

GARDEN NOTES  
TERROUX PEACE  
GARDEN  
88 ROCHFORD ROAD,  
WALLAROO



## HISTORY AND FEATURES

We moved into our home in 2006. The name of their property Terroux comes from Peter's mother's maiden name. It is very special to us as we both love the land and appreciate the special and important connection that humans have with the land, both to destroy it or to care for it. We want to nurture it, bring it back to health. When we moved in, it was a bare hillside with half a dozen gum trees and a big erosion gully. Since that time Peter has planted thousands of trees, shrubs and flowers. The garden rambles and stretches over 10 acres, from the immediate garden around the house to park like areas, with a pine nut plantation, a labyrinth, an Arboretum, a peace garden, memorial gardens and a Japanese garden.

The garden around the house has many rooms and features, a secret garden with a traditional fountain, a reflection pool, an enclosed garden full of Mr Lincoln roses, a Mad Hatters tea party garden and a dry creek bed. It is a garden of discovery as you wander through the gardens. It is a mixed garden with over two hundred roses, a mixture of carpet, Standard T roses, climbing and bush/carpet roses. The garden has been planted to be sustainable due to limited water supply. It has gravel and stone pathways with water features and quirky pieces of art which will delight adults and children alike. The garden has many diverse plantings including hedges, callistemon, conifers and photinias and the dry creek bed surrounded by natives.

The extended garden evolves into parklike areas with three dams each of different designs and plantings: one flows over to a wetland, with a bridge over the creek; another has a terraced garden with blue poles; and, a developing Arboretum with different varieties of evergreen and deciduous trees. There is a family and memorial park that includes a peace garden with a planting of another two hundred roses and a Japanese garden with cherry blossom trees and Japanese maples. The garden's extensive park-like setting is enhanced by a backdrop of the Brindabellas.

Peter is passionate about restoring the land and breathe life back into the soil. He continues to plant as many trees as he can to put back carbon into the ground and is planting for

future generations to see how you can bring about change on both the micro and macro level.

Our garden is very different to the most gardens, both in size and content. It is drought proof by using plants that are very hardy and require low maintenance and minimal amounts of water. One of the biggest challenges has been the quality of the soil. It is a heavy clay base that makes it difficult for trees and plants to become established. Peter has used many tons of horse manure to assist in breaking down the clay. The other difficulties are both the wind and the lack of rain as we are largely dependent on rain and some surface stored water. To overcome this we have planted wisely and created points of interest around the garden with art works and a dry creek bed.

## GARDEN OWNERS

Barbara Baikie and Peter Fletcher