



Promoting the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening

Open Gardens South Australia

Welcomes you to **ORRAPOORA**

Saturday 21and Sunday 22 October 2017 8 Gerald Roberts Road, Seppeltsfield

Welcome

Welcome to Orrapoorra (an indigenous Australian name for magpie).

Our home is on Patterson Hill on the Western Ridge of the Barossa Valley. This area is renowned for its Shiraz, Grenache and Cabernet fruit and for the heritage of the Seppeltsfield Estate.

Today we have provided access to our garden and our hill of native scrub; from which there are fabulous views in all directions. Follow the mown path up the hill and enjoy the perspective of this Western Ridge across the Barossa.

Beginnings

We moved to our home in winter 2011. At this time, the house was essentially situated in a paddock of weeds with very limited plantings and only a few established trees.

In the spring of 2011 we engaged a Landscaper, Ted Farrell, to construct the paths around the house, create the dry creek beds and plant trees. This provided a structure to the garden and allowed us to break the garden into smaller areas before we began planting out the understory.

Garden beds were progressively planted, irrigated and mulched. This is an ongoing exercise and new beds are planned in the future to extend the garden to the house-block fence line.

In 2016, more diggers and rocks were brought in to create the lower level lawn and surrounding garden.

Today

The plantings you see today are a mix of native and exotic trees, with a native and Mediterranean understory, including numerous grasses. Our aim has been to provide an interesting mix of hardy plants that create contrast with foliage and colour, and compliment the “outer garden” of native scrub.

The clay soils and variable rainfall are ever challenging and result in mixed success with some plants. It’s an ongoing experiment; learning about our location’s particular microclimate.

Please be aware

There are many obstacles and hazards on a rural property so please take care and supervise children at all times.

We typically see the occasional snake at this time of the year and there are hidden rabbit warrens and logs in the grass up the hill. Enjoy a walk up the hill but stay on the mowed paths to avoid dangers. Also stay away from the quarry area which has steep and unstable sides.

Thanks

Thanks to friends and family and all of the hired help who have contributed their time to help us planting, mulching and weeding and encouraged us along the way. Lots of those people have also volunteered for this weekend which we greatly appreciate.

Thanks also to Connections Café of Greenock for refreshments, Siese the Day Wines and Barossa Valley Icecream.

Follow our garden on Instagram “@my_barossa_garden”.

Open Gardens South Australia Inc: is a not for profit organisation opening private gardens to the general public. The purpose of Open Gardens SA is to educate and promote the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening in South Australia and to build strong public support for the development of gardens.

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