

Workshop 3C Deep Down Everyone Wants to be a Farmer by Chris Ennis.

- Growing “Green Crops” from wholesale market gardener. Now being sold through market at Ceres.
- Learning “just take the leap and do it” relationship of mentoring is vital to success.
- Social Enterprise :- propagation of organic seedlings, agreement of volunteering for a year, watch financial accounting, assist from Ceres with marketing and volunteers “learn how to grow”, now each staff paid 3 days full time a week.
 - : Never made a loss.
 - : Not a lot of capital or space.
 - : Not a lot of hard work, digging.
 - : Volunteers that own the business.
- Food swap/ urban orchard, people bring excess food to table and swap with produce, conversations are “How to cook” and “How to grow”. Hardest thing is getting people to “take” from the table.
- Beekeeping.
- Baking group.
- Seed savers network.
- Harvest festivals.
- Research on localized food mile study gets more attention than global research.
- Conferences and workshops.
- Migrant relationships, mushroom growing/catering. The hardest Social Enterprise that need constant re-investment i.e. childcare, not commercial cook/industry abilities offsetting profit by good social return.
- Food hub – aqua ponics, growing vegetables in a tunnel, all temporary structures (no council permission).
- Food co-op is now “Fair food”.
 - : Avoids internal problems with co-op’s, now internet based.
 - : Now employing those hard to employ.
 - : Buying direct from farmers now one of largest organic buyers in Victoria.
 - : Support for organic market power in Victoria.

Tradition: -

- Minimal planning, “Just got on and did it “and then it “became councils problem”. Better to say sorry than ask for permission.
- Big on making “work for the dole” schemes actually working for the people e.g. landscaping, irrigation, rendering. “Work for the Soul”
- Our place, our park.
- Accreditation for training, working out strong boundaries alongside responsibility and reward for building skill.
- About training, anything related to food/self sufficiency “complete urban farmer”.
- Volunteer programme “The Best Way to Learn”.
- Organic market is income generation weekly and now three times a week, now alongside craft market, also wholesale market.
- Food co-ops and local farmers markets.