



Bodie Cavanagh from Dove Tail Timbers helps install a beautiful hardwood raised bed at Keith and Gene's place. Sadly Bodie missed the best lunch ever: 4 course hot lunch PLUS dessert including gooseberry and rhubarb crumble. Thanks Gene, you're a legend!

Planting guide for Oct/Nov

At last Show Day arrives, and Hobart folklore tells us that its safe to plant out **tomatoes** after this date. We like to leave them in their pots for another week or two, since a bit of root restriction can stimulate earlier flowering. Its fine to plant tomatoes right through to January, so don't despair if you don't get a chance on Show weekend.

All the **root crops** can be sown now, and keep the **carrot** seed moist for a least the first week or so. Also **lettuce** and **asian greens** can be sown to take over as winter grown **spinach** starts to bolt in warmer weather.

Once the soil has warmed (and if you don't have a raised bed you need to wait till November) seeds of bush and runner **beans** can go in, as well as seed or seedlings of **cucumber**, **zucchini**, **pumpkin**, **squash** and **sweet corn**.

If you notice suckers coming up around the base of your **artichokes**, you can carefully dig the suckers out with a bit of root attached and transplant to a new spot. They may need their leaves trimmed back by half, and keep well watered until the new root system forms.

Spring onions and red or white **salad onions** can be sown or transplanted now too.

Hydro Tasmania FIMBY sessions

Since October 2009 FIMBY has been presenting lunchtime seminars for Hydro Tasmania staff at Head Office in the city and the Entura (known as Hydro Tas Consulting until recently) offices at Cambridge Park.

These monthly sessions have become an enjoyable sharing of stories from all participants, with some presentation notes, photos and small give-aways provided by FIMBY each session.

Our original engagement with Hydro was to collaboratively design a food garden for establishment at the Cambridge Park campus. While this food garden hasn't manifested yet, there is much enthusiasm and a strong network of home gardeners at each site.

If your business, or one known to you, is interested in establishing a "lunch box" garden or having regular staff seminars, let us know. We're keen to help make work places healthier, saner, more connected and enjoyable.



Harvest notes

The 'hungry gap' can happen now, but you may still be picking **spinach**, **leeks**, **winter greens** and good old **silver beet**. Also **peas** and **broad beans** are just starting to produce sweet new legumes. If your **asparagus** is more than 3 years old, pick away! Otherwise have a taste then leaves the spears to develop into ferns to help the root system get well established.



Lettuce and other leafy seedlings that were sown as seed should be thinned when small to allow proper development of the plants. Many of the baby greens can be transplanted when they have a few pairs of leaves, perhaps around the edges of soon-to-be tomato beds where they will grow and be harvested before the tomatoes get too big.

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HARVEST

On the summer side of the equinox

The artichoke flower buds are emerging in all their gorgeousness as the season expands towards summer. We LOVE this time of year!

Its ironic that quite often there is the 'hungry gap' at this time, when winter crops are finishing and spring sown crops are not yet producing harvests. But if you've got leeks, spinach, early peas and broad beans, and that quintessential herald of Spring – asparagus – you have gourmet tucker. Try some spring green things in risotto 'Primavera'. YUM!

Network session gets hot and steamy!

Our early October Network gathering included a demonstration of how to make hot compost. When we say "demonstration" what we really mean is that the FIMBY network gang go to work collecting materials, cutting it up, layering the heap, watering and generally doing lots of work themselves! Of course there was the chance to ask lots of questions, and 'learning by doing' is always more effective than just watching someone else do it. Great work folks!



Above: Scott, Disa, Ian, Anne, Juliet and Hazel bask in the warm glow of a job well done.

Blogger extraordinaire

We have recently helped Disa and Scott set up new raised beds at their lovely home in Lutana. Disa is a very keen observer and photographer (dare I say obsessive?!) and she is also an extraordinarily prolific and entertaining blogger. You can follow the progress of their garden and participation in other FIMBY activities on her blog "Lotties Lot" at <http://lottieslot.tasgeocaching.com>. The photos are amazing!

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Workshops and activities

Below: Say Cheese! Claire Collins lead a thoroughly enjoyable day of cheese making in late September. Delicious, fun, interesting!



Next Network Gathering

Sat 5th - Sun 6th November we'll be at the Sustainable Living Expo at Princes Wharf, Shed No. 1, Hobart Waterfront. Come and say hello!

Backyard rabbit culture

Sat 27th November at Wattle Grove 11.00 am to 2.00 pm and includes lunch. Learn about raising rabbits for meat. Contact us for details. Members \$50, non members \$70.

Garden Tour coming up

Sat 4th December, various locations
In December we'll have a tour of a few FIMBY gardens. This was very popular last time, maybe because we all love to sticky beak a bit! If you'd be happy to have the network gang come and visit your place, let us know soon so we can develop the itinerary and let everyone know.

