

Please pass this newsletter on to
anyone who may be interested

Welcome to the December edition of The Good Dirt. Summer is upon us. And recently, so is the rain. Hard to believe we have arrived at this end of the year so quickly, but much has been accomplished in what seems to be a short space of time, thanks to the hard work and dedication of members who have watered, potted and cared for the plants over some very hot days. The Garden is looking lush and colourful, and full of variety and interest. We opened for the day on 26th November – the inaugural National Community Garden Day. Comments from visitors were very positive and it was a delight to see people enjoying the space on an overcast day, when the colours of the flowering plants really came alive. The wicking beds are a wonderful sight... abundant growth a tribute to good maintenance by our members (and Mitch's amazing compost!)

In this edition, David will be reporting on the Carer's Qld Community Garden Forum on Inclusion, and the Carer's Qld event for Int. Day of People with Disabilities. We thank the wonderful Beachmere Lions Club for their site visit and generous donation. Helen, Glenda and Jackie... it was the greatest pleasure to welcome you last week, and we wish you all well as you forge ahead with your community interests. The Lions Club has been a pivotal supporter of the BCGI and will be recognised on a plaque thanking our major sponsors.

Remembrance Day was observed with traditional poppies grown by friends and members on display. And what about those fabulous new pots! Thanks to the Dept. of Environment and Science for their generous grant towards cost, and to Tim from Collectors Corner in Ningi for a magnificent selection. We are so fortunate to have had incredible support through the development of the community garden from community organisations, businesses, individuals, and all levels of Government.

A torrential downpour couldn't dampen the members' spirits for the AGM, held on 29th November. Thanks to Cr Booth for his attendance and ongoing support. This year saw a changing of the guard as we welcome new committee members Adel and Andrea. And a special thank you to retiring committee member Darla for all your hard work over the last year and to Jude for her commitment and tireless efforts as our original secretary, and more recently, committee member. Her dedication and persistence over the years have been an integral part of bringing the garden to where it is now.

So much is happening in December, mark the dates in your diary... it's a busy month ahead! And a hot one too! The recent rains have helped, but remember to practise waterwise gardening to conserve this precious resource.

And then there's Christmas...we wish you all a safe and peaceful time and hope there is just the right amount of rain and sunshine to bring abundance and enjoyment to your own gardens.

Enjoy the read. *The Committee*

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

Things we need

Volunteers
Feature pots
Fruit trees and herbs
Donations!

Important dates

1st Dec

First day of Summer

2nd Dec

Beachmere District
Community Markets
(see flier on last page)

3rd Dec

Int Day of People with
Disabilities

5th Dec

Int Volunteers Day

7th Dec

Morayfield Bunnings
Night Market
6-8pm

17th Dec

'Arvo in the Garden'
3-5pm Onsite
All Welcome!

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



**WORKING BEES ON SITE
SAT ARVO 2-5 PM
(EXCEPT 1ST SAT OF MONTH –
BEACHMERE COMMUNITY MARKETS)**

Solar Sponsor needed

Our goal is to be fully off grid with solar panels and a battery wall



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the solar GoFundMe page. If you would like to make a donation towards the solar project, no matter how big or small, please go to the GoFundMe website and search "Beachmere Community Garden".



REMEMBRANCE DAY

BCGI recently attended the Remembrance Day service, organised by Beachmere RSL Sub Branch. This year we were successful in displaying some poppy flowers, all due to the skill of the Banksia Garden Club, who once again helped us to raise poppies for the day. (Not an easy feat in our hot, humid conditions). Thank you Desley, Arthur and all the Banksia Garden Club members who assisted. After the service, the community garden was opened for attendees to check on progress. Thank you to Beachmere RSL Sub Branch for organising the memorial service. And thank you to BCGI member Rose for the crocheted poppies.. All money raised from the sale of plants and crocheted poppies was donated to Beachmere RSL Sub Branch.



Lions Club of Beachmere visit

We welcomed 3 lovely Lions recently... Jackie, Glenda and Helen, for a morning tea and a tour of the Garden, which the Lions Club of Beachmere has generously supported from the word go. The ladies marked the closure of the Beachmere branch with a generous cheque towards future purchases and infrastructure, for which we are deeply appreciative. Our thanks to you and all the members for your support and unwavering belief, and our best wishes to you all as you explore new paths. We hope it includes some R and R... you've more than earned it!!

"Never look directly at the sun, instead look at the sunflower."

Vera Nazarian"



NEW POTS!

Tim from Collectors Corner Nursery in Ningi dropped by with a delivery of pots purchased through our successful Community Sustainability Action grant submission, provided by the Dept. of Environment and Science. Tim has supported the garden from the very beginning, always giving us a great deal on pots and our beautiful pandanus leaf water feature. The pots are used to demonstrate that you can grow so many varieties of fruit trees, bush tucker, herbs and vegetable in a small area. They look fantastic too!



THANKS LOCAL LEGENDS!

Last issue we thanked the wonderful team at Bribie Island Community Plant Nursery for their generous offer to fund our new shirts. Well, they have just arrived and we are so happy with how they have turned out. Sign Cellar have done a great job with the logos. Who says you can't work hard in the garden and look good at the same time!



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





FULTON HOGAN SITE VISIT

Kathy and Fay from major sponsor, Fulton Hogan stopped by to kindly donated a heap of pots and folders for the community garden. If any members require 200mm pots, let us know as Fulton Hogan have plenty to give away!

It was nice to show them the progress of the garden since their last visit, especially as many of the Fulton Hogan team are moving on to other projects. We can't believe it is two years since Kathy first contacted our group to see how they can assist.

In that time Fulton Hogan has provided a generous donation to fund the arbour timber and steel brackets, as well as so much advice and support. The Fulton Hogan workshop was a highlight from last year. Thanks again from all of us at BCGI for your amazing support over the years!

Our recent visit to the school garden was tinged with sadness as the year 6 students popped in for the last time before making the move to High School next year. Many of the students have tended the garden their whole student life at Beachmere. The BCGI volunteers appreciated the wonderful gifts presented by the year 6 students, and we wish them all the best in the next stage of their school journey. Hope to see you all at the community garden in the future. We will be helping to maintain the garden over the Christmas break and look forward to a big year in 2024 with Mr Lowe and the students.



BEACHMERE STATE SCHOOL GARDEN

CARERS QLD COMMUNITY GARDEN INCLUSION FORUM AND INT. DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

BCGI was recently invited to two important events hosted by Carers Qld. First the Community Garden Inclusion Forum. This gathering was an opportunity for local gardens and groups to get together and discuss the challenges to make community gardens more inclusive. It is nice to hear other gardens' experiences, successes and challenges to help us with our vision for an inclusive, welcoming community garden at Beachmere.

The second event was an amazing gathering for Int. Day of People with Disabilities. The panel and guest speakers provided an informative morning, with many keen to visit our community garden to offer advice and support.

A vital part of inclusion is listening to and sharing stories about the good and bad experiences people have undertaking tasks that many of us take for granted. We are so grateful to be able to share our story at these events. Thank you to Carers Qld for hosting these events and inviting BCGI to attend.



Please remember, first thing to do when attending any event at the garden is to sign on. This is extremely important in case of an emergency and is a requirement of our public liability insurance. Cheers!

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 2nd of Dec and check them out? This month we have herbs, hoyas, salvias, native lemon sherbet coleus, paper daisies, native grasses and bush tucker plants including pigface, midyim berry and blue tongue. Our members have been busily sewing up a range of Christmas gifts for the markets. As you can see below, they look fantastic. Get in early, because they will sell quick!



If there are any plants you would like us to sell at the markets, please send us an email and we will do our best to grow them for you. We are always looking for food varieties that grow well in Beachmere's conditions. If you have some proven winners in your garden, we would love some seeds. Thank you Dick from Beachmere RSL Sub Branch for the poppy seeds, saved from plants that had been growing locally over many years.



PHOTOS FROM BEACHMERE COMMUNITY GARDEN - NOVEMBER



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.

Last month's Arvo in the Garden fell on the inaugural National Community Garden Day. The garden looked amazing thanks to a big working bee the day before. It was terrific to see the community drop by to check on progress. There is so much interest amongst locals in growing healthy food - it's great to see. Thank you to Community Gardens Australia for initiating this annual event and thank you Lyn, the CGA Gold Coast regional representative for visiting earlier in the week. It was great to finally catch up and get your thoughts on the community garden.

**NEXT ARVO IN THE GARDEN 17TH DECEMBER
3-5PM**



COMMUNITY
GARDENS
AUSTRALIA

Without the amazing dedication, hard work and community spirit displayed by the BCGI volunteers, there would be no community garden. Thank you to each and every one of



you for your amazing efforts this year. I'm sure you agree, looking at the garden now, it has all been worth it.



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.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

"Model volunteers" by Darla

Keith and Helen looking great in the new shirts.

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.



Beachmere



WAMURAN TIMBERS

Consulting Engineers



BEACHMERE HISTORY
AND RESEARCH



THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO

Is it possible to look at a planting of sunflowers in full bloom and not smile? I don't think so. They are the ultimate garden pick me up, available in a wide range of sizes, forms and colours. The seeds are a tasty treat too. The sunflowers currently in bloom here are called "Evening sun". Stunning! There are also some of Van Gogh's famous sunflower variety, ready to bloom any day now.



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.



CHRISTMAS BARGAINS

AT

BEACHMERE DISTRICT
COMMUNITY MARKET

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND

2.00 - NOON

53 ROGERS STREET
BEACHMERE.



Managed by Beachmere District Market Inc

Cr Mark Booth
Div 2



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

FB: facebook.com/BeachmereCommunityGarden