



**Guelph
Enabling Garden**



Volume 4, Issue 1

January 2006

Message from the Board

Our Garden Grows!

The Guelph Enabling Garden opened in July after five years of dreaming, planning and hard work from many committed people. It flourished through the summer under the care of a committed group of volunteers and ended the first season with the planting of over 1000 donated spring bulbs.



A bird's eye view
(Photo: Glynis Logue)

The official Garden opening took place on September 15th. with special guests Mayor Kate Quarrie and the Hon. Dr. Bill Winegard. Music was supplied by the Eramosa Brass Quartet.

The Board extends a special thank you to our Major Benefactor, Reid's Heritage Group.

We would also like to express our gratitude for all the contributions that have been made to the Garden by our many supporters.

The Enabling Garden has truly grown from the hearts of this entire community, so please read on for our plans for next year! ❁



Programs at the Enabling Garden

Volunteers

At the beginning of spring, the skeleton of the Garden was in place. Many could see the potential of the design but there was still much work to be done. By mid-June, a core staff of volunteers was recruited to be the backbone of garden operations – garden maintenance. GEG volunteers were responsible for the greening of the Garden, and the thriving of the plants throughout the summer and fall. They were patient throughout the delays due to construction, and last minute calls to mobilize for mulching or planting when material became available. They were also quick to point out when something on the operational side was not optimal.

They have been the friendly ambassadors who welcomed people to the garden and explained the concept of the Garden to visitors and answered a myriad of questions. In so doing, they not only made a huge contribution toward public relations, but also sold many bricks and attracted even more volunteers.

Raised and Ground Beds

In July, the raised beds were planted by community groups and individuals: GSPD, Community

Living, The Village at Riverside Glen, Spark of Brilliance, Zonta, and two families for whom accessibility in gardening is a real issue: the Warleys and the Camerons. They demonstrated the potential of the Enabling Garden, and have become mentors for other people with disabilities. These user groups were an integral part of the greening of the Garden and incorporated plants that appealed to the senses. For visitors to the Garden, the raised beds were very accessible to even the most able-bodied visitor by simply being a little higher – bringing the plants that much closer to their face, where the plants could be truly appreciated. The raised and ground beds generated much interest among visitors to the Garden and increased their awareness of accessibility issues in gardening.

Workshops

The Enabling Garden is also a teaching facility. The workshops are intended to educate volunteers, garden users, as well as the general public about what an enabling garden is and how it may be used. But the workshops go beyond that; they challenge participants to take what they have learned at the



Enabling Garden and pass on those skills to others.

Five workshops – generously sponsored by The Homewood Foundation, The Homewood Corporation, St. Joseph’s Health Centre and Terry & Marian McDonnell – were held, four of which were run by certified horticultural therapists who donated their time. At the beginning of the season, Mitchell Hewson from the Homewood Health Centre held a workshop for volunteers, and Wanda Fabbian from St. Joseph’s Health Centre held a workshop on enabling others to garden. As the summer progressed, Don Webers from the Village at Riverside Glen spoke

about mental health issues in gardening therapy. Both Wanda and Don demonstrated the specialized tools available for people with compromised mobility. Homewood’s Sharon Stewart gave a workshop on container gardening and Jennifer Cameron, whose children had a raised bed, introduced children from a summer camp to the Enabling Garden through activities and plantings. Perhaps all those who worked in, used, and visited the Garden over the summer would agree – it was simply a *pleasure*.

If you’re interested in volunteering in Spring 2006, please contact Debbie Ebanks at 827-1926 or debbieebanks@sympatico.ca.



The Garden from across the river
(Photo: Annette Twist)



Garden Calendar for 2006

Here is an example of potential programs and events that will be held in the Guelph Enabling Garden during the 2006 season.

Throughout June, July and August we're planning to have a different theme for each week, and will be running workshops for the public.

The Horticultural Therapist will be on site during these three months for a set period of time each weekday. We'll also plan one special event to take place in the Garden...e.g. art or music.

April

- Hire a part-time Horticultural Therapist
- Organize and orient volunteers for Garden maintenance
- Have all the available raised and ground beds designated to groups

May

- May 6th will be our annual Plant and Compost Sale at Stone Rd. Mall
- Individual planting events to assist individuals with their raised or ground beds
- Additional plantings as funds become available

June

- Workshops with school children that cover the basics of plant propagation and division.
- Take home projects, science and environmental lessons
- Children and seniors working together
- Workshops designed to teach everyone to enjoy gardening

July

- Herb workshops: rooting, drying, uses and history
- Edible flowers and weeds
- Birding, flower pressing, composting
- Healing in the Garden

August

- Butterfly workshop
- Native flowers and grasses
- The garden and senses...sight, sound, smell, taste and sight

September

- Volunteer thank you event
- Harvest
- Putting the Garden to bed

It is the goal of the Enabling Garden Board to provide a safe, accessible, interactive garden space for all of Guelph's citizens. A destination place that fosters a sense of belonging which in turn contributes to both the physical and emotional well-being of its users. ✿



Announcements



Farewell Betty – On September 24th Betty Richard, our Secretary and Founding Member, married her love Gerry Brown, and moved away from Guelph. We all miss you, Betty, but wish you well in your new life. *(Photo: Betty's Mom)*

Buy a Brick – Bricks are again available for sale in a limited quantity. Due to an overwhelming demand we will pour another strip for bricks in the Garden. For \$120 you can create a lasting tribute, please see the form below for information.

Buy a Bench – We will install 6 benches with donor plaques this year. Four of them are still available for purchase for \$2500 each. Please call Jackson Mathieu at 763-2804.

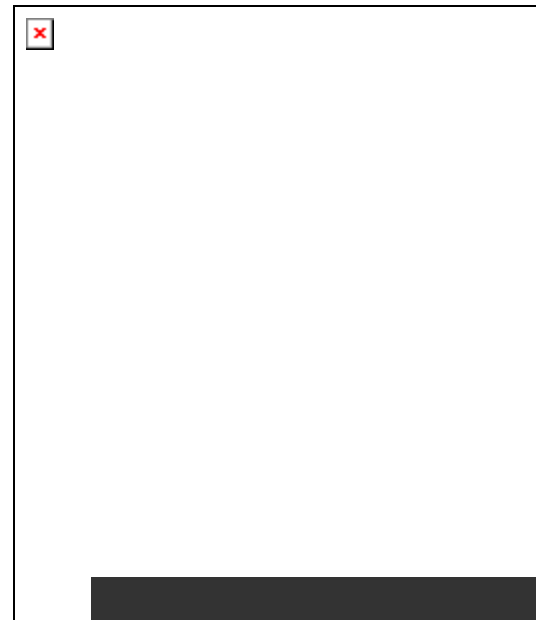
Support

This Garden has been built and functions because of your generous donations. Please continue to support us. Cheques can be made out to: The Guelph Enabling Garden, 40 Dean Ave. Guelph, Ont. N1G 1K8. Donations of any amount are welcomed. A tax receipt will be issued for any donation over \$10.

Summer Maintenance

Join our summer maintenance team of volunteers. Please contact Debbie Ebanks at 827-1926 or debbieebanks@sympatico.ca.

Great Pumpkin!



Trevor Barton cradles the City of Guelph's 182 kg. winner of this year's Composting Council of Canada's pumpkin growing contest. The \$500 prize was donated to GEG.



Spark of Brilliance

Spark of Brilliance, a proud Community Partner of the Guelph Enabling Garden, invites the community of Guelph to participate in an exciting project that will be unveiled in 2006.

The *Mosaic Sculpture Wall* will be an ongoing project that will culminate in a sculpture mosaic wall in the Guelph Enabling Garden. It will be developed under the leadership of Goldie Sherman, Guelph's own ceramic artist, Katrin Wolters well-known stained glass artist, Joan Rentoul and artist

Barbara Guy Long, the members of Spark of Brilliance, Supportive/Family Allies, Community Partners and all who are interested. Opportunities to sponsor a ceramic tile at a cost of \$20 per tile to help support this project can be arranged by contacting Spark of Brilliance (519) 766-4450 x 237.

For further information, to participate, to sponsor a tile or other suggestions or ideas please contact Judith Rosenberg at the Spark of Brilliance office: 766-4450 x 237.



The Garden's major donors

Richard Dell, Scott Reid (behind), Bob Ireland, Jane Dell, John Heeley, with Jackson and Joan (Photo: Annette Twist)



Guelph Enabling Garden Donors

September 2005

Major Benefactor and Ground Breaking Donor:

Reid's Heritage Group

Founding Donors

(Those that provided seed funds or in-kind help during our start up)

BDO Dunwoody

City of Guelph

Gamsby and Mannerow Ltd.

Miller Thomson LLP

Reid's Heritage Group

The Ontario Trillium Fund

The United Way Community Services of

Guelph and Wellington

Platinum Donors:

Guelph Tool Inc.

Hogg Fuel & Supply Ltd.

Westminster Woods Ltd.

Gold Donors:

Clarica

Newton & Marguerite Clayton

Cannon Nurseries

Creative Concrete Designs Ltd.

Greenmor Printing Co. Ltd.

Guelph/Wellington Seniors Association

Home Depot

Imperial Tobacco

Irwin Foster Construction.Design

David & Susan James

Loblaw Companies Limited

Glynis Logue

Jackson & Joan Mathieu

Nelson Aggregates

T.K.(Sandy) & Anita Warley

Silver Donors:

Brock Road Nursery. Garden Centre & Gift Shoppe

Frank & Merlene Cerniuk

The Co-operators

Drexler Construction Ltd.

John Eisen Natural Stone Products

General Electric Canada

Guelph & Wellington Credit Union

Terry & Marian McDonnell

Strite Industries/ Mr. Joe Strite

John Sutherland & Sons Ltd.

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Walker Industries

W.C. Wood Company Ltd.

Bronze Donors:

Armtec Ltd.

Joan Barton / In Memory

Buy the Yard

Chuck & Susan Chan

CJOY/ Magic / Bob C

Eleanor Davidson

Farnworth Superior Memorials

Angelo & Adelia Ferraro

Douglas Gat & Rebecca Roy

Gillies Lumber Inc.

Patricia Griffith (Manulife Employee Award)

Guelph City Mazda

Guelph Symphony Orchestra

Kuntz Landscape Depot

K W Doors

Jamieson Estates: Chester Carere, Douglas

Bridge & Dorothy Hastings

Homewood Health Centre Corporation

Carl & Jennifer Mackie

Marshall Fennimore Construction Ltd.

Peter & Joan Mitges

Orchard Design

RBC Dominion Investments

Sign Art

So...Boutique

Terra View Custom Homes

Thomasfield Homes Ltd

United Rental of Guelph

Van Harten Surveying Inc.

Cherrill Walker & Gary Smith

Douglas Wood Large Tree Services

Zonta Club of Guelph



Guelph Enabling Garden 2006 Buy-A- Brick Campaign

To date we have sold and installed more than 200 engraved bricks along the Garden pathways. These stones add a wonderful personal touch to the Garden and have been an essential part of our fundraising. Due to the overwhelming response we are adding another section of 150 bricks, to be installed in the summer of 2006.

Purchase a brick in honor or in memory of a loved one, to profile your business, or to mark a special day. All funds raised through the Buy-A-Brick campaign will go to support construction of this special garden.

For only \$120 your support will endure...

Please note the increase in price of \$20 to cover construction costs.
Each 8" X 8" brick, engraved with your personal message, costs only \$120.

Yes – I would like to Buy-A-Brick for the Garden

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Print your message, as it is to appear on the brick – up to 3 lines of text with 10 spaces or characters per line. The symbol “&” is acceptable and so are numbers.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3										

Note – Please use a separate form for each brick purchased.

Tax receipts will be issued for the full amount of your gift. Charitable # 86123 6917 RR0001
Cash or cheque accepted. Please make cheques payable to the Guelph Enabling Garden (memo – Buy- A- Brick) and send the form and payment to: Lois Finlay, 549 Watson Pkwy S. Guelph, ON. N1L 1C4 . For more information please call 829-3445 or 763-2804
Web site: enablinggarden.org (forms available on Web site)



Membership Application Form 2006

Phase I of the Garden has been built

Thank you for your generous support during the last year

We welcome new members and ask those that are already members for your continued support of the Enabling Garden in the year 2006.

Membership allows your vote at our Annual General Meeting on February 28th, 2006 from 5 – 6 PM.

Location: 65 Delhi St., The Delhi Recreation Centre, Delhi St. Guelph.

Please mail in your 2006 application and fee to:

Attention: Joan Mathieu, Co-Chair, 40 Dean Ave., Guelph, ON N1G 1K8

Tel: (519) 763-2804 Email: enablinginfo@sympatico.ca

(Please make cheques payable to: Guelph Enabling Garden. Do not mail cash.)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP RATES

Corporate/Business \$50.00 Individual/Family \$25.00

Additional Donation: _____ (Tax Receipts will be mailed out)

**Please Check: Yes or No if we can add your name to our Web site.

Charitable #: 86123 6917 RR0001

Web Site: www.enablinggarden.org



Contract Position: Horticultural Therapist 20 hours a week ...May through August

The Guelph Enabling Garden will be recruiting for this position starting on March 1st, 2006. For position description and application please contact: Debbie Ebanks at email: debbieebanks@sympatico.ca or 827-1926 between March 1st and March 24th, 2006. Interviews week of April 3rd

You are Invited to Attend...

The Guelph Enabling Garden Annual General Meeting

Tuesday February 28, 2006, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Delhi Community Centre, 65 Delhi St. (behind Family and Children's Services)
Refreshments will be served

RSVP to Jen Turnbull by Wednesday February 22, 2006 at
jennifer.turnbull@guelph.ca or 767-0598 ext. 245

Please join the Board as we celebrate the success
of the second growing season in the Garden!

*The Guelph Enabling Garden newsletter
is edited by Bill Knapp
with graphics courtesy of
Glynis Logue and Lynn Tessaro*

*If you no longer wish to receive Guelph
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contact us at (519) 763-2804. If you
received this newsletter by mail and would
prefer to receive it by e-mail, please let us
know at enablinginfo@sympatico.ca .*

