

## POST Event Summary: SUSTAINABLE HOUSE DAY 2009 North Queensland Region

Nationally on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September **over 170 homes** opened their doors to promote sustainable living as part of Sustainable House Day 2009.

**Nine houses were opened in the North Queensland region**, five in Townsville and four on Magnetic Island.



**Key themes in North QLD** were: tropical design, retrofitting for energy efficiency, the wildlife benefits of urban biodiversity especially on the urban fringe and promoting involvement in Magnetic Island Solar Suburb Program.

Sustainable House Day in the North Queensland region was **hosted by NQ Dry Tropics** and **coordinated by ecoSAVVY**. Particular effort was contributed by Judy Warner (NQ Dry Tropics) and Sandy McCathie and Becky Hovey (both of ecoSAVVY).



The event was **coordinated nationally by Schmeco** and supported by a range of National Sponsors including the Australian Government – Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

**Local sponsors** were: **Queensland Country Credit Union**, the **Townsville: Queensland Solar City Project**, **Townsville City Council** and **Ingenta – Dune, Bushland Beach**.

**Nine sustainable homes were opened to the public** with the event involving **over fifty homeowners, sponsors and individual volunteers contributing their time** to prepare the houses and support visitors.

**The Homeowners were:** Nicole & Just Berkhout, Stuart & Jenny Tyler, Brian Schellback, Janet Dearden, Kylie & Simon Backler, Norm & Val Brice, John & Val Klug, Townsville City Council and the Townsville: Queensland Solar City Project.



**The Volunteers were:** Becky Hovey, Keith Rogers, Marissa Cameron, Peter Arthofer, Mark Hall, Neil Skinner, Corinna Ruhl, Jenny Brown, Adrian Goldsworthy, Judy Warner, Sandy McCathie, Brett King, Drew Morris, Elizabeth Zanetti, Amanda Laurie, Paul Wuth, Meredith Anderson, Jeremy Tranter, Sen Dip, Paula Buxton, Sam Girgenti, Mike Rubenach, Charmaine Girgenti, Brendon King, Shamara Wardell, Karen Hauser, Greg Bruce, Sri Suryati, Julie Heath, Rod Smith, Farley Jerinic, Rebecca Lee, Dylan Furnell, Kerry Young, Cameron Thomson and Peter Pattinson.



**Essential promotional support** was received from: Magnetic Times, Townsville Bulletin, Townsville Sun, CityLife Magazine, ABC Radio, 4TO FM, SBS, WIN and Channel 7, as well as government, industry and community organisations who forwarded SHD 2009 information onto their members and databases.

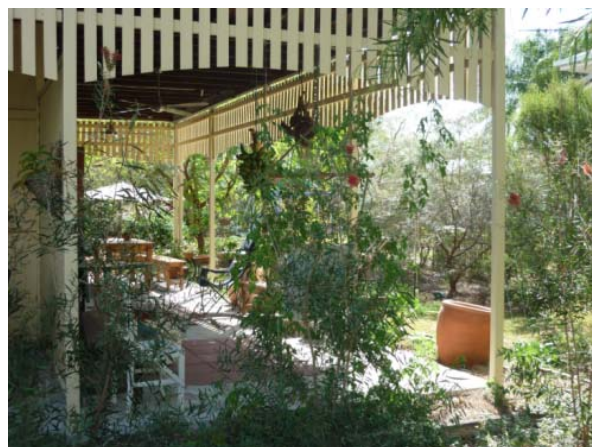


**Attendances** in the North Queensland region experienced **a massive (2-3 fold) increase in community interest** over any previous years.

**Many of the mainland houses each experienced around 350 visitors! Whilst homes on Maggie Island each had approximately 50 visitors.**

*It is estimated that there were around 800 unique visitors to the sustainable homes in the North Queensland region with an incredible 1900 house visits in the region in total (ie almost 1700 on Townsville (mainland) and just over 200 on Magnetic Island) during the 6 hour open house period on Sustainable House Day!*

*...Cars reportedly filled the streets outside of the houses, people were queuing to get into the homes and the volunteers were overwhelmed! ...Visitors were inspired and appreciative of the opportunity to see these lovely homes. ...And even at the end of the day, the homeowners who had opened their home to the public were abuzz with the energy and hope that the day had inspired.*



**Thankyou ALL for your contribution to making SHD 2009 a huge success!**

*And here's to a future where increasing numbers of North Queenslanders have tropically designed and energy efficient, sustainable homes and lifestyles.*

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