

August 2007  
Vol 1, Issue 3

# PSW Newsletter

## Our Meetings:

We meet on the first Monday of each month at Toongabbie West Public School, Ballandella Rd, Toongabbie.

Evenings begin at 6.30 pm for a chat, then meetings begin at 7pm sharp. Supper is at 8.30 approx, followed by General Business.

Greet us at the door & collect your name badge (and drop it off as you leave).

Please donate a gold coin to cover cost of refreshments

## Dates for your Diary:

**6<sup>th</sup> August:** PSW Meeting

**18<sup>th</sup> August:** Threatened Species Annangrove Park

**1<sup>st</sup> September:** Introduction to Plants: Natives & Weeds

**22<sup>nd</sup> September** [Saturday]

Hawkesbury Sustainability Fair

**29<sup>th</sup> September** [Saturday]

Blacktown Environmental Expo



## Permaculture Sydney West

*"Working together towards a sustainable future"*

### From the Team

Hi everybody and welcome to August!

There are some exciting things happening in the coming weeks, which we will be discussing at our next meeting on Monday. To give you a heads up, the annual Hawkesbury Sustainability Fair is approaching and we will be asking for volunteers to help us organise and help out at our stall for this wonderful event. We will be looking at growing herbs and seedlings for sale at the show to help with our group's fundraising.

Robyn Williamson from our Education Team has also secured a stall for us at the Blacktown Environmental Expo on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. We will be running two workshops on worm farming & chook keeping. Thank you Robyn for your achievement in liaising with Council with such success!

So as you can see we are going to be pretty busy but also looking forward to sharing our knowledge with the community of Sydney West as well as spreading the word about Permaculture and sustainable solutions.

### Roberta Fassina

Email: [permaculturesydneywest@yahoo.com.au](mailto:permaculturesydneywest@yahoo.com.au)

### Monday's Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> August Movie & Soup Night

This Monday evening we will be screening a film, so what better way to enjoy it than with a delicious bowl of hot soup with crusty bread rolls or a slice of bread and butter?

If you would like to contribute by bringing along a pot of your favourite soup, some bread rolls, or a loaf of home made bread, please contact us. Be prepared though, to be asked for the recipe!

A post-screening discussion about the film will follow.

Please bring along your soup mug or bowl and a spoon, and see you on Monday.

Contact Roberta on 0405 058 815 or send an email to [purpleart7@gmail.com](mailto:purpleart7@gmail.com) or [permaculturesydneywest@yahoo.com.au](mailto:permaculturesydneywest@yahoo.com.au)

## Permaculture Sydney West

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9629 3560  
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0409 307 190  
0409 151 435

### FAX:

9629 3560

## Our Committee

### President

[Vacant Position]

### Vice President

Sue Mossman

### Secretary

Clarissa Davis

### Treasurer

Eric Davis

### Education

Robyn Williamson  
Roberta Fassina

### Resources

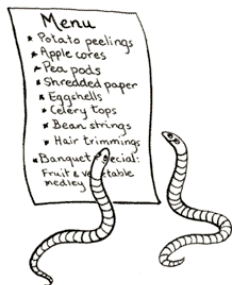
Sonia Barber

### Publicity

Rosanna Silvestro

### Webmaster

Andrew Leahy



## Recycle Roundabout

Don't forget our table outside with pre-loved items at our meetings. It's been great to see all those items up for grabs that would normally go to landfill. Please remember to take back any of your items that are left; you can always bring them back next time.

## Consumption Atlas by Robyn Williamson

### How does your suburb rate in greenhouse pollution, water use and eco-footprint?

[http://www.acfonline.org.au/custom\\_atlas/index.html](http://www.acfonline.org.au/custom_atlas/index.html)

Visit the above Australian Conservation Foundation website and enter in your postcode to find out how well (or not so well) your suburb is performing. Do the energy and water/eco-footprint audit to compare how well YOU are performing compared to your neighbours.

This could make an interesting evening at one of our upcoming meetings where we could all compare our results, look for possible reasons for good/bad outcomes and suggest solutions.

## Workshop Series Annangrove Park

### Learn About Threatened Species

Date: Sat 18 August  
Time: 9-12 noon  
Cost: FREE

Find out what threatened species are and what they look like, look at a few species in detail, and go on an exploration of Annangrove Park in search of threatened species. Bring along a picnic lunch to eat in the park afterwards.

### Introduction to Plants: Natives and Weeds

Date: Sat 1 September  
Time: 9am-3pm  
9am-12pm [Natives]  
1pm-3pm [Weeds]  
Cost: \$10 per person

In the morning you will look at common native plants, learn how to identify them and show you how to grow them yourself from seed. During the afternoon you will look at common weeds, how to identify them, and techniques available to control them.

All workshops will be held at Annangrove Park, cnr Currie Avenue, Annangrove. Workshop places fill fast. Contact Evie Roberts on 9843 0579 or 0422 007 981 ASAP to book into one or several workshops.

## Other Happenings

### Permaculture Sydney Southwest Mt Annan

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each  
month

Contact is Sue  
0413 480 843

### Illabunda Eco-village Winston Hills

For further  
information please  
see below:

#### Email

[onetreehillprojects@o  
ptusnet.au](mailto:onetreehillprojects@optusnet.au)

#### Website

[w w w .illabundavillage.  
com.au](http://www.illabundavillage.com.au)



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## Recent Events **What did you miss?**

### Presentations

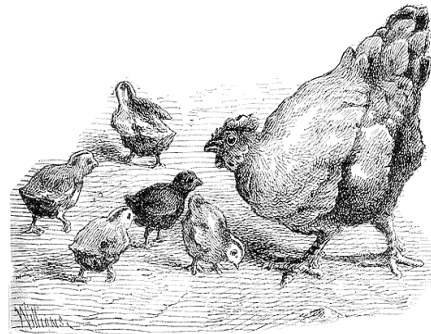
At our July meeting, we had a presentation on “Animals in Permaculture”.

Sonia and Clarissa presented us with some excellent information about the keeping of chooks. They covered topics such as the benefits of keeping poultry, types of housing, how to choose breeds and doing the research such as council requirements.

Hannah talked about keeping rabbits and guinea pigs, and how these cute little animals are more than just pets - they can work for you too. Like chooks, they can be housed in mobile runs so they can earn their keep, eating grass and weeds while fertilising at the same time.

Roberta talked about worm composting. Although not as cuddly, they are important in a permaculture system because they convert food scraps into valuable soil conditioner in the form of liquid manure and vermicast, or “worm castings”. They can also be used to compost old clothing, tissues, pizza boxes, old carpet and other organic waste.

Sue then gave us a very entertaining account of her experiences in keeping pigs and goats. Few of us have the opportunity or knowledge of animal husbandry to enable us to keep animals of this nature, so thanks Sue for an insight into the keeping of these animals.



If you missed out and you would like a copy of the notes, please see Sonia at the next meeting.

That's it for our August newsletter. Contributions are welcome so if you would like to submit an article please send me an email. See you at the Monday night meeting.

For information about permaculture groups in the Sydney basin please visit:

<http://permaculturesydneybasin.hengsystems.com.au/contacts.htm>

**Roberta Fassina**