



Garden Summer News 2020

Welcome to 2020

While we are having hot and dry conditions in Perth we are grateful that we have been spared the horrific fires experienced on the east and south coasts.

New members

- We welcome Addie Mills Centre as our most recent Organisation member. Addie Mills Centre has also leased two rows of raised garden beds and has already produced some great produce for their 'Grow Share Cart'.



The cart is located in the foyer of Addie Mills Centre and is a community service whereby surplus produce is shared.

- Welcome also Marissa Berghuber and Shaun Jones

We look forward to seeing you in the garden.

Structural Changes

As previously reported, the college will shortly start developing the area at the rear of the garden. In preparation for this we have started to demolish the sheds and will store them in the hope that we can rebuild them again in the garden.

There has been some deterioration of the plastic shades on the gazebo and some of the panels have become loose in the wind. We are investigating options for repair/replacement.

Other projects identified include:

- Extension of rows to align them
- Developing more garden beds
- Creating open compost bins to improve our use of organic waste.

We are awaiting a report from Education Department on the condition of the gum trees in the garden. The outcome of the survey will determine if they can be retained or removed.

Frangipani Festival (Proposed)

Frangipani Friends of Perth is a network of enthusiasts – who grow frangipani's as a business or hobby. They are planning a festival to be held in the college on Saturday 4 April. On the day there will be a number of stalls featuring the many varieties and colours of frangipani. There will also be other garden related products, entertainment and food.

We have an opportunity to participate in the festival and are currently considering what we might do. A sausage sizzle and information booth are firm favourites but we should look at other options as well. It will be great exposure for the garden and a way of bringing to the site people who may not otherwise know of our existence. Visitors are expected from all over Perth and not just the local area. Any suggestions?

Busy Bees and Committee Meetings

The last busy bee (19 January) was the first twilight working session for the season. We had a great turn out of members, including several new members, who came along and helped with maintenance jobs. We have now cleared all beds of spent produce and there was plenty to share at the end of the session.

Beds are ready for top up, composting and preparing for next season's planting. We are hoping to raise some seedlings to supplement those that we will buy. If you are interested in raising some seedlings at home to be brought to the garden for planting at a later date, please let me know.



Some of the produce picked and shared at the busy bee.

Busy bees are generally held on the second Sunday of the month and are either morning or late afternoon working sessions. The next dates are as follows:

- 9 February
- 8 March

Both 4.00 to 6.00pm followed by drinks.

Always check face book for updates as weather and other factors may result in changes to these arrangements. A date for the April BB is yet to be determined as the scheduled date coincides with Easter.

Reminder: There is an expectation that all members will regularly attend and participate in busy bees.

Management committee meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6.00pm in the staff room of the college. All members are welcome to attend and observe the workings of the committee. Please let me know if there is something that you would like discussed or considered by the committee.

We currently have a vacancy for Secretary. Let me know if you are interested or would like further information.

Dates for the next meetings are as follows:

- 19 February
- 18 March
- 15 April

The agenda is sent out approximately one week before the meeting.

At the January committee meeting a change to the 'Code of Conduct' was endorsed. Following advice from the Department of Education and in accordance with their policy, dogs (other than special assistance dogs) are not allowed in the garden. Your understanding of this position is appreciated.

Bunnings Fund Raisers and Volunteering

A small and dedicated group of volunteers coordinated by Kevin Cheetham are the backbone of our fund raising through the Bunnings sausage sizzles held four times a year at Harrisdale. There are no more days until September when our next allocation of dates will commence.

A huge thank you to the volunteers who have taken on this responsibility for the benefit of all members. Let me know if you would like to be included in the roster for future dates.

We are a volunteer based organisation and have a very dedicated band of people who put in lots of time for the benefit of the community. But we need more people to contribute and share the load.

There are a number of ways that you can contribute. Consider working in the garden, sharing your knowledge and expertise or being part of the committee. Offering to look after the composting or worm farms and being part of a roster to open the garden on Thursdays and Saturdays for a few hours. If you are interested in contributing in any way please contact me on dorothymosaics@hotmail.com.au

To those who regularly contribute their time and to the hard working committee, thank you very much for your support. Without your efforts the Garden would not exist.

We will hopefully see you in the garden soon. In the meanwhile, don't forget to 'like' our very popular face book page or check out the web site to keep up to date with garden happenings.

Kind regards

Dorothy

e-mail: dorothymosaics@hotmail.com.au