

Issue 127 | Spring 2016



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“Our vision is an abundant world in which we care for the earth, each other and future generations, whilst living within nature’s limits.”

Board of Trustees: James Piers Taylor (chair) Philip Blandford (treasurer), Viv Chamberlin-Kidd, Kim Glick, Sandy James, Graham Wood.

The Permaculture Association would like to thank: enCircle, Chris Penrose, Silvio Volkmann, Lachlan McKenzie, Emily Gray, James Pullein, Kate Ambrose, all our new members and renewers, Ambassadors, and working group members.

Newsletter: Ryan Sandford-Blackburn, Richard Honey at dg3 design with thanks to all contributors.

We invite contributions from members. It’s your material that gives life to these pages, so please keep your articles and news coming. Please send contributions for the next issue by 17 May for publication June 2016.

Small print: The views expressed within this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Permaculture Association. Opportunities and courses are listed for your information, so please check with the appropriate venue to verify any details. We don’t take responsibility for any courses listed herein.

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Cover photo: Pete of Hyde Park Source, one of the participants in our KEEP project. Learn more on page 9.

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Letter from the Coordinator

Andy Goldring, Coordinator / CEO

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Welcome to the Spring issue of Permaculture Works. The back page is dedicated to the permaculture principle of Use and Value Diversity, an important principle that we use at the Association.

For example, we value the diversity of identities within Britain. It’s wonderful to see both Permaculture Scotland and Permaculture Wales thriving (time for Permaculture

England?) with gatherings, projects and a host of other activities planned for this year. One area we need to pay more attention to is ethnic diversity, which is growing, but still not really representative of the diversity of people in Britain. Can you help us get better?

We value the diversity of ways in which people learn. Alongside supporting teachers to deliver traditional courses, we help people visit and volunteer at projects through the LAND network; we are working with Oregon State University to develop an introductory Massive Open Online Course to stimulate new interest; and we have a European project to look at Children in Permaculture (see page 22).

We value financial stability and are adding to our already diverse income streams this year to ensure that we can thrive into the future. We want you to thrive too, so if you have a permaculture enterprise we’d love to hear from you, so that we can learn how to create great permaculture businesses, and help more people start one. (See page 9 and the KEEP project).

Diversity also has a downside. Too much diversity can make things hard to manage, reduce yields and increase the amount of work needed to run the system. So alongside the new things, we’ll be pruning some things out, and getting more focussed on what we do best. We will be asking for your opinions and ideas about what we do well, and how we can better meet your permaculture needs. In short, it is another year of learning, sharing, developing and tweaking, to see how we can best serve this wonderful permaculture community. If you can help, please do get in touch.

Andy Goldring

Join the conversation

twitter: @permaculture_uk

facebook: facebook.com/permacultureassociation

Find a list of all websites referenced in this issue at <http://s.coop/worksspring2016>

Network news

New community orchard at Big Park, Peacehaven, Brighton

Work has started planting a 100-apple tree community orchard at Peacehaven with Brighton Permaculture Trust. Last winter, a shelter belt containing over 2000 trees and shrubs of 33 species was planted. These included fast-growing species such as Italian alder and Monterey pine; native trees like oak and beech; nut-bearing species such as walnut and chestnut; and fruiting species like cherry plum and crab apple. This winter, 60 apple trees have been planted, focusing on tougher varieties, since the site is quite exposed. Over the next few years, the orchard will be completed with one or two examples of each of the Sussex apple varieties.

You can sign up to the volunteer list to receive information on planting days <http://bigparksproject.org.uk>.

Red Pig Farm starting first full year

Red Pig Farm is 70 acres of woodland close to the town of Llandeilo, just west of the Brecon Beacons. As well as renovating and building the infrastructure, the group are carefully proceeding with the woodland management plan, which includes a tree and plant nursery, large scale mushroom cultivation and areas for horticulture and livestock. On a slow burn is the Black Mountain food hub. Courses for the upcoming season are listed online: www.agroecology.co.uk



Tap O'North cows

Tap O'North news

In August last year we took on two rare breed Shetland heifers, one in calf, with the aim to produce the dairy needs of our 8 acre croft in Aberdeenshire. They have now happily grazed our abundant pastures and woodlands, cycling grass and tree forage into much prized manure that we will use to make compost for our future CSA market garden. The Shetland cow was referred to as the 'crofter's cow' due to the close relationship with the small farmer, providing all the crofts needs of food and fertility.

Our herd is due to expand in the spring with the birth of our the first calf - roll on Tap o' Noth dairy! You can meet the cows by visiting the croft for a guided tour, by volunteering with us or by attending one of our future courses. Visit our website for more info: www.pri-tap.com

London grows at Glengall Wharf Gardens and other hubs

A new partnership has been launched by Sustain - London Grows. One of the hubs will be Permaculture Association group members Glengall Wharf Gardens

North East of England Convergence

The first north east convergence is in the planning, with the event taking place this summer. July 30 at Scotswood Natural Community Garden, Newcastle. More details to follow soon:

www.permaculture.org.uk/events

People centred design

Looby Macnamara, author of People and Permaculture and 7 ways to think differently, is starting her new writing project. She will be further exploring the Design Web which featured in People and Permaculture. She is looking for stories of how people have used the design web - what have they designed, what design tools did they use, what were the successes and challenges and what impacts have the designs had. If you have used the design web please get in contact with her to share your story. Follow this link to the survey:

<http://goo.gl/forms/3LeMsMV2ae>

or follow the link on Looby's blog

www.loobymacnamara.com

Looby will be running a course focusing on the design web after the European Convergence in Italy in September, and a People and Permaculture Facilitator's Training with a year long programme starting in November. See www.thrivingways.org for more details.



Looby Macnamara



The Inkpot field shelter

Building a field shelter at The Inkpot

You can join Hannah Thorogood and team at the Inkpot in April to learn about cob construction. Between X and Y there will be a concerted collective effort to finish the field shelter - a multi functional space that sits at the centre of the 18 acre site. Find out more and see the range of events and courses on offer in 2016:

www.the-inkpot.com

Campaign launched to save Steward Community Wood

The off-grid woodland community on the edge of Dartmoor, Devon is facing eviction after 16 years of low-impact existence. Living in the woods is essential for the project to continue, and they do so in ecological dwellings utilising renewable sources of energy. The community and project meets the criteria of Dartmoor National Park Agency (DNPA) policies, along with the National Planning Policy Framework.

They need to raise £38,000 to cover the costs of mounting an effective legal appeal against the decision to deny permanent planning permission. Over £9,200 was raised in the first four days. You can help by donating, spreading the word, and sending your messages of enthusiasm to the community. Details at www.indiegogo.com/projects/save-steward-wood

Association news

Member discount – Green Gathering, Wales

The festival beyond hedonism powered by wind, sun and people is back. This year's Green Gathering takes place 4–7 August 2016. As ever, our friends at Green Gathering would like to offer members of the Permaculture Association a discount on tickets.

Get £10 discount until June 30 using the code PEAS16 – visit www.greengathering.org.uk/affinity-tickets to use your code.

Welcome to new staff members

In the three months since the last newsletter we have welcomed two new members to the staff team. **Lusi Alderslowe** joins us as the Children in Permaculture Coordinator, and will be working over the next three years with six partners across Europe to collate and develop new resources for children and schools.

Dan Hurring joins us as the new Events Coordinator bringing a wealth of experience from organising the Sunrise and Off-grid festivals and last year's International Transition Conference. Dan will be delivering our regular events (Convergence, AGM, National Diploma Gathering) as well as developing an exciting new events programme to help us reach new audiences.

Lusi lives in Gatehouse of Fleet, Scotland, and Dan in Somerset, so we now have five out of eleven staff working remotely. Much more from both of them in coming issues of the newsletter.

Convergence 2016

We are excited to announce details of this year's national convergence. It will take place from the afternoon of Friday 2 – afternoon of Sunday 4 September 2016.

We will be revisiting the Nell Bank Centre in Ilkley for a third time - it combines dormitory accommodation for seventy people with plenty of camping. There will be great eating and workshop facilities, in a beautiful woodland setting, with a train station close by.

Full details and prices will be announced shortly on the website, alongside how to offer workshops and practical sessions, and how to volunteer.

www.permaculture.org.uk/convergence-2016



Permaculture Convergence © Dana Wilson



Ecolise General Assembly attendees

Ecolise – community led change

The Permaculture Association is a founding member of Ecolise - a 'meta-network' that brings together permaculture, eco-village, transition and other initiatives working on community led action on climate change and sustainability.

Andy Goldring has just returned from the General Assembly in Rotterdam and is pleased to report that Ecolise is progressing well. It now has 37 members and is working to identify common projects and opportunities to share and create skills and knowledge. This will help us to progress our work, and create a stronger collective voice.

“It was really exciting to experience the growing collaboration between these networks. I met people from across Europe working on very similar projects to the ones we do in permaculture, and made some really useful links. I think this is going to have a positive impact on our networks and will hopefully enable us to engage more people across Europe in positive action on sustainability.”

Board seeks new recruits

We've had a bit of a run of bad luck, with a number of trustees having to step down for a range of personal reasons over the last few months. We currently have six trustees - four men and two women - with one planning to step down at the AGM. This would mean having just one woman on the board.

We have always prided ourselves on having excellent gender balance on the board and so we are keen to encourage some new women (and members from the LGBT+ community too) to get in touch and find out more about becoming a board member. It's highly rewarding, and training is available if you haven't been on a board before.

Get in touch and come and meet us at a meeting before the AGM. Email trustees@permaculture.org.uk for more info.

Research update

by Chris Warburton-Brown

Our direction in 2016

A new year brings a new Research Strategy, and just before Christmas we agreed the aims, objectives and outputs for the research team in 2016.

These include:

- Securing long term funding for the Research Coordinator post,
- launching a peer reviewed international permaculture journal (see below),
- partnering in a big European research project,
- undertaking research on permaculture enterprise in the UK (see below),
- recruiting new volunteers and interns,
- and continuing to build the Permaculture International Research Network.

All this while also keeping up the day to day work of supporting and coordinating permaculture research work in the UK and internationally. This is a pretty full programme to deliver in just three paid days a week! To succeed, I am going to need to secure long term financial resources and continue to rely on brilliant volunteers and interns.

The reason for the increasing workload is the growth of interest in permaculture research. A lot of this is down to the legacy of the international permaculture conference last year. The rest due to the growing recognition of the value of permaculture in the academic mainstream. The Permaculture Association is increasingly recognised as one of the leading organisations for permaculture research not just in the UK but in the world.

Promoting permaculture research in print

I spent time working on two published outputs from the International Permaculture Conference (IPC) last September; co-editing a special issue of the American magazine Permaculture Design which was published at the start of February, and writing an article on permaculture soil for a special issue of Reclaiming Citizenship and Diversity, which will be published in the spring by Coventry University.

Another exciting idea that emerged from the conference was a peer reviewed international permaculture research journal, provisionally titled Permaculture Research.

I have been working closely with Maddy Harland at Permanent Publications to explore the feasibility of this and write a business plan. We are hoping to publish the first issue in the summer. You can comment on our ideas by completing the survey at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/gVCFSPJ

For those interested in reading more published permaculture research, the Permaculture Research Digest continues to thrive, with over 30,000 page views in 2015. We are posting around twenty items every month, all hyperlinked to the original sources permaculture-research.blogspot.co.uk

Membership of the Permaculture International Research Network is free and open to anyone. Join on the new website pirn.permaculture.org.uk

Knowledge Exchange on Enterprise in Permaculture (KEEP)

January saw the launch of this new research project, in partnership with Kingston University. The project is exploring the extent and nature of permaculture inspired enterprise and business in the UK.

We will be talking to permaculture entrepreneurs and using what they tell us to create resources for those who would like to start a permaculture business, including a full day workshop and an online Permaculture Entrepreneurs Guide.

We will be presenting some of our findings at the National Diploma Gathering in May, the London Permaculture Festival in July, and the National Convergence in September.

If you run a permaculture inspired enterprise, please take a few minutes to complete our survey:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W9258JV

Goodbye to Silvio, and hello to Ilaria and Hyeone

For the last six months it has been our great pleasure to host Silvio Volkmann from Berlin as our international intern. He has been working to support the emerging Forest Food International Research Network (FFIRN) and to write the half way report on our ten year Forest Garden Research Trial. He has done a great job and we will miss him.

Silvio's replacement is Ilaria Noio from Naples who will be helping build the Permaculture International Research Network, and its six new sub groups. If you would like to join a sub group, sign up online. Hyeone Park will also be joining the research team, working one day a week on FFIRN from her home on Vancouver Island, Canada.



Pete of Hyde Park Source, one of the participants in our KEEP project

Education



At the tree nursery at Ghana Permaculture Institute

New Policy

From July 1st 2016 there will be a Certifying Teachers' Register. There will be two main routes to registration: certificated and non-certificated.

The certificated route requires teachers to hold a Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design and a basic teaching qualification. The non-certificated route requires that the teacher can demonstrate a degree of subject and teaching knowledge & experience (details can be found in the policy on the website).

Teachers who have been teaching for many years but do not meet these criteria will be eligible for 'grandparent rights' until July 1st 2018. Many thanks to the Education Working Group for their hard work developing this policy.

Want to learn about permaculture?

Check the course listings on the website: www.permaculture.org.uk/courses.

No permaculture courses near you? Why not organise one? Get in touch and we can provide an organiser's guide and connect you with a teacher to lead the course.

Email learn@permaculture.org.uk

Educators' network development

Until 2015 we charged £3 for PDC certificates. £2 of this was donated to support international permaculture courses. We recently sent a substantial donation to the Ghana Permaculture Institute, who are building a demonstration site and education centre. To find out more about this project, go to www.soned.de/donate-for-ghana

In 2015 we raised the price of certificates to £5 and started using all the revenue to fund UK education support activities more sustainably. At current sales volumes this pays a dedicated education worker for two days per month.

This represents a new opportunity to think about how the Association can better support members' education activities, deliver value and enable teachers to shape the network. Over the next few months we'll be asking for your input, so keep an eye out for more communication.

Having an education worker helps support foreign projects indirectly, for example by networking and connecting people in other countries. In the long term, we hope to generate enough surplus to restart donations to overseas projects.

Permaculture diploma

There are many accreditations planned over the coming months, at the National Diploma Gathering in Bristol and other events. Congratulations to those of you nearly at that stage. Please let us know details of your accreditation with a photo or two.

Don't forget designs needn't be 'written up' sat at a computer. If you are struggling, this poem excerpt from Diploma apprentice Helen White might inspire you! Other advice for writing up designs can be found in the Diploma Handbook.

Preserving Produce

I grow a lot of soft fruit and I've always made some jam

To eat myself, but mostly to give friends, that's who I am

And so I thought I'd a plan of how to do lots more

To learn new skills and use more food from hedgerows and woodland floor

*I decided to use SADIM for the overall design
With lots of time evaluating each production line
I'll use an iterative cycle for my designs
And try different ways of making things til it's all fine*

I applied all the 3 ethics, Earth Care's using what I've got

That I can grow and pick and gather and recycle a lot

Fair Share's giving away lots of produce that I've made

And checking other purchases, using sugar that's Fairtrade

People care's much the same, I also thought I'd show

The neighbours how to make jam to make use of what they grow.

National Diploma Gathering

30 April-1 May 2016
St Werburgh's Centre
Bristol

Book your place now
www.permaculture.org.uk/diploma-gathering-2016




Workshops, inspiring accreditations, tutorials, & sharing design work.

Individual member spotlight

Benjamin L. Vidmar

My name is Benjamin L. Vidmar, and I have been living in the “northern most” city in the world for the last seven years. I was born in Cleveland, Ohio in the USA, and wanted to travel the world.

When I graduated from high school in 1996, I wanted to travel to Africa, but my African friends did not recommend it. They suggested I travel to Malaysia instead, and they had many friends there that I could meet as well.

I first came in touch with permaculture when I finally came back from Malaysia in 1998. I had been reading many things about permaculture, but I did not have the courage at the time to do it myself. I would only dream about it, and would always dream about taking a course in Brazil. However, I just was too busy with my job to ever follow the dream.

I just did not see how things would be different, so that is why things never changed for me until I finally embraced it and took a chance. Permaculture is important for me because it offers the tools necessary to correct many of the mistakes and problems we are dealing with presently. I hope to gain perspective and understanding from being part of the permaculture network. I also hope to offer my experience and learn from the experience of others in the network.

I am also part of the Norwegian Permaculture Association. I feel that to do permaculture well, I need to put myself around as many other people doing permaculture. We are presently working on polar permaculture and are



Benjamin working on polar permaculture



looking to grow local food near the north pole in the “northern most” town of Longyearbyen. Please feel free to learn more about our project:

<http://polarpermaculture.com>

Group member spotlight

Greave House Farm Trust

Greave House Farm Trust in north Sheffield is a Care Farm providing supported activities to vulnerable adults and also involves volunteers to develop the many and varied projects taking place. These range from building a solar kiln, developing a “no dig” market garden, planting an orchard and running a community apiary.

Chris spent over 5 years renovating a derelict barn into their two family homes while they all shared the original farmhouse. Most people involved in the renovation were inexperienced volunteers who learnt on the job. This was seen as an important process and part of the Care Farm ethos, to support people to move on in their lives. Rather than it being just a construction task. There was an ex-soldier suffering post traumatic stress disorder, rehabilitating drug users, a young man with mental health issues and another with a mild learning disability. The work was completed in 2014 and since then their homes have

been open to the public as part of Sheffield Green Open Homes to show various sustainable building techniques.

The farmhouse is now rented by Graham who volunteers as horticultural worker.

He developed the “no dig” market garden and co-ordinates

the Christmas tree hire scheme, and has also started mushroom growing. The farmhouse also provides accommodation for WWOOF volunteers and used as a base for courses.

Barbara would like to develop the Permaculture network around Sheffield and East Peak as part of her Permaculture Diploma. Anyone interested in making contact can email her at greavehouse@yahoo.co.uk.



Barbara Bristow completed her PDC in 2006 – a year before she bought the farm along with her husband Chris and friends Ruth and Paul Smith. It was important to develop the Care Farm organically, as and when people came along to get involved and bring their particular skills and interests.

Permaculture design and principles play a big part in how decisions are made and projects carried forward. The farm has also played host to two Permaculture Design Courses and also diploma student weekends, where students spent time designing areas of the farm.



Photos: Left, the market garden in production. Below, volunteers painting the pig house.

Outside composting toilet

Hannah Mole grew up on an Organic Farm in County Roscommon where she now again lives & experiments. Here, she shares how she implemented one of her very early designs

Introduction

The need was identified for this design by my family for several reasons: The 'normal' flush loo would block up regularly, water charges were increasing and access to the inside loo was through the living room, often in mucky boots! Also, the clean water being flushed down the loo caused a pollution problem – smell, leaks, and needed a machine to empty the ageing septic tank.

I used SADIMET: Survey, Analyse, Design, Implement, Maintain, Evaluate, Tweak. The design process was guided by me and my family.

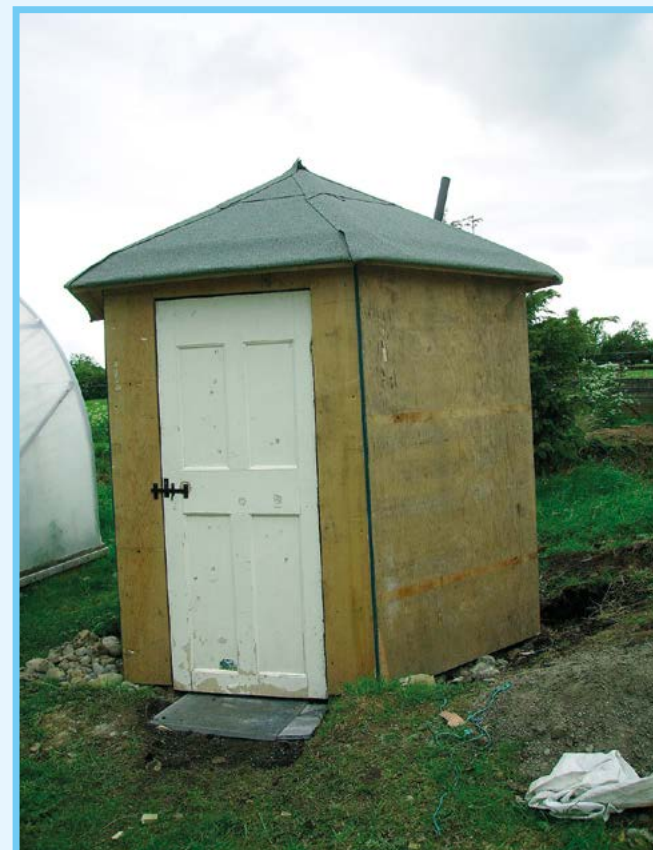
This reminded me to be inclusive, in the survey stage especially in the survey stage. It also allowed a space for other peoples' observations, knowledge and objections. The process helped to provide a collaborative feeling around the project, which was really important for the end result, whether people would use it (properly) or not!



The final compost

Survey

For the three adults that live on site we wanted it to be hygienic, easy to use and warm and dry. It would also educate visitors, guests, and friends.



The final compost

The Design

Structure

We had a look around and thought we had most of the materials we would need for the structure already onsite. We planned to upcycle some decommissioned grain division boards for the main part. We also had a selection of scavenged scavenged, doors, windows, guttering, a sink etc. We cobbled together the rest from bits and pieces we harboured over the years. This would have the multiple function of clearing up some unused resources otherwise taking up valuable dry spaces.

“For the three adults that live on site we wanted it to be hygienic, easy to use and warm and dry. It would also educate visitors, guests, and friends.”



One of the grain division boards

We didn't have any serious construction skills but had help from a friend Eddie. We chose a hexi yurt design that promised an aesthetic feature in the garden. It was more difficult than anticipated and instead of taking the planned two days, took two weeks to complete.

Composting

A separator seat, used like a normal toilet, catches and stores a valuable energy supply of liquid nitrogen and potassium (urine), and provides a drier environment for better composting.

Evaluation

Positives	Negatives	Interestings
Saved roughly 3900 litres per year.	The structure turned out to be an unnecessary pain in the ass to build, (especially the roof).	A lot of reliance on money & new products. Could score a lot better against the ethics of Permaculture.
The inside toilet clogs up much less, and the septic tank emptied less often – a significant improvement.	It used more than necessary resources and it's not really in tune with its surroundings.	In underestimating the time needed for an intricate and new-to-us design and build, the whole project was somewhat rushed. This accounts partly for the overuse of materials.
The structure catches people's eye, lots of people have learned about compost toilets.	Since the polytunnel blew away the hexi yurt sticks out like a sore thumb.	
Makes compost (eventually) and liquid gold.		
Easy to clean and doesn't mind muddy boots.		

The collection barrels were designed to be vented with a chimney, to allow a circulation of air and to aid an aerobic composting process. Each empty barrel is primed with a couple of shovels of garden compost and any other compost activators that are handy.

Harvest as maintenance

To cover our waste each time the toilet is used we put in whatever carbon material we had available. This included sawdust swept up after wood cutting, fallen leaves collected on the lane, or swept fallen hay from the barn – all jobs that needed doing anyway. Exchanging the barrels – liquid and solid waste – provided fertility for the many trees and bushes onsite. urine about every two or three weeks and dry waste about every two months.

More compost loos have been built in the meantime, one here at the farm for the permaculture gathering in 2012 and then again for the following year in Galway. Both of these were much simpler designs, though for different purposes.

Read the full design at <http://s.coop/hannahmolecompostloo>

Hannah is a Diploma Tutor and teaches permaculture courses in Ireland.

Find out more about Hannah's design and work, including upcoming courses at www.hannahmoldesigns.com

Permaculture Scotland

www.permaculture.org.uk/scotland



Planting seeds in Scotland (in more ways than one)

Graham and Nancy Bell spent a great day at St Francis Centre, Glasgow, promoting Permaculture Scotland and this year's Gathering.

Organised around a seed exchange and workshops focussing on orchards and a national 'Seed Kist', sharing open pollinated and heritage seed varieties to grow. The event was brilliantly run by Common Good Food in conjunction with Helping Britain Blossom. They spent quite a long time talking with First Minister Nicola Sturgeon who took a keen interest in all aspects of the day.



Scotland First Minister Nicola Sturgeon takes an interest in Permaculture

Permaculture Scotland gathering, June 3-5 2016

At the 2015 gathering at Tombreck, we met, camped, danced, chatted, spoke out, explored, found pigs in the wood, planted a commemoration pear tree, gave and joined in workshops, played, celebrated diploma

graduation, learned about sociocracy, ate good food, made a bush shower, enjoyed the camp fire, and left the place the cleanest anyone ever has.

We have the chance to go above and beyond in the long summer nights this June in the Borders town of Coldstream. Friday – Sunday with gardens galore, woodland walks with fantastic bird-life, workshops from working horses to fabrics, song and dance to herbalism, and of course the Garden Cottage tour.

A high point is the Permaculture Scotland annual meeting – a chance to share progress over the year. Hear about fantastic new projects and the graceful ageing of established ones, and plot the pathway forwards. The amazing atmosphere, skies and community of the Tweed bio-region AKA The Scottish Borders. Brilliant ceilidh with the Small Hall Band and Clarty Clout. A developing smorgasbord of treats which your presence will only add to. That's the greatest asset we have - each other. More info and bookings at www.permaculture.org.uk/scotland

ScotLAND phase 2 receives funding

Thanks to the Robertson Trust and two match-funders (details to be announced) ScotLAND Phase 2 project will proceed with funding for the next 3 years - hurray! With group visit schemes, tutorial support for Learners, and an outreach worker to support and publicize the network, it's exciting times for promoting permaculture in Scotland.

Paramaethu Cymru Permaculture Wales

wales.permaculture.org.uk



Passing on the legacy of PEAT

The Primrose Earth Awareness Trust (PEAT), which welcomed thousands of children and adults to its education site on an organic farm near Hay-on-Wye, Powys, held its closing celebration last August, marking 15 years as a guiding light promoting sustainable food and living. The Primrose Organic Centre demonstrated how sustainable polycultures can create future food security in harmony with nature, and ran a thriving programme for local schools, as well as hosting international workcamps and other events.

In order for PEAT's ethos and inspiration to continue after the charity was wound up, the remaining financial assets were shared between the Permaculture Association in Wales and the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens. This has meant a very generous donation of over £18,000 to develop permaculture in Wales, and in particular to make it more visible, so that projects such as PEAT, which demonstrate permaculture principles, are easier for learners to find.

Some of the money has already been spent on producing the Paramaethu Cymru/ Permaculture Wales website and on planning, and now the Wales Coordinating Group is ready to shape a two-year programme during which the remainder of the donation will be spent on developing a thriving network in Wales. We will be consulting on how to do that, so watch out for news or email paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com with offers and suggestions.

What would you like to see in a Food Manifesto for Wales?

Take a look at <http://foodmanifesto.wales> and have your say.

Follow Welsh news at wales.permaculture.org.uk and get in touch with us at paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com.
Newid dy fyd gyda ni.

Cynulliad cenedlaethol – National Gathering 2016

Paramaethu Cymru Gathering
24–26 June, 2016

Lammas has offered their exciting site for this year's all-Wales meeting. The programme is still being planned but will include an address by Andy Goldring (CEO, Permaculture Association); an introduction to and tour of Lammas; workshop sessions; Paramaethu planning session(s); and more.

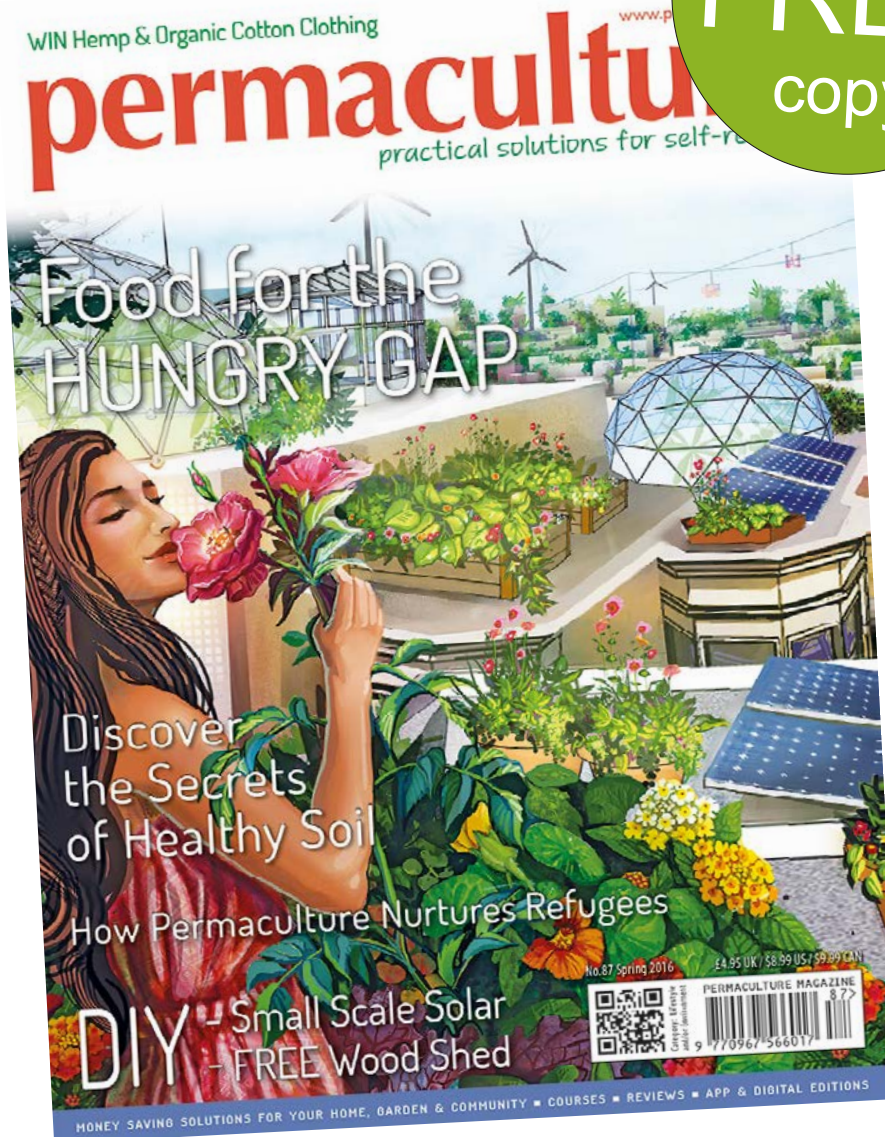
Cost will be in the region of £20–30 for the full weekend, inclusive of meals (one a shared one) and camping on-site. B&B can be obtained nearby.

Book the date and email us your interest in receiving information on the full programme and for booking: swwpermnetwork@gmail.com

Follow Welsh news at wales.permaculture.org.uk
Get in touch with us at paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com.
Newid dy fyd gyda ni.

Supporting & Promoting Permaculture Worldwide

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International

Next big step

There are an astonishing number of organisations around the world engaged in permaculture – we have discovered organisations in over 125 countries! Each one has its own story to tell about who it works with, how it operates and what it is achieving.

From the Next Big Step surveys, conversations, and interviews over the last year, we've learned a lot about global permaculture. Fifty two organisations from 34 countries took part in the conversations.

Habiba, in the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt, is one example of an organisation using permaculture and working to create a secure and abundant future for its local community. Over 45% of the local Bedouin community live in poverty, despite the affluent tourist

areas nearby. (With thanks to Alice Gray for providing this information).

Habiba is having a real impact, helping people to achieve food security and diversify their incomes. Find out more and keep updated at www.habibaorganicfarm.com

How can being part of a global network help them?

“We would like to share and access technical information about ecoregion-specific techniques, novel crops and designs. We would like to welcome more skilled volunteers and practitioners to learn and share knowledge. We would welcome support with strategic planning and networking.”

Global perceptions of greater international cooperation

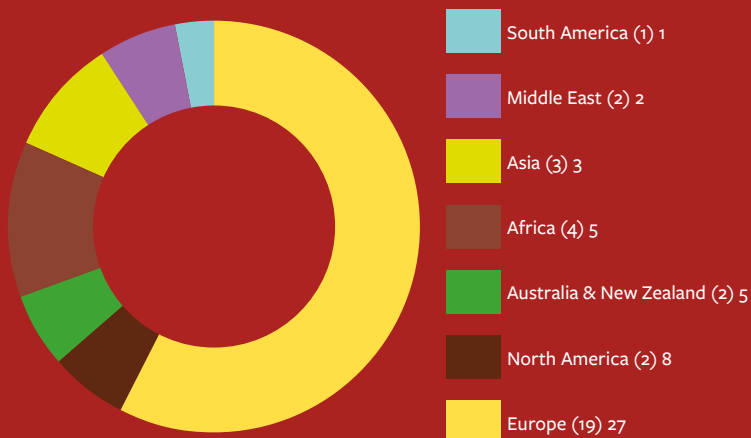
Greater levels of international cooperation were seen as beneficial to the majority of organisations. Advantages included increased exposure for organisations, knowing more about what others can do, better sharing of good practice, identification of regional effectiveness, and enhanced credibility of permaculture. There were many interesting suggestions and needs shared.

We are now bringing together ideas and ambitions, and the huge amount of energy and enthusiasm from people around the world, and developing the next phase of the project to support greater international coherence.

One thing I have personally come to realise is the amazing job that the Permaculture Association in Britain does – we are truly lucky to have a national organisation helping us to connect with others, share our knowledge and discover exciting opportunities to practice and understand permaculture. Many countries don't have an organisation dedicated to supporting them.

To get involved in the Next Big Step see <http://international.permaculture.org.uk> or email Naomi.international@permaculture.org.uk

Organisational responses by region (numbers in brackets represent number of different countries, number after is how many organisations)



Habiba Community workshop with local farmers and technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture, November 2014 (by Habiba Community)

Children in Permaculture

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Lusi Alderslowe to the post of Children in Permaculture Coordinator. You can contact Lusi by email children@permaculture.org.uk



with children, home educators and anyone else interested in engaging children in permaculture and/or outdoor learning. More info and bookings: www.permaculture.org.uk/children

A Survey of resources about children in permaculture

As all good permaculture starts with a thorough survey of the land, people and knowledge base, we started with a survey of the resources currently available for engaging children in permaculture.

Wow! From thinking there were very few resources about engaging children in permaculture, to reviewing 316 in a spreadsheet. With 14 people inputting resources in 5 languages, across the 7 different areas of the Children in Permaculture (CiP) Curriculum we were quite overwhelmed with information.

Only a handful of these resources are specifically about engaging children in permaculture, but many of them can be used for that purpose. For example, most resources relevant to Forest Schools are relevant to CiP. Permaculture books are useful for adults to read and understand the background to what they are teaching children - that's why so many resources are relevant.

By the time you read this we should have completed our third and hopefully final version of the paper which describes the results of this survey. You will be able to download it from our website: www.childreninpermaculture.com

Outdoor classrooms: a permaculture education with children

Training courses with Carolyn Nuttal and Janet Millington

CiP's first event will host 2 pioneering permaculture children's educators from Australia - Carolyn Nuttal and Janet Millington - to train the teachers. The main event is a 6 day training in Slovenia, check out www.childreninpermaculture.com for more information including booking.

Carolyn Nuttal and Janet Millington will also lead short training courses in the UK, one in Gatehouse of Fleet, Scotland, and two in London. This course is ideal for primary and nursery teachers, practitioners working

Opportunities

Volunteering with Earth Connections

We are looking for volunteers to help us at the Earth Connections Eco Centre on Isle of Egg, W. of Scotland, from March to September 2016. Minimum stay 1 month, but longer stays preferred.

Help needed in a variety of jobs - gardening and food growing, maintenance and painting, helping to prepare rooms for visitors, helping in kitchen etc. Full board and accommodation provided. Chance to take part in Permaculture Intro course in June, and other learning and social activities. For more info go to www.earthconnections.co.uk

Volunteer opportunity in Newark area

We run a one acre walled garden in Carlton On Trent, Nottinghamshire. Based on a permaculture philosophy, we are dedicated to the production of deliciously healthy organic foods and herbs in a natural, sustainable way. We are looking for local volunteers to come and get involved in this exciting new project. We can offer plenty of tea, coffee and biscuits and barbecues during the summer! Our website (work in progress): www.edible-garden.co



Volunteer/work exchange opportunity in mid-Wales

Pete and Louise are in the process of setting up a retreat centre and permaculture smallholding in mid-wales. We run a small B and B in an old drovers Inn. Louise is just starting to run workshops and therapies and Pete is beginning to establish a garden and many outside projects. We would love it, if anybody would be interested to come and join us, short or long term, months or just a week. Food and accommodation provided.

www.permaculture.org.uk/opportunity/volunteerwork-exchange-opportunity-mid-wales

2016 WWOOF weeks at Old Sleningford Farm, North Yorkshire

Come and help and learn at the farm in 2016 - these weeks only, please don't ask to come at other times:

25 April to 2 May

30 May to 6 June

27 June to 4 July

1 August to 8 August

29 August to 5 September

26 September to 3 October

Jobs are seasonal and may include working in the forest garden, raised beds, polytunnel, and orchard; harvesting, pruning and weeding; scything; apple juicing and preserving.

See website: www.oldsleningford.co.uk/WWOOFing.html for more information.

Edible Garden, Carlton-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire.

Members

Business members

Community projects

Five Acres North End Lane, Downe BR6 7HL
 ● nicci.dr@gmail.com ● 01689 854196

Co-operatives

Ecological Land Cooperative The Hub, 5 Torrens Street, London EC1V 1NQ ● 07963 955 338
 ● zoe@ecologicaland.coop

Sims Hill Shared Harvest 3 Burlington Road, Bristol BS6 6TJ ● simshillsharedharvest@googlemail.com
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 ● www.eyebrightecology.co.uk

Feagour Designs 16 Fairway, Haddington EH41 4EP
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 ● g.vereczkei@outlook.com

Robert Millar Gardens ● www.robertmillargardens.co.uk
T4 Sustainability 1A Manners Court, Manners Avenue, Manners Industrial Estate, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8EF
 ● 08454561332 ● info@t4s ltd.co.uk ● www.t4s ltd.co.uk

Watkins Design Associates Ltd 25 Seedfield Croft, Chelyesmore, Coventry CV3 5HU
 ● simon@watkinsdesignassociates.org.uk
 ● watkinsdesignassociates.co.uk

Education

ACS Distance Education PO Box 4171 Stourbridge DY8 2WZ ● 0800 328 4723 ● www.open.ac.uk

Findhorn Foundation College The Park, Findhorn Forres IV36 3TZ ● 01309 690806 ● admin@findhorncollege.org

Gaia University 12 Droridge, Totnes TQ9 6JQ
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Permaculture Education Project 1 Eureka Terrace, Newton Abbott TQ13 9HG ● 0845 4580194
 ● griff80@hotmail.co.uk

Schools and Colleges Permaculture Programme PO Box CY 301 Causeway, Harare, Zimbabwe ● +2634 3390503

Schumacher College The Old Postern, Dartington TQ9 6EA ● anna.lodge@schumachercollege.org.uk
 ● www.schumachercollege.org.uk

Publications

Permaculture Activist Post Office Box 5516, Bloomington 47407, USA ● www.permacultureactivist.net

Permanent Publications The Sustainability Centre, Droxford Road, East Meon, GU32 1HR ● 01730 823311
 ● www.permaculture.co.uk

PIP Magazine PO Box 172 Pambula, NSW, 2549 Australia
 ● 0408375991 ● www.pipmagazine.com.au

Positive News 5 Torrens Street, Islington, London EC1V 1NQ ● office@positivenews.org.uk
 ● 01588 640022 ● www.positivenews.org.uk

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Alara Wholefoods 110–112 Camley Street, London NW1 0PF ● 020 7387 9303 ● alexsmith@alara.co.uk
 ● www.alara.co.uk

EggSeeds 33 Africa Gardens, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF14 3BT ● 02920 612982 ● sam@eggseeds.com
 ● eggseeds.com

Permalogical Primrose Cottage Farm, High Wych Road, Sawbridgeworth CM21 0HH

Organiclea c/o Hornbeam Environment Centre, 458 Hoe Street, Walthamstow E17 8AB ● info@organiclea.org.uk
 ● 0208 558 6880 ● www.organiclea.org.uk

Hospitality

St Athans Hotel 20 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RE
 ● 0207 8379627 ● info@stathanshotel.com
 ● www.stathanshotel.com

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Potential Trust Shepherds Close, Kingston Stert, Chinnor OX9 4NL

Reforesting Scotland c/o Ian Edwards, The Stables, Falkland KY15 7AF ● mandy@reforestingscotland.org
 ● www.reforestingscotland.org

Sustain – the alliance for better food and farming Development House, 56–64 Leonard St, London EC2A 4LT ● 020 7065 0902 ● sustain@sustainweb.org
 ● www.sustainweb.org

Group members

London

Forest Farm Peace Garden 98–100 Ilford Lane, Ilford IG1 2LD ● 07913089979 ● info@forestfarmpeacegarden.org
 ● www.forestfarmpeacegarden.org

Growing Communities The Old Fire Station, 61 Leswin Road, Stoke Newington, London N16 7NX ● 020 75027588

Want others to find your organisation's name here? Contact Nicola and find out about all the benefits of a group or business membership: membership@permaculture.org.uk

● growcomm@growingcommunities.org
 ● www.growingcommunities.org

Hackney Community Tree Nursery and Edible Forest Garden 155 Chatsworth Road London E5 0LA
 ● 07773553623 ● hmug@hmug.org.uk

Lambourne End Outdoor Centre Manor Road, Lambourne End RM4 1NB ● 0208 500 3047
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 ● www.lambourne-end.org.uk

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Grow Changford Westcott House, Chagford TQ13 8JF ● 01273 726828 ● susancharley@btinternet.com

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 ● www.haymeadowfarm.co.uk

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 ● 01392 882 342

North Devon Permaculture ● 07516477470
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Transition Marlborough c/o 4, Orchard Road Marlborough SN8 4AU ● 01672 514652
 ● www.transitionmarlborough.org

Trees For Health Underwood, Beeson, Kingsbridge TQ7 2HW ● 07765 631877 ● info@treesforhealth.org

Urban Biodiversity 136 Mount Wise, Newquay TR7 1QP ● natalie@newquayorchard.co.uk ● newquayorchard.co.uk

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Petworth Community Garden 3 Council Cottages, Heathend, Petworth GU28 0JQ ● 01798 342758
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Shotover Permaculture Farm 9 Hawkins St, Oxford OX4 1YD ● mjdmorton@gmail.com

The Quadrangle Trust Shoreham Road, Shoreham, TN14 7RP ● www.thequadrangletrust.com

Trust Links 47 Fairfax Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea GU32 1HR ● 01702 213134 ● office@trustlinks.org
 ● www.trustlinks.org

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Sage House 35 Westerfield Road, Ipswich IP4 2UE
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 ● www.wildernessfoundation.org.uk

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Heal the Soil Community Supported Agriculture Sapney Farm, Auroville, Tamil Nadu, 605 101, India
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Join us! the network designing a better future for us all

More and more people are using permaculture to design sustainable systems across all aspects of their life. We can improve ecosystem health whilst meeting our needs and increasing our wellbeing! With ever increasing concerns about climate change and our environmental impact, permaculture provides solutions for positive change!

People like you can and are making a difference, so join us today

The Permaculture Association is the UK Charity working to:

Improve Access to Permaculture

Enhance collaboration within the permaculture network

Increase knowledge of the benefits of permaculture within society

Develop permaculture theory and practice

Join us today and benefit from your quarterly members newsletter Permaculture Works, contacts in your area, website login, learning opportunities, discounts, members events and more.

Join online from £24 at www.permaculture.org.uk/join

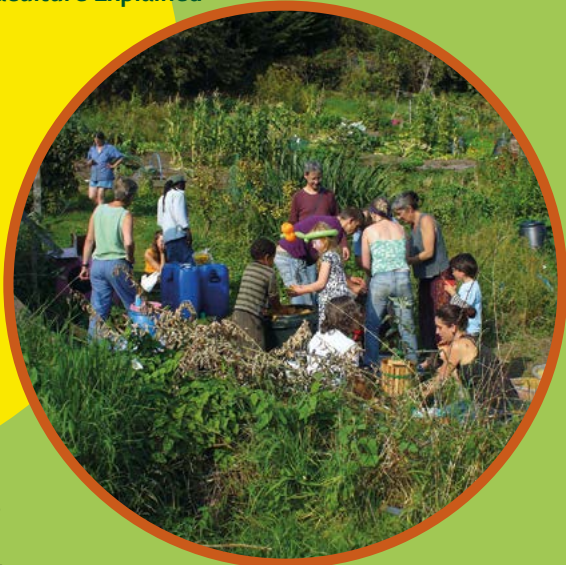
Use and value diversity

Bristol Permaculture Group has been running since 1999 and has over 1400 members of an email group. We meet 'formally' twice a decade and have no core staff or funding. The BPG describes a loose collection of people who share permaculture values and help each other out. As such 'the group' makes no claim of ownership or credit for the work of its 'members'.

Bristol is developing a unique and diverse permaculture network. There are many different elements that provide different functions. By working together and making connections between the diverse elements they're creating a strong and vibrant network. This is a good reason why we should use and value diversity.

There are many fantastic land based projects in Bristol including community gardens and orchards like Easton Community Garden, allotments like Golden Hill providing supported gardening for people with complex needs. Community Shared Agriculture schemes like Simms Hill, The Community Farm and Edible Futures are making vegetable growing viable. Street Goat is collectively raising and milking urban goats. Avon Wildlife Trusts' Feed Bristol is hub for gardening, volunteer leader training, propagation and forest gardening. Small businesses producing herbs and mushrooms are starting out. The Bristol Fish Project is experimenting with urban aquaponics systems.

Other gardens work with asylum seekers, and other marginalised groups. Buzz Lockleaze provides fresh produce in a food desert. An annual sale of fruit trees with



Bristol Permaculture Group share ideas, work, tools, knowledge and resources

over 2,000 planted in back gardens since 2002. Buying groups are getting affordable organic food direct from farmers. The Bristol Pound is revaluing the local and making good food available to low income families. The Glastonbury Festival garden takes permaculture to the inebriated masses.

It's the invisible social network that makes Permaculture work in Bristol. The sharing of ideas, work, tools, knowledge and resources. Courses, workshops and skill shares constantly build the skills base of the community. Social events centre round apple pressing, seed and plant swaps, work parties, workshops and community discussions. And lots of dancing!

Shift Bristol runs a one year Practical Sustainability Course. For 2.5 days a week, 40 weeks of the year students explore a permaculture based curriculum. Design and practical work is on local sites and learning is in a community context. Students emerge with the skills, network, inspiration and confidence to bring Permaculture to life in a real setting.

Sarah Pugh is a founder member of Bristol Permaculture Group, a Permaculture teacher and lead tutor on the Practical Sustainability Course.