

### ***Ellis Rowan Garden 2003***

Gardens staff constructed the Ellis Rowan Building Garden in 2003 with financial support of \$5,000 from the Friends of the Gardens.

The plants displayed in the garden bed, outside the Friends Lounge in the Ellis Rowan Building, were selected by Gardens horticulturalists to suit cool climate home gardens. They were all purchased from local commercial suppliers.

The shrubs are planted in groups to accentuate the flower and foliage effects. Most plants grow to less than one metre tall, but taller shrubs and dwarf eucalypts are used to provide some height variation.

The garden bed includes areas of built up soil to provide good drainage and an interesting change to the surface level. A simulated dry creek bed acts as natural drainage, creating ideal locations for those plants that occasionally need extra moisture. A sandy gravel mix has been used as mulch. It does not break down like organic mulch and allows good moisture penetration. The light colour of the mulch tends to highlight foliage – an effective technique to emphasise small plants in dark or shady places.

Friends Newsletter November 2003

Information on (Marian) Ellis Rowan is on the Gardens website at:  
<https://www.anbg.gov.au/biography/rowan-marian-ellis.html>

