



Promoting the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening

Open Gardens South Australia Welcomes you to **Weirs Lane**

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th November, 2023

Welcome to our garden at Weirs Lane. Our son started the garden from a very flat windy bare paddock, planting a wind break using mainly native plants that unfortunately are now passing their lifespan of about 20 years, especially this year with the long cold winter we have lost quite a few.

Geoff and I moved into Weirs Lane in 2002 with the challenge of what plants and trees would grow in heavy black alkaline soil with limestone very close to the surface. After having a previous garden of deep gutless sand, it was a huge learning curve with lots of failures! Unfortunately, we are now losing some grown trees and shrubs that have hit rock where we didn't drill planting holes.

As you enter, the area on the right is a work in progress which was a small horse/bull paddock. From the house we wanted to keep the view of our neighbour's gum trees and cattle. Along with this we have a power line crossing the area diagonally, meaning we couldn't plant trees within 8 metres of the line. So landscaping has been built bit by bit and slowly taking shape. The huge gum stump and log were felled to make way for this electricity line many years before we arrived. So the landscaping had to accommodate these elements, along with it being wet and boggy through winter, then cracks open in summer. We still have many ideas and plans for this area, especially planting more roses as they are being outgrown by trees and shrubs elsewhere in the garden. Roses are Geoff's passion, so more are intended!!

The immediate surrounds of the house were established with perennials, shrubs, roses and deciduous trees. The many rose bushes are of all varieties including seedlings (which are unknown!) After seeing roses climbing over walls and through trees in Italy and France we loved the 'wild' look of this, so have let them climb. Ours is not a manicured garden but a casual country garden. Unfortunately, we battle against parrots who enjoy the rose sap of new growth of many varieties but many other birds in the garden are a joy.

As you will see we like recycling old farm objects and posts etc that we have available for interest. You are very welcome to walk through my art studio where I teach and paint watercolours of all subjects.

We hope you enjoy your visit to our garden which is our physical exercise, relaxation and enjoyment.

Geoff and Jill Eckermann.

'Into the garden I go, To lose my mind and find my soul.'

Quote unknown.

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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