

“On behalf of my family and team, we wish you and your family a wonderful safe Christmas and New year.”

John Barilaro



The office will close on Dec 22nd and re-open on Jan 9th.

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THE NATIONALS for Regional NSW

TO MARKET TO MARKET

taken our passions and turned them into something we can sell.

Martin mentioned the seedlings, so for the market garden we have built the poly house where we seed our own seedlings that are cold climate tolerant. We found that there is a market for cold-climate and drought-tolerant seedlings, so it began with us seeding for ourselves to grow our own food and it turned into something where our seedlings are now for sale through Provisions, the deli and grocery in town. We also do vegetable seedlings,

Honey began as a passion for Martin but turned into something where we now have saleable products. I studied Chinese medicine years ago so I have a background of herbal healing. I took the by-product of the beeswax and turned that into something that, again, was a passion of mine, so it's almost like, we have come together, and Tiandi has become a conglomeration of our passions.

Martin, having been a teacher over the years has been able to take his passion for growing and turn that into teaching. We have students that come from France for three months each winter, so he has been able to couple his passion for teaching with that of growing and pass that knowledge on. So by continually falling over we have worked out how you can take a relatively small piece of land and make it sustainable — or as sustainable as you possibly can. We've taken our passions for things that we love and, by using those passions, to maintain some kind of sustainable living. You can also earn a little bit of money from that, contribute to the community and put out some beautiful food and become part of the bigger picture. That brings me, and I think Martin as well, a happiness and a contentedness that I don't think money can buy.

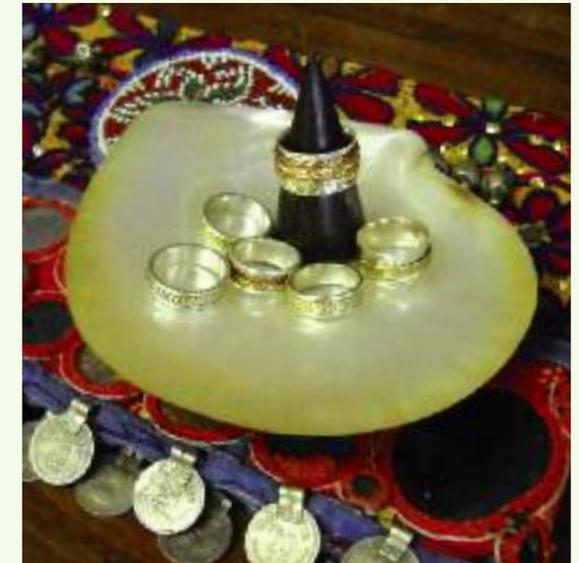
Martin: Yes. What we do doesn't bring in tens of thousands of dollars but if it just breaks even and pays the bills, that's good enough for us because with the surplus we have for ourselves, everything else is just a bonus. It's amazing what you can do from an intensively farmed piece of land. I'll just hazard a guess and say last year easily we had half a ton of tomatoes, a hundred kilos of sweet corn, hundreds of kilos of pumpkins, of beans, and that's just from a quarter acre market garden.

So it shows you what can be achieved.



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