



have been highly commended in the Innovative Design Elements category of the Kidsafe 2012 National Playspace Design Awards.

The researchers' ideal is to make playgrounds more natural, as kids love playing and often wander off exploring their surrounds. Kids also love playing with plants, and this should be considered more so by Landscape Architects and Designers whilst still ensuring an optimum safe play environment. The increasing demand and interest in the performance of non-woody plants in mulch in and around play equipment, including fall zones, set the premise for this trial. The main aim of the trial is to systematically determine the optimum growth conditions for non-woody plants in playgrounds mulch. This will allow playgrounds to look more natural, reduce the open bare appearance of play equipment without compromising safety.

**For more information and pics on the Playground Mulch Trials contact Ozbreed at [sales@ozbreed.com.au](mailto:sales@ozbreed.com.au) or visit their website [www.ozbreed.com.au/](http://www.ozbreed.com.au/)**



## PLAYGROUND PLANT AND MULCH TRIAL

Ozbreed, in conjunction with Fiona Robbé Landscape Architects, have conducted playground mulch trials on the safety of mulch in playgrounds and plant health in playground mulch. These trials



### NGIA

Nursery & Garden Industry Australia (NGIA) continues its 'More Trees Please' campaign by highlighting how trees in pots bring life to courtyards and balconies. Higher density living means the big backyard is a thing of

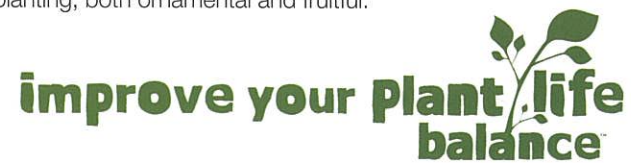
the past for many people in Australia, but people are turning to pots to keep trees and plants in their lives.

NGIA has noticed a strong trend towards container gardening, not just for small plants and vegetables but also for trees, for

courtyards, balconies and small gardens.

"Many tree and shrub varieties grow quite successfully in containers. Apart from a much more attractive outlook than a fence or neighbouring building, they provide shade, better air quality and privacy," said the CEO of NGIA, Mr Robert Prince.

NGIA suggests that many varieties are suited to container planting, both ornamental and fruitful.



## GREEN EXPO SYDNEY (GES) 2013

GES is now ready for business next year! This trade-only expo will be held at Rosehill Gardens in Sydney on 22 to 23 May. With over 100 exhibiting businesses from all sectors of the greater horticultural industries, this is a 'must attend' event as it will have plenty of interest for anyone dealing with plants and everything associated with them! GES is the largest 'green' trade expo in

NSW and it features Fusion Showcase for new plants, products and concepts. GES is marketed to the nursery and garden plus the landscape industries.

If you are interested in exhibiting go to [www.ngina.com.au](http://www.ngina.com.au) or call NGINA on (02) 9679 1472. Note the dates to attend - you won't regret taking time out!



## VALE JOHN POSTLETHWAITE

John died recently after a long illness. Many newer members of AILDm won't remember him as our AILDm National Administrator from late 2002 to early 2004. John came to AILDm's rescue on very short notice when our previous administrator suddenly resigned, leaving us in dire need. With his cheerful 'can do' attitude and analytical mind, he quickly streamlined our record keeping and put much-needed thought and effort into helping AILDm build its membership. John will be missed by all who knew him.

## AILDM MEMBERS' INSURANCE

Reviewed your insurance needs lately? If you have any questions about liability or other insurance matters, Peter Freeman at Nationwide Insurance Brokers can help. His contact details are 02 9634 6610, 0416 175 084 or [pfreeman@nationw.com.au](mailto:pfreeman@nationw.com.au). Remember to tell him you are an AILDm member - a percentage of income is returned to AILDm to benefit members.

## AILDM STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION RESULTS



Above: AILDm Vice president Ruth Czermak with Megan Cooper 3rd place in the Student Competition

**1st Place:** Paula Matthews

**2nd Place:** Kristine Galea

**3rd Place:** Megan Cooper

**Allan Correy Student Award:** Esther Suginto

Highly Commended:

→ **2D computer rendering**  
Rourke Hartwig

→ **Hand Rendering/ Graphics**  
Mary Scanlan

→ **3D Computer Rendering**  
Naomi Reich

→ **Sustainability**  
Shane Mantell

## do you know why urban forests are so important to us?



Use your smart phone QR code reader to discover.

For more information: [www.plantlifebalance.com.au](http://www.plantlifebalance.com.au) or [www.facebook.com/plantlifebalance](http://www.facebook.com/plantlifebalance)

**The evidence is clear** - the urban forests of Australia are vital to our health and wellbeing.

They also provide an economic value that has been overlooked in the past.

We can now calculate this benefit in Australia using new software called i-Tree, proving what an asset they are to us all.

**Now there is every reason for more trees please!**

