



PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE

**THE PHOTOS IN THIS COLLECTION PROVIDE
AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL LINKS TO THE ARTICLES IN
THE COLLECTED WRITINGS**



Photo One: *Bill Mollison Tasmania during a plant stock collecting trip in 1975.*

My close and intense working relationship with Bill during 1974-1976 brought together the ideas and the practice which we came to call permaculture (Ref 13). It was almost two decades before I was able to stand back enough from my relationship with Bill to see him in a broader historical context of radical pioneers of sustainable land use in Australia mentioned in *Creating a History of the Australian Search for Sustainable Land Use*



Photo Two: David Holmgren,
Jacky's Marsh Tasmania 1978.

This photo by Bruce Hedge, permaculture activist and radio gardening show host, was taken during a visit to interview me the year *Permaculture One* [Ref 13] was published and about the time *Article One - Permaculture: Design for Cultivating Ecosystems* was written. The yellow spring blossom in the background is the prolific silver wattles referred to in the article. The apparently dead vegetation at my feet is the other two plants which feature in the article, Bracken and Blackberry. Although dormant from winter frosts they will both spring to life with the season change.



Photo Three: David Holmgren, *Tasmania 1979.*

This self portrait was taken during a break during a walk in a Myrtle Beech rainforest following my return from the very influential working trip to NZ reflected in Article Two. The photos and notes I took in the bush around this time were part of a very deliberate personal quest over several years to increase my reading landscape skills which lead to *Article Three: An Eclectic Approach to the Skills of Reading Landscape and their Application to Permaculture Consultancy.*



Photo Four: Jason Alexandra with bushfire salvaged Cypress sawlogs, Mt. Macedon central Victoria 1983.

In the aftermath of the Ash Wednesday fires, I developed a close working relationship with permaculture nurseryman, turned fire salvage logging entrepreneur, Jason Alexandra. For both of us that time had a profound influence in deepening our shared commitment to the role of farm and urban forestry as an important part of the vision of an abundant sustainable society. Some of abundance of salvaged cypress shelterbelt sawlogs which dwarf Jason (lower centre) in the photo built our house. (Ref 14).

Some of the inspiration expressed itself in Jason's later influence in promoting farm forestry as ACF National Landcare spokesperson mentioned in *Article Thirteen: Creating a History of the Australian Search for Sustainable Land Use* as well as the farm forestry design concepts published in *Trees On The Treeless Plains* (Ref 4) in 1994.



Photo Five: Haikai Tane, Waitaki Basin South Island N.Z. 1984.

I took this picture during my second visit to the N.Z. high country. This barren “naturally treeless” area has a semi arid climate with very cold winters, but the growth of suitable species of trees on the fresh glacial soils is nothing short of spectacular as illustrated by the 15 year old plantings in the valley. Haikai and his love of the NZ high country was very influential on the development of my ideas as reflected in *Articles Two & Three*. More information about Haikai Tané [Ref 2]



Photo Six: Terry White (hands on head) at the 1st International Permaculture Convergence at Pappinbarra, northern NSW 1984.

Terry played a pivotal role in the emergence of both the Permaculture and Landcare movements. Part of his role in the later is recorded in *Article Eighteen: The Landcare Movement: Community Based Design and Action on a Scale to Match the Continent*. This photo captured him explaining the workings of the *International Permaculture Journal* [Ref 17] to the conference. Also recognisable in the photo are three permaculture activists who have since then all been involved in varying ways in the Crystal Waters Eco-village. Hans Erkin (standing), Max Lindegger (glasses) and Dave Blewett (profile).



Photo Seven: Vern Howell clearing access for tree planting Spring Ck, Hepburn 1990.

A close working relationship with local bushman, chainsaw educator and social entrepreneur Vern Howell saw a considerable amount of my mental and physical energy focused on the ecological and social dynamics of weedscapes. *Article Twenty One - Permaculture And Revegetation: Conflict or Synthesis* deals with the wider issues but those ideas were strengthened and put into practise through working with Vern and others in a kind of ecological and social anarchy which played out in the Spring Creek “common” during the late 1980’s & 90’s.



Photo Eight: Hepburn Permaculture Gardens (Melliodora) in early spring 1991.

The intensive garden and orchard development phase of these years provided a context for an increase in my writing including *Article Eight - Gardening As Agriculture* as well as the work towards the book *Melliodora: Ten Years of Sustainable Living* (Ref 14).



Photo Nine: *Su Dennett at home in Hepburn Springs 1991.*

This was taken about the time of our active involvement in local planning issues covered in *Article Six - Submission in Response to a Review of Rural Land Use in Victoria*.



Photo Ten: *Rod May measuring tree growth Kangaroo Hills central Victoria 1991.*

In 1988 Rod May was project manager of a bicentennial Landcare project in the area north of his family organic farm at Blampied, central Victoria. As revegetation designer, I worked closely with him in implementing many of the revegetation design concepts I had researched over the preceding two years. These were later published in *Trees On The Treeless Plains* [Ref 4]. *Article Eighteen: The Landcare Movement: Community Based Design And Action On A Scale To Match The Continent* mentions the part Rod played in the emergence of the Landcare movement.

Rod is also a leading player in the Australian organic agricultural movement, which has included a term as president of NASAA [Ref 16].



Photo Eleven: *David Holmgren slashing spring pasture growth at Hepburn Permaculture Gardens in spring 1992.*

Again the experience in designing, developing and managing our place informed writing at the time such as *Article Twelve - Lawns, Mowing and Mulch in Permaculture*.



Photo Twelve: *David Holmgren at Avdat Research Farm, Negev desert Israel.*

This photo by Michael Cowan shows part of the ancient Nabatean runoff irrigation systems, reconstructed and used by Michael Evenari and his team of researchers in the 1970's is shown in the photo. *Article Sixteen - Impressions of Israel: A Permaculture Perspective* includes reference to my "pilgrimage" to this site during my 6 month study and teaching tour of Israel and Europe in 1994.



Photo Thirteen: Prinzhöfte community North Germany 1994.

Lutz Wendeler (gesticulating centre) leading a tour of the permaculture teaching gardens at the Prinzhofte community, the venue for the 1994 European Permaculture Convergence, where I presented *Article Fifteen: Development Aid for the Industrialised North: Turning an Idea on its Head* or “*The Problem is the Solution*”. To the right of Lutz with hands on hips is Declan Kennedy, professor of architecture and facilitator of the spread of permaculture in Europe during the 1980’s, as well as one of the leading lights of the Global Ecovillage Network (Ref 15). At the far right, with hands in pockets, is Tony Anderson, architect and permaculture activist from Denmark, one of the organisers of the 4th International Permaculture Convergence in Copenhagen in 1993.



Photo Fourteen: Su Dennett, Haridas & Samantha Fairchild at Fryer’s Forest Sept 1996.

As partners and co-directors of Fryer’s Forest Research & Development, we were celebrating receiving the planning permit to proceed with the eco-village project (Ref 10) we had been working on since early ‘95.



Photo Fifteen: Fryer's Forest Open day October 1996.

Our first public gathering of interested people and prospective members at the community building site. *Article Twenty Four: Starting A Community: Some Early Lessons From Fryer's Forest* was written not long after.



Photo Sixteen: Stewart Hill and David Holmgren
Hepburn Permaculture Gardens autumn 1999.

Joy Finch, editor of *Green Connections* (Ref 11) took this photo at the time she introduced me to Stewart Hill (although I felt we had been colleagues for ages). As Chair of Social Ecology at University of Western Sydney, Stewart was able to combine his interests in personal health and social transformation with those in sustainable agriculture. About this time, he interviewed me as part of his research for *Ecological Pioneers: A Social History of Australian Ecological Thought & Action* (Ref 12) and gave me useful feedback on my articulation of permaculture principles in the manuscript of *Permaculture: Principles & Pathways Beyond Sustainability* (Ref 1) and wrote the forward for the book.



Photo Seventeen: David in recently thinned box forest regrowth, Fryers Forest ecovillage central Victoria 2001.

I have long advocated the ecological and productive benefits of thinning regrowth native forest expressed in *Article Nineteen - Hemp as a Wood Paper Pulp Substitute? Environmental Solution or Diversion from Sustainable Forestry* but this article was written at the same time I was first able to put those ideas into action in the late 90's. Sustainable native forest management continues to be developed at Fryer's Forest (Ref 10) where the twin challenges of the forest ecology and the social ecology of an evolving eco-village come together.



Photo Eighteen: Oliver(16) Su and David at Melliodora November 2002.

On the eve of the publication of *Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability*. In the following years Oliver managed the property on several occasions while Su and I were away promoting the book and teaching.



Photo Nineteen: Melbourne comedian and social activist Rod Quantock launching *Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability* on the Yarra River (for the begining of a journey around the world) during the Sustainable Living Festival Feb 2003.

The red haired woman in the foreground is Joy Finch editor of *Green Connections* magazine who published many of my articles in the 1990's. Seated on the wharf taking photos is Ian Lillington, permaculture co-teacher and editor of several of our publications including the first edition of *Collected Writings*. (see Book launch photo gallery on website.)



Photo Twenty: David getting the feel of weeding organic rice with traditional tools on organic farm in Kyushu Japan May 2004.

This month long study and teaching tour provided the material for *Article Thirty Seven - Permaculture In Japan: Foreign Idea or Indigenous Design*

(see Japan 04 Photo Gallery on website for more photographs)



Photo Twenty One: David and son Oliver (with chainsaw) thinning box eucalypt regrowth at Fryers Forest Jan 2005.

The experience at Fryers Forest further consolidated my ideas on sustainable forestry expressed in letters to the local papers *Articles Thirty Two* and *Forty Six* and my views about forests as more ecological and economic source of biofuels than agriculture in *Article Thirty Five - Biofuels from Sustainable Landuse: A permaculture perspective* and *Article Forty One - Firewood: Sustainable and Appropriate Energy Source*.



Photo Twenty Two: David, Cyrano Middleton and Tony Soccio raising the frame of a new building at Melliodora March 2005.

The timber was from Dwyers Sawmill, which was the subject of *Article Forty Six - Sawmills in the Energy Descent Future*. (see Melliodora photo gallery on website for more photos)



Photo Twenty Three: David and Richard Heinberg at Kinsale Ireland during the **Fueling the Future** conference (Ref. 25).

This meeting led to collaboration on a Australian speaking tour in Sept 2006 is most strongly reflected in *Permaculture as Relocalisation*, Article Forty Four.



Photo Twenty Four: David and Su (back left) and participants at Advanced Principles course held at Gudhorst Germany July 2005.

Declan Kennedy permaculture pioneer and leading teacher (now retired) front left. These courses allowed me to consolidate the focus on principles which I made in a keynote presentation (Article Forty Two) to the 7th International Permaculture Convergence in Croatia, shortly before in May 2005 (Ref 24). The permaculture principles card game was used as a final event on these two, three and four day courses (see Europe photo gallery on website).



Photo Nineteen: Su with Peter Bane and Keith Johnson at the office of the *Permaculture Activist*, Earthhaven eco-village North Carolina [Ref. 21].

Peter made one of the more in depth reviews of *Permaculture Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability* and the *Activist* published my review of *Invasion Biology* (Article Thirty Eight) (see North America photo gallery on website).



Photo Twenty Six: Graham Brookman of the Food Forest Gawler.

Permaculture co-teacher, organiser and facilitator of many of my South Australian public speaking events including the IFOAM address.



Photo Twenty Six: David presenting the keynote address (Article and presentation Forty Three) at the IFOAM conference in Adelaide SA in September 2005.



Photo Twenty Seven: David inspecting dying willow root mat in Jim Crow Creek after poisoning with herbicide by Catchment Management Authority.

This photo was part of the campaign we ran in late 2005 against so called Landcare activities in our area, See press release *Article Forty Five*. (see Spring Creek photo gallery on website.)



Photo Twenty Seven: *Su posing over a banner extolling some of the community and ecological benefits of willows.*

Part of a local street protest we organised. This focus on the positive aspects so called environmental weeds has stimulated some of the most extreme criticism of permaculture in general and especially my writings and action.