

# **Official Opening of Community Garden 3231**

**At 2 Fraser Drive, Aireys Inlet**

**Friday 21 May, 2010- opening at 3 pm.**

A community garden, located in Aireys Inlet, will be opened by Surf Coast Shire mayor, Libby Coker, on Friday 21 May.

The garden uses the local postcode in it's name to indicate it serves the communities of Aireys Inlet, Fairhaven, Moggs Creek and Eastern View.

The garden will be a learning centre for those wishing to become more self sufficient by growing their own fruit and vegetables.

Skills in making compost, soil preparation, saving seeds and propagating your own seedlings, seasonal planting, organically controlling garden pests and the related areas of making compost bins and raised garden beds will all be demonstrated

A range of workshops, demonstrations and practical exercises will show members how to do these and many other things needed to make a successful home garden.

There will be some raised garden beds for people who cannot bend down to garden. Other beds will have seats to allow for easy gardening without needing to kneel. There will be a children's garden, a herb garden and a propagation house.

The common garden beds will grow crops of vegetables such as potatoes, tomatoes and garlic to distribute to members. Private plots are also available to rent for those wishing to grow vegetables for their own use.

It is planned to have art in the garden and a set of gates has been designed and will be added when they are built. Other proposals for art include a memorial for Isla Stamp, the donor of the land on which the garden is built.

A major purpose of the garden is to provide a place where people can meet and get to know each other. Such contacts build a more cohesive community through new friendships, being able to put a name to a face, and by working together on a common goal.

There is something for everyone to do whether it is digging the soil or making sure that newcomers are made to feel welcome.

In doing this we are growing our community.