



**12 November 2008**

**Media release**

**Picnic time for everyone at the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne**

Sunday 23 November is the perfect time to grab a picnic and head to the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne.

Families and friends will be able to take part in a program of free activities to celebrate the launch of the Woodland Picnic Area, the Garden Grubs Kids' Club and the brand new 4 kilometre bike track that winds its ways through the native bushland of the Royal Botanic Gardens. Come along to learn how to play a didgeridoo, have your face painted, enjoy a free sausage sizzle or participate in a variety of fun games and activities run by Camp Australia.

Chris Russell, Director at the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne said: "This is a great day particularly for families who want to introduce their children to the wonders of nature as well as have the chance to play, kick a ball or simply enjoy outdoor time together."

The Woodland Picnic Area has been designed by landscape architects Urban Initiatives and is one of four projects that make up the second stage of the Australian Garden.

Its large open grasslands, barbeques and a children's playground make it the perfect spot to enjoy family entertainment.

The bushland vegetation provides shade and beauty, while new planting around the picnic site may give you ideas to try at home.

Primary school children are also well catered for with the launch of THE GARDEN GRUBS KIDS' CLUB, a club designed and run by the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne for children from 5 – 10 years old. Come along on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November for your chance to meet the club's cheeky mascot, Grubby, the Garden Grub.

Jo Fyfe, the coordinator of the Garden Grubs Kids' Club, said "There are few things children enjoy more than digging in the soil, looking for worms and insects or planting seeds and watching them grow. The kids club is a great opportunity for kids to get together in the award-winning Australian Garden and learn about gardening"

Becoming a member of the garden Grubs Kids' Club entitles a child to a backpack full of goodies, including a Grubby passport, a water bottle, gardening tools, stickers, regular newsletters, invitations to members-only events and a birthday e-card. Members will also be invited to special Grubby days, and receive sneak peaks of school holiday programs before everyone else. Membership costs \$20 a year per child.

Members are able to sign onto the 'Grubby' website to play games and put their nature knowledge to the test.

**When:** Sunday 23rd November 2008  
**Time:** 11.00am - 3.00pm  
**Where:** Woodland Picnic Area  
**Cost:** Free

*Entry prices apply to the Australian Garden.*  
**Enquiries:** Tel: (03) 5990 2245

**Media inquiries: Matt Jones on 03 9252 2494.**