



Promoting the enjoyment, knowledge and benefits of gardens and gardening

Open Gardens South Australia

Welcomes you to

BRIGLEN GARDEN

Saturday 2ND and Sunday 3rd November, 2019 7 Melaleuca Drive, Gawler East

Brian and I would like to welcome you to our garden and hope it gives you as much pleasure as it does us. As you meander through the garden the casual pathways link one area to another. Our block is half an acre and the garden has evolved , and is still evolving, over the 47 years we have lived here.

As our family was growing up it was important to have open spaces and lots of lawn for them to enjoy but over the years we were challenged with water restrictions so took advantage of changing much of our garden. Far less lawn and more water wise plants of salvias, grasses, Nandinas, diosmas and succulents etc. Any plants that don't survive our hot, dry summers come out and a more drought tolerant one planted in its place. We have a sprinkler system on the lawns and some garden areas but still lots of hand watering, a therapeutic exercise on summer evenings.

Although an informal cottage garden, several hedges and a number of shrubs have been clipped and shaped to add interest and a sense of formality. Throughout there are bird baths, water features, statuary, mosaics, potted plants and structures for climbing plants. As the garden matures I like to create new, interesting little areas. Ever changing and that's the joy of gardening.

I like to rummage through my husbands "rustic treasures" to invent some quirky garden art. A bit of imagination and lots of fun.

Our shady deciduous trees.. .golden elm, prunus, robinia, crabapple etc. create autumn colour and provide sheltered, shady areas to sit, relax and enjoy in summer. Also a safe and cool area for our variety of beautiful garden birds. We have four resident fan tail pigeons which grace our garden plus some cheeky magpies and kookaburras.

Over the years we have been privileged to share our garden for weddings with family and friends including that of our three children. These special gatherings have created wonderful memories. Another special feature which we built in our early days was the fire pit. Cold evenings, warm fire and lots of good times and chatter.

Today we encourage the children to visit "kids corner" where they can pot their own succulent plant to take home.

We hope that you will take time to sit back and enjoy our variety of food and coffee/tea which our family is providing for our special garden guests.

We appreciate our young musicians who have taken time to treat us with their "magic music" on this weekend adding a special touch to our day.

Gate takings today will be donated to the Leukaemia Foundation. A Charity close to our hearts.

Our garden is a place to gather with family and friends, to relax, chat and share a coffee. Hope you have enjoyed your time with us.

Happy gardening.

Brian and Glenys

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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