**Clarkeson Fund application**

Dear Permaculture Melbourne,

I would like to apply for support from the Clarkeson Fund, in order to attend a permaculture teacher training being offered by Dave Jacke in March 2014.

I am seeking $2000 and hope that the support could be provided on the basis that I then provide free training to local groups of Permaculture Melbourne. The local groups could charge for the training events and either retain funds raised, or return all or a portion to the Clarkeson Fund. In this way, the permaculture community benefits from the outcomes of my training, the events run through local groups and the potential for Dave Jacke to come to Australia in the future and offer his teacher training. He has said that he won’t do this without a local support team familiar with his methods. Based on the fantastic educational processes demonstrated during the Edible Forest Garden Design Intensive that I attended in March 2013, I regard Dave as the best permaculture trainer I’ve experienced and it would be great to have his approach taught in Australia. Existing permaculture trainers who are unable to travel to the US to attend the training would benefit from being able to attend a future Australian course.

I estimate that my total costs will be about $5-6000 with airfares, internal travel, course fees, etc.  I'd plan to stay in the US for a few weeks after the course, to visit permaculture sites. Based on these visits, I could submit articles to PIE as a further benefit to Permaculture Melbourne members.

The events/services that I could offer to local groups include:

* facilitating Introduction to Permaculture weekends (we've got a good format running within BPG, which I can replicate for local groups)
* grafting days
* espalier workshop / talk / slideshow
* slideshow tour of French gardens (the talk Yonke and I did for ESPG last year, and at the 2011 conference)
* Berry Basics workshop
* exploring the Permaculture Principles (I have twice helped David Holmgren on his Advanced Principles course and have developed some materials to help people explore the principles. )

I am also open to suggestions of other services I could offer local groups. For instance, I’ve already spent time with some smaller local groups who were interested in how BPG has grown over the last few years; spending time with local group committees talking about how we’ve used social media might be of interest to them, for instance?

I am open to any variations on the above suggestion that Trunk may have, so hope to have the chance to discuss my proposal at your earliest convenience. I could not afford to cover the full costs of attending the training without support, so hope that we can find an arrangement that benefits everyone.

warm regards,

Steve Burns [5331 3110 or 0409 551 539]

17 October 2013

Dave Jacke’s permaculture teacher training is in Tennessee and course fees are about $US1500-1900. Further details at http://www.edibleforestgardens.com/events.