



Promoting the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening

## Open Gardens South Australia

Welcomes you to

# Jasper & Kirsty's Permaculture Garden

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th February, 2023

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### “Wander Gather Ponder”

Welcome: I want to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this unceded sacred land, the Kaurna and the Ramindjeri people. I feel uneasy laying any claim to this land but hope that I am contributing to it and its inhabitants, for the privilege of being able to live here.

I also want to acknowledge the elders of this small parcel of land: European Ash (by the caravan) Lilli Pilli & Grevillea Robusta (back yard entry), Red Flowering Gum (further back on the eastern fence), and Lilli Pilli and Irish Strawberry Tree (between the house and the western fence). These six wondrous trees were here long before me, and **hopefully** will be here long after I'm gone.

**How can I, who reside briefly and contribute little, decide the fate of trees, who could live long and contribute enormously?**

I invite the more feeling souls to explore this notion today by spending **quality time** with these elders. (Unfortunately you have to view Red Flowering Gum, and western boundary Lilli Pilli and Irish Strawberry trees from a distance because of access limitations and our bee hive near the Red Flowering Gum

BUT

When Kirsty (my partner) joined me here seven years ago, bringing her artisan sentiments and reverence for all beings, seen and unseen,

AND

Now, as Jasper (no longer Jeff), we are realizing there is so much more to engage with here.

Slowly we are learning to appreciate this food garden as something more beautiful, more complex, and more subtle than only a source of physical sustenance. Join us in “Wander, Gather, Ponder” as we explore how to really connect - with this place and our earth more widely -, how to enjoy and contribute to its beauty, and experience the wonder as we begin to realize how little we really know about the interconnectedness of all things.

**The invitation:** Not to just look at the diversity of plants and up-cycled gear, but also to regularly stop, perhaps close your eyes, but mostly, really listen and feel the garden. What is it saying to you, or what do you have to say to it?

**If I'm told, it's dealt with, I turn away. If I discover, I am inspired, I seek more.**

**The story:** I moved here 12 years ago as “Jeff”, a single man wanting a simple life. I wanted to grow as much of my own food as possible, organically and using permaculture principles. In particular, I wanted to pick fresh fruit all year round; this has been well and truly achieved.

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**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.

Web page: <http://opengardensa.org.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/opengardensa>

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I also wanted to involve others and support them on their own gardening journeys. For 11 years, members of our two gardening clubs have been helping out in each other's gardens and sharing wonderful food, and our community share table has been giving away excess garden produce. There are email lists for each of these that you can join as you leave.

Wander Gather Ponder is not a manicured garden. It is a garden forest, and as such has the types of hazards you would expect to find in a natural forest. As you explore, please be aware of low hanging branches, uneven footing and the date palms which are extremely spikey. Please stay on the paths and avoid entering through closed gates and blocked off pathways.

### **Loving the Living World Exhibition**

#### ***“Permaculture Gardening and Connecting with Nature”***

This year we have incorporated an art exhibition into our open garden. In the gallery (front room) and throughout the garden you will find a variety of exhibits. At the front entrance, be sure you collect the catalogue and the garden plan which locates each outside art work.

The catalogue and garden plan also include the locations and details of our picture frame experiment. This experiment is an opportunity to see the garden in more detail, not just as a single beautiful setting that can be taken for granted, but as a complex artistic work comprising an infinite number of smaller images. Throughout the garden there are 11 picture frames. Each one captures a permaculture principle in action. It also invites us to experience a unique piece of natural art.

We invite you to take your time to look through each frame and appreciate the picture it encapsulates, as you would the works hanging in the front gallery. When you have visited all 11 frames, collect a detached frame from the front entrance and use it to create your own images throughout the garden. When you like what you see, and if you have a phone, take a photo of the picture within the frame and send your best to Andrew [eggart50@gmail.com](mailto:eggart50@gmail.com) and he will incorporate the very best in our exhibition.

### **Sessions**

Throughout the weekend there is a range of sessions you can participate in. The location of each one is also marked on the garden plan.

#### **Saturday**

**11.30am** Introduction to Permaculture with Jasper - If interested, collect our course fliers:

“Permaculture, Living the Design” and “Synergistic Permaculture Groups”

**12.30pm** Bush tucker information and sales with Aaron

**1.30pm** Forest gardening (Syntropic agriculture) with Jasper

**2.30pm** Grafting and seed saving with Simon

#### **Sunday**

**11.30am** Introduction to permaculture with Jasper - If interested, collect our fliers:

“Permaculture, Living the Design” and “Synergistic Permaculture Groups”

**1.30pm** Water management with Jasper

**2.30pm** Pruning and seed saving with Simon

During the open garden, when I am not involved in sessions, please approach me with any questions you may have. Looking forward to seeing you all on the weekend.

Jasper

The gardens that open for us are chosen to reflect a great diversity of styles and may even challenge the conventional view of what constitutes a garden. While aspects of a garden may not be to your taste, we urge you to celebrate this diversity. Please remember you are visiting a private home and show respect and sensitivity for the owners who have so generously shared their garden with you. Thank you.