



# Geelong Organic Gardeners

Editor: Goshen Watts

**Next Meeting: Monday, 10th Feb**  
**Doors open 6:30 for 7.00pm start**

**Geelong Organic  
 Gardeners Inc.**  
 Reg: A0012071C

## FEBRUARY MEETING

- 7pm: Members tour of the Geelong Botanic Gardens.
- Talk: Planting your garden for Bees
- Open Forum
- Supper and Trading Table.

*"GOG" is a diverse group of people sharing the common interest of gardening organically - working with nature, not against it.*

As always, please bring excess produce/plants to donate to the trading table, and supper contributions: (homemade, bought, or from the garden!)

## 2020

It's a great year to be a member of the Organic Gardeners... You can look forward to:

- Tour of the GBG (this Monday)
  - Workshop on Passata Making (March)
    - Learn all about Apples (April)
  - Workshop on Cider Making (May)
    - Soup & Film Night (July)
- .....and much more to come.

### Coming to the meeting?

#### A Friendly Reminder list:

- Please return library books.
- Bring something for the supper table.
- A list of seeds, produce, some money and a bag/box.
- Surplus plants, seedlings, fruit or veg - it's a great tradition in GOG to share.
- Helping with the setting up and packing up is always appreciated.
- Please park as closely as you safely can to the next car, to allow room for more cars in the car park.

**Please note:** As we are in the grounds of the GBG, please bring any plant material in a closed bag.

**Field trips** are generally held in odd numbered months (except Jan)

**Meetings** are held at 7:00pm on the second Monday of the even numbered months (rescheduled if this falls on a public holiday) in the Geelong Botanic Gardens meeting rooms.



**Clickable link!**

**Geelong Organic Gardeners**  
 PO Box 3023  
 Waurin Ponds, 3216  
[www.gog.org.au](http://www.gog.org.au)



# General Meeting - Planting for Bees

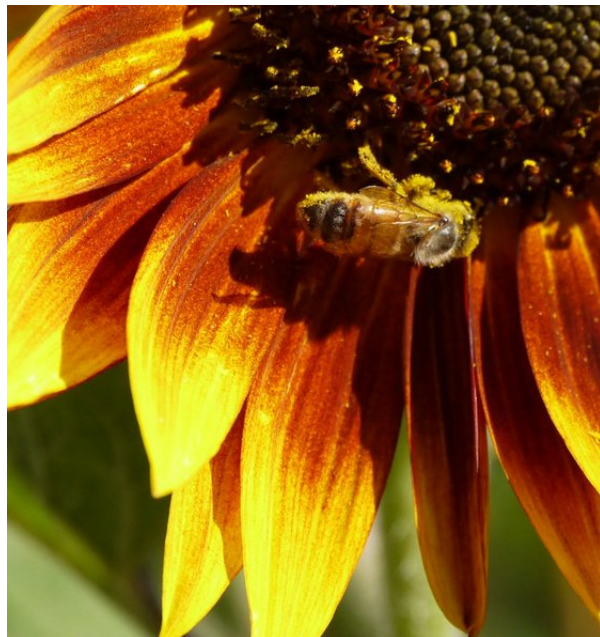
Helen De Lange

Helen will be talking about planting your garden to attract and welcome bees. Members have been emailed a document about this topic they might find very useful, and has been summarized very briefly:

“If you maintain a garden that provides useful fodder for European honey bees, you are probably also providing fodder for many species of Australian native bees too. Land clearing has destroyed native bees' food sources and nests. How can you help? By planting nectar-rich flowers and providing appropriate nest sites in your garden”

## TIPS FOR PLANTING 4 BEES:

1. Choose plants that flower throughout the year
2. Select flowers with a variety of colours and shapes.
3. Plant a group of each flower species.
4. Select plants that provide nesting materials for native bees
5. Avoid insecticides in your Bee-Friendly Garden



## In case you missed it:

Permaculture Co-Founder David Holmgren was on Friday's Gardening Australia. The segment will be repeated on Sunday February 9 at 1.30pm. It can also be streamed on ABC iView after the first broadcast.

## Fruit Tree Netting regulations

New laws are set to come into place in 2021 with regards to the sale / use of large diameter netting over fruit trees. New requirements: **“must have mesh size of 5mm or less at full stretch, be white in colour, and have a strand diameter of no less than 500 microns”**. It's also been suggested on social media (esp in fire affected areas) to avoid netting fruit trees so that the wildlife have something to eat. We'll probably cover this issue again.

## DIARY DATES 2020

*Please support these GOG and related events.*

<b>Sunday Feb 9th</b>	Transition Streets Permaculture Event (Sold out I think) (Also, Geelong Rainbow Festival)
<b>Monday Feb 10th</b>	GOG General Meeting @ Geelong Botanic Gardens meeting room - Botanical Gardens Tour
<b>Sunday March 1st</b>	Summer Heritage Fruit Tree Festival @ Werribee Park (Free) <a href="http://werribeeparkheritageorchard.org.au/events/summer-heritage-fruit-tree-festival/">http://werribeeparkheritageorchard.org.au/events/summer-heritage-fruit-tree-festival/</a>
<b>Saturday March 7th</b>	GOG Workshop / Field Trip - Passata Making @ Eastern Hub
<b>Sunday March 8th</b>	Transition Streets - Sustainable living festival (see page 5)
<b>Saturday April 4th</b>	Anglesea Community Garden Festival
<b>Monday April 13th</b>	GOG April Meeting - All about apples

# Passata Making Workshop

Saturday March 7th

Passata last appeared in the 2015 Newsletter (By Gav):

## POMO-D'ORO (GOLDEN APPLE)

"In the Italian cuisine, tomatoes are a major ingredient in most recipes therefore the preserving of tomatoes is an essential ritual in the lives of Italian people".

This year, members workshop / Field day in March will be Passata Making. An email will go around; but members are requested to book via email to Deb Watkins or the GOG email: [gog.geelong@gmail.com](mailto:gog.geelong@gmail.com) as places will be limited.

Cost will be \$5 for members or \$10 for non-members. Tomatoes will be provided; but participants are requested to BYO bottles.

The venue is the excellent Eastern Hub, and there's a foodswap at 9:30-11am (workshop is at 11); and the café will be open for lunch, or BYO.



Image: Internet; [www.nonnabox.com](http://www.nonnabox.com)

New Time

Buy Locally Grown  
VEGGIES at



26 Forster Street, Norlane

SATURDAYS 10am - 1pm

FROM DECEMBER

50% off for Norlane locals

Come and pick your own!

## Water Update

Rainfall for 2019 was still well below average (according to my measurements), despite an incredibly wet May/June. The year end (December) was particularly dry, as was January - which severely impacted the ability of the garden to survive without irrigation. However, the recent rains have been extremely welcome, and while the soil is still very dry; it's filled the water tanks and made the weeds much easier to pull out - for a week or so at least.

Goshen Watts



## Storages

61.2% vs 47% this time last year

Latest version at:

<https://barwonwater.vic.gov.au/water-and-waste/water-storages/geelong-region>

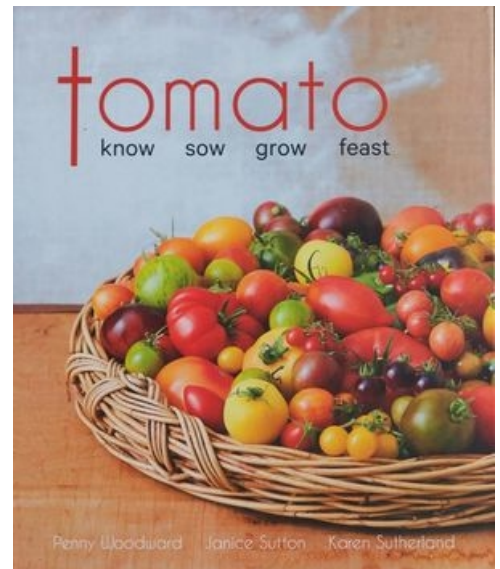
Month	Averages: 2000-2015	2017	2018	2019
Jan	33	26	59	2
Feb	34	44	2.5	6
Mar	27	56	23	11
Apr	41	159	12	3
May	31	26	71	110
Jun	44	10	50	87
Jul	44	38	44	32
Aug	46	53	32	47
Sep	45	81	27	34
Oct	52	29	26	22
Nov	59	43	25	53
Dec	34	43	47	14
Total (mm)	490	608	418.5	421



## Coming soon to the Library?

### Tomato, by Penny Woodward

This fantastic (and somewhat expensive) book should be making it's way to the GOG library for the coming meetings... and will be a very handy resource for members... so stay tuned.



**Wanted:** Last minute request for a Babaco and /or Feijoa tree (bring to meeting) for Graham Mahoney or call 0406317184.

### Saffron Anyone?



**Does anyone grow it?** Apparently it requires a cold winter, and dry, hot summer. In Geelong, we almost qualify - but it's possible our winters are not quite cold enough. I've managed to get a few flowers over the years; but the bulbs are rarely all that large, so only 1/3 probably produce a flower. Mine flowered April 18th in 2019; and that was after some good Autumn watering. I believe this is key - if Autumn rains don't arrive; you need to start watering the patch by sometime in March? I'll cover this lovely spice/flower a bit more in the next issue - so if you've got any tips for local growing, please email the editor.

## Seed Bank Update

Seeds collected by members also available now for just: 50c - \$1

Unconfirmed... Ben's seeds should have been restocked in time for Monday's meeting

GOG is very pleased to be able to offer Ben Keon-Cohen Birdland seeds on a regular basis at our meetings. These will be offered at a 50cents discount to all attending the meeting. At just \$3 each, well sized packet with good growing information.

- Seeds are germination tested
- Heirloom and unusual varieties
- 100% Organic and true to type

For the full range, you can visit [www.birdlandseeds.com](http://www.birdlandseeds.com) (although to get the discount, you need to purchase what's available at the monthly meetings).







transition streets  
GEELONG

# Sustainable Living festival

**Sunday 8th March 11am - 4pm**

**Deakin Waterfront Campus**

[www.transitionstreetsgeelong.org](http://www.transitionstreetsgeelong.org)

 [transitionstreetsgeelong](https://www.facebook.com/transitionstreetsgeelong)

 [transitions\\_streets\\_geelong](https://www.instagram.com/transitions_streets_geelong)

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PROJECT**

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State  
Government

## Growing Potatoes Year Round In Geelong.

(Revised June 2005) By *Bill Nicholson*.

It is possible to grow three successive crops of potatoes in the one bed, in Geelong, over a year, if 3 potential problems can be managed. The main one is to have a regular supply of seed potatoes when required; the others are frost and wind.

### Seed Supply.

Seed potatoes are only available in the nurseries for a few months of the year, so each time you dig up a crop, put some suitable seeds aside for the crop after the next which will be ready for planting in about 12-16 weeks time. By then the seeds will have short healthy shoots. These seeds are best stored in a single layer in open boxes exposed to moderate light but not direct sun.

The light slows down the sprouting process. However, if their planting time is approaching and no shoots have appeared, speed up the process by placing in a dark and warm area.

### Frost.

Where I live, heavy frosts are rare and I have been growing three successive crops a year for over ten years. If the potato top growth is killed by frost, the plants will re-shoot, but the subsequent crop will be drastically reduced — so it is better to replant.

The two ways to beat frost are:

1. Cover the whole bed with Evolution Agricultural cover and leave on until frosts are finished. (You will get a larger crop as a bonus as the cover acts like a greenhouse and also protects the plants from wind damage.)



2. When a frost occurs, before the sun strikes the plants, use a hose to melt the frost. It is the thawing out of the frost by the sun's rays that causes the damage. I have never experienced very heavy frosts, so I don't know if these methods would be viable under such conditions.

### Wind.

To protect plants from wind damage, (in recent years strong winds seem to be increasing in strength and frequency) it is advisable to drive in a stake at each end of the row and tie successive strands of hay band to support the growing haulms.

### Method of Growing Potatoes Under

#### Straw and Saving Water.

Suitable bed widths are in the range of 100 cms, to 120 cms, which will take 2 rows of plants, spaced within the rows about 35 cms apart.

Drainage is essential in hard clay soils, so beds must be built up above normal ground level to maybe 15 cms. It is desirable but not essential to have boards around the bed to approximately 30 cms high to help keep the straw in place, even if higher is better.

Dig into your raised soil bed a layer of compost up to 5 cms thick, crusher dust (a fine waste product from the quarrying of blue-metal or granite,) up to 1 Kg/m<sup>2</sup> (this dust will suffice for a few years), a handful of lime or dolomite/per m<sup>2</sup> and a sprinkling of dark brown sugar. The crusher dust and the sugar combine with the compost to provide an ideal environment for the beneficial soil microbes in the compost. Then level the bed.

To plant each seed, dig a hole in the soil down to the original level (the hard clay), place seed with the shoots pointing upwards and cover with soil.

The next step is not to cover with straw, because in that situation it would take a huge amount of water to soak down to seed level. Instead, get a green leaker hose and lay it on top of the soil up and down the rows with the holes pointing in the right direction as far as possible. Then cover the whole bed with (say) 30-60 cms of loose pea straw or similar.



Lucerne is better from a nutrient aspect when it eventually breaks down but it is much dearer unless you can get the cheaper old damaged bales that have started to break down, and not suitable for other uses. Now connect your hose to the soaker hose and water for say five minutes (check your water meter before and after to determine water usage and amend times to suit your situation.)



Then water once a week if no rain and possibly twice a week in very hot weather.

Without the leaker hose, the amount of water needed to reach the seeds would be increased by about five times (by experimentation.) During the last water restrictions in my area, the Water Board gave approval for this method, as the water savings were so great, compared to the then only legal method of hand watering. The straw cover will settle down over time and you may have to add more to prevent the light reaching the growing tubers and turning them green.



All the tubers will be in the soil layer, although some will be part in soil and part in the straw cover. It is these that must be protected from the light. The green in potatoes is due to chlorophyll which is harmless but simultaneously potentially poisonous glycoalkaloids are formed, the main one being solanine.

In small quantities this is not harmful but in large amounts causes nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting, stomach cramps, headaches and dizziness. Cooking doesn't destroy these alkaloids, but removing the green parts removes most of the toxins as they concentrate just under the skin. The sprouts concentrate these alkaloids and should never be eaten. Of course, the green potatoes can be safely used as seeds in the crop after next.

## **So How Do You Grow Potatoes The Year Round?**

### **First Crop.**

Start with a planting in late June, as at this time of the year it is possible to buy Government certified seed in the nurseries — most people plant around this time. Until the shoots appear above the straw cover, any frosts will not harm the plants, but after they appear, the previously mentioned actions may be necessary, i.e., cover with material or hose

down prior to sunlight reaching the plants. Remember also the warning about wind damage and take preventative action. After 12-16 weeks the crop is ready for harvest. Pull out the haulms (top growth) with any attached tubers. Push away the straw cover and scoop out the remaining tubers with gloved hands. The tubers will be rather clean especially if the bed has not been watered for a week or so. Don't be fooled by the original seed potato if it is still there. Learn to identify it and dispose in the compost heap.

Set aside some egg-sized potatoes for future crops.

Use defect free potatoes for seeds. When planting out seed, whole potatoes are better than larger ones cut up, as the crop is much larger when whole seeds are used in spite of what the experts say.

The remainder of the crop is stored out of the light (I use closed boxes) until required for eating. After some time, white sprouts appear, these can be rubbed off to prolong the eating life of the potato, or if desired, the potato can be planted out with the small healthy shoots intact. That completes the June planting and growing; the crop should be a large one.

### **Second Crop.**

This planting is around October, as soon as the June crop has been harvested. Seeds are probably still available in some nurseries or if you are into this twelve months program, use the seeds from the crop before the June planting. This (October) crop should be the largest of all three, and with the warm weather it may be ready in twelve weeks — check by bandicooting. Bandicooting is so easy using this growing method — just remove the straw from around a plant and the tubers will be visible just poking out of the soil. If you want some to eat, remove them carefully and the plant will not suffer any setback.

### **Third Crop.**

This is planted around January/February, the earlier the better and is not as productive as the other two. However you will get a fair percentage of eating size plus a large swag for later sowing. Some nurseries may still have an odd box of seed potatoes unsold, but if you want them, don't pay full price — the tubers will have long white shoots over 30 cms long and the body of the tuber will be rather soft. They will grow but before planting, cut back the long shoots to just above the first node from the tuber. This January/February crop will probably take sixteen weeks to mature.

The variety I grow is Red Craig Royal, a really versatile potato. These are no longer grown commercially in Victoria but a few people in Geelong still have them in their gardens. A readily available seed and just as versatile as the Red Craig Royal is the Sebago, but most other varieties are also suitable for the home garden.

I have been growing potatoes in the same beds continually for over ten years, after reading of another organic gardener who had done the same for twenty-five years. I had no problems until the crop before last when the quantity and potato size were down considerably, so I changed over to new beds and obtained great results again. I have never had any disease or pest problems and have not bought any eating or seed potatoes for years, except an occasional kilogram of Sebago seed potatoes.

I think the reasons for trouble free continuous growing of the potatoes in the one bed for so long (against the recommendation of all conventional experts) include:

- Soil life is encouraged with continual additions of hot compost, crusher dust, the molasses in dark brown sugar and the breakdown products of the straw cover.
- No pesticides, herbicides or any other killing agents, or any artificial fertilisers that might harm soil life are ever added.
- Water is placed exactly where it is required, when it is required.

#### **LATER COMMENTS.**

Since writing the original article, I have modified the growing methods in two areas. These are the Timing of Planting and Watering.

#### **1. Timing of Planting.**

Initially the intention was to plant the three successive crops at the same times each year, viz. June, October and February. This was based on the understanding that professional growers counted on their crops taking sixteen weeks to mature. For some time I used this system but two problems caused changes to be made.

1. During warm weather, after sixteen weeks growth, many tubers were huge, well over a kilogram and often with an irregular shaped hollow in the centre. These were obviously over mature.

So, now I dig them out at twelve weeks except the January/February planting which takes sixteen weeks to mature.

These tubers are smaller and fewer in number than the other crops.

Incidentally, the experts recommend that the crop is ready when the tops die down.

However in the case of

potatoes grown organically in straw, this does not often happen. This means that you must



bandicoot from time to time to determine if the crop is ready.

Potatoes may be bandicooted a few weeks later. It is purely a trial and error method to determine when the crop is ready for digging. However, after a time you will be able to estimate the growing time of the crop in your area at different times of the year.

2. For the original plan to succeed, it was essential to have newly sprouted seeds at the right time for the due planting date. This did not always happen. Some seeds were early, others were late in sprouting.

As a result of these two occurrences,

- I now plant when I have enough seeds ready and space to plant them.
- The crops grow for only twelve weeks, except in the situation previously described.
- Bandicooting may be used to determine the best time for digging a crop, if you are unsure of the maturity of the crop.

#### **2. Watering System.**

The green leaker hose system works well as long as it can be left in a permanent position. However, if it has to be moved to a new bed it creates a number of kinks, which block the passage of water to the detriment of the crop.

Therefore a different watering system was devised, viz upturned plastic bottles. Four litre bottles are best but two litre ones will do. The bottles have the bottom cut off and the caps removed. They are then placed neck downwards through the straw and inserted (say), five cms into the soil so that they remain upright when filled with water. In the case of two rows of seed potatoes, a single row of close spaced bottles between the rows of seeds allows sufficient water to be applied. Water is applied via a hose filling one bottle at a time. Under current water restrictions, this method can be used at any time of the day.

If a single row of seeds is planted, space the bottles about one hand span away from the row. This method was successful but it did have a couple of drawbacks.

- It was tedious and time consuming.
- As the plants grew, it became increasingly difficult to find the bottle openings under the massive top growth of the haulms.

#### **Latest Watering Method.**

Because I grow potatoes in beds of two rows, to get the water through the straw using a small amount of water, I now make a V-shaped furrow in the straw along the length of the bed



between the rows. The water is applied with an oblong rose spray directed along the length of the V in the straw.



Of course due to current water restrictions, this method can be used only during legal watering hours.

#### Comments.

- I have never planted potatoes in the period March to May, so cannot advise on possible results.
- The various changes listed above illustrate actions found necessary from time to time. Be alert at all times to improve quality of product using minimum of resources especially water.
- An alternative to bandicooting is to pull up a whole plant to determine the maturity of the crop. Of course, by using this method you will probably get a feed or two of potatoes, even if the rest of the crop is not ready.
- The two varieties mentioned, viz. Red Craig Royal and Sebago are so versatile. They can be used for chipping, roasting, boiling or mashing compared to many other varieties, which are suited to only some of the abovementioned.
- Using the revised method, potatoes are produced regularly over a 12 month period instead of a lot of potatoes at just three times a year.

## Seeds for planting now....

<i>Southern Victoria planting</i>	Feb	Mar	Apr
Beans, Broad		X	X
Beetroot	X		
Broccoli	X	X	X
Brussels Sprouts	X	X	
Cabbage	X	X	X
Cabbage Kai & Bok Choy	X	X	X
Carrots	X	X	X
Cauliflower	X	X	X
Chicory	X	X	
Cress	X	X	X
Endive	X	X	X
Garlic, cloves			X
Kale	X		
Kohlrabi	X	X	
Kon Choy	X		
Leeks	X	X	
Onions		X	X
Onions, Spring	X	X	X
Parsley	X	X	X
Parsnips	X	X	X
Peas	X		
Potatoes	X		
Radishes	X	X	X
Rhubarb, Crowns	X		
Salsify	X	X	X
Shallots, cloves	X	X	X
Silverbeet	X		
Spinach	X	X	X
Swedes	X	X	
Turnips	X	X	

## SUMMER GARDEN TIPS:

### Planting Seeds: Planning Ahead.

Although the weather is still hot, towards the end of February is a great time to plant a lot of vegetable seeds as can be seen above with the planting guide.

### Watering:

A rough rule is to water once a day if no rain and under 25C; 25 to 35 is twice a day. 35 and over is extra again, but avoid watering the leaves direct when the full heat is on. Pots, planted seeds and seedlings need more watering,

especially if in full sun or in hot places. You need to keep the soil moist to grow vegetables.

### Mulching:

Mulch will help keep the soil moist, break the heavy hose water and stop the water running off the surface. If you plant seedlings and seeds direct you need to part the mulch, but be well advised to cover the areas with wire or such like to stop the birds knocking the mulch over the small plants.

### Shade:

Run out of room; just shade your plants. Easy.

# Foodswaps & Farmers Markets

## FOODSWAPS

Fantastic for swapping excess garden produce, and fruit from overlaid trees. Also valuable for building local community, sharing of skills and resources

**How they work?** Simply bring along your home-grown produce, put it on the swap table and take whatever you think is a fair exchange. It works on an honour system so there is no money needed. If you don't have much veg to bring, then consider things like jam jars, seeds, seedlings, or even bake something.

### Geelong & District Foodswaps

**Cloverdale Food Swap** - 3rd Sat, 9.30-11am  
167 Purnell Rd, Corio.

**Norlane**, Last Fri each month, 3 - 5:30pm  
Norlane Community Centre

**Manifold Heights** - 1st Sat, 9.30-11am  
Manifold Heights PS, Strachan Ave, Liz Hines 0418501998

**East Geelong** - 1st Sat, 9:30-11am at Eastern Hub, 285A  
McKillop St, East Geelong.

**Grovedale** - 3rd Saturday, 9.30-10:30am  
Grovedale Community Centre, 45 Heyers Rd

**Bannockburn** - 4th Saturday, 9.30 - 10.30am  
Station Café carpark (near railway line).

### Bellarine Foodswaps

**Drysdale Harvest Basket Food Swap**, 1st Sat.  
Springdale Neighbourhood Centre, 17-21 High St Drysdale.

**Port Produce Swap** 2nd & 4th Sat, 11-12pm (Apr-Aug)  
Portarlington Neighbourhood House

**Queenscliffe Produce Swap**, 3rd Saturday of the month,  
10am - 12pm. Tobin Dve Queenscliff, Carolyn Williams 5258  
3367

**St Leonards Food Swap** 4th Saturday of the month,  
9:00am - 11:00am. Progress Association Hall, Murradoc Rd  
St Leonards 3223 VIC Australia Tina Grimes 0407 529 409

## FARMERS MARKETS

Make sure you try and support these local markets, which often encourage sustainable and organic growing practices.

**The Farm Next Door Sat market**  
26 Forster St Norlane. 10am-1pm, Every Sat.

**Geelong Farmers Market**  
2nd Sat, Little Malop St

**South Geelong Farmers' Market**  
1st and 3rd Sundays, 9am-1pm, 200 Yarra St Geelong

**Highton Farmers' Market (was Newtown FM)**  
4th Saturday of every month, Barrabool Rd

**Pako Farmers' Market**  
2nd Sat of every month; West Park,  
207 Pakington St.

**Golden Plains Farmers' Market**  
Bannockburn, 1st  
Saturday 9am - 2pm

**Bellarine Community Farmers' Market**  
Ocean Grove. 3rd Saturday 9am - 1pm

**Drysdale Community Market**  
3rd Sunday  
(October through to May each year)

**Portarlington Market**  
Last Sunday of the month all year round.

**Torquay Farmers' Market**  
Every Saturday, 8.30am-1pm, Surf Coast Shire offices  
carpark, Merrijig Drv

**Winchelsea Farmers Market**  
1st Sunday of every month, 8am-12pm, Winchelsea Bridge.

**Ballan and District Farmers Market,**



## MAKERS / GROWERS

**Geelong Waterfront Makers and Growers**  
First Sunday of the month - all year round.  
10:00am - 2pm

**The Farmer's Place - Farmers' Market**  
Last Sunday of the month; all year round.

Other regular weekly markets are worth checkout too:

- ! Beckley Park Saturday Market
- ! Geelong Showgrounds Sunday Market
- ! Belmont Sunday Market

Also try these websites for the latest info:

<http://farmersmarkets.org.au/markets>

<http://www.mymarketsvic.com.au> +App available.

*Any corrections or suggestions to the info on this page, please let the ed know!*

**CLOVERDALE FOOD & PLANT SWAP**  
Home of Geelong Seed & plant swap

**THE CENTER HAS HAD AN UPGRADE!**  
We are around the back 😊

Checkout the new digs!

SWAP anything homegrown or homemade.  
All homemade food must be labelled and ingredients listed due to the center's health regulations.

.....

Swap is held third Saturday of every month. 9.30am - 11 am

Call 52 754 415 or 0417435492 for more info

Checkout our group on facebook "Geelong seed & plant swap"




Support our members gardening related enterprises:

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 **golden plains**  
GARDENING

**Gavin Gamble**

52815115  
0410 505 936

**Watts Permaculture**

Goshen Watts  
0411968155  
5241 3383  
[wattspermaculture.com.au](http://wattspermaculture.com.au)  
[goshenw@gmail.com](mailto:goshenw@gmail.com)

Earth Care | People Care | Fair Share

## GOG Committee

Chair	Brendan Bolton	0403872676
Treasurer	Rosie Bright	0431 589 179
Vice Chair	Gavin Gamble	0410 505 936
Correspondence & Minutes Sec.	Emily Swanson	0409 658 325
Library	Trish MacKenzie	0400 221 964
Newsletter Editor Contributions:	Goshen Watts <a href="mailto:goshenw@gmail.com">goshenw@gmail.com</a>	0411 968 155
General Members:	Steve Findlay	0408 641 458
	Deb Watkins	0408 218 997
	Peter Field	0422 548 871
	Helen De Lange	

Somehow I need to redo this whole page, but can't leave out our President's gardening business...

**EDIBLE LANDSCAPE** home about us plants & products

 landscaping

**Contact us**

Edible Landscape Pty Ltd  
Brendan and Liz Bolton

Phone: 03 5278 6887  
Mobile: 0403 872676  
Email: [ediblelandscape@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ediblelandscape@optusnet.com.au)

## Membership and General Info:

**Membership Fees are due on 1st of September**, payable at the August meeting each year or via direct deposit.  
**\$24 General / Family and \$12 Concession**

Memberships can be paid electronically to Geelong Organic Gardeners at Bendigo Bank (BSB 633000 A/c: 102186137). Don't forget to add your name when paying and also complete a membership form for our records.

New members can join on a prorata basis, bringing them in line with the annual membership date. Members receive 6 newsletters a year and are entitled to use our library, sales tables and to attend all the meetings and field trips. Library Members are entitled to borrow from the Geelong Organic Gardeners shelves up to 3 books per meeting, one current magazine and an unlimited number of past editions. **These must be returned by the following meeting.**

Friends Of The Botanic Gardens books, and those of other groups sharing the library area, are not for loan but may be referred to on meeting nights. Please return them to the correct position on the shelves.

### Meeting Sales Tables

Members donate excess produce plants and seeds to raise funds for the club. These are sold after the meeting has ended. (Please price all items before placing them on table!).

### Commission Sales and Discount Seeds

Members may bring their produce and home made products (no commercial items) to sell, giving 10% commission to the club.

Normal process: [goshenw@gmail.com](mailto:goshenw@gmail.com)

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Geelong Organic Gardeners aim to provide resources and a social and educational network to maximise the practice and the enjoyment of organic gardening; both for our members and to encourage and promote organic gardening practices in the wider community.

Geelong Organic Gardeners promote sustainable horticulture and a sustainable lifestyle concentrating on generating expertise in urban agriculture. We seek to work with allied groups in the interests of a healthy and positive future for people and the environment.

### To this end we do not support:

- the use of non-organic pesticides and insecticides
- the use of synthetic fertilisers and other products derived from non renewable sources
- the farming or consumption of genetically engineered foods.

The Geelong Organic Gardeners define "organic" consistent with the Australian Organic Standard.

