

FEBRUARY  
2011

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# Beelarong Community Farm

*Time to grow*



FEBRUARY 2011

## FARM NEWS

Well another year starts - and what a start to the year it has been. After all the drought, so much rain. Luckily the farm survived without too many problems - see Marion's report on page 3 of the newsletter.

The new year has also brought us a new committee. Rolf Kuelsen takes over as Chairman, Brian McAllister, Vice President, Sara Breckenridge is staying on as treasurer, and the committee members are Helen Paynter, Judy Robinson and Jean Burke.

Memberships are due for renewal at the end of January. Please make sure you fill in a form and send your dues to Sara asap.

The farm still needs a secretary. If you have a computer and feel up to the job, please let Rolf know.

Finally, our thoughts go out to Jo Seeburg who has been unwell. She is now on the mend and we hope it is not too long before she returns to the farm.

## Diary

### GOLD Workshops

18th Feb Herbs for Health

### ACTIVE PARKS Workshops

15th Feb Pest Management

17th Feb Cob Oven Cooking

*All workshops 9.30am to 11.30am  
Please call BCC to book.*

### Meeting

The committee will have an on site meeting at Beelarong on Saturday 5th Feb at 3pm.



---

## February in the Garden by Sara Breckenridge

---

With all the rainfall Brisbane has experienced, I can imagine many gardens are similar to mine – jungle like in appearance!

Just remember when you are in your garden, try to avoid the heat by working early morning or late afternoon, and slip, slop, slap.

If you are doing any light pruning of bushes and your compost bins are filled to the brim, adopt the ‘chop and drop’ method of mulching; cut up the prunings into small pieces and drop them around the plant as mulch.

Planting guide for February: Arrowroot, Basil, Capsicum, Chilli, Choko, Coriander, Cucumber, Eggplant, Kang Kong, Snake Bean, Sweet Corn, Sweet Potato, Tomatoes, Warrigal Greens, Zucchini. And for some nice colour: Busy Lizzie, Garden Zinnia, Ornamental Chilli, Petunia, Portulaca, Salvia, Sweet Alyssum, Verbena.

Planting by the Moon guide:

4 5 6 Feb: Leafy

14 15 Feb: Fruiting

22 23 Feb: Root

25 26 27 Feb: Maintenance

I had the pleasure of visiting a farmers market whilst in Marylebone, London and was delighted to see quite a variety of hearty winter vegetables available including brussel sprouts, potatoes, kale, apples and pears, jerusalem artichokes and cabbages. I say this because in most of the supermarkets fresh food came from far and wide – beans from Kenya, rosemary from Israel, lemons from Spain, tomatoes and lettuce from Italy, grapes from South Africa, the list goes on.

I am very grateful to be living in SE Queensland where we have such wonderful food growing weather that produces a large variety of delicious seasonal produce for us all to enjoy.

Happy Gardening



---

## Volunteer Update by Di Ferguson

---

Thank you from Peter, our mulching expert, who is happy the way members have been using the bins he constructed to hold mulching materials. He can now get straight into the job without having to sort it out.

If any members still have sandbags left over from the recent floods, Heather, our compost maker, is happy to use the sand in our huge mulching rollers. Please deposit them in the shed near the market garden.

---

# The flood at the farm by Marion Forrest

---

Raw Sewerage leaked in to Perrin Creek and then in to the Brisbane River at High tide during the floods. Luckily farm members were on hand to help out

Beelarong Farm's president, Rolf Kuelsen got sandbags, member Marion Forrest bought black plastic and member Dorothea Schafer helped to temporarily fix the problem.



Above: member Dorothea Schafer with sandbags



Left: Flooding at the farm

---

## Position Vacant

Would you like to edit the newsletter?

I am going to have to hand over the reigns to someone new, due to work and travel commitments this year.

Editing the newsletter is a rewarding and enjoyable experience, and you'll have a great team of writers to work with.

If you would like to give it a try, contact Rolf or myself. I'm happy to give the new editor a template for the newsletter and "training" on how to put it together.

*Virginia Balfour*

Newsletter Editor

---

Beelarong Community Farm, PO Box 595, Cnr Beverley & York Streets, Morningside 4170  
Telephone 0432 238 473 (general) 0401 168 657 (Active Parks and education)  
[info@beelarong.org.au](mailto:info@beelarong.org.au) [www.beelarong.org.au](http://www.beelarong.org.au) ABN 36 492 094 065

---