

Permaculture Cairns Newsletter

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS



Care for the Earth, Care for people, Fair share the excess

Permaculture Cairns Incorporated Web Site: www.permaculturecairns.org.au

PERMACULTURE CAIRNS MAY MEETING 2018

Tuesday 15th May 6pm for a 6.30 start

**Venue: Endeavour Learning and Lifestyle Building
4 Warner Street (on corner with Monk Street) Manunda**

Members free, but bring some nibbles for the cuppa break, non-members \$5

Agenda

House keeping – amenities, chairs etc.

Welcome to new members and visitors

Vacant positions – Librarian, Eco fiesta volunteers

News items – Lots of events coming up, see the newsletter for details

Jenny will give us an insight into the Permaculture Convergence in Canberra.

Carol will give a short talk on the Syntropic Farming workshop.

Lets communicate about what we want from Permaculture, bring along your ideas and your thoughts on what we can do to make life better, less stressful, less expensive for everyone.

Are you interested in creating a community garden at Endeavour??

Are you willing to carpool to events???

What are things you want to learn about??

Come along a have your say.

Carol will bring tropical perennial vegetables and herbs for sale or swap.

Have something to share? Want to help?? Bring it up before the cuppa and chat time

We appreciate members bringing along their ideas and methods so talk to Jenny, Craig or Carol if you would like to make a presentation at a meeting.

Meeting close and now time for a chat, a cuppa and a snack with like-minded people

All finished by 8.30pm.

A little about Permaculture Cairns & the benefits of being a member.

In the late 80's Bruce Zell started a group of people who helped each other out in the garden and in 2007 the group was Incorporated with the help of Kym and Georgie Krause. It has functioned since with monthly meetings, at which there were lots and lots of interesting and informative Guest Speakers on a huge range of permaculture relevant topics.

In 2010 Permaculture Cairns held the Australian Permaculture Convergence in Kuranda. This was a great turning point for some in the food growing industry in the region, with the introduction of practical methods of making biofertilizers, increasing microbes in the soil and chromatography for registering what is happening in the soil. These innovations were brought to Australia by inviting Eugenio, Nacho and Jiro from South America.

Each year we hold either Permi Expo Days, Permi Movie Days or International Permaculture Day celebrations in May. Since 2012 we have run many practical skills workshops under the banner Building Resilient Communities. We take part in the Cairns Regional Councils' Eco Fiesta Day.

Memberships and Benefits

Permaculture Cairns Membership fees are \$20 for singles and \$30 for families and have remained the same since 2007. Some benefits for being a member are - Monthly Newsletter with news of our activities as well as related groups' activities in the region. Free monthly meetings, Discounts on workshops, Permi tours and items for sale. Free Members Library now installed at our new Endeavour Living and Lifestyle Building. The best of all is the chance to meet with like minded people and exchange stories and ideas.

So come along on Tuesday night, sign up and meet some like-minded people

We will be at Eco Fiesta on Sunday 3rd June

so come see us

Also looking for Volunteers for the day

Contact Jenny or Craig if you have a spare hour or so.

Website for Permaculture videos info and blogs

[Permaculturenews.org/category/how to](http://Permaculturenews.org/category/how%20to)

Geofflawtononline.com

Check out the Friday Fives, join up for insights and benefits

***RETROSUBURBIA BOOK for sale at Permaculture Cairns,
get you copy at the next meeting***

What Permies have been doing in April -

Jenny McGrath attended the Permaculture Convergence in Canberra and she also took part in a workshop presented by David Holmgren at Daylesford Victoria.

Carol Laing, Blake Hudson and Nigel Foxton all attended the very interesting Syntropic Farming Workshop run by Jane and Neil Hawes at Petals in Tolga.

PERMI DAY - Thanks for helping on Saturday.

Thanks Craig for managing the computer, projector and the videos. The Syntropic video was very interesting and the one on how plants talk to each other, fascinating. We must play the David Holmgren video on "Relocalisation" again to see what changes have happened since 2008.

Thanks to Robyn Ford for helping me set up and then clean up and for the yummy Quiche. Thanks to Judy Noller for helping during the day and the delicious filled bread pastry thingsies. Great to see Wendy Davey and Len Specht there talking about wicking beds, thanks for the delicious cakes.

Thanks to Neil Fraser for telling us a bit about how he collects native bees and showing us his equipment for collecting bees. If you are interested in having Neil make a hive from one in your house wall to take away for his business of pollination, contact me at workshops@permaculturecairns.org.au. Neil has promised to do a presentation at one of our meetings, more on that later.

Andrew turned up to talk permaculture and web sites and he has kindly promised to come talk about some of the interesting things he has done in Permaculture. Jenny brought some delightful cakes and stacked the cupboard with library books so we should have our library it up and running by next meeting. OOH!! anyone for the Librarian position – its open and not too difficult nor time consuming.

And many thanks to those I have missed, who put the chairs back?, but it was a good day and all enjoyed the good food and the good company. And a big thank you goes to Endeavour for giving Permaculture Cairns a place to have our meetings, workshops and events.

May in the garden of the cool dry tropics

***Tropical Perennial Food Plants now-** The greens - Okinawa, Sambung, Brazilian, Kang Kong, Aibika, Lebanese cress. The root crops, sweet potato, cocoyam and taro all enjoyed the wet humid weather and are looking good.*

***What to plant now** -lettuce, kale, beans, bok choy, rocket, basil, garlic chives, chives, bunching shallots, cucumber, melons, turmeric, ginger, galangal, daikon radish, pandan, comfrey, corn, melons, pumpkin, okra, tomato, capsicum in fact just about anything that will mature in 5 to 6 months.*

May Moon planting days for edible root crops 11th & 12th. Prepare soil for planting 13th to 16th. Planting dates for above ground crops 17th to 27th May. Cheers Carol

About Permaculture From David

DAVID HOLMGREN AND SUE DENNET AT MELLIDORA



Words by Georgina Reid – Images by Kirsten Bradley. August 2017

“Some people describe permaculture as revolution disguised as gardening”, co-founder of the movement David Holmgren tells me down the phone from somewhere deep in the Victorian bush. He reckons the innocuous perception of gardening might just be one of the reasons the permaculture movement – its concepts and ideas deeply challenging to existing economic and political structures – has stuck around for the last forty years. “What could be revolutionary about gardening?” David asks with a chuckle. Plenty in fact, as he and I both know.

In 1978, aged just 23, David Holmgren and a teacher at the University of Tasmania, Bill Mollison coined the term Permaculture. Based around three core tenets – care of the earth, care of people, and return of surplus – permaculture is an ecologically based design system for sustainable human living. When the pair initially coined the term it was a mash up of permanent agriculture, but has since evolved to refer also to permanent culture.

Over the last 40 years the seeds of Holmgren and Mollison’s ideas have grown into a global movement that has touched millions of lives and provides an alternative framework for individuals to interact with each other and the earth. Thousands of projects have been implemented locally and internationally – from small city gardens to farms and large communities. David has spent much of this time teaching, writing and experimenting with permaculture ideas and principles on his property *Melliodora* with his partner Sue Dennett, near Hepburn in Victoria.

It seems gardening is the veil behind which the permaculture movement’s revolutionary ideas continue to simmer, grow and evolve.



The garden at David Holmgren's property, Melliodora.

The concept of permaculture was born of revolution – personally and politically. David lists the 1973 oil crisis, the Club of Rome Limits to Growth report of 1972 and the radical nature of the University of Tasmania's environmental design course as key influences on the development of the idea. At the time, he was living with his teacher Bill Mollison who was a member of the world's first green political group, the United Tasmania Group, and a founding member of the Tasmanian Organic Gardening and Farming Society – the first organic organisation in Australia.

On a personal level, David was moving away from a worldview inherited from his political activist parents. He was wandering away from a 'let's analyse what's happening in the world and fight against the bad things that are happening, to a 'how do we create the world we want now just by living it?' approach.

The timing was just right. In the late 1970s there was a sense of optimism and interest in environmental issues, which allowed the concept of permaculture to gain traction and thrive.

The emergence of permaculture was not just because Mollison was a charismatic, somewhat confrontationist figure that the media liked or that we had brilliant ideas, it was also the right time," David says.

The sense of promise and positivity in the air, fuelled by the axing of plans to dam the Franklin River in Tasmania and the subsequent political aftermath, was soon crushed, David tells me. "When the Labour Party won the 1983 election, the environmentalists thought they'd won, that the new world had come," he says. "It was actually the end of it. Everything went backwards a decade. We lost two decades of awareness of permaculture and associated movements in the 80s and 90s."

It took until the global financial crisis in 2008 for the movement to gain ground again, David suggests. "Interest in growing food, self-reliance, frugal living, community rather than climbing up the ladder accelerated a lot at that time." He reckons the movement is now bigger than it was in the late 1970s and early 80s.

David attributes permaculture's staying power to the somewhat misguided perception that it's just gardening. "What could be wrong with gardening?" he jokes. "It's a pleasurable, reasonable and safe thing." The revolutionary soon emerges from behind the joker: "Being non-threatening is very important in engaging people at times of social conservatism," he suggests.

The big ideas behind permaculture stretch way beyond backyards and chicken coops, fundamentally challenging the dominant paradigm of work more, earn more and spend more. The brilliance of the movement, however, is that they're also found right there in the veggie patch, the compost heap and the community garden. They're accessible, individual choices with potentially revolutionary outcomes. "Even just the idea of 'let's grow food for ourselves in the suburbs', as innocuous as it sounds, is threatening," David suggests.

You only need 20 percent of people never turning up at Coles and Woolworths for those corporations to go 'what the hell is going on?'"

He talks of solving the housing crisis by making better use of suburban houses – sharing them, getting out of debt, growing food in backyards, etcetera. These ideas, if acted upon, could lead to less land required for new buildings, stronger community connections, less personal debt, and more efficient use of services like public transport and sewer systems. A win, win. Right? But, according to David ideas like this never arise in public discourse as potential solutions because "the system has a deep intelligence that recognises them as economic treason." They're squashed, like a caterpillar on a concrete path.

Rather than fight the system by rallying against what's wrong, David's brand of permaculture seems to be more about taking revolutionary tools and ideas and placing them in the hands of individuals, to experiment and learn, and do with them what they wish. It's less about mass movements and more about smaller, decentralised changes.

"Permaculture is about treating yourself as a guinea pig and saying 'well, let's see if the permaculture principles can be applied at a personal and at a household level.' If we do this, then we achieve one thing – we've followed our own ethical paths. If it has turned out successfully, then we've also had a good time and have been rewarded. This is different to the activist idea that one's got to sacrifice oneself for the cause. No, let's actually reward ourselves. If we succeed and have a good time, other people with their eyes open will look and say 'I can do that. I don't need the permission of the government, the bankers, or the technical whizz kids, I can just do it.'"

MORE EVENTS IN THE NORTH COMING UP



What's happening @ JCU Cairns Community Garden?

UPCOMING WORKSHOP SERIES - LEARN HOW TO TRANSFORM PALLETS INTO FURNITURE!



JCU COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS PRESENT

Pallet Upcycling Workshop

TRANSFORM PALLETS INTO FURNITURE!

Discover how YOU can transform wooden pallets into amazing furniture with this 5 week workshop!

EVERY THURSDAY from 26 April till 24 May (Week 9 till Week 13) @ JCU Community Garden!

*TWO Sessions available:
Session 1: 12pm to 2pm
Session 2: 4pm to 6pm*

Sign up today!

FNQ Community Exchange
LETS: Local Energy Trading System
May Calendar of events

YUNGABURRA - Friday 11th May from 10-11.30am - that retro cafe, Yungaburra - CES Workshop: A Beginners course in LETS - How to use the Online Community Exchange System. Don't know how to place an Offer or to look something up on the Wants list? No clue where to find your account statement? Or how to find other users? This course is FREE! Event Host: Katrin 4096 6755

RAVENSHOE – Saturday 12th May 2-5pm at Melinda's, 3 Norman Street, Ravenshoe (cnr Kelly Lane – LETS Drop Off Point). Bring along something to trade, a snack to share and a musical instrument if you want to jam toward the end of the trade. Tea, coffee and juice provided. Event Host: Melinda 0481 047 389.

TULLY - Tuesday 15th May from 5.30pm Trade & Tostadas in Tully. Big undercover carport to set up trades in – some spare little tables available. Awesome frijoles, salsa and sour-cream! 5.30pm for garden tour and plant-dig-up, trade at 6.30pm, shared Mexican-themed meal at 7.30pm. 117 Tully Gorge Rd [3rd drive on left after Syndicate Rd] only 2km from Tully Post Office. Bring along something to trade and food to share – maybe avo's or corn-chips, or fruit, or even tequila! This is a great event to attend! Event Host: Michael 4068 3669 or text only 0439 729 469 – RSVPs encouraged!

MALANDA – Friday 18th May 6-9pm. Trade Night at Katrin & Jaap's place, 33 Park Avenue (opposite the Caravan Park). Trade starts at 6pm followed by a shared dinner at 7pm. Bring a shared plate & trade items. Come & enjoy this social and trade opportunity. Contact Katrin - 4096 6755.

ATHERTON - Sunday 20th May 11am-1pm - Workshop - Make a vegetarian or a meat based Warm Winter Meal using locally grown vegetables @ Irene's Edible Garden. \$5 + 5 Bartles per person, or \$10 for non-Community Exchange members. Meal included. Bookings essential- text Irene 0439 914 876.

YUNGABURRA - Saturday 26th May from 12-2pm that retro cafe Trade Afternoon. The RED SHEDS SHOPS 20 Eacham Road, Yungaburra. Bring along something to trade a rug to display your wares. That retro cafe is offering 100% Bartles for drinks from the menu, you will need cash for lunch and drinks from the display fridge. On the Verandah is offering pre-loved clothing for 100% Bartles. Event Host: Melitta 4095 2340.

CAIRNS - Winter Pool & Pizza Party – Trade event in Kewarra Beach! Contact Ilona on 04 3875971. More details in the JUNE Calendar. May 15th Deadline for June Calendar Details to fnqces@gmail.com to be included in Calendar, Website, Facebook and other Promotions.

What to bring to Trade Events where not specified above: food & drinks for yourself or to share, money and/or Bartles at some venues, friends, Trading Record Sheet and pen or smart phone to enter trades direct, any goods you wish to trade, table/rug to display them upon is often useful, your own chair at some venues, promotional material of any services you are offering if applicable, \$20 if you don't yet have an FNQ CES account (one-off fee). fnqces@gmail.com - 4096 6972 - www.fnqces.org - www.communityexchange.net.au

Biodynamics Far North Queensland

AGM 2018 and Annual Horn Burial

Sunday 20th May, 2018
at Collins Farm, 709 Kaban Rd, Kaban.
10am to 3.30pm

10am AGM and election of Office Bearers.

Lunch

Followed by Filling of Horns for making Horn manure Preparation 500 and
burying them for winter.

All welcome – non members \$5.

Bring lunch to share and a chair and wear old clothes.

Come and join us to make our special soil preparation and learn about how we use it and how it works in
Biodynamics.

Also a great social time to catch up with everyone.

AGM Agenda:

Attendance and Apologies

Minutes from previous meeting ratified

President's report

Treasurer's report

Election of Office Bearer's

As our wonderful Treasurer Paul has overcommitted himself this year we will be needing a Treasurer to join our exciting Committee plus or as well as a Trailer hauler, to take our trailer to and from meetings; a librarian who is able to attend most Field days. All Executive positions will be open for nomination. Please consider if you are willing to nominate for any of the committee positions.

For further information contact Cheryl on 0427375972 or Tricia on 0467 089 458 (also lifts from Cairns area).

www.biodynamicsfnq.org.au



Kanjini Co-Op
working together for a sustainable future



Hello

NEWSLETTER TOPICS:

- **Hearts and Minds Meeting on 26/27th May**
- **News and help needed**
- **Social Glue**
- **Kanjini Gathering this year?**
- **23/24th June date claimer for following H&M meeting**

Hearts and Minds Meeting

You are warmly invited to join us for our next Hearts & Minds Meeting on **Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th May 2018**. These meetings are a great way for new people to come and get a feel for the place and the people, as well as for those of you who have an on-going interest in this project to come along and stay connected.

You can drop in just for a few hours, camp with us for the whole weekend and/or skype in on Sunday afternoon.

Feel free to bring the kids and/or some friends along, this is a mainly social event.

Please arrive by 9:30 am for a 10am start.

- We will start our opening circle at lake-side at 10am on Saturday 26th May with a short meet and greet.
As part of the opening circle we will work out an agenda for the rest of the weekend and discuss any issues anyone would like to raise
- If there is enough demand, we can go on a guided tour of the property (please call us if you'd like to do that)
- In the afternoon we'd like to put the big marquee back up again (it got blown over and ripped and needed to be repaired).
So we need as many helpers and hands as possible, this is a team effort!
- On Sunday morning at 9am, Pauli, our camping caretaker for Emerald Escapes Camping is offering "The Tibetan Five Rites" and if you are interested, please bring a yoga mat.
- Immediately after that Shanto, who is one of our Directors and visiting from the US for a couple of months, is offering a 15minute guided meditation using colour breathing, which is an ancient meditation used for Longevity called the "Secret of the Golden Flower."
- From 11am to noon on Sunday we will have a closing circle followed by lunch.
- On Sunday afternoon from 2:30pm until 5pm there will be the Skype session at Svargo's place in Koah (for better reception) for all interested, including those of you who cannot make it to the land. Main topic will be finalising the social glue issue (see below)
Please do skype in, all input is always welcome!
Our skype handle is kanjini.cooperative, please just make a friend request and we will invite you into the group call once started or when you send us a message.



*A big Goanna - In Aboriginal lore
an unseen spirit that protects and guards*

The land is still looking

The land is still looking beautifully lush and green after the big rains we had before Easter, even at lake side, so come and check it out!

Our camping business is soon to expand and we need our already-cut trees cut to size for the post for our camping toilets and de-barked, so this might be another working bee activity. Oh, by the way, we have had great feedback on our composting toilets and of course camping with us on Kanjini.

And there will also be time for questions and sharing, swimming and cups of tea, for any other topics you might like to talk about and for relaxation around the fire while looking at the stars and enjoying the peace and quiet of the land.

What to Bring for the Hearts and Minds Meeting this weekend:

- Hat, Sunscreen.
- Towel, swimmers.
- Food and drinks to share for whatever meals you will be with us for (we will have the BBQ on the Saturday night).
- Any canoes, Kayaks or extra paddles you might have
- Music or games you would like to share

Directions: Follow this [link for Directions](#) to get to the H&M meeting. Please RSVP with your expected arrival time so we can tell you where we will most likely be at your time of arrival as parts of the land do not have reception.

Please contact us at info@kanjini.org or 0499620260 to RSVP your attendance.

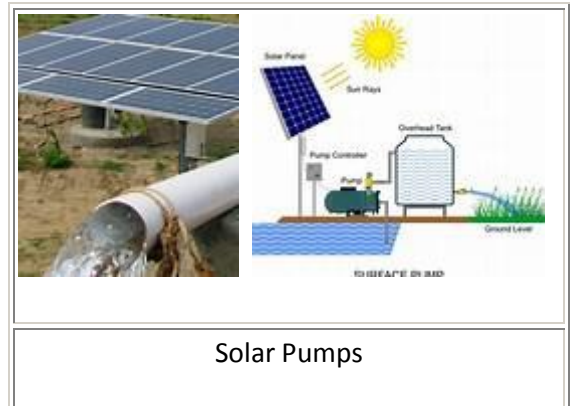
News

- Solar Pump

We are excited to be looking into floating a Solar pump on the lake to pump water up to an existing tank on the hill and then supply the caretakers, to the houses and the orchard and later on the gardens that will produce some of our food. The floods and loss of the electric pump on the creek have given us the possibility to look in this direction.

Solar-powered pumps are reliable alternatives for irrigation and for residential use. Solar technology helps reduce costs, protects the environment and eliminates all running costs by using free sun energy.

We hope that despite the over one kilometer of pipes we'll need this option will not be much more expensive than to replace the flood-damaged pump infrastructure, but once installed it will provide free water.



- Help Needed!!! - Cairns Home Show and Envirofiesta

This weekend (Friday to Sunday) is the Cairns Home Show and this is a perfect opportunity to get the word out about our camp sites. We have printed a thousand DLs (1/3 page hand-outs) and can really do with some help. So if you can spare a couple of hours to walk around and hand them to interested people, please give Svargo a call on 0499620260. We will pay your entry and you can explore the show too.

We also will be having a stall at the Envirofiesta on 3rd June and again Svargo will really appreciate some help setting up and manning the stall.

- Collaborations Festival

The Festival which was waiting for approval has been rejected by our local council. It has been a huge learning curb for the organizer and we are so sorry for all of us that this is the case. We were encouraged by their sustainability focus and commitment to leave no trace but the issues that arose for the organizer with the council could not be rectified in such a short time to enable the event to be held this year.

- Camping Business growing

We would have had about 250 campers by now, almost all of whom had a great time and really enjoyed our place. We seem to be getting good word of mouth advertising and with more camp sites and getting better known, this will be a good business for Kanjini. Is there anyone who would like to come and help us hand out flyers at the Cairns Home and Camping Show 11th-13th May at the Cairns Show Ground? Let us know. In the future, more camps have been planned. Discussions have come up about Tiny Homes. Would you live in a tiny home in nature, close to the elements and the silence of nature.

- Orchard and Roads

Thanks to Shanto and Pauli, the orchard has all been weeded and renewed mulching has begun. Some of the trees like the Jackfruit, the different citrus, the black sapote and the ice cream bean are growing beautifully in this environment.

We had a lot of run-off and flood damage to roads and Svargo has spent several days on the tractor fixing up some big washouts on the roads and with Pauli's help clear many trees blocking roads along the creek and fixing up creek crossings. There is still a fair bit more to be done, but at least we can drive on some roads again and all camping tracks are now good again.



Black Sapote



Jackfruit



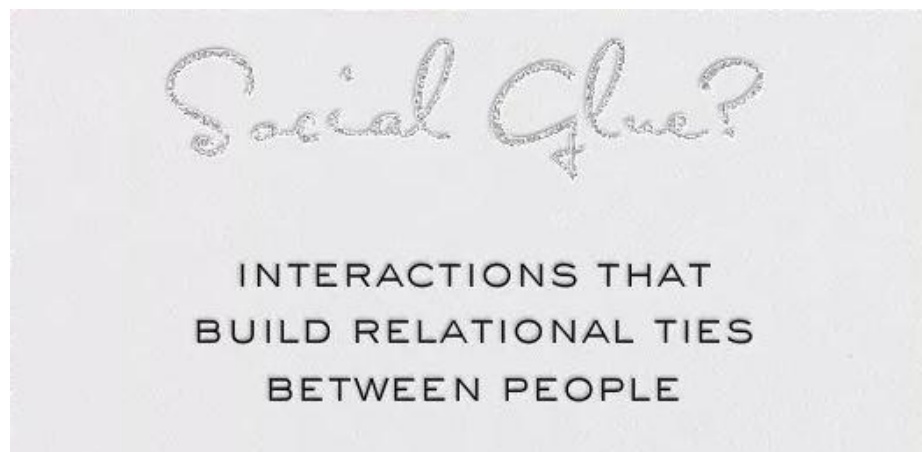
Icecream Bean

Social Glue

In the skype session of our last Hearts and Minds meeting in April, we discussed what Social Glue is and what we each understood from this term. On Google there are 135 thousand descriptions of Social Glue.

As you may be able to anticipate, any social group needs some sort of glue to hold it together, think religious groups or footy clubs or political parties or the salvos.

In the online dictionary it is described as: "Activities or interactions that strengthens the relational ties in a group".



Here is some of how we described it in our skype group:

Shared experiences, building trust, empowerment, respect for each other, speaking our truth, kids are or embody social glue, participation to deepen connection, celebrates individuals & community as a whole, brings people together, creates connections, creates an atmosphere to attract others, cooperation to fulfill shared or common needs, recognition of individual and collective needs, creates a sense of belonging.

We then started on a list of activities which we could use to promote social glue and in the third section we grouped those together (which ended up being mainly about frequency)

We recognise that eating together is a very strong social glue, working together as in working bees. Learning together, meditating together thus our Hearts and Minds monthly meetings.

In the upcoming skype session we intend to find those activities which are the most fitting and important for Kanjini. And then we like to find physical and social designs which support and facilitate those activities.

Please respond with your suggestionsand/or bring them to the weekend meeting

Kanjini Gathering this year?

Some people have been asking whether we will do another Kanjini Gathering this year. The simple answer is, we'd love to but do not have the time and person-power to make it happen. So if there is one or more people out there who would like to take this on or be part of an organising team, please let us know. We'd love to see it happen.

23rd/24th July H&M meeting date claimer

Pauli has kindly offered to facilitate the June Hearts and Minds meeting on 23rd/24th June.

Please mark this date on your calendars.

And we'd love someone to put their hand up for any future monthly meetings (happy to talk about what it takes and to help you with it)

All the best and looking forward to see you or skype with you this weekend
Please call Shanto on 0476295770 or Svargo on PH: 0499620260 to RSVP, with any questions or just to have a chat.

Your Kanjini Co-Op team

info@kanjini.org

www.kanjini.org

News from Home and around The World

Annual meeting at APC14 elects new faces to Permaculture Australia board

Change came to Permaculture Australia at the Australasian Permaculture Convergence in Canberra in April 2018, as a new board of directors was elected at the Permaculture Australia annual meeting.

The directors are elected each year. Their role is to oversee the operation and direction of Permaculture Australia and to make decisions on how it operates. Some members of the board serve as liaison people between the board and Permaculture Australia's teams such as communications, Accredited Permaculture Training and Permafund.

The meeting approved changes to Permaculture Australia's membership structure and the distribution of digital and paper copies of the permaculture magazine, [PIP](#), which comes with membership.

[John McKenzie](#), from Melbourne, presented his proposal for networking permaculture organisations to the meeting. John is a past-member of the board of directors although he is not on the new board.



The newly-elected board of directors. From left: Ben Habib, Ronnie Martin, Cally Brennan, Wendy Marchment, Keri Chiveralls, Virginia Solomon. Not present: Dylan Graves. **The newly-elected board of directors include:**

Ben Habib, Wendy Marchment, Cally Brennan, Ronni Martin, Keri Chiveralls, Virginia Solomon, Dylan Graves. Virginia, Ronni, and Dylan continue from the previous board. **Among new board members:**

[Ben Habib](#) (and [here](#)) is a Melbourne-based lecturer in international relations and researcher into permaculture as a global social movement. He is also a participant in [Permaculture CoLab](#), the global permaculture organisation currently in formation

[Keri Chiveralls](#), an Adelaide resident, is associated with establishing the [post-graduate Permaculture Courses at CQUniversity](#)

The first challenge to be met by new members of the board of directors is understanding the current situation of Permaculture Australia and what the current working group teams do, as well as how the board and teams operate.

With new board members living in different states, we anticipate they will bring regional perspectives to the governance of Permaculture Australia.

APC 2020 IN BRISBANE at Northey Street City Farm

*a good chance to see what can be done here
in Cairns with a bit of imagination and lots
of helpers.*



16 Victoria St.
Windsor Qld 4030.
www.nscf.org.au



Organic Farmers Markets



Market Garden



Festival Workshops



Flag raising ceremony



Earth Kids program



Winter Solstice Festival

Celebrating Nature's Abundance

APC 2020 in Brisbane Bioregion

Vision for the Convergence

We see people and communities exploring the natural world, comfortable in the knowledge that they are making a difference and creating a world where community abundance can become the norm. It is a community where they are safe to try to experiment with the surrounding natural abundance and can build connections to help create resilience and an opportunity to belong.

Format of the Convergence

Following our theme of Celebrating Nature's Abundance and our vision, the Convergence will have 3 education streams with approximately 36 sessions over 4 days. The Convergence will be in **September 2020**.

The **program** will include talks and workshops in three different streams covering topics relevant to the three ethics of Permaculture, which are Earth Care, People Care and Fair Share. We feel it is important to explore the bigger picture of what true sustainability entails. Earth Care is obviously essential, however without People Care and nurturing healthy, sustainable relating, the task of coming together and working as a community can be greatly hindered. Finally, if attention and conscious intention isn't given to the economic sustainability of communities, and the distribution of resources isn't managed in a self-sustaining way, then a community may struggle to be truly sustainable in the long term.

A **Permaculture Expo** will be held at Northey Street City Farm on the Sunday before the Convergence in conjunction with our weekly Organic Farmers Market. The Expo will showcase Community Gardens and sustainable living in cities.

We will organise a **pre-APC PDC** and **post-APC tours** to Permaculture properties in Northern NSW, Brisbane River Valley & Lockyer Valley, Granite Belt and the Sunshine Coast.

We have received expressions of support from the following so far:

Growingroots Permaculture (Bunya Halaz), Mullumbimby
Permaculture College Australia (Robyn Francis), Nimbin
Food Connect (Robert Pekin), Brisbane
Lockyer Valley Permaculture
Caboolture Permaculture
Robyn Clayfield, Crystal Waters
Yandina Community Garden
Sugarloaf Permaculture (Dylan Graves), Stanthorpe.

Possible venues

The venue will be in greater Brisbane or in the Brisbane River Valley, easily accessible from both the Sunshine Coast and Northern NSW. We will ensure there is public transport close to the venue. Possible venues include: UQ – Gatton Campus, Ivory's Rock (Peak Crossing), YMCA Camp Warrawee (Petrie).

About Northey Street City Farm

Northey Street City Farm has 2.5Ha of demonstration gardens, organises an education program of courses, workshops and school visits, holds a Winter Solstice Festival of music and workshops, operates a weekly Organic Farmers Market and a retail plant nursery. We have over 20 years of experience in organising events and dedicated volunteers who can assist with organising the Convergence.

About South-East Queensland

SEQ is home to many permaculture groups and properties stretching from around Gympie and the Sunshine Coast in the north, to the Gold Coast in the south and the Lockyer and Brisbane River Valleys to the west. The region is a great place for a holiday, with the Scenic Rim National Parks, Gold & Sunshine Coast beaches, the islands of Moreton Bay, & Brisbane City itself, all being worth a visit. SEQ borders Northern NSW, the Granite Belt and the Darling Downs.

Please PRINT – SIGN – SCAN and RETURN by email to
treasurer@permaculturecairns.org.au.

Permaculture Cairns

Membership Form 2018

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

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Household membership \$30 | <input type="radio"/> Renewing Member | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> Individual membership \$20 | <input type="radio"/> New Member | <input type="radio"/> |

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, at Cairns Penny or Online Direct Deposit to Permaculture Cairns A/c at Cairns Penny in Grafton Street. BSB704-966 A/c No. 10009440 please include your Surname as reference.

If you have a Permaculture Design Certificate could you please complete the following survey.

YOUR NAME:

Who was the Course Presenter:

When did you do the Course:

Where did you do the Course:

Enquiries

President:	Jenny McGrath	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Secretary:	Craig Phillipson	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Treasurer:	Carol Laing	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
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