



Welcome

Please pass this newsletter on to
anyone who may be interested

Welcome to The Good Dirt for August. And what a lovely August it is shaping up to be... almost spring-like after a bit of a cold snap. Sunny days... no rain to speak of... could this be a warning of Things to Come later in the year? We have seen what is happening in the Northern Hemisphere, and may feel a tad uneasy about the Summer ahead. But this is the ideal time to prepare for possible hot dry weather in the garden, and thankfully there is a wealth of advice available from publications, TV programs, and experienced local gardeners who are only too happy to share their knowledge. Moreton Bay Council has a very informative website worth looking at for checklists and practical advice in preparing for weather events.

I recently caught up with our tireless worker Yvonne after a contingent of Grade 6 students from Beachmere State School visited the Community Garden. Her enthusiasm is contagious... loves the interaction with the children as she helps them in their school garden each week. They enjoyed the sensory aspects of the plants on site, and used a worksheet to solve clues found in their wanderings. They are fast developing an awareness of where food comes from, watching their seedlings grow, and understanding our connection with the natural world. More in the newsletter on our first school visit.

The ABC's "War on Waste" is essential viewing as we head towards Keep Australia Beautiful week (7-13th August) and National Recycling Week (13th to 19th November). We can all do our bit towards cleaning up the planet and stopping the shameful waste of food and resources... how do YOU contribute, especially in the garden? Share your ideas! You may have recently seen the article in the local paper on one of our members, Mitch, who is doing his bit by developing a business converting local food waste to compost through the power of worms. Well done Mitch!

David and Jude attended the Moreton Bay Leaders Forum last month. David will share his experience on this later in the newsletter. And Moreton Bay Eco Fest is on again in September. Last year's inaugural event was a lovely day, and we look forward to participating again... plenty happening in the coming months as we expand our relationships with community groups. There'll be something for all members to become involved with, whatever your interest.

Check out our website, read on, and enjoy this weather while it lasts!

The Committee

*"Deep roots are not
touched by the frost."*
J R R Tolkien

Please direct all correspondence to our email account
beachmerecommunitygarden@outlook.com

Things we need

Volunteers to grow
plants

Wicker baskets

Feature pots

Fruit trees and herbs

Donations!

Important dates

5th Aug

Beachmere District
Community Markets
(see flier on last page)

7-13 Aug

Keep Aust Beautiful week

12 Aug

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
8-3pm Morayfield Store

27th Aug

Arvo in the Garden
2-4pm Onsite

31st Aug

Last day of Winter

**NO GENERAL
MEETING THIS
MONTH**

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

EST 2020
**BEACHMERE
COMMUNITY
GARDEN INC.**
QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

"Arvo in the Garden"
4TH SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH 2-4PM
ALL WELCOME
www.beachmerecommunitygarden.com.au

**COULD MEMBERS
PLEASE PAY ANY
OUTSTANDING
MEMBERSHIP FEES.
CHEERS**

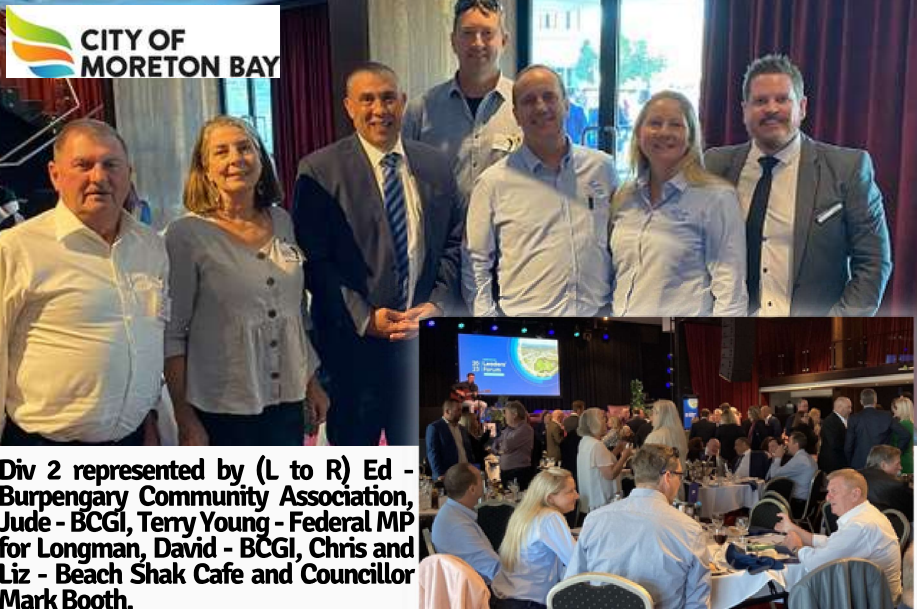
**WORKING BEES ON SITE
SAT MORNINGS 8-11AM
(EXCEPT 1ST SAT OF MONTH
BEACHMERE COMMUNITY
MARKETS)**



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

FB: facebook.com/BeachmereCommunityGarden

MORETON BAY LEADERS FORUM



Div 2 represented by (L to R) Ed - Burpengary Community Association, Jude - BCGL, Terry Young - Federal MP for Longman, David - BCGL, Chris and Liz - Beach Shak Cafe and Councillor Mark Booth.

It was an honor that Beachmere Community Garden representatives were invited to attend the recent Moreton Bay Leaders Forum. This event was an opportunity for leaders in business and community organisations to get together and discuss strategic plans for the new City of Moreton Bay. Being recognized as a city is an important step to not only recognise the growth of the area but to have access to more state and federal funding to manage this growth sustainably.

The theme of the event was "Green as we grow", recognising Moreton Bay's community's wishes to keep green spaces even as the population sets to grow rapidly over the next decade. Construction of a wildlife hospital was also announced at the event. It was great to see that community groups like ours were given the opportunity to attend this event and we thank Cr Booth for inviting us as a representative of Div 2. Mayor Flannery had a chat after the lunch about the community gardens progress and gave his apologies for not being able to attend our recent Grand Opening. He hopes to visit soon.

It will be interesting to see if the City of Moreton Bay can achieve the aim of "Green as we grow". With strong community input from groups like ours in decision making, we can hopefully continue to enjoy the special environment and lifestyle of the area.



Thanks local legends!

David dropped in to the Coolum Community Native Nursery recently to have a chat and to introduce our community garden. Located just up the highway at Coolum, the nursery supplies a wide range of local plant species. The nursery manager, Tim, has years of experience with community gardens and was keen to hear about our garden. Tim generously donated a tray of *banksia integrifolia* seedlings to us to pot up. Cheers!

Coolum Community Native Nursery
157 Warran Road Yaroomba QLD 4573
info@coolumnatives.com

Karen from Beachmere History and Research donated a wonderful local book - "The Joondaburri Walk" to the community garden. The book explains the plants found along the interpretive walk and their indigenous uses. The Joondaburri Walk is located on Bribie Island. Thanks Karen!



The Joondaburri Walk
34 Cotterill Avenue,
Bongaree 4507
**BEACHMERE HISTORY
AND RESEARCH**



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

It's all go on site at the moment, mobile wicking beds are being completed and planted out. How good is it to see the shade house filling up with plants potted up for the markets and members' gardens? At the latest working bee, security lights were installed and a new set of shelves were added to the container. You can actually walk in there now! Thanks to the installation team for your persistence in assembling the shelves without instructions!

WORKING BEE
EVERY SAT (except
first Sat of month-
markets)
8-11am
Onsite





BEACHMERE COMMUNITY GARDEN

BEACHMERE STATE SCHOOL GARDEN VISIT



After months of helping out at the Beachmere State School garden, it was time for the students to visit our garden. The school's visit was the first official visit we have organised, so it was a great opportunity for us as well to learn about hosting events.

The students were given a tour of the garden site, exploring the sensory aspects of many of the plants. The lemon sherbert coleus and lambs ears being stand out favourites. The fish mint - not so much! After searching the garden for hidden clues to complete an activity sheet, the students each potted up a tomato seedling to take home as a memento of the visit. The morning was a great success and we look forward to many more school visits in the future.

Thanks to Nick for organising the morning and to Jill, Yvonne and David for helping on the day. But most of all the students for making it such an enjoyable morning.

WAR ON WASTE

This eye-opening and insightful show is back for another season, highlighting our society's waste of resources and the resulting impacts on the environment and ourselves. The latest episode covers the stunning amount of food waste we create. Check it out on ABC (8:30pm Tuesdays) or watch on ABC iView).



PLANTING UPDATE

We have a growing range of food plants available at our Beachmere District Community Market stall.

Why not drop down on Saturday, the 5th of August and check them out? This month we have herbs, salvias, native lemon sherbert coleus, beautiful native grasses and bush tucker plants including Pigface, Midyim berry and Blue tongue. If there are any types of plants you are looking for, let us know and we will do our best to grow them for you.



BRIBIE COMMUNITY NATIVE PLANT NURSERY UPDATE

The cool nights and warm days have made for perfect growing conditions for the winter crops currently in the veggie patch. Proof that we can grow healthy, tasty veggies in our area, you just need to get in and have a go!

The Bribie Community Nursery have a variety of local plant species adapted to our conditions, why not pop over the bridge and check them out.

www.bribieislandcommunitynursery.weebly.com



WAR ON WASTE CONT.

Every bit helps in reducing the amount of waste going from our homes and into landfill. One small way is to recycle plastic tubs as mini green houses. The example below is a Dairy Farmers yogurt tub. The foil lid and paper wrapper can be recycled while the tub fits perfectly over a pot to make a great green house to propagate cuttings. What other ways can we do the right thing and reduce what's going into our bins?



VOLUNTEERING AT BEACHMERE COMMUNITY GARDEN INC.

Have you thought about helping out at Beachmere Community Garden? There are many ways to help. Send us an email for more information.

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.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Plant pod! by David.
This great use of an IBC was spotted while attending the leaders forum. It's the same container as we are using for the mobile wicking beds and gives a great example of how we could clad them.

ARVO IN THE GARDEN / GENERAL MEETING 23RD JULY

Another relaxing afternoon was had by all, including several groups wandering through to find out more about the garden. Our meeting had the best attendance yet, I'm sure the homemade cakes with garden grown cumquat sauce had nothing to do with it! Thanks to everyone who attended and for all the produce that was brought in to share - exactly the type of community spirit we are trying to promote.

Next Arvo in the Garden: 27th August 2-4pm ALL WELCOME



MORETON BAY LIBRARIES HOST A RANGE OF INTERESTING AND INFORMATIVE WORKSHOPS AND TALKS, MANY RELATED TO GARDENING. CHECK OUT THE CITY OF MORETON BAY WEBSITE TO FIND OUT MORE.



Donations



If you would like to support the community garden through a donation, we would love to talk to you! Please send an email to us outlining your proposal.

THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO

The multi headed broccolini is such an upgrade to growing traditional broccoli varieties, especially up here in the warm sub-tropics. A sudden hot spell can cause the slow growing broccoli to bolt, however, the smaller heads of broccolini mean they are ready to harvest quicker, before this may happen. It's not all bad though, if this happens, bees absolutely love the mass of flowers that are produced by this family of plants. Broccolini tastes great in stir fries, roasted or sauteed with garlic and lemon - delicious!



Cr Mark Booth
Div 2



Beachmere



BEACHMERE HISTORY AND RESEARCH



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