



Community Garden 3231 Growing food, friendships & community

April 2021



Dates for April

Working bees: **Saturday 3 and Sunday 18 April** from 9am.

Resale shed: **17 April** (contact Sue Leavesley)

From the President

Autumn is a busy time in the garden. So much to do. Harvesting the last of the summer crops, deciding when to pull plants out, what to plant next and when to plant it. Time to get cracking!

We had a wonderful BBQ lunch on Sunday 21st March to celebrate the contribution of Peggy and Daryl Love to CG3231. The weather held off, no lockdown imposed, so finally the stars aligned and we were able to have our gathering! Gretel recalled that it was Peggy who wrote the original funding application to Council to establish a community garden in

Aireys Inlet and Daryl who (along with other members) built our shed. We have a lot to be thankful for. (More details of their contribution are included in this newsletter).

Unfortunately during 2020, COVID-19 meant that we were not able to gather to celebrate our 10th anniversary, so this year we aim to celebrate 10+1 years. We hope to do this around the time of our AGM a bit later in the year. We would love an event planning team to emerge to help organise this celebration. Of course there is lots of support and loads of experience in our garden community, so if you feel like you'd like to make a contribution and get involved as an organiser or if you have a super idea, please contact me to get the ball rolling!

Speaking of events - ***Soup in the Garden*** is back as part of the ***Love Winter in Aireys*** program of events. It's a wonderful winter event and requires very little effort for a lot of enjoyment! So pop it in your diary for **Saturday July 3rd**. Usually we have a few different soups on offer - hopefully made with ingredients from the garden - and locally baked breads. There's a gold coin donation to cover costs. So start exploring soup recipes!

Catch you in the garden,
Liz Wood

From the Garden Team

March was a month of joy and disappointment. Working bees were great fun with a wonderful sense of relief as we talked and laughed as we got the jobs done including excellent pruning. We harvested and shared lots of produce. However, March brought home the reality of a cool summer with few tomatoes and even fewer eggplants. Luckily the zucchinis and corn are good. There is plenty of chard, basil and lots of yellow squash for you to take home now.

Don't forget to check the white board and water new seeds any time you go to the garden.

So now it is time to pull out those tomatoes, and plant the next crops. The seed raisers are nurturing broccoli, brussel sprout, celeriac and other seedlings getting ready for planting in the communal gardens. Check out the hot greens growing like mad in Bed O.

Take care if planting brassicas as the cabbage white butterflies are making their presence felt. The lady birds are doing a good job on the eggs, but we will need to spray with Dipel to keep the caterpillars under control.

Come along to the next working bee to harvest and share more of the summer crops and get ready for winter veggies. And if you have ideas for vegetables to grow, let us know.

Gretel for the Garden Team

Tomatoes

In spite of the lack of a “real” summer, the Beefsteak (I initially thought they were Oxheart) tomatoes we grew from saved seed are now ripening superbly. They are delicious. Last night we cooked tomato and onion bake, to accompany rosemary lamb chops, a green salad and potato salad. “Any tomato bake left?” I should have cooked twice as much.



I’m saving seeds so if you want any please put your orders in now. (Gay - 0411 236 898)

PS. If you wish to move on to winter - planting your plot, pull out the tomato plant that still has green tomatoes on the vine, and hang it upside down in the sun. The tomatoes should ripen. If you have picked green tomatoes - they will also ripen in the sun. Just be patient.

Gabriel Fuller

A farewell celebration to Daryl and Peggy Love

Sunday's working bee and BBQ were fantastic. were as delicious as usual. James has a lot more than sausages - his steaks and roasts are delicious, local and the animals are raised with great care. If you want to know more about his beef, his email address is james.sprunt@gmail.com He said that he is taking orders this week for delivery the following week.

And of course the veggie burgers and zucchini slice were cooked to perfection. Yet again we had a wonderful array of salads and desserts - it always amazes me how we have the correct amount of food.

The BBQ was a chance to celebrate the contribution that Daryl and Peggy Love have made to the Community Garden. Gretel gave a short presentation telling those present of their role in the early days of the Garden:

Daryl and Peggy Love were two of the founders of Community Garden 3231. Peggy was at the Rural Women’s Network meeting in 2008 where Aireys women got together to discuss



climate change and the impact it may have on local life. The discussion about growing food locally led to the idea of a community garden here, and a road trip to explore community gardens in Melbourne and elsewhere. A committee was formed, the shire was finally persuaded that 2 Fraser Drive was the best location in the 3231 postcode for a community garden and the rest is history. If only it were that easy!



Peggy was on the inaugural committee and Daryl the first Coordinator. They were instrumental in organising planning approval for the garden, auspice arrangements, fund raising, etc etc. And of course there was the construction. Daryl was one of our amazing builders who rebuilt the shed being discarded by the Anglesea Bowling Club (after applying for a building permit of course). And don't forget all of the other infrastructure that we now take for granted: the

pergola, table, paving, sink and more. I think Daryl knows more about the plumbing in this



Life members Daryl and Peggy Love with Liz and Gretel

garden than anyone else. He magically installed taps just where they were needed, fixed the input to the rainwater tank so water didn't have to flow up hill, and installed a tap so we can easily use it.

Then there is Daryl and Peggy's plot. I hope Daryl is impressed with the installation of the 5 star bird proof, lap jointed panels that Marg and Sarah have installed – although he is probably sad to see they didn't keep his high rise planter. Many families have enjoyed the silver beet from their plot.

Peggy and Daryl have been very active in the garden for a long time. We will miss them and hope their new life just down the road, is rewarding.



Soup in the Community Garden

**Saturday July 3
11:30 am to 1 pm**

Join us for home made soup and baguettes from Truffles

Community Garden 3231
2 Fraser Drive, Aireys Inlet

<http://aireyscommunitygarden.weebly.com/a>

Save the date for Soup in the Garden after the working bee on July 3. This event is part of Love Winter in Aireys and open to the public. It's a great chance to show people around the garden. We will be calling for volunteers nearer the time.

Sprunt Farm sausages

We had so many requests about the sausages! The very popular sprunt sausages can be ordered directly from the maker.

Email : james.sprunt@gmail.com

Beyond the Fence



Resale Shed

Finding volunteers to work at the Anglesea Resale shed when it is CG3231's turn is not difficult – Sue Leavesley who coordinates our voluntary participation says we have an over abundance of lovely volunteers for our next roster on April 17.

This is fantastic. Did you know that our volunteering at the shed provides the community garden and other local community organisations with an annual financial contribution that supports the work of our local organisations.

Here we have Merle and Gay at the last resale shed roster back in January when masks were still required.

Why not drop in and say hello – and pick up a treasured collectible!

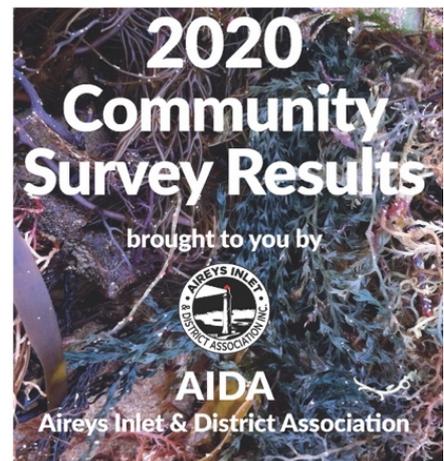
AIDA Survey

Last Thursday AIDA released the results of the 2020 Community Survey conducted at the end of last year. Respondents numbered nearly 400 local voices and over 2600 local community comments were made on the key subjects.

The survey publication presents the findings as 6 major themes:

- Character of place
- Tourism
- Development
- Key Assets
- Community
- Future

as they relate to the region of Aireys Inlet and more broadly the Great Ocean Road.



AIDA is making the results of the survey widely available so that the information can be used by other community groups, businesses, local government and government agencies to take actions to protect and preserve what is most valued about our area and to help design a resilient future for our local communities and the Great Ocean Road.

For further details: <https://aireys-inlet.org/aida-2020-community-survey/>

Passata making workshop



At the Aireys Inlet Community Hall court yard on Friday 12 March everything tomato was happening. Jo Murray organised with Sarah Bolus from the Surf Coast Shire, along with Pat and her son, an experienced passata making family of 30 years, a Passata making workshop.

Of the nine participants several of us were community garden members and we enjoyed a morning of slicing 'cooking tomatoes', cooking them for 20 minutes with basil, draining the juices and then putting them 3 times through a special tomato press. By the end of a messy morning we all took away jars and jars of tomatoes that we then preserved by boiling in their jars.

Something for the community garden to consider running next year?

Surf Coast Shire EOI Community Climate Mobiliser Program

If you care about climate change and want to lead action in your community, consider joining the community climate mobiliser program.

During April and May, you will:

- ☑ Participate in a series of workshops and skill building opportunities
- ☑ Connect with other passionate and motivated people
- ☑ Design and lead conversations and action on climate change as part of the community Climate Emergency response

For more information and to submit an expression of interest, visit:

www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/climateresponse.

Editors Note - some of the photos used in this campaign were taken at CG3231! Andy and Alicia are pictured here with their children.

