**CSE (Community Supported Education) application**

Dear Permaculture Sydney North,

I am seeking your support in order to attend a permaculture teacher training being offered by Dave Jacke in the US in March 2014. I’m currently the Convenor of Ballarat Permaculture Guild, which has 170+ members and nearly 800 on our FaceBook group. I’ve completed PDC’s in 2000 (David Holmgren) and 2009 (ASPDC) and led the team who developed the All Seasons PDC for BPG. I have completed the APT Certificate III in Permaculture and have started work on the Diploma! I’m a qualified teacher and have an 8 acre permaculture property on the outskirts of Ballarat, Victoria. In March 2013, I attended the Dave Jacke Edible Forest Garden Design Intensive at Milkwood Permaculture.

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 Sydney North (PSN). The local groups could charge for the training events and either retain funds raised, or return all or a portion to PSN. 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, 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 PSN for publication in your newsletter or on your website (further benefit to your members).

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

* facilitating Introduction to Permaculture sessions (we've got a successful weekend format running within BPG, which I can replicate for your local groups – or I could present sessions within your extended seven Saturday format)
* grafting days
* espalier workshop / talk / slideshow
* slideshow tour of French gardens (based on visits to potager gardens I did in 2011, which include great shots of espaliered fruit trees)
* 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 PSN local groups. If you have local permies seeking support, please preference them above my application. If there aren’t any, I’d love to come visit and do some workshops for you! I’m happy to be billeted by local permies.

I am open to any variations on the above suggestion that you 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. Please contact Costa Georgiadis or Andrea Pape if you would like a character reference or cheeky comment about me!

warm regards,

Steve Burns 03 5331 3110 or 0409 551 539

17 October 2013 PO Box 318, Ballarat Vic 3353

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