

Wentworthville Community Garden

DECEMBER — JANUARY

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION

ISSUE SIX



The Mayor of Holroyd, Cllr Whitfield JP unveils the Wentworthville Community Garden plaque.

Season's Greetings & Happy New Year!

Councillor Yvette Whitfield JP, the Mayor of Holroyd City officially names Wentworthville Community Garden.

On Saturday 3 December 2011 at 4:00pm, a dedication ceremony was held at the Wentworthville Community Garden.

The purpose of this ceremony was to publicly recognise the great support provided to us by Holroyd City Council (HCC).

members with limited mobility), a shipping container to store our tools and equipment, a storage shed for the barbecue, tables and chairs, and, concrete access paths from the gate to the container and shelter.

Section 355 Committee

Sadly, at the same time, our self governance was being ignored by our by our previous management committee. Representations to discuss our grievances were made to Council who recognised our success and potential.

Council established a Section 355 Committee for the Garden under the Local Government Act. This arrangement has been working excellently for nearly twelve months.

Improvement to Finlayson Creek Park

Shortly after the completion of the Garden redevelopment, Council also made significant investment to construct a new access pathway on the western side of the Finlayson Creek Canal. This has made access much easier for all members and has also made it much easier for the public to view or visit the Garden.

Council has continued to make further improvements to the Garden such as installing the large Garden sign and street signs.

The Committee and members appreciate the significant contribution by Council and look forward to this partnership continuing in the future for the benefit of all Holroyd residents.

Our improved facilities have supported Council through hosting their community events – the *Sustainability Workshop Series* and *Green Thumb Day*.

We appreciate the continuing support from Council and its officers. It was pleasing to share this occasion with Mayor Whitfield, Deputy Mayor Colman and Councillors Ezzy, Monaghan, Pigram and Rajadurai.



Almost eighteen months ago, major works

commenced at the Garden. We had been successful in securing \$27 000.00 from the Western Sydney Area Support Scheme for a shelter and water tank. At the same time HCC committed to redeveloping the north-eastern quadrant of the garden. Council's investment of \$60 000.00 provided 30 additional garden plots (five of which are raised for

Garden Closed
Saturday 24 & Sunday 25
December 2011.

Garden Keys

Just a reminder that qualifying members may apply for a key to access the garden. Simply demonstrate your reliability for 4 months and submit an application available from the website web.me.com/wentworthvillegarden/documents or collect one from the container:



s355 Committee Meeting 1 December 2011

Secretary's Report

Chairman Paul received a letter from Anne Brinson, Co-ordinator of the Open Day. Unfortunately Anne has tendered her resignation. The Committee congratulates Anne's outstanding efforts and acknowledges the two outstanding Open Day results.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John reported \$6 932.00 in the bank and \$132.00 petty cash.

John indicated that the next consignment of 110 stakes will be available soon.

Greenhouse

John indicated that he had contacted Council to research the purchase of a new greenhouse under contract. He was advised that none was available so he conducted his own research. This revealed that greenhousesonline.com.au offered the best value for money. The Committee approved purchase of the 3.6 x 2.4 x 2.5 for \$1 350.00.

Storage Shed

John advised that Stratco have the most appropriate style of storage shed and that this model may be purchased for approximately \$200.00 when on sale.

Approved by Committee.

Key Registrar's Report

Unfortunately, Paula and family will be leaving, consequently she has returned her

key. We wish Paula, Michel, Louise and Chloe all the best in their new adventure in Brazil (via France).

John Carrington, and, Maureen and Ted Duffy have applied and will be issued with keys.

2012 Easter Show

Following our success in 2011, the Committee has approved entry into the 2012 Show. Categories will be publicised in mid to late December. We would like to enter the Community Garden Section but will also look at other vegetable sections.

Access Gate in Southern Fence

The Committee agreed to approach Council to review the installation of a gate on the southern boundary to improve access to the tennis court parking and toilet facilities. An offer was made to assist in funding this project.

More Tables and Chairs

The Committee has approved the purchase of two additional trestle tables and twenty folding chairs.

Construction Materials

The Committee reviewed the proposed improvements scheduled for the

Garden – garden beds on the southern and western boundary fences, installation of a new greenhouse and a small storage shed. They recognised the need for edging, soil and gravel, and agreed to purchase the same.



The end of year get together was a great chance for members to enjoy each other's company and to reflect on a very busy, productive and successful year. The afternoon started with the dedication ceremony which recognised the partnership and achievements of the Garden and Council. A very tasty afternoon tea followed. Shortly afterwards, the Annual Meeting was a chance for members to hear from the Committee Executive report on our achievements in 2011 and the challenges for 2012 and beyond.

Australia Day
From 4:00pm – Cricket, trivia and BBQ dinner

Annual Meeting 3 December 2011

Chairman Paul reported on the success of the establishment of the s355 Committee, the communication to members, our partnership with, and improved facilities from Council, the successful Open Days under the stewardship of Anne Brinson, and, the enthusiasm, hard work and fellowship of other members.

Secretary Robyn was pleased to be able to report that Garden membership was now 74, an increase of 28 from last year. She identified that highlights for 2011 included winning First Place for Community Gardens at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, hosting the Holroyd City Council's *Sustainability Workshops* and *Green Thumb Day* and collaborating with Australian Chinese Community Association to host their *Clubs for Holroyd* project.

Robyn also identified that a significant part of our success is due to the superb efforts of Council officers Bert Leonard, Leesa Stephenson and the Media Unit, Mark Alamangos, Lloyd Davidson, and, Brooke Littman and James Allsop.

Treasurer John was pleased to report that we are in a very healthy financial position. We have \$6 932.00 in our account and \$132.00 in petty cash. John provided a summary of the expenditure for 2011. The Garden started under HCC with \$1 717.00 and the 2010 Open Day profit of almost \$2 700.

During this time we have purchased the mower and whipper sniper, 110 garden stakes and monthly purchases of consumables such as mulch, fertilisers and tools. Open Day 2011 raised a very impressive profit of \$4 300.00 and with outstanding purchases (for a new greenhouse, storage shed, stakes and furniture) we will have around \$3 500.00 which includes the \$2 300.00 set aside to cover water costs.

