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## WORK OR STUDY REMOTELY WHILE WWOOFING

Online learning and working remotely are becoming the new normal in the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic. And a growing number of WWOOF hosts are opening their doors to long-term WWOOFers who can do online study or remote work during their free time.

This offers great new opportunities for WWOOFers who are looking for an enduring, safe-haven, allowing them to settle in and complete their study or work in any State, Australia wide. WWOOFers can filter host searches to easily find these hosts on a list or map search.

Student life suddenly looks vastly different. Many colleges and universities are now offering opportunities for students to complete their coursework online.

WWOOFers learn to grow organic food and connect with some amazing people while living on an organic farm, volunteering four to six hours each day and studying in their spare time. All meals and accommodation are provided by hosts in exchange for their help, making this a fantastic way to stretch the budget while studying.

Like students, many digital nomads are now also working remotely — anywhere they can access the internet and phone. WWOOFing is an excellent way to take work on the road and learn new skills on a farm while completing their work in their free time. With wi-fi internet or mobile phone coverage, and good prior communication with hosts, remote working on a WWOOF host farm can be an incredible experience.

The perfect balance to working remotely on a computer is spending the rest of the day with your hands in the soil! Helping an organic farmer while working remotely can be a mutually beneficial relationship that can lead to learning new skills and developing lifelong connections.

## ASHES TO ASHES, DUST TO ... COMPOST?

In Australia, interment in a cemetery or a churchyard has been the most common choice for in-ground burial. Over the past 20 years, though, burial has become a less accessible and more costly option for many people. This is because increasing numbers of deaths have created a boom in demand for burial plots and cemeteries are fast running out of space.

Since the 1950s, cremation has gained in popularity. But, although a majority of Australians who died last year were cremated, it is far from sustainable. Each cremation releases about 50 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> as well as toxins into the atmosphere. The Australian way of dealing with death clearly needs to change, but arriving at solutions is a far more complicated matter.

Some people believe composting burial might provide one answer. Also known as 'natural organic reduction', composting burial is the brainchild of