

Northern Territory 2013 Season

Date	Garden	Location	
APRIL	13 & 14	The Dog and Donkey	Howard Springs
	20 & 21	Axl Acres	Girraween
	27 & 28	Simply Suburban	Rapid Creek
MAY	4 & 5	Tropiculture Weekend	Bees Creek
	11 & 12	Ming's Kingdom	Nakara
	25 & 26	Something Old, Something New...	Fannie Bay
JUNE	8 & 9	Charlie's Tropical Retreat	Bayview
	15 & 16	Rural Rainforest	Virginia
	22 & 23	Buddha's Bamboo	Humpty Doo
JULY	13 & 14	Teresa's Garden	Gunn
	27 & 28	Edible den	Alawa
	3 & 4	A Country Cottage Garden	Howard Springs
AUGUST	10 & 11	Walk the Talk	Humpty Doo
	17 & 18	Parkside	Stuart Park
	24 & 25	The Mosaic House Garden	Parap
SEPTEMBER	7 & 8	Maya's Garden	Malak

Open Gardens Australia is a not-for-profit organisation that opens private gardens and organises garden-themed events for public enjoyment around the country.

Each year we open around 600 private gardens across every geographical region in Australia. The first Northern Territory gardens opened in 2000, and since then some 220 Territory gardens have opened their gates to visitors.

Open Gardens Australia is totally self-funding, with entry fees divided as follows: 35% of the gate fee is returned to the garden owners or to a charity of their choice and 65% covers the scheme's operating costs, with surplus funds returned to the community via our Grants Program. To date, more than \$1.1 million has been given to around 500 community projects across Australia under this program.

Charities have also benefited to the tune of nearly \$5 million thanks to the generosity of garden owners donating their gate share and proceeds from refreshment sales and stalls. Last year, Territory garden owners donated more than \$26,000 to charity from their openings.

Open Gardens Australia is supported by ABC Radio.

Visit our website - www.opengarden.org.au - to find out about Open Gardens 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

Cover: SIMPLY SUBURBAN, opening in Rapid Creek on 27 & 28 April.

Map references: LD - Local Directories 2012/2013 edition.

Opening for the first time Wheelchair accessible Strollers OK Teas Food Toilets Plants for sale Water caution

THE DOG AND DONKEY

OPEN 13 & 14 APRIL



\$7 admission



Inspiring rural garden with a unique array of cycads, succulents and bromeliads. Stands of bamboo rustle in the breeze and a large pond adds a cool touch. A spacious courtyard is home to a range of striking plants, many of which are of the 'prickly' variety - dyckias, hechtias, cactus, euphorbias, pachypodiums. Shade-loving plants grow in pots and hanging containers around

the broad verandahs. Enjoy lunch or a cuppa, and some folk rock music on the back verandah. A great start to our Territory season.

35 Mahaffey Road, Howard Springs. LD Map 25-A9. From the Stuart Hwy turn into Girraween Rd at Coolalinga, turn second left into Mahaffey Rd. Look for signs.

AXL ACRES

OPEN 20 & 21 APRIL



\$7 admission



Tranquil rural garden with meandering walks across cool lawns to large beds packed with interesting trees, shrubs and underplanting. Outside the main house garden zone, native bushland is being resurrected and re-established as exotic palms and weeds are removed. Orchids of many kinds find homes on the verandahs, around the pool and in shadehouses, while whimsical recycled and hand-crafted items are tucked into available spots around the gardens.

26 Zill Road, Girraween. LD Map 27-E1. From the Stuart Hwy turn into Girraween Rd at Coolalinga, drive 6km to Mango Rd, turn right. Look for signs.

SIMPLY SUBURBAN

OPEN 27 & 28 APRIL



\$7 admission



Large and lush suburban garden enjoying cool seabreezes. A wonderful collection of tropical plants, all grown with a sure hand and green thumb, provide privacy and shelter for the owners and their guests. A pool area leads to a hidden garden, a paved elevated terrace offers a special sitting place, and clusters of pots create more garden interest and lead the eye to new corners and features.

An excellent balance of foliage forms, shapes and colours keeps this delightful garden fresh and intriguing.

141 Ryland Road, Rapid Creek. LD Map 6-C4. Waterfront end of Ryland Rd, opposite Nightcliff Middle School oval. Look for signs.

SPECIAL EVENT

TROPICULTURE WEEKEND

OPEN 4 & 5 MAY

\$10 admission



This long-established Top End nursery and orchard specialises in all aspects of tropical fruit tree and food plant cultivation. It produces hundreds of fruit varieties including citrus, mangos, figs, avocados, bananas, bamboos, guavas and rambutans, and has developed a number of

cultivars, fertilisers and production methods. Vegetable and herb plants and seedlings suitable for local conditions are also produced.

Demonstrations by knowledgeable guests over the weekend include Cooking with Local Produce, Vegetable Planting, Grafting, Propagation, Orchard Tours, Fertilising and General Gardening Advice. For program details call 8932 9922.

110 Horne Road, Bees Creek. LD Map 27-A6. From Darwin, turn right into Bees Creek Rd at Freds Pass Reserve, drive 6.5km to Horne Rd on the right and look for signs.

MING'S KINGDOM

OPEN 11 & 12 MAY



\$7 admission



A very special and private garden, full of interesting plants and unusual decorative items. Paved paths wind past fascinating corners and plant groupings. Look up, look down - there's lots to see in this delightful space and always new sights to be found. Welcoming patios and decks on both sides of the house provide great garden viewpoints. Brilliant mosaics and clever constructions and moving machinations made

by the owners are recent features in this perennially-popular garden.

46 Witherden Street, Nakara. LD Map 7-C3. From Dripstone Rd turn into Goodman St, right into Kilfoyle Crs and look for signs.



All Open Gardens are open from 10am to 4.30pm.

We are committed to the gardeners of the future: Children under 18 are admitted free to all our Open Gardens.

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW...



\$7 admission

OPEN 25 & 26 MAY



Just like a good marriage, this garden has been developed with much love, care and commitment by its owners. By retaining established plants in key locations and complimenting them with new features such as structured garden beds, a strikingly landscaped pool, many local and imported feature plants and a newly renovated house, this old Darwin garden will continue to flourish and bring joy to all who share it. Thoughtful planning, much back-breaking labour and plenty of fertiliser have transformed a large open block into a private tropical paradise.

10 Parsons Street, Fannie Bay. LD Map 10-A6. From Ross Smith Ave turn into Parsons St towards the racetrack. Look for signs.

CHARLIE'S TROPICAL RETREAT

OPEN 8 & 9 JUNE



\$7 admission



Sitting on a sloping site in a harbourside suburb, this young garden amply demonstrates how a bare block can be transformed into a lush tropical haven. The front garden is packed with frangipanis, gingers and palms, creating a welcoming entrance to the secluded back garden with its elegant

Balinese-style pavilion and pool area. This superb garden also showcases more than 100 separate cordyline varieties and many water features, adding to the exotic ambience. Multiple garden levels can be explored, and a hidden side garden is an added treat.

15 Bradhurst Court, Bayview. LD Map 10-D8. From Tiger Brennan Drv at Bayview turn into Stoddart Drv. Turn into Bradhurst Crs on the water side. Look for signs.

RURAL RAINFOREST

OPEN 15 & 16 JUNE



\$7 admission



A delightful rural garden nestled under the shelter of many spreading mature trees. Wide gravelled paths and terraces enable easy access, and offer perfect viewing points across the lawns. Ferns, alocasias, cordylines, crotons and cycads give eye level interest and provide a rainforest

atmosphere for the iconic tropical dwelling, next to a splendid fig tree.

90 Carambola Road, Virginia. LD Map 27-A3. Carambola Rd comes off Lowther Rd, which runs between Virginia Rd and Bees Creek Rd. Look for signs.

BUDDHA'S BAMBOO

OPEN 22 & 23 JUNE



\$7 admission



Bamboos can get a bad name for running wild and being hard to eradicate. But grow the right non-invasive species, and their unique appearance, rapid growth and contribution to your tropical garden ambience makes them perfect for gardens of any size. In this small working nursery, dozens of bamboo species grow in healthy and

vigorous stands. The garden also features native cycads and sand palms which blend perfectly with bamboos in this peaceful rural setting.

4423 Goode Road, Humpty Doo. LD Map 28-A8. From Stuart Hwy turn into Arnhem Hwy, drive 8km to Trippe Rd on the right, continue to Goode Rd, turn left, travel 2.2km and look for signs.

TERESA'S GARDEN

OPEN 13 & 14 JULY



\$7 admission



This compact garden absolutely brims with plants, offering beauty, interest and seclusion for the owner and a haven for birdlife. Lots of places to relax and enjoy garden views. The house is screened from the road by massed planting, a side dining terrace opens off the kitchen, and the back garden and pool enjoy an outlook over the adjacent creek reserve and natural bushland. A wonderful inspiration and source of ideas for those in homes on smaller blocks. Size is no barrier for keen gardeners!

4 Latram Court, Gunn. LD Map 23-E1. Latram Cr comes off Buckingham St. From Roystonea Rd turn into Terry Drv, into Buckingham St and look for signs.

EDIBLEDEN

OPEN 27 & 28 JULY



\$7 admission



An ordinary suburban block has been transformed into a thriving edible garden inspired by traditional South East Asian farming aesthetics and permaculture and organic principles – kitchen scraps feed the chooks whose manure is used to fertilise the garden that grows food for the people and the chooks! Legume nitrogen fixers are used as live mulch and there are several composting systems. Edible plants are used to their maximum in the kitchen – pumpkin stems, bamboo shoots, drumstick flowers – delicious ingredients for local and experimental recipes. Information on home-grown produce and locally made food will also be available.

9 Gove Street, Alawa. LD Map 7-A4. Gove St comes off Lakeside Drv. Look for signs.

A COUNTRY COTTAGE GARDEN

OPEN 3 & 4 AUGUST



\$7 admission



Beautiful displays of colourful trees, shrubs and flowers, many of them unusual in the Top End, reflect this gardener's desire for a traditional cottage garden effect. Blooms range from deep red flowering passionfruit to plate-sized hibiscus and freely-blossoming roses. An inspirational garden tucked into a larger block invites visitors to stay and enjoy the ambience.

1A Donnington Place, Howard Springs. LD Map 24-C7. From Darwin, follow Stuart Hwy past Howard Springs Rd turnoff. Turn right into Fellows Rd opp. car sales area, follow signs.

WALK THE TALK

OPEN 10 & 11 AUGUST



\$7 admission



This is a garden that tells a tale of family history, memories and dreams. It is based around radiating paths, set with hand-made mosaic and embossed pavers. Each paver tells a story, bears a motto, or carries a message. The paths are bordered by an array of colour-themed plantings, including cordylines, frangipanis, gingers, heliconias, hibiscus, grasses, groundcovers and natives. Walk the Talk – and Talk the Walk – in this delightful and very individual garden.

330 Freds Pass Road, Humpty Doo. LD Map 27-E8. From the Stuart Hwy turn on to the Arnhem Hwy. Turn right on to Freds Pass Rd at Humpty

Doo shops and continue past Strangways Rd. Look for signs.

PARKSIDE

OPEN 17 & 18 AUGUST



\$7 admission



Plants fill every nook and cranny, high and low, to create a cool grass-free garden designed for relaxation. A riot of colourful shrubs, bromeliads, gingers and spathiphyllums screens the front, while the back has unusual palms and lush understory plantings. Native trees and palms covered with orchids, ferns and bromeliads shade the outdoor rooms. A big surprise is the lush parkland at the back that is virtually part of this townhouse garden, and that the Parkside garden owner has helped develop over many years.

1/14 Queen Street, Stuart Park. LD Map 17-A1. From the Stuart Hwy turn into Queen St, or from Tiger Brennan Drv turn into Gothenburg Crs and follow signs.

THE MOSAIC HOUSE GARDEN

OPEN 24 & 25 AUGUST



\$7 admission



An extensive garden surrounds an elevated old style Darwin home, now converted to four self-contained apartments. The fortunate occupants share the garden, with its large spreading trees sheltering beds of ferns, bromeliads and shade-loving plants. Numerous seating and resting areas throughout the

garden allow relaxed viewing of the many classical Balinese statues, gathered by the owners on their trips to the region. And everywhere are water containers and the trademark mosaic works of the artist owner – on pavers, table tops and as patio flooring.

7 Mackillop Street, Parap. LD Map 10-A7. Mackillop St runs parallel to Parap Rd. Turn from Stokes St, Hingston St or Gregory St. Look for signs.

MAYA'S GARDEN

OPEN 7 & 8 SEPTEMBER



\$7 admission



Influenced by the owners' visits to South East Asia, this large and gently sloping suburban garden allows visitors to wander and admire tropical plantings designed for contrast, alignment and colour. Pots and statues add even more interest and creative boundary screening provides additional privacy. Beautiful bromeliads

abound, along with orchids, gingers, birdsnest ferns, draceanas, anthuriums and a host of other tropical plants. A superb garden to end our Open Gardens year.

11 Marchant Court, Malak. LD Map 8-C7. From Vanderlin Drv turn into Mueller Rd, then right into Dalwood Crs and follow signs to Marchant Cr.



OPEN GARDENS AUSTRALIA

SUPPORTED BY ABC Local Radio

2013

Open Gardens



Northern Territory