



LOCALLY GROWN, CHEMICAL-FREE VEGETABLES DELIVERED WEEKLY.

WELCOME

We are happy to invite you to become a member of our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project at 'Near River', our property on the Pappinbarra River in the Hastings Valley.

2008 was our first year in this venture, and we commenced by distributing vegetables each week from our market garden to 15 families. Currently we are expanding so we can enlarge our community, and provide for more families.

TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE!

A CSA member is a discriminating consumer - someone who is concerned about the destructive environmental and sociological impacts of conventional farming, and intentionally acts to reverse these trends. CSAs emphasise the role of the consumer in consciously taking moral responsibility for the care of the land and the people who grow the foods we humans need.

CSA's play an important role in reducing global warming. By joining our CSA you will greatly reduce your carbon emissions. The food is not transported from faraway using large quantities of fossil fuels, but grown locally by a farmer you know. By nature, CSA's are small scale and organic. Compared to large-scale industrial farms, the amount of fossil fuels used in the production process is minimal.



For Further Information

Please contact Andrew and Therese on Ph: 02 6587 6004

Email: info@nearriverproduce.com

Website: www.nearriverproduce.com

Address: 1466 Pappinbarra RdHollisdale NSW 2446

NEAR RIVER ~ PRODUCE ~ BIVER

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE



Design Cameron Hearne

CSA IN A NUTSHELL

CSA consists of a direct relationship between the farmer who grows the food and the local consumer who eats it. It is a way for the farmer and consumer to share the risks and benefits of sustainable agriculture.

The member of the CSA supports his/her local farm by giving them the funds needed to cover the costs of food production ideally upfront, and in return receives an equitable share in the harvest by way of fresh weekly-delivered vegetables.

Over the last couple of decades, the CSA model of food production and distribution has flourished in North America, Europe and Japan, but as yet there are only a handful of CSA's here in Australia. We believe that it is the way forward for sustainable food production and distribution.

SHARING THE BENEFITS...

There are many benefits to the CSA model to both the consumer who eats the food and the farmer who grows it.

- The consumer enjoys high quality, nutritious produce, grown locally and organically, and harvested prior to the day of distribution.
- CSA's also involve people through work and socialising, strengthening local community bonds.

For the farmer, the necessary funds for production are available at the beginning of the month when they are most needed. The farmer also has a guaranteed market, and hence income, for his/her produce even before a seed is planted. This means that everything is accounted for and there is no wastage. With the marketing done, the farmer can concentrate on growing the crops.

...AND THE RISKS

The burden of losing a particular crop to bad weather, natural disasters or pests is usually carried solely by the farmer. The supermarket simply sources out the food from another grower for the unaware consumer.

With the CSA model, all members share the risks with the farmer. This means that in a hot summer, for example,

members may receive a large amount of warm weather loving vegetables such as tomatoes, corn and capsicum but little of the cool weather loving ones such as cauliflower or lettuce, and vice versa in the case of a cold, wet summer. The beauty of it is that every year is different and no one ever knows what will be in abundance.

WHAT WE GROW

basil	celery	lettuce	silver beet
beans	chilli	melons	salad mix
beetroot	coriander	mixed herbs	snow peas
broad beans	corn	onions	spinach
broccoli	cucumbers	parsley	spring onions
cabbage	dill	parsnips	squash
capsicum	fennel	pumpkins	tomatoes
carrots	kale	radishes	cauliflower
rocket	zucchini	leeks	

Not everything will be available every week and we cannot guarantee that all of the above crops will make it. The amount and variety starts small in the spring, peaks late summer/early autumn and stabilises over winter.

BECOMING A CSA MEMBER

To join, fill out the form overleaf and return it to us. Full payments are preferred, however a prepaid monthly payment of \$120 by the beginning of each month is acceptable. Your first delivery will commence approximately four weeks after joining. This allows us to increase production to fill your order.

Becoming a CSA member also means getting involved in the growing of your food if this appeals to you. We will let you know via our email newsletter when extra hands are needed in the garden or alternatively let us know when you are available. A harvest festival for all CSA members will be held late summer / early autumn.

COMMITMENT FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

One share in the harvest is enough produce for two adults, and a bit more, remembering that amounts vary across the season. A share in the harvest works out to be \$30 per week for your vegetables.

Monthly pre-paid payment of \$120

EGGS

I would like to receive one dozen eggs half a dozen eggs each week with my vegetables. The eggs are free range from our chickens at 'Near River'. Payment for eggs will be on the day at \$5.00/dozen, \$2.50/half dozen

HOW TO PAY

Electronic transfer

Account Name: Near River Produce
BSB 012 864 Acc # 4798 95124

Cheque: Send a cheque or money order made out to 'Near River Produce' to the address below

Cash: Pay cash to Andrew or Therese

I understand that as a shareholder my financial pledge guarantees me to an equitable share in the harvest, not a specific amount or variety of produce.

Signature _____



Please send this form to:
'Near River Produce'
1466 Pappinbarra Road
Hollisdale NSW 2446