



Transition Town Hervey Bay and Transition Town Gardeners

"The Cottage", 16 Peters Lane, Pialba

January 2011

TRANSITION TOWN
HERVEY BAY

For more information and back issues
visit www.transitiontownfrasercoast.org.au

January Schedule:

Workshops usually start at 8.00 am and finish with morning tea. Feel free to bring something along to share for morning tea and the trade table. Meetings are 1st and 3rd Thursday and 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month and everyone is welcome!

December was a busy month with a successful plant sale, TTHB meeting and Christmas morning tea at the garden, where the following schedule was planned:

Thursday 6th January

First day back in the New Year – check the garden out after the massive amount of rain in December!

Saturday 15th January

Help celebrate the first birthday milestone of *The Cottage* garden with a BBQ 10.00 am -12.00; bring a plate to share; sausages provided free of charge

Thursday 20th January

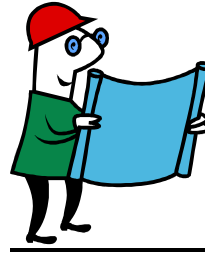
Day in the garden, bringing it back to pristine condition after the Christmas New Year break

Saturday 29th January

Seed saving day preparing seeds etc; if anyone has any seeds to contribute to the seed bank please bring them along, as we need to keep the stock fresh



Transition Town Gardeners learning from other people's gardening experiences in Booral, May 2010



Plans for 2011

For the coming year, monthly Transition Town Gardeners' activities will include:

- One day in the garden at *The Cottage* for maintenance, planting, harvesting, etc
- One workshop on various topics (to be advised through the monthly newsletter available at the Hervey Bay Public Library, local newspapers, and the Transition Town website)
- One day for seed saving or propagating (growing seeds or cuttings) for fundraising
- One garden trip or visit to:
 - Share and learn from each other;
 - Advise if someone has a problem they would like some input into;
 - Help with actual gardening (such as setting up procedure, not on-going gardening chores or maintenance);

If you would like to help in any way such as run a workshop, offer your garden for a visit, offer to water the garden or you want to request help in any way, please contact Alison or Linda.

Alison 0409 729 161

Linda 4124 2913

Membership to Transition Town Hervey Bay is free; membership to Transition Town Gardeners is \$5 for singles, couples and families which entitles you to entry to the garden workshops and provides public liability insurance coverage through the Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre.

Hervey Bay Seed Bank

Due to illness, Jennifer Ridge-Cooke has passed the Seed Bank that she established onto Alison Chappell. The seed bank can now be accessed at *The Cottage* garden during scheduled activities.

The Seed Bank has many varieties of seeds suited to local conditions, grown and donated by local gardeners. These are mainly edible plants, with some flowers, which assist with plant pollination, companion planting, etc.

The cost of seeds is low (50 cents), and basically cover packaging materials, or they are free to people adding or depositing seeds to the bank.

Donations of seeds and envelopes or small packages are welcome – bring them along and see Alison. Working bees will be held to prepare and package seeds.

Gardeners prepared to grow certain varieties such as pumpkins are eagerly sought. This means growing a certain variety exclusively, to avoid cross pollination with other varieties, hence keeping the seed true to type. This will ensure these open pollinated varieties are not lost to future generations.

Transition Town Gardeners are also keen to learn more from local vegetable growers, including those who grow Asian varieties suited to the local sub-tropical climate.



Jerry (pictured with Linda and Christine) with plants and seeds he donated to the group during his lecture visit in March last year.

Unfortunately the 'Parramatta Sweets' mandarin originating from the Sydney Botanic Gardens where the parent tree is over 100 years old (grows on its own roots and is a survivor, typical of traditional cultivars; excellent for juicing, has small, seedy fruit) is missing.

Jerry Colby-Williams' trees to be shared with the public

The trees gifted to Transition Town Gardeners last year are to be incorporated into new extension of the botanical gardens in Hervey Bay by the Fraser Coast Regional Council.

These include:

Balsa tree grown from seed obtained from Mossman, Qld. Like Paulownia, it needs regular moisture. Seed need boiling water poured over them to germinate. Good shade tree as it provides dappled shade, excellent timber (demand outstrips production), fast growing 8 to 10m high, rounded crown.

Macadamias from the Ormiston House tree, the second tree ever planted - valuable genetic resource since the area the tree came from has been cleared and wild macadamias like this are now protected as it's a threatened species.

Pandanus gemmifer also came from Mossman, Qld. This native is viviparous, unusual feature where rooted plants sprout from branches of mature trees. Used for shelter, shade, ornament and fibre (hats, baskets, bags).



TRANSITION TOWN
HERVEY BAY

Key Contacts:

President

John. Williams
john.williams17@bigpond.com
Mb 0428 980 019

Secretary

Les. Idiens
lin.les.idiens@bigpond.com
Ph 07 4124 2913

Treasurer

Linda. Idiens
lin.les.idiens@bigpond.com
Mb 0418 793 344

EDAP Project Coordinator

Maggie John
tt_hb@hotmail.com
Mb 0434 144 394

Newsletter Editor

Christel Schrank
Christel.schrank@bigpond.com
4125 8173

Transition Town Resource Shelf

For books & newsletters
Fraser Coast Regional Library,
Old Maryborough Road, Pialba

