

## THE STAMP GARDEN

Rhonda and Ray's garden is approximately two acres of lawn and garden beds beside a permanent large billabong and the King River flood plains.

Many of the older trees were planted by Rhonda 35 years ago when they bought the land and built their first home, but the newer house and trees are 10 - 15 years old. The garden has evolved with the beds being enlarged every couple of years. There are still large areas of lawn for their sons and grandsons to kick a footy or play cricket on.

Wangaratta has extremes in weather, from severe frosts to very hot windy days, so the plants need to be hardy. Many of the more cooler climate trees like Japanese maples and camellia have survived, thanks to the irrigation from the permanent billabong.

The spring garden is a mass of floral colour with hydrangeas, roses, bulbs and many varieties of irises, lilies and poppies. The autumn garden is also very colourful with exotic trees - oaks, maples, elms, Manchurian pears, crepe myrtles, poplars, gleditsia gold, golden robinias, all changing to reds and yellows before losing their leaves.

The billabong is lined with river red gums, with an enormous specimen providing shade for the swimming, canoeing and BBQ area.

The garden was featured in *Australian Country* magazine Aug/Sept 2022.

***The Stamp Garden is located on the lands of the Yorta Yorta people. Open Gardens Victoria wishes to acknowledge the Traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.***

**These notes can be downloaded from the Open Gardens Victoria website:**  
[www.opengardensvictoria.org.au](http://www.opengardensvictoria.org.au)

