

Welcome

The good dirt

Vol 16 Nov 2022

Hello and thanks for reading our latest newsletter. We start this issue with the sad news that Beachmere has recently lost two wonderful members of the community. Our thoughts are with the families of Mary Shanley and Dave Riley. Among many other wonderful achievements, they were both passionate gardeners. The lessons we learned from Mary's gardening philosophy will be put to good use in the community garden. Dave was involved with the Beachmere State School vegetable garden, which we are now assisting with. There is a saying that wise people plant trees today so the next generation can enjoy the shade. It could be said Mary and Dave embody this through planting seeds of wisdom throughout the community, making us all better gardeners (and people). This issue is dedicated to them both.

It's hard to believe construction of the garden is beginning this month! Breaking ground is scheduled for the 8th of November, congratulations to all the members for your hard work over the last two years, our vision for an inclusive, welcoming garden will soon be a reality. Last month was a particularly busy one, with members out and about, attending events to spread the BCGI word. You can read all about the new Beachmere Community markets, Moreton Bay Eco Fest and Beachmere Seniors Expo in this issue. We continue to explain the seven pillars of inclusion, this month discussing the importance of good policies. OSCA is finally set up ready to go and we get a first look at a new community garden project on Bribie Island.

Enjoy the read. *The Committee*

Please pass this newsletter on to anyone who may be interested



Dave's love of gardening really came to the fore here in Beachmere when he finally had enough land to go mad... and go mad he did! While developing his own garden he also became involved with the Beachmere State School garden as a volunteer and then ran it for about 3 or 4 years thereafter. His passion for coast care and land care eventually led him to investigate a plant called Vetiver grass. His interest led him to start growing the plant as an internationally registered nurseryman. That interest has now morphed into a thriving small family business supplying Vetiver slips all over the country.

Dave had many projects on the go when his life was cut short. He was a keen cook, a gardener, creator of satirical comics, a practiser of Biangun stick tai chi (which he taught through U3A), was learning new musical instruments and re-learning the Bodhran (Irish drum). Dave always lived life large. He was a big personality, with a big voice and endless interests. He progressed from his kickbike to an electric bike recently and could be seen zooming around Beachmere with his Biangun sticks hooked up at his back, going down to the beach to practice. He lived every day to the fullest and will be missed by us all.



There was always something about Mary that was special... eccentric... artistic... wise and intelligent. Her garden personified her whimsical, curious nature, her resilience and life energy. Her paintings portrayed her appreciation of people and places, and a gypsy soul shone from her eyes as she engaged in reminiscences of a long and varied life. We are privileged if, in our lifetime, we meet a Mary. They are rare and precious people, interesting and also interested in the world at large. Mary was born in 1925, and had lived through many pivotal moments in history, with an ability to recall those times with clarity, a deep appreciation of human nature and often wry, self-deprecating humour. She read books, avidly watched current affairs programmes, and loved a good conversation. Mary passed away peacefully not long after her 97th birthday, surrounded by her family. Her backyard lives on, and her smile lingers in the faces of her children. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Things we need

Feature pots
Indigenous food plants
Fruit trees
Wicker baskets
Sealed glass jars
Small glass jars

People

New members
Secretary
Your help with
Raising plants

Fundraising
Spreading the word!
Important dates

5th Nov
Beachmere Community Markets
(See flier for details)

7-13th Nov
National recycling week

11th Nov
Remembrance Day

12th Nov
Moreton Bay
Multicultural Fiesta

27th Nov
General Meeting
3 pm @ Community Hall
Progress Rd, Beachmere

**BCGI acknowledges and pays
our respects to the traditional
custodians of country
throughout Australia and to
elders past and present.**

ACCESS ATTITUDE CHOICE PARTNERSHIPS COMMUNICATION **POLICY** OPPORTUNITY

We continue our series of articles explaining the Seven Pillars of Inclusion and how they are a practical tool to help us with our goal of making Beachmere Community Garden inclusive to the whole community. Today's pillar is Policy.

Paperwork, everyone's favourite reason to being involved in a community garden! Many people believe paperwork's place is shredded and in the compost bin, but in reality, it is a vital part of ensuring inclusion can be an achievable goal in our gardens.

Policy documents not only define standards of behaviour, they set out the expectations of community gardens. Our expectation is providing an inclusive and welcoming garden space to the whole community. But does simply writing it down mean it will happen? Not necessarily, it is, however, a great starting point for the process.

"Good policy offers clear direction and guidelines for everyone involved... and will help to set realistic and consistent goals and objectives" - Play by the Rules website.

You cannot assume that everyone has the same understanding of inclusion. People of different age groups and backgrounds will have different opinions on behaviour that can affect inclusion. A harmless joke to one person may be offensive to another and result in their feeling of exclusion. This is why clear policies, understood and accepted by all are so important.

Reasons Policies are worth spending the time on:

- Provide a written commitment that all involved are to abide by.
- Proof to prospective members that inclusion is taken seriously by the community garden.
- Set out a framework for managing complaints.

It must be said that developing policies can be an arduous task when starting out, one that can all too easily be put in the "too hard" or "do tomorrow" basket. This unfortunately can lead to bigger issues impacting inclusion down the track. Luckily, there is no need to reinvent the wheel. Talking to other groups about their policies is an easy way to help develop one's own policies promoting inclusion. We have been fortunate to have received advice and examples of policies from Boonah Community Garden to help develop our own. And as we develop our own and learn more, we look forward to assisting other gardens who are just undertaking this process as well.

If you have any suggestions on making the community garden more inclusive or you have seen great examples elsewhere, please let us know so we can spread the word. For more information on "Policy", check out the links below:

www.theinclusionclub.com/the-7-pillars-of-inclusion
www.playbytherules.net.au



Thank you Jasmin and Lynda from Carers QLD for helping with this article

Examples of promoting Inclusion in Beachmere Community Garden Inc. policies

The garden will be made inclusive for the whole community by incorporating the 7 Pillars of Inclusion.

BCGI is a non-religious, non-political organisation.

Members have a right to participate in meetings without feeling threatened or intimidated.

Diversity is to be encouraged.



SENIORS DAY EXPO - 12TH OCTOBER

A busy fortnight was capped off by BCGI attending the Beachmere Seniors Expo on the 12th October.

A who's who of local groups packed the Hub for an afternoon of information, promotion and networking.

There was a lot of interest from the large crowd about the community garden, with the regular inquiries of "where is it?" and "when will it open?" heard many times throughout the afternoon. Not long now, we promise!

A big thank you to Beachmere U3A and BANG for organising the event. We look forward to welcoming everyone we met at the expo to the garden when it opens...soon.

Check out the giant broccoli grown at the Bribie Island community nursery! No chemical pesticides or fertilizers were used - what more proof do you need that organic gardening works!



OSCA THE COMPOSTER UPDATE

Here's OSCA, finally settled into his new home. The electrical bugs have been fixed and he's ready to go! Thank you Chris from Mekken Electrical for sorting OSCA out. We can't wait to start producing compost!

The plants in the photo that have been potted up were kindly donated by the Riley family. We are honored to continue Dave's legacy by growing many amazing plants from his garden in the community garden.



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FB: facebook.com/BeachmereCommunityGarden

MBRC ECO FEST - 8TH OCTOBER

What an amazing day! The Moreton Bay Eco Fest on the 8th October was one of the most enlivening days imaginable and the Beachmere Community Garden stall was buzzing with interested people of all ages examining our plans for the Garden, discussing, enquiring, giving us tips from their own experiences with growing food, and generally sharing their love for the plant world in general. I had a deep conversation with a young man of about 4 years of age, who grows pumpkins in his back yard, and was looking to diversify into other edibles, but not ones that the caterpillars like to eat. Now, there's a challenge!

There was a little time to scoot around to the other displays and meet people involved in fostering and supporting wildlife and plant life in the Shire... CREEC, Environment Services, Friends of Lagoon Creek. Residents have a range of opportunities for advice on all sorts of services available, and it's worth looking at the website for the Council to make the most of living in this area. But of course, I was drawn to the displays of food and plants from local businesses, and with my basket at the ready, visited Basilea Living Herbs, Amanecer Fresh Microgreens, and the strawberry specialists Ashbern Farms.

The displays of produce were magnificent. The variety of culinary herbs, edible flowers, preserves, microgreens was visually a work of art, and the producers of these delights embodied the passion, health and generous spirits of people involved in improving life for their fellow creatures. Sarah from Basilea was so gracious when I detached a bunch of flowering Sorrel from her beautiful display...oops... too excited, had never seen it flower before!



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

Children with faces painted, colourful flower fairies mingling with families, activities throughout the splendid community facilities, a lovely spring day, interesting people to talk to... the organisers of this event should be very proud of what they achieved. I had only one regret... that I didn't bring a bigger basket to take home more goodies. We look forward to the next Eco Fest, and thanks again to the Moreton Bay Regional Council! It was a day to remember. A big thank you also to Silver Spoon Cafe and Flamingos Ice Creamery for donating prizes to the raffle and all the members who helped make the day such a success.

1. The garden stall looking fabulous!
2. Sarah from Basilea Living Herbs showcasing fresh, locally grown herbs.
3. Major raffle prize winner Susie with David. We are so happy the prize was won by such a keen gardener.



BRIBIE ISLAND LIBRARY GARDEN

Check out the raised gardens at the new Bribie Island Library community garden. These garden beds will be accessible to the whole community. We look forward to the official opening next month.

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need" Cicero

GARDENING AUSTRALIA

Clarence showcases some amazing Aussie plants that can fill a pot with all kinds of sensory delights. BCGI will look to use similar plantings in our sensory garden.



Image from Gardening Australia website

Watch this and other great episodes on the Gardening Australia website, ABC iView or 7:30pm Fridays on ABC.

PLANTING UPDATE

Beachmere Men's Shed hosted the inaugural Beachmere Community Markets on the 1st of October and what a great success they were. The plants that our members have been growing were eagerly snapped up by the large crowd. It was also great to see so many familiar faces in attendance, stopping by for a chat. These markets look to be a wonderful addition to the Beachmere social calendar, we hope to see you there on the 5th November. Thanks to all the members who assisted with growing plants and attending on the day.



Just a reminder for members to keep propagating plants for the community garden. Let us know if you need seedlings, potting mix or pots. A big thank you to Dracaena Farm Nursery and Bribie Community Nursery for donating pots to the garden.

BECOME A MEMBER OF BEACHMERE COMMUNITY GARDEN INC.

Have you thought about becoming a member of Beachmere Community Garden? We now have a number of categories to offer; there's sure to be one to suit you! Memberships available are: Adult, Junior and Family

Check out the website for more info on becoming a member

E: beachmerecommunitygarden@outlook.com W: beachmerecommunitygarden.com.au

or FB: facebook.com/BeachmereCommunityGarden



HELPING TO RAISE FUNDS FOR BCGI IS AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3!



1 Collect eligible containers



2 Take them to your nearest container refund point



3 Donate the refund to BCGI

PLEASE USE THE ID CODE:

C10510815

if you would like to donate your recycling to our fundraising efforts.



Remembrance Day Service @ Beachmere memorial, 11am 11th Nov.



Thank you Andrea and Duncan for donating this copy of Costa's latest book "Costa's World", signed by the man himself at Moreton Bay Eco Fest. The first book for our library!

THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO

What side of the debate are you on? Does pineapple belong on a pizza or not? Whether you agree or not, there are many other ways to enjoy them, none better than large slices, chilled, straight from the fridge. Pineapples grow well in our climate, it's just a shame they take so long to fruit! Below is a pineapple plant at the Beachmere State School veggie patch, finally fruiting after 4 years!



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Monarch on grevillea by David. It's thought Monarch butterflies island hopped across the Pacific from Nth America to Australia, carried on winds from cyclones and storms.



7 - 13 NOVEMBER 2022

WASTE ISN'T WASTE

UNTIL IT'S WASTED

For more info, go to www.planetark.org/programs/national-recycling-week

BEACHMERE DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

COMMUNITY MARKETS

53 ROGERS ST BEACHMERE

GOODIE!
IT'S ON AGAIN

NOVEMBER 5

7.00AM

TO

NOON

BETTER

BIGGER

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES AND GROUPS SUPPORTING US

It has been amazing to see the generous support from many local (and not so local) governments, businesses and community groups that are helping to get this project off the ground. Wherever possible please support them in return.



Pelican Business Services

Silver Spoon Cafe Beachmere



Beachmere



Consulting Engineers



Cr Mark Booth
Div 2



"Weather means more when you have a garden. There's nothing like listening to a shower and thinking how it is soaking in around your green beans."

Marcelene Cox

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