**Garden Manager – Harley Delves**

**Report AGM 2019**

My report covers what has happened in the last twelve months.
We have 60 plots in the rental (or original) portion of the garden, of which 5 are being used by MCG.

During the year we continued to upgrade plots that were smaller than the others - those that were only one board high. There are only 4 of these plots left. All new plot renters were given two a board plot, filled with topsoil and free of weeds. We have no vacant plots available for renters, but will have three or four in December.

In June 2018 we purchased sixty Sienna Pine sleepers, suitable for raised vegetable beds. Twenty-four of these were used to make long beds in the NW corner near our morning tea area. Other sleepers were used to border the large asparagus bed and the rhubarb bed in the communal area, and the rest used in other communal bed. With more topsoil arriving next week we will need another sixty planks to square up the ad hoc beds in the communal area. Gardeners need to look at this area to decide what would work best.

Our revenue is modest - membership at $5 p.a., plot rental at $25, occasionally a grant of money, profits from seven markets (sometimes including a wine raffle) and sales of herbs to a restaurant.

The new irrigation system is installed and working and I'm testing out a hose holder, which I've made. With twelve taps amongst the plots it is essential to coil the hoses over the hose holder and not leave them on the lawn where they will be damaged by the mower. There are still five more holders to build and place adjacent to taps near fence lines.

*Davenport Cottage*, formally Life Without Barriers, a group of disabled adults and their carers, continue to come to our garden every Tuesday morning. They have morning tea with us, and they have their own garden plot, which we augment with some of our own veggies. They love coming - it is the highlight of their week!

Early in 2019, the composting toilet was showing its age with the floor beginning to flake away and break off at the edges. We have now rebuilt the toilet. For full details please see Don's report. Thanks to Don for his experience and and commitment in leading his trusty team of Neil, Richard, George, John, and myself to do such a wonderful job.

Many thanks to all who work so hard and cheerfully on Saturday mornings and to those who help on our market days.
Harley Delves