

# NORTHEY STREET CITY IMMERSION

5Th to 8th August 2013

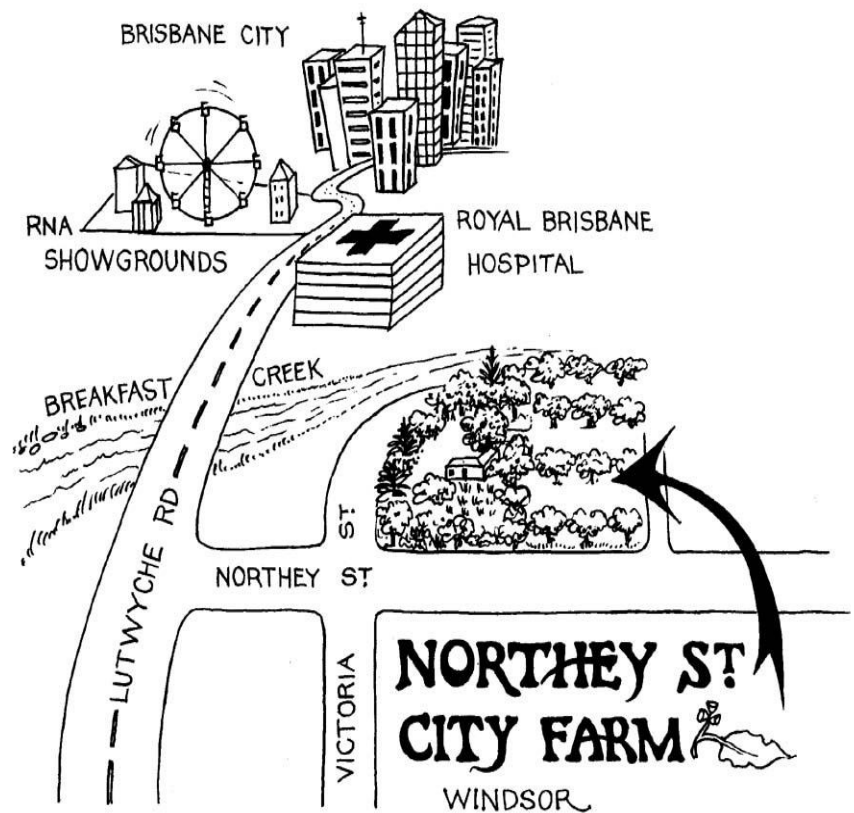
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Northey Street City Farm is a non-profit community organisation situated on the banks of Brisbane's Breakfast Creek in Windsor.

More than 1500 exotic and native fruit trees, bushtucker plants, shrubs and ground covers have been planted on the four hectare farm site since its inception in April 1994.

The farm has been developed for people to enjoy and participate in using the principles of permaculture. It is also intended to be a demonstration site where people of all ages can learn through practical, hands on experience.

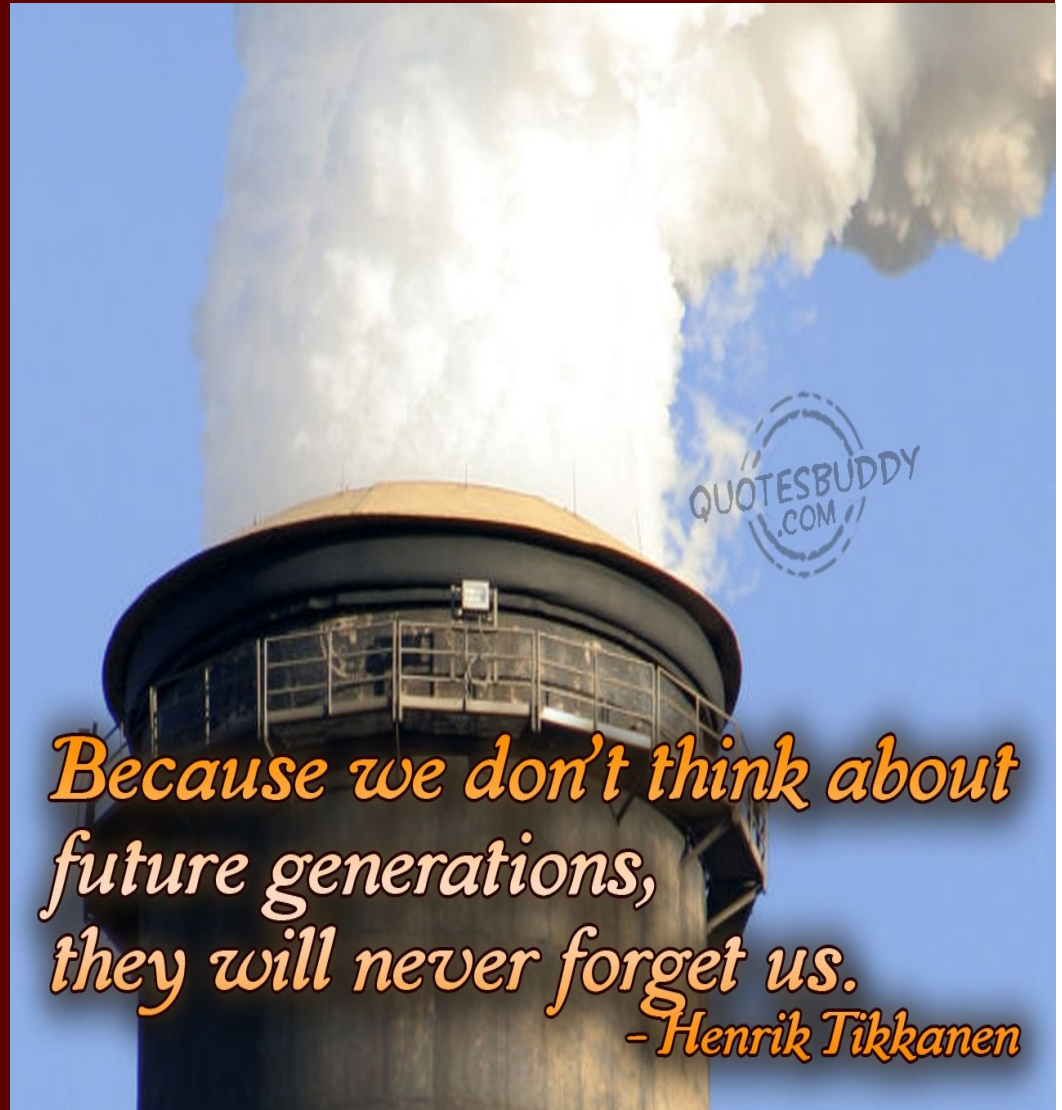


## “DO UNTO OTHERS WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO TO YOU”

The first day of the immersion arrived, and we were waiting for our buses. While waiting I went through my reflection journal and saw all this wonderful scripture that were there. But the scripture that struck me the most was from the from the Book of Luke. It said “DO UNTO OTHERS WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO TO YOU”. From there on I was on a mission, a mission to do unto others what I wanted them to do to me.

Our first stop was Meleny, in which we visited a permaculture village or property, called crystal waters. We where introduced to permaculture and other environmentally friendly concepts in crystal waters. We had a tour through the property, which lasted about 2 hours and 30 minutes. After the tour was over, I was very fascinated to see how people lived with nature and how they produce their own sources of food, water and electricity. They depend so much on the nature, yet they have a less effect on it than what usual city dwellers have on the environment , whilst trying to meet our everyday needs and wants. In crystal waters, I learnt a lot and I also want the general public to come to realize that we should live hand in hand with the environment. Taking what we need and also preserving the rest for the future generation.

Catholic tradition insist that we show respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. We are called to protect the planet, living our faith with all of God’s creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethic dimensions which cannot be ignored.



*Because we don't think about  
future generations,  
they will never forget us.  
- Henrik Tikkanen*

# Organic Greens, Herbs & Vegetables

Grown & Freshly Picked Today At

## Northey Street City Farm



Our Immersion, finally sprung into action, the next day which was on a Tuesday. When we went to Northey Street City Farm, there we met Scotty and Dick. Two top blocks, who have their own day jobs but, they come to the farm twice a week for the love of gardening and helping out the workers at the farm. All the workers at the farm are volunteers.

We also went as volunteers to help out on the great permaculture project that is being undertaken there. We planted several trees and other plants around the farm and also weeded, weeds when we needed to. After we spent 5 hours of working, we came back to the bus point and waited for our bus. Before the bus arrived, I started questioning myself, why are we doing this? From that point, the story of the Good Samaritan, popped in my head. Many good people don't realize that in our very own communities and societies people need help and are left stranded, like the Jewish man who was robbed. Like the priest and Levite, who passed him without realizing, many people in our societies, tend to think that everything is alright and seem to ignore, the hardships that are faced by people like Scotty and Dick.



### GOOD SAMARITAN

A Jewish man is robbed, beaten and left for dead on the side of the road. A priest and a Levite - Jews in good standing, pass him by. A third man who is a Samaritan, a group despised by Jews, gives aid to the man, saving his life.

## SOMETIMES WE TAKE TOO MUCH FROM THE NATURE AND FORGET TO GIVE BACK TO NATURE.

I was enjoying myself so much, that I forgot that I was just there to work for 3 days. The boys were excellent , we worked as a group, went in strong and came backed changed from the things that we experienced . People like Scotty and Dick, were so helpful towards us, I don't know what would have we , done without there great hospitality. They were so helpful, that sometimes, I felt like, I've always known them. The boys were awesome, new friendships were built and old ones were strengthened .It was Thursday, all the work in the farm was done. I think we helped them so much in a sense that, if we didn't go, it would take them a month to achieve, what we achieved as a group. Before we left, our good friends at the farm, organized a Barbeque, for us. While we were having the great food and beverages, Dick came up and talked to us. He said “ SOMETIMES WE TAKE TOO MUCH FROM NATURE AND FORGET TO GIVE BACK TO NATURE”. What Dick said, reflected what human kind is doing to the environment. I was so touched by what he said, and I started thinking of alternatives to help the environment in what way I could. The experienced was great, I learnt a lot and I wouldn't changed those 3 days for anything. I would like people to know that God,

wanted us to live in harmony with the environment, so be it.



### LUKE 4: 18

“The spirit of the Lord is on Me, to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favors.”

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Susan M . (2013). Ethics: Quick summary of the good samaritan story?. Available: <http://uk.answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20090308102628AAckg8b>. Last accessed 20th Aug 2013.