

**THE UNSW STAFF SOCIAL CLUB**  
**Leura Gardens Festival**  
**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2016**

Approximate Itinerary\*

7.45sharp	Leave UNSW (just inside Gate 14, Barker St)
10.00-10.45	Morning tea at Bygone Beautys
10.45-11.30	Free Time at Leura Mall Village Fair (walking distance)
11.45-12.05	Garden 1 – Ilion & Waitangi
12.20-12.35	Garden 2 Rob Roy
1.00-1.45	Lunch at Katoomba RSL Club
2.00-2.40	Gardens 3 & 4 – Rustlings and Kookaburra Cottage
3.00-3.20	Garden 5 – Davaar
6.00 approx	Arrive UNSW

\* Visiting to gardens may vary on the day



**Bygone Beauty's Tea Room**

Located in the picturesque village of Leura, Bygone Beauty's houses the largest private collection of teapots in the world. Over 3000 teapots, from the old to the new, elegant to outrageous, miniatures to large teapots, are beautifully displayed in an antique emporium. Take a trip down memory lane and browse the impressive selection of antiques, jewellery and collectables before relaxing with a traditional morning tea served in fine bone china.

**Leura Mall Village Fair**

Leura Village Fair: A profusion of stalls and entertainment fills the village centre. You will have the opportunity to have some free time to inspect the stalls and enjoy the entertainment.



**Ilion and Waitangi Private Garden**

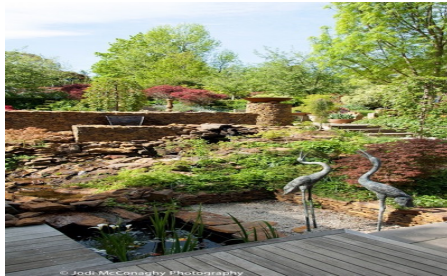
Ilion is a layered garden which sweeps the street front with a magnificent New Dawn rose hedge. The footprint of the old garden has been preserved through various trees, roses and shrubs however Ilion's garden was changed from a residential garden into principally an office garden about eight years ago.

Waitangi, the house, was completed after seven years of restoration and negotiation two years ago and the front garden transformed from a building site into a beautiful period style garden which has matured to sit gracefully around the house and gallery within our heritage neighbourhood. The rear garden was a lengthy project which has evolved over the past eight years.

Both front gardens were well established and therefore we have worked with the different climatic conditions created by existing old trees and the houses they surround. Ilion is in essence quite unchanged whereas Waitangi is almost unrecognisable.

At the rear of the houses some magnificent deodar trees over a hundred years old, create an urban forest, along with lawns, lush garden beds, sculptures, some magnificent pots, a pond, a walled vegetable garden and a new maple garden.

The garden is owned by Deborah Whitford through her company Arunta Investments and employs local workmen and artisans. The garden is maintained as an organic garden and has been planted to change with and take advantage of our four distinct seasons. *"It is a garden that is part of our daily experience as we walk through it and we eat the food that grows in it. We revel in the changing seasons and take refuge in its calm and changing beauty".*



### **Rob Roy Private Garden**

Sue Harris and Ron Powell bought Rob Roy in 2004 after many months searching for a typical mountains cottage with an established garden. Though badly neglected and overgrown, they were thrilled to find some unusual trees and shrubs and mature trees, particularly the Deodar cedar, maples, plum and crabapples. They learned that Rob Roy had been the home of noted mountains gardener, Colin Slade, through the 1970s and '80s. Colin's stories added the human side to the garden's story, particularly how he coaxed the Chinese Fringe tree to flower by heeding "old man Sorenson's" advice to ring-bark or severely root-prune it. Colin chose the latter and it has flowered wonderfully ever since. Colin told how his vegetables flourished on the paddock at the rear where the postman used to stable his horse.

Colin sold to local identity Caroline Eburn whose brother, eminent Australian artist and architectural tutor, Peter Kingston, designed the 'studio' extension to Rob Roy.

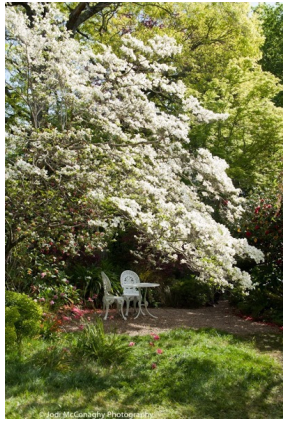
Sue and Ron purchased the rear block in 2007, empty except for a few fruit trees and two eucalypts. The rough paddock became the "blank canvas" for their new garden, an eclectic mix of themes brought home from visiting European gardens. The paddock was terraced with the top bank receiving 2,000 daffodil bulbs and the middle bank, massed azaleas fringed by clipped box hedges.

The excavations produced masses of ironstone, used to create the Sorensen-inspired water feature which defines the Boule Court. Scattered throughout the garden are decaying replaced sandstone pieces from Sydney's Supreme Court, Central Station and Bondi Beach Public School.

### **Lunch at Katoomba RSL Club**

If you're looking for a relaxed dining experience in a casual setting Number 86 Restaurant offers a truly unique and traditional dining experience for the whole family.

Lunch consisting of main and dessert – including tea/coffee will be served.



### **Rustlings Private Garden**

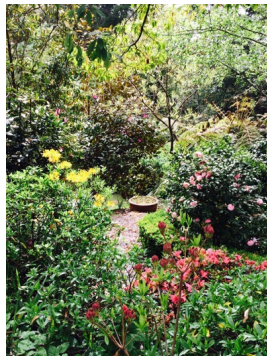
Rustlings is a 95-year-old garden acquired by Peter and Claudia Fisk in 2000. Over a ten-year period Peter transformed it to create a wonderfully peaceful landscape with many rooms, each with a different feel and mood. There are wide lawns and tight hedges, some holding in lavender, others winding around the meandering paths.

The garden is best viewed by taking the path to the right immediately after entering. The woodland forest area hosts tall, dramatic trees including cypresses, a Himalayan cedar, and a large sequoia. A boardwalk leads over a dry creek bed with views up to the terraces and the dramatic pencil pines.

Rustlings is a contrast of sweeping views and intimate spaces such as the Silent Garden, a serene Japanese meditation space with its tea house, ponds and Himalayan weeping bamboo. Enormous trees include a magnificent mature maple, an Atlantic cedar, and a mighty oak. A cloud-pruned tree stands proud next to a Buddha amid spring green tulips, elegant grasses and feature rocks.

A succulent garden is also home to a cedrela, a Japanese yuzu and two rare oak-leafed camellias.

Whilst Rustlings is a celebration of trees in all their stately grandeur there are strong middle and lower layers. Encounter tulips, Japanese maples, azalea drifts, camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias, a white dogwood and weeping cherry both draping almost to the ground. Since 2010, when Peter passed away, Claudia has been careful to retain his philosophy for Rustlings, ensuring the garden is a restful haven reflecting a sense of peace and tranquillity that is in contrast to the world around it.

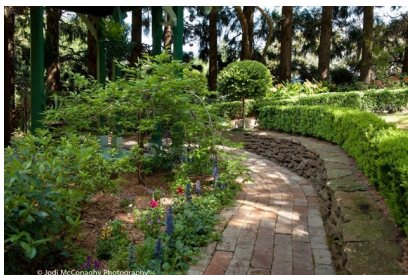


### **Kookaburra Cottage Private Gardens**

Like old guards, towering rhododendrons, elm and Alpine cyprus, some planted as early as the '20s, protect the more recently cultivated plantings of azaleas, maples, camellias and woodland plants that form the intimate, reflective areas of the garden at Kookaburra Cottage. Building on the clever use of terracing on a dramatically sloping block by the previous owner, and meandering stone paths that take you on a patchwork trail of garden 'rooms', the current custodians, Glenn Chaplin and Brad Ngata, find a unique balance between the formality of clipped hedges and the riot of a wild English country garden brimming with tulips, daffodils and other seasonal bulbs.

Walls using salvaged stone from the site are now tufted with ferns, and rows of camellia and hydrangea plantings provide a sense of seclusion and retreat, not just for the owners and visitors, but a variety of birdlife - and the resident dogs, Arlo and Clipper. The fragrant notes of the garden sing to the soul - the subtle breezes mixing the scent of the wisteria-laden balcony, the abundant rose arbour and rose garden, and lilac and magnolia trees. Unexpected natives like grevilleas surprise, while tight areas of lawn act almost as viewing platforms, and trickling ponds and a large lily pool add a soothing water element.

As with all gardens, Kookaburra Cottage is a labour of love, added to over generations, with the current owners welcoming you to enjoy its latest incarnation.



**Davaar Private Garden**

Diversity and sustainability with beauty are the philosophy behind Davaar. In 2001 we inherited a completely overgrown garden. It took three years to clear the block unearthing large old trees dating from c1920s including a stunning pink flowering dogwood. Sadly none of the understorey had survived the past years of neglect so the entire block required replanting.

The property itself dates back to c1904 with historical influences being an essential part of the garden as is the overall design utilising enclosed spaces to give the illusion of greater size.

The garden relies heavily on the Arts & Crafts and French traditions of mixing exotics, indigenous and edible plants together to achieve a harmonious yet contrasting landscape.

Rare and unusual plants are a feature such as a Weeping Forest Pansy, Handkerchief tree, dwarf Gingko, rare orchids, Wollemi Pine, Trilliums and many more. Other planting schemes include many bulbs, a bed of heritage roses, peonies, espaliered fruit trees, difficult dry shady woodland areas and essential potager. Even the first floor balcony is put into use with pots of herbs, olive trees, dragon fruit, curry plant and Stevia.

Davaar also has a bee hive which not only gives us honey but the bees provide vital pollination in the garden. Our hive gets relocated during the festival for safety to the second floor balcony. Also important to the garden's sustainability is the double compost bin which composts the waste of our pet rabbits. These bins are swapped during the year, the old compost used in the rose bed and the leftovers successfully planted with pumpkins and/or beans in Summer.

Cost including: transportation from & to UNSW, morning tea, Visit to Leura Mall Village Fair, visits to few spring gardens (depending on timing), and Lunch,

Members (and one guest): \$60 each  
 Children (school age): \$30, Guests: \$70 each

Sorry no telephone bookings and no refunds.

For any enquiries: please contact Nadia Withers or [n.withers@unsw.edu.au](mailto:n.withers@unsw.edu.au) Deadline: Friday, 16/9/2016.

**\*\*Please note: I'll be overseas for most of September so you are unable to contact me by phone. I'll be checking emails wherever possible and will respond to your emails as soon as I can. If you have any enquiries please contact my daughter, Maree Magafas, [m.magafas@unsw.edu.au](mailto:m.magafas@unsw.edu.au) or you can contact her on 0414 229 567.**

To : Nadia Withers, 63 Jennings St., Matraville NSW 2036

Deadline: Friday, 16/9/2016.

Leura Gardens Festival

Name : .....

Address/School ..... Mobile No/Extn. No. ....

Email Address: ..... Home No. ....

Dietary Requirement (if any) : .....

---- places at \$60 each (max. 2) \$-----

---- places at \$30 each - School age Children \$-----

---- places at \$70 each \$-----

Total \$-----

A cheque for \$----- made payable to The UNSW Staff Social Club is enclosed.

Bank transfer ok - BSB 06-2303

A/c: 28044465

Commonwealth Bank, UNSW

UNSW Social Club

(please email Nadia a copy of receipt and booking slip.