

# GARDEN NOTES

## THE BURROW

### 40 CHUBB STREET LATHAM



#### HISTORY

The Burrow has evolved since work began in late 2020. When we purchased the property it was a quintessential ex-govie house and garden - all grass, a few small trees and a Hillhoist out the back. We were drawn to this property as the house faced north, it was next to a park, is a battleaxe block that is off main roads and it gave us a 900m<sup>2</sup> 'blank canvas' to create an urban oasis. The Burrow is a reference to the home of the Weasley family in Harry Potter – a home filled with surprises, magic and fun – this was something we hoped to instill into our garden and home as they evolved for our young family. As Tim is an architect and Phoebe is a landscape architect this garden and home has given us a fun experimental canvas for collaboration.

The biggest challenges we have faced as we have created our garden includes; water management (we have installed extensive underground drainage channels to allow the water to recharge), weed management from the adjacent park and existing garden and pest management that is involved with a productive garden and chickens. We also struggled with root rot when we first began establishing the garden given the heavy clay soils, being at a low point and extensive periods of rain. The area under our trampoline acts as a dam (not something we had planned) and fill with water when it rains (and holds it) – as a result we often pump the water out onto our trees as supplementary irrigation. This pond also becomes home to many tadpoles and frogs from spring to autumn each year.

Gardening is important to us as it is a truly enjoyable and beneficial hobby – it is very special to see the outcomes of hard work and the benefits this brings to our children, wildlife and the surrounding community. Our favorite part of our garden is the fact that we have different garden spaces that provide beautiful outdoor living opportunities year round – the firepit is used extensively over winter, the creek and ponds are an endless source of entertainment for our girls in summer, the deciduous trees and climbers allow winter sun to penetrate and to cool our home and outdoors in summer. We like how our garden allows for community interaction and engagement and have enjoyed talking with neighbors about their garden pursuits and the giant pumpkins we grow next to the path over summer.

Our garden provides an eclectic mix of ideas and planting inspiration for people. We have experimented with unusual plant combinations (Anigozanthos and Citrus, Budleja and

Camellias, Clematis armandii and Passionfruit, artichoke and lemon verbena). We have sought to use plants in a creative way, to utilize their strengths and to make our home feel as though it is part of a garden. The seasonal variation and layering within the garden ensures that it is always changing, gives to our family, as well as providing for our local wildlife and pollinators. We hope visitors see that creating a diverse home garden can provide lots of joy and is achievable over time.

## FEATURES

- Integrated ponds and creek
- Inground trampoline and play opportunities
- Productive gardens for vegetables, perennial vegetables, herbs, fruit trees and berries
- Diverse plant species including exotic ornaments, natives, bulbs, climbers, tree species (over 20 different species)

## MAP

A garden plan will be available for viewing at the open garden.

## TOILETS

Florey shops or Kippax

## GARDEN OWNERS

Timothy Dyer and Phoebe Gordon