

# Permaculture Cairns Newsletter

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR 10 YEARS



**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)

## PERMACULTURE CAIRNS FEBRUARY MEETING

**Tuesday 17th March 6pm for a 6.30pm start**

**Venue: Endeavour Learning and Lifestyle Building  
4 Warner Street Manunda**

**Members free, please bring some nibbles for cuppa break, non-members \$5**

### AGENDA

**Welcome to all and Info on upcoming local events.**

**6:00 PM - 6:30 PM**

**Pre-meeting social opportunity**

**6:30 PM - 6:45 PM**

**Meeting start - club business and upcoming events**

**6:45 PM - 7:15 PM**

**First Speaker - Tonielle Christensen from Organic Motion**

**7:15 PM - 7:45 PM**

**Second Speaker - Svargo Freitag from Kanjini Co-Op**

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

# *Permaculture Cairns Workshops*

## **Compost or Worms**

**Which is right for your situation**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 9.30am to 12.30pm**

Presenter: Carol Laing



### **Compost**

Ways to make compost: – in bins, in heaps, anaerobically, aerobically, in stationary bins, with lots of effort and without much effort at all, and depending on how it is done, with varying amounts of plant nutrients. Please wear closed in shoes, bring a hat and gloves.

### **Worms**

Ways to keep Compost worms and Earthworms. Compost worms are usually kept in bins or tables whereas the Earthworm only exists in the soil. Various types of bins will be discussed as well as Worm Towers. How to use worm castings and worm juice. Please wear closed in shoes, bring a hat and gloves

Cost: \$30 for Permaculture Cairns members, \$40 for non members.

**Bookings essential: [workshops@permaculturecairns.org.au](mailto:workshops@permaculturecairns.org.au)**

Venue advised on booking. You can pay on the day, it is easier that way.

Materials and Morning Tea provided.

## **The Tropical Veggie Patch**

### **Gardening in the hot, wet, humid Tropics**

**Weather wise** March is only a little better for planting seedlings than February, the weather is still unpredictable with heavy rain, wind and humidity which can cause problems with seedlings. But if you want to learn, give it a go its only a few seeds.

Try planting seeds of Egg plant, Tomato, Kale, Chicory and Rosella in medium size pots in a protected area where there is good light. When plants are 150mm in height plant them out, they will be better suited to the harsh conditions. Remember to include a couple of handfuls of compost/worm casting when planting out, this will add great microbes to help growth.

**Microgreens/Sprouts** - Give Microgreens or Sprouts a try they are easy, fast and tasty and don't take up much space on the kitchen bench near a window with sunlight. Fresh greens at your fingertips everyday.

**Tropical Perennial Food Plants**. These plants can give you all the greens you need try PLANTING THEM IN YOUR LANDSCAPE, grow these in the part shade under fruit trees, Sambung, Brazilian, Okinawa Spinach, Rungia, Lebanese Cress are all good plants to grow all year round. Plant seeds or plants of Tree lettuce, Timor lettuce, The Moringa tree, Sweet leaf and three variety of the Aibika shrub with edible leaves.

**Root crops**. These plants are easily grown in the wet tropics at least 3 varieties of taro, cocoyams, yams, sweet potato and cassava.

**Wet season soil improvements**. - There is still time to plant a green manure crop. This is as simple as planting bird seed which has a large variety of seeds for plants to cut and incorporate into the soil just before they start to flower - about 6 weeks. Leave to decompose two weeks before planting out.

**What to plant now** -Direct seed leaf amaranth, corn, snake beans, bok choy, gai choy, Green Gem cucumbers, radish, melons, egg plant, tomatoes.

**Herbs** - all the basil, Mexican tarragon, mints, garlic chives, chives, lemon thyme, thyme, oregano and spices turmeric, ginger, galangal, cardamom, Vanilla, Pandan and mother of all herbs.

**Grow some flowers for the birds and bees**, salvia, marigold, coleus, allysum, sunflowers, basil all sorts, cosmos, dianthus, sun jewels, five in one herb, bees love flowering native plants, flowers on palms, bananas, shrubs and trees.

Grow & eat fresh pesticide free, nutrient rich food all year to keep healthy.  
Best wishes and good gardening for 2020      Cheers Carol

## **EARTH CARE COLLECTIVE**

### **PERMACULTURE 101**

A\$30.00 - A\$50.00

*Learn practical principles and strategies for designing a regenerative lifestyle.*

*Facebook*

*Earth Care Collective Members Ticket*

*\$30 Earth Care Collective Members Ticket*

*\$50 General Ticket*

*Quantity*

*0*

### **PERMACULTURE 101**

**SAT 14 MARCH 2:30 TO 5:30 PM**

*Come join in for this bite sized Permaculture 101 Workshop & learn about the principles and how to apply them as practical strategies to design a regenerative lifestyle.*

*This is a dynamic and engaging workshop which is for the whole family - yes kids welcome to be part of it!*

*Cool, comfortable space...a great way to spend Sunday afternoon with like minded people!*

#### **ABOUT**

*Living sustainably is a lifestyle choice. One that is lived with certain skills and capabilities which leads to long lasting habits that transform your environment.*

- Get clarity on what these universal thinking tools are.*
- Explore the logical levels of change to get the process of habit forming new ways of engaging in daily life through the lens of sustainability.*
- Take home resources.*

**LOCATION:** Yorkeys Knob Community Centre

**TIME:** 2:30 to 5:30pm ( 3 hours)

**Presented by** Tonielle Christensen from Organic Motion Permaculture.

[www.organicmotion.com.au](http://www.organicmotion.com.au)

- Get practical examples of on how these following principles can support you:*

- > Observe & Interact*
  - > Catch & Store Energy*
  - > Obtain a Yield*
  - > Apply self regulation and accept feedback*
  - > Use and value renewable resources & services*
  - > Produce no waste, minimise waste*
  - > Design from patterns to details*
  - > Integrate rather than segregate*
  - > Use slow and small solutions*
  - > Use and value diversity*
  - > Use edges & value the marginal*
  - > Creatively respond to change*
- Have you been visioning a garden of eating, or a beautiful block of land, conscious community or better working environment?*
- This is a step in the right direction!*

**Bring:**

*Note book*

*Water bottle*

*Sun smart clothing*

*Snacks if you need them.*

# *PERMI CAIRNS EXPO DAY*

*Sunday 3rd May 2020 10am to 3.30pm*

International Permaculture Day 2020 A date claimer

Hosted by Permaculture Cairns at Endeavour Foundation 4 Warner Street, Manunda

This day is all about building communities, by joining together and sharing our knowledge, methods and ideas.

Growing healthy food, without pollute the planet, learn a new art or craft.

Be healthier, happier, wiser and more creative,

There will be demonstrations, workshops, displays notifications of upcoming events and talks by individuals from the participating groups.

Permaculture Cairns will have Tropical Vegetable Plants and Seedlings of all sorts for sale.

Kids Activities - Chooks and guinea pigs once again.

The Fibrecrafters will show us how to relax and make some useful craft items. Crat items for sale.

William of Red Neck Timbers will display how he uses recycled timber to make useable items, and will have items for sale.

Lisa Price from FNQ Biodynamics has recently studied with Elaine Ingram will be presenting a talk and slide show on the Soil Food Web. In this presentation Lisa will identify the bacteria and fungi in our soil and composts samples and explain what these microbes show about the samples..

Lisa will also be conducting half hour sessions for individuals who require identification of microbes in their soil/compost/casting samples. Lisa will identify the life in the samples and explain what they mean. Lisa charges \$20 for a half hour consultation and can be contacted for more information at

[lisa\\_mp4@hotmail.com](mailto:lisa_mp4@hotmail.com)

FNQ Biodynamics- Nicolle and Monika will be explaining and showing us how to use 500.

Syntropic Farming, Jane and Neil will tell us about this new way of growing food in a food forest, Richard from Exotic Mushrooms, Peter on Sprouts and Microgreens

Kym from DAF to show some of the nasty Exotic Weeds we have watch and report.

Cairns Seed Savers will be there with information on Saving Seeds and a list of the seeds usually available through their organisation,

Permaculture Cairns: possible workshop subjects Growing Oyster, Composting, Bokashi TBA..... Not finalised at yet, SO KEEP THIS DATE FREE AND JOIN US IN THE INFO FEAST.

There will be food, tea coffee and cakes.





Here is our first newsletter for 2020, which shapes up to be an exiting year for Kanjini.

#### TOPICS:

- Revisiting the Kanjini Vision
- Looking at new share classes
- Next Hearts and Minds Meeting - 20th/21st/22nd March
- Kanjini News

#### Revisiting the Kanjini Vision

Believe it or not, our [Kanjini Co-Op vision statement](#) was written 13 years ago in 2007, two years before we incorporated and over five years before we bought Adler Hill.

The part before the index was work-shopped and changed in 2014, and the first paragraph in the Land section was updated at the same time, the rest was left unchanged.

There has been a request for us to have another look and maybe make changes to this vision statement, especially to make it more relevant to the amazing property we now have.

So we would like to invite all of you who are interested to [download this original .doc version](#) and feel free to edit it or just mark the sections you think need to be revisited. Please do make sure that your edits are tracked and thus visible. That will make it much easier to find them later. Please email us your suggested changes or bring them to our next Hearts & Minds meeting on 22nd / 23rd March.

Any input on this will be very welcome.



Cool storm burn, safe enough to walk onto burnt soil immediately  
image ©: [www.lovegreenphotography.com](http://www.lovegreenphotography.com)



### Looking at new share classes

There have also been suggestions that Kanjini should consider having some different share classes.

Some suggestions have been to create a new class of shares for affiliated businesses or for conservation or other non-profit organisations to become members or to create new share classes for non-resident members.

We are happy to look at any of those.

If you have any interest in becoming a Kanjini Co-op member or in helping to get businesses or other organisations to become members, please [have a look at our four current share classes](#) and then specify what Cost, Voting Rights, Liabilities & Conditions, Rights & Benefits and Dividends any new share class should have.

To make things easy and clear, I have created [a word document for you to download](#). on its second page are two rows for you to add any suggested new share class and fill in what you suggest its Cost, Voting Rights, Liabilities & Conditions, Rights & Benefits and Dividends should be.

You may also prefer to suggest changes to one or more of the existing shres which you would like to se or think might be good to make.

Please email us your suggested changes or bring them to our next Hearts & Minds meeting on 22nd / 23rd March.

Any input on this will be very welcome.

The Australian Story crew doing some filming with Victor.

image ©: [www.lovegreenphotography.com](http://www.lovegreenphotography.com)



### **Next Hearts and Minds Meeting - 20th/21st/22nd March**

On 20th/21st/22nd March, we will be camping at lake side (unless it is too wet), but we will also open up the discussions to those who cannot come in person via skype (we will have skype capabilities for the first time at lake-side!).

You are welcome to come and camp with us for the whole weekend or drop in for only a few hours.

On Friday night we will hold the equinox didj meditation at sunset and share a meal afterwards and then make some live music around the fire.

On Saturday morning we will start with a circle at 9am. Everyone who wants to skype please join us then (if you cannot, please let us know that you want to join by skype at other times and what days and times you can do so)

Skype sessions will probably be throughout Saturday and Sunday, times and what will be discussed when will be decided in the Saturday morning circle.

That is also when we will decide what else to do during the weekend. This might include tours, explorations, working bees or whatever, so let us know on or before Saturday 21st March 9am what you would like to see happen on that weekend.....

### **Address and Directions:**

Lake-side @ 545 Kay Road, Mareeba, 4881

**WARNING:** do not follow your gps or google, they will take you astray...

- Coming from Kuranda towards Mareeba, about 13km past the Koah Servo (United), and 400m past the "Termite Fruit & Veg shop", turn left onto Kay Road
- Coming from Mareeba towards Kuranda, about 4 km past the emerald creek Servo (Puma) and 800 m past the Emerald Creek Ice-creamery, turn right into Kay Road.
- Go down Kay Road 5.5km from the highway (includes 2.5km of dirt road), all the way to the end.

Slow storm burn on Kanjini in country with over ten years of accumulated fuel load.

image ©: [www.lovegreenphotography.com](http://www.lovegreenphotography.com)



- Go through the usually open gate at the end of the road (545 Kay Road) next to our large "Emerald Escape Camping" sign.
- Once through the gate turn right immediately where the Kanjini sign is.
- Go through the usually closed gate with the "Private Property" Sign; Please always close the gate behind you!
- Then take the third track to the right ~800m from the gate (there is a sign to camp 1 and to the big lake),
- Follow that road down to the day area on the lake and turn left just before the big tarp
- park and set up camp east of the big tarp (on the large flat areas towards the mountains)

### What to bring:

- Food for shared feasts (bush kitchen and barbecue available)
- Sunsmart clothing
- Towel, swimmers, canoes, etc
- Camping gear
- Drinking water
- Instruments
- An open heart and mind and your ideas



Come along and be inspired as JCU's top researchers and academics share their expertise with the local community outside of the lecture theatre.

**When:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30pm

**Where:** Salt House, 6/2 Pierpoint Road, Cairns City

There will be two topics presented on the night. These include:

### Demystifying 5G

Learn about how 5G technology will provide vast opportunities and benefits for a country like

Australia with a large landmass and small population. Despite the vast potential promised by 5G technology, there are some common misconceptions and pitfalls we ought to avoid.

Presented by Professor [Wei Xiang](#)

### **Coral peptides and their potential applications as drug leads**

Say “hello” to the *Heliofungia actiniformis* coral! This presentation will focus on the process of characterising the sequence and structure of peptides found in extracts of the coral's tentacle. These peptides are then tested on a range of bio-assays to determine their potential applications as drug leads.

Presented by Casey Schmidt

[Register here](#) for this free event.

For more information, please contact the JCU Events Team at [events@jcu.edu.au](mailto:events@jcu.edu.au) or on (07) 4232 1319.



## AROUND THE FARM

### AUSTRALASIAN PERMACULTURE CONVERGENCE 2020

The program has been announced for the Australasian Permaculture Convergence at Redland Bay in April. This is a great opportunity for people living in our region to meet and learn from the wider Australasian permaculture community. We'll be holding talks and workshops covering topics relevant to the three ethics of permaculture, Earth Care, People Care and Fair Share. Each evening will be filled with entertainment and music, including one night with Charlie Mgee from Formidable Vegetable!

Tickets are now on sale and are great value for money. Full price tickets for adults, including all workshops and activities, shared accommodation for four nights and all meals, are just \$630. We also have special rates for children (aged 11 and under) and members of Permaculture Australia. Single day tickets including meals are \$130. See the APC website for full ticket details and pricing.

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

## Permaculture Cairns

### Membership Form 2020

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. 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:	Craig Phillipson	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Secretary:	Carolyn Holland	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Treasurer:	Jenny McGrath	<a href="mailto:info@permaculturecairns.org.au">info@permaculturecairns.org.au</a>
Newsletter	Carol Laing	newsletter@permaculturecairns.org.au
Website:		www.permaculturecairns.org.au

You can join online and pay into our account or join at our meetings, third Tuesday of the month.