

Throsby edible gardens vie for prizes

By **CHRISTAL BRAND**

NOW is a great time to be creative and get your edible garden thriving.

Throsby Villages' inaugural Edible Garden Competition is open to entries from Tighes Hill, Wickham, Islington, Maryville and surrounding suburbs.

Organiser Eka Moseshvili, of Tighes Hill, said she was looking forward to the competition and hoped it would encourage people to grow their own food.

"The aim of the competition is to celebrate the joys of growing your own food," she said.

"I feel it's important to have your own garden and your own growing experience."

As well as being a volunteer at the Tighes Hill Community Garden, Mis Moseshvili has her own garden with fruit, vegetables, herbs and two chickens.

She said she hoped the competition would show that it did not matter what size your garden was, it was how you planned it out and used the space available that

mattered.

She hopes that the competition will encourage people to be creative with the spaces they have and that they will in turn learn more about sustainability and share that knowledge with others.

Entries close on Tuesday, December 2, and are open to small vegetable patches, large orchards, herb gardens or any edible gardens.

Gardens will be judged on Saturday, December 6, based on their originality, aesthetics and creativity, sustainability and productivity.

Prizes will be awarded on Sunday, December 7, and are being custom-made by a local artist to be displayed in the winners' gardens.

This project has been supported by the City of Newcastle Make Your Place community grant.

To enter go to facebook.com/throsbyvillagesediblegarden competition or post a letter to 37 William Street, Tighes Hill.

GROW WILD: Eka Moseshvili hopes the contest will encourage creativity.



Three-level block hits objections

By **MARK CONNORS**

NEWCASTLE City Council has received 50 public submissions opposing a medical and residential development plan for Hamilton East.

The three-storey building, proposed for 61-65 Denison Street, called Cusick Court, would have medical suites on the ground floor, and nine apartments with a balcony area above.

Cusick Court is being proposed by Richard Cusick, and is named for his father, the late Dr Alton Cusick, who worked in the area.

Last week Hamilton residents filled the council chambers for a public voice hearing.

Architect Jon Webber spoke for the development, saying the design complied with council planning regulations and existing height limits.

However, residents said

the plan would be an overdevelopment and did not fit with the older houses in the street.

They also raised issues of traffic, parking and privacy.

Resident Peter Wells told the meeting two traffic studies commissioned by the developer were not carried during peak hours and that year 12 students who would usually be at nearby St Francis Xavier high school were absent because of a study day.

Councillor Stephanie Posniak suggested mediation between the parties to resolve some issues including ownership of lanes around the site.

Residents say they are privately owned and maintained, council officers at the meeting were unsure.

The development application will return to the council in the coming months.

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