

Wentworthville

COMMUNITY
GARDEN

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Newsletter 20
April - May 2014

Garden Success at Easter Show Again

The Sydney Royal Easter Show continues to be an event that showcases the high quality produce grown by our members.

Our win in the 2014 Community Garden class is our fourth in four years. At the 2013 Show, we were encouraged to enter some of our better produce into other fruit and vegetable categories.

This year we took up that challenge and entered some of our eggplants, peas, chillies, squash, fruits and leafy vegetables.



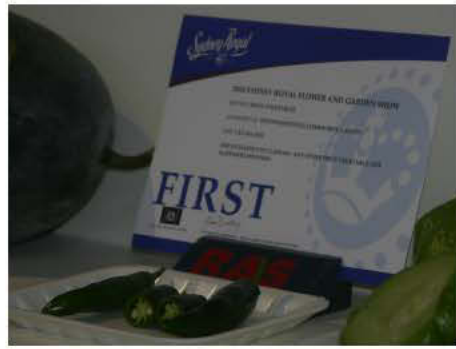
We were extremely proud to gain the following results:

- first place in fruit vegetables with green chillies grown by Herlin and Adrian
- first place in fruit with a cape gooseberry grown by Therese
- first place with purple podded peas grown by Maureen and Robyn
- first place in leafstalk vegetable with a lettuce grown in a shared garden
- highly commended for the Mexican sour cucumbers grown by Therese
- third place with an endive grown in a shared garden.

Visit to Turrumurra Community Garden

Turrumurra Community Garden has invited us to visit their garden on Saturday 7 June 2014. We will car pool and may be able to organise a bus to attend.

Please let Robyn or Maureen know if you are interested in coming along.



April s355 Committee Meeting

John Brinson tendered his resignation as treasurer. The Committee thanks John for all his efforts as the inaugural treasurer of the Wentworthville Community Garden. The Committee welcomes Maureen Duffy who has agreed to be the interim Treasurer until the Committee election next December.

John reported that we have \$61.00 petty cash and \$4 945.00 in the bank.

Our new storage shed has been assembled and fitted out to hold the hoses, wheelbarrows and to provide some additional storage for open day materials and other items.

The old garden edge sleepers have been sold and removed. Thanks to Ted for his excellent ebaying skills.

The new storage shed will house our seed bank. Please make sure that if you are collecting seed that it is stripped from the parent plant and placed into containers provided with a label.

Don't forget that membership fees and plot fees are now overdue.



In your garden

As we move into the colder months it is a good time to improve the soil in your garden.
Clear out the old crops

Get rid of crops and plants that are no longer productive. Put them next to the compost pile.

Top up and improve your soil with compost

Dig compost into your garden. Sow then dig in a green manure crop

Plant a green manure crop such as maple beans or other nitrogen fixing crop. Simply plant and water then dig into your garden when the plants are 5-10cm high.

Add fertilisers

Add nitrogen rich fertilisers such as blood and bone or animal manures, and, other trace elements according to manufactures' directions.

Mulch your garden

Mulching helps save water and also improves the quality of your soil.

Plant winter crops

Consider planting crops such as beans, brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, garlic, kale, leeks, lettuce, onions, peas, raddish, shallots, silver beet, snow peas or turnips.

Mother's Day Stall

On a cold and rainy Saturday 3 May, we again set up our plant, craft, jam and pickle stall at the Our Lady Queen of Peace Church at Greystanes. Despite the poor weather we managed to raise more than \$800.00 in sales. Thanks to all members who helped.