

## Garden Managers Report –24th. May 2014

I would like to thank Steve and his staff for their continuing assistance in our Community Garden.

Many will have noticed we now have a slow combustion stove enclosed under the container awning--Thank you Steve.

I feel we need to thank via. newsletter or individual letters or both to:

Al & Gail Baxter-donation of sawdust for road cover  
Gary Wallington-delivery of sawdust to MCG  
Maurie Abbott The Vineyard-donation of wine for Easter raffle  
Darryl Leslight-ongoing contribution of space at Bawley Shops - Easter Fair  
Robyn Russell- Berry talk/workshop/discussion.

I would like to thank Judith Carroll for her application for funding for 2014 to "*Our Neighbourhood Community Grants*"

Request more sleepers as there are still beds to be raised & we need divisions between garlic beds-ease of access.

The communal area is looking better now we have two working bees happening each week. I would like to thank the Thursday group for their input into establishing the new Potato bed. The weeding, clearing, turning, digging in manure, seaweed and top soil and then turning it all in again. The clearing and planting of herbs and beetroot etc.

The composting toilet is already under construction-thanks to Rod Hayes and also to Steve's team in providing back fill with tractor as well as a couple of other members (you know who you are).

The garlic bed has been weeded, cleared and dug over and the garlic has been planted-thanks to Cathy & Harley, Helen & John, Ewen, Mary Stanwix, Marie, Kirrilee, Kylie and Carolyn and if I have forgotten anyone I am sorry.

The (Bob's) Strawberry bed needs to be enlarged (circular shape so we will still have access) for maintenance.

The roadway through the communal area has been roughly established. An idea I have expressed before is to plant Marigolds around the perimeter of the road and I believe there are many Marigolds almost ready for planting. Marigolds are a fantastic companion plant for herbs etc.  
We need to spread the sawdust over the road before planting.

There is going to be a worm farm workshop conducted by Sybille Davidson on 21st. June. So worm your way in for all you need to know on worm farming.

There was much discussion with Robyn Russell after the talk on what else could be undertaken in the communal area. Some very interesting ideas were tossed around which I will pass on if interested.

I have sprayed a circular area to the NW of the road where perhaps trees (nut bearing) can be planted. This can be enlarged as needed.

I REALLY hope we make more IRREGULAR shaped beds in the new section rather than rectangular, square or market garden shapes. WE can make oval shaped beds for Citrus in the communal section or for corn or whatever crop. Irregular shapes can still be totally accessible

Malcolm Salmon  
MCG Garden Manager