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Goulburn High School

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Community garden plan

By DAVID COLE

A COMMUNITY garden may be blooming soon if a group of committed citizens and organisations have their way.

A site suggested for the garden is on the disused bowling greens of the former Goulburn Bowling Club in Fenwick Crescent.

A group of interested community members met on site on Tuesday to discuss plans including a community garden and cafe.

Goulburn businessman Neville Burrows has generously offered the site for community use, specifically as a place where those in need could gather, have a meal and link in with training and employment services.

Goulburn Mulwaree Mayor Carol James told the group on Tuesday that charity food services were becoming over-subscribed.

"There are reports from St Vinnies that over 500 people are using the welfare service," she said.

She said she had been in contact with Mr Burrows, who is in Queensland, and he said he would allow community use of the site for nine months with a review every six months.



• **GARDEN SITE:** A group of interested community members met on one of the disused bowling greens at the old Goulburn Bowling Club on Tuesday to discuss its potential as a community garden site. (From left) Peter Raft, Goulburn Men's Shed representative Kevin Sasse, Des Doyle, Mission Southern Region business manager Tony Regan, Goulburn Mulwaree mayor Carol James, Mission employee Chris Gordon, Goulburn Mulwaree community services manager Jim Styles and Illawarra TAFE outreach coordinator Fran Beck.

"But this is something we can get going quickly," she said.

At the meeting, Mission Southern Region business manager Tony Regan mentioned the idea of a 'Food Hub' that runs in Queanbeyan.

"This is a food bank that purchases food, which has met its use by date but is still palatable, at cost price," he said.

"It has been useful for people on benefits or casual workers during gaps in employment up there and we could investigate getting it running here."

He also said Mission was keen to offer employment and training services at the site, including a market garden and café, where the unemployed could train and acquire valuable skills.

An inspection of the site revealed the old Bowling Club had a large intact kitchen and bar area.

Also at the meeting was a representative from Growing Abilities in Moss Vale, as well as council candidates, representatives from the Goulburn Men's Shed, TAFE and Goulburn Mulwaree Council.

A big tank-you from Rail Heritage Centre

By DAVID COLE

THE Goulburn Rail Heritage Centre has two new 55,000-litre water tanks courtesy of a grant from the Federal Government.

Member for Hume Alby Schultz was on hand at the Centre on Tuesday to present a plaque, which noted the \$12,800 contribution from the Australian Government Water Fund under the Community Water Grants Scheme for the tanks.

They have already been installed and are in use.

Mr Schultz was given a guided tour of the Rail Heritage Centre, which he quipped was "a real eye-opener."

The Centre currently houses more than 38 train carriages and engines, which are mostly owned by private Sydney-based owners.

The Goulburn Rail Heritage Centre is housed in the old Goulburn Roundhouse, on the Braidwood Road, which opened in 1918 and closed in 1986.

"The Goulburn Locomotive Roundhouse Preservation Society has been here ever since," president Dale Wake said.

The Goulburn Rail Heritage Centre is home to heritage locomotives, rolling stock and railway ephemera as well as changing rail exhibitions. Historic rail carriages and engines are re-built and sprayed there.

Guided tours are run by railway men who were based at the Goulburn Roundhouse and who provide an in-depth insight into the industry.



• **SUPPLIES ON TRACK:** Goulburn Rail Heritage Centre president Dale Wake receives the plaque from Member for Hume Alby Schultz noting the \$12,800 grant from the Australian Government Water Fund for the two new 55,000 litre tanks on Tuesday.

Visitors can see firsthand the working conditions, watch as heritage locomotives are refurbished and browse historic records, instruction books, manuals and drawings.

"It is not just tourism out here, it is restoration as well," he said.

The Preservation Society boasts 55 members, including four women.

Mr Wake said the tanks would help the Centre become self-sufficient with water.

"Water from them will also be used for extra fire protection and filling steam engines that visit," he said.

"The Rural Fire Service can also tap into it. We have a big roof to harvest rain from."

Mr Schultz was pleased the

community could use the tanks as well.

"There is great flexibility to put it back into community," he said.

The Rail Heritage Centre is open Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Entry cost \$8 adult, \$5 concession and \$4 children. For more information phone 4822 1210.



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For more information, please call 4821 8833, come and see us at 160 Bourke St or visit <http://www.goulburnregionalconservatorium.org>

Regards,
Stephen O'Connell



**GOULBURN REGIONAL
CONSERVATORIUM**

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