



Growing Food and Landshare Initiative: Interested in growing food?

Transition Town: Kenmore District

Supporting
Sustainable
Community

As we face the future it is now being widely recognised that food supply/security is an issue to be recognised in the face of increasing world population, climatic change, peak oil and degradation of farmlands.

The Transition Town movement's approach to this is to relocalise as much food production as possible to limit the amount of kms food travels; educating people to eat local seasonal food; to use sustainable methods of building soil fertility i.e. no artificial or fossil fuel base fertilizers and reskilling our local communities in their ability to grow food.

Community gardens have become a welcome stepping stone for communities to reconnect with the joys of growing your own food and the homeowner can grow a surprising amount of food in a small area in their home garden, but if we are to seriously look at relocalising food supply we need to take it a step further.

Here in the Pullenvale Ward (from Kenmore/Chapel Hill through to Moggill) we are very fortunate to have a mixture of medium density housing through to peri-urban acreages. This diversity creates an opportunity for those without land, or land unsuitable for growing to match with landholders who do not have the time or resources to utilise their land. This synergy can result in a very productive and stronger community.

This idea of matching people keen to grow food to people with available land came to fruition in the U.K. Landshare was launched by KEO films in the UK in 2009 through the River Cottage TV program. The concept is simple: to connect people who wish to grow food with landowners willing to donate spare land for cultivation. Since then it has flourished into a national movement of more than 50,000 people, sharing more than 3,000 acres of land, with matches in every region of the UK.

This movement has been cited by the House of Lords, New Local Government Network, the international Wikinomics team and most recently – the Food Ethics Council – as changing the landscape in food accessibility and security.

TransitionTown: Kenmore District (which covers the Pullenvale Ward)

<http://transitionkenmoredistrict.blogspot.com> would like to engage with people interested in exploring the possibilities of

1. Landshare and setting up an online Landshare register
2. Co-ordinating people who are already growing food and have a surplus, no matter how big or small.
3. Co-operatively selling food through the local Moggill Markets in the first instance then onto a wider local food supply network.

Who should register interest?

- Anyone interested in growing food.
- Anyone with land they are happy for others to use with a written agreement as to the terms of that use.
- Gardening Mentors: people in the area who have experience in growing food and are willing to share that knowledge.

How to register interest:

- In the first instance email your interest to transitionkenmore@gmail.com
- or phone 0408 080 455.

After expressions of interest are received a community meeting will be held to initialize this very exciting paradigm breaking project.

We look forward to having your support for a more sustainable community

Carol Shantal:

Convenor: Transition Town: Kenmore District

transitionkenmore@gmail.com blog <http://transitionkenmoredistrict.blogspot.com/>