



“Let’s get growing”

Warrnambool Community Garden Inc.

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May 2013 Newsletter

Dear Members,

“Green leaves turn golden brown,
Falling gently on the ground,
Crisp fresh mornings
Midday sun,
Evening chilly
Autumn’s begun”

Just a lovely time of the year, to clean up after summer, prepare the soil and plant for winter. Race Day was a beautiful day to spend in the garden with a few like-minded members, and we got to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Cup too.

Our garden is changing, evolving and growing and so is our Community. Well done to those members who have worked for the garden in many different ways over the past month, we all appreciate it don’t we? I certainly know that any visitors who call, are amazed at what we have achieved. What we need to work on now is, look at the big picture, and plan for it, but also be mindful and enjoy the beautiful space we have right now.

THE GREENHOUSES

Some have asked me on numerous occasions, when are they going to be finished, why is it taking so long, when can we use them etc.

My understanding is the Greenhouses were donated to us by Vantage (now WDEA) and finance to erect them and other infrastructure (ie. chook house, raised garden beds around the HUB) has been from St Laurence. (\$5,000 in all) Barry is leading the St Laurence team on Thursdays and Fridays on site (Work for the Dole) The process has been slow due to availability of WFD participants, so WCGarden members will fill the labor gap.

However the good news is, Geoff has secured another \$5000 to complete the job from St Laurence. That one sentence sounds so simple, but a big *thank you* again to Geoff for securing this, no mean feat. When they are completed we shall discuss usage at a General meeting. St Laurence has some space allocated for them to use in the greenhouses. We still need to complete the second one, lay scoria on the floor and put up shelves etc. It’s a big project but they will be with us forever. We will need to call on members to finish off this project, so keep posted. A big thank you to those members who turned up on 9/5 to help with covering too, a little tricky eh? Barry has asked me to give special mention to Keith F. who stayed and helped till 3pm. Good on you Keith!

WHAT’S NEWS?

Pauline has a whiteboard in the HUB with a grid on it with current bookings for your information. *Please do not add to this board.* All bookings for the HUB need to go through Pauline. Notes can go on the other whiteboard to each other, or via pockets.

The rotating beds are coming along beautifully. Well done Robyn and team for your hard work coordinating this and bringing it to fruition.

We seem to have enough jars at present for preserving etc. Thanks for all the donations. What you could save for us now is tins for potting seedlings eg. soup tins. Some of you may like to do this at home so you can keep an eye on watering etc. We shall sell them at the Dirty Weekend in October. Potted plants sell really well.

Anyone that goes away from their plot for reasonable length of time could you tell Paul, our plot coordinator, also you could leave a note in his pocket in the HUB, he likes to keep a handle on things.

COMMUNICATIONS

This is my Pod to manage, and I am still hearing rumors that some members don't know what is going on around the garden.

Please, if you feel a little lost, read the Committee minutes, and the Newsletter before asking questions. These are our major forms of communication plus the blackboard / whiteboards. **Or** put a question up on the HUB whiteboard and we will try to answer it. Also you could look up our website (on the top of this newsletter) and read back copies of Newsletters too.

There is to be system of flags around the site to help members know what they can or cannot take. Eg if there is plenty of mulch a green flag will go on the heap, and you can help yourselves, if it's a red flag that is earmarked for a specific purpose, please leave.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WORKSHOPS IN THE HUB WILL COME UNDER A SEPARATE NOTICE WITH BOOKING INFORMATION INCLUDED.

Updated calendar is in the HUB

Weekend 25th / 26th May Permaculture workshop weekend with Carolyn Payne 9am – 4pm \$60 for WCG members. Book through Pauline.

Saturday 8th June Working Bee, get together and Produce swap 10 to 12 followed by **General meeting** in the HUB. (Agenda next page)

Wednesday 12th June Committee meeting @ the HUB 7.30

Saturday 15th June Food Forest Workshop with Carolyn Payne 9.30 – 4.30 contact Pauline for booking and/or more information.

Wednesday 10th July Committee Meeting @ the HUB 7.30

Dirty weekend 12th/13th October, Forward notice.

Could members make an effort to chop up as best they can vegetation for the compost bays. This will aid in decomposing and would be appreciated. You may have noted that we have built a second area for composting on the north boundary (thanks Geoff W). We have also put in for a grant, for the erection of a small shed in that area too (thanks Clare for the work involved in that submission) to put a few tools in etc. so those members further back in the site can access.

I notice a few members have taken advantage of our **Library**. Its located in the airlock near the bathroom. All members can borrow books for up to two weeks, just fill in your details in the black book nearby.

SEED SOWING NOW

Broad beans

Broccoli

Broccoli

Cabbage

Cauliflower

Calendula

Kale

Leek

Lettuce

Nasturtiums

Onion

Peas

Radish

Spinich

Spring onion

Sweet peas

Turnip

Garlic too can be planted now, as the soil temperature starts to cool down. Garlic is fairly easy to grow, break the main head into individual cloves and plant pointy end up about 7cm apart. Your harvest will be plumper and juicer if you water once a month with liquid seaweed or worm juice. Harvest late in the year when the leaves begin to brown. If you are planting from these seed heads *below* they will take 2 years to harvest.



Member Profiles



Name: Marg

Plot No: No plot, but works in the Communal area.

Lives: Warrnambool **Originally:** Nullawarre

What got you involved in the WCG? I love working outside, I had retired and was walking past and saw people working here, so came in and have been here ever since.

Vegie patch at home? Only herbs and fruit trees.

What do you like about coming? Just the company, and meeting new people. Mucking around in the garden and doing anything I am asked to do to help.

Garden tips? Keep cutting back or things go to seed, I'm a trimmer and a pruner.

Favorite vegie? Fish, lettuce, tomatoes, really, I like all vegetables raw or cooked.

Philosophy on Life? Good grief – be happy

Marg joined us a little more than a year ago, and is an impressive hard worker. Ask her to do anything and she will be up to it. Always happy to help and sees things to the end. Thank you Marg for all your input in the garden. A constant Tuesday worker and always fun to be with. Stay happy it makes us all smile.

Last but not least **has anyone got a megaphone** they don't want at home we could use at the garden? That would be great.

Happy Gardening,
Felicity Jackman
felicity.jackman@gmail.com

Don't forget there will be a **General Meeting** for all members after the Working Bee on Saturday **8th June** in the HUB. This will be your chance to have a say in our current developments.

Agenda:

Answer issues from last General Meeting

Show DVD of Growing Food Forests

2013 Review sheets handed out

Questions / Comments



Try these flavors with pumpkin,

Coriander, sage, thyme and rosemary and on a sweeter side, try it with brown sugar or maple syrup, grated lemon or orange rind, cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla and cloves.
