



Funding for this project was contributed to by Wimmera PCP as part of their Small Grants Program

**Project Name:** Alive and Thriving! Barkala Flats Garden Project  
**Year:** 2013  
**Lead Agency:** Edenhope & District Memorial Hospital  
**Partners:** Edenhope Lions Club, St Malachy's Primary School

### Project Description:

Members of the Edenhope Lions Club were in charge of negotiating plans and implementing the actions with the students from St Malachy's Primary School assisting in the "hands on" work. Over the course of 2013 significant work was done:

- School students and Lions Club members constructed new timber garden beds. These were raised to working height for either standing or sitting position to meet the mobility needs of the elderly residents
- Existing garden beds that were straggly and overgrown were replaced with brick borders, new plantings, mulch and solar lighting
- A metal screen was installed to hide the ageing and unsightly rainwater tanks and utility areas, using materials donated by a local land owner
- Preparatory painting of the new screen was done by EDMH Maintenance staff
- Colourful murals were painted on the screen by students, after consultation with residents on the design and drawings



The new outdoor space was unveiled on 13th of December 2013 with a celebratory afternoon tea shared by residents and St Malachy's students. The project has added interest and activity to the daily lives of the Barkala Flats tenants, fostered contact between the generations and provided a pleasant outdoor area for social gatherings and physical activity.