



**Community Garden
3231
Newsletter
July 2017**

**Working Bees this month:
Saturday 1st July, 9.00 am
Sunday 15th July, 9.00 am**

**August 12
Recycle Shop Anglesea**

**August 19
Soup from the Garden –
a Winter in Aireys event
Details to follow**

Coordinator's Comments

I think I should go away more often – the garden has thrived in my absence. Thanks Leonie for filling in. We now have 121 members – a huge increase from the xx members in 20xx. There has been a turnover of rental plots with a number of new members having a go at growing their own vegies. Thank you Bunnings for donating Seasol, sugar cane mulch and Charlie Carp. Travelling in Spain and Portugal was great fun. We walked for two weeks and saw lots of spring produce – broad beans were common, but not on the menu. In the Douro Valley many of the grape trellises had slate posts – guaranteed to last for a long time. I liked this sculpture of an onion in Girona. The exhibition had finished and people were sharing the onions.

June working bees

It's a real delight to share the first Saturday and the third Sunday of each month with those members of the CG 3231 who are able to make it. It's the time when we find out what's going on in the garden, plus share the produce we've managed to nurture through from seed to edible crop. Thank you to everyone who comes to share the bounty and the load. There's always a job for you even if you are unable to do heavy lifting.

Last Saturday It was great to see a couple of members returning to the team after a period of absence. At the same time we certainly don't expect to see everyone at every Working Bee – mind you the cuppa and cake makes it really pleasurable. Thanks bakers extraordinaire.

Points to make about the June harvest.

- White cauliflowers went to flowering stage before forming proper heads. We guess it was because the weather was too warm over the growing period. But the red cauliflowers were more successful.
- Parsnips from bed H were tasty, but the carrot crop failed. The weeds outcompeted them.
- Cabbages were well-formed and delicious. As usual everything tastes better when just picked and it's truly marvellous watching tiny snails poke their heads out from between the cabbage leaves as you wash them and their detritus away before making a delicious slaw or bubble and squeak. (Do I sound a tad like Peter Cundle?).
- Beetroots were also below par this year. We think the soil in wicking-bed 'I' needs further nurturing – we're working on it.
- The second round of brassica plantings is in progress now, so let's hope we get near- frosts to force those heads to set properly.
- We can't stress enough how important it is to give everything a good foliar-feed every fortnight, either Seasol or worm juice, making sure both sides of the leaves get a good wash. "Timing matters in that leaf cells are far more receptive to absorbing foliage nutrition early in the morning and again at twilight - cellular exchange more or less takes a siesta during the midday hours". ([The Holistic Orchard](#), P 112. Michael Phillips). This book may be of interest so if you want to borrow it contact Gabriel. It has a full section on growing berries.

Sharing and Caring!

Unfortunately we have had some thefts from the garden. Despite the "do not harvest" signs, some cabbages and cauliflowers have disappeared. While it is hard to resist picking our produce, it is important that our efforts are shared so make sure you leave plenty for others. Large items such as cabbages and cauliflower are cut and shared at working bees. However, some things can be picked at any time – check the whiteboard or signs in the garden beds. At the moment help yourself at any time to mizuna, rocket, herbs a



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