

South London Permaculture

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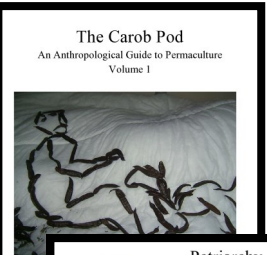
The Big Hanna: regurgitating Archimedes

If you find the title a little puzzling it is because I am dwelling on the science a bit—the eagle has landed so to speak. The Big Hanna has found its new home in the lovely Oasis Children's Venture Playground at Stockwell and has got everyone excited about the prospect of a brand new education facility. Inside you will find an article on the pros and cons of compost making whereas this machine goes under the term 'biodigester'. For those who are not fully aware we are talking about a lot more kitchen waste to turn over, with the added help of applied heat to help break down the material faster. When we took the wraps of the machine we realized this was a restoration job, and we quickly got to work. Malcolm, the donor from Evelyn Community Community Gardens, brought down Angelo the engineer to have a good look at it. It hasn't been used since 2009 and so it is going to need a 6-month plan to get it up and running again. In the meantime the volunteers of Oasis and South London Permaculture hope to start up a scheme where we can collect local waste and then educate the people whilst making compost. This then feeds into local projects including garden clubs, organic food outlets, and waste collection. Budding volunteers should get in touch now, especially those who



If you don't believe in God because of all the horrors that seemingly go unnoticed in this world, you wouldn't believe in God anyway even if all these terrors never happen.

The first and second volumes of a 3-part series available at the Market. See also the new journal format.



Back to Africa: an invitation to return to The Gambia

NGO-run MyFarm graciously invited me back and paid for my return flight to help set up an irrigation system on the farm. I am very excited at the continuing prospect, and I also had 2 volunteers staying with me from my hometown in Catalonia.

My vision to become an itinerant permaculture teacher is really taking flight. See inside for a Q&A with the farm manager and contacts.



wish to be runners.

Come to Catalonia



Volunteer opportunities for one or two members

to help work the land in a beautiful part of Spain. Access to the sea and neighbouring towns, and a shared caravan. Self-catering but many benefits include trips to regional mountainous and valley beauty spots, as well as direct rail services to Valencia, Tarragona and Barcelona. Cycling is also a must in this country. The project is the beginnings of an eco-settlement illustrated in the above books. The first phase building the large cistern and developing the polytunnel has already progressed. Other learning experiences include dry-stone walling, eco-build, walking and mountaineering, olive and carob cultivation, and fruit and vegetable production. The main period of farming is between October and March. Only companions are sort and must be of a spiritual disposition. Please contact the editor for further details or see our website www.solterologicgarden.com



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A materialistic law is not conducive to a spiritual renaissance

I had a dream. I found myself at an ATM looking into the deposit tray where your money comes out. It looked like some money was crunched up inside and stuck, so I poked my fingers in there and pulled out maybe £140. There was also a blank cheque, double-sided, tempting me to fill in my

name. I thought about putting it back into the machine.

The lesson here is temptation. What is free money? Does it lead you to fraud in tempting you to claim more than you need, so that it would leave a physical proof that you had been seduced? A selling off of one's spiritual capital? Ultimately the dream is asking me what is legal and what is moral.

I went to court recently and one thing I learnt is that social justice is not meted out by judges. The law is a stratum of language that obeys rules. A solicitor is capable of defining the law to suit their client's victory no matter what moral background they may be supporting. It is not about fooling the judge either, but convincing him or her that you obeyed the rules, and the more adept you are the more likely you are to succeed. This particular judge was very capable at remembering and portraying a legal battle between a lay person trying to make sense of the legal system without a solicitor, and a solicitor doing everything to hide the facts of a corrupt housing association that claims to be a charity. My defence was, for all intents and purposes, thrown out even though I filed a "very commendable" account of the situation. Helix Housing Association, on the other hand, would not admit to granting me a tenancy which was still in my parent's name, when I knowingly took over the property for 16 years and they retired to Spain. What didn't make sense is how a judge could not grant me a tenancy agreement yet still penalize me for unpaid rents, and that after I won the right to be a third defendant. Despite communications between myself and Helix going back many years, more recently due to the fact that Helix condemned the property as untenable in an attempt to get rid of me, telling me that no-one must live there, and in spite of repairing it, this was not proof of Tenancy, yet I still would have to pay lost rents. At least I had time to appeal, maybe before Lambeth County courts is converted into luxury housing and offices. Three months on, in spite of contacting the courts, the appeal has also gone into hiding.

It was all rather short notice. I had only just picked my olives and pressed them when I decided to come back to London to buy a van. My defence was scheduled for March 2017 so I was content in the fact that it had been filed and I could get on with earning hard-needed cash. After this arrangement my parents said they had received another letter from the Claimant's solicitors in the last week of November. Unexpectedly there was a hearing date for the beginning of December, an application N244 made one month earlier. The solicitors sent another bundle of notes to add to the mountain already received, mainly replicas, and only by luck had I already booked a cheap flight. Either my parents withheld the Notice before giving it to me, or they just blatantly ignored it, such is my predicament. Suffice to say, when I got back to London there was no notification of the hearing from the courts, only more copies of the letters and Offense from the solicitors. I concluded two reasons, either

my parents did not want me to defend the case, maybe due to acting under duress due to the strength of my Defence and likely conspiratorial elements to it, or the notification went missing in order to delay any further evidence that I may be able to present to the courts.

This is more than conjecture. Just before I had left for Spain previous to that last occasion I looked for my Spanish sim card in the place where I knew I left it, amongst other sim cards and some other personal stuff; it wasn't there. I checked over and over, important as it is to communicate with me in Spain other than the temperamental landline that my parent's answer. If they don't know the person on the other end they are likely to put down the phone such is my situation. Previous readers may be aware of the similar hacking and bugging experiences I have experienced over the last years. So after looking 5 or 6 times in the pot where I knew I had left the sim card I went to Spain without it. On returning I went straight to that pot; the sim card was there in its obvious glory, looking up at me. Not to dwell on my presumptions too long I got on with earning some cash and tried to prepare for my case.

A client who had been sharing my garage had been refusing to shift his equipment for the last nine months. The day before the court case he eventually moved it, allowing me the room to put some stuff from my home in there in the inevitability of being thrown out of my flat forcefully. His reasons were that he hadn't received my texts over the past nine months, although I sent a few to his wife as well as speaking to her. In conclusion to my point, I wasn't mentally prepared to deal with a court case as I was still in a different time-flow living on the farm in Spain. My rationale and philosophy of life also hung around my neck in trying to justify why a solicitor with less education than me, less talent, less experience of life, can charge £150—200 per hour for their services, in order to take on another solicitor. Only the legal bodies benefit here. The intimidation is all too apparent such that whilst trying to prepare mentally my Defence the claimant's solicitors gave me yet another bundle of notes just before entering into the hearing. I read them quickly, mainly replicas and photocopies of receipts, and found out that they had a new solicitor; the former had resigned. There was some confusion at first, the District Judge wanting to understand why the case had been brought forward, because it sufficed that now I had had to cobble together my Defence with an order to justify why I should have one in the first place. My parents, by default of not turning up, had their defences struck out. The judge said I could not defend them, but my need was not without foresight. I had written to the courts requesting Power of Attorney, but it was not granted. Meanwhile my parents are housebound and my father dying of cancer in Spain and was never going to come. In fact, my father had his own agenda, having sent his Notice to Quit to Helix Housing without notifying me (I saw the photocopy of his signature in the new bundle of notes). The judge, however, appeared to help me in light of having no legal representation. When he asked me for the letter my father wrote explaining why he could not attend he asked for a copy. Surely the court's clerks should have made this available? I was already told I couldn't represent them. He also asked me for a copy of a letter Helix sent to me condemning the building as unsafe and refusing anyone the right to live there. I couldn't find it even though the judge had a copy himself among my defence report. At this stage my notes were strewn across the table. The judge had a massive wad of correspondences from the claimant at his disposal and my letter

would have been lost in it; the judge actually admitted to not reading my full defence, no doubt due to time constraints.

We can highlight then a number of problems with the legal system. Remembering also that I had been fobbed off by the free legal advice centres.

- ♦ It is corporate-controlled and hence financially motivated
- ♦ It transcends culture and takes the fight away from the actual contenders
- ♦ It has its own language and communication channels that require studying law to understand it
- ♦ It doesn't pertain to deal with social justice, only legal obligation
- ♦ It is prone to specialist knowledge that creates class distinction in society
- ♦ Free legal advice is available, likewise burdened with applicants as are the courts, but only mainly offers a cursory resolution effectively fobbing off the people who cannot afford to pay for an adept solicitor
- ♦ The system is not challenged from within yet we hear stories all the time of corruption between corporate bodies, including law firms, police and government services

I had a number of different ways to salvage the situation before it went to court. In the natural way that God grants me the possibility to uncover solutions I noticed that I had bumped into some old faces who I had lost contact with. Some of them were on my email list and would have received most of my publications for free. Whether they read them is another matter because, as I have previously said, I get no feedback other than some scant referrals to the quality of my olive oil, which I appreciate more out of exasperation for their interest in what I am trying to achieve in my vision. In actuality it is nothing special since food is a basic driving force behind many people's logic. But rather than pester these persons as to whether they could throw some light on my predicament I selected just one person to illuminate me because she had known my environmental projects from before and was also in contact with a wide social, environmental and spiritual network through her own work in South London. She informed me that, during those earlier years on the allotments word had got out that I had mis-dealings with young girls. I asked her who told her about this and she couldn't remember. I also inquired why she hadn't said anything at the time. In fact, this was the attitude of all of my contemporary social network. In actuality the problem of my deteriorating influence began then, which obviously involved the police force who would later arrest me without charge for the illegal food-growing project at the back of my garden on the railway line.

Not to dwell on this point, it was not a solution to the matter at hand—saving my flat and my Church. On this issue it would certainly have been a miracle if I could convince the judge that my home was my Church—Solteriologic Garden—created out of my own hands. In a previous correspondence to the housing association I had informed them that

a removal from these premises would inflict a psychological damage not solely through the loss of my business but, and I doubt if they could understand this, through the loss of my spiritual integrity. A judge would only see the legal situation at hand applicable to Housing Law. In fact he told me that there was no case for Family Law either in my attempt to get the tenancy passed down from my parents to a child. Maybe he was goading me in a particular direction. But I did something very unique and at a sacrifice of my legal commerce. I produced a Notice of Understanding and Intention and Claim of Right (NOUICOR). This alone set in process a psychological twist that probably had more to do with my oral failure to defend my grounds under Housing Law than the rogue tenant who would not remove his property from my rented garage. The basis of this notice fulfilled an inner desire of mine to get the housing association to concede on various points in order to uphold justice. My personal philosophy states that I am only to condemn those who admit to their crimes as this would entail their spiritual evolution, a sacrifice of their materialistic incentives. In court I had even asked Helix if they would admit to acting under duress, without response.

Batchelors Solicitors

Charles house

35 Widmore Road

Bromley, Kent BR1 1RW

Dear Batchelors Solicitors, representative of Helix Housing Association, as an offer to contract to peace I, a peaceful sovereign human being, am upholding my inalienable right under the Common Law. I would like you to consider on behalf of Helix Housing Association the following arrangement in order to offer an alternative solution regarding the adversity between your client and myself, and to do without the need to attend to the County Courts. Briefly, these are:

- To offer me a tenancy agreement in good faith for the time I have already spent at the above said property since the year 2000
- To consider wiping off any expenses and compensation, from both parties, that may have accrued due to solicitors fees, unpaid rents, and personal losses
- To admit to your forceful efforts to evict me, whether overtly or covertly, including condemning the building and allowing it to fall into a state of disrepair on the outside under the original assured tenancy agreement
- To admit that I have looked after the property beyond my legal requirements including repairing the kitchen ceiling, removing and disposing of asbestos for which you identified, and partially restoring the windows
- To identify and name any 3rd-party influence who may have put you and the Housing Association under duress
- To fall back upon the original arrangement between myself and Helix Housing Association to put my stuff into storage and allowing me to move back into the property once minimal safety measures are implemented
- To legally write an agreement to accept these above statements and not to revoke it in the future in order that I may continue to live in peace

I hand delivered this notice to the housing association without reply. It obviously did not avail. As I write this from Spain I doubt whether an appeal (now 3 months) could go through, as the phone is continually engaged and they won't respond to my emails. I have no intention of living in a house if such said, I must endure an ungrateful society who fear veering off the legal track to support a new lawful system. Yes an appeal would be based on Human Rights. Providence deals me an alternative hand. What might be a solution to a country losing its socialist politics?

- ♦ Mitigating greed and capitalism in the legal Sector by capping wages
- ♦ Preventing legal representation between law firms who exchange information and only agreeing if they are both affordable
- ♦ Bringing the fight back to the contenders under a panel of judges who would post-evaluate evidence not legally represented
- ♦ Setting up a review body to regulate and undo the actions of aberrant decisions
- ♦ Developing a process of spiritual law outside mainstream religion within a new court house



Out of Africa

How do you make a good man out of a thief if only he thinks about how short his life will be?

How do you make a loyal wife out of an adulteress when she suspects her husband of cheating on her?

And if you are a poor man does that mean you will be cured if you come across a lot of money?

Or if you are a rich man would you be rid of avarice and craving?

Where does your life end and where does it start? Is it like a shoelace that keeps breaking every time you tighten it?

That necklace around your neck, does it actually mean anything, and then only in a mirror?

Are we satisfied with the moment anymore after it has faded into smiles and reminiscence?

What is tomorrow if it hasn't arrived already? A vision or an endurance depending on how you feel today?

If I dropped a cent into the ocean would it return me something more authentic and valuable?

And if I gave the thief an apple would he appreciate it enough to take a day off from robbing?

If a man loves his wife amorously would she put away any sexual thoughts of the man next door?

Do you think being poor is any less fulfilling than being rich and generous?

You can make everybody in your image and think that you can judge for their benefit. But have you considered that you might be lacking in judgement because a good day never lasts long enough?

And if you take all your wealth and throw it off the top of a mountain what will remain to you?

Isn't it better that you learn to die than to live with unreachable expectations?

White Man in The Gambia

My journey starts from the womb of my mother
Her mountains gave leg to me in their rising
As an heir to her throne I strode upon her lofty peaks
And looked out over her wondrous body unique
There my people raised a flag in her honour
And carried it like a loin cloth to her rivers
But they felled the sacred woods to build the first forts
And lost in time the origins of their birthing ports



Now they stride against all nations in vain hope
That a war will recuperate what has been lost
But those bridges have been burned from their lack of
faith

To believe that only time will relieve them of their wrath
For this the land must again provide for their economy
So that every individual is set on a level footing together
And then when everyone will see that they are all equal



Gone will be those material excesses that blind a man to his role
 When he can look a donkey in the eye and raise his brow
 And take a bow in the manner that it serves his purpose
 And kiss it with an ardour and kinship familarness
 And so The Gambia calls me to loosen her boot laces
 To free up her toes and dry her sweating woes
 Like a breath of fresh air I breathe a new lease into her soil
 And bind her with sandals again to relinquish her toil



Here we don't look to the north anymore like in the days of old
 We do not ask for those gifts that clothe its greed in treats
 We dig our own earth and drink our own waters
 No more imports for a nation that has enough for each beast and person
 The Gambia is a river of fish for fishermen to catch in their zeal
 With drifting sands that cover our prints after a hard day's toil
 Toing and froing in the ebbing of its gracious tides
 In the nets of abundance where all species mingle and confide

Markets bustle with the hawking of its vendors
 Lessened by the sound of the Koran singing from its tors
 The unsuspecting are taken into its urgent pride and hospitality
 And whisked into a service unasked for yet polite
 That is the nature of the poor rather than beg with foul tongues
 It straightens their necks so that children can hold your hands
 'Toubab' is the label they stick on your breastplate
 To soften your armour and reveal you to your spirit





The African Way
Soap Making:

Ingredients:

- 3lt palm oil**
- 1lt or 930gr water**
- 450gr caustic soda**
- 100gr bees wax**
- 30ml honey**
- 30+ml fragrance:**
- Eucalyptus
- Mint
- Lavender
- Moringa
- Neem

The Countryman

When life would show me the hidden ways to achieve success
I would take the hands of my fellow countryman
Whenever I needed to I'd walk the streets and curb my stress
And receive the heart of every countryman

For the countryman is a man of the earth
He takes his hoe to the soil where he knows his toil
And dig for victory with a cow mooing for Company
And link his eyes to his wife who is readying to lay with him

The day's work would fly on by to the rythm of a toss of a spade
Turning the ground into a vegetable pound
He may be Green from the food he's grown but he'll fetch a packet at the market square
His wife beside him looking forward to the country fare

He'll buy his wife a brand new dress
To fit her growing belly and expanding breasts
And then she'll make him a grand breakfast
With rations of meat and eggs to fit him out best
(With a pot of tea to calm her strife
He'll don his hat and boots with a wink to his endearing wife)

Success brings fertility in the country life
Both his wife and the soil bring joy to his sight
Created in the image of nature
Comes a child born from the spoils of his tithe

1. Heat the oil and the wax separately. It must be between 40° and 45°C
2. Add melted wax into the hot oil and stir to reduce the temperature. Leave to cool ±37°C
3. Mix the water with the caustic soda and add to the oil and wax mixture stirring until you have a trace point
4. Add the honey and continue mixing until homogenized
5. Add between 30-60ml antiseptic fragrance and continue stirring. If using essence apply no more than 30ml
6. When it is totally mixed into a thick creamy soap pour into moulds using a spatula to smooth the surface
7. Once cooled turn out and wait 3 weeks before using

Q & A with Kelly Smeets, MyFarm, The Gambia



My name is Kelly Smeets, born in the Netherlands. Since 18 years ago I have been contributing to the development of the sustainable agribusiness sector and livelihood promotion in The Gambia. For the last 5 years my energy has been converted in the setting up and running of MyFarm, a 1ha educational training centre at the coastal area of The Gambia where educational activities, sustainable farming techniques and local product value and training have synergized. MyFarm is open for everybody and serves as an inspirational journey to entrepreneurship and exchange of North/South knowledge on a sustainable lifestyle.

How does MyFarm contribute to African life?

This depends on how somebody defines African life. Life in Gambia is maybe not necessarily what somebody from a Western perspective may imagine African life is. If you visualize it as a natural way of life or a life where nature is central, I personally do not find this back in the Gambian life of today. What we like to reach at MyFarm is to create a healthy team of people who like to give their energy and absorb some the energy of a peaceful environment where people who are treated equal will get a feeling that working with nature is rather receiving energy instead of taking away energy. Care for each other and educa-



tion of the younger ones is playing a vital role. African life contains very strong social relations and care for the wider family network, but I am not convinced that this is always from the centre of one's heart.



Does the farm have a model or is this how you have always imagined it?

There was not a fixed model when we started; it was a synergy of ideas centred on entrepreneurial spirit development in Gambian youths by showcasing how local healthy and naturally-produced products can assist towards a sustainable livelihood for rural people. The people - nationals and internationals - that have joined us shaped the farm as it is today. Personally I have really valued over the years, as this was the me at first when we started. I the farming and I felt the would give me unrest, but when more grounded and the system havior of the kids and the farm today without these



the presence of children least attractive factor to wanted to focus more on presence of the kids the kids program was matured, so did the be-farm would not be the young talented brains.

There is a basic model now the farm has laid strong foundations after 5 years of work which can be replicated in other parts of the country.

How would you like to see the development continue on the farm?

The most difficult part to continue, but at the same time the core, is the natural farming. This system is yet young and needs more energy, understanding and development

to make it ongoing and flowing. Although the present 1ha site is not yet developed to its potential there is need to expand to create a green belt around the centre. We have to keep on inviting more people who eventually like to work, volunteer or train with us to keep expanding activities.



The outreach program also needs more support of mainly human resources who in their heart understand the vision of MyFarm in order to share it with the rural youth. From the start we have been producing local products in order to showcase the practical viable implementation of our local business concepts. During the course of our 5 years operations the sales and the visibility has been increased and while being

careful not to focus too much on business but on training, I like to see that we will be able to operate from the proceeds of our products. Then we will have a matured system which can be viable for replication. And no need to maintain on dirty dollars.

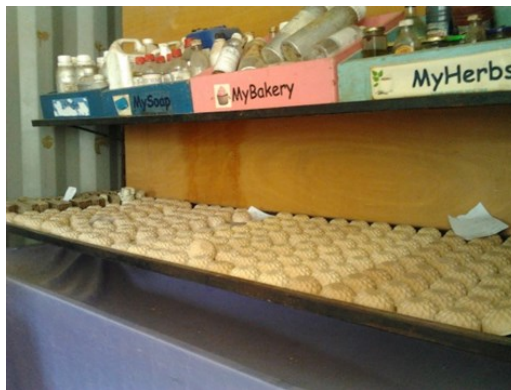
Do you have a 1, 5, 10 year visions?

There are 3 main areas of development underlined in the 1 to 10 year vision. For Africa Start Up this is at present making an impact on the overall educational system by introducing the Alphabet King Reading Labs in as many schools as possible. Secondly, the entrepreneurial spirit development in Gambian youth is so migration of young people will be reduced while seeing opportunities to build up a healthy life in their country and continent. Thirdly, but not last on the list, - as different key persons in the development of the MyFarm concept lead in the different areas - is the development of self sufficient small holder farming systems through natural farming concepts easily replicable in the rural area. This is the



most challenging part, therefore the longest term vision as in general the young population does not feel affiliated with farm work.

Practically in the next 2 year I hope to have expanded the farm in Nema Kunku with an additional 2 to 3ha and within 10 years I hope to have been able to replicate "MyFarms" in rural parts of the Gambia. The organizational aim is also to replicate our "model" in other African countries, translating the Gambian version in the





most suitable one for the socio-cultural and climatic conditions prevailing in that country. In Burundi a start has been made.

What are your limitations at the present moment?

To me personally the biggest limitation at the moment is lack of local human resources that share the same vision and can pro- actively take part in the

process of achieving the vision. Bits and pieces of the vision can be fulfilled by team members. People working at the farm live in their own social and cultural setting but for me the farm is my life. So And I cannot pull the cart all the times, so now and then luggage drops off and we have a setback.

How would you have seen the farm develop if you could have made that change?

Although we had many ups and downs, but they shaped us as we are now. And we are yet far from the perfect picture, but honestly I don't think that is not what we are striving for, as human race is never perfect. Since the senior develop team of the farm is very very small, I think the path we followed to develop until where we are today was a natural



one and I cannot look back and regret or think it should have been different. Changes are for the future, not for the past. All depends who is coming to join us to leave their development mark behind.



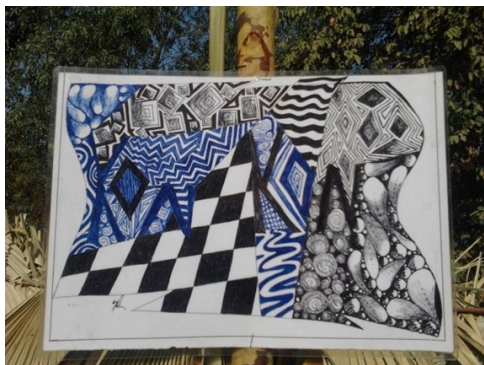
When you started 5 years ago did you have other options?

Other options like what? What to do with my life? I resigned from my former job at another NGO, 10 months after the former Gambian president destroyed my Farming Project I implemented. As the option in assisting another local community did not satisfy me and could not fulfill my dreams. Meanwhile Africa Start Up was granted a sum of money to purchase land and any free moment I volunteered to set up the farm with the most local means available. Before the last 3 months of my former job ended I was granted some consultancy work in the cashew sector and besides that I worked every available minute to quickly make the place a living one. 5 months after purchasing the land I moved in with my children. So, surely there were many other options as the world is full of choices, but the development of MyFarm was a conscious option to go for.

Who are your beneficiaries and could you work on a greater international level?

Everybody is welcome, except for Sundays and all visitors will benefit one or the other way. The main target beneficiary population is Gambian kids and youth. For the sustainable continuation of the My-





Farm a link between international volunteers can be established more than the at present "ad hoc" volunteer program where volunteers can contribute towards the vision of the organization by giving their time, their knowledge and/or finances to support training of Gambian counterparts. Also by exporting part of our local products to Western customers we will be able to expand our impact.

Is your past a part of the farm and if so tell me something of the history of your life.

This is at one side a very personal question but also very obviously that is my past is part of the farm. Since my personality is inside the system, my past is there. I was born in the Netherlands and although academic minded enough to do a University study, I always loved to work physically in the farming/ healthy food and educational sector. When I was 12 years old I gave my weekends and holidays to working at a childrens farm, caring the animals and serving the visitors. In those years I also started working at a Nature Health Shop helping them at first packing their foods in displayable packages for the customers, making orders ready and serving the customers. I finally went to University after a one year Rudolf Steiner self development education after Secondary School, but each term I doubted my continuation. I studied Tropical Agriculture, Conservation of Natural Resources and enjoyed all the subjects of the Department of Organic Agriculture. Trying to make the University Program as Practical as possible I did a 5 month practical at an organic farm in North East Germany and did a feasibility study for 4 winter months in Poland to actually check whether I would be able to start an organic farm there. I was not able! ; as I did not do a Tropical Agricultural course for nothing. I had that connection with Africa and after my first thesis in Burkina Faso I decided to prolong my study with a 6th year in order to do another thesis in Ghana. Before graduating I was already selected to fulfill a VSO post as a horticulturist in the Gambia, the country where I was offered a practical during my third year of study, but was not brave enough that time and rejected it! Planned beyond my control the day after I graduated I had to leave with 1 backpack to the Gambia, this was 18,5 years ago. After the first 2,5 years volunteer post I volunteered another year in Bolivia, but I quitted as the Gambia attracted me back. Obviously all those years I have been occupying myself with agricultural development work. And with influence of my Norwegian charity leader, it seems I developed some business skills, which I deny!

What does your boss want to see in the main? Development of any kind? Success?

You never will know what is really in somebody else, you can guess or have a feeling for it. This question we best post it to her. In my understanding she has a world vision and wants to improve the education system in the world. And yes, she wants to succeed in it and gives a lot for that. She does not need to have her name of her successes, important is the impact made through her work. For the farming part of the concept, she gives the ball in my hand, but my vision is localized.

[MyFarm Gambia StartUp - Africa Startup](#)

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Comments to the Editor

Josep, voluntario extraordinario!

Viajero soy en mi presente; aun cuando estoy detenido, pues mi vida me dirige y yo me entrego a ella. Solo se avanzar con sinceridad, asi aprendo y recojo lo qu siembro. Poco a poco, con el paso de los anos, empiezo a distinguir la conciencia en mi y los juegos con los que mi mente me ha hecho llorar y reir. En el maravillosa camino de la vida, nos unimos entre semejantes ,y contrarios, es el pacto de nuestras alma para experimentar, para crecer, para conocernos. Hay lugares y personas que inspiran al buscador para dares cuenta que transita por el sendero de la autenticidad. Asi es la finca de Merlin, asi es el y asi es su proyecto. Solo hay que dejarse impregnar de su alegria y de su amor por la vida, y el resto surge espontaneamente.

Separation is sometimes the panacea for greater things

Dear Merlyn,

Greetings to you. Before anything else let me first express my gratitude for the contribution you made to MyFarm. The impact on the total system you had the past 2 months was large, not only in practical outcome but emotional as well. I am convinced now that those emotional impacts will turn into a larger positive move for the farm as well as for me on a personal level. I do have to apologize to you sincerely as those emotional flows might be one of the causes of your physical disorders. I just wish it is one or the other bug you cannot get rid off, but my feeling tells me different. God only knows. If I am the cause of any of your stresses, accept my apologizes....

According to your self people associate you with Jezus. I am not sure whether that only is because of your appearance. Jezus was a messenger and your being has revealed me some life changing messages. You acted as that media to reveal these to me. When I got to know you last year and attended your workshop, this already brought me back to

other phases in my life and I felt a missing component in my present life. Personally I made a conscious decision many years ago to step out of European life but of course the connection to your roots attract you more. At the other hand the desire to achieve your mission in different continents stretches your boundaries to new horizons. And between those energy flows you live. I am not in the position to clearly define that missing component.

You came at the farm in a unstable and moving time, not for me personal, but for the country as a whole. For the sake of personal stability, and my children, I always like to move on as positive and focussed as possible. Unconsciousness the fear of having to loose my farm a second time at cause of a dictator had an impact on me and bringing my thoughts back to earlier years in this country and made me to share all my personal psycho stress with you. I already apologized for this. Your focus on your projects you wanted to achieve put me back on right track. Hanging in the past or feeling sorry for yourself is in general not my style.

The Saturday of going to Kartong with you, I overcame my inability to allow myself some time for freedom. Freedom is maybe not the right word, but I cannot replace it by a more appropriate description. If I work in the farm I feel free, but I still have several chains of captivity to be broken. One of those chains I broke by going out that weekend. The visit to the beach was a revelation. Kartong is one of the nicest beaches I have seen in Gambia. Something happened on that beach. The way the sea was silent for only a short moment was very special. I was called to purify myself in that water on that moment and I did. It was a cold morning for me and as I am adapted to the hotness a conscious decision had not let me in the water....

I will not write anything more, since it is 1am. Just to let you know, return safe and healthy back to Spain, and know that you will leave an emptiness at the farm as your energy has touch mine, I definitely will miss you.

Kelly X

The Big Hanna needs to prove herself

The Oasis Management Committee met a couple of weeks ago. They were fearful that the [BIG HANNA] Project will be a big industrial NUISANCE to the local area.

There is a need to a) have a phased approach that starts very small, and b) fund raise for any associated cost. We need to make a strong PERSUASIVE CASE that DISSIPATES the fears and promotes all the benefits. Sandy has volunteered to work on a package of PERSUASION FOR THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE....

<http://bighanna.blogspot.se/2017/02/local-composting-environmentally.html>

Cont. on back page

An appeal lost in space 3 months on

Our Client is, indeed, entitled to seek to enforce the Possession Order that has been obtained, regardless of any appeal that you may have submitted,

It is open to the Court, to which you have submitted your appeal, to stay the eviction until your appeal has been considered...

(I did. It was rejected.)

My client did, indeed, recover possession of the property in question towards the end of February.

I have heard nothing further regarding your appeal....



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SLP: WHO ARE WE?

South London Permaculture was formed in 2003 as a voluntary organization. We run as a not-for-profit business enterprise. Although we apply a minimalist attitude to development we have engaged in a number of projects for both adults and children. These include a children's mobile yurt classroom entitled Re-LEAF (learning, entertainment, art, and food), a woodland allotment community project, guerilla gardening, full & introductory permaculture design courses, horticultural courses, teacher training, facilitation, consultancy, and a membership scheme. To register your interest and support us please become a member. Our business address is:

South London Permaculture

PO Box 24991, Forest Hill, London SE23 3YT

0753 0223360

Merlyn Peter (Hon) Chair

"Our constitution is rooted in the indigenous understanding of sustainability."

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13-14 May 2017

Care of fruit trees
20 May 2017, 22 May 2017

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20-21 May 2017

Building with Hemp lime:
3-4 June 2017

Forest Gardening
1-2 July 2017

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28-30 July 2017

Fruit tree grafting
5 August 2017

Scything
19-20 August 2017

www.brightonpermaculture.org.uk
† 0774 618 5927

To place an advert or an article please call Merlyn on 0753 022 3360
info@southlondonpermaculture.com

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e eight.merlyn@virgin.net
www.solteriologicalgarden.com

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THESIS title: *If land economies are the ecological imperative of the rise of the modern environmental movement, may one find an historical precedent in the origins of Christianity?*
By Merlyn Peter

Bounded p165 £9 (members)

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Add additional info here:

Register with South London Permaculture to earn the chance to volunteer at MyFarm, an NGO-run sustainable moringa and mango farm in The Gambia, West Africa.

Live in a wooden and earthen hut amongst mango, cashew, and moringa trees. Opportunities are seasonal and include learning to make moringa products including soaps, creams, lip balms, teas, and oils, as well as permaculture activities like bio-char production, beekeeping, organic fruit and vegetable husbandry, and micro and hydroponic gardening.

Long stays include excursions to the sea and fishing trips along the Banjul River. Volunteers are required to purchase their own flights and register with SLP supplying a short >1000-word CV including a bio, any relevant experiences you may be able to offer, dietary requirements, and date preferences. Please submit your application for consideration. Places are limited.

South London Permaculture

Overseas registration costs £12/15euros and entitles you to membership of SLP including additional benefits. Costs vary between 500-600delasi per day (about 10-12euros) and provides 2 meals, lodging, and insurance. Additional activities are self-funded. For more information send me an email to receive an information pack.



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