

Issue 122 | Summer 2014



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**Board of Trustees:** Stefan Geyer (chair), Philip Blandford (treasurer), Ed Sears, Teresa Pointing, Deano Martin, James Piers Taylor, Viv Chamberlin-Kidd, Kim Glick.

**The Permaculture Association would like to thank:** Karl Naylor, Lisa Guhl, Wenderlynn Bagnall, Barney Thompson, Malika Dhalwar, Philip Blandford, David Boyle, Cat Richards, Julia K, Wilf Richards, Cat from Denmark, Permacultureprinciples.com and everybody in the Welsh, Scottish, research, diploma, LAND advisory, farming, communication and education working groups.

**Newsletter:** Anna Schmidt, Richard Honey at dg3 design and all contributors to the newsletter.

**Staff, trustees and all our suppliers.**

**All members, supporters and donors.**

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 any contributions to us by 17 September for publication on 22 October.

**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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## Letter from the Coordinator

**Andy Goldring, Coordinator / CEO**

**e: andyg@permaculture.org.uk t: 0113 230 7658**

Welcome to the summer edition – packed with network news and lots of exciting ways to get involved over the coming months – check out the poster for course listings and events. Things are moving along nicely with the national Convergence in September (hope to see you there!), the

London Permaculture Festival and Paramaethu Cymru meeting in July. Also, by the time you get this, Permaculture Scotland will have celebrated another year with a gathering in Glasgow. Our work preparing for the International Permaculture Convergence (IPCUK) in London next September is shaping up nicely too...

We do like to meet up! Reading books and working at home can get you a long way in learning about permaculture, but nothing quite beats meeting others, and seeing, touching and tasting it! If we could make a graph of permaculture learning, the Convergences are like a heart beat pulsing new learning and connections across the network. The work of local networks is particularly important here too. In Leeds we meet monthly and it seems to do three things well: we feel energised and enthused; we learn something new; and we make connections and gain support for our projects and ideas. It gives energy to the day to day work of permaculture in Leeds.

I am really keen to make sure that the Association is supporting local groups and networks as well as it can – and I am sure there is more that we can do. With IPCUK taking so much of our attention over the next year or so, it is really important that we keep connected to our members, and I would like to come and visit. If you have a local group or network and could organise a meeting I am happy to come over and meet, find out what is working well for you and how the Association can help support your work, and get your views on national plans.

With interest in permaculture likely to be at an all time high next September, its vital that our local networks are thriving. We are keen to support, let us know what you need.

**Andy Goldring @andygoldring**

## Join the conversation



twitter: @permaculture\_uk



facebook: facebook.com/permacultureassociation

Cover photo: Looby Macnamara will launch her new book at this year’s convergence! We are looking forward to it! To find out more, go to page 21.

## Association news

### Goodbye Anna and Debbie, Hello....?

Alas, we are losing Anna and Debbie. We have had to make the website coordinator post redundant, because we simply don't have enough money to pay for ongoing web development. Instead we will have to focus smaller pots to deliver very specific tasks as and when resources allow. Debbie has been with us for seven years, contributed to the team in many different ways, and will be missed by everyone in the team. Anna has also made a big difference in just a few months, but she has a perfect opportunity to move back to Berlin with her partner, so has to leave. At the time of writing we don't know who Anna's replacement will be, but they can introduce themselves next issue. By then we will also have a new...

### International support worker

We are delighted that an anonymous donor has agreed to fund the Association over two years to facilitate a global discussion on 'permaculture's next big step'. The new worker will be working with a team from around the world to consult national and regional networks, devise proposals and strategies, investigate models of effective international organisation and generally get us ready for a really strategic discussion at IPCUK. More news in the next issue.

### Trustee update

Another super productive Board meeting was held in March with the aims, vision and mission statements all updated and finalised. The strategy was examined and explored and there was a really good debate about priorities for the years ahead. Sophie Christopher Bowes has decided to leave the Board and Ed Sears will be stepping down too after six years service. A big thanks to both of them.

The Board of Trustees at our last AGM



### Grants or enterprise?

Well, we are currently pursuing both avenues. Convergence, memberships, LAND Learners, Diploma and Open College accreditation of courses, are all self-financing. Research, web, LAND events / coordination and educational support are not. If you have funding experience and ideas and want to help get in touch. If you are a budding eco-entrepreneur get in touch too. Essentially both are valid approaches and we are keen to make both successful. [andyg@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:andyg@permaculture.org.uk)

### Ecotricity hamper deal extended until the end of June!

Good news! Due to the popularity of the Café Direct hamper deal, Ecotricity has decided to extend its offer of a FREE hamper when you switch until the end of June 2014. Ecotricity are Britain's first Green electricity company, and donate up to £60 to the Permaculture Association when you switch! Visit [www.permaculture.org.uk/ecotricity](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/ecotricity) for more information.



The Ecotricity hamper

### National Permaculture Library

The next stage of the development of the national reference library has begun, and we are currently cataloguing an extensive collection of books, journals, pamphlets, magazines and mixed media which will be available to access when the library commences in September 2014. Staff have had a fascinating time so far dusting off 'treasure' boxes containing a huge array of leaflets, articles and social history from the last four decades stored in the office cupboards! Read more about the library on page 8.



The early beginnings of the library

### Celebrating 1400 members!

Hurray! We have reached 1400 members this year! A big Thank You goes to all of our membership! Our 1400th member is Embercombe, who have joined us as a business member. To read more about them, please turn to page 15.

## Network news

### Free advice or training for Permaculture Groups

The Community Land Advisory Service is offering free advice or training to permaculture groups. They are no-profit organisation which deals with leases, finding land, offering land, assessing a site and other issues concerned with land access for growing groups. We have a qualified land agent in the team. For more information check out [www.communitylandadvice.org.uk](http://www.communitylandadvice.org.uk)



### Latest Report from the Himalayan Permaculture Group

The Himalayan Permaculture Group, one of the Permaculture Association's many inspiring group members, produced an impressive report on their latest achievements. Projects include farmer's training, women's health, beekeeping, nettle training and much more! A big congratulations to all the achievements from the Permaculture Association!

To read the full report, please visit: <http://bit.do/himalaya>

### Skill sharing sessions

There are small wind and solar electricity and forest garden edible perennial plant propagation skill sharing courses every last Friday of the month at Tyn y Nant Fruit Farm, Fferm Frwythau (North Wales). There is no price for courses or staying, and even plants from the forest garden nursery. If you are interested, please email: [petefreepeat@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:petefreepeat@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 07854121230.

### Karuna is a Community Interest Company now

Karuna Insight Design, a long-standing member organisation and LAND centre of the Permaculture Association, is extremely pleased to announce that it is now officially a Community Interest Company (CIC). "This is an important milestone in the development of the project and we hope it will enable us to establish ourselves more and to work better for the good of the community. We would like to thank the Permaculture Association for all their support and involvement over the years", a spokesperson tells us. Find out more at: [www.permaculture.org.uk/people-projects-places/project/karuna](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/people-projects-places/project/karuna)



### Earthworm Housing Cooperative seeks new members

Earthworm have made fantastic progress on their 7 acre housing coop in Leintwardine, Shropshire. After two years of observation, surveying and putting in the basic infrastructure, they have now secured a £250,000 loan from Triodos Bank and will be installing a 80kw log burning mini district heating system for the three buildings, a Wetland biological water cleaning system and a range of other improvements. The first phase is now complete and EHC are excited to announce that they are ready for new people to join the cooperative. They are looking for grown ups with practical skills and a commitment to living there over the long term. Interested? Take your next step by visiting the website, reading it thoroughly and then contact them via the website: [www.earthwormhousingcooperative.org.uk](http://www.earthwormhousingcooperative.org.uk)

### Wool Against Weapons

Join a big, unignorable day of action to blast through the media silence on dissent to nuclear weapons. On 9 August, hundreds of people will be laying out a 7 mile long scarf knitted by peace activists all over the world, between Atomic Weapons Establishment sites at Aldermaston and Burghfield, Berkshire, where the UK's nuclear weapons are made. This is part of a larger campaign to put pressure on the Government to ditch a planned £100bn spend on renewing the Trident Nuclear weapons programme. For more information check out [www.woolagainstweapons.co.uk](http://www.woolagainstweapons.co.uk)

### Pea and bean crop: Nitrogen fixation assessment

Crop researchers based at the James Hutton Institute ([www.hutton.ac.uk](http://www.hutton.ac.uk)), are offering a free service to Association members and their friends which quantifies the nitrogen fixation capacity of pea and faba bean crops. The assessment, which involves minimal sampling of less than 10 plants per field/plot, will determine the actual quantity of nitrogen which the pulses obtain from air, as this represents the efficiency of their nitrogen-fixing ability. Samples of root nodules will also be needed. This free assessment is offered to growers throughout the UK, but especially to those cropping peas and beans close to and around the arable Scottish north east. The results are of great interest to the Association research team! For more information or to take part in the survey please contact either [euan.james@hutton.ac.uk](mailto:euan.james@hutton.ac.uk), or [pete.iannetta@hutton.ac.uk](mailto:pete.iannetta@hutton.ac.uk), as soon as possible.

### Association joins new European Network for Community-led Initiatives

A recent explosion in the number of local, community-based initiatives on climate change and sustainability has prompted the establishment of a new European network, ECOLISE, which aims to support exchange and cooperation between initiatives, and to promote a more supportive environment for the emergence of new initiatives in communities across Europe. The Permaculture Association is a founding member. To find out more, visit [www.ecolise.eu](http://www.ecolise.eu)

# Research update

by Chris Warburton-Brown • research@

May has been an amazingly productive month for the Research Team. In keeping with the season, everything seems to be at the flowering stage, by the next issue of Permaculture Works I hope I will have lots of ripe fruit to report on!

## New research web pages

One thing that has come to fruition are the wonderful new research web pages at [www.permaculture.org.uk/research](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/research). Whereas previously the research team had one page buried in the 'Our Work' section of the website, now we have 20 pages in our own dedicated 'research' area! So if you want to get an insight into who is in the team and all the projects we are running, look at the web pages. I will be keeping the pages updated with our latest news, projects, funding and volunteering opportunities and new members of the team. A big thank you to Anna and Debbie for creating the new pages.



## The National Permaculture Library and book appeal

Due to a generous donation from an anonymous benefactor, we have been able to invest £3,000 in our library at Hollybush. We now have an unrivalled collection of books on permaculture and related topics. Until now the library has primarily been for Permaculture Association staff and Leeds Permaculture Network members, but we now want to open it to all students and practitioners of permaculture. We have plans to open the library two days a week to visitors from September onwards, and we are hoping to stage a ceremonial opening of 'The National Permaculture Library' in the autumn; more on this in the next issue. We are also asking people to bring any unwanted permaculture books to the UK Convergence. We will either add them to the library shelves or sell them and spend the money on new acquisitions. Finally, if you have a large collection of permaculture related books you want to get rid off, let us know, we would love them!

## Fund raising

Much of my time is currently spent fundraising, as the funding for my post ends at Christmas. I have been developing some really exciting projects with some really exciting partners, and if they are successful they will take our research work to a new level. However, it seems a bit pointless to tell you about things that might never happen, so I'll just say watch this space!

## Research Handbook

The long-awaited Permaculture Research Handbook is ready! It will provide a complete guide to to doing a permaculture research project, from the initial idea through to writing the final report. Six authors from the worlds of statistics, biology, ecology, social policy, solar technology and forest gardening contributed chapters, and the whole thing has been ably edited by Pippa Chapman. A volunteer from Leeds University, Rosie Sinfield, spent two intense weeks turning 11,000 words of text into a thing of beauty. We then consulted widely on the Handbook and got some great feedback, which we incorporated afterwards. The handbook is available on our website for free: <http://bit.do/re-handbook>

## Soya growing trials

Thanks to the 30 volunteers who offered their time and land for this trial. In spite of the best efforts of the Post Office to sabotage us, we eventually managed to get most of the seeds mailed out. The aim of the trial is very simple; to discover where in the UK it is possible to grow soya and obtain a decent yield.



Soya bean © wakx, flickr



## New volunteers

We have two new volunteers on the way, one from France and one from Japan! They will be introduced in the next issue.

## Permaculture Activist

The August issue of the American magazine Permaculture Activist will have the theme 'Experimentation in Permaculture'. The research team have managed to produce no less than four articles for this issue. They will give us a chance to showcase our research work to a new audience. Putting them together has made me realise how much we have achieved in the last two years, and how the Permaculture Association is now probably one of the leading bodies for permaculture research in the world.

# Education update

by Joe Atkinson, learning coordinator – learn@

## The Education Working Group

The Education Working Group had a conference call on 2 April. They discussed the working group decision-making process, documenting the process for ordering certificates and the “re-thinking parks” project. The next conference call will be at the end of June, and the group hope to meet at the Convergence.

Please be aware that during the next few months there is significant uncertainty, and the education function of the Association will be operating at a greatly reduced level of resource.

## Education Policy Consultation

Because of the reduced level of resource, the education policy consultation has been delayed. We hope to publish the results of the consultation soon.

## Funding news

Sadly we have been unsuccessful in 2 bids to secure funding for education projects. On the bright side, the process of writing the bids has enabled us to define some of the projects that we would like to pursue.

At the time of writing we are waiting to hear about another funding bid. If successful, this will pay towards travel and course fees for teacher training in Europe. Keep an eye on the e-bulletin or contact me for more information about this!

Depending on the outcome of this bid, there may no longer be any funds for the role of education coordinator. I will be staying on to coordinate the Convergence this year and the IPC in 2015. During this time, I will seek additional funding for the role of learning coordinator, which may or may not be filled by me.



# Diploma

## The National Diploma Gathering

The National Diploma Gathering will be held at Castleton Losehill Hall, 28–30 November 2014! If you haven't already done so, please fill in the survey about whether you intend to go at the diploma homepage: [www.permaculture.org.uk/diploma](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/diploma)

**Reminder:** A condition of being a diploma apprentice is that you keep your membership up to date!



Cath Smith with her diploma presented by tutor Chris Dixon

## My Diploma Journey

By Cath Smith

After setting out on the diploma journey two years ago, I have just reached the end of the road with my diploma presentation as part of Chris Dixon's recent Diploma Support Day. And what a journey it has been!

I decided to take the permaculture diploma because I had the scope for implementing many interesting projects for both land-based and community-focused designs. I also enjoy the challenge of getting better at and learning more about anything I really enjoy doing.

It is fair to say that the work involved has been hard to fit in around everything else in life, but doing the diploma has really improved my permaculture thinking and the process of developing ideas into logical, well-planned, coherent designs.

People have asked how I have managed to get through the work within two years. I set a rough timetable for doing and writing up the ten designs at the start of the journey as part of my Diploma Learning Pathway and stuck to it - it really is that simple, the only difficult part is having the self-discipline to stick to the plan or get back on track when the going gets tough or other things in life intervene.

The guidance and support of my tutor has also been invaluable - a very big thanks Chris Dixon from me.

And to anyone toying with the idea of doing the diploma, I can honestly say: "Just do it!"

Find out more: [www.permaculture.org.uk/diploma](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/diploma)

# LAND Project news



## Discover Permaculture in Action!

Our distributed team of permaculture design tutors are continuing to support small and large permaculture designs flourish and be shown off to the visitors. Lots of us want to show permaculture to the world and the 'LAND Learner' support package is an excellent way to draw on the help of an expert designer to develop a brilliant design and work towards being a LAND Centre. LAND Centres get more profile, volunteers and visitors, which all helps make it worth your while. It's an excellent investment at £135 for the Assessment Visit and £150 for future support sessions. See [www.permaculture.org.uk/land](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/land) for more information.

Alan Thornton [network@permaculture.co.uk](mailto:network@permaculture.co.uk)

## International Permaculture Day

Across the world hundreds of permaculture projects were open Sunday 4th May, including lots in Britain. This included Garden Cottage (Coldstream), Abundant Earth (near Durham), Pennerley Permaculture and Forest Garden (Shropshire), EcoDIY (Essex), Organic Lea (Walthamstow & Leytonstone), Edible Landscapes London, Maiden Lane Community Enterprises (London), Glengall Wharf Garden (Peckham), Pennyfield Permaculture (Somerset), and Tatnam Organic Patch (Dorset). Reports from across the planet are slowly making their way to [www.permacultureday.org](http://www.permacultureday.org)

## Local Food Fund

The generous Local Food Fund support for the development of our Learning And Network Demonstration (LAND) project has now finished after an amazing 5 years. The Association remains committed to supporting the network, albeit with much less resources. For our permaculture movement to grow we need hundreds of people every week being impressed by permaculture in action: LAND Centres are the obvious destination for this. We are seeking new grant funding to further develop the network in new ways and with potential new target groups like farmers, people in 'food deserts', schools, campuses and people experiencing mental health challenges. If you can help, do get in touch.

## Practitioner support

Alan Thornton, the Network Coordinator, is developing a new, wider strategy to support permaculture practitioners even if you don't want to be public demonstration. In future it needs to be much easier for permaculture practitioners to find other practitioners with skills and interests relevant to their needs. We need to support permaculture practitioners to help each other, online and in person. We can improve the quality of permaculture practice and methods by affirming good practice. At the Association we can observe opportunities for productive partnerships and encourage permaculture practitioners to cultivate them. Ideas and support for this new phase are very welcome: [network@permaculture.co.uk](mailto:network@permaculture.co.uk)

WIN a day with BEN LAW page 86

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## Membership

### Corner

#### Designs for permaculture businesses

You may remember that in the Summer 2013 edition of Permaculture Work, **Rachel Woodisse** wrote about her designs focussed on gaining a right livelihood and generating income, by exploring ethics and principles and beneficial relationships in small business.

This is something that has become more and more relevant, with more of our members asking if there are ways we can support and learn from each other to design right livelihoods. Recently a group of our members formed the Permaculture and Enterprises facebook group with the aim of aiding the dissemination of information regarding to financial opportunity via permaculture practice. Join the group here: [www.facebook.com/groups/permaculture. enterprise/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/permaculture.enterprise/)

This has prompted us to ask the membership; do you have a permaculture design that you use specifically within your business, or to generate income?

We want to collect case studies to evidence how permaculture can be successfully applied to business, in order to support more people to do so, and to continue to quash the myth that permaculture is only applicable to land based design.

If this is you, we would like to hear from you! Please send your designs, suggestions



Rachel Woodisse

of appropriate case studies or just register your interest in this topic to [membership@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:membership@permaculture.org.uk) with the subject line 'Business and permaculture'.

We would especially like to hear from anyone interested in forming an 'Entrepreneurial Permaculture Working Group' as suggested by our members, to focus on how the Permaculture Association and permaculture network can support each other to become more resilient. We would aim to have our first meeting at the Convergence in September – visit [www.permaculture.org/convergence2014](http://www.permaculture.org/convergence2014) to get your tickets.

#### Have Your Say

There is still time to give your feedback via the 2014 Membership Satisfaction survey – we want to hear your thoughts on what benefits, services or discounts are most useful to you, what you think of the new members pack and how you are enjoying the membership experience thus far. Your feedback is crucial to the development of the membership scheme, so please do send us your views and fill in the survey at [www.permaculture.org.uk/Survey2014](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/Survey2014) or email [membership@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:membership@permaculture.org.uk)

## Group member spotlight

### Embercombe

Embercombe is a 50 acre site of Devon countryside on a spur of the Haldon Ridge, looking out towards Dartmoor. Even before the land was bought, the dream of Embercombe was to be a place where people would come and grow, could deepen as human beings and be inspired to take courageous action to change their world.

This mission underwrites all of the work that takes place at Embercombe. A lot of this work has a land-based element. Be it connected to food, fuel, fibre or shelter, the diverse environment offers numerous opportunities for people to meet their world. Jo Clark, head of land-based education says, "Part of fulfilling our mission statement is to offer people an opportunity to connect with processes and phenomena that assist them in reconnecting with themselves.



Morning mist over Embercombe

"Be it planting in the garden, pulling up water at the well, coppicing in the woodland or loading up the charcoal burner, people are able to connect with the Earth that provides for us in the countless ways we need it to.

"We aim to inspire people to create a truly sustainable world – inwardly and outwardly - which is akin to saying that we aim to inspire a perma(nent)-culture."



Johannes (facilitator at Embercome) in action

Daniel Burston, gardener at Embercombe continues: "The land here has been shaped by a need to steward it for all the species that call it home, including the needs of humans. We have found that these needs go hand in hand. In seeking to create an environment where people can most deeply meet their world, and also themselves, the biodiversity of flora and fauna has flourished too, and the general aesthetic is beautiful.

"The design principles of permaculture reflect a very old and wise common sense that honours all of life. This common sense has been dismissed by the modern Western worldview and the consequences are kicking in. The task of re- building a society that is rooted in people care and earth care is no small one, yet it is deeply heartening to witness that the longing of so many people is to do just this. So, all power to everybody working to create the world of their longing!"

There are many ways to get involved at Embercombe. To find out more, please visit their website: [www.embercombe.co.uk](http://www.embercombe.co.uk)

**Do you want to tell us about your business? Get in touch with Nicola: [membership@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:membership@permaculture.org.uk)**



# Permaculture learning in ACTION

## A guide for designing your own learning pathway



By Nicole Vosper

For many, finding permaculture opens a door to a huge world they never knew they did not know. Then comes the insatiable curiosity to comprehend the complexity of it all. But how do we balance this passion with the reality of overwhelm and understanding of limits? Like with most complex systems, design is a useful tool!

### Survey

*What are your current projects and commitments?* I have learnt that the skills needed in my life in the here and now are the ones I develop first. Stacking what you want to learn with your current responsibilities is a great way to ensure they do not fall by the wayside! Nothing accelerates your learning faster than applying something useful to your own life.

*What are your key areas of interest?* Follow your desires, passions and curiosities and you can guarantee your learning journey will be full and active for a long time.

*What skills would you like to learn?* What is your competency at present, and what is your desired competence level? Tracking our learning and seeing our progress is

empowering, and by observing patterns we can intervene and re-design where necessary.

Another tool we can use to survey our own desires is to ‘futurecast’. Imagine what your life would look like if you had achieved your goals! This might be imagining being able to teach permaculture, creating a base map with ease, or having a wide repertoire of plants under your belt.

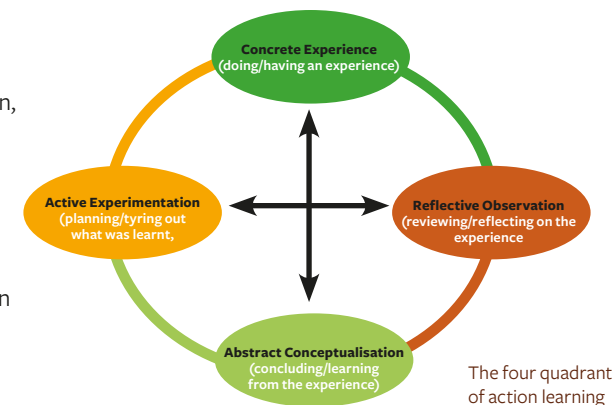
### Analysis

When designing my own Learning Pathway, surveying what I wanted to learn was not the problem – the question of how I was going to achieve it was the challenge!

As a passionate action learner, I interact with projects and real-world experiences as learning opportunities, and consciously design for these to accelerate my own learning. For this, it helped me to use the four quadrants of action learning: **abstract conceptualisation** (thinking, exploring theories and concepts), **concrete experience** (doing it!), **reflective observation** (What went well? What was challenging?) and **active experimentation** (getting on with it, trying things out and tweaking).

The analysis stage of the SADIM (SADIM stands for Survey, Assessment, Design, Implementation, Maintenance) design process gave me a chance to filter, prioritise and strategise what is realistic and attainable. Some useful tools to do this include:

- What opportunities exist that can be *optimised*? What is already in my life that I can build on, for example my own garden, or a design project at work?
- What opportunities need to be *created*? What projects would stretch your learning edges? What experiences lie outside your existing set-up and awareness? This also means staying open to emerging themes and opportunities.
- Zoning – which skills do you cultivate on a daily basis? Which are a one-off or used less often?



When deciding between lots of potential projects I categorised my projects with the following criteria:

**Leadership** – where I take a lot of responsibility or the main responsibility (such as running my own business, or managing my learning pathway).

**Collaborative** – where responsibility is shared with others and I am part of a group.

**Solidarity** – where I may play a supportive role, or take the occasional action.

Learning how to coppice



Learning how to prune



This helped me place projects in relative location to my life and ensure that I did not take on too much. Looking at the permaculture ethics with help of a Venn diagram also helped my decision-making process.

Another favourite tool I love is from permaculture designer Rafter Sass Ferguson and his work on Liberation Ecology. He uses the following questions to aid decision making.

Will your project:

- Improve life for nonhumans?
- Improve the health of the land?
- Help my community to work for self-determination and autonomy?
- Help my community to use and control its own resources regeneratively?

I think projects need to be regenerative for ourselves too, which is why I have also started asking myself: 'Could I be financially honoured through this? In what other ways will I 'obtain a yield'?

**Design & Implement**

Like a garden design, we now have to make decisions about how to place elements.

This may include:

- Setting some SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic) targets ("I will do

one non-land based design by November 2015?").

- Placing elements in a timeline.
- Designing a learning support system for yourself:
  - > Look at your inputs and outputs. What information do you need to process? For example blogs, research, books, feedback from friends. How can your outputs be of service to the world?
  - > Tracking: What do you need to 'keep a tabs on' literally and practically? What you track could even aid you in seeing patterns that can accelerate your own learning and understanding!

Many people struggle with spending time and energy on thinking about themselves or their own desires. Using intelligent permaculture design to gain the skills to care for each other and the earth is one of the most important designs we can undertake.

**About the author**

Nicole is a longstanding member, a Permaculture Diploma apprentice, and soon to be a tutor. This article is based on her experience in designing a 'Learning Intentions Pathway Design' for her MSc with Gaia University. If you want to get in touch with her, please email [office@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:office@permaculture.org.uk)

**Permaculture events**

**We are all part of the International Permaculture Convergence in 2015**

by Alan Thornton, IPCUK coordinator – IPCUK@



For the first time ever the IPC will be in Britain and we are already working with hundreds of people to make sure it's an amazing month that reflects the global diversity of our movement and the wealth of amazing experience in our networks. Next September the Convergence and Conference will be THE places in the world to be to meet other people passionate about permaculture and to build our individual and collective strengths.



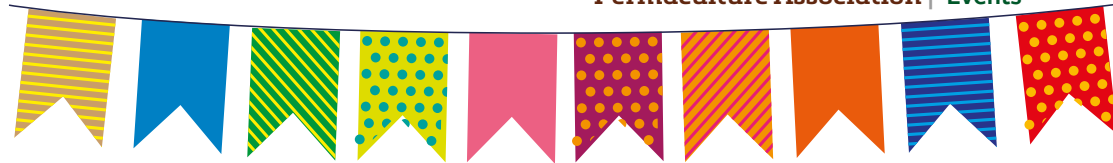
Gilwell Park

The Conference will be held over two days in central London for up to 1000 people and will include some of the very best speakers and workshop leaders from UK sustainability and international permaculture. Mornings will be whole group sessions with speakers, presentations, music, and powerful questions all addressing the conference theme of 'Designing the World We Want'. Afternoons will be participatory with break out sessions oriented around 7 themes: built environment, culture and education, finance and economics, health and well being, land and nature stewardship, land tenure and community governance, tools and technology. We will be setting clear criteria for presentations, papers and posters, to ensure focused, high quality contributions.

The 5-day convergence is the biennial global gathering of 500+ expert permaculture designers and practitioners. Participants will register and rest on the Thursday at our beautiful woodland setting of Gilwell Park, on the outskirts of London with magnificent views. It is easy to get to by public transport and only 13 miles from the conference. <img

Over the next 5 days there will be hundreds of workshops, presentations, international organising and networking, dancing, and swimming. Ultimately this is a unique global gathering of some of the most inspired permaculture designers – a chance not to be missed. This year's British Convergence is also at Gilwell Park which will help to ensure excellent planning and organisation for next year. To take part in next year's Convergence you will need to have completed a full Permaculture Design Certificate (PDC) course – so get cracking if you haven't done it yet! To find out a PDC near you, have a look at our website: [www.permaculture.org.uk/courses](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/courses) and check out the poster!

Before and after the Conference and Convergence there will be a diverse multitude of 'Edge Events'. These are intended to maximise the learning opportunities of having so many amazing designers and practitioners in London, Britain and Europe in September. We are looking for groups to organise workshops, multi-day tours, a



## UK Permaculture Convergence 2014: Get ready for a life-changing event!

The Permaculture Association warmly invites you to spend an unforgettable weekend (12–14 September) at this year’s UK Permaculture Convergence, at Gilwell Park in London, an amazing forest location with great views, and home of the wonderful Scout Association!

This year’s event will be a bit different to previous convergences. We are welcoming the whole permaculture community (not just Association members), inviting friends from other networks (Transition, Incredible Edible and more) and are warming-up for next year’s International Convergence. So, while it is our opportunity to get together with like-minded people, there also is a big focus on the edge: outreach, building new connections, looking beyond Britain and into the future.

The weekend will be packed with a diversity of workshops. Whether you are new to permaculture or want to deepen your knowledge, you can be sure you will leave with plenty of new ideas, knowledge and practical skills. We have a growing list of confirmed workshop leaders and speakers, which include Looby Macnamara, who is going to present her new book “Seven Ways to Think Differently”; Chris Evans, who will talk about permaculture in the Himalaya; and Maddy Harland, who will introduce us to the world of unusual trees and forest gardens.

The convergence is one of THE networking events for over 300 people interested in permaculture and sustainability. 90% of past participants mentioned meaningful networking as one of the main strengths of the event. Susan, who attended the 2012 convergence, tells us: “It is so inspiring and

also such a relaxed and enjoyable way to meet like-minded people and exchange ideas”. Matt couldn’t agree more: “The people make the Convergence! You can learn something new every five minutes, share ideas for projects, and make new friends!”

The Convergence is great value for money too! Ticket prices include: six lovely, organic meals, grown by OrganicLea; accommodation and workshops; talks and evening entertainment. And don’t forget to bring your swimmers for Gilwell Park’s outdoor pool! To find out about different booking options and prices, please visit [www.permaculture.org.uk/convergence2014](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/convergence2014). We are looking forward to seeing you there!

### Convergence quick facts

- **When?** 2pm Fri 12/9/14 – 4pm Sun 14/09/14
- **Where?** 30 minutes from central London: Gilwell Park Scout Activity Centre, London E4 7QW
- **Confirmed speakers include:** Maddy Harland, Aranya, Looby Macnamara, Ian Lillington, Graham Burnett, Chris Evans, Hannah Thorogood, Deano Martin, Wilf Richards, Alan Charlton and more.
- **Diploma accreditation:** Jan Martin
- **Market place:** sell your wares to offset the cost of your ticket!
- **Adventure activities:** swimming pool, climbing wall and more
- **Kids activities, Cake stall, Book swap**
- **Ceilidh on Friday Night**
- **Home-made cabaret on Saturday night**
- **Tickets include all meals and camping:** upgrades are available for dorm rooms, and there are a limited number of hotel-style rooms (contact Joe for details [learn@](mailto:learn@)).



Impression from the IPC Cuba 2013

2-week international PDC, teacher training, permablitzes, job-shadowing, and master classes. An Edge Events Guide will be published soon. Please have a think about what you can offer – we are especially keen to see if we can host young people from around the world on low cost WWOOF style volunteering before and after.

IPCUK is aiming to be the biggest ever international gathering of permaculture designers and we are working with the IPC India team to make sure the Hyderabad IPC in December 2017 builds on the success of London. Half of all profits from IPCUK will go to that event in 2017 which will focus on Women in Agriculture.

Our IPC will only be as good as the contributions we can all make. So please see if you can:

1. Register your interest to be the first to hear when bookings open in September: [permaculture.org.uk/IPCUK](http://permaculture.org.uk/IPCUK)
2. Come to this year’s Convergence, also in Gilwell Park, 12-14 September: [permaculture.org.uk/convergence2014](http://permaculture.org.uk/convergence2014)
3. Join one of the 12 international working groups that are starting work now: [permaculture.org.uk/international/ipc-working-groups](http://permaculture.org.uk/international/ipc-working-groups)
4. Start thinking now about an Edge Event you could have in your area for the many of permaculture practitioners coming to our islands
5. Start raising money to help bring people to Britain from every country and nation where permaculture is happening!

To find out more about the IPCUK, please visit [www.permaculture.org.uk/IPCUK](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/IPCUK) or email [IPCUK@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:IPCUK@permaculture.org.uk)

## Members spotlight

### Rick Cross in Cumbria (Danaway Small Farm)

“Permaculture provides a practical set of principles and values that lead me to creative, resource efficient solutions to the challenges of modern life.”

Along with my Granddad and John Seymour, Bill Mollison has been an inspiration from an early age. Between the wars, my Granddad had a fruit farm in Kent that has been a legend in our family ever since. The Second World War brought an end to that enterprise, but its vision lived on in family stories.

My training as a Landscape Architect, experience on plant nurseries and evening classes in ecology led me into a career in community based sustainable development. After twenty years of designing green spaces, planting woodlands and building cycleways, I now find myself returning to my Grandfathers vision of a more self-sufficient, land based lifestyle.

Refreshed by my Permaculture Design Training with Rod Everett at Middlewood I am now in my second season of turning two and a half acres of windswept, low grade pasture into a permaculture smallholding in North Cumbria.

Last year excavations for our super insulated house provided an opportunity to create a terraced growing area with an increased depth of topsoil. Structure planting and shelter belts followed along with a series of ponds, which are now fed by our rainwater harvesting system.



Quessant sheep © Peter Skillen

For the main structure of the site I have subdivided it into gardens, paddocks, wildlife zones and a poultry pen. We have established a composting system, renovated a second hand poly-tunnel and planted our comfrey bed. The chicken are due to arrive in a few weeks. My flock of rare breed Ouessant sheep, wintered on another five acres of rented land, are well established now and produced twelve good strong lambs this year.

The sheep arrived two years ago thanks to Val Grainger, from her LAND Project outside Taunton. I have inherited her breeding programme and vision for this small sheep as the ideal permaculture breed. They are hardy utility sheep with a gentle temperament that originated in the French Channel Islands, producing both meat and wool and being well suited to agroforestry systems.

**Do you want to tell us about your business? Get in touch with Nicola: [membership@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:membership@permaculture.org.uk)**

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## Triodos Bank

**Make your money make a difference: Triodos and the Permaculture Association**

We are all encouraged to look at our consumer choices: how the goods we purchase are traded, or how the food we eat reaches our plate, and to check that the processes, practices and products we buy align with our values. Few people however consider how they interact with the financial system and whether their choices reflect their values.

Triodos are an ethical bank that only lend money to finance organisations like organic food and farming businesses and pioneering renewable energy enterprises, or recycling companies and nature conservation projects. The funds lent in this way have come from the money saved entrusted to them by a large and growing movement of people who want to know that their savings will only be used to support positive environmental and social projects: doing good with their money, until they need it back again.

Triodos are a bank offering personal savings accounts that are truly ethical and now when a Permaculture Association supporter opens a Triodos Bank savings account by going to [www.triodos.co.uk/permaculture](http://www.triodos.co.uk/permaculture), and deposits £100 or more Triodos will donate £40 to us. In turn, we will use these donations to support the use of permaculture and a better future for us all.

**More info as well as terms and conditions can be found at [www.triodos.co.uk/permaculture](http://www.triodos.co.uk/permaculture)**

# Permaculture Scotland

[www.permaculture.org.uk/scotland](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/scotland)



## New Scottish LAND centre

Congratulations to Coig Cottage – our latest ScotLAND Centre! We now have six excellent demonstrations of permaculture in action a.k.a. ScotLAND Centres! We also have seven projects who are working towards that status, ScotLAND Learners. We have applied for more funding, so we have got our fingers crossed! If you would like to apply to become a Learner, you can do so! Just email [scotland@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:scotland@permaculture.org.uk) for more details.

## What were you doing on International Permaculture Day?

Kintyre Bioregional ScotLAND Centre hosted the Glasgow Permaculture Design Course students where we learnt about swales, rainwater harvesting, eco-buildings, did a spot of gardening, played some games and had a Ceilidh!



Top: Beekeeping at the last Scotland Gathering (June 2014)

Below: Glasgow PDC students play bat and moth at Kintyre Bioregional, ScotLAND Centre



# Paramaethu Cymru Permaculture Wales

[www.permaculture.org.uk/wales](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/wales)



## Wales Working Group

The Wales Working Group met in Monmouthshire in March and relaunched itself with fresh plans. We are continuing to develop our Tir Dysgu bid for Lottery funding to take forward the sterling work that has been the LAND project in England. It is our intention to create a strong network in Wales, offering support, signposting, consultancy services and news updates. If you have a land-based project and have not yet registered with us, get in touch through [paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com](mailto:paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com) and we will be delighted to hear from you.

**We're also getting on with plans for our website and welcome photographs, articles and ideas. Mae croeso arbennig i bobl sy'n gallu cyfrannu trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg!**

## News from around Wales

Congratulations to Felin Uchaf, where volunteers from Pen Llyn and all over the world have built a beautiful timber-frame thatched barn under instruction from project manager Dafydd Davies-Hughes. The barn is already being used to train local teenagers in restoring traditional boats. There's a job opportunity there too for a new café and horticultural enterprise: see [www.felinuchaf.org](http://www.felinuchaf.org).

In Cardiff, ShareDYDD are looking for volunteers to offer a welcome to destitute asylum seekers: [cardiffdestitutionnetwork.wordpress.com/sharedydd/](http://cardiffdestitutionnetwork.wordpress.com/sharedydd/).

Our congratulations go to Cath Smith for successfully completing her Diploma! (See photo on page 11.)



Timber-frame thatched barn built by volunteers

## Welsh Gathering 12– 13 July

Come to Llanant Farm, Monmouthshire, for an opportunity to share what we've done so far, develop our strategy for Wales, map permaculture across Wales and build connections between people and projects. Camping will be available and there will be a small charge. To find out more, contact [paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com](mailto:paramaethu.cymru@gmail.com).

# Members

## Business members

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

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

**Biologic Design Ltd**, Archenhills, Hope House Lane, Bringsty WR6 5TZ • jay@biologicdesign.co.uk • 01886 884721 • www.biologicdesign.co.uk

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

**Encounters Arts Re-economy Centre** 13 Leechwell Street, Totnes TQ9 5SX • 07870 698333 • admin@encounters-arts.org.uk

**Feagour Designs** 16 Fairway, Haddington EH41 4EP • 07710 432560 • peter@feagourdesigns.co.uk • www.feagourdesigns.co.uk

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

**Gaia University** 12 Droridge, Totnes TQ9 6JQ • 01803 863595 • www.gaiauniversity.org

**Geyer Estates Ltd** 20 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RE • 0207 8379627 • info@stathanshotel.com • www.stathanshotel.com

**Growing People** 208 Barnsley Road, Barnsley S72 8UJ

**HOLOS Form LTD** 25 Upper Drive, East Preston, Littlehampton BN16 1QN • 07961 397017 • rod@holosform.com • www.holosform.com

**Hulme Community Garden Centre** c/o The Claremont Centre, Rolls Crescent, Hulme, Manchester M15 5FS • 0161 227 8198 • kath@hulmegardencentre.org.uk

**LUSH Cosmetics** 19 Strand Street, Poole BH15 1SB • cadri.roberts@lush.co.uk • www.lush.com

**Permaculture Activist** Post Office Box 5516, Bloomington 47407, UNITED STATES • www.permacultureactivist.net

**Permaculture Education Project** 1 Eureka Terrace, Newton Abbott TQ13 9HG • 0845 4580194 • griff80@hotmail.co.uk

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

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

**Positive News** 5 Torrens Street Islington London EC1V 1NQ • office@positivenews.org.uk

• www.positivenews.org.uk • 01588 640022

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

**Reforestation Scotland** c/o Ian Edwards, The Stables, Falkland KY15 7AF • mandy@reforestingscotland.org • www.reforestingscotland.org

**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

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

**T4 Sustainability Ltd** 1A Manners Court Manners Avenue, Manners Industrial Estate, Ilkeston, DE7 8EF • 08454561332 • info@t4s ltd.co.uk • www.t4s ltd.co.uk

**The Bay Trust** Pines Garden, Beach Road, St Margarets Bay, Dover CT15 6DZ • 01304 851737 • julie@baytrust.org.uk • baytrust.org.uk

**The Fleetwood Initiative** Flat 3, 78 Luke Street, London EC2A 4PY • 07765 893352 • info@fleetwoodinitiative.org

**Urban Roots Initiative** Toryglen Community Base, 8–34 Prospect Hill Square Glasgow G42 0LE • 0141 613 2766 • projects@urbanroots.org.uk • www.urbanroots.org.uk

## Group members

### London

**Forest Farm Peace Garden**, 98–100 Ilford Lane, Ilford IG1 2LD • 07913089979

• info@forestfarmpeacegarden.org

• www.forestfarmpeacegarden.org

**Green Peppers Orchard and Forest Garden**, 156 St Paul's Crescent, London NW1 9XZ • 020 7267 9586

• officemlcc@yahoo.co.uk • www.maidenlanece.org

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

• growcomm@growingcommunities.org

• www.growingcommunities.org • 020 75027588

**Hackney Community Nursery & Forest Garden**

55 Chatsworth Road, London E5 0LA

• hmug@hmug.org.uk

**Lambourne End Outdoor Centre** Manor Road,

Lambourne End RM4 1NB

• tony.sharps@lambourne-end.org.uk

• www.lambourne-end.org.uk • 0208 500 3047

**London Permaculture Network** 20 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RE • info@londonpermaculture.com • 0207 8379627

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

**Women's Environmental Network** 20 Club Row, London E2 7EY • info@wen.org.uk • www.wen.org.uk • 0207 481 9004

### South West of England

**Affinity Woodland Workers Coop Ltd** Steward Community Woodland, Moretonhampstead, Newton Abbot TQ13 8SD

• 01647 440233 • community@stewardwood.org

• www.stewardwood.org

**Embercombe** Higher Ashton, Exeter EX6 7QQ

• info@embercombe.co.uk • www.embercombe.co.uk

### Federation of City Farms and Gardens

The GreenHouse, Hereford Street, Bristol BS3 4NA

• admin@farmgarden.org.uk

• www.farmgarden.org.uk • 0117 923 1800

**Grow Changford** Westcott House, Chagford TQ13 8JF

• susancharley@btinternet.com • 01273 726828

**High Heathercombe Centre** Heathercombe Brake

Manaton, Newton Abbot TQ13 9XE • 01647 221425

**Himalayan Permaculture Group** 8 Copper Beeches,

Close Much Dewchurch, Hereford HR2 8DX

• 01269 822786 • cevans@gn.apc.org

• www.himalayanpermaculture.com

**Landmatters Permaculture Project** Allaleigh Lane,

Allaleigh Blackawton, Totnes TQ9 7DL • 01803 712718

• landmatters@gmail.com • www.landmatters.org.uk

**Langford Environmental Education Project (LEEP)**

20 Hornbeam Gardens, Bradwinch, Exeter EX5 4NZ

• 01392 882 342

**Shift Bristol** 20 Winscombe Close, Keynsham BS31 2HR

• bristol\_permaculture@yahoo.co.uk

**Sims Hill Shared Harvest** 3 Burlington Road,

Bristol BS6 6TJ • 07973256572

• simshillsharedharvest@googlemail.com

• simshill.co.uk

**Transition Marlborough** c/o 4 Orchard Road,

Marlborough SN8 4AU • 01672 514652

• www.transitionmarlborough.org

### South East of England

**Apricot Centre** 83 Hungerdown Lane, Lawford,

Manningtree CO11 2LY • 01206 230425

• info@apricotcentre.co.uk

**Brighton Permaculture Trust** c/o 40 St Dunstons Road,

Worthing, Brighton, BN13 1AB

• 07766 428 304 • mulreany@btinternet.com

• www.brightonpermaculture.org.uk

**Kevalar Permaculture Group** Kevalar Farm, Looe PL13 1PA • ediblewolfpeaches@btinternet.com • www.kevalar.org • 01503 250 343

**Petworth Community Garden** 3 Council Cottages, Heathend, Petworth GU28 0JQ • 01798 342758 petworthcommunitygarden@hotmail.com

• www.petworthcommunitygarden.org.uk

**Sutton Community Farm** 40a Telegraph Track, Wallington, Surrey • SM6 0SH • 07722 156097

• sam@suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk

• www.suttoncommunityfarm.org.uk

**The Sustainability Centre** Droxford Road, East Meon,

Petersfield GU32 1HR • 01730 823166

• info@sustainability-centre.org

• www.sustainability-centre.org

**Trust Links** 47 Fairfax Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea GU32 1HR

• office@trustlinks.org • www.trustlinks.org

• 01702 213134

### East Anglia

**Cambridge Permaculture Group** 3 Fen Road, Chesterton Cambridge CB4 1TU • 01223 565960

**Sage House** 35 Westerfield Road, Ipswich IP4 2UE

• chrisanables@aol.com

**Transition Cambridge Permaculture Group**

c/o 124 Foster Road, Trumpington, Cambridge CB2 9JP

• 01223 840 602 • cradle@phoncoop.coop

**Transition Marlborough** c/o 4 Orchard Road,

Marlborough SN8 4AU • 01672 514652

• www.transitionmarlborough.org

**Triangle Community Garden** 23 Priory Way,

Hitchin SG5 4 9BJ • 01462 621585

• triangle.garden@ntlworld.com

• www.trianglegarden.org

**Tatnam Organic Patch** c/o Gary Finch 37 Johnston Road

Poole BM15 3HS • garyfinch10@btinternet.com

• 01202 679 517

### East Midlands

**Earth Heart Housing Co-operative** Atlow Moat,

Ashbourne DE6 1NS • earth.heart@hotmail.co.uk

• 01335 372124

**GraceWorks** 117 Margaret Road, Leicester LE5 5FW

• ben@communityofgrae.co.uk • 07971 218710

**Indigo Brave Land** Wensor Bridge Farm, Shelton,

Newark NG23 5JQ • info@indigobrave.com

• www.indigobraveland.com

**Lincoln Permaculture Design Course** 6 Hawthorn Road,

Lincoln LN2 4QX

**Manara Education CIC** 1 Green Lane Close,

Leicester LE5 4NJ • admin@manara-education.co.uk

**Sage House** 35 Westerfield Road, Ipswich IP4 2UE

• info@veduna-centre.com

**The Undle Project** 25 Rushes Lane, Lubenham Market,

Harborough, LE16 9TN

## Members continued

### West Midlands

**Fordhall Community Land Initiative** Fordhall Organic Farm, Ternhill Road, Market Drayton TF9 3PS  
 ● project@fordhallfarm.com ● www.fordhallfarm.com  
 ● 01630 638696

**Garden Organic Ryton Organic Gardens**  
 Coventry CV8 3LG ● enquiry@hdra.org.uk  
 ● www.gardenorganic.org.uk ● 024 7630 3517

**Highbury Orchard Community CIC**  
 73 All Saints Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7LN  
 ● lizp@blueyonder.co.uk

**The Celtic Earth Project** 15 Wordsworth Ave, Leyfields, Tamworth, B79 8BZ  
 ● admin@thecelticearthproject.org.uk

**The Haven Clump Hill Farm** Hainton Market, Rasen LN8 6LT ● 07989 694 842

### North West of England

**Offshoots Permaculture Project** c/o Towneley Hall Art Gallery and Museum, Towneley Homes Road, Burnley BB11 3RG ● 01282 450270  
 ● info@offshoots.org.uk ● www.offshoots.org.uk

**New Shoots** c/o 21 Poppyfields, Hesketh Bank, Preston, Lancashire PR4 6TJ ● friendsofnewshoots@hotmail.co.uk  
 ● 01772814636

### North East of England

**Abundant Earth** 12 Goodwell Lea, Brancepeth DH7 8EN  
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**Harehope Quarry Project** Broadwood Mill, Harehope Quarry, Frosterley, Bishop Auckland DL13 2SG  
 ● jill@harehopequarry.org.uk  
 ● www.harehopequarry.org.uk

**Scotswood Natural Community Garden** John Marley Centre, Whickham View, Scotswood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE15 6TT ● 0845 4581653 ● kate@sncg.org.uk  
 ● www.sncg.org.uk

### Yorkshire and Humberside

**Community Composting Network** 67 Alexandra Road, Sheffield S2 3EE ● www.communitycompost.org  
 ● 0114 2580483

**Ecclesall Woods Craft Courses** Abbey Lane, Sheffield S7 2QZ ● 07976964051  
 ● www.ecclesallwoodscraftcourses.co.uk

**Horton Community Farm** C/o 12 Esmond Street, Bradford BD7 4DX ● karen@hcf.org.uk ● www.hcf.org.uk  
 ● 01422 242776

**Incredible Edible Holmfirth** 34 Holmclose Holmbridge, Holmfirth HD9 2NJ

**Leeds Permaculture Network** c/o Permaculture Association, Hollybush Conservation Centre, Broad Lane, Leeds LS5 3BP ● 0113 262 3536  
 ● www.leedspermaculturenetwork.org

**Old Sleningford Farm** North Stainley, Ripon HG4 3JB  
 ● 01765 635202 ● rachel@oldsleningford.co.uk  
 ● www.oldsleningford.co.uk

### Wales

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**Brithdir Mawr Community** Cilgwyn Road, Newport SA42 0QJ ● paul@brithdirmawr.co.uk  
 ● www.brithdirmawr.co.uk ● 01239 820164

**Centre for Alternative Technology**  
 Machynlleth SY20 9AZ ● 01654 702400  
 ● catriona.toms@cat.org.uk

**Coed Marros Co-op** Marros South, Pendine SA33 4PW  
 ● info@coedmarros.com ● www.coedmarros.com  
 ● 07959 435094

**Dyfed Permaculture Farm Trust** Penboyr, Drefach Felindre SA44 5HG ● 01559 371427

**The Garth Hillside Organic Garden** Box Cottage, Garth, Glyn Ceiriog, Llangollen, LL20 7LY  
 ● www.garthorganic.co.uk ● 01691 718127

**Grow More Project** 33 Affrica Gardens, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF14 3B

**Lampeter Permaculture Group** c/o Wern Fach Talsarn, Lampeter, SA48 8QY ● 01570 471717

**Naturewise** Hafandeg, Penrhiw, Saint Dogmaels, Cardigan SA43 3HH ● info@naturewise.org.uk  
 ● 0845 4584697

**South West Wales Permaculture Network** Uplands Farm, Llandawke, Laugharne SA33 4RE ● 01994427310  
 ● aandpstopp@googlemail.com

### Scotland

**Tayside Recyclers** South Dunhope Mill, Douglas Street, Dundee DD1 5AN ● 01382 228986

**Disability Awareness Group** 13 The e-Centre, Cooperage Way Business Village, Alloa, Clackmannanshire FK10 3LP  
 ● alisterdag@gmail.com ● 01259272018

### International

**Permaculture Institute of Vale da Lama** Quinta do Vale da Lama, Rua Beira Mar N.1, Burgau, Portugal  
 ● +351 282697610

**Permaculture Research Foundation** Malta  
 361 Triq Ghajn Zejtuna Mellieha, MLH 2709, Malta  
 ● permaculture.malta@gmail.com

## Join us!

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
- A network of over 60 LAND centres demonstrating permaculture in action
- Networking at members events such as the biannual National Convergence
- Our members to promote their permaculture courses, events and work via our website
- Over 283 apprentices registered onto the Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design

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](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/join)

## Opportunities

### IPCUK working groups

For the IPC UK to be amazing we need lots of people to help on the 12 working groups! These are: Finance; Advertising & Sponsorship; Communication and Publicity; Media; Registrations and Visas; Sponsored Delegate Support; Edge Event; Conference; Convergence coordination; knowledge management; language support and Young people & Children. By being part by one of the working groups, you will be contributing to the biggest global permaculture event ever! Find out more by visiting [www.permaculture.org.uk/international/ipc-working-groups](http://www.permaculture.org.uk/international/ipc-working-groups) or email [IPCUK@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:IPCUK@permaculture.org.uk)

### Kids Activities at convergence

We're looking for someone – or a couple of people – to coordinate the kids' activities area at Convergence in September. This year it's from 9–12 September at Gilwell Park near London. Gilwell Park is a great venue for groups and people will be camping and in indoor accommodation. The kids's activities area will be in a big tent, close to the cafe and Convergence hub and of course it will have access to plenty of outdoor space too. Adventure activities are on offer and we hope to include some of these in the timetable. You will be an experienced leader of activities for kids aged five and up. You will need a current CRB. We are also looking for additional KidsZone core volunteers with a current CRB who can deputise for the coordinator during the event, and volunteers to join in the activities. The coordinator from the last convergence wrote a great handbook, so you will have that to refer to. If you would like to

get involved as volunteer, or can give a few hours over the convergence weekend, great! Please contact Harriet at the office. If you haven't got a current CRB, please let her know: [office@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:office@permaculture.org.uk)

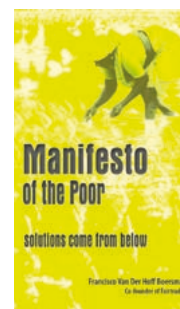
### Flickr Volunteer

The Permaculture Association is looking for a volunteer willing to help getting our image archive up to date! Tasks include sorting and labelling images, connecting to members of our network through flickr, link our flickr account to other social media channels and explore other options for making the best use of our images. To find out more, contact our new communications coordinator: [communicate@permaculture.org.uk](mailto:communicate@permaculture.org.uk)

### Internship opportunities at the Permaculture Association

The Chief Executive is looking for a range of support to enable the Association to make better use of the many opportunities available. Volunteers will be able to either: provide regular support over a period of at least three to six months, for at least one day a week; or, shorter, more intensive support for one to three months, for three to four days a week. Tasks could include project development / fundraising / project management / media work / scheduling and arranging meetings / etc. Reasonable expenses can be covered, and accommodation for shorter more intensive work is also possible. Regular supervision and learning plan is included. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Cath (admin@) to express your interest.

## Book review



### Manifesto of the Poor – Solutions Come From Below

By Francisco Van der Hoff Boersma

Publisher: Permanent Publications (2014)

ISBN: 978-1-85623-170-1

A couple of years ago my suggestion that fair trade should be an integral part of a permaculture lifestyle was met with some sceptical raised eye brows, so I am delighted that Permanent Publications have decided to publish this book, which builds a powerful bridge between permaculture and the struggle for economic justice by the world's fair trade farmers. In fact the book makes no explicit mention of 'permaculture', but the author's advocacy of small-scale, environmentally sustainable farming is steeped in the ethics of people care, earth care and fair shares. The greatest strength of the book is its formulation of fair trade as an alternative economic system to market capitalism. For me, even after 20 years in the fair trade movement, this was a revelation. The author, a small coffee producer in Mexico who also holds a doctorate in economics, argues that fair trade is not just about buying and selling commodities at a fairer price, but is a radical philosophy which rejects globalisation and individualism, values community happiness over individual economic gain, foregrounds the wisdom of indigenous communities, and allows small scale producers to maintain and strengthen their connections to the land they work. He sees the social and the environmental as intimately connected, with both being destroyed by the 'monster' of

global capitalism. Thus, like Via Campesina, fair trade is essentially a peasant movement that celebrates peasant values.

The second great strength of the book lies in the bringing of the core ideas of liberation theology into the mainstream of radical political discourse. Van der Hoff, himself a worker priest, follows a philosophical path well trodden by radical theologians like Boff and Wresinski in the 70s and 80s, but quotes neither the gospels nor Marx, making these ideas much more palatable to a non-Catholic (and non-Marxist) audience. Those coming from an anarchist, radical green or anti-globalisation background will find as much to inspire them here as left wing Catholics, and that is clearly Van der Hoff's goal; 'we must mobilize the alternative good will into a citizen's movement...we are natural allies' (p.51). His essential argument is that the values of Western capitalism are a corrupting dead end, and that the values we need for a sustainable human future are to be learned from the world's dispossessed peasant farmers; 'it is time to give human beings back their humanity, and to give the earth back its sacredness' (p.61). Above all, Van der Hoff argues repeatedly for social solidarity; solidarity amongst the poor themselves, and solidarity between wealthy consumers in the West and poor producers in the Global South. He calls on each of us to join this movement of solidarity; 'each one of us must play a role' (p.51).

Read this book and realise why fair trade is about so much more than brewing your next cup of tea; it is about brewing a radically different world.

Chris Warburton-Brown

Available from [www.green-shopping.co.uk](http://www.green-shopping.co.uk) for £5.95



# Permaculture explained: Produce no waste

By Phil Moore

Phil Moore writes for Permaculture Magazine, and is one half of Permaculture People ([permaculturepeople.tumblr.com/aboutus](http://permaculturepeople.tumblr.com/aboutus)). After two years visiting, learning, and sharing at permaculture projects from Mexico to Argentina they are now continuing their research across the UK. Tweet them at @permapeople

Sat on the loo there's plenty of time for reflection. Travelling through the Americas visiting permaculture projects, waste, and its (mis) management, was an everyday preoccupation.

Touring the Willy Wonka forest garden world of Christopher Nesbitt, permaculture guru and grand wizard look-a-like, at Maya Mountain Research Farm ([www.mmrfbz.org](http://www.mmrfbz.org)), Belize, we paused outside his compost loos as he proceeded to describe the conventional flush toilet as a "pathogen dispersal unit", his mocking words articulating the madness of polluting perfectly drinkable water with our own waste.

Us humans are the only animals who pollute. Permaculture recognises waste as an unused output. If permaculture can be described as the art of making connections, then the shift from the idea of 'waste' to one of 'resource' has some merit. Nowhere is this more apparent than in our relationship to our shit.

I would often measure the worthiness of a project by the quality of its compost toilet. I marvelled at ones that had lush green roofs, ones where rain water to wash your hands with would feed the colourful flower beds next to you, or outdoor 'thrones' that commanded stunning views.

One example of how human waste was used intelligently as part of a bigger design was at Rancho Mastatal ([www.ranchomastatal.com](http://www.ranchomastatal.com)) in Costa Rica. Well seasoned "humanure" would make up part of the potting mix for their tree nursery. Perhaps most impressively, however, was the beautiful biodigester toilet. The poop powered jungle 'john' produced both fertiliser from the effluent and gas – from the anaerobic process – in the form of methane would provide fuel to the kitchen pumping out delicious food to the army of hungry volunteers, some of who earlier that day would have made their contribution to the cycle. A wonderfully economical illustration of the much vaunted, in permaculture circles, the closed-loop system.

Sat in the bamboo, stone, and earth built privy watching the jungle I pondered on how the principle 'produce no waste' also feeds into other ideas of self-maintaining systems, valuing resources and how natural processes can be part of a sustainably designed and lived lifestyle. Its not waste until its wasted.



Poo with a view



Rancho Mastatal Jungle John