

The Newsletter of

WENTWORTHVILLE

COMMUNITY GARDEN

August — September Issue No. Four

73 Fullagar Road
Wentworthville 2145

web.me.com/wentworthvillegarden

**The countdown is on.
10 weeks to go and only
9 Saturdays to get everything done!**

OPEN DAY

Saturday

15 October 2011

10:00AM - 2:00PM

TEAMS AND LEADERS ARE ON TOP OF THINGS

At the last *Open Day Planning Meeting* on Saturday 9 July, the various teams regathered to review planning. The *Open Day* is our major fund raiser and it was pleasing to see so many members volunteering to help. Teams discussed the various stalls and identified the necessary resources to ensure a successful day.

FRESH PRODUCE & JAMS WELL UNDERWAY

Planting of the fresh produce is well advanced with substantial amounts of leeks, cabbages, spring onions, silver beet, parsley and beetroot already planted. Many members are hard at work making jams and preserves and items for the craft stall.

NEXT OPEN DAY WORKING DAY 20 AUGUST

Saturday 20 August 2011 is a working day to kick start much of the work required for *Open Day*. A big part of the day's activity will be to plant up the many hundreds of seedlings that we need to grow on for the plant sale. Please come and help then stay for a BBQ lunch. Many hands make light work.

STILL NEEDED

Jars 350-375 mls for jams. Small sauce bottles and salsa jars with wide mouths. Small glass (vegemite) jars with plastic lids for the lemon butter. Cardboard rolls from foil and plastic wrap. Items for the Pre Loved Stall. Plastic shopping bags. Please let Anne know if you can help.



Start planting for summer. Leafy salad vegetables, zucchini, squash and tomatoes. The green house is rebuilt. Let's get sowing for open day!

Committee Meeting

THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2011

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our current membership is 63. Welcome to our new members Peter (Z); Pallavi & Pralhad; Julie-ann; Catherine, Sam & Sien; Sid; Carolyn, Feiuto & Francis; Maureen & Ted; Scott, Kerrie & Tanika; Roseanne; John (C), Irene & Daniel.

COMMUNITY GARDEN BUS TOUR

Our *Garden* is invited to be part of the Community Garden Network's Community Garden Tour on Saturday 27 August 2011. Refer to your email or <http://web.me.com/wentworthvillegarden/TheWentworthvilleCommunityGarden/News/News.html> for more information.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have \$3,433.00 in trust with Council and \$80.70 petty cash.

NEW SIGN

The Committee expects installation in the next few weeks (weather permitting) of the new 3 metre tall sign adjacent to the front fence. Council has installed new street signs at the Lane, Veron and Lytton Streets entrances to the park.

GARDEN OPENING

The Committee reminds members who have volunteered to open the garden that they must remain at the garden for at least an hour. Some members need to make special arrangements to support their attendance at the garden while others have to travel considerable

distance and are not able to arrive at the opening time. Should the rostered gardener have another commitment on that day, then they should arrange for another key holder to open the garden for them. Some circumstances may arise on the day of opening. If you cannot arrange a replacement in this instance then call Kevin.

TOILET ACCESS

The Committee will write to Council to request the installation of a gate between the shelter and storage shed to allow for more direct access to the tennis court toilets.

PLANTING OF TREES

One of our prevailing philosophies at the garden is respect for others. Please do not plant substantial trees or plants as they may shade other gardeners' plots and deplete the soil of nutrients. Gardeners should also avoid planting thorny, invasive or rambling plants.

GREEN HOUSE REPAIRED

The Greenhouse is repaired and should provide us with similar service to last year in helping establish seedlings for the open day plant sale. If we are lucky, it might last for next year's plant sale too. In the mean time, the Committee will research and price an adequate replacement.

PREPARING FOR SPRING

It is time to consider what to plant for Spring and Summer. Remember to rotate your crops to prevent your soil being depleted. It is good idea to plant a pea/bean or legume crop in Winter to replace nitrogen and reduce chemical fertiliser dependency in the warmer months.

SOIL PREPARATION

Would you be interested in a demonstration on how to prepare your soil for a depleted plot or Spring planting? Send us an email or talk to John (B) at the *Garden*.

USING BLOOD & BONE

B&B is an excellent source of nitrogen. Gardeners should be cautious when using B&B as overuse can be harmful to seedling roots in their early stages and can increase the occurrence of insect infestation. **A couple of large handfuls scattered over a plot is sufficient.**

THINK ABOUT YOUR CROP

It is important to think about what part of the vegetable you are eating and use nutrients accordingly through organic methods. Nitrogen (N) causes leaf growth, phosphorous (P) encourages root growth and potassium (K) encourages flowers and fruit.

So if you are planting swedes and carrots, they are root vegetables. If you add too much blood and bone (which is mainly nitrogen) you will find that too much nitrogen will cause them to put all their energy into producing leaves. This isn't what you want.



Open Day 2010 — a great success



Danny serves up fresh produce last year