



# Golden Beach Community Nursery & Open Garden

Hosted by the Golden Paradise Beach Ratepayers & Residents Assoc. Inc.

**Nursery open Friday & Saturdays 10am – 12noon\***

*\*when volunteers available*

## ***Welcome to Winter!***

### ***What is happening in the garden***

With the colder weather things are slowing down in the garden. Now is the time to tidy up and lightly trim back shrubs and trees, then feed your plants with the appropriate slow release fertiliser, compost or worm “wee”. If you want to rest the vegetable garden beds then spread some shredded newspaper, sprinkle with blood and bone, and water well, then cover with hessian and peg down. This will save you the trouble of removing weeds when you want to do your spring planting. If you want to grow winter vegetables, seeds or seedlings should be planted now.

**Compost** For small households. To make your own mini compost bin then take a large bucket with a lid. Drill holes around the sides and base at random. Plant the bucket in the garden leaving easy access to the lid. Place your kitchen scraps (no meat) in the bucket, add a handful of compost worms and replace the lid. Worms will go in and out of the bucket adding nutrients to your soil. Add kitchen waste weekly until the bucket is full. After 3 months you may want to move the bucket to another spot in the garden or make another compost bucket.

### ***RV Site Expansion and Community Garden Plots***

Earthworks for the RV sites behind the Nursery compound have progressed and some planting has begun. The proposed Environmental Science Day for local schoolchildren has been re-scheduled to Spring. After a walk to the beach and a talk about the coastal park from the Parks Vic Ranger the children will assist with planting native shrubs and ground covers on the RV sites.

The site behind the Church for the community garden plots will be levelled and new plans prepared for erecting garden plots. We have received a very generous donation of organic garden soil from **Gippsland Water** to fill the first three garden plots that are sited next to the compound. This soil will also be used by volunteers for potting up tube stock ready for Spring planting. We have also had a fantastic donation of plants from an environmental organisation **Fifteen Trees** [www.15trees.com.au](http://www.15trees.com.au) These plants will be planted around the RV sites.

Additional funds and support will be required to enable us to continue our work in the community nursery, enhance the surrounding area with planting of native shrubs and establish the open garden plots. Please share your ideas on how we can achieve this by visiting the site at any time.

Plant sales are going well in the Nursery and it is intended that 25% of profits from plant sales will be allocated to help fund a multi -purpose court at VMMR. Although some have headed interstate or overseas for winter our dedicated volunteers continue to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10am. **Future meeting dates; 11<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> August.**

If you have a passion for gardening and would like to share your knowledge and make new friends please come and join us. New Members always welcome.

### ***Happy Gardening***

Merrilynne Hayes

Volunteer co-ordinator