

Thursday 7 October 2010.

2010 SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION WINNERS

Winners of the 2010 City of Ryde Spring Garden competition were announced on Wednesday 6 October at a Gala Event hosted by sponsor Eden Gardens.

Competition coordinator, City of Ryde Parks Community Liaison Officer, Robbie Cunningham, said: "The standard and presentation of gardens this year was extremely high, making the judge's task difficult.

"We were delighted to see first time entrants taking out the top awards and the Special Award For Outstanding Contribution to the Education and Encouragement of our Young Gardeners that went to Mr Jimmy Shaw was a popular choice."

2010 SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION WINNERS

Most Beautiful Garden - Large

1st Tim O'Brien

Judges note: This formal and well established garden features a magnificent magnolia denudata in the entry courtyard. The rear garden has a charming entertaining area with a water feature and beyond is an expanse of lawn framed by deciduous pear trees and clipped hedges.

2nd Angela Thomas

3rd John Hancock and Rod Browne

4th Kathy Laus

Most Beautiful Garden - Small

1st Judy Thomson

Judges note: In this charming little garden Judy and her husband have created a sheltered and colourful corner. Everywhere the eye travels is yet another delightful detail, be it the dovecot or the annuals.

2nd Adrienne Hick

3rd Doreen Rouse

Highly Commended – Laurie Armfield, Fiona James, Peter Fairburn

Most Beautiful Courtyard or Balcony

1st New Horizons Aged Care Facility

Judges note: A beautiful courtyard area recently renovated, with all the hard work done by staff, replacing grasses with lots of colourful flowering plants, a raised herb and vegetable bed and sensory plants. The garden is used regularly by the residents and features several mosaics made by a staff member.

Joint 2nd Sarah Cardis

Joint 2nd Joy Scott

Joint 3rd Angel Pease, Jung Min Cho

Best Children's Garden

1st Ilankumuran Muragappan

Judges note: A delightful, whimsical child's balcony garden featuring succulents, herbs and even fish in a bowl.

Most Beautiful Commercial Garden

1st Curzon Hall

Judges note: The gardens at Curzon Hall show a successful integration of traditional and modern within the context of a high use areas.

Joint 2nd Calvary Retirement Community

Joint 2nd Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens and Crematorium

3rd Marist College Eastwood

Best Edible Garden

1st Macquarie University Community Garden Club

Judges note: This is a large community garden divided into many sub lots. It is an excellent example of an active and vibrant community garden with healthy plants, well laid out plots and much evidence of active participation.

2nd Bernadette Douglas

Joint 3rd Chris Ward, Colin Clark

Best Bush Care Site

1st Putney Park

Judges note: Peter Wisdom, essentially a 'one man' Bushcare group, volunteers on a daily basis has transformed the bushland of this river front reserve. Through plantings, consistent weed control and working with Council, his work has led to fantastic natural regeneration and habitat development.

Hidden Gem Encouragement Award - Stewart Park

Difficult Site Encouragement Award - Robinson Street

New Group Encouragement Award - River Avenue

Best School Garden - Preschool

1st Gumnut Cottage

Judges note: Gumnut Cottage caters for around 90 children. Over the last 12 months staff and families have embarked on an ambitious project to beautify the school grounds. The gardens are a range of native, exotic and vegetable.

2nd Kids Cottage of Gladesville

Best School Garden – Primary School

1st West Ryde Public School

Judges note: The establishment of this relatively new edible garden was assisted by the greater school community. The garden program is integrated into the curriculum with the children working with their 'buddy classes' and even selling salad from the garden to help fund it. The gardens that are cared for include the veggie garden and also succulent and screening from the road.

2nd Gladesville Public School

3rd Our Lady Queen of Peace

Special Award For Outstanding Contribution to the Education and Encouragement of the Young Gardeners of the City of Ryde Mr Jimmy Shaw

The 2010 Spring Garden Competition is presented by the City of Ryde with generous assistance from sponsors Eden Gardens, Materials in the Raw, Australian Native Landscapes.