

**Gangsta Gardener – Ron Finley**  
**Koraunui Stokes Valley Community Hub**  
**17 August 2018**

**Workshops Notes**

**Question 1: What can you do in your role, organisation or community?**

**Group 1: Facilitator – Kelly Crandle**

- Sharing Ron's inspiration
- Shop local for fresh produce
- Share and sell excess produce locally e.g. lemons, feijoas, plums – in season:
  - Local facebook groups
  - Take glut to kindergartens, churches, workplaces
  - Hutt Timebank in exchange for other stuff
- Share work with timebank scheme
- Pass on knowledge
- Be responsible for building community as well as doing the gardening
- Cooking with fresh veges garden – plates with kids
- Bang on and on about how vital local shops selling good fresh local veg is

**Group 2: Facilitator – Ana So'otaga**

- A lot happening and growing in schools
- Work happening in churches and marae
- Work with council to do more with sports clubs
- Engage our older people to resource growing and learning
- Call for action from Government, Councils. A set of values, Mission Statement
- Business/Food Retailer host skill based sharing and education
- Take on board what is being trialled or shared and just give it a go
- Create a space to have dialogue
- MARKETING, MARKETING, MARKETING – Use exactly the same tactics as corporate giants to promote healthy stuff e.g. water. Don't focus on lost profits – focus on increased life years, standard of living and community
- Make it sexy – use celebrities

**Group 3: Facilitator – Gareth West**

- Role modelling
- Empower your peers
- Walk your talk
- Collaborating with other organisations – share resources
- Ask for help with marketing
- Flexibility, freeing up of barriers between council departments
- Just do it!

**Group 4: Facilitator – Jodie-Ann Webster**

- Herbal Medicine Consultant – link to community gardens
- Amplifying local stuff already happening:
  - Connect those already doing it – Garden to Table
  - Naenae College – green spaces?

- Education in this space

**Group 5: Facilitator – Barry Gall**

- Community gardens at Wesley Village
- Community picking days e.g. blackberries
- Plant a tree
- Reducing regulations in Council to allow & encourage gardens in public and private places
- Growing edibles in in apartment balconies
- Sharing surplus produce from private gardens
- Healthy fundraisers e.g. seedlings
- Info up hubs - Ipads with apps that have locations of kai
- Gift a plant
- Holiday programmes with kids – tree guardians, sessions on planting and taking care of them

**Group 6: Facilitator – Bridget Allan**

- Help people connect into resources, activities, information and each other
- Build peoples confidence to act
- Give people a place to make a contribution – local easy to do
- Remakery concept throughout the Hutt Valley
- Supporting schools, Marae as hubs
- Identify ‘movers and shakers’- listen to them, support and validate their action - ‘Green Team kids’
- Sales pitch that brings people in:
  - ‘what do you want?’
  - Via Food Banks and other channels

**Group 7: Facilitator - Mark Curr**

- A project/campaign which normalises the skills needed to grow food delivered through workplaces
- Schools are already doing this – can we scale it?
  - Can it be part of the curriculum?
  - Can we support our kids to take the MSG home?
  - Co-ordinate between schools – to share
  - Target parent education
- Churches, Marae?
- New World mini garden was awesome –tricked families to have veges growing in their homes. But not where it needed to be. How can it be fair – everywhere?
- Loving Walls – growing food as a design feature

**Group 8: Facilitator – Mike Mercer**

- Richie McCaw ‘making milk sexy’ – who for gardening?
- HCC – bowling clubs, movies, pools – why not gardens near central places?
- Highlight – changed perception of Riddiford
- Why not use schools, ECE’s, Marae, Churches as venues within their communities
- NGO’s and Wesley Haven – generational exchange
- Change perception that ‘it’s Wellington – nothing will grow’.

**Group 9: Facilitator – Lucy Kingsbeer**

- Council lead on consulting/supporting/injecting the knowledge – starting point
- DHB garden – walking the talk

- Transition Towns – mapping this work
- Lets think creatively with the Naenae development and set the new ‘norm’ – the precedent
- Vertical gardens - doesn't have to be the ‘norm’
- Hutt Valley Market gardens – previously

## **Question 2: What actions do we need to take together?**

### **Group 1: Facilitator – Kelly Crandle**

- Role modelling – support local suppliers and sellers
- Co-ordinated and complementary messages that large organisations can distribute
- Green jobs – paid and social enterprise
- Share knowledge of gardening
- Give the movement a cool name and market the concept
- Establish and promote the human and moral values about the importance of good food available to community. Its the mind-set – not just the gardening
- Availability – land, resources, information
- Schools as a venue for a community resource
- Campaign – its OK to harvest something for myself
- Method of sharing and distributing the glut
- Visible production – horticulture in urban areas
- Jamming in some veges amongst existing gardens – infill planting – changing view and standard of amenity in big gardens

### **Group 2: Facilitator – Ana So’otaga**

- Get started – mahia atu
- Bring your excess food to share
- Scale up through community hubs and finding land to start
- Skilled people to increase knowledge around growing – groups that are already doing it
- Reduce the cost of fruit & vege – hugely overpriced in NZ – explore why?
- Provide kai as a means of manaakitanga – bringing people together
- Motivate Council, businesses and decision makers to play a role
- See the benefits – not just the negatives – perceived profit/loss

### **Group 3: Facilitator – Gareth West**

- More community led lobbying of council decision makers
- Water in parks – wanted by community
- Council could do better community engagement
- Getting the word out
- People that are ‘doers’ often not good at marketing. Need to partners with people who are good at marketing
- Council could remove some barriers to getting stuff done
- Council systems p- this need to go into long term planning – environmental sustainability plan

### **Group 4: Facilitator – Jodie-Ann Webster**

- I can do something – keep small, allow to grow
- Understand what is already happening:
  - needs
  - Skills/strengths
  - Build relationships
  - Working across generations – valuing the knowledge

- Youth inspiring youth
- Follow the food waste – does it go where it should?
- Put foodbanks out of business
- Gardens in High Schools as part of curriculum
- Natural medicine

**Group 5: Facilitator – Barry Gall**

- Just do it – take the lead
- Education on use e.g. how to cook with fresh fruit & veges
- Share the fruit, the stories
- Local markets
- Sell it
- Make it cool and easy

**Group 6: Facilitator – Bridget Allan**

- Housing NZ keen to work with others in different places – Remakery, Council Hubs:
  - HNZ has 3,900 households
  - Interest crucial
  - Support in practical ways
- Expand Fruit & Vege Co-op
- Community Pantry – alongside Libraries?
- Work & Income staff doing the sales pitch – needs internal support. Healthy Families Lower Hutt and Te Awakairangi Health Network would support this
- Corrections – released prisoners with gardening skills
- Permaculture

**Group 7: Facilitator - Mark Curr**

- Find/assemble super-hero team/influencers
- Breaking stereotypes make it cool
- Top down/bottom up
- Research/consult
- Existing council beautification \$ - food growing in communities
- Any space – Hillary Court – generate foot traffic

**Group 8: Facilitator – Mike Mercer**

- Access to resources – partnerships with corporates
- Advocacy role to decision makers
- Tool library
- Make kids part of the process:
  - Meaningful
  - Memorable
  - Emotional, personal connection
  - Where is the education sector?
- Land – skills – resources – volunteers
- HCC to lead/facilitate – you cant say you didn't ask
- Agencies working together

**Group 9: Facilitator – Lucy Kingsbeer**

- Healthy Streets approach
- Berms – street visual, accessible

- Permaculture plan
- Collective approach to our city – Business/Health/Local Government
- Fruit trees on berms:
  - Promote and change rules/regulations
  - HCC offer a berm pack (being aware that residents could have ownership)
- Urban orchard plan – fruit, natives
- What does our individual/personal approach look like? – vege gardens
- Social housing – standard for veges, fruit trees
- Agri-hoods
- Enviro schools example – cost to be a part of. Removing barriers