

News Release

2 February 2012

ADVENTURE GARDEN TAKING SHAPE

Mansfield Shire Council Parks and Gardens team are full swing into their latest project. This time they have joined up with the team from Yooralla as part of the Growing Inclusion project to make a children's adventure garden in the Mansfield Botanic Park.

Wednesday marked the first day's work on the job for the Growing Inclusion project where participants from Yooralla worked side by side with Shire Parks and Gardens staff. Funded by the Department of Human Resources and managed by the Shire, the project promotes participation of community in horticultural projects.

The Growing Inclusion Project aims to support and value people of all abilities and ages. It is anticipated that the participants will grow and produce seedlings for sale, swap, or to cook with, undertake planting in community spaces, assist in creating beautiful gardens and parks, learn new skills, forge great relationships and networks with the wider community, whilst directing the project from within. It is hoped that within the next twelve months the group will develop a sustainable self owned horticultural program.

Mansfield Shire Field Services Coordinator Tim Davidson is wrapped with the project so far. "The Children's adventure Garden is a great way to kick off the program. It's set for completion in March, and involves creating a great area to stimulate the senses of young kids. The Parks and Gardens crew and the Yooralla crew have really hit it off and it's great to see them work together."

Shire Mayor Jeff Whyte also commented on the project. "Council are committed to the Growing Inclusion project which involves all parts of the community and helps the Parks and Gardens team create a great Open Space. It's a win win situation and something we are very proud to be part of", he said.

More information on the Children's Adventure Garden and the Growing Inclusion project can be obtained by contacting Mansfield Shire Council.

ENDS:

For further information: David Roff, CEO, 5775 8555

Photo: Project participants L-R: Lauren McGinty, Hannah Blondell, Aaron Maxfield, Emily Reynolds, James McDonald, Ben Webster, Tim Davidson and Martin Howell

