

## Community gardens are...

A place in a neighbourhood or with an organisation, where people come together and grow food, flowers and herbs, sharing skills, time, resources and have celebrations.

Community gardens can be a space for people to come together from all ages and backgrounds, creating a culture of care and trust.

There are many different types of community gardens around Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Community Gardening Network aims to support communities to establish and sustain community gardens in Tasmania.



## Tasmanian Community Gardening Network Working Group

To keep the activity of the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network going, a working group has been set up to plan and take action.

The Working Group is looking for other keen and active community gardening enthusiasts to help drive the activity of the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network. If you have a bit of time, passion, commitment and are keen to work as part of a team, contact us to get involved.

### Next meeting:

**3rd October 2006**

**12pm – 2pm**

**Meeting Room 1, Ground Floor, McDougall Building, Ellerslie Road, Hobart**

**Bring your lunch**

All welcome. Please come along so we can discuss the outcomes of the regional forums and plan future activities.

For further information please telephone: Miriam Herzfeld on 6223 1266 or email: [mherzfeld@eatwelltas.org.au](mailto:mherzfeld@eatwelltas.org.au), or Tamara Johnston on 6339 1569, or Marieke van Dijke on 6435 4132, or Cameron McKinnon on 6233 7576, or David Stephen on 6227 8390, or if you know one of our other working group participants, please feel free to chat to them.

### Please help us keep your contact details up to date

To change your contact details or to be added or removed from this distribution list please contact:

Eat Well Tasmania  
GPO Box 1365, HOBART TAS 7001  
Email: [mherzfeld@eatwelltas.org.au](mailto:mherzfeld@eatwelltas.org.au)  
Telephone: (03) 6223 1266 or Fax: (03) 6223 1244



# Summary of Discussions at the Tasmanian Community Gardening Forums

Three *What's happening in the garden* forums were held recently around the State. Below is a summary of the discussions that took place at each of the forums. Thanks to all for participating!

## Hobart

### What are your community gardening questions?

- **Funding & submission writing** - Ideas include Australia's Open Garden Scheme, Sport & Recreation Tasmania, Lyn Thorp (politician), being part of Women Tasmania's distribution list, Tasmanian Community Fund, Community Support Levy, health promotion funding (Department of Health & Human Services). Here are some further details: ↓
  - Women Tasmania promotes **Funding Opportunities** on an ongoing basis. Contact Women Tasmania to join their mailing list. Telephone: 6233 3114
  - **Tasmanian Community Fund**. Visit: [www.tascomfund.org](http://www.tascomfund.org)
  - **Community Support Levy Grants Program**. Visit: [www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/gambling/grants](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/gambling/grants)
  - **Australia's Open Garden Scheme**. Visit: <http://www.opengarden.org.au/grants.htm>
  - **Submission Writing Guidelines**. Visit [http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/finding\\_funds/submissions](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/finding_funds/submissions)
  - **How to Apply for Grants** by Lea McInerney, available by contacting Lea at GPO Box 751, Hobart, Tasmania 7001 phone: 0417 860 467
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- **How do we get people interested & involved in a community garden?** How do you maintain a core group of people, for example, to maintain the garden during school holidays? Visit website in the box opposite for ideas. →
  - **How do you get started?** Are there any step-by-step guides? There are a number of useful guides available on the internet, try these: ↓

Visit the following website:  
Community Builders, working together to build stronger communities:  
[www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au)

### The Community Gardening in SA Resource Kit

Visit: [www.canh.asn.au/community\\_gardening](http://www.canh.asn.au/community_gardening)

### Cultivating Communities Good Practice Guide

Visit: [http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/building\\_stronger/safer/commgard.html](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/building_stronger/safer/commgard.html)

### Active Ate Fact Sheets (scroll down to Gardening)

Visit: <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/healthy/active-ate/factsheets/factsheets.html>

- **What if you don't have knowledge about gardening?** Is there an advisor that can come to school to help set up? Contact the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network. We can connect you with people who have experience and are very willing to share their knowledge. Telephone: 6223 1266.
- **How do you get land for a community garden?** Check out some of the Guides listed above. They have ideas for finding a suitable site.
- **What schools have gardens so that students & teachers can share ideas?** See page 5 for a list of gardens and contact details around the State.
- **Is there a good brochure to give to local Councils to encourage them to donate land?** What is the bureaucratic process that needs addressing? Community officers on Councils need to know how to establish and encourage community gardens. Needs to come from community. The guides above have some information on obtaining land and working with local Councils.

### How can the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network support you?

- Continue newsletters and forums. Include snapshots of community gardens from around the State in newsletters.
- Strengthen links between community gardens - provide contact details of all community gardens (see page 5 for details).
- Bus tour of all gardens in the State!
- Run practical workshops.
- Gardens could share resources & tools. The Network could coordinate tool hire library.

# Discussion at the Tasmanian Community Gardening Forums (cont)

## Rocherlea

### What are your community gardening questions?

- Vandalism
- Ownership
- Maintenance, drainage, sprays, weeds and related issues
- Community learning
- We need a manual for setting up gardens
- We need a website
- Funding accountability - providers covering off grants
- Sourcing seeds and plants (different varieties), bulk manures etc. We need a database of clubs, organisations, Landcare, seed savers etc. Possible contacts include farmers, pony clubs & stables (eg Relbia Road Stables)
- Soil testing is important
- Worm farms and composting
- Community involvement - open days, getting the message out, education sessions, workshops in the garden, reason to come/ drawcard, known identity, fact sheets & garden tips for school newsletters

Some of the references on the previous page will help answer some of these questions. The network will also discuss how we can provide further information for you about these issues at its next planning meeting.

### How can the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network support you?

- List of suppliers of seeds, manures, tools, mulches etc
- Sprays for maintenance of pathways - what to use
- Conflict resolution, ground rules - possible workshop idea
- How to control weeds
- Handy hints
- Act as an advocate
- Sourcing information from gardens to place in newsletters
- Promote open garden scheme for community gardens (not just flowers, promote vegies and fruit etc)
- Education & promotion through schools etc for individuals & families
- Housing Tasmania - through Community Chat
- Promotion through media, 'Around the garden' supplement in local newspaper, TV etc
- How to include livestock in the garden (permaculture)
- More publicity
- Where to find out about the Network - library, diary, newspaper, o/g magazine etc
- Training in garden skills
- Inter-garden visits
- How do we involve parents & friends in a school garden?



**Creek Road Community Garden**  
(above) & **Punchbowl Community Garden**  
(right) **Walk & Talk Sessions**

# Discussion at the Tasmanian Community Gardening Forums (cont)

## Ulverstone

### What makes a successful community garden?

- Core group is the key
- Core group can change with time (Rosebery has changed 4 times)
- Vision will continuously change
- Aiming towards self sufficiency from start
- Adjusting the gardens goals (such as plants to grow) to suit climate of area
- Partnerships with providers (such as TAFE/Lions etc)

### Issues for community gardens

- Funding parties wanting immediate action and results
- Garden will evolve from infancy
- Vision of steering committee may clash
- Need to become self sufficient to some extent
- Meeting needs of multiple users
- Shifting gardens focus (from caring/sharing to money making enterprise)
- Vandalism and theft
- Structured approach to membership drive (start with interested core/then surrounding residents/then further a field)
- Whether to be an educational or self interest focus
- Community garden drivers will need to be active in sourcing new participants

### Tools community gardens can consider:

- Brainstorming days
- Use of an objective third party to chair meetings
- Offering gardening in peoples own backyards
- Incentives to entice volunteer participation (such as providing a box of vegetables)
- Source donated materials
- TAFE students and school students
- Focus on what the community garden will offer that gardening in your own backyard does not

### What are your community gardening questions?

- Public liability
- Key personnel absent/replaced, succession planning, ownership issues etc
- School break - ways to keep kids involved over summer
- Facilitate - assistance with mediation
- Newsletters - keeping in touch
- How much of the whole community should we involve?
- Group dynamics
- Do I accept financial support with a catch?
- What are the potential sources of funding?

Some of the references on the previous page will help answer some of these questions. The network will also discuss how we can provide further information for you about these issues at its next planning meeting.

### How can the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network support you?

- Face to face meetings
- Website
- Seed savers network

### Ulverstone Community Garden Walk & Talk Session



# Where are Tasmania's School and Community Gardens?

Listed below are some of the school and community gardens in Tasmania. To add to this list or suggest changes please contact us.

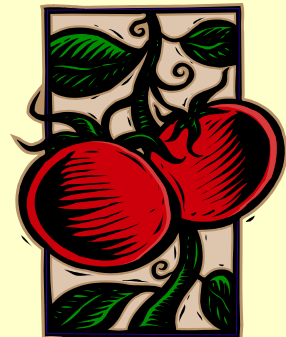
- **Circular Head Community Garden** - 6452 1287
- **Claremont College Garden** - 6249 6868
- **Cosgrove High School & Community Garden** - 6271 1111
- **Creek Road Community Garden** - 6227 8390
- **Cygnet Community Garden** - 6295 0217
- **Deloraine Community Garden** - 6369 5510
- **Exeter Community Garden** – 63944231
- **Glenorchy Primary School** - 6272 7171
- **Hobart Royal Botanical Gardens Community Garden** - 6236 3068
- **Huon Valley Community Gardens in Huonville, Dover & Cygnet** - 6264 8404
- **Lauderdale Primary School Garden** - 6248 6270
- **New Norfolk Community Garden** (in planning stages) - 6261 3084
- **Punchbowl Community Garden** - 0437 437 632
- **Oatlands Community Garden** - 6254 1501
- **Ravenswood Community Garden** - 6339 1569
- **Red Ochre Community Garden (Dodges Ferry)**  
(in planning stages) - 6265 8455
- **Rocherlea Peace Garden** - 6326 5506
- **Rosebery Community Garden** - 6473 1372
- **St Marys Community Garden** - 6372 2113
- **Ulverstone Community Garden** – 6372 2113
- **Westbury Community Garden** - 6393 5811
- **Wynyard Community Garden** - 0418 142 739

## **Tell us more...**

**If you have additions, changes or suggestions to make this list even better and more useful, please send your information to:**  
**Eat Well Tasmania, email:**  
**[mherzfeld@eatwelltas.org.au](mailto:mherzfeld@eatwelltas.org.au) or**  
**phone: 6223 1266.**

**This information is also available on our website:**  
**[www.eatwelltas.com.au](http://www.eatwelltas.com.au)**

## Other Useful Links for Community Gardeners:



- **Australian City Farms and Community Gardening Network.** Visit: <http://www.communitygarden.org.au/index.html>
- The **Australian City Farms and Community Gardens Network** has an email listserve: a higher volume list, which includes news and events from school and community gardens around the country, information sharing and national networking. Visit <http://lists.cat.org.au/mailman/listinfo/community-gardens> or email [spiral@senet.com.au](mailto:spiral@senet.com.au) to join.
- **Australian Gardening in Schools Email Listserve:** a low volume email list for people interested in gardening in schools. Info about grants available, etc. Visit [http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/school\\_gardens/](http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/school_gardens/) or email [brad-shone@yahoo.com.au](mailto:brad-shone@yahoo.com.au) to join.
- **Australian Association for Environmental Education.** Visit: [www.aeee.org.au](http://www.aeee.org.au)
- **Ceres Community Environment Park.** Visit: [www.ceres.org.au](http://www.ceres.org.au)
- **Permaculture Associations.** Visit the Tasmanian Association: <http://permaculturetas.org>  
Visit the International Association: [www.permacultureinternational.org](http://www.permacultureinternational.org)
- **School Learnscapes Trust (NSW).** Visit: [www.learnscapes.org](http://www.learnscapes.org)
- **Seed Savers Network** supports local seed networks. Visit: [www.seedsavers.net](http://www.seedsavers.net)
- **Sustainable Gardening Australia.** Visit: [http://www.sgaonline.org.au/info\\_communitygardens.htm](http://www.sgaonline.org.au/info_communitygardens.htm)
- **Tasmanian Environment Centre.** Visit: <http://www.tasmanianenvironmentcentre.org.au>



### **About this newsletter**

This newsletter has been compiled on behalf of the Tasmanian Community Gardening Network.

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We welcome your comments, suggestions and contributions.