

# **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](http://www.permaculturecairns.org.au)

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## **PERMACULTURE CAIRNS JULY MEETING**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 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**

Welcome to new members and visitors

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

Guest speaker to be advised

Carol will share the information from the Mushroom workshop she recently attended. Ways to start your own mushroom spawn from a mushroom, using kitty litter to grow mushrooms on and a few more tips. If luck is with us a fruiting mushroom block started at the workshop.

Come early and check out the Library - Bring along you plants and seeds to swap  
Carol will bring tropical perennial vegetables/herbs and seedlings for bartles/dollars or swap.

We appreciate members passing on 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.**

**RAFFLE -Wicking Bed Raffle winner was Charmaine who bought her ticket at ECO fiesta.  
Lucky you.**

## *July in the Tropical Garden*

*Let's talk Tomatoes, nothing like a fresh home grown tomato, but .*

*Here in the tropics there can be a problem. All Tropical regions of the world have a rather obnoxious bacteria in the soil called Ralstonia. This bacterial can cause Bacterial Wilt in tomatoes, eggplant, capsicum and other members of the Solanaceae family. But the tomato is the one most affected by Ralstonia.*

*The bacteria enter the roots of the plant and destroys the cells in the stem which transport water. This bacterial causes the plant to wilt over a number of days until it finally dies. This usually happens when the plant has reached maturity and fruit set.*

*If your plant wilts, check for this bacteria by cutting across a part of the stem and place in a glass of water, if it is Ralstonia, a white fluid will come from the stem and parts of the stem inside will be brown where the cells have died. Be sure to dispose of the plant in the garbage bin, do not compost.*

*What can we do if this happens*

*Plant in a well-drained soil where tomatoes have not been grown before, use a balanced fertiliser so the plant is well nourished, (Blood and bone with Sulphate of Potash) increase the microbes in the soil by adding organic matter, compost, well rotted manure, worm castings and juice, mulch well at all times, and do not plant in the same position for 3 years. Or, grow tomatoes in a pot with potting mix from down south, add manure/worm castings to the mix and mulch. Keep pot off the ground and foliar feed fortnightly.*

*Plant the bacterial wilt resistant tomato variety, Scorpio, which was bred by Alister Lynch of CSIRO for growing in areas of high humidity where there is bacterial and fusarium wilt.*

*Scorpio is a medium sized round red tomato which will need staking as it is of indeterminate growth. Fruits in 60 - 80 days, and will handle the hot weather.*

*Last year I planted 6 varieties and all failed due to Bacterial Wilt. Then a delicious Golden Egg tomato grew from I don't know where and was extremely successful, and, it has returned this year true to form in the same*

place and looks like it will be ok as it is setting fruit and taking over the flower patch.

This year I am trialling a few varieties this year - Scorpio in ground and in straw bale, Roma in a pot, Golden Egg in soil in the same area as last year, Golden Pear in the ground, Black Russian in soil near where it grew last year, but this year it has a companion plant growing right next to it, the dynamic accumulator Garlic Chives. Also growing the tiny wild tomato from the Tablelands and Tommy Toe. I made a special compost last year with pigeon pea and crotalaria after reading about a thesis student had some success with this in South America. I used this compost last year where the Golden Egg tomato has grown for two years, perhaps that has something to do with it growing so well.? Cheers, I wish you success growing tomatoes this year. Carol

## **INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE with ORGANIC MOTION**

**KURANDA JULY 14<sup>TH</sup> and 15<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

### **Want to learn about Permaculture as a design tool to create sustainable landscapes for efficiency and abundance?**

Its more than just growing organic food! This 2-day beginners course is an exploration into permaculture with a practical approach. Join us at the Cairns Hinterlands Steiner School in Kuranda, to gain a good grounding techniques and strategies + empowering ideas for what you can do right now in your everyday home life to live sustainability. This will be an overview of the permaculture fundamentals – ethics and principles as the framework to design your own abundant edible landscapes!

See practical examples of permaculture in action, with useful gardening techniques for sub/tropical climates. You will walk away with some design and gardening strategies to apply in your landscape, all aligning with the theory presented in this intensive weekend.

Whether your landscape is a balcony, home, garden or farm, you will gain a solid understanding of the permaculture principles to apply sustainable design to your environment.

In this time of great transition, we come together to share some solutions that aid in personal and community stability, and empowering pathways for action.

You will learn the basics of how to design resilient systems, relevant techniques and strategies for urban to acreage land, plus;

- Observation of natural energies - how to read a landscape
- Edible, nutrient rich plants that grow in the tropics and subtropics (growing and propagating)
- History of Permanent Agriculture
- Composting and soil fertility
- Effective garden strategies
- Annual vegetable garden systems

- Incredible edible perennial food gardens
- Tropical food forests orchards
- Banana Circles
- Water systems
- Useful tools
- Social permaculture

The Introductory course will not cover topics in great detail, as does the full 72 hour permaculture design course - it is an overview and sets the stage for what permaculture is about. Usually, it is the seed that grows further into the journey of permaculture, where you may choose to dig much deeper into this fertile space for creating positive change by investing in the full design course. Many people have found that attending an introduction to permaculture course is enough and go on to create some incredible projects, with the enthusiasm generated by this course, plus books and references to expand on their own knowledge.

**WEBSITE** <https://organicmotion.com.au/introduction-to-permaculture/>  
**email** [info@organicmotion.com.au](mailto:info@organicmotion.com.au)

## NORTHERN PENINSULA AREA COMMUNITY MEMBERS

ARE INVITED to a FREE

### LIFE WORKSHOP

Hosted by the Dr Edward Koch Foundation

The Dr Edward Koch Foundation will be hosting a workshop in Bamaga and one in Seisia. These workshops aim to provide you with a set of basic skills to assist you in recognising when someone may be at risk of suicide, and ways of responding to that person's need.

Each person who takes part in this workshop will receive a folder of resource materials, including a copy of the FNQ Suicide Prevention Taskforce Preventing Suicide: Awareness and Support Handbook and the Northern Peninsula Area Community Flowchart.

Come along and join us for this informative workshop

Refreshments will be provided

**BAMAGA WORKSHOP** Date: Wednesday, 11 July 2018 Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (morning tea included) Venue: Bamaga Council Hall, Bamaga

**SEISIA WORKSHOP** Date: Thursday 12 July 2018 Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (morning tea included) Venue: Seisia Council Hall, Seisia

**Contact: Dr Edward Koch Foundation, Phone: 07 4053 6757; Email: [dulcie.bird@kochfoundation.org.au](mailto:dulcie.bird@kochfoundation.org.au)**

**RSVP: 9/07/2018 Numbers are needed for catering purposes.**



Who & Where?	Events!	Sign Me Up!
<p>&gt;BEHIND JCU LIBRARY CARPARK &lt; JOIN THE TEAM!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- INDIVIDUALS/ FAMILIES FROM CAIRNS &amp; TABLELANDS REGION!</li> <li>- JCU STUDENTS &amp; STAFF</li> <li>- RESEARCH CENTRES'</li> <li>- SCHOOL GROUPS FROM FNQ</li> </ul>	<p>WEEKLY/REGULAR EVENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PERMACULTURE &amp; FOOD FORESTRY WORKSHOPS</li> <li>- PALLET UPCYCLING WORKSHOPS</li> </ul> <p>SPECIAL EVENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-BBQ'S, INTER-CULTURAL &amp;TROPICAL FOOD TASTINGS- DEMOS .</li> <li>- FILM SCREENINGS</li> </ul>	<p>OCASSIONAL INVOLVEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VISIT FOR SPECIAL EVENTS/ ANYTIME</li> <li>- FOLLOW PROGRESS ON FB/ EMAIL</li> </ul> <p>REGULAR INVOLVEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- WEEKLY WORKSHOPS</li> <li>- FREE TOUR &amp; SAFETY INDUCTION</li> <li>- GARDEN COORDINATOR ROLES</li> <li>- TROPECO INTERNSHIP</li> <li>- COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS COMMITTEE</li> </ul>

Dear Community of Gardeners,

The Dry Season is here and as I'm sure you have noticed it's an absolutely lovely time to be spending time outside and in the garden! There are plenty of opportunities to get some European Vege crops pumping whilst also ensuring the health of our existing fruit trees over these drier months! **We are happy to invite you all to the current weekly Busy Bees** where we spend time learning together about both the fundamentals and intricacies of gardening, food forestry, holistic health and permaculture in the Tropics! I love having the community Garden as a Hub for us to share and receive knowledge about these inspiring life and world changing topics!

This Thursday between 9am-1pm there will be a seed planting Workshop, the opportunity to follow your inspiration for other activities as well and of course Tea and Socialising! Feel Free to bring your lunch to have at the Garden. Remember to wear enclosed shoes and a sun hat J

PS. For those unable to make this event any watering you are able to do at the garden will be greatly soaked up! The distant fruit trees are the ones that can often be missed! If you are interested in joining a Watering Task Force please email me directly on [marenn.sagar@jcu.edu.au](mailto:marenn.sagar@jcu.edu.au)

## BIODYNAMICS FNQ EVENT

MALANDA CWA HALL – Sunday 22<sup>ND</sup> July 2018 10am to 4pm

### QUALITY SEED SAVING TALK AND SHARING and the MOVIE - "SEED"

Bring lunch to share, Refreshments provided

Further info call: Satya 0425 411 545  
Tricia 0467 089 458 for lifts from Cairns

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## FNQ Community Exchange – LETS: Local Energy Trading System

### July 2018 Calendar of EVENTS

MOUNT MOLLOY – Saturday 7th July – 8-10am - Market in Mount Molloy. Please supply a trade sheet and everything priced if you'd like to leave your items to be sold by others at the LETS stall and browse the markets. Phone Lyn 4094 1431 for further information (please note that the LETS presence at this month's markets will be limited due to the Pamper Day below).

### JULATTEN PAMPER DAY

#### Saturday 7th July - 9am-2pm 8 Stevens Road, Julatten

A RELAXING, NURTURING DAY Music, essential oils, pampering, therapies, nourishing lunch, gardens ~ 100% Bartle Event ~

THERAPISTS ON THE DAY WILL OFFER: Haircuts, massage, foot spa & massage, astrology readings and reiki treatments. See each therapist's Pamper Day Offering on the Community Exchange System site to make your appointments or contact Lyn if you need assistance.

Bring along items to trade in the theme of health & wellbeing – natural body products, fresh produce, ferments, crystals, candles, relevant books, etc.

Please note that children are not catered for as we wish to provide a venue for your total relaxation. For more information or to RSVP phone Lyn 4094 1431 or email [lyn.gore@live.com.au](mailto:lyn.gore@live.com.au)

ATHERTON - \*Not a LETS event\* Boomerang Bags – Saturday 7th July - 9am-1pm is the next sewing bee at Love Lee Wholefoods, 70 Main Street Atherton.

RAVENSHOE – Sunday 15th July – 1-4pm - Trade Afternoon at Shae's, 2044 Old Palmerston Highway (turn off at the Windy Hill Lookout). 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 provided. Event Host: Shae 0429 903 864.

ATHERTON – Saturday 21st July – 11am-1pm – Workshop: Grow, Harvest, Eat your Winter Garden at Irene's Edible Garden, 17 Evans Street. Lunch included. Cost: \$5 + 10B per person. Bookings essential. Event Host: Irene wheelieeasy@gmail.com or text 0439 914 876.

WALKAMIN – Sunday 22nd July – 11am-3pm - Trade Day at Gloria's, 10 Cassia Street. Bring along something to share for lunch, there will be a BBQ available if you wish to use it. Refreshments provided. Event Host: Gloria [lavender1960@gmail.com](mailto:lavender1960@gmail.com).

MALANDA – Friday 27th July – 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. Event Host: Katrin 40966755.

ATHERTON – Monday 30th July - 10-12am - CES Workshop & Mini Trade. The Access Place, 20 Main Street. 10-11am A Beginner's course in LETS - How to use the Online Community Exchange System. Are you new to LETS? Or just like to find out what it is all about before you join? Then let me show you how!

This course is FREE. Event Host: Katrin 4096 6755 or 0417 822 446

11am-12pm Mini Trade Morning. Come and bring your trade goods for a quick trade in Atherton. If possible, please support the café by purchasing drinks or food for dollar\$ or check out their garage \$ale in the back.

What to bring to Trade Events where not specified above: food/drinks for yourself or to share, money at some venues (though 100% Bartles is encouraged), friends, Trading Record Sheet and pen or smart phone to enter trades directly, any goods you wish to trade, table/rug to display them and a 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). Contact us if you are unsure about anything!

July 15th Deadline for August Calendar Details to [fnqces@gmail.com](mailto:fnqces@gmail.com) to be included in Calendar, Website, Facebook and other Promotions. [fnqces@gmail.com](mailto:fnqces@gmail.com) - 4096 6972 - [www.fnqces.org](http://www.fnqces.org) - [www.communityexchange.net.au](http://www.communityexchange.net.au)

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2018

### SOMETHING TO PLAN FOR!!!!!!!!!!

#### 2018 Australian Biological Farming Conference and Expo

Gold Coast Campus, Southern Cross University

9<sup>th</sup> to 12th November 2018

#### Biological Farming – Science Meets Nature

Major Speakers:

Michael Phillips, Orchardist and author of Mycorrhizal Planet

Jeff Mayer from Rodale Institute USA – No Till and Transitioning to Organics

Prof Carlo Leifert from UK Organic Research, Development, Technology Transfer

[www.soilcare.org](http://www.soilcare.org)

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"/> |                       |
| 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. 100009440 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	<a href="mailto:info@permaculturecairns.org.au">info@permaculturecairns.org.au</a>
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