

Permaculture Cairns Inc. Established July, 2007 Inc. No. IA35907
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Permaculture Cairns News

Empowering communities with sustainable solutions

Volume 3 No 1 ~ April 2009

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*Care of the Earth, Care of
People, Share the excess*



Permaculture Cairns meets monthly. We have a great guest speaker at every meeting. Our AGM is held in December followed by our Christmas Party. Meeting format:

- Invited speaker
- Minutes from last meeting and activity progress check
- Upcoming weeks plans discussed
- Plant of the month
- Shared meal & refreshments

Visitors & new members welcome.

\$5 suggested minimum donation.

Members News

Support the ongoing work of the group and enjoy the many benefits of becoming a member. Join today!
\$20.00 individual per year
\$30 per family

The Tanks Permi Info Stall

When: 26 April

Time: 9am–2pm

Where: The Tanks Edge Hill

What: A small stall displaying Permaculture know-how.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please contact Kym Cruise

kymkruse@yahoo.com.au

Presidents Report



Kym Kruse

A warm welcome to everyone to the first Newsletter of 2009. This year the Newsletter will be issued quarterly but the group will remain active throughout the year.

The start of the year seems to have brought the end of the wet, after reasonable falls in February, March was unseasonably dry, so thick mulch and living ground cover. "100% cover 100% of the time" is the mantra of the moment.

Recently the group took on the Machans Beach Community Garden with the redesign of the existing gardens at the school. Timing was impeccable as the gardens were close to being returned to grass! Thanks to everyone who participated in the redesign workshop and a special thanks again to Trev for his excellent AutoCad skills...show off! A regular Sunday workshop will be held at the gardens to give everyone an opportunity to share and learn

from each other as we begin the process of dynamic transformation! See Ron's report on the latest going ons.

A couple of big months ahead with 2 major events happening. The TANKS Market Day on April 26th and our Mothers Day display in May. With a lot happening, now is the time to plant those seeds, water them, nurture them and grow lots of veggies in the months to come. Happy Everything.

Kym

farmgate market



The Network for Sustainable & Diversified Agriculture invites you to the opening of the Farmgate Market at the Pier at the Marina on Saturday the 18th of April 2009 from 7:30am to 2:00pm

Enjoy the colours and flavours of our tropical region and meet the local farmers, fisherman and food producers of Far North Queensland with music, entertainment and presentations

Contact: Imena Sivasubala
Ph: 07 4955 2195
Web: www.farmgate.org.au
Email: market@nsda.org.au



Queensland Government



**Next meeting – Tuesday 21st @ 6pm
Cairns Saints, Monk Street, Manunda**

Stop Press

For next meetings agenda:

The Development & Planning Dept at James Cook University Cairns have invited Permaculture Cairns to submit a plan for the landscaping of the new student amenities building (the relocated Cairns yacht club) to commence in July.

Machans Beach Permaculture Garden

Working bees every Sunday from 9 to 11 at Machans Beach State School

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Shop 3, 164 Aumuller St Bungalow (next to the P.O.) Ph: 40 412233

Machans Beach Permaculture Garden

Well the Machans Beach Permaculture Garden is on its way. Trevor has translated the initial design concepts from the last meeting into a detailed plan which has been partially marked on the ground. We have applied for some grant money from Council, so fingers crossed!! However, if the grant is successful we won't see any money until July so we are pushing ahead anyway. We are having working bees at the garden every **Sunday from 9 to 11**, or if anyone would like to suggest a second time that would be great - there is lots to do. In the meantime come down on Sunday, bring any spare cardboard/newspaper you have, and if you can donate any blood and bone or dolomite/lime that would be useful too. Hope to see you there!
Cheers, Ron.

Mother's Day Display

We are invited to set up a Permaculture garden display at this year's Tropical Garden Fair on Mother's Day 2009. Like last year we need potted plants to showcase Permaculture design principles and educate the community. Plants will be arranged to showcase permi design. We need plants for each of the following zones:

1— close to the house (zone 0) where we have our daily use vegetable garden and culinary herbs.

2—food forest /orchard. Complex layers include: Root crop layer, ground covers, shrubs, small to medium size fruit trees, climbers, support species that provide shelter & nutrient and emerging fruit & nut trees

3— citrus trees & other vegetables, ground covers & nitrogen fixers

4—wind break species

5— native habitat

Some plants can be hired from local Nurseries, but not all so we need you to please think about what plants you grow and may be able to contribute on the day. We will have a marking system on the day to ensure your plants are returned.