



**TRANSITION TOWN**  
HERVEY BAY

**Transition Town Hervey Bay and Transition Town Gardeners**  
"The Cottage", 16 Peters Lane, Pialba

# March 2011

For more information and back issues  
visit [www.transitiontownfrasercoast.org.au](http://www.transitiontownfrasercoast.org.au)

## March Schedule:

The Cottage garden opens at 8.00 am with workshops usually starting at 8.30 am and finishing 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!

### Thursday 3rd March

A morning in the garden – come along!

### Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Transition Town Hervey Bay meeting (details below)

### Saturday 12th March

A morning in the garden – all welcome!

### Thursday 17th March

Seed Saver day – see photos

### Saturday 26th March – Torquay Market

Fourth Saturday of the month 9.00 am – 2.00 pm  
Looking for volunteers to help for a few hours, especially from 9-11 am while the workshop is on

### Saturday 26th March

Composting workshop

### Thursday 31st March

An extra day in the garden - come along!

## NEXT Transition Town HB MEETING

6pm Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup>

At the Beach House Hotel restaurant

Corner of the Esplanade and Queens Rd

**\$5 donation**

**FREE FOOD** for members and non members!

(includes wood-fired pizza)

The BMRG Great Sandy Biosphere workshop was a great success on Thursday 10 February. There were 6 representatives from Transition Town Hervey Bay and we all learned about systems thinking thanks to Prof Maani and Prof Bosch from UQ. I would highly recommend this workshop to people interested in environmental sustainability and developing the region. If you wish to register your interest for the next workshop visit the BMRG site and give them your details. <http://www.bmrg.org.au/>

## Torquay Market Stall



### Saturday 26th March – Torquay Market

Fourth Saturday of the month 9.00 am – 2.00 pm  
Looking for volunteers to help for a few hours, especially from 9-11 am – ring John on 0428 980 019.



### What's best to plant now in Hervey Bay:

Autumn, after the hot weather has passed and the bugs are not so prolific, is the time to think about planting winter veggies. Now you can get ready to plant root crops such as beetroot, carrots, onions and potatoes. Asian vegetables and broccoli planted now are in less danger of being destroyed by caterpillars, lettuce is less likely to suffer heat stress and bolt and tomatoes planted will ripen when the risk of fruit fly has reduced. Bean fly will also be less of a problem once the weather cools down.

**Membership to Transition Town Hervey Bay is free; membership to Transition Town Gardeners is \$6 for singles, couples and families based on a calendar year, which entitles you to entry to the garden workshops and provides public liability insurance coverage through the Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre.**

# Seed Savers News



Photo caption:

Jean Kernan from Dorset in UK came along to see how we run our Transition Town as she is in Transition Town Christchurch in the UK, where getting land for a community garden is a problem due to the scarcity of land.

Seed saving is a great way to learn about what grows well in our local area as well as getting to know like-minded people!

During February at the Cottage we saved seeds from broccoli rahb, Tabasco chilli, broccoletti, yellow cherry tomatoes, cos lettuce, cobra melon, trailing nasturtiums, Parisian pickling cucumbers and luffas. Any spare seeds you have are always welcome in the seed bank. Anyone donating seed to the seed bank is entitled to free seeds!!

At the moment we have a good supply of cos lettuce, beans, Asian vegetables and broccoli and, thanks to Anton a good stock of bunching onion bulbs and Darwin lettuce. The seed bank is particularly low in tomato seed and any donations are welcome, if you can identify the variety it is a great help. If you have never saved tomato seeds this is how it is done:

1. Allow a healthy tomato to ripen until it is squashy, just past the eating stage
2. Cut the tomato open and squeeze the pulp and seeds into a jar or bowl
3. Label the jar and leave in a warm spot for 2-3 days
4. Foam will form on the top; allowing the seed to ferment in this manner disinfects the seeds
5. As soon as this happens, scoop the foam off, add water and pour the contents of the jar into a sieve; don't leave it any longer or the seeds may germinate
6. Wash and rub the seeds in the sieve until the jelly around the seeds has been washed off
7. Spread the seeds on sheets of kitchen paper to dry out of the sun
8. Once dry, the seeds can be stored in a sealed container (labeled with variety and date).

Alison

*See front page for a local planting guide.*

## Cottage Garden Ramblings

We planted corn in original green manure bed earlier in February and inter-planted with lettuce [donated by Christine] and bunching onions [donated by Anton]. Water retention crystals were added to the raised beds, which makes a big difference to how much water they can hold and how often we need to re-water them. Other garden tasks included weeding and general tidying up of all beds.

We have a load of sterile commercial potting mix available if any one would like to buy some, or put up plants for the monthly market stall. See Linda for more information.

At home I found fruit fly in my little birds' eye chillies but not in other types of chillies and the male and female storm birds were eating them during February. Maybe neither have taste buds??

Linda

The latest Eden Seeds & Select Organic newsletter (Autumn 2011 Update) is now available at [www.edenseeds.com.au](http://www.edenseeds.com.au) (under newsletters).



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### Seed Savers

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### Transition Town Resource Shelf

For books & newsletters  
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