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A talk by David Holmgren, August 22nd

"Sustainable Rural Resettlement: Are new forms of land ownership the missing link in the sustainable rural resettlement debate?"

After fascinating talks by Declan Kennedy and Sarah West, we are lucky to have a visit by David Holmgren, the co-originator (with Bill Mollison) of the permaculture concept.

David, co-originator of the permaculture concept and developer of the Fryers Forest eco-village in Central Victoria paints the bigger picture of the potential of new forms of land ownership to reduce the problems and enhance the benefits from more people living in the countryside.

Over the last 30 years, migration of people to attractive rural areas has resulted in regional reversal of the century old pattern of drift to the cities. The adverse environmental, economic and social problems associated with this process have been widely recognised and debated while the nature of economic benefits have been poorly identified.

Most of the planning debate focuses on stronger zoning controls to contain subdivision of rural land and better guidelines for design of subdivisions. Alternative communities and a few pioneering developers have used various forms of common land ownership but these new approaches have been slow to spread.

David will explain and discuss the impediments to, and opportunities from wider adoption of these more sustainable ways of owning land.

The talk will be taking place at Gondwana, on Prestons Lane, Tyagarah, on 22nd August. Come at 6pm and bring a plate to share, or at 7pm for the talk. \$5/\$8 donation

To get to Gondwana ... from Byron, head to the highway, go north and then take the Grays Lane exit towards the beach, (see the signs to the airport), go to the top of the hill and turn left into Prestons Lane, please park on the ocean (right) side of the road.

While in the area, David is also speaking that lunchtime at Southern Cross University: Contact Leigh Davidson Ph 6620 3847 email: ldavison@scu.edu.au and is the keynote speaker for the 2002 Permaculture Designers Gathering Fri 23rd - Sat 24th at Djanbung Gardens Numbin - contact Robyn Francis 02-6689 1755, permed@nor.com.au and will be doing a one day workshop "Permaculture: The Principles Behind the Practice" on Sun 25th at the same venue.

A biography of David is attached.

Hope to see you on the 22nd, you can call me on the numbers below if there are any questions.

Mitra

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***** Life is a mystery to be lived, not a problem to be solved *****

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David Holmgren: Biographical Notes

David Holmgren BA(Env.Des.) is an environmental design consultant, author and teacher with a broad range and depth of practical and professional knowledge of sustainable land use. He and his partner Su Dennett, run Holmgren Design Services, an integrated permaculture consultancy, education

This property is one of Australia's best permaculture demonstration sites and is documented in an extraordinary book *Melliodora Hepburn Permaculture Gardens: Ten Years of Sustainable Living* David's research work during the 1980's for *Project Branchout* in central Victoria documented in *Trees On The Treeless Plains: Revegetation Manual For The Volcanic Landscapes of Central Victoria* pub Holmgren Design Services showed how permaculture design concepts can inform farm and landscape scale revegetation.

David's commitment broad acre permaculture extends to sustainable native forest management. Over the last six years he has been a Director and Forest Manager for Fryers Forest Research and Development which is pioneering productive management of regrowth box forest for posts and poles on 100 ha owned by the Fryers Forest Eco-village body corporate.

The eco-village itself is another aspect of David's work as designer/developer/community member. Although known as a permaculture designer and practitioner David is equally concerned with the big picture. David was the young co-author with Bill Mollison of *Permaculture One*(1978), the milestone in the application of environmental design to productive land use which was published in six languages.

For over 20 years David has given courses, seminars, radio and television interviews dealing with the application of permaculture principles to gardening, agriculture, forestry, conservation, landscape architecture and architecture. During the 1990's the residential Permaculture Design Courses run by Holmgren Design Services set a benchmark for providing a complete immersion in permaculture thinking and living.

The residential design course experience further stimulated David's evolution of both his explanation of permaculture concepts and the concepts themselves. The scope and evolution of his thinking about the applications of permaculture thinking is documented in David Holmgren: *Collected Writings 1978-2000* a CD by Holmgren Design Services.

A new book (currently in press) *Permaculture: Principles and Pathways To Sustainability* provides a deeper and more coherent insight into the whole systems thinking and action which is permaculture. This book promises to be both controversial and inspirational within the broadening field of sustainability concepts and action.