

Permaculture Cairns Inc. Established July, 2007

Web site: www.permaculturecairns.org.au

Permaculture Cairns News

Empowering communities with sustainable solutions

APRIL 2013



APRIL PUBLIC INFO & GENERAL MEETING NIGHT

Tuesday 16th 6:30pm for 7pm start.

Flexible Learning Centre, 90 Clarke street, Manunda
Clarke Street comes off Hoare on the Salvos Corner.

If you can spare the time, come early (6.15) to help us set up tables and chairs.

Members please bring a plate of food to share when we have a break for dinner, or make a small donation towards the refreshment costs.

OOH and bring a friend, all welcome but !

Financial Members are free but un-financial members and non members pay \$5 for the info night and dinner

Guest Speaker: Flora Zigterman

Topic: Eliminate Dengue Community Engagement Program

“The Eliminate Dengue research program is developing a natural approach to control the spread of dengue. We have shown that the presence of *Wolbachia* within the dengue carrying mosquito – *Aedes aegypti* – acts like a ‘vaccine’ for the mosquito and reduces its ability to pass the dengue virus to people. The challenge is to introduce *Wolbachia* into wild mosquito populations in dengue transmission area. If we are successful we believe the *Wolbachia* method of control will make a significant contribution to reducing the risk of acquiring dengue for the estimated 2.5 billion people that currently live in these area.

Dengue is not endemic in Australia but frequent outbreaks occur in north Queensland due to travellers bring the virus into areas where *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes occur. Over 1000 cases of dengue were reported in the Cairns region in 2009 and the epidemic officially declared the largest recorded outbreak in Australia in over 50 years.” Extract from <http://www.eliminatedengue.com>

Find out more about the “Eliminate Dengue” Program, come to the meeting.

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Tegan, Bruce and Leon are the organisers for the Monthly Meetings.
Tegan will present the next Principle of David Holmgren’s 12 Principles of Permaculture

Principle 4 -Self regulation and accept feed back.

If you would like to know more about the Principles and Practices of Permaculture see them on <http://permacultureprinciples.com>

News from the Management Committee

Permaculture Cairns is now a member of Lets so we can accept 50% Bartles and 50% Cash for workshop fees for the SKILLING WORKSHOPS SERIES.
We cannot accept Bartles for memberships fees.

For those that don't know what Bartles are, then you need to join LETS a local energy transfer system which keeps the energy and money within the local area. Once you have joined Lets you can trade with others in Lets for goods and services with no money changing hands or part money and part Bartels.

The Storage Shed is on hold for the time being as we are presently awaiting news from the Flexible Learning Centre regarding future tenure of the premises. We will soon know the outcome of the meetings with the FLC Management and the State Government, on this issue.

Sarah Jane is compiling the Notes from last years' Resilient Communities Workshops. We will go to print in time for the booklet to be available for sale on National Permaculture Day 5th May. This is a very informative booklet, definitely worth having.

I would like to thank Jo and Carmel for their organising the food at the last meeting and also all the generous people who contributed to the wonderful spread of food we had for dinner. Anyone else willing to help please talk to Jo or Carmel, or just turn up in the kitchen where many have helped in the past, men are allowed also.

A National Permaculture Day Team has been formed to organise the event, members are Tegan, Robert, Bruce, Carol and Jade.

Jade is organising the gardens at the Flexible Learning Centre in preparation for National Permaculture Day with the assistance of the pupils at the school.

Our Workshop Team consists of Tegan, Jade, Leon, Bruce and Carol, if you want to bring up something about the workshops please talk to one of the Team.

The Poultry in the City workshop attracted 25 participants and three volunteers helped set up and run the event on the day. We all learned a lot about chooks and how to house, water and feed them and lots of things not to do. Thanks Bruce for a great workshop.

The Organic Gardening workshop participants had a really good session, lots of information changed hands and all went away with lots of notes and ideas. We will most likely re run this workshop later in the year but not during school holidays.

New Work on the Web site came to a full stop over the recent few weeks, mostly because we need more tuition, but bear with us and we will get there, eventually.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOME HELP ON NATIONAL PERMACUTURE DAY, SO IF YOU CAN GIVE US AN HOUR OR TWO PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE – TEGAN, BRUCE, ROBERT, CAROL AND JADE

Memberships are now way OVERDUE

If not paid at next meeting, the \$5 fee for non members will be charged at your next meeting attendance.

All memberships become due and payable on the 31st December each year. These fees help us to keep things rolling, for example, public liability insurance, stationery, equipment, garden club subscription, bank fees etc – only \$20 for Singles and \$30 for Households, unchanged since 2007.

Our committee members and other volunteers give their time, and their vehicles for free and supply their computers, printers and phone called for free, so please help all of us pay the bills by paying your memberships fees. We are all in this together.

AND our INSURANCE only covers people for FOUR visits to our meetings so if you have been to four meetings and have not become a financial member and intend to attend meetings you need to cover yourself and Permaculture Cairns by signing up as soon as possible.

You can pay at meetings, or online into our Permaculture Cairns Bank Account: BSB 704-966 A/c. 100009440 with your Surname as reference. And an email to the Acting Treasurer would be excellent - carollaing@hotmail.com, while Lania is away on holidays

SKILLING WORKSHOP SERIES

Saturday 25th May 9am for 9.30 start Finish 12.30

KICKSTART YOUR GARDEN WITH JADE BURKITT

Don't know where to start, then this is the workshop for you. Jade will explain where best to grow your vegetables. What you need to do to bring the soil up to scratch to grow vegetables. What to plant and how to look after your garden.

COST \$40 includes morning tea. LETS MEMBERS - 50% Bartles will be accepted for this workshop, please supply name and number when registering

Registration is essential - To register email:-
workshops@permaculturecairns.org.au

Payment is required by the Thursday prior to the workshop day. Payment can be made in person at Cairns Penny Bank in Grafton Street or ONLINE to Permaculture Cairns Bank Account BSB 704-966 A/c 100009440. (Please use your surname as the Reference), by MAIL TO PO Box 6535 CAIRNS, OR at Permaculture Meetings.

MORE workshops coming up in the Skilling Series.....

**THE WATER GARDEN
WITH ROBERT VIRGINIE**

Saturday 8th June 9am for 9.30 start - Finish 12.30

Want a pond, Rob will tell you what you can grow and have in the pond. More details later

**Ferro Cement Construction
With Bruce Zell**

Saturday 15th June 9am for 9.30 start - Finish 12.30

Ferro cement is a very useful way of building, garden pots, seats, sculptures and even houses. More details later

DATE CLAIMERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**PERMACULTURE CAIRNS NATIONAL PERMACULTURE DAY
Sunday 5th May 2013**

Keep this day free for a day full of information, demonstrations, food, plants, movies that matter. More info as it comes to hand.

Keynote speaker Andre Leu, Chairman of the Organic Federation of Australia

Kuranda Sprouts – Seed Savers gathering
Sunday 14th April 10 till 4.30ish
At Jo's place
451 Oak Forest road Kowrowa via Kuranda
Jo's ph no. 0401 423 573

BIODYNAMIC FNQ EVENTS
SUNDAY 28TH APRIL

Craft Day An opportunity to learn and/or share
a craft project. Venue Wayne Rankine's place.
254 Picnic Crossing Road Yungabura
9.30 for 10am start

Felting, soap making, silk painting, basket weaving, weaving into onion bags, bread making,
Finger knitted scarves, locker hooking, crochet, ribbons, Pendulum practise, fermented food – bring
your favourite recipe and some fermented food to sample

Sounds like fun doesn't it.

Bring a chair, hat a plate of food to share for morning tea and lunch.

Shoes must be worn for insurance purposes.

If you would like to run a workshop on the day please contact Ulla on email pederulla@hotmail.com

Sunday 12th May

Horn Burial & A.G.M. Venue John & Adam
Collin's farm Kaban

29th and 30th May

Rotary Field Day, MAREEBA

Feast of the Senses

INNISFAIL

12 TO 21ST APRIL 2013

International Food Fare: Friday 12 April – Warrina Lakes - \$25 per ticket inclds 3 food vouchers

Food Trail No. 1 - Saturday 13th 9am sharp Anzac Memorial Park Edith Street and return around 5pm

Liverpool River Bananas for a tour of family banana plantation, Fruit Forest Farm, stocked with exotic fruit where you will enjoy an amazing lunch and an enlightening tour of the farm in Peters custom made trailer. And then on to L & L Peppercorns, Australia's only pepper farm

Food Trail No. 2 – Sunday 14th 9am sharp Anzac Memorial Park Edith Street and return around 5pm

Australian Sugar heritage Centre for a guided tour of museum, Innisfail Art society Art Exhibition and Mourilyan Markets.

Japoonvale to visit Rainspa and learn about bottling this famous water.

Daradgee Education centre for lunch, meet with local producers and see their wares.

Broken Nose Vanilla, Leson in vanilla production and tasting vanilla products.

Cost is \$65 per person, numbers are very limited – Bookings Ph 0413 010 625

Email: feastofthesenses@bigpond.com

By hosting food Trails our farmers are able to share their experiences and to make people aware of what really is involved in rebuilding on the land. Most farms are still in the rebuilding phase following Cyclone Yasi so your visit is a show of support whilst many are still struggling.

Ultra-Tropics Gala Dinner Friday 19th April – Shire hall - \$75 per ticket – Tables of 8

Cairns Residents Gala Dinner ticket plus return bus transfers from Stockland Earlville \$100 per person. Must be booked and paid for by Wed. 10 April Minimum of 22 people

Call Kirsty on 0413 010 625

River Races with Coconuts Outriggers Saturday 20 April

Outrigger races between local corporate teams

Australian Bananas Market Day Extravaganza Sunday 21 April – Edith Street 9am – 3pm

Huge market of local produce. 100 stalls showcasing fruit, wines, herbs, spices, meats, coffees, plants, handicrafts and more. Cooking demonstrations, Celebrity Cook, Entertainment from various community groups. Entry fee \$2 per person \$5 per family of school age children

More info: <http://www.feastofthesenses.com.au>

INTERNATIONAL PERMACULTURE CONVERGENCE CUBA 2013

A Permaculture Design Course facilitated by internationally renowned teachers:
Ron berezan (CA), Brock Dolman (USA), Paulo Mellet (UK), Eric Toensmeier (USA) and Cuba's own
Roberto Perez Rivero.

A 3 day Conference with the theme "Island Permaculture, urban Permaculture and Permaculture and
Climate Change"

A 5 day Convergence

Visits to permaculture and sustainability sites in Havana and two provinces of Cuba to see examples
of Permaculture CUBA STYLE.

KEY EVENTS AND DATES

Pre IPC International PDC
11-24 November 2013 Havana, Cuba

Conference Dinner and Gala
24 November 2013
Havana, Cuba

International Permaculture conference
25 – 27 November 2013
Havana, Cuba

Visit to Urban Permaculture sites
28 November 2013-04-08 Havana, Cuba

Convergence
29th November – 3 December, 2013
Los Cocos, Mayabeque, Cuba

Permaculture tours
From December 4th 2013

More Info - Web Site: <http://ipc11cuba.com>

In the Kitchen in the tropics

I harvested a Taro from the front garden, one I bought as a corm at the Nambour Garden Expo in July last year and sliced the taro into very thin chips and cooked them in the fry pan until they were crisps in a little coconut oil – absolutely delicious.

I also cooked some in coconut milk with ginger and garlic and that was really nice so now I am hell bent on making a Roti with taro and arrowroot instead of potato. Arrowroot is really sweet when roasted, so that will be the next addition to a meal as I have lots to harvest.

March in the Tropical Garden

It is seedling raising time now, if you seeded some early, you are a month ahead, I have some tomatoes about to flower (they came up on their own so I transplanted them). The great thing about the Permaculture garden is that it seeds itself a lot. I have bok choy, lettuce, coriander, thai basil and taro coming up without any help from me, it's great, you either leave it, pull it or transplant it.

I have spread the compost heaps in the garden and pruned back all the arrowroots, taro and thai basil so now it's time to plant the seedlings I seeded on 6th March hoping it wasn't going to rain in bucket loads. I potting these seedlings up into small pots and have raised them ready to plant, this gives me a larger plant and not so many worries with heavy rain or insects while it is still hot. I only do this for the first lot of plantings as the pests become less of a problem in the cool weather.

That's it for me, I hope to catch up with you at the meeting on Tuesday night.
Cheers and go lightly on the land.
Carol

[Membership form coming up](#)



Permaculture Cairns Membership Form

One year's membership fee - 1 Jan - 31 Dec:

- Household membership \$30
- Individual membership \$20

Name(s) of all applicant(s) & DOB if under 18yrs):

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Postal Address:

Postcode:

Phone(s):

Email:

Signature:

Payment may be made at Meetings, by Post to P.O. Box 6535 Cairns
Online Direct Deposit - Permaculture Cairns Account at Cairns Penny Bank in Grafton
Street. BSB 704-966 Account No. 100009440 please include your Surname as reference.

Office Paid Cash Date received Paid up to
Use only \$ ____ .00 Cheque __ / __ / __ Dec 20__

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Permaculture Cairns Public Meeting All Welcome

Third Tuesday of every month (except January). Doors open 6.30pm,
meeting starts at 7pm at: Flexible Learning Centre, 90-92 Clarke St.
(off Hoare St), Manunda

Enquiries

- President: Carol Laing carollaing@hotmail.com
- Secretary: Tegan McBride tegan.mcbride@hotmail.com
- Treasurer: Lania Lynch lania.lynch@jcu.edu.au

Website: www.permaculturecairns.org.au