

20 February 2024

Green thumbs were digging deep at Ripley Valley Community Garden Open Day celebration

[Link to images](#)

Stockland Providence proudly supported a family friendly and free open day at the Ripley Valley Community Garden on Sunday 18 February.

The event was organised to encourage the local community to explore the garden, learn about sustainable practices and talk to the gardening team.

Stockland Providence Project Director, David Franklin said a recent grant from the Queensland Government has seen minor upgrades onsite, making the garden more accessible to the community in its new location at the Ripley Valley State Secondary College.

“The open day gave the community an opportunity to visit the garden and enjoy live music, entertainment and giveaways, as well as activities like seedling planting and lawn games,” Mr Franklin said.

“The community garden is a family friendly space to connect with fellow residents, swap gardening tips, enjoy the outdoors and boost your mood – and by growing a variety of fruits and vegetables locally, community gardens help people to eat well and be more self-sufficient.

“We encourage everyone in the Ripley Valley to get involved with the garden, especially as many Queenslanders look for practical ways to live more sustainably and keep their grocery costs down,” Mr Franklin added.

Ripley Valley Community Garden Coordinator Kerry Silver said the garden plays a very important role in the local community and the group was excited to welcome visitors to the garden’s new home at the Ripley Valley State Secondary College.

“The gardeners love to help create a place where they can grow seasonal foods and build friendships in a community space for all ages. We have a great group of regular volunteers, but we’re always open to having more supporters, volunteers and guests,” Ms Silver said.

“If anyone wants to be involved, they can help with watering for around an hour a week, with mowing or weeding, pruning, making new garden beds, and with activities or workshops. Plus, if people have experience in horticulture, we would encourage them to come and share their knowledge.”

For those who were unable to attend the open day but are still looking to get involved, Ms Silver said the garden is currently open every Sunday afternoon from 4pm to 5pm during the summer months.

“They can come and say hello, and have the opportunity to become members for \$1 per year to our parent organisation. Alternatively, they can message us through our Facebook page, Ripley Valley Garden Enthusiasts,” Ms Silver added.

For more event details about the Ripley Valley Community Garden, visit <https://www.stockland.com.au/residential/qld/providence>

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