



From the Garden Bench...

Phew, what a year its been! Our garden is really starting to look established and its great to see more and more people enjoying the lovely surrounds. The church building itself has come along in leaps and bounds too, thanks to the tireless work of our fund raising committee; and the many volunteers who have helped with the hard labour. We have had a range of activities and events held in both the church and garden and its just so satisfying to see the community embracing all that we do and making the community garden a success. We would like to put out a call for

more volunteers in the New Year, to give our committed long term crew a helping hand. They are most dedicated but as the saying goes "many hands make light work." An ideal free activity during the school holidays; and free use of the BBQ for those busy little gardeners hands!

I would also like to personally thank Sam, Sharon, Kaz and Marilyn for their input into articles for this edition. Recognition must also be made of the generous ongoing support from Tony Simpson MLA by funding the printing of the Growing Together Newsletter. I wish everyone in the wonderful community that is in the SJ Shire a safe and happy holiday season and best wishes for the coming year.

Belinda Lester, Editor

SUPERSIZED SILVER BEET!

Our silver beet has grown to giant proportions in our raised garden beds this season.



The combination of wicker bed watering, good soil, plenty of organic matter and a new fertiliser donated by Karen at SJ Garden Supply called Carbon Fix, has worked magic.

Call in to the garden and check it out for yourself!

Overdue Memberships

Without your membership donations we would not be able to achieve all we wish to achieve in our church and garden. We appreciate every one of our members for its you that we rely on. Every dollar counts so please send your memberships in. Memberships are \$5 single and \$10 Family. Membership is from 1 July to 30 June each year.

Thank you to all our Supporters

- Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire
- Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Resource Centre
- SJ Mini Excavators and Rock Breaking
- Claire Bates Graphic Design
- Lullfitz Nursery
- Serpentine Jarrahdale Library Friends Inc.
- Landcare Australia
- Uniting Church
- Mundijong Community Association
- SJ Plant Supply
- P&H Zimdahl Plumbing & Gas Service
- Bendigo Bank Byford
- Tony Simpson MLA
- Alcoa
- Mundijong Garden Supplies and Hire
- Amanda's Curl Up And Dye
- The Mundijong Tavern
- Vintage Realty

And all our Members and Friends

Fund raising Update

Our fund raising committee has been hard at work behind the scenes applying for grants and funding. We have been successful in having a locality grant approved by the SJ Shire towards the installation of a bore and to connect a pump. The bore is already down and we are awaiting delivery of our pump and electrician to connect it.

A grant has been lodged with the Department of Local Government and Communities to purchase and install a rain water tank and guttering for the church building roof.

With these important additions to the community garden, we will be self-sufficient in all our water requirements and will no longer be using our valuable drinking water on the gardens.

Next year's fund raising is aimed at refurbishing the interior of the church building and the car park.

Mundijong Heritage Community Garden

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Publication of any article does not imply endorsement, either by the Mundijong Heritage Community Garden, The Mundijong Heritage Uniting Church Committee or the Growing Together Newsletter. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to any of the afore mentioned. Manuscripts are invited, although no payment can be made nor contributed matter returned. The editor cannot guarantee to publish all material submitted and contributors are asked to accept this condition.

Next Committee Meeting:
Saturday 7th February 2015 @ 4pm
at the Mundijong Heritage Church
ALL WELCOME

Summer 2014/15

Become a Member!

Family: \$10 per year

Single: \$5 per year

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME

Mundijong Heritage Community Garden

Growing Together



Remembering the past ... Sharing the present ... Building the future

Church building re-stumping completed

We are all so pleased to be able to finally say the first major works project is now finished. Re-stumping and relaying the floor of the church was no easy task.

The job of pulling up the wooden floorboards and de-nailing them was the first stage. Carol was one who put in long hours with a hammer on this task. Next came the removal of the old stumps and then replacing them with new ones. Super Steve mostly did this on his own and he was a real Trojan. Insulation was then laid under the boards to improve noise and temperature inside. Re-laying the floor was also done by our Garden Manager Steve Marsden. Lastly the original carpet was put back down to finish the job.

Once the floor was finished the big clean up and furniture replacement was undertaken by enthusiastic volunteers. It must also be noted that our behind the scenes whirlwind, Kaz Rupert spent hours co-ordinating and organising this project. The fund raising by the committee headed by Marilyn Marsden have done a wonderful job of bringing in the money without which none of this would be possible. If it wasn't for these quiet achievers we would not have such a large project completed in a relatively short time. Our deepest gratitude to the volunteers who helped in so many ways during this project.



Thank you

Thanks go to the following people who volunteered their time to help complete this project:

Steve Marsden; Susan; Colin; Marilyn; Kaz; Gordon; Sam; Adam; Steve; Reg; Ben; Eric; Carol

And also to those who wish to remain anonymous.



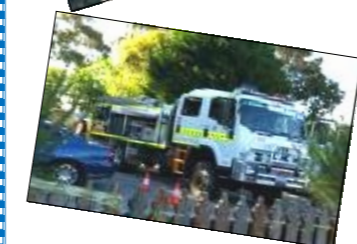
Community and Police BBQ

SJ Shire Community Services held a series of neighbourhood BBQs in each of the Shire's towns recently.

The Mundijong BBQ was held at the Community Garden with a large group of locals attending.

A joint event between the SJ Shire, Mundijong Police and Neighbourhood Watch, it was an opportunity to meet in an informal setting. Information on safety and security was given, with hand outs from Neighbourhood Watch.

YMCA and the Mundijong Volunteer Fire Service provided fun and activities for the kids.




We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year...


FROM GARDEN GATE TO DINNER PLATE



The first of our Mental Health Week 2014 events was a free presentation by Dr Merri Harris. Combining a talk on nutrition and mental health with a hands on experience of gathering fresh produce from the garden, participants got to make fresh, healthy food together and then sit down to the beautiful lunch they had created.




The information session was extremely interesting, with hand outs to take home explaining how food can affect our health and well being. Dr Harris was very approachable and has a keen interest in the gut / brain super information highway. She shared her enthusiasm with the group and taught us all something new. Much fun was had picking herbs and vegetables grown in the community garden with an abundance of willing hands. Preparing the food and learning new ways of eating healthier was a great way to spend time in the fresh air together.


Social Media comes to the rescue

The garden recently attained a high profile in the community following a negative event. Over the weekend before Mental Health week, a serious vandalism attack occurred affecting the garden and building. The community was outraged, and a local person who was not affiliated with the garden arranged an online action, which resulted in the total amount for a security system to be fundraised, purchased and a volunteer electrician agreed to install it. This happened in a four hour period!



When we called a 3pm busy bee on that day, after the Police Forensic team had finished 30 people turned up, many whom we had never previously met! This demonstrated to us how the community have appreciated the work we have put in at the Garden in the past 6 years, and its current importance to our town.

Thanks go to Janine, Ian & Ebony Meyn and Justine & Bruce Edmondston for the donation of the security system and for the free installation by Bec & Bryce Honey .



THE GARDEN PARTY



The inaugural Mundijong Heritage Community Garden's Garden Party was the last event of a week of activities for Mental Health Week 2014.

It was a lovely day in the garden with lunch and entertainment provided by our talented locals. The kids enjoyed magic and clowning and the Foot Prints band provided back ground music. A spur of the moment set by local muso Eric Nordberg was well received with an encore demanded. The crowd looked stunning in all their garden party finery with some wonderful hats on show. Best hat was taken out by Jayne, best dressed lady by Julia and Evan won hands down in the best dressed gent.



Fund raising activities included raffles, guess the lollies in the jar and a scratchies money tree helped to raise over \$500 towards the renovations. The lucky winner of the money tree was Michelle with Tony Simpson MLA, drawing the winning ticket. Thanks to Amanda's Curl Up and Dye Hairdressing, The Mundijong Tavern and Lotterywest for prize donations; and to the SJ Shire for the generous donation of food and drinks and Vintage Realty for the colouring competition photocopying.




Even though the numbers were not what we had hoped for, it was lovely to see locals coming in and showing support.





Mental Health Week

MOSAIC MATTERS



The second event held was a community mosaic art session with local artist Samantha Nordberg. Pots donated by Byford Salvage Yard and tiles funded by Richmond Fellowship's Partners in Recovery, were transformed into mosaic art. The day was an opportunity have a hands on experience of the ancient art of mosaics, whilst enjoying the company of others.




All agreed that the day was a success, giving encouragement for the further plans for the future of Mosaic Matters, a program which the community garden hopes to implement in the new year.

All will be welcome to these sessions, however if you experience social isolation or have had to deal with mental distress please come along. All art work created during the sessions will take pride of place in our beautiful gardens. The goal is to start small but future plans include a large garden bench. Regular gatherings are planned for 2015 with dates and times yet to be determined.


If you are interested, please contact our Community Art Co-Ordinator Samantha Nordberg on 0448 520 315.

Funky Fermenting Workshop

The Serpentine Jarrahdale Food and Farming Alliance recently held the second of its fermenting workshops in the Church.



The workshop was taken by Tina Old who provided information on how to do your own fermenting and explained why fermented food is good for your gut bacteria. Instruction and enthusiasm for the subject gave the large group of attendees the confidence to tackle making their own sauerkraut, kimchi and pretty much anything.



After the presentation taste testing and conversation completed the successful day.

Cornerstone laid



During our recent sausage sizzle the corner stone for the Mundijong Heritage Community church and garden was laid.




A beautiful work of mosaic work by local artist and garden volunteer Sam Nordberg it was placed at the front entrance to the church. Many thanks to Sam for this special addition to our grounds.

Evan Maltby and Steve Marsden laying the corner stone

Christmas Raffle Drawn



Congratulations to the winners of our Christmas raffle drawn at the sausage sizzle on 13th December at the garden.

The winners are:

- 1st: D. Mays Gidgegannup ticket 353
- 2nd: D. McDonald Cardup ticket 703
- 3rd: Helen Feast Mundijong ticket 1176

All winners have been notified and prizes collected.

Thank you to everyone who supported the garden by purchasing tickets. Total raised towards the renovation fund was \$3360.



Drawn by Allen Smith and Ruth Igglesden