

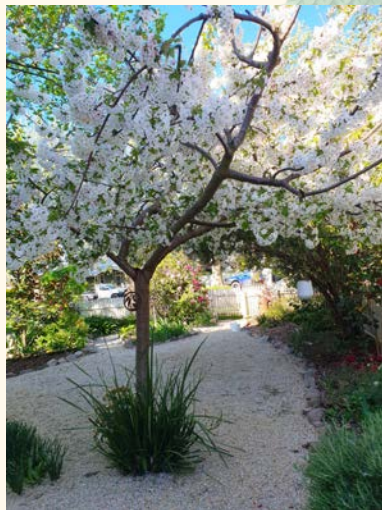
# *Benalla Festival 2025* **OPEN GARDENS**

**8 MITCHELL ST    KATHY AND BRIAN ELLIS-RAGG**

Kathy and Brian have been in Mitchell St for three years and describe their garden as 'a satisfying work in progress'.

The garden has a combination of established trees including two mature walnut trees along with a variety of newly planted exotic and native species. Their goal is to create a microclimate which provides a calming sensory experience with elements of both formal and informal planting styles.

The garden features natural textures of rock borders and gently curving garden beds and paths leading you on a journey of slow exploration which provides elements of surprise and a connection to nature.



## 24 BENALLA ST

JILL ROSS

Jill lives in a charming cottage which is over 100 years old. When she moved in 20 years ago there was very little planted in the garden and over many years she has created a varied and interesting garden which is visually beautiful, low maintenance and inviting.

Fortunately, there was an existing Liquid Amber which shaded the lawn and a Jacaranda tree just over the fence which is also 100 years old and provides filtered shade to the main garden bed which is awash with a variety of Hellebores, colourful cottage plants and edible beds. In 2023 there was a tornado which flattened the front fence so Jill decided to plant a living fence of Lilly Pillies.



The recent addition of a Chinese Elm provides shade from the summer sun and creates a sense of cool. The garden features an elegant outdoor dining area and has a Mediterranean feel. Care has been given to select plants so the garden thrives during our hot summers.

**136 ARUNDEL ST**

**ADELE AND JIM MYCONAS**

Two and a half years ago the garden at Arundel Street was a largely uninspiring combination of weeds, bindii, bare earth and the odd paperbark tree. Adele and Jim saw a blank canvas and got to work planting within a few weeks.

Now a Mediterranean mosaic of grasses, perennials, cottage and vegetables is complemented by a wash of Dookie pink coloured local gravel. The stones continue through the arrangement of the garden beside Jim's gabion wall and stone features, carefully organized to encourage plant growth.

The seating area has been embellished by an imported Moroccan water feature clad with tessellated green tiles.





**3A MITCHELL ST**

**BEV AND ULF KAZENWADEL**

Bev and Ulf purchased their home in Mitchell St three years ago. The original part of the house is over a hundred years old but has been through a number of transformations.

They have been working on the garden for the past three years and recently had a lovely pebble mix path put in which encouraged them to focus on planting.



Their vision is to see masses and flowers and pretty native bushes in no order to be a riot of colour.

They are also aiming to plant species which encourage native birds and insects into the garden.



*These four beautiful gardens have been opened to raise funds for Tomorrow Today, Benalla's independent community foundation. Tomorrow Today is leading a 20-plus year initiative to improve the educational and life outcomes of Benalla's children, young people and families. Through more than 20 education support programs, 120 partnerships, and generous annual grant-giving, the foundation helps the whole community to thrive.*

*Learn more at [www.tomorrowtoday.com.au](http://www.tomorrowtoday.com.au)*

*Thank you for your support today.*

