



Brotherhood of St Laurence
Working for an Australia free of poverty

MEDIA RELEASE

Glorious Hawthorn garden 'Cloverly' in full bloom for the Brotherhood

15 March 2013

One of Melbourne's most lush and beautiful private gardens will open to the public this month, giving green thumbs the rare chance to get inspiration for their own garden while helping those less fortunate.

The owners of Cloverly Garden in Hawthorn will welcome Melbournians into their slice of green paradise on **Saturday 23 and Sunday 24, from 10am to 4pm**, with part of the proceeds going to national welfare organisation, the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

The magnificent creation is a labour of love for Cathy and Tom Park, who have tilled the soil at 5A Fordholm Road for 24 years. Cloverly is a finely manicured and stone terraced outdoor space of great tranquillity. Its rich green foliage and subtle colour combinations harmonise beautifully with the property's stately 1930s Georgian-style home. The garden features box and knot gardens, a stone water feature, a Japanese garden, vegetables and herbs, several topiaries and hedging of Camellia Sasanqua 'Jennifer Susan'.

Cathy Park, a member of the Brotherhood's Women's Network, an initiative that helps disadvantaged women and girls, said the decision to give their share of the proceeds from the two open days to the Brotherhood was an easy one to make. 'We've always admired the great work the Brotherhood does to help Australian families in need', says Mrs Park. 'The organisation helps people across the board, but we're particularly supportive of two of its programs that assist women and children – [Stepping Stones](#) and [Breakfast Club](#).

'Breakfast Club provides a nutritious breakfast and an excellent start to the school day for children living in or near the Atherton Gardens housing estate in Melbourne's Fitzroy.

'And the Stepping Stones program helps refugee and migrant women to start their own small business in Australia, helping them gain financial security for themselves and their families.'

'Handmade by Multicultural Women', a group of participants from the Stepping Stones program, will hold a special stall at Cloverly over the weekend, selling handcrafted creations including woven bags, jewellery and toys. Visitors can meet the women from migrant and refugee backgrounds who their donation is helping to support.

The event is being managed by [Open Gardens Australia](#), a non-profit organisation which gives Australians the chance to enjoy the country's most inspiring private gardens, helping to nurture a knowledge and love of gardening.

WHAT: Cloverly open garden fundraising weekend, to support the Brotherhood of St Laurence

WHEN: Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 March, 2013 from 10am to 4pm

WHERE: Cloverly, 5A Fordholm Road, Hawthorn (Melbourne) - Melways ref. 45 C12

COST: \$8.00 for adults, children under 18 free of charge