

January 2025 Vol 1 Issue 16

MATTER OF FACT

Providing information for Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower
and Walkerville district



A free community newsletter published by

VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



VENUS BAY & TARWIN LOWER

A photograph of several firefighters in yellow gear standing in a field of charred, blackened ground. In the background, there is a body of water and a cloudy sky. The scene appears to be a fire-affected area.

**DO YOU KNOW
YOUR FIRE RISK?**

**HAVE YOU GOT A PLAN TO PROTECT
YOURSELF AND LOVED ONES IN
CASE OF FIRE THIS SEASON?**

Come down for a chat with local fire fighters about fire preparedness, planning and fire safety. CFA will be there to help answer your questions about how to be best prepared for fire.

**Where: Jupiter Park, Jupiter Boulevard, Venus Bay.
When: 10:30am - Saturday, January 4, 2025**

For more information, contact: Tarwin Lower & District Fire

VENUS BAY

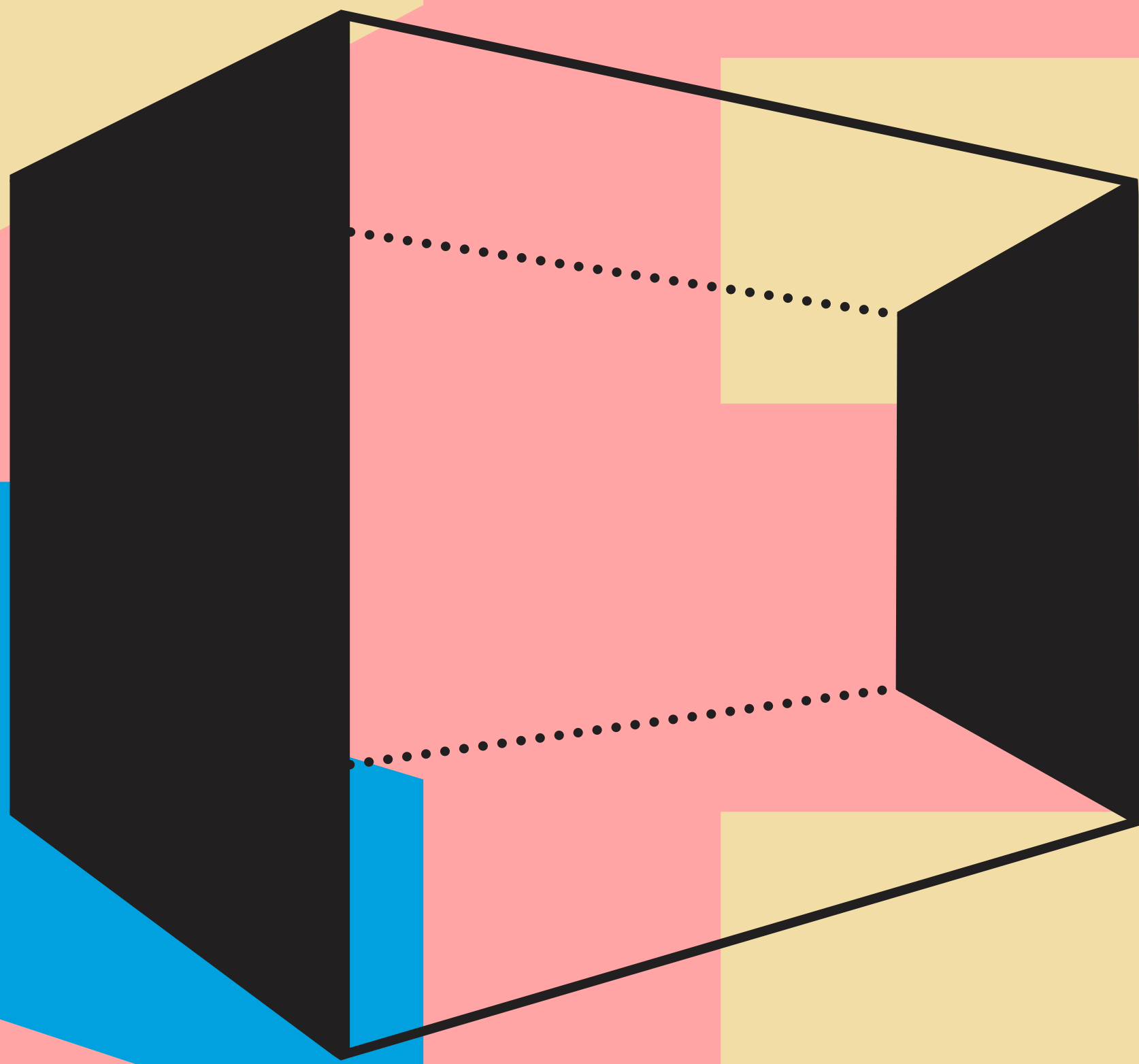
ART CUBES



LAUNCH

BYO Picnic

Join us onsite



**January 25th
5.00 - 7.00**

Live Music

**VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE**



**VENUS BAY
SHOPPING PRECINCT**

Follow the ArtCube website to see this unique program of creativity going on in unexpected places!

ART-CUBE

ARTCUBES ARE A SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL ARTS INITIATIVE, FUNDED BY SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL'S \$2M COVID SUPPORT PROGRAM AND THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT COVIDSAFE OUTDOOR ACTIVATION FUND.

**SOUTH
GIPPS
LAND**

VENUS BAY SURF LIVE SAVING CLUB

MARKETTA Festival



THUR JAN 2 **GIN BAR** **FOOD TRUCKS** **LIVE MUSIC** **5 PM 'TIL LATE** **MARKET STALLS**

PEDESTRIAN ONLY ACCESS/SHUTTLE BUS RUNNING



VBSLSC.ORG.AU ENQUIRIES SIM 0408 332 126



VENUS BAY SUMMER BEACH SHUTTLE

1 VENUS BAY FIRST ESTATE

Regular shuttle around Venus Bay First Estate - from Venus Bay Community Centre, to Venus Bay Shopping precinct, along Jupiter Blv and to Beach One.



2 VENUS BAY SECOND ESTATE

New this year! Pick up from Lees Road, Post Office Boxes, 11am, 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 5pm (drop-off only)

3 NEW DATES

From Friday 27 December to Sunday 5 January



4 NEW TIMES

11am to 1.30pm
2.30 to 5pm

5 FREE SERVICE

But we'd love a donation to help us keep the service going

Join us
in making
a difference



Summer Beach Bus 2024-2025

With the introduction of SUNNY – our community electric mini-bus – it's a great time to make some changes to the Summer Beach Shuttle service after 10 years!

We will be offering the shuttle service to Beach One, Venus Bay over the peak summer period – that's where the patrolled beach is! We will incorporate a couple of runs to Venus Bay Second Estate – based on community requests – and amend the times for the service.

THIS SUMMER from Friday 27th December to Sunday 5th January.

Regular Venus Bay First Estate Shuttle – just hail the driver along the route.

NEW Second Estate shuttle – pick up point Post Boxes, Lees Road – **on pause due to low (no) demand.**

All our drivers are volunteers – so please be patient as we trial this new shuttle service. If you'd like to help as a volunteer, we'd love to hear from you!

This is a FREE service provided by the Venus Bay Community Centre – however if you'd like to make a donation or become a FRIEND OF SUNNY – we would welcome your support.

Based on local feedback and volunteer resources, we may continue this shuttle over weekends until the end of January

We'll be doing a special service for the Marketta – running the shuttle until 8pm on Thursday 2 January.

Many thanks to our wonderful volunteer drivers who make this all work!

summer holiday program

from 10am to 11.30am
at the Venus Bay Community
Centre

Cost
\$10

mon 30
dec

pom pom monsters,
woolen owls, finger knitting

fire work painting, noise
makers

tues 31
dec

thur 2
jan

nature collages, nature
bracelets, pot plant
painting,

spoon butterfly, pet
rocks, peg insects

fri 3
jan

mon 6
jan

recycle invention day



This is a special message to all our friends and supporters of the Hall. I want to let you know about our **Triennial General Meeting being held at the Hall on Sunday 19 January, 2025 at 3:00pm.**



This is an opportunity to reflect on the last three years and the huge achievements racked up by the current committee. The Hall emerged from the pandemic with a new committee of management and a renewed purpose to open the Hall for business! The regular Market days swung back into the calendar and more live music events and private hires booked in providing a regular activation of the space. 2024 was probably our busiest year in recent times with the Art Cubes Residency, the introduction of Twilight Markets and bumper Easter Market with our inaugural Dog Show.

In the background of all these activities, work began on the Weatherboard Repair Project - ably led by our President Brian Hetherington and builder Matt (Squeak) Holm. The support from our local businesses and community members was integral to being awarded grants from FRRR, SG Shire Council, Bald Hills Wind Farm and DEECA without which this project would not have been possible. The committee continues to work closely with other volunteer organisations and our thanks go to the Tarwin District Auto and Machinery Club and the Tarwin Lower Film Society for their continuing support and value they bring to our Hall and special mention to the Tarwin Lower Primary School, back filling the Hall with kids' movie nights and Christmas Carols.

2025 will see us host 6 regular markets and a new Vinyl Record Market in August. The Festival of Small Halls will feature again in March and the highly anticipated Deer Hunter's Ball is back! We have more grant submissions on the go and plans for a major kitchen renovation this year. No the fun never stops and here is the Call To Action! If you have attended a market, seen a show or just walked past the Hall and wondered how all this happens, we need you! We are currently a volunteer committee of eight, however 2025 will see both President and Treasurer roles become vacant. In addition to the office bearers, general committee members able to volunteer a minimum of two hours on Market days and two hours every month to attend our scheduled committee meetings are invited to join.

If this has piqued your interest or may suit someone you know please do get in touch for more information or just come along to the TGM.

Kindest regards

Margaret de Wolff, Secretary, Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Committee of Management.

Triennial General Meeting

Sunday 19 January, 2025

3:00 - 4:00pm

27 River Drive, TARWIN LOWER

Refreshments provided

www.tarwinlowerhall.com

Bald Hills Wind Farm Community Fund Invites Applications for its 2025 District and Small Grants



The Bald Hills Wind Farm Community Fund (BHWFCF) is inviting organisations with community projects benefiting the Tarwin Lower, Venus Bay and Walkerville districts to submit applications for its 2025 District and Small Grants.

The District grant, is a single grant valued at up to **\$15,000**, provides an exciting opportunity for a local organisation to develop a significant project to benefit the district community.

The Small Grants, which will be awarded up to the amount of **\$2,000 or \$5,000 per project**, are designed to enable organisations to provide a benefit or service to the local community.

Previous grants have funded such project as:

- Infrastructure upgrades at The Tarwin Recreational Reserve, Mechanics Hall, Men's Shed, and Venus Bay Community Centre;
- Mobility equipment for the Tarwin Lower and District Community Health Centre;
- Medical equipment for the Venus Bay & District Community Emergency Centre and Tarwin Lower Mechanical Institute;
- IT resources and infrastructure improvements for the Tarwin Lower Primary School;
- Arts projects such as the Venus Bay Water Tank Mural project and the Thirsty Works Gallery; and assistance to the Tarwin Wildlife Shelter, Watch for Wildlife and Community Bee Keeping.

Grant applications will be available from 18/21 November 2023 until the closing date of 5pm 02 April 2024.

Information on Grant criteria and Application forms are available at <http://baldhillswindfarm.com.au/community-fund/>.

summer holiday **Open Hours**

Wednesday 1 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Thursday 2 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Friday 3 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Saturday 4 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Monday 6 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Tuesday 7 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Wednesday 8 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Thursday 9 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Saturday 11 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Monday 13 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Wednesday 15 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Thursday 16 Jan	10AM - 2PM
Saturday 18 Jan	10AM - 2PM

**VENUS BAY
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

KIDS FISHING DAY



**EVERYONE
WELCOME**

Bring the kids along for some fun, you can bring your own rod or the club can supply one. Tea & coffee will be available and there will be a free sausage sizzle at 12.00.

10AM FRIDAY JANUARY 10TH 2025

Boat Jetty | Fisherman's Road, Venus Bay

Raffle available and all children will receive a free ticket

New Public Rescue Equipment Launched at Venus Bay to Improve Beach Safety

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) and Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) have officially launched Public Rescue Equipment (PRE) stations at Venus Bay today, a trial initiative aimed at preventing drownings and addressing incidents where bystanders attempting rescue tragically become victims themselves.

Venus Bay, located in South Gippsland, was chosen for this trial due to its status as a high-risk drowning location and was selected following a comprehensive coastal risk assessment and community consultation with both permanent and part-time residents.

The trial will see PRE stations installed across Venus Bay beaches No.1 to No.5. Each station includes:

- An emergency call button that connects to Triple Zero (000).
- A rescue tube (flotation device).
- Instructional signage to advise steps to take during emergencies.
- An emergency marker for location identification.
- A QR code offering language support and further information.

LSV Head of Research, Evaluation and Insights, Dr Bernadette Matthews, emphasised the importance of this initiative in addressing preventable drownings.

“While we urge everyone to swim between the red and yellow flags, at a patrolled location, we recognise that unpatrolled locations remain popular, and bystanders often feel compelled to assist during emergencies,” Dr. Matthews said.

“This trial ensures emergency support is just a call away and provides accessible safety equipment for those with the skills to use it, helping to reduce risks for both rescuers and those in trouble.” The program’s goals are clear: to provide vital tools to improve safety at unpatrolled locations, boost community awareness, and evaluate the effectiveness of PRE for potential use in other high-risk drowning areas across Victoria.

The initiative is proudly funded by the Australian Government through Surf Life Saving Australia’s Beach Drowning Blackspot Reduction Program and highlights the collective commitment of government, local communities, and lifesaving organisations to prevent drowning fatalities.

“The launch of public rescue equipment stations at Venus Bay reinforces the importance of water safety awareness and ensures beachgoers have access to resources that can make a difference,” Dr. Matthews added.

As the summer season heats up, Life Saving Victoria urges everyone to download the Beachsafe App to find the nearest patrolled beach.

Venus Bay SLSC and the wider Venus Bay community have all played a critical role in supporting this life-saving initiative.

Former Venus Bay SLSC President Paul Hoffman, who led the project locally, said many in the Venus Bay community had put in an immense effort to make the stations a reality.

“It’s a huge relief and peace of mind for the life saving club and the community,” Mr Hoffman said.

“It’s a big sense of achievement to be able to offer an extra level of protection.”

Contact LSV media – 03 9676 6970 or media@lsv.com.au for more information.



Tarwin Lower Union Church



Regular services:

Sunday 10.30 a.m. Anglican/Uniting

Saturday 5.30 p.m. Catholic

Liturgy/Communion on the Saturday before the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month

Saturday 4 p.m.

Mass before the 3rd Sunday

Our mission is to be a welcoming, sharing Christian community

**For all the latest news check out our Facebook page:
Tarwin Lower Union Church**



VENUS BAY ANGLING CLUB events for January 2025.

The AGM will be held at the VB Community Centre on Saturday 4th January 2025. Doors open at 6.30 for a 7.00 p.m. start meeting and the BBQ afterwards. The club will supply the meat as usual, and everyone can bring a salad/dessert to share. All members welcome. Family memberships are \$50 and singles \$40 which covers entry to all the fishing comps through the year and a monthly BBQ where the meat is supplied. We also hold social events through the year, raffles every month and a membership draw which starts at \$20 and jackpots each month until won.

If you are interested in joining the club you can contact Terry Shelly on 0419 301 847 or Barb Bryant on 0411 688 408 or just call in at the Club on a Friday evening between 4-6 p.m.

A children's fishing day to be held at 10.00 a.m. on 10th January 2025. See flyer for more details.

The January competition will be held on the 24th - 27th January. Starting at 12 noon on Friday 24th January and finishing at 3.00 p.m. Monday 27th January. There will be a weigh in on Friday, Saturday & Sunday 4.00 - 6.00 p.m and final weigh in Monday between 2.30 - 3.00 p.m when the winner will be announced. There will also be a prize for secret weight so come along and join in the fun.

VENUS BAY CHEESEMAKING WORKSHOPS



Join us in our five-hour Basic Cheesemaking workshop & make the following cheeses:

HALLOUMI - a wonderful cheese for frying

CHEDDAR - a hard cheese that is ready to eat quickly on sandwiches

FETA - wonderful in salads

COTTAGE - great as a toast topper or in an omelette

RICOTTA - used for a toast topper or for cooking

PANEER (lemon cheese) - used in Indian curries as a substitute for meat

Stay for the Extended Cheesemaking workshop & also make the following cheeses:

CAMEMBERT – all-time favourite for a cheese platter

MOZZARELLA – great for pizza and pasta dishes

BURATTA – a wonderful topper for pizza or pasta dishes

MASCARPONE – a base for tiramisu, ice cream or topping on crepes

We will teach you how to make these wonderful cheeses within the workshop/s. All recipes & notes are supplied.

WORKSHOP DATES **WHAT DO YOU GET?**

2025

January 5

January 19

April 27

July 20

You will take home up to 1.5kg of the cheese that are made during the workshops.

Morning tea – cheese platter
Lunch entrée – Halloumi

Lunch – varies with the season

LOCATION

Venus Bay Community Centre

27 Canterbury Road

Venus Bay



WORKSHOP COST

Basic - \$150pp

Extension - \$55pp

Both - \$199

SESSION TIMES

The Basic workshop run from 10am to 3pm and the Extension runs through to 5pm.



HOW DO I BOOK?

Send an email to cheesewithbarry@gmail.com, stating your desired workshop location/date and you will be sent a confirmation letter with full course details, as well as an invoice.

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS

Send an email to cheesewithbarry@gmail.com to get a timetable for all locations



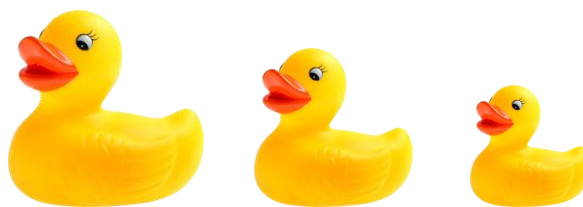
Join us to Celebrate
AUSTRALIA DAY

12 Noon, 26 January 2025
At the Long Table – Tarwin River Boat Ramp

Adults - \$10

Children 12 to 18 - \$5

11 and under free



River Duck Races

Raffles drawn on day

BBQ – sausages & burgers with onions, bread & salad

Classic & veteran vehicles on display

All proceeds for the day are going to the

Tarwin Netball Club



It is a requirement to display house numbers.

The Venus Bay Men's Shed have numbers for sale, or the Venus Bay Community Centre has a selection of reflective numbers available by donation.

Make sure they are easy to see from the road – every minute taken by emergency services to find you can be critical. It can be helpful to know the nearest cross street or intersection when describing where you are in an emergency.



CERT



Waste Disposal Facilities (Tips) - Venus Bay

Address	Cnr Canterbury Road and No 3 Beach Road, Venus Bay, 3956	
Opening times	Monday	9am - 12pm
	Tuesday	9am - 12pm**
	Wednesday	9am - 12pm***
	Thursday	9am - 12pm**
	Friday	9am - 12pm
	Saturday	9.30am - 3.30pm
	Sunday	9.30am - 3.30pm
	Public Holidays	9am - 5pm Public Holidays Closed Christmas Day & Good Friday ** Only from 26 December to 31 January *** Only during school holidays

KNOW YOUR BINS

Residents in Venus Bay have a compulsory garbage and recycling collection service which runs for six months of the year from 1 November to 30 April each year. An opt-in 12 month service is also available. The service includes a 120L garbage bin collected weekly and a 240L recycling bin collected fortnightly. **Weekly recycling collections will be provided from Christmas Day through until the end of January each year.**

What items can go in my bins?

	Recycling	Garbage	Green Waste
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rigid plastics codes 1 - 7. Cardboard and paper. Glass bottles and jars. Aerosols and tin cans. Aluminium foil and cans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household garbage. Food scraps. Wrapped noxious weeds. Clothing and fabric. Plastic bags, plastic wrap and polystyrene. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garden prunings. Grass clippings. Weeds. Small logs and raw timber off-cuts (up to 10cm in width and 30cm in length). Leaves.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No plastic bags, plastic wrap and polystyrene. No pyrex, crockery or broken glass. No garbage. No green waste or food scraps. No nappies. No clothing or fabric. No electronic / electrical items. No batteries. No globes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No recyclables. No green waste. No chemicals. No trade waste. No electronic / electrical items. No batteries. No light globes. No liquids. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No household garbage or food scraps. No bricks, rubble, sand or dirt. No plastic bags. No plant pots. No large logs or stumps. No treated or painted timber.

WALKERVILLE ART FAIR

WITH MANDY GUNN AND THE WALKERVILLE ART GROUP



NOW IN ITS 5TH YEAR THE FAIR WILL BE ON AGAIN
AT THE NORTH WALKERVILLE HALL ALONG THE FORESHORE

SAT AND SUN JANUARY 4TH AND 5TH 10-4

PAINTINGS, PRINTS, CARDS ETC-ALL WORK FOR SALE-CASH, DIRECT
DEPOSIT OR CREDIT CARD

Enquiries-041125704



Volunteer with us - it's fun!

Do you have a few hours to spare? We are always looking for volunteers to help out at the community centre...do you have any particular skills you can contribute? Or perhaps you have a bit of time to spend helping with filing in the office or sorting donations for the Recycling enterprise?

Every bit counts and every bit is appreciated. We could not function without our fabulous team of volunteers.

So why not come and join in!

Situated at 27 Canterbury Road, Venus Bay.

Phone: 5663 7499, Send mail to Post Office Box 786, Venus Bay 3956

Email: info@vbcc.org.au Website: www.vbcc.org.au

Opening hours reflect the season - please check our website or Facebook for details

or call Alyson 0416 242 331

Venus Bay Community Centre is supported by:

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, the Commonwealth Government, & South Gippsland Shire Council.

Our website is www.vbcc.org.au

Find current and back issues of Matter Of Fact on our website. Please contact us if you wish to be on our email distribution list.

