

Sustainability

AWARDS 2016



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All Nations Kitchen Garden	Samantha Grover	s.grover@latrobe.edu.au	https://deepgreenpermaculture.com/2014/12/21/all-nations-food-forest-melbournes-first-council-built-food-forest-project/
Banyule Primary School	Courtney Deacon	Banyule.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au	www.banyuleps.vic.edu.au/
Bellfield Community Garden	Paul Morland	bellfieldcommunitygarden@gmail.com	www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Services/Local-Community-Directory/Bellfield-Community-Garden
Catherine Donnelly	Catherine Donnelly	catherine@thesaltfoundation.org.au	www.facebook.com/thesaltfoundation/

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Danielle Marsh	Danielle Marsh		www.facebook.com/daniellemarsheco/about/
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David Barr and Margaret Fievez	David Barr, Margaret Fievez	fowr@aanet.com.au	www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Council/Environment-and-Sustainability/Water/Stormwater-Management-and-Harvesting/Chelsworth-Park-Stormwater-Harvesting-Project
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Farmer Incubator	Georgia Savage	farmerincubatorau@gmail.com	https://farmerincubator.org/
Food is Free Festival	Lee Neil, Carla Moss		www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=food%20is%20free%20reservoir
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Textile Art Community	Gail McCall	textileartcommunity@gmail.com	www.facebook.com/TextileArtCommunity/posts/808702445912970
Thornbury Aquaponics Farm	Robert Kershaw	r.kershaw@bom.gov.au	http://localfoodconnect.org.au/event/robbyies-aquaponics-garden/
Transition Darebin	Amanda Healy, Paul Shelton	transitiondarebin@gmail.com	https://transitiondarebin.org/about/

Transition Darebin Urban Food Swaps	Sheryl Bryce	transitiondarebin@gmail.com	https://transitiondarebin.org/existing-projects/food-swaps/
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Activity Name	Description
All Nations Kitchen Garden	The All Nations Kitchen Garden is a food forest demonstration site in All Nations Park, Northcote. The project aims to increase sustainability through providing: free local food; educating others as to the benefits of growing and eating locally; and acts a nexus for building social capital. It is a combination of a classic kitchen garden, orchard and herb garden.
Banyule Primary School	Through the installation of a greenhouse, the school can now grow seeds, seedlings and plants. The greenhouse is watered by an irrigation system ran from our water tanks. The students love visiting the greenhouse at lunchtime. Another part of our project was to make and install a wicking bed that connects to our drinking taps. Produce is show-cased and sold throughout the school community.
Bellfield Community Garden	The Bellfield Community Garden (BCG) has installed a 45,000 L tank, mosaics in the garden, built raised and wicking beds, a 4-bay compost system, a children's sand pit. They have planted 30+ fruit trees and installed a beehive for honey and pollination and continue to develop a veritable food forest.
Catherine Donnelly	At Salt Foundation, Catherine cooks up to 150 community meals each week using reclaimed food. The food is locally sourced and gathered from various not-for-profit groups. Catherine teaches volunteers and describes herself as a hunter gatherer on a limited budget. The Table Fellowship meets the primal needs of isolated and marginalised people who gather and eat with friends and discuss their lives with peers who can listen with empathy and love.
Closing the Loop 3081	Closing The Loop on Food Waste in 3081 is a proud partnership project between Olympic Adult Education, Transition 3081 and the Salt Foundation. The ongoing project has run nine affordable community workshops aiming at changing people's behaviour around sustainability in the West Heidelberg community and connected people and groups around 3081.



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Danielle Marsh

Danielle is an eco warrior who leads by example to encourage others to reduce waste and show them how they can make small changes with big impacts. She creates awareness of waste and unsustainable practices and leads by example: sharing tips, ideas and encouraging people to reduce waste especially the use of plastic, and; promoting local and organic produce and the impacts on reducing chemicals in the environment and leading to more sustainable crops.

Darebin Creek Sweepers

The Darebin Creek Sweepers are volunteers who conduct monthly clean ups along the Darebin Creek, in response to areas where rubbish has been dumped, littered or deposited by stormwater or wind. Sarah chooses the site, publicises clean up details on the Sweepers Facebook page, and provides gloves, bags and tongs. Sarah liaises with Banyule Bush crew to have the rubbish collected, usually the following day. They have so far collected over half a tonne of rubbish that would have otherwise polluted our creek reserves, waterways, bay and oceans.

David Barr and Margaret Fievez

Margaret and David have volunteered for 15 years together to conduct water testing at several sites around Wilson Reserve Ivanhoe including Baileys Billabong and Reedy Billabong. They conduct the tests, maintain data and are able to monitor the health of the waterway. Their data is entered on the Waterwatch website so Melbourne Water has access to a valuable data set. Recently they have tested the inflow and outflow of the Stormwater Harvesting Project at Chelsworth Park to see if the treatment train is having an effect on water quality entering the Yarra system.

Eco Toys

Eco Toys is a family-owned home-based business that aims to educate people about the negative impacts of plastic on the environment and inspire them to live more sustainably. They do this through events, both online and in person, through our social media and through articles. They offer parents alternatives to mass produced plastic toys. Eco Toys supports locally made and local companies and brings ethical and corporate social responsibility into its decision making processes. Eco Toys advocates sustainability through play in its Eco Explorers bush playgroups whereby the motto is “tread lightly, respect each other and the environment and leave nothing but your footprint’.

Farmer Incubator

Farmer Incubator, partnering with La Trobe University, has brought a new model of education to the City of Darebin to help to grow new farmers. This is done by running 'pop-up' programs and experiential learning with a focus on growing, marketing and consumption of local produce. Farmer Incubator runs educational workshops to provide valuable information.



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Food is Free Festival Lee Neil and Carla Lee are two local residents, members of the East Reservoir Community Advocacy and Action Group, who are committed and worked hard to initiate the first 'Food is Free' community event in 2015. It was a very positive event, which affirmed their vision to share locally grown produce and skills and build community connections around local and sustainable options for food growing and food security. Carla and Lee have continued to drive the planning and preparations for the Community Food Sharing Festival in 2016.

Friends of Wilson Reserve Revegetation of the significantly degraded Wilson Reserve occurs via monthly working bees at 15 sites around the reserve and Horseshoe Bend. Over the past 20 years there have also been monthly Waterwatch surveys, frog surveys, monitoring of bat roost boxes and surveys of fungi and birds. Nearly 250 newsletters have been published on a monthly basis since April 1996.

Gail McCall Gail McCall created and nurtured the "Textile Art Community", a group of people who met weekly for the first six months of 2016 to create art and community, out of mostly recycled materials.

Greta Gillies Greta Gilles undertakes a range of activities that demonstrate her heroic attitude that an individual's actions can have great environmental effect on the community. She has helped setup numerous community organisations, ranging from encouraging bicycle usage, to reducing consumption through local exchange of goods and services.

Hawkers Brewery To reduce their energy usage Hawkens Brewery have installed solar panels and re-use hot water in their brewing processes. Provided some evidence of closed-loop actions (spent grain given to farmers).



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Ivor Otley

Ivor is the unsung hero of the Northcote Library Food Garden (NLFG). He is there most days of the week, and is present at all the working bees. Ivor is the treasurer & until recently held the position of secretary too. He communicates with the gardeners, arranges working bees & runs the Facebook page. Ivor is famous at the working bees for his spinach pies.

Jasmine Lechte

Jasmine is the garden specialist teacher at Montmorency Primary School. Over the last 3 years, she has been working tirelessly with parents, students and the whole school community to create a wonderful Wildlife Corridor of Indigenous plants along the boundary of the school. Jasmine has worked with the students to weed the area and prepare the site for planting using cardboard and paper weed matting and mulch. She has held 4 planting days with students, parents and community members and works hard to maintain the planting, with amazing results.

Kat Lavers

Kat Lavers is a passionate gardener, permaculture designer, trainer and facilitator. Her house and garden, 'The Plummery', is a small-scale urban permaculture system. The 1/14th of an acre site produces almost all the vegies, herbs, fruit, mushrooms and electricity consumed by her small household, as well as recycling all organic waste on site. Kat has exhibited her garden and held workshops as part of the 2015 Darebin Backyard Harvest Festival and 2016 Homemade Food and Wine Festival.

Kaye Roberts-Palmer

Kaye founded and manages Save Our Citrus Melbourne an active garden education campaign to help people learn how to reduce the spread of the Citrus Gall Wasp pest, which is a serious threat to the survival of our backyard citrus trees. Since 2015, the campaign has been promoted through a range of media including newspaper and magazine articles, radio interviews, television segment, YouTube videos (10,646 views), dedicated Facebook page (2,312 likes) and 13 suburban educational talks.

Laughter Yoga

“Sustaining the sustainers” is a Laughter Yoga workshop that promotes wellbeing, stress management and resilience as a way of increasing wellbeing for community leaders. The workshops are designed to acknowledge the huge effort, time commitment and energy which community leaders put into sustainability projects, and also to bring various groups within our diverse community together.



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Lexie Luly

Lexie Luly's house in Preston was a ground-breaking passive solar designed home when completed in 1978. In 1979 a solar boosted gas hot water unit was installed, and solar panels were added in 2000. The garden has been producing vegetables since the early 1900s, and all lawns were removed during the droughts of the 1960s.

Megan Cassidy

As a participant of the Community Leaders program, Megan chose to lead a Transition Streets project as she wanted to get to know her neighbours better and learn more about sustainable living and creating change. She led a successful group that included all but two of the residents in her street. Her group finished the program at the end of 2015 and are still meeting. They have plans for our second Street Christmas Party.

Merri Stationeers

This local group is committed to replanting and improving the amenity of the land around the Merri Station in Northcote. They work in partnership with Keep Australia Beautiful, VicTrack, Metro Trains, Darebin City Council and other statutory business and community stakeholders.

Montmorency Sugar Glider

Montmorency Community Group has run a project to build and install nesting boxes for sugar gliders. Prior to this work there had been few reports of sugar gliders in the area. 45 boxes have been installed in council parks and schools around Montmorency and 20 in private homes over a 2 year period. Work has been done on habitat identification and fauna surveys which have exceeded expectations. The group is based on the Transition Towns initiative (<https://transitionnetwork.org/>).

Murundaka

Murundaka is an innovative, suburban, sustainability-driven development located where three homes once stood. Comprising 20 households built so as to minimise the environmental footprints of all residents and maximise open space for productive gardens, it is glowing evidence of cooperative living where people can live together and do it better.



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Old 2 New Designs

Old 2 new designs take materials that would end up in landfill and creates beautiful pieces of furniture and cabinetry. Old material can be transformed into anything ranging from new stylish pieces of furniture to old timber flooring, structural timbers or even old hot water heaters. Luke rescues materials and gives them new purpose and new life. He hopes to educate others about the wasteful resources that end up in landfill and also to inspire others to have a go at reclaiming and repurposing discarded material themselves.

Paul Shelton

Whether it's through his work with Transition Darebin, his work supporting local community groups and enterprises, his workshops around community gardening, education and permaculture or just in his street or backyard. Paul is passionate about connecting people and growing a better, more sustainable and satisfying Darebin for everyone.

Rachael Styles

Rachael has helped to create an urban edible food garden and composting hub. The space also acts as a great place for people to learn new skills and connect with each other. Rachael has also overseen the development of an urban garden and compost hub near Bell Station Preston.

Robert Bender

Robert is a very active member of the Friends of Wilson Reserve in Ivanhoe for many years. He has been working away tirelessly at the reserve with the friends group, working on revegetation of Wilson Reserve, hand weeding and collecting rubbish from the Yarra River in his kayak.

Robin Gale-Baker

Robin Gale-Baker is the president and co-founder of Sustainable Macleod Inc. which includes the Macleod Vegie Swap and the Macleod Organic Community Garden. She is the founder of the Green and Local Auction which raises funds for its activities. Robin writes the Sustainable Macleod monthly newsletter and has written articles and reports on sustainability issues and the work of Sustainable Macleod. She has run many workshops on environmental issues for Sustainable Macleod.



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Rooftop Honey	Rooftop Honey has a vision of putting beehives on the rooftops of Melbourne businesses and gardens in all suburbs. The company install, maintain and care for the beehives using conventional and natural bee keeping methods.
Rossmoyne St Community	This group of community minded residents organise installations (such as planter boxes and reading exchanges) and annual events to foster community participation, encourage people to use active transport and to live more sustainably.
Salt Foundation	The Salt Foundation provides hundreds of free community meals in Banyule and Darebin each month as does so in collaboration with likeminded partners and volunteers who understand the healing benefits of table fellowship.
Save Our Citrus	The Save our Citrus Melbourne active garden education campaign founded by Kaye Roberts-Palmer to help people learn how to reduce the spread of the Citrus Gall Wasp pest, which is a serious threat to the survival of our backyard citrus trees. Campaign messages have been promoted through a range of supportive media including 7 newspaper articles, 3 magazine articles, 5 radio interviews, 1 podcast 1 television segment, 3 YouTube videos and 13 suburban educational talks.
Speaking of Sustainability	Speaking of Sustainability - Banyule is a Toastmasters Club that encourages and educates community members, interested in the diverse themes of sustainability, to communicate more effectively and develop stronger leadership skills, in a supportive and positive environment. Toastmasters International is a not for profit training organisation that focuses on communication and leadership development (www.toastmasters.org.au).



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St Joseph the Worker Primary School

The students at St. Joseph the Worker PS are creating a 'habitat corridor' to provide a safe path for native animals to travel around their school. The indigenous trees and shrubs will also act like a 'bio swale' to slow storm water run-off and stop any rubbish going into Edgars Creek.

St Pius community garden

The St Pius X Community Garden project is a collaboration between a number of community groups across the Heidelberg West Area to promote urban food gardening and to provide a focus and meeting place for the local community.

St Raphael's School

St Raphael's School have embraced sustainability and healthy eating through the 'Seed to Plate' initiative. They are wholeheartedly committed to sustainability. Students are provided with opportunities to plant, care and harvest the produce which is grown on school grounds. During 'Soup days', students take produce from the garden and create a variety of soups which are sold during lunchtimes. Money raised from initiatives is being put back into the schools garden programs.

Swept Away

Swept away eco-friendly cleaning, a boutique residential cleaning service in Melbourne's inner north. Established in 2012, swept away continues to develop and lead sustainable eco-friendly cleaning. Their ecological approach to detailed cleaning focuses on health and wellbeing, and care for the planet.

Textile Art Community

Textile Art Community are a community of artists and non artists who make textile artworks. They save textiles and found objects from landfill to recycle, up cycle and restore. They reclaim and recycle discarded textiles and found objects, challenging themselves to find new ways to use some of the waste Victorians produce every year Textile Art Community (TAC) was born from the idea that everyone is creative – that the act of making things mindfully, in the company of others, brings joy. Many Darebin and Banyule community members have joined TAC workshops, community projects, open days and exhibitions.



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Thornbury Aquaponics Farm	Robbie Kershaw’s entire Thornbury garden is devoted to food production. It features two large aquaponics systems in which rainbow trout and vegetables are harmoniously grown in a symbiotic relationship. This garden produces a huge variety of fruit, vegetables and herbs. Free-range chickens and compost also contribute to its sustainability credentials.
Transition Darebin	Transition Darebin is about empowering the Darebin community to become re-localised and resilient through practical solutions like local food growing, skill-sharing, local production of goods and services, and reuse and recycling.
Transition Darebin Urban Food Swaps	Food swaps bring local people together who have an interest in sustainable gardening and eating fresh local produce to share gardening and cooking tips, seeds and sustainability ideas. People bring something they have in abundance e.g. lemons and leave with something they don't have at all but which is abundant in someone else's garden. People who live in an apartment or don't have much in their gardens can cook or bake something and bring it along e.g. marmalade, bread etc.
WeCycle	WeCycle recycles discarded and unwanted bicycles for distribution to members of refugee and asylum seeker communities and other people who do not have the means of owning or knowledge of bicycles to take advantage of their benefits. We provide a helmet and now, through a City of Darebin grant, we are also able to provide a sturdy lock and lights.

Sustainable Homes and Communities Coordinator: Phone (03) **8470 8405** or Email info@sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au
 Information correct at time of printing. **For information regarding the 2016 Sustainability Awards go to: www.sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au**



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