

Dear Golden Beach Community.

Thank you for the opportunity to input into your newsletter. We would like to keep you up to date with key happenings in this part of the world.

Parks Victoria staff and Gunaikurnai Rangers have been busy replacing fences at Paradise Beach, Delray Beach and Camp 4 carpark and undertaking park maintenance tasks in preparation for the busy season. Fences in other camp areas and carparks have been assessed and will be repaired on a priority basis. Some camp areas will have bollards installed to assist with visitor management and dune and vegetation protection. Finding the balance between protection obligations and acceptable visitor usage is always a challenge and we're open to suggestions from visitors and the community. We are working hard on other issues such as toilets, pit fire places and audits of other assets along the coast. We are keen to work with the Golden Beach community and Wellington Shire Council on issues such as rubbish and toilet facilities.

The next Golden Beach project we are undertaking is the re-bollard and landscaping works at the Day Visitor Area. This project involves replacing the existing bollards with square milled posts and the installation of a new access gate, new joint management entrance signage and a few garden beds planted with ground cover type plants along the bollard line and a general freshen up of the area. We also plan on removing the old information board and shelter and installing modern interpretive signage in the picnic shelter which is getting a lot of use due to the BBQ's being installed as originally designed. We are conscious that the community is keen for greater beach access for the Surf Life Saving club and we will work with this group in the next month on this.

There has been a steady stream of bookings for camping during winter with a good level of compliance with the new camping fees. The busier period will pose a challenge with visitors arriving for the first time since fees were introduced. Ranger staff will have access to the online booking system while on patrol and if deemed appropriate will be able to make a booking on behalf of visitors who have not booked. However penalties do apply for camping without a permit. An appropriate course of action will be determined on a case by case basis. Any inquires please call 131963.

A little further east, the Loch Sport Angling Club have completed an "All Access Path" to the beach at Loch Sport. This is a fantastic project and one I'm sure the community are very proud of. The project has been a couple of years in the making and was funded through grants and the clubs own contributions. The 140 metre recycled plastic path was installed in 5 days by a small team of community and club members. This type of project would be potentially ideal for accessible beach access at the Golden Beach Day Visitor Area as well. In The Lakes National Park plans are underway to develop day visitor facilities and interpretation at Point Wilson (Sperm Whale Head). It's an exciting time for these joint managed parks and as managers we potentially have access to new avenues of funding and traditional owner influences and expertise to tap into.

We welcome any comments you may have.

Thank you

Kind Regards

**Helen Dixon**

District Manager, Central Gippsland

E [helen.dixon@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:helen.dixon@parks.vic.gov.au)

**Parks Victoria**

PO Box 1315 Street Sale, Vic 3850

[www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)