

Friday 24 October 2014

WINNERS OF SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

Winners of 2014 City of Ryde Spring Garden Competition were praised for their creativity, hard work and sustainable gardening practices at a Gala Event last night (Thursday 23 October) at Eden Gardens, North Ryde.

Announcing the awards for the annual competition, City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Bill Pickering said: "This year's splendid competition showcases an abundance of talented and dedicated gardeners in our community.

"While the creators of these beautiful gardens and spaces are singled out for praise, it's the neighbours, visitors and passers-by, not to mention our City's green reputation, who are the overall winners in this competition."

With 65 category entries, Best Small Garden and Best Bushcare Site were the most hotly contested categories.

Entries ranged from simple to ornate, family projects to grand solo efforts. Community groups and commercial gardens were also congratulated.

Judges Meredith Kirton, Carmel, Quill, Jenny Ring, Judy Christie and Andy Sutherland commented on the high standard and presentation of all entries

The City of Ryde Spring Garden Competition is one of a handful of Council-managed garden competitions run for the benefit of the community. The support of sponsors Eden Gardens (Gold), Snowden Parkes Real Estate (Gold), SITA Australia (Silver), Sam the Paving Man (Bronze) is greatly appreciated.

To see photos of the winning entries in the City of Ryde 2014 Spring Garden Competition go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/springgardenscompetition

WINNERS & PLACE GETTERS – 2014 CITY OF RYDE SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION

Best Large Garden (sponsored by Eden Gardens)

1st Place Eugene Shashkof, Ryde

Judge's comment: "A delightful, well-designed garden with natives, ornamentals and edibles. It has a variety of traditional and formal elements, flowering sections, relaxing water features and organic vegetables, bee hives and chickens."

2nd place Angela Thomas

Gladesville

3rd place Heidi Gardner

Ryde

Best Small Garden (sponsored by Snowden Parkes Real Estate)

1st Place Rae and Annalisa Roy, Marsfield

Judge's comment: "Rae and Annalisa have worked hard to present a delightful, tranquil and well maintained garden. It features different spaces to sit, relax and socialise in. It has a very bright and well thought out flowering colour palette and incorporates some raised vegetable garden beds."

2nd place	David Heyworth	Putney
3rd place	Marion Nichol	Denistone
H/Commended	Adrienne Hicks	Marsfield
Commended	Stuart Leece	Gladesville
Commended	On Sook Jun	Gladesville

Best Courtyard/Balcony Garden

1st Place Sharon Wardle, Marsfield

Judge's comment: "A very attractive and well maintained balcony garden for the family to enjoy, featuring flowering plants and a lemon tree specifically to make lemon drizzle cake. A pleasure to be in."

2nd place	Maureen Bennett	Marsfield
3rd place	Jill Crow	Marsfield
Commended	Sadhana Desai	Gladesville

Best Edible Garden

1st Place Bernadette Douglas, Melrose Park

Judge's comment: "Bernadette has presented an amazing river-front garden which flows from a formal parterre area into a very productive edible garden. It consists of many varieties of vegetables and fruit trees. Chickens keep the soil aerated and free of pests and diseases. It provides the family with a regular supply of healthy eggs whilst the bees are busy pollinating the garden and producing honey."

2nd place	Margaret Mossakowska	Denistone
3rd place	Janna Mizens	East Ryde

Best Children's Garden

1st Place Grandchildren of Barbara Ford, Eastwood

"A slightly wild garden in which the children can run free, use their imaginations and learn about nature. Barbara certainly does a good job to encourage her grandchildren's inspiration and creativity"

2nd place	Sarah Yep	Marsfield
3rd place	Sophie and Lily Arendse	Macquarie Park
H/Commended	Aaron Pease	Macquarie Park

Best Commercial Garden (sponsored by SITA Australia)

1st Place Living Choice - Leisure Lea Gardens, Marsfield

Judge's comment: "This garden and its design continue to evolve. The gardens consist of well-maintained rose beds, informal gardens and tropical niches. Joel is a dedicated, resourceful and enthusiastic gardener who strikes his own cuttings and has a nursery. The garden at Leisure Lea brings much pleasure to the residents and is a credit to him and his hard work."

2nd place	Calvary Retirement Community InvoCare Northern Suburbs	Ryde
3rd place	Memorial Gardens	North Ryde

Best Community Garden

1st Place Macquarie University Community Garden Club

Judge's comment: "This is a true community garden with Club membership consisting of university students, staff and members of the general community - each maintaining their own productive allotments. On a monthly basis the membership has a working bee to keep the site in good order. The Club works to educate people on the principles of organic and sustainable gardening."

2nd place	184A Pittwater Rd Community Garden	Gladesville
3rd place	The Habitat	Ryde
Special Recognition	Doomben Ave Gardening Crew	Eastwood

Best School Garden

1st Place Kent Road Public School, Marsfield

Judge's comment: "This is a well maintained garden that is all inclusive of students, staff and community. The garden has been well planned and utilises the available resources well with adequate space allocated to an orchard, raised vegie plots, a Chook run, shade house, a compost area and worm farms. It was great to see the 1st year classes had their own small garden plots to kindle their interest in gardening. The gardens are well integrated into the school syllabus and provide an excellent learning platform."

2nd place	West Ryde Public School	West Ryde
3rd place	Marist College Eastwood	Eastwood

Best Pre-School Garden

Joint 1st Place St Georges Pre-School, Eastwood & KU Eastwood Pre-School, Eastwood

Judge's comment – St Georges Pre-School: "From adventure trails to quiet fairy grottos, these spaces invite and encourage children to explore and play. The interactive program that involves children in the daily tasks of the gardens provides an integrated and well-rounded learning experience and an appreciation for nature. Just a beautiful place of discovery, gardening, wonder and great mix of adventurous play, quiet areas and a lovely outdoor stage. Well done."

Judge's comment – KU Eastwood Pre-School: "This natural learning environment is a collaborative effort involving the educators, children, their families and the local community. Through the use of a combination of natural and recycled materials, KU Eastwood features vegetable and herb gardens, a bushland path, sensory garden and a recently added succulent garden."

2nd place	Top Ryde Early Learning	Ryde
3rd place	Banksia Cottage	Macquarie University

Best Bushcare Site

1st Place Meadowbank Park Bushcare Group, Meadowbank

Judge's comment: "A skilled group of volunteers who are actively pursuing their long term strategy and have a thorough understanding of their site. Prioritising weed management using best practice, best

regeneration techniques, extending areas and tagging new species regenerating. The group is engaging neighbours and recruiting younger volunteers. In the last 12 months they have followed through on various elements in their master plan and have identified new opportunities to get more natural regeneration. This active group is well on track to restoring a unique and valuable bushland area and managing it for the long term."

2nd place	Monash Road Bushcare Group	Gladesville
3rd place	Portius Park Bushcare Group	East Ryde

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