

Permaculture Materials for Refugees Workshop 23-29 October 2020

Against the background of covid-19

In March 2020 the face-to-face teaching with refugees in camps came to an abrupt stop and has not been able to be resumed. Members of P4R wanted to continue the project and decided to investigate the needs of host partners working in countries with refugees, for their advice. Our host organisations are also members of P4R and we were thrilled to meet them and they were unanimous that they wanted good materials and curriculum.

Ten of us met for four days and nights in a venue we had to ourselves, looking north over the rolling valleys of the mountains around Lawson. Sarah's partner Joris, a professional chef, delightedly cooked delicious meals for many of the days - and the snacks. We were unusually spoiled.



Who we were: Jed Walker, Rebecca Norton, Ruth Harvey, Sarah Boulle, Ivan Blacket, Thomas Kern, Kym Blechynden, Rowe Morrow, Rob Allsop, Greta Carroll,

It was a special occasion when met our overseas colleagues by zoom. Norani and Toni from Blue Ribbon in Malaysia, Sarah from Green Releaf in the Philippines and to receive a letter from Boniface in Bangladesh. Kat Lavers, and Morag Gamble called in with great support and advice from Melbourne and Brisbane. THANK YOU EVERYONE. These were highlights

Together, we are the P4R team for Asia-West Pacific region.

Our goals:

- Prepare templates of a range of permaculture materials which could be used in refugee situations and support local permaculture trainers.
- Design a workshop which others could copy for their situation.
- Record the workshop with outcomes

Please read Kym's report for all the interesting details of our week together.

Kym's report - <https://permacultureaustralia.org.au/permaculture-for-refugees/>



Timetable

Should anyone wish to repeat this workshop, here is the daily timetable:

Morning circle: See what participants need to say and. to orient towards the day's activities. Different people took facilitator roles and also with light activities to waken us up.

Briefing: A discussion topic such as: drawing for a global audience, or a lecture on cartooning.

Work time: People work individually or in groups to develop a topic and a method for developing materials.

LUNCH

After lunch: Scheduled a zoom meeting with a P4R member working with refugees in SEAsia. We reached Sarah in the Philippines, Morag working with Permiyouth mainly in Africa, and Norani and crew in Malaysia. We also had Kat Lavers beam in from Melbourne on presenting and learning with zoom.

Work time: Until dinner and then a presentation on progress during the day.

DINNER

Evening: Continue with work or we had two evening zooms.

Last evening: Presentations, what next, and a 'no talent' show



Funding and Accounts

1. Workshop costs

Budget \$5,000.00

Rowe Morrow has all receipts	
Bennets stationary	\$102.20
Lyttleton stores co-op	\$16.85
Todarellos greens	\$29.67
Woolworths	\$120.65
Katoomba Food Co-op \$525.39-\$250 Donation	\$275.39
Sub-TOTAL REIMBURSED to JED Walker	<u>544.76</u>
Luscious catering	360.00
Printing	25.00
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$ 929.76</u>
KIHILLA ACCOMMODATION 10 people 4 nights	\$3400.00
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$4329.76</u>

Remainder \$670.24

2. Thank you to Quakers in Victoria donated \$5,000.00 which was perfect for the workshop. For once there was no stress about money and it was a modest workshop ably funded. Thank you Quakers. Thank you Jed for doing the hard miles in negotiating the venue and food etc. Hominy,

the local famous organic bakery and our local good Co-op made significant donations which we ate with gratitude.

Proposal from the group

Divide the balance, \$670, between Lebanon Permaculture (if it is possible to contact them) and BASD in Bangladesh. Rowe Morrow has all receipts.

Evaluations

Everyone completed the evaluation for logistics and their experience of the workshop. They were also asked for their recommendations if the workshop were repeated.

Logistics: Participants were asked to rank these from 1 – 10.

Venue:	8.0
Food	9.5 Wonderful cook Joaa
Hours	9.0
Zooms	9.9 and face-to-face visitor Ian Dalkin on cartooning and creativity
Program	8.5

Experience of the workshop. Write open statements

"it worked out amazingly"

'great in almost every way"

'zoom calls to hosts in country were informal, helpful, inspiring"

"great to meet in person and make connections"

"need to continue the practical works"

"incredible experience to work with everyone"

"grateful and inspired"

"it's an important cause"

"fabulous model for for skills development and knowledge"

Remembering everyone was a volunteer, it is remarkable how committed and grateful they were for the workshop.

Recommendations if repeating the workshop

It would be useful to have:

- zoom calls beforehand to answer expectations
- longer time for the workshop - suggest one to two more days
- more discussion on the situation of refugees
- follow-up zoom calls
- set dates for completion of works
- selected references sent out beforehand
- set the scene better
- need a wish list
- include zoom calls with host organisations

Outputs

1. Rebecca, Ruth, Rob developed a complete [lesson on Waste](#), with cards and materials - based on Kat Lavers information. this model could be copied for for other permaculture units.
2. Sarah Boulle developed a [graphic guide to making good radio](#) broadcasts and podcasts - suitable for any camp or organisation wanting to develop permaculture lessons for radio.
3. Kym Blechynden is developing a set of [worksheets for Zones 0-5](#)
4. Rob Allsop demonstrated how his [drawings on key topics](#) can be enlarged and used as learning posters. The Water Cycle, Patterns, Succession, the Nitrogen Cycle and Ethics and Principles
5. Greta Carrol and Ivan Blacket presented a [draft graphic for Disasters](#).

What Next

1. Re-Alliance has offered \$US2,500.00 towards radio learning in camps. Host organisations in Greece, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Philippines have been approached to develop and evaluate a series radio broadcasts.
2. Printed materials will also be sent, and hosts asked to translate and trial them among their permaculture facilitators.
3. There is a need for more materials for different topics.
4. A taxonomy of ethical money strategies for communities from Thomas Kern, regions and globally based on the permaculture ethics needs to be put into graphic forms.

The group will meet again by zoom on November 23rd to discuss progress and next steps. Copies of the materials will be sent out globally after this meeting.

The materials will be sent to host organisations working with refugees for testing. Where these are successful, the materials will be released globally both to refugee settlements, organisations and to permaculturists working with marginalised people.

Rowe Morrow. November 4, 2020