

September 2007

Vol 1, Issue 4

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:

3rd September: PSW Meeting

1st September: [1] Introduction to Plants: Natives & Weeds; [2] Bringing Birds to Your Garden; [3] Spring Fair & Bush Tucker

22nd September [Saturday]
Hawkesbury Sustainability Fair

29th September [Saturday]
Blacktown Environmental Expo



Permaculture Sydney West

"Working together towards a sustainable future"

From the Team

Hi everybody and welcome to our September newsletter

I hope you all got to watch the stunning eclipse on Tuesday night. Watching it from my front driveway, my friends & I plonked ourselves right there on the kerb with a meal, a glass of red and a pair of binoculars, and it felt like watching the fireworks on New Year's Eve, only much nicer because it was such a unique experience that I shall remember for a long time. What a great way to welcome spring!

As you can see from the diary dates, there are lots of things happening in the coming weeks so you can be assured it will be a full and interesting month.

Which is probably just as well because the soil is still too cold to plant warm season vegetable crops such as tomatoes. However you can still get a head start from fresh plantings of year-round vegetables just to get into the swing of things. And if you planned it right you may still be able to harvest from winter and year-round crops to see you through until the earth warms a little more. In the meantime, it is a good time to plant those fruit trees you've been hoarding so that the roots can start to establish before the summer heat. Just watch for areas that are prone to frost so that young shoots, buds & developing fruit are not damaged by a late frost.

So enjoy your weekend and see you on Monday night!

Roberta Fassina

Email: permaculturesydneywest@yahoo.com.au

Monday's Meeting 3rd September

This Monday evening we are having a very special presentation by Brad Lancaster from USA.

Brad is a permaculture designer & trainer based in Tuscon, Arizona, who in 2006 published a book "Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands". In his book Brad shows how we can change our habits in the way we use water, and explains how we should use municipal water, rainwater and recycled water for various purposes.

Brad will also have copies of his book should anyone wish to purchase one.

Hope to see you there!

Permaculture Sydney West

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Our Committee

President

Sue Mossman

Vice President

[Vacant Position]

Secretary

Clarissa Davis

Treasurer

Eric Davis

Education

Robyn Williamson
Roberta Fassina

Resources

Sonia Barber

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Newsletter

Roberta Fassina



Events and Workshops in your local area

Greening Western Sydney [GWS] is a land & vegetation management project that aims to restore and conserve ecological communities on the Cumberland Plain that are under threat from further degradation.

If you would like to become involved in some of the educational activities you can attend workshops at the Greening Australia Community Nursery, in the Nurranginy Reserve, Knox Rd, Doonside. Details for the next workshop below:

Bringing Birds to your Garden

Date: Sat 1 September
Time: 10.30am-12.30pm
Cost: FREE

In this workshop participants will:

- o Learn how to create bird-friendly spaces in their garden
- o Discover common birds in the area and what they need to survive
- o Discover bird-attracting plants of the Cumberland Plain
- o Purchase bird-attracting plants for only \$1.20

For further information on workshops please contact Melissa on 9672 4009
Email: mclarke@ga.org.au

Energy and Water Efficiency in the Home Workshop

Date: Thursday 4 October
Time: 6pm-9pm
Cost: FREE

Find out how you can cut your energy and water bills dramatically, while at the same time reducing your household's greenhouse gas emissions and saving our precious water.

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.

Spring Fair and Bush Tucker Garden Opening

Where: Northmead Public School

Date: 1 September
Time: 10am-3pm

Spring Fair featuring rides, market stalls, craft activities such as bead craft, sand pictures and plaster painting, face painting, temporary tattoos, crazy hair, all day BBQ and cafe, chocolate wheel and silent auctions.

At 10.15am will be the opening of the new Bushtucker garden (created with funds from the Australian Government Community Water Grant Program).

Contact: Jennifer Graves
Address: 21 Moxhams Road Northmead
Phone: 9261 8533
Mobile: 0419 995 884
Email: jgraves@harrisco.com.au

Other Happenings

Permaculture Sydney Southwest Mt Annan

4th Monday of each
month

Contact is Sue
0413 480 843

Illabunda Eco-village Winston Hills

For further
information please
see below:

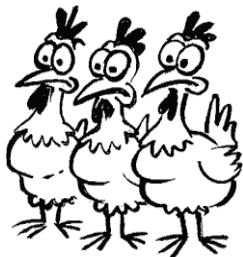
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**Permaculture
Design Course!!!
[PDC]
Ryde TAFE
Blaxland Rd, Ryde
2-13 October 2007
Ph: 9448 6301**



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Roberta Fassina

Sustainable House Day 8 & 9 September 2007

The national Sustainable House Day event aims to demonstrate how good design can virtually eliminate the need for heating and cooling and thus save money and the environment. It's a great opportunity to see houses utilising rather than exploiting nature's natural energies and to talk to homeowners, architects and designers who have created sustainable living environments, often on modest budgets.

As part of the national event, NSW will be showcasing 29 venues. 7 will be open on Saturday 8 September 2007 and the rest on Sunday 9 September 2007. Event tickets can be purchased from the first house visited for \$5 each with visits to a fourth and subsequent houses free.

For further information about the above homes please contact the local coordinator, Rob Kemp robkemp@tpg.com.au or phone 9864 8797 or 9296 1561.

Australian Permaculture Convergence APC9 Robyn Williamson

Permaculture North will be hosting the 9th Australian Permaculture Convergence in Sydney over the Easter weekend, 20-25 March 2008, at glorious Glengarry in North Turrumurra.

It will be an amazing event with big names, speeches, seminars and fantastic networking opportunities.

The President of Permaculture North, Penny Pyett will be attending our meeting of 3 September 2007 to brief PSW members on the organisation of the event and advise us of ways we can all participate.

For further details visit <http://www.apc9.org.au> and the Glengarry website <http://www.guidesnsw.org.au/properties/glengarry/index.html>

Remember:

Recycle Roundabout

Don't forget our table outside with pre-loved items at our meetings. It is a great way to offer items you no longer need or want that can be used by someone else rather than see them go to landfill. Please remember to take back any of your items that are left; you can always bring them back next time.

Meeting Notes

If you missed out on notes from previous meetings and you would like a copy please see Sonia at the next meeting. A small fee to cover photocopying will apply.

That's it for our September 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.hengesystems.com.au/contacts.htm>

Roberta Fassina

