



*Yea and District*

# *Open Gardens Program*

*Saturday and Sunday*

*10th and 11th November 2018*

*10 am to 5 pm*

*10 Gardens Open*

*Presented by The Rotary Club of Yea Inc.*



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## General Information

Tickets and programmes are available at all gardens over the weekend and you are welcome to commence your journey at any garden most convenient to you. Tickets etc are also available from the **Yea Visitor Information Centre** located at the Eastern end of the Main Street, beside the Police Station. Whether commencing your journey from Melbourne or in Yea township, country gardens have been grouped for ease of travelling from garden to garden.

The **Yea Garden Club Annual Plant Sale**, which is held in conjunction with the Open Gardens weekend, can be found at “Abutilon” the lovely garden of Kevin and Myrna Patterson at 5 Welch Street, Yea. Hundreds of potted treasures at bargain prices.

**Please Note:-** As plastic bags are no longer in use, please bring your own bags or boxes for the plant sales

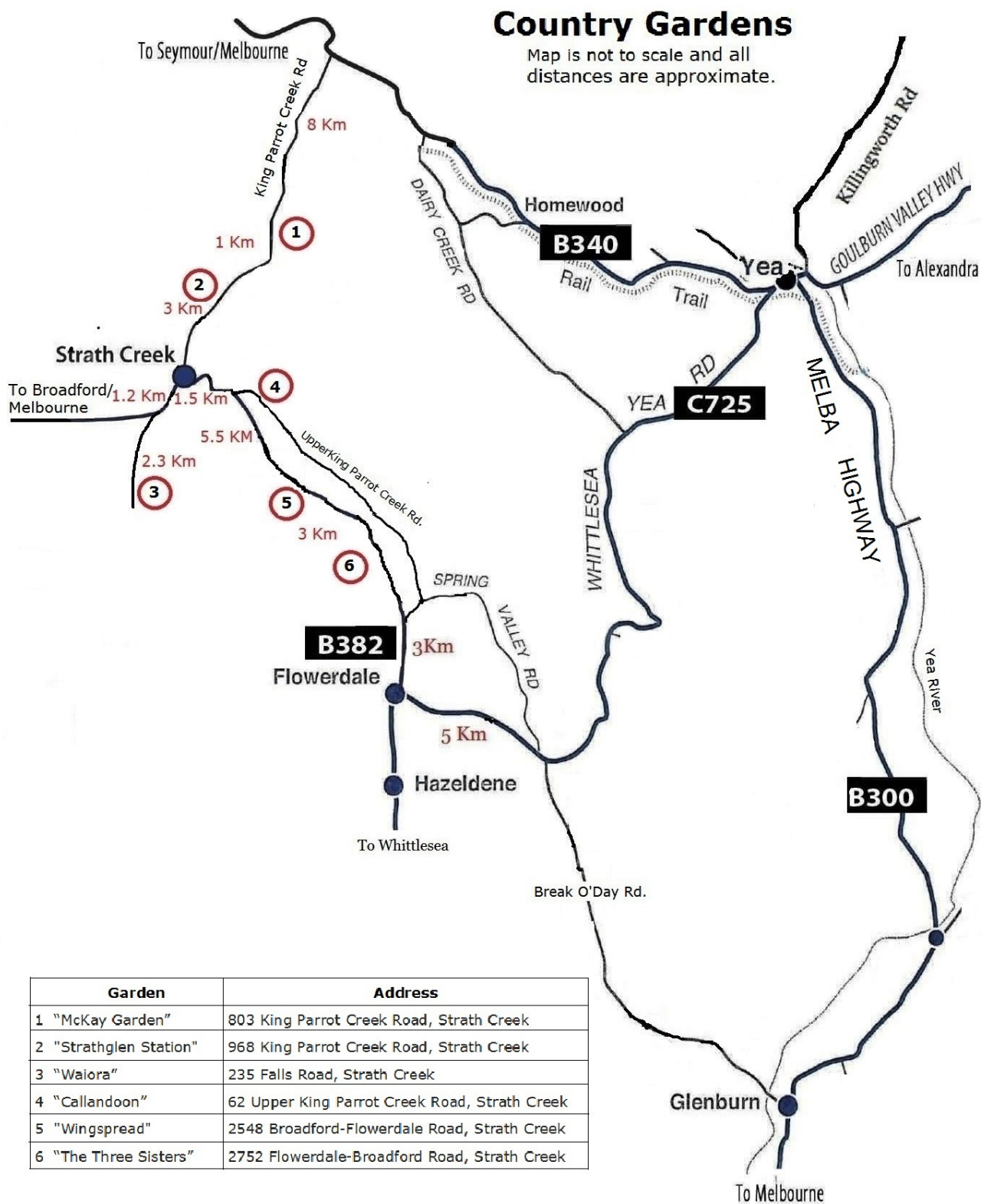
Visitors to the Rotary Open Gardens weekend will find public toilets and a variety of food outlets in Yea. If visiting the High Street toilets take the time to admire the ‘ToilArt’ project which transformed this ordinary toilet block into a destination show-piece. Many of our restaurants have lovely courtyard gardens. Visit the Galleries which include garden art from local artists. Yea Railway Park, John Cummins Reserve and Apex Park are also favourite picnic places.

For those travelling around the Strath Creek area, the **Strath Creek Pioneer Reserve** has excellent facilities including toilets, playground, picnic tables and barbeques. Morning and afternoon teas as well as light lunches are available in two of the local open gardens. NB: there is no other food outlets available in the tiny hamlet of Strath Creek. Take the time to visit the “**Valley of a Thousand Hills**” **Lookout**, built and maintained by the local community, for magnificent views which live up to its historic name.

If staying overnight, take a stroll through the **Yea Wetlands** on the Eastern edge of town. Water views and bushland, bird hides and nesting boxes as well as story boards highlighting the Aboriginal and natural history of the area. With both evening or early morning strolls you may have the pleasure of seeing one of our resident platypus. Walk the Fossil Path Timeline around the Visitor Information Centre which commemorates the Baragwanathia Fossil, the oldest plant fossil found in the world, the local site of its discovery is World Heritage listed. A step further brings you to the newly planted Taungurung Indigenous Bush Food Garden ‘Badji Baanang’ planted by descendants of the local Taungurung tribe. The Great Victorian Rail Trail, passing through the centre of town, also offers lovely walks or a refreshing early morning bike ride to the historic Cheviot Rail Tunnel

## Country Gardens

- 1      *"McKay Garden"*  
*Paul and Janine McKay*  
*803 King Parrot Creek Road, Strath Creek.*
  
- 2      *"Strathglen Station"*  
*Glenys and Jim Osborne*  
*968 King Parrot Creek Road, Strath Creek*
  
- 3      *"Waioara"*  
*Stewart and Sandra Hart*  
*235 Falls Road, Strath Creek*
  
- 4      *"Callandoon"*  
*Robin Campbell.*  
*62 Upper King Parrot Creek Road, Strath Creek.*
  
- 5      *"Wingspread"*  
*David Ralph and Rosemary Simon*  
*2548 Broadford/Flowerdale Road, Strath Creek.*
  
- 6      *"The Three Sisters"*  
*Terry and Janet Hubbard.*  
*2752 Flowerdale-Broadford Road, Strath Creek.*



## **1. "McKay Garden"**

**Owners: Paul and Janine McKay**  
**803 King Parrot Road, Strath Creek**

As you enter this historic property enjoy the shade and grandeur of the heritage Cypress, thought to be at least 100 years old. Many mature trees give character to this cottage garden with beds featuring bulbs, roses and a variety of mixed border plants. Radiating raised beds forming a circle, produce an abundance of vegetables enjoyed by the whole family and their many visitors and is one of the features of the garden.

The McKay family have occupied the farm for 12 months with the family vision of running a small herd of cattle and sheep along with a garden that shines throughout the seasons and provides seasonal produce. Our gardener, David Ralph, has endeavoured to add colour, function and structure to the garden. Many changes have been made including relocating a number of fruit trees in the rear garden to enhance a more open view to the valley. The views from a number of points in the garden showcase the natural beauty of the area.

## **2. "Strathglen Station"**

**Owners Glenys and Jim Osborne.**  
**968 King Parrot Creek Road, Strath Creek**

This garden is now showing signs of maturity after having been started in a bare paddock approximately 16 years ago. Many mature ornamental trees have reached height and breadth and throw shaded areas, which in recent years, have created the necessity for different types of plantings. Roses still abound in their hundreds creating waves of colour. Tall bearded irises, daisies, salvias, agastache, lupins, foxgloves and other old favourites still find plenty of sun also. However with the increased shade areas camellias, heucheras, hellebores, azaleas and other shade lovers have found more places to flourish.

Paddocks have been removed from around the front of the homestead and this area is now lawn and more ornamental trees, allowing the lake to be included in the garden area. It offers many seating places for quiet contemplation and creates a landscape type setting for the homestead. A creeper covered picnic area by the lake is a scenic spot for a coffee.

Due to the garden pond becoming choked by waterlillies the pond area has, this year, had a major makeover. As a result growth in this area is still filling out but shows promise for the coming years. The new bridge creates a soft, romantic appearance. The produce garden with vegetable bins and fruit trees maturing is productive and offers much produce to share with family and friends.

Two glasshouses and a shade house are busy helping cuttings from the garden to propagate mainly over winter and create happy atmospheres for hippeastrums, orchids, ferns, seeds and garden plants to flourish before being planted out.

**A plant stall, BBQ lunches, morning and afternoon teas will be available.**

**Please note** please bring your own bags or boxes for the plant sales as plastic bags are no longer in use,

## 3. "Waiora"

### 235 Falls Road, Strath Creek

#### Owners: Stewart and Sandra Hart

Waiora is a six and a half acre property situated on the top of a rise within the larger Strath Creek valley, the Valley of a Thousand Hills. The ground is rocky and firm. The house was constructed by the Lade family around 1930 from three original Victorian dwellings that were situated in the low lying area on the other side of Falls Road. Waiora's garden, designed to offer delights in every season, was established by previous owners Euan and Sharyn McDonald and over the past eight years has been added to by the Harts. The planting was generally informal within the framework of eucalypts, various shrubs and small trees and the borrowed scenery of the surrounding hills.

In 2016 plans to build a swimming pool and to formally landscape the eastern and southern sides of the house came to fruition. The experience was captured by ABC TV in their 'Dream Gardens' program. Paul Bangay was the designer and with excellent workmanship by our contractors the result has been a marvellous success. There is now a superb perennial border, at its finest in autumn, a central lawn and large patio incorporating an original wisteria. The pool area overlooks the valley to the east and during summer the borders of *Rosa rugosa* Rugspin and *Nepeta Dropmore* provide the perfect balance. Raised gardens behind new stone walls to the south are home to Japanese Maples, Crepe Myrtles and Crab apples with hydrangeas, abutilons, and perennials making up the understory.

The informal west and north gardens will be familiar to those who visited in 2013 with an emphasis on roses, perennials and annuals. In late winter to early spring these gardens come to life with hellebores, hundreds of bulbs – snowflakes, narcissus, iris reticulata, iris histrioides and muscari. In late spring the highlights will be colourful roses, lavenders, tulips and irises. In addition to the decorative garden an espalier citrus grove, just holding its own adjacent to eucalypts, a small hobby vineyard, numerous veggie patches and a new stone fruit orchard provide a bounty of food. Composting bays, located behind the Cyprus trees, old Gedye bins and a worm farm process most of the waste from the garden and household for return to the garden.

The garden lives in symbiosis with wombats, rabbits, rosellas, cockies and magpies, sometimes showing the effects.

**A list of the planting - formal and informal - will be available on the day**

## 4. "Callandoon"

### 62 Upper King Parrot Road, Strath Creek.

#### Owner: Robin Campbell.

The garden at *Callandoon* was originally created 30 years ago under the guidance of Melbourne based landscape architect, Ric Day. It has been subsequently expanded and evolved, most recently under the careful and inspirational management of Gary Grech with some assistance from Formation Landscapes under the direction of Chris Weiss.

*Callandoon* is situated in the so called "Valley of a Thousand Hills" on the banks of the King Parrot Creek, which, at this time of the year, is a babbling brook with still ponds and water tumbling over rocks.

The stonework, gravel driveway and paths have been constructed with local material to reflect the colour palate of the natural environment. The planting has been designed to integrate with the environment through the choice of native plants and grasses and the construction of the undulating lawn and the carefully trimmed shrubs that echo the surrounding hills. In addition, some exotic trees, most specifically Chinese Elms, Cornish Elms and English Oaks, have been used to line the driveway and paths and as features close to the main house.

The substantial garden includes two large wetland/water features specifically planted to attract native fauna and is a haven for many types of water birds, frogs and fish. The section of the creek immediately below the house has been successfully protected to promote the breeding of the endangered Macquarie Perch, evaluated regularly by the Arthur Rylah Institute, and is also an excellent environment for the many platypii that thrive there. A long curving Ha Ha wall separates the cultivated lawns and garden from the water feature below and is a novel treatment of the gently sloping land. A labyrinth of paths facilitate picturesque walks on which to enjoy this beautiful garden.

## **5. "Wingspread"** **Owners David Ralph and Rosemary Simon** **2548 Broadford/Flowerdale Road, Strath Creek.**

In 1997 when David Ralph and Rosemary Simon bought the property, Wingspread had 5 mature trees. The site development, the large pond, the paths and driveways were carried out and trees were planted around the boundary of the 110 acres. The orchard, now 40 fruit and nut trees, was planted.

The first building was the shed and in 2001 the round straw bale house was begun. In the meantime the garden began to develop.

The garden at this present time could be described as a cottage garden with its collection of irises, roses, native plants, crab apple trees and many and varied plants which blend and harmonize on sloping banks, in a large rockery and along the paths and driveways. All year round there is some colour, but late Winter brings the bulbs. Beneath the white trunks of the silver birch trees, daffodils, jonquils and anemones bloom and the Crab apple trees shelter Helibors. Blue star flowers crowd the wall of the pond.

From Spring to Autumn the garden is at its colourful best. The blossoms are a picture, the roses begin their display and the irises show off their stunning colours.

## **6. "The Three Sisters"** **2752 Broadford/Flowerdale Road, Strath Creek.** **Owners: Terry and Janet Hubbard.**

The house at The Three Sisters took three years to build and while the builders were constructing the building we were busy working on the bones of the garden.

We started with a circular drive, something we have always wanted. Extra stone from the 1860s granite cottage which we have rebuilt here as part of the house provided a starting point for rock walls and garden edging, which have become a feature of the garden. A circular lawn in the middle of the drive is echoed by the circular rose garden in front of the house.

Irises are a special interest and each year more are added to the collection.

We try to have lots of spring colour so we have planted, as well as irises and roses, old favourites such as foxgloves, pansies and delphiniums. A recently installed sprinkler system allows these plantings to thrive in spite of the due north and exposed situation.

We have tried to establish native areas as well, and have native plants featured down each side of the garden, including a row of Lime Magic acacias which have most attractive weeping gold foliage. In addition, we have planted many thousands of trees on our property in an attempt to revegetate and to improve the local environment for wild life

There are a number of water features in the garden, including some designed to attract frogs. We also have a glass house with orchids, an outside fernery, and a vegie garden which is fenced in to deter rabbits. The garden has been extended twice but we are now concentrating on improving it each year and adding new and different plantings.

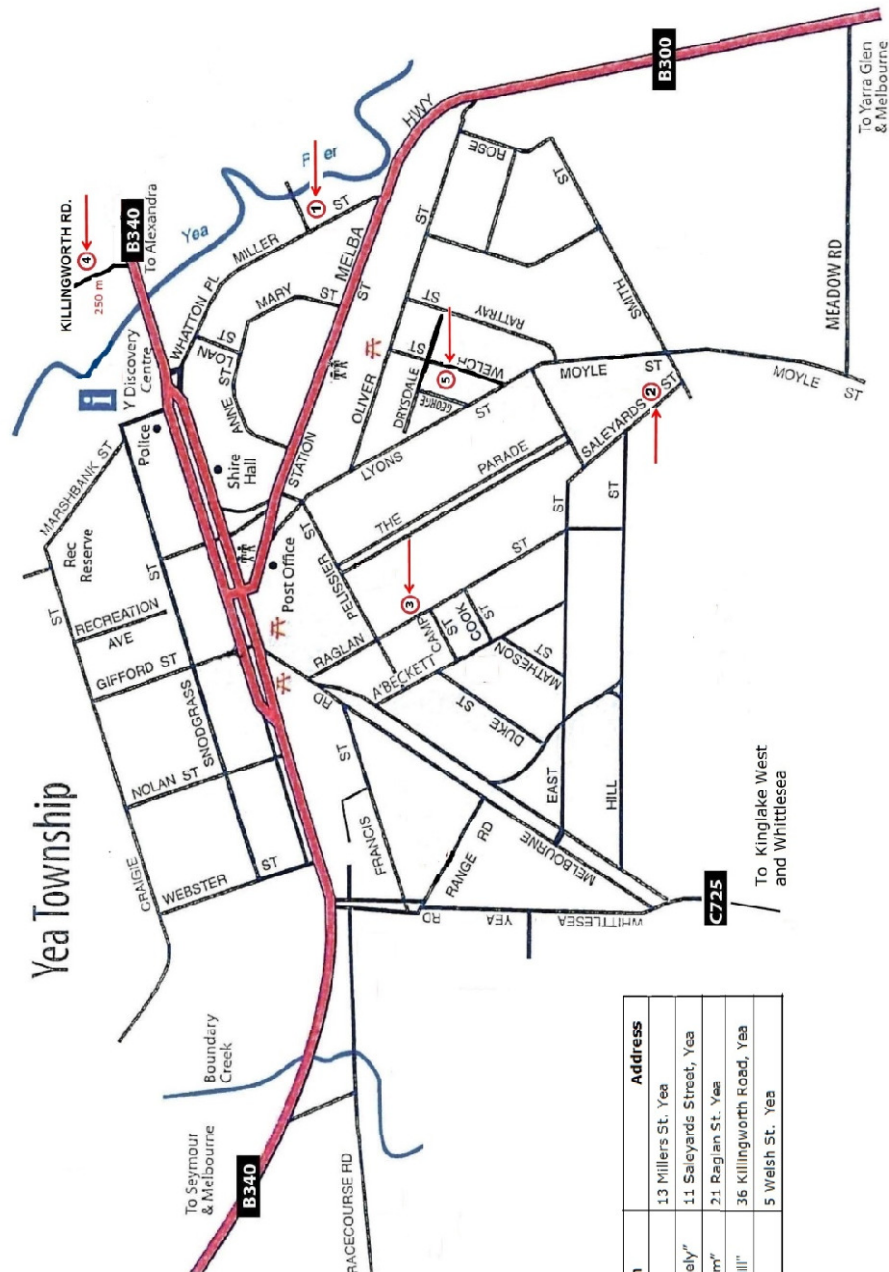
Some major renovations to the garden have been taking place since last year's opening and is still a work in progress. The west side of the garden has been extended and new rock walling and mass plantings will be watched with interest by garden lovers over the next few years as this exciting new development matures. This garden is continually changing.

**Morning and afternoon tea will be available and there will be a plant stall.**

**Please note** please bring your own bags or boxes for the plant sales as plastic bags as no longer in use.

## Town Gardens

- 1        *"Casa Gris"*  
*Judi Newman and Steve Rumney*  
*13 Miller St. Yea*
  
- 2        *"Thistledoo Nicely"*  
*Eveline Dufrane*  
*11 Saleyards Street, Yea.*
  
- 3        *"The Green Gym"*  
*Maggie Dare*  
*21 Raglan St. Yea*
  
- 4        *"Killingworth Hill"*  
*Team Leatham - Garry and Leslie*  
*36 Killingworth Road, Yea.*
  
- 5        *Plant Sales*  
*Yea Garden Club*  
*5 Welsh St. Yea*



Garden	Address
1 "Casa Gris"	13 Millers St. Yea
2 "Thistledeco Nicely"	11 Saicyards Street, Yea
3 "The Green Gym"	21 Raglan St. Yea
4 "Killingworth Hill"	36 Killingworth Road, Yea
5 Plant Sales	5 Welsh St. Yea

## **1. "Casa Gris"** **Owners: Judi Newman and Steve Rumney** **13 Miller St.**

Steve and Judi relocated to Yea after many years of living in the city. The search for the right property took several months, the main criteria was that the property had some mature trees. We finally purchased our home 5 years ago with plans to renovate the existing cottage and garden. Unfortunately the house was too far gone. As owner builders we settled on a Harkaway home with the belief that it fitted into the local area very well.

As for the garden, the bones were already in place, however very overgrown. Many, many trips to the tip later and our dream of creating a peaceful relaxing garden to share with friends and family began to take shape. Judi is keen on propagation, several Abutilons are testimony to her successes along with many other plantings.

Many original plants were rescued before demolishing the original home. Along the front picket fence roses abound, under planted with iris, erigon and spring bulbs. A superb pure white Magnolia, several Manchurian Pear, Agapanthus and Hydrangea also feature in the front garden. With the abundance of native birds we have incorporated many natives to protect and feed them.

The rear of the large (3/4 acre) garden reveals sweeping lawns, many shade trees, more roses and a variety of fruit trees. We endeavour to produce as much food for our table as we can, so a very large vegetable garden takes pride of place, supplying most of our needs, plus more to share. The garden continues to evolve and bring us much joy.

## **2. "Thistledoo Nicely"** **Owner: Eveline Dufrane.** **11 Saleyards Street, Yea.**

A double front border of roses makes a glorious splash of colour to greet visitors plus a pretty little side garden full of colour which leads to a mighty screening hedge. The green, silver and red tips of the hedge form a striking entrance as well as providing excellent screening from neighbours.

The house is built on a steep slope but the garden has been successfully tiered to provide easy access to all areas. The front garden is filled with flowering shrubs, succulents and citrus trees which are loaded with fruit in the winter months. Tall Tree Ferns provide a shaded and sheltered area outside the main living area of the house giving a wonderfully cool aspect in the summer and are underplanted with violets and hydrangeas in Evelyn's favourite colours.

The small pool off the Patio was there when Eveline bought the house 15 years ago and Eveline enjoys it for the exercise. The small garden beside the pool is her 'whimsy' garden and was created to surround the lovely mermaid feature. She has been surrounded by water iris and reeds to encourage the frogs. A steeply sloping bed is filled with more roses, succulents, nandinas and colour, with highlights of yellow, another favourite colour! The raised vegetable garden at the rear, sports a thriving artichoke but the rest is being abandoned because it is too shady and another mighty hedge gives excellent privacy to the back garden.

## 3. "The Green Gym"

**Owner: Maggie Dare**

**21 Raglan St. Yea**

The Green Gym was purchased in 2010. The established house had little garden surrounding it apart from 1 or 2 semi mature trees. Maggie's vision was to create a productive garden from which she could share the fruit, vegetables and herbs with family and friends. She also considered it to be a place where she could put aside increasing work pressures and return to the basics of a fit and healthy lifestyle, hence the name, The Green Gym.

The row of ornamental pears along the front fence, are stunning in blossom and were planted to create shade for the front of the house. A nectarine tree, mulberry tree and table grapes along with a multi grafted espaliered pear tree were added to the back garden. Another feature of the rear is a circle garden bordered by an English box hedge. Within the circle you will find pencil pines, carpet roses and bay trees.

Like all good ideas they don't always go to plan and after a catastrophic health event Maggie's vision for her garden had to be reconsidered. During her many months of rehab the garden was watered and cared for by Rotary members and for that she was very appreciative.

Confined to a wheelchair Maggie now took on the role of "Supervisor" and with help has created her beautiful garden.

As you walk around Maggie's garden you will see raised vegetable beds 800mm high for easy access, along with many pots of mixed herbs. Arches holding wisteria and Cecil Brunner roses divert your attention to shade gardens containing hellebores, beaded iris and mock orange creating scents throughout the area. Maturing trees of birch, weeping cherry, and a beautiful Silver Princess provide shady areas towards the rear of the garden. Birds of many varieties now visit the garden and water features for them to enjoy are scattered throughout. A large painting of a wedgetail eagle created by Mark Klein, an artist from Cathkin, adorns a boundary wall.

Maggie's garden is an example of what can result from hard work and determination.

## 4. "Killingworth Hill"

**Team Leatham, headed by Garry and Leslie**

**36 Killingworth Road, Yea.**

As you enter the property at Killingworth Hill you meander down the driveway, lined on the right by semi-mature London Plane trees and on the left by a mix of native shrubs and gums. The garden was established more than 30 years ago to complement the newly built house and swimming pool.

As you approach the house, the driveway opens up to show a large ornamental pear, a stand of birch trees and an impressive display of authentic farm relics.

Mixed garden beds border brick paths leading to the entry gate of the home garden. Features of this garden are a large standard Elm tree, an ornamental grape bordering the outdoor entertainment area, potted fruit trees and an espaliered olive tree.

The fenced pool area includes a rose covered gazebo and summer shade is provided by plantings of variegated tulip trees and flame maples. Pass through the gates alongside the pool where stone steps lead to vistas of the farm paddocks and a large dam. Look to the right and you will discover the covered fruit orchard and chicken run revamped from the no longer used tennis court.

Garry and Leslie's garden is complimented by conventional and quirky garden sculptures. They recently opened a café and whiskey bar on site and the décor represents a rustic, traditional Australian collection that is the product of decades of searching and dedication.

## 5. The Yea Garden Club Annual Plant Sale 5 Welch Street, Yea

The Yea Garden Club annual plant sale, which is held in conjunction with the Open Gardens Weekend, can be found at “Abutylon”, the lovely garden of Kevin and Myrna Patterson at 5 Welch Street, Yea.

Hundreds of potted treasures are available at bargain prices.

Visit the newly planted Taungurung Indigenous Bush Food Garden ‘Badji Baanang’, planted by descendants of the local Taungurung tribe, at the YWater Tourist Information Centre.

Rotary  
Club of Yea



**This Open Garden Weekend is  
sponsored by The Rotary Club of  
Yea**

