Community Garden











St Mary's Community Garden

Your community garden in Torbay

Protocols and responsibilities for custodians

Welcome to the family of enthusiastic gardeners at St Mary's community garden. You are a privileged allotment custodian. These notes will help answer any queries or questions you may have and help you to enjoy your allotment as well as the company of your fellow gardeners.

Your commitment is to maintain your allotment and the area of the garden surrounding it, respect other allotments and their custodians, and do your part in building a friendly, peaceful and vibrant community garden here at St Mary's.

The garden operates on an allotment system. Specific allotments are placed in the care of specific individuals or families who act as custodians of their allotment while it is allotted to them. Each allotment is an integral part of the vibrant St Mary's garden community. The expectation of each allotment custodian is that they will take responsibility for their own allotment, as well as do their bit to ensure the proper maintenance and care of allotment as a whole, for example, by taking part in working bees, maintaining paths, clearing fence lines of weeds and vines, being a tidy neighbour, etc.

Guidelines for how to be a good custodian of the community garden

- Don't lose your allotment. To maintain continuity of your allotment allocation is simple ... look after it! If you will be away for an extended period, or if you want to downsize your allotment, or relinquish it, contact **Dianne** to arrange a plan. If an allotment is obviously being neglected, **Dianne** will contact you to discuss the matter. Our expectation is that all the allotments will be fully utilised during the Spring/Summer growing period.
- Take pride in your community garden. Demonstrate this by putting tools and wheelbarrows away, placing all garden refuse in the bins or

on the compost heap, keeping pathways and fence lines adjacent to vour allotment weed-free.

St Mary's community garden is an organic garden. The use of snail bait or any chemical which is not organic is expressly forbidden. Please try to ensure that everything you bring into the garden is biodegradable, organic, and safe for the environment and animals.

Each custodian is to use the communal compost bins for weeds/excess from their allotment.

Invasive weeds such as bindweed, oxalis, wandering willie, onion weed, kikuyu grass and twitch (couch) should be placed in the communal black bag, where they can slowly die.

Use only a watering can or cup in a bucket to water your garden.

Please ensure that you regularly pick up any pieces of rubbish you encounter. Place these in the general rubbish bins provided by St Mary's for this purpose. General rubbish such as plastic pot plant containers, bottles, glass, old bits of carpet etc should be placed in the appropriate wheelie bin.

Never take produce or plants/cuttings from another custodian's garden without permission.

Be a good custodian and keep the area around your allotment tidy and weed free. Don't extend your garden beyond the limits of your allotment. Take initiative and water plants in communal areas (such as the trees and shrubs) and do give some time to weed communal areas such as the pathways.

Keep to other guidelines as they are developed

How the Community Garden Works

Attend the AGM, on the first Saturday in August at 3pm. The next AGM is Saturday 3rd August 2024 @ 3pm, in downstairs lounge at St Mary by the Sea.

You are expected to come along to working bees. We schedule a monthly working bee on the first Saturday of the month.

Please contact any committee member if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

Your committee

Chair	Dion Blundell	021 1378624 <u>dion@stmary.co.nz</u>
Secretary	Nanette Randall	021 140 4548 <u>nanette.randall@gmail.com</u>
Treasurer	Duncan Miller	021 2444 526 <u>magsdunc@gmail.com</u>
Co-ordinator	Dianne Denman	027 313 7116 <u>nz2u@yahoo.com</u>
Facebook	Nanette Randall	021 140 4548 <u>nanette.randall@gmail.com</u>
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Committee	Margaret Rocard	021 681 010 <u>rocardmargaret@gmail.com</u>
Committee	Trevor Stafford	021 3 888 48 <u>tjsinnz@outlook.com</u>

The committee is elected at the AGM on Saturday 3rd August 2024

<u>Thanks to our funding partners</u>: St Mary by the Sea & Hibiscus and Bays Local Board





Navigating the waves of life together

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