

PUMPKin ViNE

Vol 7. Winter-Spring 2024

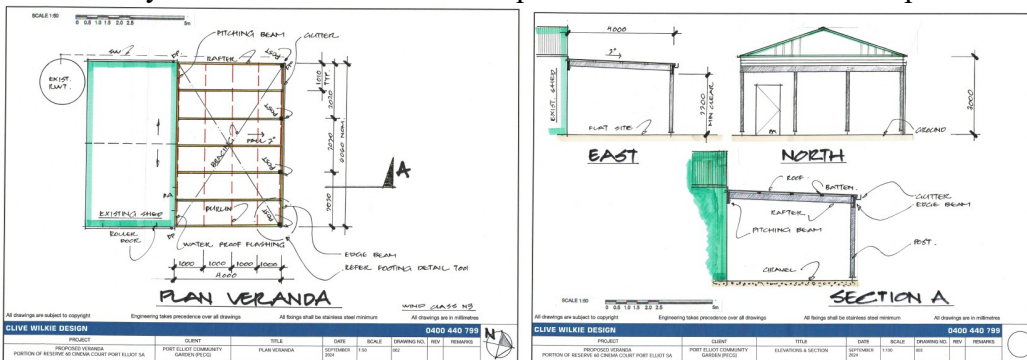
Where did that year go? ...our last newsletter was Winter-Spring 2023! This doesn't mean nothing has been happening in our community garden. Quite the contrary, it has been a busy 12 months attracting more funding, building several new garden beds and fitting out the shed, as well as — of course — regular harvests of diverse produce and convivial morning tea sessions . Even if you have been reading our 'monthly' committee meeting minutes, you will have missed some of our developments. So this newsletter accompanies the August meeting minutes (see attachment) with recent photos, updates and announcements.

Thank you for your contributions.

Two stalwart committee members will be taking a step back from the front line as their lives evolve. Elizabeth Ganguly, erstwhile chairperson and garden designer, has entered the grandmother and travel phase of her life. Libby Walsh, who has been a lead grant writer / winner still holds a job, young family and is building a house. I never understood where she had time for the grant writing anyway. Both Elizabeth and Libby have been behind the negotiations, planning and funding for the veranda to go on the shed. There is a lot more work in this than you'd imagine. On behalf of the other community garden members, we thank you for your contributions, and look forward to your occasional garden visits.

New infrastructure

As mentioned above, we are finally getting a veranda / pergola on our shed. This will provide much needed all-season shelter for our morning tea sessions and community events we hope to hold in future. The drawings for the Development Application were provided gratis by Clive Wilkie. Thanks very much for that Clive. We hope to see the construction completed in the summer.



We also recently received a huge (15 m³) delivery of vegetable soil mix from Peats Soils at a highly subsidised rate. Up to now we have had about 57 m² of raised garden beds. The new soil has been used to create a further 30m² of raised garden beds, with plenty left over for future beds.

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All hands on deck distributing the soil.



Melissa & Daryl prepare cabbage leaves for the compost beds
 Cabbage scraps donated regularly from nearby business, *Gut Feelings*
<https://gutfeelingfermentation.com/>



Jenny preparing the new asparagus bed.



Mark preparing the new potato bed



Karen feeding the lettuce and silver beet.



Our well organised shed, all implements donated.

We are almost finished preparing the paved base for our very own toilet so members don't have to use the toilet in the oval grounds. Thanks to Daryl and Perry for the paved base, and thanks to Elizabeth for the small shed for our privacy; now its up to me to procure a camping chemical toilet. ***Is there anybody out there who would like to donate one?***

Invitations for further involvement

I believe we have about 35 paid up members, which is fantastic as it goes some way to help pay for consumables, especially water. Not everybody turns up regularly, and that is 100% OK. We all have different commitments and capacities. Even though our opening times are 9am-12pm Wednesdays, and every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, as a member you have 24 hour / 7 day access to the garden if you want to come in and pick some vegies, herbs and flowers. You will just need to get the access code from one of the committee members. Even if you just turn up for morning tea on our open days (usually 11:15am) then we are happy to see you. ***No work required!***

Our 'committee' is basically whoever is in the garden on committee day (2nd Saturday of month). Our current 'officers' are Frodo Krochmal chairperson (currently taking some leave), Gus Telfer secretary, Ian Moyle and Mark Rudiger run the Facebook site, and myself, Ian Nuberg, as treasurer.

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We are in need of a 'grant writer'. So far we have been very successful in raising almost \$50,000 in grants. Every application we have made has been successful. However, it does require someone to locate the opportunity and write the application. We have plenty of good ideas for future activities that require community arts funding. Is there anybody interested in getting more involved?

Open Gardens South Australia

Open Gardens South Australia has been a generous contributor to our community garden. OGSA provided \$4000 that has been used for landscaping, e.g. our paving and some garden beds. As part of OGSA's Spring offerings, Elizabeth Ganguly's garden, *Indigo Blue*, be ***open to the public on 6th - 7th October.*** *Indigo Blue* is on 28 Basham Beach Rd, Port Elliot. It will be open from 10:30am-4:00pm.

Check out more details and fantastic photos here:

<https://opengardensa.org.au/current-season/indigo-blue>

We are looking for ***volunteers to help with catering for this event***, all proceeds will go to our community garden. It will be a most pleasant way to spend a few hours of your weekend. If you are interested in being involved —cooking cakes and scones, serving tea and coffee etc — please contact our secretary Gus Telfer as soon as possible on: secretary.fpecg@gmail.com

How's the season?

For the weather-nerds amongst us — you know who you are — I have posted the following charts showing, in the red lines, the cumulative rainfall since the beginning of the years of 2023 and 2024. The fine blue lines are seasonal data for each year since 1950, and the heavy blue line is the average. So apart from the wet summer, this year is running close to average, at least in terms of cumulative rainfall.

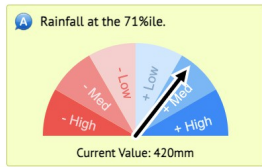
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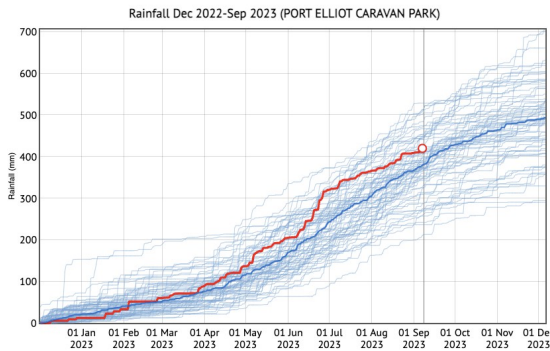
How's the Season?

AUSTRALIAN
CliMate

How's the season progressing...
 for
 at
 starting
 looking forward
 for years



A Difference from median +39mm on 07th September 2023

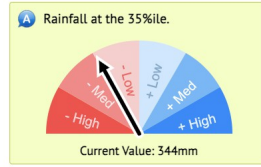


2023 season

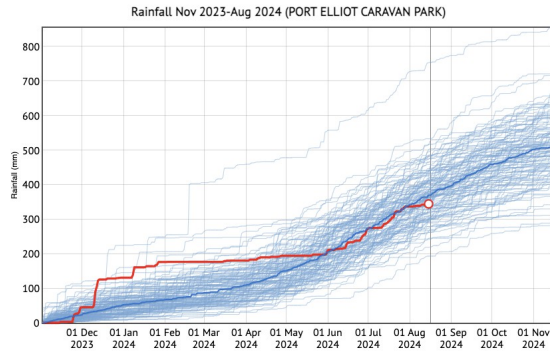
How's the Season?

AUSTRALIAN
CliMate

How's the season progressing...
 for
 at
 starting
 looking forward
 for years



A Difference from median -26mm on 15th August 2024



2024 season

www.climateapp.net.au

Looking forward to seeing you all in the garden this Spring and Summer.
Ian Nuberg, treasurer, iannuberg54@gmail.com mobile 0421 144 671

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FRIENDS of PORT ELLIOT COMMUNITY GARDEN
Member's meeting minutes. Saturday August 10th 2024

- 1. Present:** Ian Nuberg, Liz Davies, Daryl Finch, Elizabeth Ganguly, Anne Martin, Gus Telfer
Apologies: Frodo Krochmal, Mark Rudiger, Ian Moyle, Perry Schaedel, Antz Dent.
- 2. Previous Minutes:** Moved as correct, Elizabeth. Minutes accepted
- 3. Correspondence:** In: from Libby Walsh
In: from Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority
Out: to Peats Soils
- 4. Treasurer's Report:** Approx. \$5900 remains in our account but Ian will seek more information re specific budget lines. This will facilitate drafting short & long term budgets and guide future grant applications.
- 5. Grants/Fundraising/Sponsorship:** Annual corporate sponsorships discussed. To be followed up later in the year.
Upcoming major fundraising event in October (see OGSA below)
- 6. Communication/Social Media:** An update on Garden progress to be sent to all members with the minutes.
FPECG page on the PETFIA website needs some updating.
- 7. Work Schedule:** Verandah. Draft plans from Clive Wilkie tabled. Gus to follow up with costings. Elizabeth to ask ShedX for a copy of their soil report.
Rat control. Darryl is working on a prototype mesh cages. Natural ingredient baits to be trialed in the PVC bait stations.
- 8. Membership:** Membership renewals are due this month (for anyone who joined before May).
Non-active members to be encouraged to drop in.
- 9. AOB:**
 - Formal Opening. Agreed that this be postponed until the verandah is in place.
 - OGSA. October 6th & 7th confirmed for the Open Garden at Indigo Blue. Members to be asked to indicate their likely availability for a shift on the gate or morning & afternoon tea stall. 2-3 people needed for each site between 10 am and 4:30pm. (Also some setting up on the Saturday.)
 - PE Kindergarten visit. Liz has been liaising with the kindergarten supervisor re an opportunity for the children to be introduced to the Garden. Agreed that we will notify them through Liz when the pumpkin and watermelon beds are ready to plant out.



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10. Next Meeting: Saturday September 21st. 11am.

PECG

Meeting closed 12:15