



# Farm Fodder

The official newsletter for East Freo Farm

by Rebecca James, Acting Chairperson

It is hard to believe that we only started on site in May of this year! Progress in establishing the community garden so quickly has been amazing and a real tribute to the hard working East Freo Farm Inc members, the committee, other volunteers and our sponsors.

None of this would be possible without the overwhelming support of 9 Seeds café. The owners have been so generous in allowing us to utilize their 'backyard' for this project. "The Farm" is already a local meeting point for the community, often accompanied by a coffee or meal at the café.

Just as important as the produce we are harvesting, is the sharing of knowledge and the friendships being created along the way. I especially enjoy seeing how the kids love being involved and the seamless mix of generations joining in together.

East Freo Farm Inc is more than just a community garden site. Already we have become a grassroots example of how we can reduce our environmental footprints and support the idea of establishing fresh food production systems within our suburbs. We are all learning from each other and people are visiting our garden and taking ideas home to put in place in their own spaces.

This is only the beginning and it is a journey that I am both proud and very excited to be a part of.



## Town of East Fremantle Support



We are grateful to the Town of East Fremantle for their support in undertaking significant site clearance works, in addition to providing a generous Foundation Grant, to get our community garden underway.

## Aussie Farmers Direct

Anyone shopping with Aussie Farmers Direct can select East Freo Farm Inc as their registered fundraising group and 2% of their annual total spent will go our group as well as them getting farm fresh produce delivered straight to the door! Just click on the Fundraising tab of the website to nominate

[www.aussiefarmersdirect.com.au](http://www.aussiefarmersdirect.com.au)

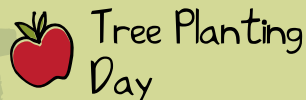
Thank you to our local Aussie Farmers Direct Milkman and Milkmaid - Douglas and Shirley, for providing four wonderful fruit and veg boxes to raffle at our first Busy Bee. We raised \$154!

## Well Done Nancy

Congratulations to our dedicated member Nancy Tucker who had over 700 people visit her own garden as part of the Australian Open Garden Scheme in September! Nancy is always spreading the permaculture word and passing on her knowledge to those interested in learning more.



in this edition



# Tree Planting Day

We had a great turn out to the Tree Planting Day, which meant we got lots of trees in the ground in time to catch the last of the winter rains. Members are able to 'sponsor' a tree for \$50 and will have a name plaque placed near the tree. We already have trees sponsored/donated by:

Councillor Dean Nardi, Councillor Alex Wilson, Moller-Mawson Family, James Family, Pat & Eric Berry, John & Felicity Woods, Geoff Walton, Lyn & Kim Woods, Ron & Jill Kawalilak, Lyn McDonald and Jamie and Deb Wilkes from Little Design Farm.

Trees currently available for sponsoring are: Apple, Plum, Nectarine, Apricot and Bay Leaf.



# Garden Waste Wanted

We need extra Leaves, Grass Clippings and even Weeds to make more compost!

Only from gardens that have not had chemicals sprayed on them please.

Please drop off to site in bags or straight into our compost bays for sorting.

# Wooden Boat Playground

The beautiful wooden boat children's play area is a real feature on site. Sponsorship of the boat was provided by East Fremantle real estate specialists Clare Hickey-Shand and Anne-Marie Hickey of Yard Property. Clare said, "The East Freo Farm initiative sounds like a great idea and we would be proud to be a part of it". Pirate "Arrghhs" and sailor "Ahoy theres" are common sounds to be heard amongst the veggie patch...



**Yard**  
PROPERTY

# Upcoming Projects

Exciting things ahead include:

- Chook Pen
- More Raised Beds
- Carpark Paving
- Passionfruit and Grape vines
- Frog Pond

# Precious Water

We have installed a rainwater tank behind the café as an extra source of water for the garden. We purchased a used tank from Rainwater Tanks WA, who donated their labour for the stand construction and tank installation. A community mural on the tank has been mooted as a fun future project. Obviously the rainwater tank won't meet all of our water needs throughout Summer and we need to remain vigilant about minimising water use and using waterwise gardening practices. The community garden has a separate sub-meter to account for the scheme water that we use, so reducing water use not only preserves a precious resource but will save us money too! The installation of the sub-meter was generously provided by Justin from Executive Bathroom Solutions. Café staff are also helping out by re-using coffee water on the verges out the front.

# School Holiday Fun

Talented artists and teachers Karen Blair and Sarah Hannah arranged a ceramic plaque workshop for the kids in the July School holidays. Delighted kids were able to use cute templates to make plant name tags



from terracotta clay. They then glazed them in bright colours and the tags were fired in a kiln. The kids had a ball making the tags and the results look fantastic proudly displayed in the raised beds on site.

# KeepCup Fundraiser

How many take-away coffee cups do you go through each year? You can make a difference by re-using your own cup. We have linked up with KeepCup for a great fundraiser idea.

Simply choose your cup size and design the colours of your Keep Cup online at

[www.keepcup.com](http://www.keepcup.com)

Use the online promotional code **FREOFARM** and KeepCup will kindly donate \$2.50 from every purchase to East Freo Farm Inc. Fundraising Code available until October 28th 2011.



# Shed Calamity

In the week before our first Busy Bee, paving was prepared in anticipation of our brand new shed and the shed was partially erected by volunteers. Unfortunately, strong winds and a storm resulted in the poor shed being nearly blown away! This photo shows what we found the next day. Community spirit prevailed however, and an eager team had the shed dismantled, re-erected and strongly secured at the first Busy Bee. Our shed was donated by MGI Perth Finance. East Freo Farm Inc Treasurer, David James, is Director and happy to discuss any of your financing needs (ph 0403 130 954)



# Annual General Meeting

**Sunday October 23rd, 4pm Sundowner on Site**

Join in the meeting and then a celebration of our achievements with a sausage sizzle and catch up on site. New committee will be elected so please consider volunteering for a position.

# Recycling Organic Waste

This project is supported by the Western Australian Waste Authority through the Landfill Levy Fund.



Waste Authority

Towards  
**ZERO WASTE**  
www.zerowastewa.com.au

It is great to see organic waste from the café and community now being used to create valuable compost for the garden instead of ending up in landfill. Check out the different ways we are utilizing this waste on site:

## Compost Bays:

Our Compost Bays are made out of eWood, produced from recycled printer cartridges! They were supplied by Better Environmental Solutions Today who generously donated the freight.



Waste used in the compost bays includes garden prunings, lawn clippings, cardboard, coffee grounds, newspapers and shredded office paper.

## Compost Bins:

We also have three donated compost bins. The fruit and veggie scraps from 9 Seeds café are being used in these to make compost for our raised garden beds. Please feel free to add your own fruit and veg scraps to these compost bins - but please no citrus, potato, garlic or onion!

## Worm Farms:

We have three types of worm farm on the go at the garden!

## Bathtub Worm Farms:

We are producing masses of liquid fertiliser from our productive bathtub worm farms for use on the garden.

## Wheelie Bin Worm Farms:

We have some innovative worm farms made from old wheelie bins with their bottoms cut out. These have been dug into the ground and as the worms work their magic we will move them to a new spot to make some more productive soil.



## Kids Can-O-Worms:

The kids even have their own worm farm going in kids corner. This is a more traditional layered worm farm which produces 'worm wee' and castings from organic waste.



[www.fremantleports.com.au](http://www.fremantleports.com.au)

[www.eastfreofarm.weebly.com](http://www.eastfreofarm.weebly.com)

Fremantle Ports are proud to sponsor the production of Farm Fodder.  
Designed by Little Design Farm.



Little Design Farm  
[www.littledesignfarm.com.au](http://www.littledesignfarm.com.au)



East Freo  
**Farm inc**

Committee 2011

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Advertising  
in Farm Fodder

We welcome (paid) advertisements in Farm Fodder. If you're interested contact Rebecca on the details above.

Where are we?

Our community garden is located at 121 Marmion St (behind 9 Seeds Café)

Site Busy Bees

Busy Bees will be held on site on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 9:30am. Come along and join the fun.

New Members Welcome!