

MEDIA STATEMENT



Tuesday, 31 May 2016

Community urged to dig in at garden

Green thumbs and people with a passion for the community are being urged to get their hands dirty and help the Bunbury Community Garden reach its full potential.

Formally known as the Withers Community Kitchen Garden, dedicated members of the public are being urged to join a committee with the aim of growing the plot into a valuable asset.

Thanks largely to the work of dedicated volunteers, the garden has already produced several impressive crops including corn, tomatoes, carrots and Asian vegetables.

The garden, which is located behind the Withers Library, uses compost generated from the City's green waste collection. It has been supported by the South West Development Commission which contributed funding to kick start the project and also for a project officer.

Deanna Sullivan, Team Leader Community Services, said anyone was welcome to join the committee.

"You don't have to be an expert in growing fruit and vegetables as the garden is more than just a place to provide fresh, organic produce," Ms Sullivan said.

"It is designed to be a hub where people from all walks of life can come together in a relaxed and social setting and do something that benefits the wider community."

The community garden was first formed in February 2014 as a partnership between the City of Bunbury, South West Development Commission and local community.

Raised garden beds were built and fencing installed prior to the first community planting and open day on March 7, 2015. More than 80 people turned out to plant everything from vegetable seedlings to fruit trees.

Work is also under way to build a gazebo and retaining wall at the garden using funds from the State Government's Community Gardens Grants, which was provided earlier this year.

Anyone interested in joining the committee can download a registration form from the City of Bunbury website. Registrations close 4pm on 15 June.

ENDS

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