

# Casuarina Project 2010



**For more information on the Casuarina Project visit  
[www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/casuarina.htm?p9](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/casuarina.htm?p9)  
or contact the Surf Coast Shire on 5261 0600**



# The Casuarina Project

## *Building Community Spirit*

The Casuarina Project is Surf Coast Shire's Community Capacity Building program. Casuarina is a Council subsidised leadership training program available to community members, and consists of a series of six facilitated workshops held at locations around the Shire. The Casuarina Project is primarily a community development program, designed to support community strengthening within and between Surf Coast Shire communities. It aims to develop an active network of community members and to provide them with the skills to plan, fund and successfully deliver community projects.

Casuarina forms an important part of Council's community strengthening and community planning objectives, linking directly to a number of the priorities as outlined in the 2009-2013 Council Plan, namely:

### **Sustainable and protected natural environments**

- Leadership and community partnerships that promote environmental awareness
- A community that is engaged in responding to climate change

### **Healthy, resilient, safe communities**

- Strong communities that embrace challenges and opportunities
- Inclusive communities that have a sense of pride and connection to where they Live
- Communities that are better prepared in the event of an emergency

### **Sustainable development and growth**

- Ecologically sustainable development
- Development that adds to our quality of life and promotes a sense of place

In 2010, The Casuarina Project has been a joint initiative of the Community Planning and Environment units. The program has been facilitated by Consultants Pat Armstrong and Jane Stewart of Tomorrow's Leaders for Sustainability.

[www.leadersforsustainability.com](http://www.leadersforsustainability.com)



# The 2010 Participants and their Projects

## **Virginia Anscombe**

**Fence building and Feral Seeds – the trials and tribulations of a gardener**  
Helping each other and the Winchelsea community to grow.

## **Deanne Babare**

### **Winchelsea Youth Program**

Winchelsea Community House seeks to create and support relevant youth based programs and events through the implementation of the Winchelsea Youth Program.

## **John Badar and David Kellas**

### **Winchelsea Men's Shed**

Shoulder to shoulder men in our community.

## **Patrick Blampied**

### **Grow It!**

Grow It! is bringing food production and carbon back to where it belongs, the backyard. By joining, participants get a subsidised colorbond vegetable box with timed irrigation, up to 12 x two hour training sessions over 12 months and a newsletter to help them jump the first hurdles of growing their own food.

## **Kirsty Manger, Simone Lewis, Rebecca Hosking, Gayle Seddon**

### **Walk for your Surf Coast—Connecting Communities through celebrating stories of our coast**

A two day walk, following the Surf Coast trail, using art, music and education to celebrate our natural beauty through a series of workshops and a performance finale.

## **Emily Cooney**

### **Aireys Festival of Words (Funding Co-ordinator)**

As a member of the Aireys Festival of Words organising committee, I am responsible for sourcing funding for the festival. I am looking at gaining sponsorship from local businesses and community organisations, local and state government grants, and in-kind donations.



# The 2010 Participants and their Projects

## **Jane Currie**

### **Drop-in Life Drawing**

Life drawing (casual and untutored). \$10 for 2 hours. All materials supplied. A Not-For-Profit project with sponsorship from local winemakers and brewers.

## **Mary Dokos**

### **Compassionate Communication in Schools**

To create a pilot program to bring compassionate communication into local Surf Coast Schools.

## **Margaret Foulkes**

### **Re-Entry Program**

To support mothers who feel ready to explore and plan their re-engagement with the world of employment, training or community work.

## **Lisa Jarvis**

### **Deans Marsh Community Economic Development Initiative**

A Community Economic Development Initiative for Deans Marsh to achieve its plans for a preferred and sustainable future. This Economic Development Initiative is being undertaken proactively by the Deans Marsh Community Cottage to identify needs, strengths, resources and opportunities in Deans Marsh.

## **Cara Johnson**

### **Community Newsletter**

Ongoing Community Newsletter that celebrates our surf culture and looks positively to a sustainable future whilst inspiring greater community involvement.

# The 2010 Participants and their Projects

**Plugga (David Newton)**

**Members for Danawa Community Garden**

Fundraising to help out Danawa community garden.  
Would you like to buy a raffle ticket please?

**Sharon Noble**

**Moriac Advocates Group**

To energise within Moriac about local concerns.

**Samuel Zsombok**

**The School of Knowledge**

Trying to bring in to the community a new sense of communication which offers people the truth about who and what they are, as well as an awareness that highlights their abilities, talents and gifts.



# A-Z of Casuarina

Abilities, Amazing,  
Awesome  
Budgeting, Big tasks  
seem small!  
Confidence, Clarity,  
Communications  
Direction, Delegation  
Energy, Exciting  
Friends, Facilitation,  
Funding  
Grow, Grants  
Helpful  
Insight, Inspiration  
Just great  
Knock on doors  
Laughs, Leadership  
Meaningful  
relationships,  
Management  
Networks  
Opportunities  
Peaceful leadership,  
Passionate, Planning  
Qualities  
Respect  
Strategies, Strength  
Teamwork  
Understanding  
Vibe, Vision  
Weight  
Xcellent  
Yummy food  
Zooper!



# A Collage of experiences



# A Collage of experiences



# Dum Di Didilly Dum Di Dee....

Dum Di Didilly Dum Di Dee  
Let's all learn from the Casuarina Tree

So much to learn and projects to explore  
So many different personalities to adore

John and David want the Men's Shed better  
Cara is on to a community newsletter

A community garden in the making by Gin  
An amazing art walk by Bec, Kirsty and Sim

Sharon is developing a project called M.A.G  
A surf pod website is in Pat's little bag

Sam's second project is on defensive driving  
To teach driving skills – more people surviving

Jane is allowing people to paint and get nude  
Plugger wants to provide the community with food

Audits and research done by Lisa and Dee  
They're very well planned and success there will be

Continued over page .....

# A poem about Casuarina

Guest speakers include Cr Coker & Hodge & Ms Dyer  
Gayle, Rachel and Deb are great support from the Shire

Emily needs cash for a festival in Aireys  
Next of course, is pretty little Mary

We have had some lovely catch ups over herbal tea  
With her compassionate listening.. came my clarity!

‘Re-entry Program’ - is aimed for mothers like me  
Re-engaging in employment, study or the community

Six evening sessions to explore what will be  
A Community Grant will see participants come for free

I have met some great people and had lots of fun  
Went to Sim’s rockin’ party and stayed up til one

So thanks Jane and Pat and everyone here  
The opportunities are endless in the coming year!

**Written by Margaret Foulkes  
June 2010**

# The Casuarina Tree

Although not a numerous species, various types of Casuarina (or She Oak) are indigenous to virtually the entire Surf Coast Shire. Examples can be found scattered both on the coast and dotted on the hinterland plains.

It is an enduring tree of great strength. The Casuarina's tight grained heartwood reveals warmth and a deep inner beauty when crafted. Regenerating both from seed and as new growth springing from its roots, the Casuarina patiently brings new life into a sometimes-challenging environment.

