



RELAXING RETREAT: Mango Hill Farm at Peachester.

Photo: Vicki Wood/c12554d

Love at first sight impressions last

By CATH FOURACRE

AS Elenne Ford put it, it was "love at first sight", when she first saw the dairy farms at Peachester at Christmas 2002.

That love for 12 acres, encompassing some of the greenest pastures, richest red soil and exhilarating views, has developed since 2002 into the special Mango Hill Farm with farmstays, a function centre to cater for 70 people, a cooking school, farm tours and organic produce for sale.

As we (my team and I) head towards Peachester and the Mango Hill Farm on Commissioners Flat Road, we quickly chill out, breathing in the fresh air after the rains, revelling in the blue skies above and enjoying the picturesque Peachester farming landscape of lines of mango trees intermingled with contented cows.

Elenne will take us on a tour of the farm and its features.

Overhead, the sounds of birds' song splits the air.

The property features Dovecote Cottage, an 100-year-old cottage, which looks out over the green lawns and gardens to the creek below. The house is in symmetry with the land and has been lovingly restored. The home features 12 foot ceilings, fretwork, timber floors and French doors out to the timber decks. Four adults can be accommodated in this beautifully restored homestead in two queen-sized bedrooms.

The kitchen and comfy lounge room take you back to the turn of the century, but nothing is missed



GREEN THUMB: Mango Hill Farm owner Elenne Ford in her organic garden. Photo: Vicki Wood/c12554b



FARM STAY: Elenne Ford relaxes in a hammock.

Photo: Vicki Wood/c12554c

in ensuring that the guests' happiness is assured. Take time to settle yourself in the great hammock on the deck while sipping afternoon tea.

Other accommodation on the property includes a farmhouse, in an idyllic setting close to the creek which can accommodate six people in two queen-sized bedrooms and two single bedrooms - they (the bedrooms) are designed to fan out from the wonderful country comfort lounge and kitchen with its slate floor tiles and timber cupboards

You can wander at will through the gardens down to the creek and take a tour through the rainforest adjacent to the creek. Look out for frogmouths, wood ducks

and see the ancient cycads hugging the ground.

There you may sight a koala, or catch the ripples on the water where the platypus play and listen to the different bird calls. Bush turkeys can be seen. The creek is home to ducks and geese which have a special refuge box to protect them at night from foxes

Elenne said there are also water rats with little white tops on their tails.

She points to one end of the creek where a flash of azure blue will alert you to the fact that an Azure kingfisher calls this creek home.

This is a paradise away from home.

The farm also grows ginger and turmeric and in its conference centre can process these products for sale along with dried mango and liquorice. It keeps two alpacas Pancho and Buccaneer and contented chooks.

Drop into the produce garden right next door to the entry where everything is organically produced. Sniff the air filling your nostrils with the fragrance of lavender, lemon myrtle and jasmine. Spearmint, thyme and peppermint vie for space in the garden which is cultivated with chook poo, three generations in the making - three generations of chooks use the ground to forage around and create the chook poo which is mixed with sawdust and produces a wonderful array of organic vegetables and herbs. Cauliflower, silver beet, broccoli are surrounded by a riot of colour with nasturtiums to keep away the pests.

The colours of the farm are jacaranda and mango yellow and those colours are reflected in the choice of flowering trees such as two beautiful tibouchinas.

You can book tours of the farm or learn how to cook on site with award-winning chef Oskar using fresh ingredients from the garden. You can hold your conferences there or just bring your friends and family up to enjoy a night or two in the farmhouse away from the hustle and bustle. There are a variety of tours to enjoy - farm tour, lunch tour, Devonshire tea tour and gourmet desserts tour. Take your pick.

By the way, Elenne tells me that Oskar makes a linguini to die for, with lemon myrtle as one of the ingredients. I am going back there soon.

Public Notice

Caboolture-Bribie Island Road Future upgrade through Ningi

The Department of Main Roads has engaged engineering consulting firm GHD to undertake design work for the future upgrade of the existing Caboolture-Bribie Island Road through Ningi.

The significant growth in tourism, residential and commercial development in this region over the last decade has resulted in an increase in traffic using the Caboolture-Bribie Island Road.

Design work will identify the best option for the future upgrade of the existing Caboolture-Bribie Island Road through Ningi, from Bestmann Road West to east of the dump access and from Kal-ma-kuta Drive to the Pumicestone Channel. The design will aim to minimise the impact on existing properties along the road, as well as existing vegetation, wildlife and waterways.

Benefits of the proposed upgrade include:

- a reduction in traffic congestion and delays
- improved safety for all road users, including motorists, pedestrians and cyclists
- safer access to residential properties
- improved road drainage facilities.

The project team will consult with key stakeholders including directly affected residents and businesses along the road corridor to gather feedback on important local issues.

Main Roads expects design work will be finished in mid 2009.

For more information about this project, please contact the project team on:

Phone: 1800 650 229 (freecall within Australia)

Email: ningi@ghd.com.au

Post: Caboolture-Bribie Island Road Future Upgrade - Ningi

GHD Stakeholder consultation

PO Box 1540

Buddina Qld 4575

Visit: www.mainroads.qld.gov.au

TMP Q023922

Main Roads - Connecting Queensland



Queensland Government
Main Roads

SALE SALE SALE

<p>02 FORD FALCON BA UTE 6 Cylinder auto, power steering, central locking, air cond, tint, alloy tray, ladder racks</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$61pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$12,990</p>	<p>04 HOLDEN COMMODORE VZ EXECUTIVE 6 Cylinder auto, power windows, power steering, central locking, air cond, cruise control, log books, ABS, tint, low kms, CD player</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$53pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$11,990</p>
<p>02 TOYOTA HILUX DUAL CAB V6 3.4 Litre 4x4 6 Cylinder, manual, power steering, air cond, tint, ex.condition, tonneau cover, metallic paint</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$75pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$16,990</p>	<p>03 HOLDEN RODEO 4x2 Alloy Tray, 6 cylinder manual, power steering, central locking, air cond, tint, alloy, low kms, ex.cond, CD player</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$59pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$10,990</p>
<p>03 FORD FALCON BA XT SEDAN 6 cylinder auto, power windows, power steering, central locking, air cond, cruise control, log books, ABS, tint, alloy, low kms, ex.cond, CD player</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$43pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$9,990</p>	<p>NISSAN PATROL TURBO DIESEL 4x4 5 Speed manual, power steering, alloy wheels, central locking, tint, CD player, big bullbar, 7 seater</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$73pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$14,990</p>
<p>00 HOLDEN COMMODORE EXECUTIVE Two to choose from...6 cylinder, power steering, alloy wheels, central locking, air cond, tint, low kms</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$53pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">From \$6,490</p>	<p>00 MITSUBISHI PAJERO NM 4WD 6 Cylinder manual, dual airbags, power steering, alloy wheels, central locking, air cond, cruise control, log books, ABS, tint, low kms, ex.cond</p> <p style="text-align: right; color: white;">\$73pw</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: white; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$14,990</p>

03 FAIRMONT GHIA silver in colour **\$12,990**

97 FALCON XR6 Tickford, blue, 5 sp **\$7,990**

02 HOLDEN Barina factory black, low kms **\$8,990**

97 TOYOTA Camry, auto, air cond, white **\$6,990**

02 HYUNDAI Elantra GLS 5 sp **\$7,990**

FORD PROBE auto, blue **\$5,990**

HOLDEN VX Wagon, auto, air cond, power steer **\$8,500**

97 TOYOTA RAV 4 5 sp, air cond, power steer **\$8,990**

99 HOLDEN Rodeo 4x4 Dual Cab, blue **\$10,990**

00 MAZDA 323 Protégé, 5 sp, air cond, power steer, mag wheels, big exhaust, neon lights, big stereo **\$10,990**

ADVENTURE OUTDOORS

14 Station Rd, Morayfield (Opp. Caboolture Sports Club)

PH: 5497 9544 A/H: 0415888291

(* The weekly repayments are based on a consumer loan for 5 years at an interest rate of 14.95% with 20% deposit to approved purchasers. Free & Gov't charges apply T.A.P.I)