



Promoting the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening

Open Gardens South Australia Welcomes you to **Rosie and Mick's Garden**

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th November, 2023

Welcome to our garden. We relocated here in April 2011. For the first year we did very little in our garden, dug a couple of borders and began building up the soil with loads of horse manure. We spent 18 months just looking at what grew in the area imagining what we might do with this garden. We love gardens but are in no means professionals, we just give it a go.

Luckily for us the former owners had planted a few fruit trees and ornamentals. An established wisteria on an arbour was a real bonus. The back gate entrance was overgrown with ground creepers and the other side, hard earth more like a cricket pitch than earth. We removed a lot of plants that had been randomly placed in what were to become walkways. We mulched the cricket pitch to build up the soil and soften and cool its appearance.

Rosie was keen to create different areas of interest which was achieved with mulch paths, rosemary hedges and borders leading through arches to other areas of the garden. Rosie and Mick built three wooden arches for their climbing roses. Soon after they moved to this property Rosie's brother, Bob made them a gift of a wrought iron gate with beautiful iron roses on it for decoration. This became the inspiration for the walled vegetable garden. With the main focus the gate entrance, they built trellises to espalier the fruit trees and create a virtual wall around the vegetable garden. Mick is the boss of the edibles and Rosie the pretty.

The garden, whilst still new, is evolving slowly, transforming itself as the plants grow and establish. The choices have all been visual and experimental. A bit of colour here and a bit of height there. Over the past years the garden has become a very shady and cooling garden. It forever changes and as plants die, we make new choices which keeps it interesting. We added a pond a few years ago which runs to a holding pond at the lower level.

The borders are filled with roses, salvias, Shasta daisies, pelargonium, clematis, violets, honeysuckle, princess lilies, holly hocks, agapanthus, bulbs, bird of paradise, ranunculus, geraniums, hellebores, a favourite iris and much more.

Trees in the garden include Crepe Myrtle, Golden Elm, Banksia, Chinese Tallow, Ash, Claret Ash and Paulownia, eucalypts, pine and pomegranate.

Fruit trees: Apricot, peach, nectarine, plum, fig, apple, pear, quince, lemon, lime, Kaffir lime, mandarin and cherry. There are also a few berries.

Thanks for visiting our garden. We hope you find something of interest. Enjoy!

Rosie and Mick Russell

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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