



*Care of the Earth, Care of
People, Share the excess*

Permaculture Cairns

Empowering communities with sustainable solutions

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Media Release

Survivors of the Kinglake Bushfire tragedy come to share what they learnt at APC10

Daryl Taylor together with his partner Lucy and 9-year old daughter Maggie, lost their house, businesses and jobs in the Victorian bushfire tragedy and are sharing what they have learnt with communities around Australia and the world.

Mr Taylor has been fully engaged in the post-February 7th Black Saturday Firestorm recovery and rebuilding process in his home community, Kinglake, in the Kinglake Ranges, Victoria.

"If only Kevin Rudd and John Brumby had said "we will re-think and re-design" instead of "we will rebuild" he said speaking from the International Association of Community Development Global Congress on Natural and Man-made Disasters, Economic Crises and Community Development in New Orleans last week where Mr Taylor was the closing Keynote speaker.

Mr Taylor sees disaster as an opportunity for significant change. We experienced a disaster however, a catastrophe is "not grasping and realising the significant opportunities for significant change inherent in such crises."

Mr Taylor has a lifetime of experience in community development, capacity building, and public health planning. He began his career in acute trauma, emergency and community mental health nursing. He has managed a range of community and government organisations in Victoria and served as a Public Policy Advisor to Community Aid Abroad (now Oxfam International). Mr Taylor is also a permaculture design certificate graduate and trainer.

Mr Taylor, his partner Lucy Filor and daughter Maggie will be presenting at the Australasian Permaculture Convergence, APC10, in September.

The presentation will highlight the importance of community preparedness for disasters and crises, both human-made and natural.

"We will discuss the opportunities for social and environmental sustainability oriented peak organisations to partner with local communities in the aftermath of disasters. I believe there is a unique opportunity for permaculture design teams to make significant contributions to redesign processes."

Come meet the Permaculture Cairns gardeners who meet on the **3rd Tuesday of the month** from 6pm at the Flexible Learning Centre, opposite The Trinity Bay SHS, Clark St, Manunda. Everyone is welcome.

Rather than simply rebuilding what was there before the disaster, Mr Taylor is calling for government to better engage with the local communities to realise the full potential inherent in the rebuilding process and establish exemplar communities able to deal with the triple crises of climate change, peak oil and economic contraction.

“We need to showcase resilient community systems redesign and detailed reconstruction,” Mr Taylor said.

“There are significant limitations in what government has to offer in such chaotic, complex and complicated scenarios. Permaculture practitioners can provide solutions that institutions can't.”

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Mr Taylor will be available for interview at APC10