Whittle, Taplinger Publishing New Work, 1966. Library of congress catalogue card number 66-20238

The Illustrated Earth Garden Herbal, A Herbal Companion, Keith Vincent Smith, Nelson,, 1978, ISBN 0 17 005193 5

The History of Gardens, Christopher Thacker, A Reed book, 1979, ISBN 0589 01122 7

A Little History of British Gardening, Jenny Uglow, ISBN 0 7126 6494 7

Cockatrice, The (Kingdom) of Lochac Arts & Sciences Magazine, Issues 25 (part 1) , 26 (part 2), Pani Jadwidga Zajackowa, Medieval and Renaissance Gardens <http://www.sca.org.au/cockatrice>

Appendix - Cost Estimate for garden materials

This excludes any cost of plants, travel (time or other expenses such as petrol).

Cost of original planks	\$8
Cost of Lattice/stakes	\$300
Cost of bricks	\$252
Blood & Bone/compost/soil/lime	\$50

Please also note that for me to do work on/in the guild hall garden, I first needed to do what normally took over a 2 1/2 hour in driving time.

What to plant at Crossroads?

By Cristoval

The Crossroads Co-operative has about 180 hectares (450 acres) near Yass, where the Rowany Festival and some smaller SCA events have been held. The Co-operative is a not-for-profit group working to improve facilities for medievalists.

Crossroads is very pleased to have additional trees and shrubs planted. They need to be:

- local native species, or
- medieval-looking exotics that will not become weeds.

The site generally has poor soil, extremes of climate, and voracious wallabies – so many trees have trouble getting established. Once new trees get through their first summer, most will survive. Unless a kangaroo bounces right through them.

Crossroads gives out trees at the Rowany Festival, for households to improve their campsites. Not all of the trees do survive, but enough are added each year to make a useful difference to the site – so please participate.

Native species

Most of the successful plantings to date have been natives. They are adapted to the local environment, and Crossroads gets them free under government grants.

Native plants recommended for Crossroads	
River sheoak <i>Casuarina cunninghamia</i>	Looks to most people like a pine tree. Good, but only in wetter areas like adjoining the creek.
Mountain sheoak <i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Has greyer foliage than the river sheoak – the best plant we have for the drier areas on ridges.
Silver wattle <i>Acacia dealbata</i>	This is the greyish wattle that has sprung up everywhere. Partly that's because Crossroads has spread its seed around. Short lived, but a great soil improved for later trees.
Black wattle, <i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	This is the darker wattle that's also moderately common. Beloved of sugar gliders for its syrupy sap, and they then keep down the mistletoe on nearby gum trees. Again, we have scattered seed.
Gold flowered box-leaf wattle, <i>Acacia buxifolia</i>	Shrubbier wattle, suited to rocky outcrops. Plant by all means.
Ploughshare wattle, <i>Acacia gunnii</i>	Known from the property, low shrub that might be good in a windbreak.
Hickory wattle, <i>Acacia implexa</i>	Very useful tree: nice shade, strong wood, can tan with bark, dye with leaves. There is a specimen growing in the wetlands, but also some on slopes. Recommended, but we haven't had huge success getting them growing.
Red stem wattle, <i>Acacia rubida</i>	Bushy shrub known from property, could be good in windbreaks.
Yellow box, <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	Very tall, grand gum tree found occasionally on the valley floors. The best koala food on the property – and there are a few koalas in the adjoining nature reserve.
Red box, <i>Eucalyptus polyanthemus</i>	Stockier gum tree, like the big one next to the old front entrance near the site sheds.
Swamp paperbark, <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	This is a “tea tree”, the sort of thing which caused problems when Festival was at Wilton. At Crossroads, it seems to be slower growing and makes a useful windbreak shrub.

Some things to note about natives:

- we prefer not to plant natives unless they are found locally – watch out especially for Cootamundra Wattle which is a local weed, and very similar to the Silver Wattle found on site; and
- we don't generally plant eucalypts on the western boundary (fire risk) or in the campground (risk of falling boughs).

Exotics

Crossroads is too dry for many European medieval trees, and too cold for some Mediterranean ones. Sometimes, related trees are indistinguishable and will survive better. For instance, English Oak will not do well, Spanish Oak better, but American Pin Oaks have been found to do very well in Canberra.

Weeds

Certain species are noxious weeds and may NOT be planted. There is a list at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/noxweed>. For the most part, you would never think of planting them, but do avoid the following watch list. If you are going to plant very unusual herbs, it would also be worth checking that web list carefully.

Some NOXIOUS WEEDS – do not plant	
African boxthorn <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	Great prickly hedge, but very hard to get rid of.
Broom <i>Cytisus</i> species	Emblem of the Plantagenet dynasty, but probably not one you'd be tempted to plant anyway.
Horehound <i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Specialist herb.
Pampas grass <i>Cortaderia species</i>	Popular in the 1970s as a pasture shelter plant; hardly medieval.
Prickly pear <i>Cylindropuntia species</i>	Cactus that makes a nice jam.
Rhus tree <i>Toxicodendron succedanea</i>	Attractive but poisonous tree.
St. John's wort <i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Herb with medicinal properties.
Willows <i>Salix</i> species	Clog waterways. <i>Exception: Weeping willow (S. babylonica) and a couple of specific hybrid willows are considered safe.</i>

Potential Weeds

There is another category of potential weeds, described at <http://www.weeds.org.au>. These have caused problems in some locations.

In general, Crossroads is not a likely site for new tree weeds because it is such a tough environment. So here's a list of plants that need some caution: with Cristoval's call on whether they are safe to plant.

In summary, plants that spread aggressively by bird distribution of berries are a particular problem. Suckering plants less so because of climate and wallaby control. Plants in common use are often OK if they are not already causing a problem.

Potential weeds – should we use them?		
African olive <i>Olea europaea africana</i>	Spread by berries, no redeeming features.	No
Black locust <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Very nice tree albeit with spiny branches, fixes nitrogen, spreads by suckering.	Yes
Box elder <i>Acer negundo</i>	Great fast-growing tree, but spreads by berries and quite aggressive.	No
Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i>	Great hedge with lovely berries, spread by birds. No compelling reason to plant.	No
Firethorn <i>Pyracantha</i> species	Like Cotoneaster, but more so.	No
Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	The 'May' tree of medieval Europe, and of the Glastonbury Thorn. Attractive with lovely flowers and useful fruit. Spreads by berries. Wild trees not OK, but nursery cultivars may be.	No/maybe
Heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Great for Scots personae, but this plant is designed to grow in an environment just like Crossroads. Great potential to naturalise on our site.	No
Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Very medieval, spread by berries, but won't be a weed at Crossroads because it is drier than this plant likes.	Yes
Honey locust tree <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Widely used as a farm tree locally, but is causing problems further north.	Yes
Lombardy poplar <i>Populus nigra</i> cv. 'Italica'	Widely planted in the district; will sucker, but not where there are stock or wallabies.	Yes
Olive <i>Olea europaea</i>	Widely planted in the district; generally not a problem where stock or wallabies are present.	Yes
Privet <i>Ligustrum</i> sp.	Nice trees, but spread aggressively by berries.	No
Radiata pine <i>Pinus radiata</i>	Very good tree, great for doing archery through. Some spread from plantations, hence seedlings often available for free on roadsides. Allegations of poisoning the soil are exaggerated.	Yes
Tree-of-heaven <i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Spreads by seeds and suckers, possibly toxic to stock, not medieval.	No
White cedar <i>Melia azedarach</i>	Nice tree, but berries are poisonous to stock and children.	No
White poplar <i>Populus alba</i>	Spreads by suckering, but only in damper areas and when not controlled by stock. Widely planted in the area.	Yes

Recommended Exotics

Some exotic plants are actively recommended for the site. These are great to use, if you can get them.

Recommended exotic plants	
Black mulberry, <i>Morus nigra</i>	Great fruit. Some have been planted creekside from the Casa Celli campsite, and are doing well.
Chinese date, <i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	Also known as the Jujube, makes a tasty dried fruit. May grow well in our drier climate.
Chinese pistachio <i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Much planted as a street tree in Canberra – grows well in our climate. No nuts, but dazzling red foliage in autumn.
Claret ash, <i>Fraxinus raywood</i>	Red leaves in autumn, well worth planting. All the ashes make great shade trees.
Cork oak <i>Quercus suber</i>	There is a plantation of these in Canberra, and acorns have been planted. Should work well on this site, but we haven't had much success.
Crab apple, <i>Malus sp.</i>	Great flowers, and the crabapples themselves have some culinary uses. We did plant some on the village ridge, and they did very well – until someone took their cages off too soon, and they were gobbled by the wallabies. Well worth trying again.
Desert ash, <i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i>	Lovely brown leaves in autumn; not actually medieval, but so beautiful that it deserves to be considered anyway.
Elms <i>Ulmus sp</i>	Very good for shade, but do not get the English Elm as it is prone to Dutch Elm disease.
English oak, <i>Quercus robur</i>	Some have been planted, and they will grow (slowly) in the damper areas. For the heroic planters.
Golden ash, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Another beautiful autumn tree, for damper areas.
Holm oak, <i>Quercus ilex</i>	A mediterranean evergreen oak; could work well at Crossroads, but we haven't tried.
Pin oak <i>Quercus palustris</i>	An American oak, well suited to drier areas – a very successful street tree in Canberra. Will grow from acorns in a good spring.
Silver birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	Beautiful tree, best suited to damper areas though one planted near the tavern is doing OK.
Stone pines <i>Pinus pinea</i>	The 'pine nut' tree. Slow growing, but doing well in a tough environment above the Krae Glas campsite.
Weeping willow, <i>Salix babylonica</i>	Magnificent tree for growing next to the creek.
White mulberry, <i>Morus alba</i>	The silkworm tree – no experience with it on this site.

Suggestions and comments

Crossroads will be maintaining and extending this list as more information comes to hand. Please send suggestions and comments to Crossroads@Crossroads.org.au.

Herblore

Book Review by Brian le fauchéur

Herblore is a book written by Greth de Trobrigge (Margaret Cunnington) - one of the members of the Kingdom of Lochac Herb and Garden Guild.

I purchased a spiral bound copy at Rowany Festival 2006. This version of Herblore is 305 A4 pages, and is a book primarily about describing herbs, their growing, utility and their history.

Although the contents index lists "only" 34 herbs I think this is actually misleading as to the book's scope. For example, although "Mints" are one item in the contents, this book references or mentions in its 17 pages about mints, at least 29 types of mints.

The herbs listed in the contents are agrimony, angelica, anise, lemon balm, basil, bay, borage, salad burnet, calendula, caraway, catnip, chamomile, chives, comfrey, coriander, cowslips and primroses, dill, garlic, hyssop, lavender, marjoram and oregano, mints, parsley, rosemary, sage, savory, southernwood, tarragon, thyme, violet and wormwood.

If you have read K.V. Smith, and his Illustrated Earth Garden Herbal, the listings and presentation style are similar. The entries in Herblore are more comprehensive and in addition cover more plants.

For those who are not familiar with the Earth Garden herbal, Herblore has for each herb sections about its history and folklore, horticulturalism (growing advice based on seasons rather than months so suitable for both hemispheres), some limited culinary use (only a handful of recipes), and a section called "From the past" which includes quotes and histories from various herbals and other sources.

Basically over 10 years, Greth has researched the herbals from Greek and Roman to relatively modern times and included details of them when they have been mentioned including quotes. Also under each herb heading is a list of the various aliases it has known over the years.

There are a number of illustrations taken from herbals. I understand that in subsequent versions there may be photographs of actual grown plants.

For historical reasons, the medicinal purposes in how the plants were used are included. However, there is a clear up front warning that proper medical advice should be sought before using them as described - in medieval times - as some of the herbs are toxic.

The historian in me would have liked to see the facsimile copies of the original text, but transcriptions are included and are often much easier to read and understand than the originals.

Also included in Herblore is a well researched glossary where a short dictionary of ancient herb related words to aid in understanding of the transcriptions, including some medical terms which are relevant to herbal properties.

In this version indexes were not included though they under development.

For those interested in reading further, or further personal research, there are five and half pages of references to publications. This is not a simple list, but includes a description of the how and why as to the usefulness of these books.

Herblore is an extremely useful book for growing these herbs in your garden, as well as learning about their history. If you are interested in one or more of the types of herbs mentioned I would recommend its purchase.

Herblore is currently available for purchase by contacting Margaret Cunnington by email to greth@gardener.com, PO Box 1182 Nairne SA 5252 or phone 08 8538 5420.

Approximate price spiral bound at publishing is approximately AUD \$40 - \$50 in Australia (subject to variation due to variable printing costs and postage will vary the price).