

GARDEN NOTES  
GARRAN GEM  
2 RICHARDSON STREET, GARRAN



## HISTORY

*Family, growth and peace.*

My gardening journey started around 10 years ago during complete house renovation which took place over a few years when my youngest son William was born.

The original owners of our home in Garran raised their children here and I remember the story Bill told me whilst we walked around the home together and he spoke about the old garden and trees which he planted 50 years ago! He told me that "the original lounge room extension was actually an extension of our bird cage, because we love watching all the beautiful birds that come and visit the garden each day"

I've always remembered this and so during construction and the loss of a few older trees that were originally on the block, I decided that the garden should be as private as possible, bird attracting, family friendly and of course a place to learn and grow as not only a gardener but as a person, husband and proud father of 3 beautiful boys. The 3 boys enjoy helping in the garden as well as daily exploring for insects, birds and wildlife.

I started this garden almost from scratch with a huge amount of excavation and large amounts of topsoil brought in by the truck load. We planted almost everything from tube stock, even the now mature hedges that surround the corner block we sit on, as well as the Chain link fence we installed so as the children could play safely out the front and make better use of the space.

We planted some beautiful pear trees between the "awabuki viburnum" hedge to help provide privacy front the street and also help protect from the different elements. Hebes, azaleas, crepe myrtles, lavenders, and many other ground covers and bird attracting shrubs and plants have been scattered throughout the garden as well as usable herbs we use for cooking.

Garden statues, art, sitting areas, stepping stones as well as a hand painted feature wall by a local artist "Jon Voir" provide the opportunity to explore more and more as you work your way around the grounds.

Hardy natives both flowering and evergreen have been used in areas that get a lot of sun and a lot of experimenting has always taken place in the garden to see what works and what doesn't, driven mainly by what I visually like the look of, rather than a "what should go where" approach. I've also created a small area for rose bushes to grow because my surname is Rose and my beautiful wife Gemma enjoys cutting flowers and decorating our home inside with hand cut flowers.

The back yard was designed with a lot of thought placed on ways it would be used as our family grew and in turn our young boys would grow. The space is now complete with areas for our 3 boys William, Levi and Jordan love to play and explore as well as the opportunity to pick amazing lemons from a 50 year old tree! They help make lemonade and enjoy time spent outside on the trampoline or custom-built cubby and basketball. We enjoy watching the boys play together "often very loud" and having afternoon tea with our families in the sun or by the custom fire pit. Pots, small shrubs, water features and sitting areas are also spread over the back yard space, linked by stairs and paths to maintain easy access over the different spaces.

## GARDEN OWNERS

Michael (and Gemma) Rose