

Report of the Pegasus U3A Garden Group

Visit to David Bryce's garden at 164 Moncks Spur 24th April 2023

Our monthly visit took us to visit David Bryce's Eco Solutions Garden at his home on Moncks Spur where he practices and encourages others to use sustainable gardening practices. His garden is about 2000 sq metres which includes his house which he has upgraded over the years to include sustainable features including solar heating and use of his house roof-water for the garden. He has developed his garden using permaculture principles and managed organically for over 40 years. It is now a highly productive ecosystem comprising over 100 species of edible fruits, nuts, berries, vegetables and herbs. He has a constant battle with possums and other vermin and has several traps around his property to catch them.

His principles are:

- a. Live with nature and see ourselves as part of an ecosystem and develop and manage it for sustainable living.
- b. Observe regularly and understand what is happening to the ecosystem.
- c. Help production as much as we can and allow it to evolve.
- d. Consume only what we need, and recycle as much as possible.
- e. Use mainly renewable energy – sun, wind, food, on-site firewood.
- f. Encourage diversity, complexity, and native species.
- g. Respect and care for all people and organisms.

David has received many Sustainable Garden Awards for many years from the CCC. He offered us all a piece of his Pepinos that he grows which was quite delicious.

He grows Soleil D'or Daffodils in the Spring and often has them for sale at his gate, so well worth while driving by, but take care as it is difficult to park!