



Promoting the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening

# Open Gardens South Australia Welcomes you to **Littlewood Agapanthus Farm**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

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Welcome to Littlewood Agapanthus Farm!

Originally the property was established by the Easlea family in 1870 and it was at that time a dairy farm. The Gray's bought the property in a derelict state in 1985 and created the gardens, pond and planted 100 trees as well as most of the Agapanthus rounds.

The Koumi's bought the property 9 years ago and have made some improvements to the pavilion area (which is used for wedding ceremonies and receptions as well as gardening, sporting motor car and seniors groups for morning tea and tours). We also have planted and improved the gardens, planting numerous roses, Peonies and Hyacinths and developed a white garden and a sunken garden. We have also developed an orchard and vegetable gardens which are a work in progress!

The garden and Agapanthus area is surrounded by pasture on which cows and horses graze. They keep the grass down to reduce the fire hazard in summer, but they are also useful for making our own compost, and the cows will eat Agapanthus leaves and absolutely relish the seed heads. This works well for us as when we need to deadhead 300,000 Agapanthus flowers, we just feed them to the cows. They come running for them!

We have more than 20 varieties of Agapanthus from Miniatures to Dwarf to Standard and then Giants. The smaller they are the earlier they flower with miniatures flowering Oct/Nov and so on until the giants which flower in Feb/March. We grow very hardy varieties which are vigorous growers and they are all sold bare rooted and mature. We also have four rare dark varieties of Agapanthus. These are Guilfoyle, Black Buddhist, Purple Cloud and Dwarf Dark Purple. Albo roseus is white with pink tips and you will see a variegated cultivar as well.

The farm is not on mains water, so we rely on rain water, dam water and a bore which is about 1200 ppm. The Agapanthus don't mind salty bore water at all, and they are watered via overhead sprinklers only when absolutely necessary at the height of summer.

Running a small acreage farm, Agapanthus business and events has been a steep learning curve, but we absolutely love it and don't want to live anywhere else.

As you wander the gardens you will see some yellow or green placards in the Agapanthus beds and also near significant or unusual trees. We have three beautiful Elm trees, a Wych Elm (green leaves), a Golden Elm (gold leaves) and a Silver Elm with variegated leaves. Nine years ago, our trees were infested with the Elm beetle which were defoliating the trees and they were in trouble! We treated them and this worked well. We have had to treat again last year but we figure twice in nine years is not bad and they are flourishing.

We particularly love our red Smoke bush plants (*Cotinus coggygria*) which are striking now and the Ombu tree (*Phytolacca dioica*). This tree is native to South America and though already large, it will be massive in time.

If you join us on the walk and talk, you will need good walking shoes.

We hope you enjoy a stroll through the gardens and encourage you to spend some time at the Pavilion area listening to music and enjoying the food and beverages on offer.

Our charity of choice is the Littlehampton CFS because they work tirelessly for our community and are so important to Hills residences.

Tracey and John Koumi

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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/>

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Littlewood Agapanthus Farm – [info@littlewoodfarm.com](mailto:info@littlewoodfarm.com) -[www.littlewoodfarm.com](http://www.littlewoodfarm.com) Ph: 0412 351 492

Selling Agapanthus – 20 varieties

Open: 10am to 4pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday    Closed: public holidays and August

Wedding & event venue enquiries: [littlewoodfarmevents@gmail.com](mailto:littlewoodfarmevents@gmail.com)

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.