

Garden Managers Report – August 2012

Malcolm Salmon

- The garden continues to thrive, both in the abundance of winter crops and in the continuation of the building of essential infrastructure, such as the *Shade House*, *Propagation Shed* and the *Shade Awning*.
- All members are urged to attend at least *one* Saturday morning working bee per month so that we can have these facilities up and running as soon as possible. My thanks, in particular, to Steve and his staff of Richard and Scott for the great work they have undertaken in getting these structures underway, especially the container awning. However we do need *everyone* on board to make things happen!
- I would like to thank Leon for his efforts in the construction of the hot house and thank those who have contributed to the construction phase of the MCG -Mark, Don, Don, John and others too many to name individually but your efforts have been appreciated by me and other community members.
- Besides building there is always maintenance work to be undertaken, such as mowing, trimming around beds, tending of the compost bays and much needed watering of communal beds (herbs and garlic) and the citrus orchard.
- Mulching of the windbreak is an on-going task, requiring frequent trips to the tip and spreading the mulch around plants. This has been undertaken by members with ute's and also those who load the mulch at the tip and spread it at the garden, Neil, Doug, Don, Maggie, Marg and Sybille thank you as well as Alwyn, Don, Sharon and Mary.
- We now have **70** members and **60** plots, with the last 6 recently constructed and allocated to members – we have a waiting list for the first time!
- Another ***HOW –TO-DO-IT*** workshop will take place on Saturday 25 August at 10.30 at the garden. This time I will conduct a workshop on **How to Compost Successfully**, with particular emphasis on the management of our compost system, but with hints applicable to the home gardener. We will discuss ratios of Carbon, Nitrogen and H₂O.
- We have just submitted a grant application to the *Commonwealth Govt. Volunteer Grants Scheme* for \$3047.00 for a generator and mower.
- I would like to thank the committee members for their input into this community project and the whole community for their invaluable efforts. This could not have been achieved without you all. You should all be very proud of what you have done.