

GARDEN NOTES

VOGELWEIDE ESTATE

94 CORK ST, GUNDAROO



24-25 MARCH 2026

OUR STORY

Since original owners Wolfgang and Antje planted their first stone pines in a former sheep paddock 18 years ago, Vogelweide – or ‘Bird’s Meadow’ – has evolved into a garden for every season – romantic and unmistakably Mediterranean in character, in the historic village of Gundaroo.

While current owners Diana and Kane were already avid gardeners, taking on the 5500m² garden in April 2022 was a huge step up from their previous 32m² courtyard garden. They initially focused on removing several hedges and trees that were past their prime, a two-month rejuvenation of the 160 heritage roses, and introducing new pockets of cottage garden plantings.

As the seasons unfolded, Diana and Kane learned more about the intelligent, living design of the garden. The statuesque pines, cypresses, and hundreds of other trees form a classic Mediterranean framework, while woodland bulbs, clematis, roses and other perennials light up the garden in every season.

Rose season is particularly spectacular: rambling roses spill along the garden’s boundaries, with 60 metres covering the fenceline alone, while heritage roses and climbers transform the garden into a succession of fragrant, flowering spaces, with staggered flowering from mid-October to as late as early winter. A 60m-deep bore irrigates the garden through the long hot summers.

In December 2022, Diana and Kane were married in the garden under the rose arbour, adorned with thousands of white roses before enjoying their reception at a long table on the lawns. Since then, the garden has hosted several weddings, as well as birthdays, engagements and other family celebrations.

In mid-2023, they purchased the adjoining sub-divided block, reuniting the now 7500m² garden and preserving its mature trees that had been slated for removal for a house build. They built a 18m² wicking bed, then spent the following year designing and building a large fountain and more than 100m of herbaceous perennial borders and paths.

The new garden beds were established using the heavy clay excavated from the fountain, enriched with organic matter. Completed in Spring 2024, the new beds are maturing into an abundant floral display for much of the year, framed by a manicured buxus hedge.

Inspired by British gardener Monty Don and many of the great gardens of Italy and France, Diana and Kane have grand designs for the garden, including the addition of more formal elements and always with a central vision: a joyful, peaceful garden for those who visit and who call Vogelweide home.

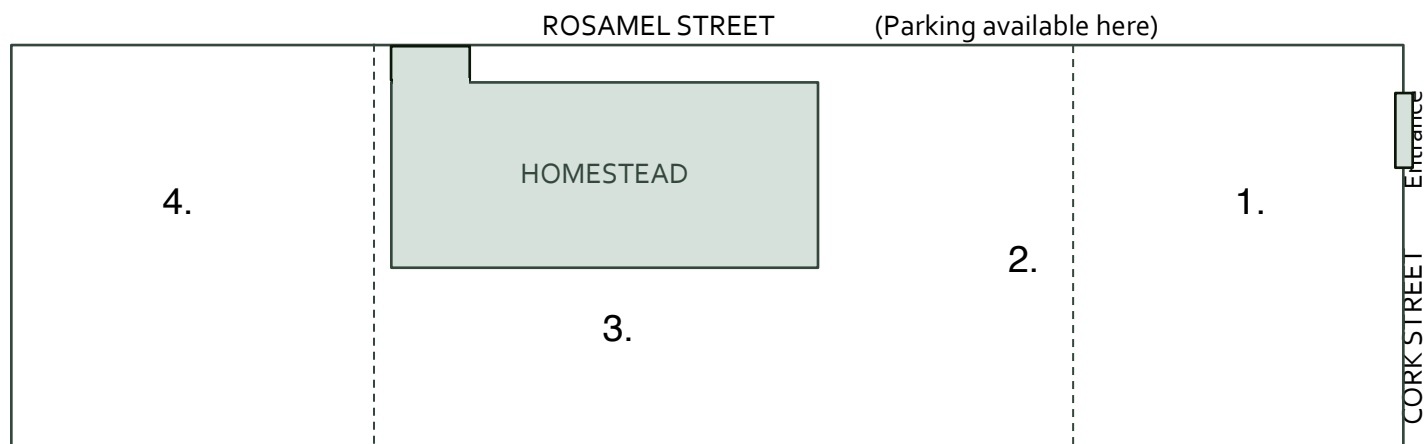
THE GARDENS

The Georgian-styled homestead is bordered by roses and private pathways, including a wild French-inspired herb garden featuring lavender and thyme, black pines with their unique candelabra-like growth, and courtyards shaded in summer by large London plane trees. Its garden ‘rooms’ include:

- 1. The Fountain Lawns** combine a range of architectural features including a casuarina forest, the towering stone pines and a crescent of cypress trees, as well as the fountain itself and its perennial herbaceous borders. Edged with buxus, the borders are planted with hundreds of bulbs and other perennials, including dozens of dahlias in summer and early autumn.
- 2. The Rose Chapel:** In early summer, this arbour can be blanketed in thousands of apricot-coloured rose buds that open to single white, citrus-scented rose flowers. A border of crimson-flowering moss roses and a canopy of maple trees provide a serene chapel-like space for an unforgettable wedding ceremony.
- 3. The Maple Lawns** feature the blazing autumnal colour of the maples, two large magnolia grandiflora trees, a plethora of daffodils, bluebells, iris and hyacinths in spring, and of course, rose season. Surrounding cottage and woodland gardens provide a kaleidoscope of flowers, textures and colours as summer progresses. A Wollemi pine provides an ancient touch close to the homestead.
- 4. The Oak Grove** showcases 24 oak trees as well as crab apple trees and a golden ash, bordered by 50 hazelnut trees underplanted with daffodils – and the home of the family chickens.

To find out more about Vogelweide Estate, visit www.vogelweideestate.com and follow us on Instagram and Facebook.

MAP



TOILETS

Public toilets are available at nearby Gundaroo Oval on Cork St.