



## Community Garden 3231 Newsletter June 2014

**Next Working Bee  
Saturday June 7  
From 10am**

**If you can't come and have some free time another day, there is a list of jobs on the shed window.**

Rod and I have just returned from 4 weeks in Italy where we spent a lot of time walking through vineyards, hazelnut orchards and forests. Wherever there was space near and in villages, there were vegetable gardens. Broad beans were finishing and tomatoes, zucchini and eggplant were being planted. The plots were carefully tended and there were few weeds.

We had hoped to come back to fantastic broccoli, but the warm weather meant it was all finished. But I'm so pleased that it wasn't wasted but was enjoyed by other CG3231 gardeners.

### Around the garden

The warm weather has meant that the cabbage moth caterpillars are still munching away and the weeds are thriving. But the most frustrating thing in the garden is the proliferation of snails and slugs. I tried a snail trap, and *Multiguard* snail pellets, but the snails much prefer juicy broccoli, silver beet, kale and even my onions. Can't say I blame them, but it is frustrating. Has anyone heard of other strategies?



Winter crops are going well and we are enjoying broccoli rabe (even if the seedlings were wrongly labelled as broccolini). The weeds are an ongoing battle – am I imagining it or is there a different mix of weed species this year?

The garden is looking colourful with flowers, rainbow chard, green spinach, flowers and silver broccoli.





## New Guinea Beans and Other Italian Delights

In the last newsletter the New Guinea Bean was featured – it wasn't a great success, but I was interested to find them in a Milan market.



The weekly market in a small village had racks of seedlings. I had a long ‘conversation’ with a local about the variety of tomatoes they grow. I was interested that there were only 3 varieties for sale.



## Upcoming Events

Sunday June 22 Working Bee (winter solstice)

Saturday July 5 Working Bee

Sunday July 20 Working Bee