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| DecorativeHelen Rauschenbach, Victoria in Bloom Garden Competition Gardener of the Year2018/19 event |
| Video transcript |

Transcript

[Outdoor nature sounds and soft music plays in the background throughout the video]

[Victoria in Bloom 2018 logo]

[Image starts with moving image of country side, a small town and then the image sets on Helen Raucshenbach]

[Music]

**Helen:** I retired and moved up here when I was 58 a little country town called Moyhu, which is about 26km from Wangaratta.

[Helen Raucshenbach, 2018 gardener of the year]

[Image shows the town sign “Welcome to Moyhu with a car travelling past and settles on a rock with the following writing “ The serenity garden”]

[Close up of Helen on chair with sun glasses]

My husband died very young and I worked 7 days a week for a lot of years.

Had lived all my life in Melbourne and my daughter had left home, my son was established

[Close up of Helen without sun glasses]

I’ve since been diagnosed and had cancer surgery twice, I was not well; I was verging on depression etc. and my doctors suggested that I was looking at burn out, total burn out and I thought that’s it

[Image of seeing moving landscape; as if a passenger looking out of the car window]

Left everything behind in Melbourne, came up with a little 15 year old Datsun and then I realised that okay everything stopped, I was not working anymore and I had all this time

[Image of Helen walking thorough garden path with walking stick]

I think when you have all those major health issues in your life, your perspective changes, I was at a loss and

I needed some goals, so the gardening happened

[Image scans the garden path and close up of flowers]

But when you start off its, it’s only small, I had only one garden bed, so two or three hours a week was enough

to maintain that garden bed but what do you do with the rest of your time?

So you make the garden bed larger, or you dig another one and it just continued to grow.

[Image of Helen gardening]

To anyone who likes formal gardens, it’s very haphazard and things shouldn’t grow where there growing

and but that’s alright because that’s what makes it beautiful

[Close up images of different parts of the garden and snap shots back to a close up of Helen speaking]

It’s important to have a competition like Vic In Bloom because it gives people a goal and if a gardening competition is going to help them to get there. I think its’s excellent.

Last year, was an absolute shock and I really didn’t expect to win and then to be told that I had also won “Gardener of the Year” that, still blows my mind. It was amazing.

My daughter tells me it’s an obsession

[Helen Laughing]

That I let my life evolve around the garden and to a certain extent that’s true because this is what I love and to see people come here and and say how lovely it is and how they really enjoy being here that gives me a lot of pleasure

[Ends with Victoria in Bloom logo 2018)

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