

Garden Nelson -List of Gardens

Sue Skellet's Mediterranean style garden

9 Werneth Ridge, Atawhai

Sue has designed and built many houses over the years and when they found this property decided to build their own French style home, incorporating lots of the pieces they brought with them. Sue had fun buying all the plants and arranging them on the bare 2 acres of sheep paddocks.

All of the roof tiles were originally from chateaux in France and they managed to find someone in Richmond who knew how to lay them. They are all held together by interlocking, rather than being attached separately. The cypress trees came from the Warehouse and when placed in the front of a house are said to bring good health and good luck. Not one of them has died and the sparrows love to make their nests in them. Sue's favourite plant is the Iris.

Erin Beatson & Ian Bowman's Garden

68 Britannia Heights

Our garden was designed by the late Megan Wraight a Wellington Landscape Architect and planted in 2006. Megan was the first landscape architect to receive the Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate Award. And in 2006 won the prestigious International Federation of Landscape Architects award. As well as the process of designing, she could think about how a space might or could be used. She would do more than provide a habitat for people, she'd look at how our urban environments can improve other aspects of the way we live. One of her more prominent large-scale urban projects in the capital was the Waterfront redevelopment.

Our brief was for the garden to compliment the house with easy access between house and garden with spaces for vegetables, orchard and parking. Megan's preference was to use natives. As the garden has become established we have enjoyed how the spaces have emerged and the privacy it provides for the house. <https://bit.ly/3kSWW94>

Ali and Ami Kennedy's Garden - 170 Nile St

Ali, Ami and Tom share a 1/4 acre (.3 hectares) urban garden in Nelson City. We continue to learn and develop using ecological and organic practices with permaculture design. Our property is small with a diverse range of flower, fruit, herb and vegetable gardens. We use a range of composting systems and tend to a small flock of chickens, an elderly cat and a few thousand composting worms.

The garden is always a work in progress and we value diversity and wild plants. We have had the spring flush of flowers and are now into the growing and tending of summer food crops and more flowers. We are also involved in the Nelson Seed Library at Elma turner Public Library and often have plants being saved for seed.

<https://permaculture.org.nz/bioregions/nelson-tasman>

Waimarama Community Organic Gardens

Tantragee Rd off Brook St

Establish originally in the Maitai Valley they were soon transferred to the Brook due to flooding. There were many volunteers in the early days (around 23 years ago) who created the basic structure of the gardens that can still be seen now including the adobe composting toilet building. Currently we have around 50 plots with 40 ploholders who lease a small patch of ground for a nominal annual fee and anywhere from 6-20 other volunteers who enjoy being in this lovely space helping where they can to maintain it. We have a group of 8 volunteer trustees including a Secretary and chairman. Our AGM is Dec 11th and you are invited to attend at 2pm www.thebrookgardens.weebly.com

Jill Alexanders Garden

942 Atawahi Drive Wakapuaka

I have lived and gardened here for the last 11 years. My cottage is set in the grounds of the old apricot orchard farmhouse from the 1940's. The soil is rich, well drained and fertile. I have reworked the main lawn areas into small gardens with different themes which are like my oil paintings. They slowly evolve from a blank or distressed canvas. The plants settle in and grow to their potential as I continue to nurture the soil that feeds them. I gather plants from markets and various sources rather than set out a design on paper. I find suitable spaces for each plant in the garden based on the colour of their flowers and the shape of their foliage.

If you are interested in working a garden without a lawn then you will enjoy my garden and it's sitting places. I use the flowers from my garden to support my work as a painter and textile designer. I screen print and make up my textiles mostly into skirts sold under the MADCAT label. I have a great website. <https://www.madcatdesign.co.nz>

Founders Park - Atawhai Drive Nelson

This is an historic village and the result of the brain-child of a number of Nelson citizens who set up Founders (Inc.) in 1977. With initial support from Nelson's business community a number of major firms assisted in the construction of historic replica buildings and the donation of original buildings. Many thousands of items were also donated by Nelson residents, leading to the opening of in 1986. NCC took over ownership and management of the park on 1 April 1995. It's now a popular family attraction where you can experience life as it was in Nelson in the 1880s to 1930s. It boasts a great café which opens 10 - 4pm today as well as a smaller coffee shop nearer the entrance which has recently re-opened with a new owner. Jill Alexander's MadCat shop is open from 10am - 1pm on Saturdays. Visit the boutique Atkins Art Gallery featuring a number of Toss Woollaston's works open from 11-3pm on Saturdays. Other times by appointment. <https://www.founderspark.co.nz/>