

# PERMACULTURE WEST e-newsletter

## Permaculture Association WA (PAWA)

[www.permaculturewest.org.au](http://www.permaculturewest.org.au)

August 2009

### From the Committee:

#### **PAWA AGM – August 8**

Report by Karen McKenzie

10 people attended the AGM. There were 3 apologies. Many thanks to all attendees for a very positive discussion and thanks also to those who provided feedback via phone and email.

No nominations for Convener were received. I have reluctantly volunteered to fill this position with only one evening a fortnight to devote to the role. Several key positions remain unfilled including that of e-news secretary and events coordinator. If you have valued the PAWA e-news these past 16 months then please consider stepping in so it may continue. It is neither a difficult nor time consuming job.

There are many challenges facing the Permaculture Association this coming year. Lack of volunteers means the Association is unable to complete essential administrative tasks. Income from membership is insufficient to cover basic costs such as insurance premiums.

PAWA's future now rests with each of us within the Permaculture community; experienced Permaculturalists, recent graduates of PDC's and Intro courses, Permaculture teachers, presenters and businesses. Do we need/ want an Association? Perhaps there are enough information and networking opportunities in the broader community to satisfy us. If so that is a great outcome and we could be glad of the opportunity to save unnecessary energy.

The recently elected PAWA committee (see below) will evaluate the present situation and consider the future at its next meeting. If you would like to contribute to the above discussion, please attend the next meeting (date TBC) or contact me at: [kjmckenzie@amnet.net.au](mailto:kjmckenzie@amnet.net.au)

Position	Name	Roles
Convener	<b>Karen McKenzie</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordinate decision making</li><li>• Sign off on funding applications</li><li>• General spokesperson and liaison with related groups</li><li>• Monthly e-news report</li><li>• Email enquiries as well as sending out special announcements</li></ul>
Co convener	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Backup for President</li><li>• Phone enquiries</li><li>• Assist committee members when needed</li></ul>
Treasurer	<b>Jeremy Parker</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accounts Payable &amp; Receivable</li><li>• Keep financial records up to date</li><li>• Reconcile direct payment options</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Send membership details to Data- base Secretary</li> </ul>
Assistant Treasurer	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership renewals – bank cheques, send banking details to Treasurer and membership details to Data -base Secretary</li> <li>• Post receipts</li> </ul>
Correspondence Secretary	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pick up mail from Post Office box</li> <li>• List correspondence received, distribute to relevant committee person</li> <li>• Send out renewal reminders</li> <li>• Occasional other correspondence</li> </ul>
Minutes Secretary	<b>Gillian White</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare agenda for committee meetings in consultation with Convener.</li> <li>• Take minutes at all meetings.</li> <li>• Circulation to all committee members of minutes/agenda</li> </ul>
Data base Secretary	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult/ Coordinate with web master</li> <li>• Maintain up to date records and contact details of members, e-news subscribers, related organisations</li> </ul>
Advertising Secretary	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate advertising via e-news and website</li> <li>• Consult with webmaster</li> </ul>
e-news Secretary	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collate announcements of events that are received via email</li> <li>• Call for updates from local groups, magazine editor and Convener. Contributions to be received by 20<sup>th</sup>? monthly</li> <li>• Proof read, format as necessary.</li> <li>• Send to web master by 24<sup>th</sup>?</li> </ul>
Magazine Editor/ Magazine Layout	<b>Warwick Rowell</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call for contributions for quarterly magazine and set deadline/ publication date.</li> <li>• Edit and format</li> <li>• Send to web master.</li> </ul>
Webmaster	<b>Andy Bates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate website development</li> <li>• Update information on website</li> <li>• Send e-news and magazine via email</li> </ul>
Events coordinator	<b>UNFILLED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate calendar of events including promotional opportunities at festivals</li> <li>• Recruit volunteers/ local groups to organize events</li> <li>• Liaise with related groups re combined events</li> </ul>
Local Groups coordinator	<b>Joy Thom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist members in setting up local groups</li> </ul>
Specific projects	<b>Challis Wilson Sparkles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logo redesign</li> <li>• Community liaison and website promotion</li> </ul>

## **Celebration Weekend**

Celebration: 30 years of Permaculture

Celebration theme: 'Next Generation Permaculture: 30 years On'.

**A weekend of inspiring Permaculture speakers, workshops, rekindling old friendships, making new ones and exploring the ways that Permaculture has enriched our lives.**

*Unfortunately this event can only proceed if there are 2 or 3 more involved in setting it up.*

## **Events Summary:**

**Further information about the following events is detailed throughout the e-newsletter.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sustainable September</b>				
Sept 5 1pm-4pm	Perma Party	St James	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a> 0406449369	Your labour
Sept 7-19 9am-4pm	Permaculture Design Certificate 2 week full time (12 days)	Enviro Tech Centre (ETC) Murdoch Uni	International Permaculture Greg Knibbs. <a href="mailto:gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com">gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com</a> <a href="http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2">www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2</a>	\$900 early bird
<b>Sept 12 11-12:30</b>	<b>PAWA presentation: NO MEETING</b>	<b>Perth City Farm East Perth</b>	<b>Elizabeth <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.permaculturewest.org.au">www.permaculturewest.org.au</a></b>	<b>Members free Visitors \$5</b>
Sept 12/13 10am-4pm	Intro to Permaculture	FERN Fremantle	Sparkles <a href="mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au">sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au</a> 0406449369	\$140
Sept 13 10am-4pm	Sustainable House Day	various	Belinda Tester 0430722833 <a href="mailto:admin@shmeco.com">admin@shmeco.com</a>	
<b>Sept 19 10am-12pm</b>	<b>Hills Local Permaculture Group</b>	<b>various</b>	<b><a href="mailto:joythom@bigpond.com">joythom@bigpond.com</a></b>	<b>Members free Visitors \$5</b>
Sept 18	WA Community Garden Forum <b>Friday</b> Sundowner and Opening	Perth City Farm	Ailsa Grieve Project Support Officer Growing Communities WA ph. 1300 501 357 <a href="mailto:info@wacgn.asn.au">info@wacgn.asn.au</a>	FREE
Sept 19	<b>Saturday</b> Full day program of speakers and workshops	Piney Lakes Enviro Centre		\$35
Sept 20	<b>Sunday</b> Bus Tour of Community Gardens	Starts at FERN Fremantle		\$10
Sept 19-20	Sustainability Fiesta 'The Painted Fish'	Hulbert Street South Fremantle	Shani 0417 941 991 Tim 0466 210 590 <a href="mailto:stay@thepaintedfish.com.au">stay@thepaintedfish.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.thepaintedfish.com.au">www.thepaintedfish.com.au</a>	
Sept 21-25 9-4pm	Permaculture Intro and Hands On	ETC Murdoch Uni,	International Permaculture Greg Knibbs. <a href="mailto:gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com">gknibbs@internationalpermaculture.com</a>	\$495

	(5 days)	Murdoch	<a href="http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses2">com www.internationalpermaculture.com/ courses2</a>	
Sept 26 9am-1pm	Spring Fiesta Artisan Markets	Perth City Farm Lime Street East Perth	<a href="http://www.cityfarmperth.org.au">www.cityfarmperth.org.au</a>	Free
Oct 7	Earth Carers Training Course: Practical Ways to Reduce Waste	Eastern Suburbs	Gabrielle Grime, EMRC Waste Education Coordinator: 9424 2256 or <a href="mailto:Gabrielle.grime@emrc.org.au">Gabrielle.grime@emrc.org.au</a>	Free
<b>Oct 10 11-12:30</b>	<b>PAWA presentation TBC</b>	<b>Perth City Farm East Perth</b>	<b>Elizabeth <a href="mailto:admin@earthsanctuary.com.au">admin@earthsanctuary.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.permaculturewest.org.au">www.permaculturewest.org.au</a></b>	<b>Members free Visitors \$5</b>
Nov 1	Woodridge Spring Fair	Woodridge Estate		

### **Forthcoming PAWA Events:**

#### **September PAWA Meeting**

Sept 12th

#### **NO MEETING**

During 'Sustainable September', there are several fantastic Permaculture related events and courses being run by like minded organizations and individuals. (See calendar of events).

### **Local Permaculture Groups**

Local Permaculture groups give people greater opportunity to share experiences, celebrate achievements (and share gluts) as well as overcome challenges. Belonging to a local group can also provide inspiration (and motivation), hands on practical help, opportunity to share equipment or swap seeds and cuttings. Lastly and maybe of greatest value, local groups can provide a sense of comradeship and connectedness.

If you would like to get together with Permies in your local area put your hand up be the contact person for a new local group. Forward your contact details to the e-news compiler. See end of e-news for details.

#### **Hills Local Permaculture Group**

##### **Report on last meeting – 15 August 2009**

Sixteen of us met at Joy and Jim Thom's home in Mahogany Creek. There were enough gaps in the much-needed rain for us to have a look outside at their raised garden beds. Joy and Jim have a five acre well treed bush block and initially cleared just enough trees to build their small wooden house. Recently though increased consideration of fire danger combined with a desire to grow some of their own food has lead to a few more trees being cut down. They explained that the difficulties of growing on such a block included reduced sunlight, invasive eucalyptus roots and hungry kangaroos. However in line with the Permaculture ethos of finding solutions, they are managing to grow healthy vegetables by protecting the soil from the roots and fencing the beds.

This was followed by a lively discussion on the relevance of Permaculture to climate change. Many points were raised - the importance of reducing waste, the need to resist advertising, the

need to learn from indigenous cultures both here and overseas, the strain on resources from emerging nations of China and India, to mention but a few. Gabor is a Permaculturalist from Hungary who was able to give us an understanding of how things are in that post communist state. He has observed that the shift to a capitalist society has been accompanied by a shift to a less sustainable consumerist society. Many are leaving the land to get jobs in the city to buy consumer goods not previously available.

**Next meeting Saturday 19 Sept. Venue TBA.**

The Hills Local Permaculture Group meets on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month**, 9:30 for **10am** start finishing at **12:00**. Contact Joy and Thom for details of their next meeting place. [joythom@bigpond.com](mailto:joythom@bigpond.com) or phone 9295 2408.

### **Busselton/ Dunsborough Local Permaculture Group**

This group has been quietly active and would like to welcome Permaculturalists and 'interested persons' new to the region. No experience necessary.

The Group has two major activities; one as a well established community garden in Streeley Street in Busselton, which has just received a grant to set up a market stall. Another emerging project is assisting in straw bale walls, and then designing and building a food garden, for a sustainable house in Dunsborough.

For more information on becoming involved please contact Warwick Rowell at: [warwick.rowell@bigpond.com](mailto:warwick.rowell@bigpond.com)

### **'Permaculture West' Magazine**

The spring edition of 'Permaculture West' will focus on 'Retrofitting Your House for Summer'. The magazine will be out early November. Articles/ stories/ photos etc need to be submitted to Warwick by mid September. Contact Warwick at: [warwick.rowell@bigpond.com](mailto:warwick.rowell@bigpond.com)

### **Permaculture Courses/ Training**

#### **Permaculture Design Course (PDC) 2009**

**Full time course**

**Sept 7 – September 19.** (Environmental Technology Centre, Murdoch University.)

9am – 4pm (12 days)

The courses are taught by Greg Knibbs (and friends). Greg is a registered teacher with the Australian Permaculture Institute founded by Bill Mollison. Greg has worked on Permaculture projects with communities, non-government organisations and private companies in the Philippines, West Africa, Cambodia and Australia.

Cost for courses held at Murdoch Environmental Tech Centre (ETC) – \$995 (included lunch/ snacks). Early registration discount of \$95.00.

Course details and registration at: [www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses](http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses)

## **Permaculture Intro and Hands On**

**Sept 21 – Sept 25 (5days)**

Murdoch Environmental Technology Centre

Facilitated by Greg Knibbs

Cost: \$495.00

Course details and registration at: [www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses](http://www.internationalpermaculture.com/courses)

## **Introduction to Permaculture**

**Sept 12-13**

10am – 4pm

FERN (Fremantle Environment Resource Network)

Cnr Montreal and High Street Fremantle

Want to grow delicious nutritious veggies in your own back yard? Want to adopt a more eco-friendly lifestyle?

Want to meet and connect with people interested in creating a sustainable future?

Heard about Permaculture and want to know more?

This course is for you!

RSVP ASAP to reserve your place!

Cost: \$140

**Contact:**

Sparkles [sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au)

0406449369

## **Other Workshops**

### **Free Homa Therapy workshops in WA**

**Aug 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>**

**...for people concerned about the environment, for Organic farmers, for people wanting simple health solutions...**

### **An everyday solution to the global crisis**

Climate change and disturbed ecosystems are due to saturated levels of pollution. Farming is suffering. Nature has become de-natured. She needs our help so she can support life and produce healthy, abundant food. The problem is big. The solution needs to be big.

An age-old proven system from Ayurveda has a simple solution with a big impact. It is called Homa Therapy and it is having remarkable results worldwide in farming and in health. It is simple to apply and has a beneficial impact on the entire environment- the atmosphere, water, soil, plants, animals and people. Ayurveda receives U.N. recognition as one of the most comprehensive health systems available while its agricultural methods are increasingly being acknowledged as valid and effective by Agronomical Engineers in many countries including Sth America, India and the Philippines.

Homa Therapy involves a 10 minute daily practice involving a fire in a small inverted copper pyramid. Its effectiveness is derived from a combination of the ancient technology of pyramid power, resonance and the special planetary biorhythms called sunrise and sunset. Right at this time a flood of micro-nutrients and life force are available to be harvested into your environment.

This is achieved through a simple healing fire called Agnihotra, the pivotal practice of Homa Therapy.

Homa Therapy is always taught free of charge by trained volunteers all over the world as it is the need of the hour to empower people to bring their environment back into a healthy, functioning condition and thus themselves, their families, their communities, their farms....

NB There will be a donation box at the workshops to cover costs etc if you wish to contribute. Agnihotra kits, books etc will be available for purchase as well.

For more information on free workshops from Aug 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> see attached itinerary & below:  
WA contacts: John White - 08 95747190, Michael Dodd - 0425884162

- Intro Talk on Agnihotra and Homa Organic Farming:

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Aug, 7pm-9pm City Farm, 1 City Farm Place, Claisebrook

- Intro Workshop on Agnihotra and Homa Therapy:

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2.30-6.30pm Hovea Ashram, 805 Margaret Rd, Hovea

( Learn how to heal your body/mind and environment at the same time! Bring Vegetarian plate for share meal afterwards)

- Field Day on Homa Organic Farming:

Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 10am-6.30pm 1233 Berry Rd Gidgegannup

(Learn how to build potent Homa organic biosol fertilizer and other Homa Farming practices. Prerequisite to attend field day is to have already attended an introduction workshop or talk. Bring Vegetarian plate for lunch)

**Contact:**

Lee or Frits Ringma 02 49981332 0418643489 [omshreedham@agnihotra.com.au](mailto:omshreedham@agnihotra.com.au)

[www.homatherapy.org](http://www.homatherapy.org)

## **Free Earth Carers Training Course: Practical Ways to Reduce Waste**

### **Begins October 7**

The free training course is available for residents in Perth's Eastern Region, (Town of Bassendean, Cities of Bayswater, Belmont, Swan, Shires of Kalamunda and Mundaring) and consists of five sessions on practical tips on ways to minimise waste in our daily lives, current information on waste management in the local and wider metropolitan region, tours,

### **To learn more, come along to the information sessions:**

**Wednesday 16 September 2009:** 5.45pm- 7pm, Midland Junction Arts Centre, Cnr Great Eastern Hwy and Cale St, Midland (next to Midland Gate Shopping Centre)

Josh Byrne from ABC's Gardening Australia will be a special guest speaker. Light supper provided.

**Saturday 19 September 2009:** 10.30am-11.30am, Midland Junction Arts Centre, Cnr Great Eastern Hwy and Cale St, Midland (next to Midland Gate Shopping Centre)

Morning tea provided.

**Contact:**

Gabrielle Grime, EMRC Waste Education Coordinator: 9424 2256 or [gabrielle.grime@emrc.org.au](mailto:gabrielle.grime@emrc.org.au). To register or for more information.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **First Perma-party of the season!!**

**Sept 5**

1-4pm

Where: 38 Upton St, St James

Not only is it going to be a whole lot of fun, but we are privileged enough to be helping out a true blue permie digger whose wealth of information had us completely captivated at our last course.

Her name is Laurie, she's fantastic, and her garden needs us!

What to bring: A pair of gloves and the biggest smile you can find!

Please let us know that you and/or your friends can make it as Laurie will be cooking up a storm to feed the troops.

If public transport might be an issue for you, then I can take 8 people from Perth train station in the super troop!

Big love to you all

Sparkles

[sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sparklemerchant@yahoo.com.au)

0406449369

### **Sustainable House Day**

**Sept 13**

10 – 4 pm

Various locations

Belinda Tester 0430722833

[admin@shmeco.com.au](mailto:admin@shmeco.com.au)

### **WA Community Garden Forum**

Growing Communities WA and the Community Garden Network are pleased to be hosting The WA Community Garden Forum this September. Please make note of the following dates as it is sure to be a great event;

**Friday September 18 (5pm-7:30pm)** – Perth City Farm. Sundowner and Opening. Free

**Saturday September 19 (9am-1pm)** – Piney Lakes Environment Centre: Selection of workshops. 1:30pm Afternoon open space gathering and discussion (Growing a Strong Community Garden Sector in WA). 4pm close. \$35.00



**Sunday September 20 (10am-3pm)** - Bus Tour of Community Gardens. Beginning at FERN (Montreal Street, Freo) and visiting Naragebup, West Leederville, Earthwise). \$10

If you are interested in contributing to the development of the Forum Program in anyway such as facilitating a workshop, catering, nominating or being a speaker, promotion etc. please contact us.

Ailsa Grieve

Project Support Officer

Growing Communities WA

A project supporting community gardens

ph. 1300 501 357

Please note I work in this role 8 hours per week, mainly Monday and Wednesday mornings.

[info@wacgn.asn.au](mailto:info@wacgn.asn.au)

## **2009 Hulbert Street Sustainability Fiesta.**

**Sept 19 from 12noon**

**Sept 20 10am – 4pm**

Hulbert Street, South Fremantle

**Hulbert Street will be closed to all traffic for a weekend of sustainable learning with home opens (2), open gardens (7), open artist studios (5), buskers, food, family entertainment and YOU!**

There are several ways for you to get involved:

### **1) Have a stall over the weekend**

Stalls will be available for:

- a) Businesses selling sustainable products and services at \$50 per day,
- b) Businesses selling food or drink at \$50 per day,
- c) Local Artists producing local hand made goods at \$40 per day,
- d) Community groups with a sustainable emphasis for no cost (information stalls only),
- e) Community groups fundraising with family or children entertainment for \$20 per day, and
- f) Garage sale/ flea market type stalls for \$10 per day.

If you are interested in having a stall over the weekend for one or both days, please return the attached sheet to Kylie Wheatley at Red Tent Events on [kylie@redtentevents.com.au](mailto:kylie@redtentevents.com.au)

### **2) Provide a speaker for a session in the ‘speakers’ tent’.**

A ‘Living Smart Speakers Tent’ will be a marquee set up at the end of Hulbert Street near The Painted Fish. Speakers will have access to a data projector, laptop computer, microphone and speaker. The speaker’s schedule will be advertised in local papers and handed to participants as they enter the Fiesta.

If you are interested in speaking during the Fiesta, please contact Shani Graham at The Painted Fish on [stay@thepaintedfish.com.au](mailto:stay@thepaintedfish.com.au)

### **Contact**

Shani Graham and Tim Darby

The Painted Fish South Beach Eco Village

37 Hulbert Street  
South Fremantle, WA 6162  
08 9335 4886  
Shani 0417 941 991  
Tim 0466 210 590  
stay@thepaintedfish.com.au  
www.thepaintedfish.com.au

## **Spring Fiesta and WA Week**

**Sept 26**

**October 24**

9am – 1pm

Perth City Farm, Lime Street, East Perth

Free parking behind the TAFE off Claisebrook Rd

Artisan Markets in conjunction with Saturday Farmers Markets.  
Locally made and 'Fair Trade' products, wood fired pizza, organic coffee and cakes, organic produce, music and entertainment.

## **Other Items of Interest:**

### **Gnangara Sustainability Strategy**

Released for public comment

document available at: [www.gnangara.water.wa.gov.au](http://www.gnangara.water.wa.gov.au)

Phone Dept of Water 63647600 for hard copy

Submissions close Aug 31

### **Permaculture Ethics and Design Principles DVD**

New release

A presentation by David Holmgren

A summary of the DVD can be viewed on YouTube [www.youtube.com/watch?v=I - J71k2bXE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-J71k2bXE)

DVD's can be purchased from [www.holmgren.com.au](http://www.holmgren.com.au) or the Permaculture Principles website [www.permacultureprinciples.com/resources principlesdvd](http://www.permacultureprinciples.com/resources_principlesdvd)  
08 9842 5196

## **Get a Friend to Join PAWA**

### **How to join/ renew**

Membership fee is \$30.00 annually (1<sup>st</sup> July to 30th June). A pro rata fee of \$15.00 is charged for new members joining after December 31<sup>st</sup>. Payment options are as follows:

- Send a **cheque or money order** to **Permaculture Association of WA, PO Box 442 BAKERS HILL 6562**. Include your details (name, address, phone and email address) especially if they have changed.

- **Direct deposit** into Bendigo Bank BSB: 633-000 Acc: 111195988 (Permaculture Assoc of WA). Send an email to Treasurer Jeremy at [zamiahill@activ8.net.au](mailto:zamiahill@activ8.net.au) so your payment can reconciled.
  - **Cash payment in person** at any of the monthly presentations.
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*PAWA e-news is compiled by K.McKenzie. If you would like to contribute please email Karen at: [kjmckenzie@amnet.net.au](mailto:kjmckenzie@amnet.net.au). The newsletter is emailed around the 21st of each month. We welcome announcements from other environmentally focused organisations.*