

Green Vision



Striking landscaping sets off a modern pavilion style tropical home built on a sloping block backing up to the Palmerston escarpment. Rocks and planting lead up from a portico entry gate to a unique elevated swimming pool, and a sheltered retreat is tucked in under the high-set main house. Visitors can enjoy a cuppa on the spacious deck and take in the view.

10 Ormiston Court, Gunn, Palmerston. Telstra Map 52 G-6. From Chung Wah Tee turn into Lakeside Drv, left into Kakadu Drv and follow signs.

OPEN 21 & 22 JULY 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Purple Patch



Nestled beneath huge jungle trees, not far from the high tide mark, this unique coastal garden surrounds a Troppo designed home. Rainforest natives blend with fragrant exotic species, and cycads, palms, ferns and water plants abound, while flowering orchids display the owner's favourite colours. Take a guided walk through the mangroves down to the beach and learn about the fascinating Darwin Harbour foreshore environment. Walks at 10.30am.



29 Ostermann Street, Coconut Grove, Darwin. Telstra Map 16 F-12. From Dick Ward Drv heading towards Nightcliff turn left into Ostermann St.

OPEN 28 & 29 JULY 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

TENNANT CREEK

Frog Hollow



Award-winning outback desert-style garden where pots and pebbles are used as mulch to conserve water. Native plants such as callistemons, grevilleas and emu bushes (*Eremophila*) contrast with cacti, succulents and cycads. An organic vegetable garden, lush shadehouse and a spectacular 2 metre high desert rose (*Adenium obesum*) complete the picture.



18 Staunton Street, Tennant Creek. Telstra Map 112 F-10.

OPEN 25 & 26 AUGUST 10am – 2pm \$5 admission

Colin & Lizzie's Oasis



This secluded garden retreat features cooling water elements setting off a selection of tropical plants. A large fountain is a highlight of the front garden, while the beautifully paved back area features a waterfall cascading into a streamlet lapping smooth rocks and spanned by a miniature bridge.



18 Meyers Street, Tennant Creek. Telstra Map 112 F-12.

OPEN Sunday 16 SEPTEMBER 10am – 4.30pm \$4 admission

Elewerre



This intriguing rural property features bush block planting mingled with warm climate exotics. Palms are blended with local native trees and creepers, and a highlight of the garden is a stunning man-made lagoon, complete with an island, pandanus, native fish, turtles, lotus,



waterlilies and other water plants. Bromeliads are tucked in old logs and a cooling pool beckons. Elewerre means 'shaded place'.

84 Gamba Road, Humpty Doo.

Turn off Stuart Hwy at Coolalinga into Girraween Rd, continue to end, turn left at T-junction onto Pioneer Drv, go almost to end and follow signs.

OPEN 4 & 5 AUGUST 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Gondwana



Top End native plants are combined with exotics in this water-efficient garden packed with interesting plants including many cycads. The owner is in charge of the Northern Territory Herbarium so this garden features regional plants. Grassed paths link the numerous garden areas. The Top End Native Plant Society will be on hand to provide local plants and information during the weekend.



12 Triller Court, Bakewell, Palmerston. Telstra Map 52 G-10. From Chung Wah Tee turn into Buscall Ave, then Shearwater Drv and follow signs.

OPEN 18 & 19 AUGUST 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Maya's Garden



A large suburban 'work in progress' garden, influenced by the owners' visits to SE Asia, sits on a gently sloping block. Paths wind around the well-shaded garden, and planting is designed for contrast, alignment, height and colour, with pots and statues giving added visual interest. Bromeliads are a highlight with creative placement and combinations,

and vincas and impatiens flower in shaded areas. The garden is dedicated to the owners' late miniature schnauzer 'Maya'.

11 Marchant Court, Malak, Darwin. Telstra Map 19 B-11. From Vanderlin Drv turn into Mueller Rd, then into Dalwood Cr and follow signs.

OPEN 8 & 9 SEPTEMBER 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Rocky Road



Rocks, stones and gravel give great landscaping shape to this garden, suggesting a bush pathway, a winding creek bed or a sandy beach patch in a busy suburban setting. Water features provide cooling sights and sounds, and Indian mast trees have been planted for fast-growing boundary screening. Massed rhoeos border pathways, and a spreading santol tree shelters a garden corner.



35 Amsterdam Circuit, Wagaman, Darwin. Telstra Map 18 A-6. From Vanderlin Drv (Trower Rd end) turn into Klein St, then right into Macassar St and follow signs.

OPEN 22 & 23 SEPTEMBER 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Tropical Transformation



A meticulously planned and planted garden replaces the former overgrown yard, enabling healthy growth of ginger, heliconias, frangipanis, cordylines, bromeliads, lotus, lilies and selected palms. In the back garden, symmetrical steps lead up to a lush lawn and a large covered pavilion is a perfect place from which to enjoy the garden

outlook. Information on a range of Top End environmental weeds will be available, as the owner is a researcher in this area.

30 Nakara Terrace, Nakara, Darwin. Telstra Map 17 J-2. From Trower Rd turn into Bradshaw Tce, then into Nakara Tce and follow signs.

OPEN 6 & 7 OCTOBER 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Belle's Backyard



This cool and shaded artist's garden is home to biggest mobs of good and green gardening ideas. Slate-paved paths surround an organic vegetable garden with passionfruit, pawpaw, herbs and seasonal produce. Bromeliads have been established on mounded lengths of tree trunks, mosaic stepping stones create a side path and creative use of recycled items is everywhere in this garden. The perfect end to the 2007 season.



36 Todd Crescent, Malak, Darwin. Telstra Map 18 H-13. From McMillans Rd turn into Malak Crs, then into Darwent St and follow signs.

OPEN 13 & 14 OCTOBER 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

AUSTRALIA'S Open 2007 Garden Scheme



Northern Territory

Northern Territory Season 2007

Australia's Open Garden Scheme is a not for profit organisation founded in 1987. Its mission is to promote the knowledge and pleasure of gardens and gardening across Australia by opening inspiring gardens to the public. Each year the Scheme opens around 600 private gardens across every geographical region. The first Northern Territory gardens opened in 2000, and this year gardens will open in Darwin, Palmerston, the rural area, Katherine and Tennant Creek.

The Open Garden Scheme is totally self-funding, with entry fees divided as follows: 35% of the gate fee is returned to the garden owner or to a charity of their choice; 65% covers the Scheme's operating costs, with surplus funds returned to the community via our Community Grants program. To date, more than \$850,000 has been given to community projects across Australia.

Charities and local causes have benefited to the tune of nearly \$4 million thanks to the generosity of garden owners donating their gate share and proceeds from refreshment sales and stalls.

Australia's Open Garden Scheme is supported by ABC Radio.

Visit our website - www.opengarden.org.au - to find out about gardens open across

Australia. For local information, including updates on Northern Territory gardens, call the NT Co-ordinator,

Sue Dibbs: ph 08 8932 9922, nt@opengarden.org.au



Above: **The Dog and Donkey** (31 March & 1 April)
Cover: **Gondwana** (18 & 19 August)



DARWIN and LITCHFIELD SHIRE

The Dog and Donkey



Inspiring rural garden with themed collections of unusual cycads, succulents and bromeliads. Stands of bamboo rustle in the breeze and a large pond set in cool lawns reflects the sky and surrounding trees. Broad verandahs shelter flourishing hanging baskets, and the spacious courtyard is home to stylish pots with an array of striking plants. The Friends of the Darwin Botanic Gardens will be selling plants during the weekend. A great start to the Territory season.



35 Mahaffey Road, Howard Springs. Telstra Map 66 C-3. From Stuart Hwy turn left south of Coolalinga into Girraween Rd, then second left into Mahaffey Rd. Look for signs.

OPEN 31 MARCH & 1 APRIL 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Casa Kapalga



Mosaic pathways lead visitors through this welcoming urban retreat featuring tropical shrubs including mussaendas, crotons and hibiscus, as well as understorey foliage plants. A brilliant blue glass mosaic tiled pool is backed by a sundrenched rendered wall, and a frog pond is also home to many waterlilies. Scented plants include the

Chanel (or ylang ylang) tree, gardenias and Kahili ginger.

8 Kapalga Street, Tiwi, Darwin. Telstra Map 7 J-16. From Trower Rd, turn into Delamere St, then right into Wangalara St and left into Kapalga St.

OPEN 14 & 15 APRIL 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Marilyn's Garden



Tucked away behind a belt of monsoon vine forest is a private rural haven full of flourishing plants and whimsical touches. An acre of garden beds linked by grassy walks gives way to a small wet season billabong at the rear of the block. A mini-orchard of tropical fruit trees, a bed of bromeliads and perhaps some curious wallabies - all add up to a garden of pure pleasure for owners and visitors alike.

294 Trippe Road, Humpty Doo. Turn into Arnhem Hwy from Stuart Hwy, then travel 10km to Trippe Rd on the right. Follow the signs.

OPEN 21 & 22 APRIL 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission



Creative Courtyard



A delightful courtyard retreat brims with bromeliads and understorey plants, while the owner's ever-expanding plant collection has spilled out along the units' driveway area. Bromeliads and orchids give constant colour and interest, with tassel ferns and many other potted plants and hanging baskets providing a peaceful haven in a small space.

Unit 1, 31 Coronation Drive, Stuart Park. Telstra Map 36 C-2. From Stuart Hwy, turn into Westralia St, then left into Coronation Drv, look for signs.

OPEN 12 & 13 MAY 10am – 4.30pm \$4 admission

The Hennessys



A working heliconia farm is combined with an outstanding and expansive garden bordering the Elizabeth River. Stroll along bushland tracks beside the water, wander the lush lawns and follow secret pathways, take a guided tour of the heliconias and



gingers and enjoy a terrific tea in a shaded setting. Rock walls shelter ferns and other delicate plants, and bromeliads and cordylines abound.



Elizabeth Valley Road, Noonamah. From Darwin travel 45km south to Noonamah, turn left into Elizabeth Valley Road and follow signs.

OPEN 26 & 27 MAY 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Bromwich Garden



Rosemary Bromwich has been an avid orchid collector for decades and this garden reflects her passion for these plants. The brilliant flowers thrive on palms, trellises and fences around the compact



garden, which is also home to many other tropical plants. A swimming pool is surrounded

by flowers and foliage, and the adjacent golf course adds its peaceful greenery to this garden.

99 Carnoustie Circuit, Northlakes, Darwin. Telstra Map 18 D-15. From McMillans Rd turn into Carnoustie Crct and follow signs.

OPEN 9 & 10 JUNE 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission



Crazy About Cordylines



Tropical plants of every sort flourish in this carefully planned collector's garden, home to more than 75 different cordyline varieties. Groupings of bromeliads, palms, heliconias, bougainvilleas, gingers, draceanas and crotons create fascinating corners of colour, form and foliage. Ponds and water bowls are sanctuaries for frogs, and a spa and outdoor shower complete the perfect lifestyle retreat.



77 Alawa Crescent, Alawa, Darwin. Telstra Map 17 F-7. From Trower Rd turn into Alawa Crs and follow signs.

OPEN 23 & 24 JUNE 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Rainforest Pool



Fabulous 'lawn-free' garden developed over many years. A canopy of native trees and palms shelters understorey plantings of ferns, bromeliads, anthuriums, aglaonemas, calatheas, gingers, cycads and climbers of many sorts. A large pond with fish and lilies takes pride of place in the front yard and a secluded courtyard is a focal point in the back garden.

15 Wells Street, Ludmilla, Darwin. Telstra Map 26 H-11. Head north on Bagot Rd, turn left into Wells St just after the fly-over, and look for signs.

OPEN 7 & 8 JULY 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

KATHERINE

Manbulloo Homestead



The original homestead of historic Manbulloo Station is situated in lush riverland country on the banks of the picturesque Katherine River. Stroll or rest under huge shade trees, savour the scent of jasmine, frangipani and gardenia, experience a bygone era. The homestead is the heart of a working property which includes cattle, mangoes and caravan park operations. A true Territory experience, definitely not to be missed.

Victoria Highway, Katherine. From Katherine travel 9 km along Victoria Hwy to signed turn-off, then 3.5km to Homestead. Bitumen roads.

OPEN 26 & 27 MAY 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission

Rambling Rose



Set in savannah bushland is a 5-acre country retreat with cottage garden influences. Lawned walks set off plantings of cycads, colourful annuals, roses and flowering lilies, including some wonderful gladioli. White gums, river red gums and native plums provide shade and ensure abundant birdlife, and a large lilypond adds the finishing touch.



85 Mahony Road, Katherine. Travel 5.5km north of Katherine on Stuart Highway and look for signs on the left.

OPEN 14 & 15 JULY 10am – 4.30pm \$5 admission