

GARDEN NOTES
GINI'S GARDEN
4 TAMAR ST., RED HILL



HISTORY

The garden has evolved from being a bare plot around a house on an awkward slightly sloping block in what was an early development of 'new' Red Hill. The thirty trees and bushes given to householders by the government to the first homeowners were possibly the same ones 'inherited' by us as the second owners in 1979. Some of these remain as fruit trees for the birds – there was no privacy. It was created on clay soil which has constantly been fed.

Gradually from 1984 the garden took shape with new plantings in the front after two cypress trees were removed. Unintentionally the front garden became a cottage garden around a lawn. Eventually the lawn was removed when a ramp was installed in 1999 and the garden expanded. It is possible to circle the house and find no steps however some pathways are quite narrow. The back garden was for playing and picnicking in. A room was added to the house and more lawn was removed.

It has been a garden that has changed as the family grew up, and left, and the owner became the sole designer and worker with some very good help from professionals. The owner had no particular plans, and it would be quite different if it were created today. It is a restrained cottage garden in spring with areas remaining green throughout the hotter months. In spring the dogwoods are picturesque and give autumnal colour along with vines over the pergola. Surprisingly, the back garden changed again two or three years ago with the removal of an old apple tree. Some established deciduous azaleas filled gaps. A few small natives along with bulbs and plants from a friend's garden are growing under an umbrella shaped pear tree which shades a blue garden seat.

The garden has flourished however changes in the weather and therefore the growth times have been a constant surprise. There have been times of incredible growth and times of wretched drought and far more insects of the wrong sort in the past year! The birds give enormous pleasure and bees are steadily appearing.

GARDEN OWNER

Gini Hole – October 2022