



A Serendipitous Garden

12 Lawrence Crescent KAMBAH

24 -25 November 2018



A garden to stroll through

Come and visit a garden with no particular reason for being other than to keep ourselves busy and lived in. There is a working backyard and a native front yard with a majestic red box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*) set off by a panoramic views of *The Brindabellas*. The house and garden are for relaxed – and sometimes strenuous – living. There are wide oiled timber decks back and front – great spots to entertain when the weather is pleasant. The 1800 square meter block rises seven meters from an arc on the road below to the chook shed and berry patch on the back fence. And there are meandering paths that lead to nooks and crannies in a largely unstructured garden full of surprises.

The backyard

The backyard sports an array of improvised veggie patches, berries stooked on trellis wires, a menagerie of highly productive beehives, a rustic chook shed supporting an old sprawling Waltham Cross grapevine , a giant rainwater tank and a woodpile to die for: most of the wood comes from old trees that had seen better days on the property. The bees produced a mere half tonne of honey last summer.

Garden soils front and back, have been built up from from a poor shallow lateritic base by garden mulching, a gigantic compost heap and chook shed straw – and truckloads of washed river sand and soil. A thirty five year labour of love.



Top of yard rainwater storage, grapevine, chook shed, berries and veg



Woodpile, bees, and zucs in mid spring 2017

The front yard

The front yard has seen a makeover in recent years and supports rainwater tanks tucked away under the front decking from which overflow gravitates to a sunken tank. The lower tank pumps water to a nether backyard tank in really wet periods – about 50,000 litres in all. The recently revamped rainwater system – topped up by mains water – now irrigates most of the garden using underground mains and solenoids that can be switched on and off and even set to water during beach holidays.

Front garden makeover



Steep drive and house among the trees



Bee aware

Take particular care approaching beehives. We regularly work with bees of a gentle Italian strain but quarter of a million bees in five or so hives do sting occasionally. Morning and afternoon guided tours will be run to answer any questions about the advisability or otherwise of keeping bees and growing your own vegetables. There is always home made ginger beer in the garage fridge and we eat and give away a lot of what we grow. Maybe purchase a jar of Lawrence Crescent honey, mainly from red and yellow box trees that flowered so well this past summer. And of course no house is complete without a dog. Expect to meet our welcoming Scottish Terrier, Boots.

Lynne and Alan Wade *and* Boots