



# PERMACULTURE CAIRNS INC.

Empowering communities with sustainable solutions for over 16 years.

**Care of the Earth - Care of People - Share the Excess**

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## APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

In this month's newsletter:

- **Vale Judy Noller** – written by Carol Laing
- **Call for Entries**
- Upcoming Events:
  - **May Workshop: Raised Garden Beds** – Saturday, 18 May 2024
  - **Permies at the Pub** – Friday, 31 May 2024
- **Cairns EcoFiesta: Call for Volunteers** - Sunday, 2 June 2024
- **April Workshop Recap: Growing Tropical Seedlings**
- **March Workshop Update** – They're Growing Well!



### VALE JUDY NOLLER

*"The one who plants trees, knowing that he will never sit in their shade, has at least started to understand the meaning of life."*

- Rabindranath Tagore

Judy Noller was a longtime friend of mine and I will miss her very much. Her enthusiasm was endless, her dedication to the task, her incredible capacity for ideas, her generosity and smiling and caring nature. We all have lost a friend.

We met early 2000's at a Cairns Arts Society meeting and I have enjoyed her company on many outdoor adventures, and gardening projects.

Judy was there to help with Artists of the North Exhibitions at the Tanks, Artist Escape Events and with later with Permaculture Cairns Events on numerous occasions.

The one that comes to mind was one of the Artists of the North Exhibitions at the Tank in the early years. We were there to install the art works in the exhibition this was before the Tanks took over Curating.

We had to list, print and cut all labels and install the 200 artworks. on the walls. My crew consisted of Judy with a broken forearm in a cast, Deb Clarke and Di Sant with injuries and I had a leg problem. This was my crew. I said to them look at you all, just a bunch of crocks, but we went on and did the job.



- Written by Carol Laing



## CALL FOR ENTRIES

We're calling on all creators of all kinds, to showcase their thoughts and ideas in the our newsletter!

Whether it's a design, photography or a study on a very niche thing, we'd love to hear from you.

Every month, you'll have the opportunity to have your work about permaculture, sustainability, environment or anything else, showcased to the wide audience of permaculturalists in Cairns.

Please email [info@permaculturecairns.org.au](mailto:info@permaculturecairns.org.au) to submit your work, or for more information!

Cut-off is on the second-last weekend of the month.



## MAY WORKSHOP: RAISED GARDEN BEDS

Craig will again be opening up his home, for a workshop on starting a raised garden bed for tropical climates. It includes the use of

Please bring gloves, closed in shoes and a hat.  
If you can, please also bring a wheelbarrow and/or shovel.

People also bring a plate of food to share.

**Craig's Home**  
**336 Fearnley St, Manunda QLD 4870**

**Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2024**  
**9:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

Free for Members | \$5 for Non-Members

To RSVP, please email Permaculture Cairns at [info@permaculturecairns.org.au](mailto:info@permaculturecairns.org.au)



## PERMIES AT THE PUB

*Do you want to meet other permaculturalists, whilst enjoying great food and drinks?*

*If you said yes, then come along to the May 2024 Permies at the Pub!*

**Balacava Hotel**  
**423 Mulgrave Rd, Earlville QLD 4870**

**Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024**  
**6:00 PM - Onwards**

All members are welcome to attend.  
Please RSVP by Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> of May, by texting Val on 0488 497 860 or by [email](mailto:info@permaculturecairns.org.au)





# CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: CAIRNS ECOFIESTA FESTIVAL

Cairns Ecofiesta is back for 2024!

We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to Cairns Ecofiesta 2024, Queensland's premier sustainability festival!

**Munro Martin Parklands**  
**Corner of Minnie Street, Cairns QLD 4870**

**Sunday, 2 June 2024**  
**10:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

☀️ What Is Ecofiesta? Cairns Ecofiesta is a vibrant celebration of all things green, held right at the doorstep of two World Heritage areas: the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics Rainforest. It's a day to connect, learn, and be inspired by sustainable living practices.

Permaculture Cairns will be holding a stall for chatting with the community, with a selection of plants grown by members, to take home! If you would be able and willing to get involved, please reach out to the Permaculture Cairns team at [info@permaculturecairns.org.au](mailto:info@permaculturecairns.org.au)

To find out more, please visit the Cairns Regional Council site: [here](#).





## APRIL WORKSHOP RECAP: GROWING TROPICAL SEEDLINGS

Permaculture Cairns recently hosted an engaging workshop on growing tropical seedlings, led by the esteemed permaculturalist, Carol Laing. The event took place at the Endeavour Foundation building, where participants delved into the intricacies of nurturing seedlings in our lush tropical climate.

Carol, with her wealth of experience in permaculture, guided attendees through essential topics:



- **Seed Raising Mixes:** Participants learned about the ideal mixes for successful seed germination.
- **Planting Seeds:** Carol shared practical tips on planting seeds effectively.
- **Transplanting Seedlings:** Attendees discovered how to carefully transplant seedlings for optimal growth.
- **Potting Up and Planting Out:** The workshop covered techniques for potting up and planting seedlings in garden beds.
- **Tropical Seed Selection:** Carol emphasized which seeds thrive best in our tropical region during specific times of the year.
- **Cuttings and Divisions:** Participants explored taking cuttings from ground covers, shrubs, and vines, as well as making divisions.

The workshop fostered a sense of community, connecting like-minded individuals passionate about sustainable living. Attendees left inspired, armed with newfound knowledge to cultivate their own green havens. Most of the seedlings prepared, went towards the Permaculture stall for EcoFiesta.

We'd like to say thank you to all who attended and helped make the event a success. We appreciate your support, and we look forward to seeing you at future events!

Cairns Permaculture would like to also thank Endeavour Foundation for kindly sharing their premises for this event.





## MARCH WORKSHOP UPDATE – THEY’RE GROWING WELL!

### Big Garden Makeover at Craig’s Place

In March 2024, green thumbs and gardening enthusiasts gathered at Craig’s place for an exciting garden makeover workshop. Hosted by the Tom Price Community Garden, this three-day event aimed to transform the garden into a vibrant and productive space.

The hard work paid off! Fast forward to today, and those Pigeon Pea seeds and Cassava cuttings have sprouted and are growing well, adding (intentional) greenery to Craig’s garden.

Come along to the upcoming meeting and workshop to be held at Craig’s place in May, to see for yourself!

