Invitation
From Permaculture Melbourne

Welcome to the 8th Australian Permaculture Convergence, to be held at the Edmund Rice Centre “Amberley” above the Yarra River in north-eastern Melbourne.

It is eight years since the last Convergence and ten since the event was held in the southern states, and we are delighted to be hosting an event such as this at this time in the history of Permaculture Melbourne.

Permaculture Melbourne turns 25 on February 4 2006, so this is our 25th year. In addition it is a momentous time for the permaculture movement with the advent of Accredited Permaculture Training mid-way through 2003, and with all the effort and energy going into the sustainability of our national body Permaculture International Limited and the other organisations around Australia.

APC8 takes place shortly before the International Permaculture Convergence, IPC7 which will be held in May and June in Europe (mainly in Slovenia and Croatia).

Permaculture design is widely seen as a system which offers solutions for pressing environmental issues, and speakers at the Symposium on Monday, April 11th will provide some pathways to a sustainable future.

Permaculture Melbourne would like to invite you to Melbourne for APC8.

Virginia Solomon
President, Permaculture Melbourne
Convenor, APC8

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The Event at a Glance

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**REGISTER EARLY FOR A GREAT DISCOUNT!**

Check for regular updates on: www.apc8.org.au

Contact the secretariat for enquiries
Email: apc8@tpg.com.au
Call: Sarah on 0437 140022
Write to: APC8, P.O. Box 3020, Auburn, Vic 3123

if you cannot attend, please pass this brochure on
Public Lecture
GLOBAL ENERGY PEAK: THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY?
Friday, April 8, 8pm
Knox Lecture Theatre, Australian Catholic University, Lansdowne Street, East Melbourne

David Holmgren, patron of APC8 will launch the event with this lecture

The historically momentous global peak in production of high quality fossil fuels due this decade is already causing shock waves through the world economy and reshaping geopolitics. Barely recognised by the public, policy makers or even activists, this event will precipitate a cascade of environmental, economic, political and cultural changes for which society is totally unprepared.

While these changes will be seen as a threat, global energy peak has the potential to quickly eclipse climate change as the driving force behind the sustainability imperative.

David Holmgren’s dramatic graphical presentation gives an empowering and inclusive understanding of permaculture as a multifaceted design response to energy crisis.

David Holmgren is best known as the co-originator with Bill Mollison of the Permaculture concept following the publication of Permaculture One in 1978. Since then he has written several more books, developed three properties using permaculture principles, conducted workshops and courses in Australia, New Zealand, Europe and Japan. Within the growing and international permaculture movement, David is respected for his commitment to presenting permaculture ideas through practical projects and teaching by personal example, that a sustainable lifestyle is a realistic, attractive and powerful alternative to dependant consumerism. As well as constant involvement in the practical side of permaculture, David is passionate about the philosophical and conceptual foundations for sustainability which is the focus of his latest book Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability.

David lives with his partner Su and their son Oliver at ‘Melliodora’, a one hectare permaculture demonstration site at Hepburn Springs, Central Victoria.

Convergence
PERMACULTURE: RECLAIMING SUSTAINABILITY
Sunday, April 10 – Wednesday, April 13
Edmund Rice Centre “Amberley”, 7 Amberley Way, Lower Plenty

Sunday, April 10
Permaculture People Tell Their Stories
Permaculture activists from around Australia will introduce themselves by telling their stories to launch the convergence. Come and celebrate their successes, reflect on their experiences and be inspired. Everyone welcome. A mini-bus will shuttle between Eltham Station, the Expo at Edendale and Amberley.

Monday, April 11
SYMPOSIUM: Permaculture - Creating Pathways to Sustainability
The symposium brings together Australia’s leading Permaculture practioners to showcase permaculture as a solutions based design system.

Tuesday, April 12 & Wednesday April 13
These two days are aimed at graduates of the Permaculture Design Course and will be run in two strands. The PIL AGM will take place on Wednesday, April 13.

Strand 1 – Workshops and discussions on a range of subjects including the implementation of David Holmgren’s new principles, and other topics of interest to participants.

Strand 2 – Action planning for the future of the movement including Accredited Permaculture Training and the future of Permaculture International Limited.
Expo at Edendale
DISCOVERING PERMACULTURE
Sunday April 10
Edendale Community Environment Centre, Gastons Rd, Eltham

Nillumbik Shire’s permaculture farm, Edendale Community Environment Centre, is the venue for this family day. The Expo will feature demonstrations, tours, stalls and permaculture-friendly products with ideas for everyone to use.

Come and meet Josh Byrne, Gardening Australia’s permaculture expert who will be visiting to offer his suggestions.

Jenny Allen, author of the colourful coffee-table book, Paradise In Your Garden: Smart Permaculture Design, will launch the reprint with a spectacular slide show. Jenny will also read some of the more comical and poetic parts of “Paradise”, observing nature with child-like wonder.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>✽ Demonstrations</th>
<th>Displays of</th>
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<td>✽ Talks</td>
<td>✽ ways to save energy and water</td>
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<td>✽ Displays</td>
<td>✽ poultry keeping and rare animal breeds</td>
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<td>✽ Tours of Edendale</td>
<td>✽ composting and soil treatment ideas</td>
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<td>✽ Children’s activities</td>
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<td>✽ domestic waste-water systems</td>
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<td>✽ gardening and planting ideas, products and services</td>
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APC8 Dinner
Monday April 11. Amberley
The dinner will feature Melbourne band Totally Gourdgeous.

“Totally gourdgeous are a beautifully bizarre band in which all the instruments are made of gourds. Imagine Joni Mitchell and James Brown getting down in Bob Marley’s pumpkin patch! Four of Australia’s foremost singer/songwriters playing messages of love, fellowship and environmental sanity.”

The dinner will feature organic food presented buffet-style with loads of choice for all.

Site Visits & Tours
Thursday April 14 & Friday April 15

Victoria offers a wide range of interesting permaculture sites to visit. Choose from tours of:

- South Gippsland (2 Days)
- Central Victoria (2 Days)
- City Farms and Community Gardens
- North East Ranges
- Dandenong Ranges

See Page 6 of this brochure for further details

Short Courses
Starting Saturday April 16

In association with APC8, Permaculture teachers will be running a number of courses. Check the website for updates. A Course Orientation Workshop (COW) for Accredited Permaculture Training (APT™) courses will be held this weekend, followed by a Creative Adult Learning Facilitation (CALT) workshop with Robin Clayfield (Monday, April 18 – Thursday, April 21).

If you wish to offer a Short Course, please contact apc8@tpg.com.au
# APC8: THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

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<th>AMBERLEY</th>
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<td>The Edmund Rice Centre</td>
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<td>FRI 8</td>
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<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
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<td>Lansdowne Street, East Melbourne, 8pm</td>
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<td>SAT 9</td>
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<td>Facilitator training and speakers’ services</td>
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<td>Registration 6-10 pm</td>
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<td>light supper included for all guests</td>
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<td>SUN 10</td>
<td><strong>CONVERGENCE</strong></td>
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<td>Indigenous Welcome to Country</td>
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<td>Permaculture People Tell Their Stories</td>
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<td>Gastons Rd, Eltham</td>
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<td>MON 11</td>
<td>Attend the SYMPOSIUM</td>
<td><strong>SYMPOSIUM</strong></td>
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<td>(some may prefer a networking or R&amp;R day)</td>
<td>Permaculture: Creating Pathways to Sustainability</td>
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<td>Eltham Community and Reception Centre</td>
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<td><strong>APC8 DINNER</strong></td>
<td>801 Main Rd, Eltham</td>
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<td>TUE 12 &amp; WED 13</td>
<td><strong>CONVERGENCE</strong></td>
<td>SYMPOSIUM Permaculture: Creating Pathways to Sustainability</td>
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<td>Permaculture Design Course graduates gather for workshops, networking and strategic planning.</td>
<td>Eltham Community and Reception Centre</td>
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<td>PIL AGM Wednesday, April 13.</td>
<td>801 Main Rd, Eltham</td>
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<td>THU 14 &amp; FRI 15</td>
<td><strong>SITE VISITS and TOURS</strong></td>
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<td>From SAT 16</td>
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Keynote Address: *Sustainable Living through Permaculture: A Social Ecology Perspective*

Prof. Stuart Hill, Foundation Chair of Social Ecology, University of Western Sydney

Keynote Response: *Peace, Positivity and Permaculture: Cultivating a Sustainable Future*

Morag Gamble, SEED International, Queensland

**Strand 1**

Permaculture & the Physical Environment

Session 1 – *Case studies in sustainable land use through appropriate design*

This session is aimed at shire council planners and officers responsible for parks and gardens, land use managers, community groups with access to land, forestry officers, farmers and broadacre land managers.

- **Designing Solutions:** applying R&D and Benign Biotechnology in 21st century Permaculture
  - Jason Alexandra

- **Commercial Scale Permaculture at The Food Forest**
  - Graham and Annemarie Brookman

- **Larger scale Landscape Rejuvenation using a Permaculture Approach**
  - Darren Doherty

Session 2 – *Productive use of waste water resources*

This session is relevant to environmental health officers, EPA staff, sustainability officers, planners and all people interested in re-use of waste water, including owner builders and property developers.

- **Case Studies of Greywater Reuse Options**
  - Dr Ross Mars

- **Biolytix – A Breakthrough in Waste Treatment**
  - Dean Cameron

Session 3 – *Ecological building*

Suits architects, builders, planners and owner builders with an interest in looking beyond the legislation to what is really sustainable.

- **Ecological Building: Reaching beyond 5-stars**
  - Kerry Wise

**Strand 2**

Permaculture & the Social Environment

Session 1 – *Case studies in school and community permaculture projects promoting sustainability education*

This session is relevant to school policy and curriculum developers, teachers, and volunteers who wish to explore possibilities for inspiring projects that engage students. It is also appropriate for health and education officers, community garden co-ordinators and shire council project officers interested in community garden projects.

- **Engaging Middle Years students through Accredited Permaculture Training (APT™)**
  - John McCallum

- **Gardens of the Highrise - City Gardens, Food Security and Community Development.**
  - Peta Christensen

- **Seed to Seed Nutrition Gardens in Schools**
  - Jude Fanton

Session 2 – *Sustainable solutions for development projects*

This session is targeted at policy makers and project field officers working for government and non government aid organisations. It will be useful for people working in communities both in Australia and overseas where health, sanitation and food security are pressing issues, and it will also deal with strategies for controlling erosion, pollution, resource and waste management.

- **A Global Report of Permaculture Development Projects**
  - Geoff Lawton

- **The Role of Permaculture in attaining Sustainable Development Projects**
  - Rick Coleman

**Forum: Summing Up**

Caroline Smith & David Holmgren

For program updates, abstracts and speaker profiles, check the website [www.apc8.org.au](http://www.apc8.org.au)
SITE VISITS and TOURS

An exciting program of site-visits is currently being developed. Tours listed in this brochure are a guide only, and may change depending upon availability and individual circumstances as many visit private properties. There are two tours to regional areas which include an overnight stay, and three within the city and suburbs. Billet accommodation is available with Permaculture Melbourne members during this time.

Tour A – South Gippsland
This is a two day tour visiting a lush green corner of the Garden State. Highlights of this tour include Rick and Naomi Coleman’s 10 acre permaculture demonstration property, the Southern Cross Permaculture Institute, which boasts 19 dam and chinampa systems, macadamia nut orchard, food forest, mudbrick classroom and many other delights. On the way you will visit a bush food enterprise and later on the same tour, a large organic dairy supplying milk to Melbourne through a dairy co-operative. You will also see an intensively planted private garden and a school permaculture project. Cost $175

Tour B – Central Victoria
A highlight of this tour will be a visit to David Holmgren’s property “Melliodora” with its passive solar house, raised vegetable beds, orchards and poultry systems. Visit the Gravel Hill Gardens community permaculture garden and educational site in Bendigo, and later a permaculture nursery featuring aquaculture ponds and vegan vegetable systems. There is also a low-maintenance low-water use orchard, and an integrated biodynamic/permaculture property with vineyard, timber forestry and land for wildlife as well as food. Cost $175

Tour C – Community Gardens and City Farms
This tour takes you to Melbourne’s inner city. See CERES Environmental Park with its demonstration systems, composting toilets, power generation, water and waste-water systems, food gardens, bakers oven and educational areas. Collingwood Childrens’ Farm, on a bend of the Yarra river showcases a wide range of animal systems in the heart of Melbourne. Also visit a suburban property where rabbits are bred for meat, and a community garden in St. Kilda a stone’s throw from Luna Park. Lunch is not included in this tour as you will have a wide range of choices available in the city. Cost $40

Tour D - North East Ranges
Eltham has a reputation for environmental friendliness. Visit the Food Farm, winner of the Middle Yarra Sustainable Gardening Award for 2004, where Wendy and Ross Mather have developed an oasis of productivity and biodiversity on their small farm. See their chicken and orchard systems, fabulous vegetable gardens and the best compost this side of the black stump. On the way you will visit Eltham College where the Year 9 Crest Road Campus will be open for special viewing. Nearby is a 12 acre property where John Seal designed and built a passive solar house with pool-fed roof sprinklers, timber lots, animal systems, orchards and vegie gardens. Cost $65

Tour E – Dandenong Ranges
The Dandenong Ranges dominate the skyline in this corner of Melbourne and supply mountain soils and microclimates for a range of growing things. Visit a certified organic permaculture fruit and nut orchard, then a haven for all animals including low-line cattle, alpacas and goats, and an all-organic restaurant where you will have lunch. On the way you will pass through the Yarra Valley’s vineyards and some of the most beautiful agricultural land in the country. Cost $65

GENERAL INFORMATION

For more information go to www.amberley.org.au

Accommodation
Amberley provides both guest bed and camping accommodation options including five night package deals and special child rates (see registration form for prices):
1. Guest beds are single in shared rooms (2-6 people) and include dinner on the night of your stay and breakfast the following morning. Room shares and a limited number of double beds are available on request. Linen and towels are available for hire ($12) or you may bring your own. Children aged 2 and
under are free of charge if sharing a bed or using a cot (available free on request).

2. Camping is in Amberley’s grounds close to the accommodation wing and bathrooms. Campers are able to self cater or purchase meal vouchers in advance. Please note camp facilities are basic therefore limited sites are available. A barbecue area is available for cooking but there are no washing-up facilities.

Catering and Meal Vouchers
Those staying in Amberley accommodation wing will have dinner and breakfast included. People attending the convergence and symposium have lunch included.

Meal vouchers are available in advance for campers, day visitors or accompanying persons wishing to purchase other meals.

Arrangements for children
Children are welcome at Amberley with the dates falling in most States’ school holidays. We hope to provide a limited crèche service (limited by law, not the APC8 organisers), however we need an early indication on the registration form to make this work. In addition, there will be a program of childrens’ activities organised by volunteers. This program will be permaculture inspired, varied and interesting and will cater for school-aged children. An indication of need for this program would also help our planning.

Shuttle bus
A minibus will shuttle between venues on the Sunday and Monday, and at other times where required. It would greatly assist our planning if you could indicate your needs on the registration form.

Record of Proceedings
We are proposing to document APC8 by capturing audio and photographic data in the lead-up to, during and after it takes place. If you are interested in helping us capture the ideas and conversations coming out of this event, please contact us at apc8@tpg.com.au. A CD-ROM of the Symposium papers will also be prepared and is available to order on the registration form @ $10.

Registration Fees
The registration fees have been kept as low as possible. The four-day registration fee includes: Convergence, Symposium, lunches on all four days and morning and afternoon teas. If paid before February 18, a substantial discount is available.

Eligibility to attend Convergence
The Convergence has traditionally only been open to holders of a Permaculture Design Course certificate (PDC), since it implies a degree of prior involvement. For APC8, only the Tuesday and Wednesday of the Convergence are for PDC holders. For the first time, there is an extra day added to the Convergence for peoples’ stories to be heard by the wider public. If you wish to tell your story, please complete the section of the registration form.

Concessions
Concession rates for APC8 events are available for full-time students and those holding a valid health care card. Proof of concession will be requested at registration. Child rates are available on accommodation for children under 16 years (children age 2 and under free).

APC8 Dinner
The dinner will feature an organic buffet-style vegetarian meal. Innovative Melbourne band **Totally Gourdgeous** will entertain us. If you are purchasing an accommodation package, your dinner ticket is included. If you are a day attendee, please purchase the tickets you require using the Registration Form.

Cost: $40

Dietary requirements and other special needs
Catering at APC8 will be predominantly vegetarian with vegan options. If you have special dietary needs, allergies or any other special needs, we will endeavour to accommodate you. Please understand, however, that some requests may not be possible. Please clearly indicate your needs on the registration form.

GST
All prices are inclusive of 10% GST.

Secretariat
Registration queries should be directed to the Secretariat.

APC8 Secretariat,
P.O. Box 3020,
Auburn, Vic. 3123
Email: apc8@tpg.com.au
Tel: 0437 140022

Cancellation Policy
Event registrations and accommodation/catering bookings cancelled before 21 March 2005 will be refunded less $50 administration charges. After 21 March 2005 no refunds will be made.

Liability
Permaculture Melbourne and the Convergence organisers cannot be held responsible for any losses incurred by participants in this event. The contents of this brochure were correct at time of printing, but changes may be necessary to the programme, costs and services. The Convergence organisers reserve the right to make such changes without notice.
Permaculture Melbourne, host of APC8

 Exists to

◊ Promote the application of Permaculture principles in the design of communities and the landscapes that support them
◊ Support its members in the pursuit of those goals and
◊ Network with like minded organisations

Core values:
◊ Care of the earth.
◊ Care of people.
◊ Sharing of skills, knowledge and surplus production.
◊ Reducing consumption.
◊ Recognising that there are natural limits to growth, and our activities must restore health to the planet.

Benefits include access to field trips, newsletter, Permaculture library, social events and opportunities to participate in projects and activities and to network and improve skills.

For more information about Permaculture Melbourne, email admin@permaculturemelbourne.org.au, contact the office on 03 9513 4447, or visit the website at www.permaculturemelbourne.org.au

APC8
The 8th Australian Permaculture Convergence
8th – 15th April, 2005
Permaculture: Reclaiming Sustainability

For session abstracts, speaker profiles and program updates
check the website www.apc8.org.au