

PABLO'S BLOOM

Designed by Alex Cherry from Ocean Road Landscaping, 'Pablo's Bloom' draws inspiration from Peter Shaw's coastal masterpiece Sunnymeade. The garden was beautifully constructed by Tommy Middolo from TM Landscaping.

This 160-metre squared garden is a must-see for anyone looking for inspiration on how to work with a modern Australian problem - smaller lots being presented as viable home ownership pathways. The owners have embraced this as an opportunity to work with what they have and think outside the square simultaneously.

Their boat, Pablo the Great, will meet you as you arrive, sitting comfortably in the front garden, almost inviting you on the next adventure. You will feel immediately welcome as you arrive at their modestly sized lakeside garden, a created sanctuary of natural beauty and tranquillity that beckons you in. Nestled in the embrace of its unique location, this garden and home celebrates the vistas of the waterways and the native vegetation to the south, seamlessly integrated in with its urban surroundings.

At the garden's entrance, a welcoming, soft, non-conventional driveway leads you into this idyllic retreat. Native grasses peek through the surface, guiding you toward the heart of the garden. Weathered timber and rock accents evoke a seaside ambience that complements the house's boat shed theme.

An outdoor fire bowl forms the front garden's focal point, inviting gatherings under the open sky. Pablo the Great has a spot to enjoy, with easy access to the street and waterway. Inside, the creative studio's large openings frame a lush green space, blurring the line between indoor and outdoor living and complementing this real-life working creative space.

As you wander through this meandering garden, you'll be captivated by the organic forms and rambling pathways that invite you to explore what can be done when you have less room to play with. There's a tapestry of native and local plants, each contributing its unique texture, colour, and form to create a symphony of green, silver and gold. Some vibrant flowering species attract local birds, infusing the garden with life and song.

Privacy is paramount here. There are thoughtfully placed plantings along boundaries ensuring that, in time, the family will feel cocooned in their own personal sanctuary. Tall and narrow plants, climbers, and artful screening, along the western side, protect their haven while adding a touch of artistic flair.

GARDEN NOTES

The pool becomes the oasis in the rear garden, surrounded by random decking and stone paving that gracefully blend into the lush planting. This space exudes a feeling of sanctuary, perfect for relaxation and reflection. Step down from the deck into this haven, where natural drainage channels excess water toward pits, keeping the garden lush and inviting.

In this garden, designated gathering spaces abound, perfect for entertaining and making cherished memories with family and friends. The design seamlessly integrates indoor and outdoor living, allowing you to relish the garden's beauty and extensive landscape beyond. We invite you to experience this slice of paradise and find inspiration for what is becoming an essential trend in Australia. This trend places a higher value on the garden, making the most of what we have to create green space around our homes.

Peter Shaw will be conducting a talk titled "**Making Good Use of Your Small Space**" at 11 am on Saturday 14 October. The Landscape Designer Alex Cherry and the builder for this garden, Tommy Midolo from TM Landscaping, will be at this opening on Saturday morning. Peter's book *Soulscape: Connecting Gardens to Landscape* will be for sale.

Other places of interest to visit in the area include:

- Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff offer a variety of cafes and arts and crafts stores
- Explore the beach and coastal trails
- Watch the ships enter and leave Port Phillip Heads
- Wineries and Flying Brick Cider

They invite you to come and visit.

Pablo's Bloom is located on the lands of the Wadawurrung people. Open Gardens Victoria wish 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**