

# South London Permaculture

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2011  
Issue 8

Autumn Equinox

Inside this issue:

## News from the mews

### SLP is not British

This year is turning out to be incredible. The whole trip to Palestine thing has motivated me beyond belief. As I say, it is not a political cause but I do believe in social justice, and that can take many forms. My mission is to take a bottle of oil from Catalunya and deliver it to Zaytoun. Effectively I am taking a piece of the western Mediterranean and planting it onto the eastern side. I need support. The British team are reluctant because they think it is going to be too risky and cold. Admittedly the trip has been put back unto January as I awake greater response from the 100 or so organisations I have written to. I have two months to get my bike ready and to try and conjure up some Spanish magic. With unemployment amongst the youth going way beyond the 50% mark I shouldn't have a problem locating a few more riders. In preparation for my journey I read Carl Medearis' *Muslims, Christians and Jesus* available on Barnes and Noble.

Beyond the spiritual there are business relations, and beyond that there is only inhumanity

It is a very easy read and quite respectful. In fact Carl thinks like me: just look at Jesus and his message and one can avoid the theological embellishment plied on over the centuries. Jesus is considered the Christ by Muslims and continued the line of the prophets back to Abraham. Hence the Qur'an, which I am also reading again, is a moral discourse continuing over from the holy books of Judaism and Christianity. So even though they all have their differences, there is a lot of common ground. Considering I have an MA (whoop!) in Ecotheology I fit into this arena quite well, only that I hope to add the ecological dimension. I have quite a few Muslim friends, and Islam is just as varied as any other religion in the world, relative to the amount of believers. Hence I look forward to Lebanon and Palestine in particular, the eastern side of Turkey maybe, and if I get an invite, to Jordan and Syria. I am sure I will have enough oil left over. See my blog site <http://www.destinationpalestine.com> The other form of social justice



Oil is both a religious and a secular icon. Every creature lives by it and will die by it.

one may stand up for concerns animals. Doing the Festival of Life was a sheer pleasure. I am reminded once again that they are the most energetic humans on the planet. I consider myself an unscrupulous vegetarian,; once in a while I will eat meat, but I just can't remember buying the stuff. Especially during this summer when the glut of apples and pears have kept me in good stead. Also volunteering at community gardens brings in free fresh vegetables. SLP hope to run a full program of events during the year working in conjunction with Evelyn Community Gardens, now we have that small thing of an MA out the way. Well actually, the thesis is worth a read and I should be posting it on-line soon. But I am a writer, and I look towards my next book entitled *The Virgin*. If you've ever wondered how Einstein or Newton could come up with groundbreaking concepts whilst maintaining their religiosity, then this book should clear all doubts: it is shocking.

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### Membership offers (see back page)

- ◆ Free DVD
- ◆ Regular email bulletins on courses and events around the UK
- ◆ A collectable design portfolio
- ◆ 10% discount on courses run by SLP
- ◆ Discounted books and library resources
- ◆ Volunteer and paid opportunities at festivals and other events
- ◆ Workdays and private tuition
- ◆ 2 newsletters per year
- ◆ Reduced prices on plants, and freebies



It's our pilgrimage. Will you support and join us?  
 • Learn about people and culture in different countries  
 • Share experiences and make new friends  
 • Sample and promote local produce  
 • Develop lifetime strategies and relations  
 Please contact [merlynpeter@talktalk.net](mailto:merlynpeter@talktalk.net)  
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 +44 (0)845 458 1734  
 to find out more.

### Destination: Palestine.

<http://destinationpalestine.posterous.com>

Join us - or support us - on our epic 8 week journey by bicycle, departing London & Catalunya in December 2011.

# Chair's Chat

## Britain will only do well when it knows who is sovereign

and is motivated from sources deep within the bio-survivalist circuitry of the human brain – it is genetic. Good reading around the subject can be found in the books of Richard Anson Wilson.

The evolution of societies is premised on these power structures. Take away those simple power mechanisms from the people and you get a revolt. There are many ways of exercising this power. For the capitalist it is through consumerism. Purchasing power gives one the sense of freedom to create their own world. I discovered though, that I could become much more powerful than that, simply from stepping out of the system and becoming a free man. One loses their network of associates to a degree, but the structure for support is out there because fundamentally that is where we evolved from, and where I believe we are going back to. The capacity for humanity to *socialise* and create new self-reliant systems is premised on the basic control of our necessities: food, water and shelter. Everything else is an evolution of it. To set up a truly universal system where everybody is content is a utopian vision, but visions and visionaries are pre-requisite for a successful society. The leaders of those societies must guarantee the general populace that their needs can be met whilst imparting to the people the knowledge and wisdom to maintain the integrity of society at no expense to everybody else's natural rights, including its leaders. Hence, the leader must provide an example of humility and self-sacrifice and not least, honesty. If they don't have these qualities societies will dissolve into states of power vying. This is what we can expect in the future and we have already seen the signs of it when, during the London riots, the delinquents quickly gained their sense of power, be they offenders or just generally the down-trodden or inwardly repressed. They did this by stealing others' power objects. Those who operate on much higher levels of brain circuitry, Maslow's hierarchy of needs and self-actualisation, have a tremendous influence over the people whether they know it or not, conveyed through their power. Power isn't just granted, it is the mutual exchange between people for role playing in society and the acceptance of responsibilities. The big problem we are facing in society as a whole is the disparity between the visions of those at very high levels of understanding, and those who are content with basic needs. A ruler, tied as she or he is to the land, needs to bridge that disparity and hence must usually be educated in the ways of the people. A ruler unites the people. To know a ruler is to see your future in that person, for the king's vision is paramount for all other levels of society to operate within. A true sovereignty is much the same as a prophet's one – some things will only come to be realised in time, and his or her actions are signs of what is to come and thus how things can be dealt with.

If I said that there is no such thing as a 'big society' but rather tolerance of other's ideals one could imagine that successful societies are better served when they are small. The diversity of creeds and philosophies are also better mitigated through smaller self-reliant systems. A true ruler will bring us to this vision and unite any disparity between them through a mastering of the semantic code. A true ruler will live amongst his or her enemies, hence we have the anecdote that a prophet is never accepted in his or her country. I talk to my enemies; I make enemies of my people for lack of understanding. I live in a rotten society because my vision is too great, hence I am misunderstood. Those living within that society would disagree if their needs are met, regardless if they are dishonest, evil, spiteful, greedy, two-faced, deluded etc. You get my drift. But if I said that good and evil were two sides of a coin with a fine line between them, not unlike the difference between love and hate, then the role of the ruler or prophet is to bring the two perspectives together through understanding. If I told you that members of my immediate community are the biggest cowards on the face of this planet, they would only say that I was the one who is deluded, or spiteful, or vengeful etc. This tension is harmonised when one sees both sides of the story, and this can only happen through tolerance and acceptance. Religious institutions had a term for this – Christianity called it Compassion, Islam called it Submission; both are granted through the understanding that God is all-knowing. In non-religious societies people put their faith in science and rationality. Let me ask you to consider something: why do you kill your prophets? Is it because you don't understand them? Are you really that guilty? Are you afraid of the future you are creating?

MerlynX

It is easy to understand the root of social problems – it is due to lack of true leadership. It is not just one rotten apple in the bunch; they have been allowed to fester amongst the general populace and it is now a real squidgy mess to get out of. The main cause is fear of loss of power and everybody has power to lose. Power belongs primarily to the ecology of relationships

IN ORDER to raise funds SLP has become a distributor for Zaytoon products. There are a variety of Fair-trade and Organic certified products to choose from. See the list below. By buying these products you are also supporting ethical trading and the plight of Palestinian farmers detailed in our last issue. Whilst I am away distribution will be based from Evelyn Community Gardens, Windlass Place off Grove Street, Deptford SE8 3QH. There will also be home-made, pasteurised and Somerset sourced apple juice, fresh vegetables and various information available. Opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday 11-3pm. You may contact them directly on 07908 703 049 Dalva James or email [market@southlondonpermaculture.com](mailto:market@southlondonpermaculture.com)

Please note, all products can be bought in bulk. Enquire within.

### Extra Virgin Olive Oil

FT certified 250ml £5.50

Non-certified 250ml £4.00

FT certified 500ml £9.50

Non-certified 500ml £8.00

FT certified 750ml £13.00

Non-certified 750ml £11.50

Galilee 500ml £8.50

**Za'atar** herb blend: wild thyme, toasted sesame seeds, sumac berries, sea salt

50g sachet £2.00

80g jar £3.00

### Almonds

Smoked 75g sachet £2.50

Honey roasted 75g £2.50

### Medjoul Dates

250g £4.00

### Olive Oil Soap

Plain/Honey/Lemon/Milk/Sage 100g £2.50

Gift Packs £8.50

### Olives Organic and FT

Tree Ripened Black 300g £5.00

Nabali green in Salt Water 200g £3.50

### Sun dried tomatoes Organic

250g £6.50

### Couscous

250g £2.80

## Market Place



See the website under 'market' for a full list of plants available.

### DIY fruit trees

Tel: 0845 458 1734



We have a number of fruit trees for sale, including family types in which trees bear more than one type of fruit. A few trees should be available all year round at discounted prices for members.

We also run apple days and grafting workshops and have an authentic Italian wine/apple press and scrapper. Please contact us to book in advance.

## *Destination God* by Merlyn Peter

I am free to ride, I am free to fly  
To fly away upon this day  
To ride the light with courageous  
might  
And reach the exalted heavenly way

No religion anchors me  
No politics burden my view  
The whole world is my nesting ground

God leads the trail  
God makes me not fail  
This is the road of the prophets

Every nation embraces me  
Every culture embalms me  
I will remembered for liberation

The rocks stare up to fallen idols  
The rains pour scorn upon sunken cities  
But I traverse the higher road  
Where the starry sky meets my nomadic soul

The sun glints off my mercurial heels  
Venus passes me a loving kiss  
Her virginity is no match for heroic plights  
Mars canters only a short while into the mists

Whilst I must ascend the empirical realms of  
Jupiter  
Saturn still grounds me in wild earthly delights  
Before even Uranus will give me an heir  
And on Neptune raise the chosen from their  
watery graves

For ultimately I follow the sun into its Plutonic  
demiurge  
For ultimately I follow the sun into its Plutonic



## *Virtual Reality* by Elizabeth Dezoysa

Virtual reality, TV reality, HD reality, enhanced reality. Has anyone considered that reality with a small 'r' is actually okay and doesn't need dressing up? We don't need to 'virtually' enjoy ourselves on the Wifi, in front of the computer or in any other way – we can just get out there and 'do it'.

That's the feeling I get when I hop on my bike with my kids for our monthly bike ride with friends. There's always a feeling of trepidation and anticipation – what will be the group dynamics of a disparate group of 10? Will we get a puncture? What sights will we see?

It's not just about the cycling, it's about the being. Sure, we have to negotiate some tricky roads to get to our patch of green. On our most recent ride, the greenery was the rolling swathes of Mitcham Common along a stony deserted track. The rush of colours is incredible. Nature's beauty is low key, rich and seductive. The shy purple of the mallows and thistles, the stark yellows of the dandelions against a lush sea of green. The children were fascinated by 'tiger caterpillars', beautiful black-and-orange striped caterpillars in plenty on the common; some of the children found an old apple and bit into the under-ripe, sour fruit. We all promised to return in August when the blackberries would provide rich pickings for crumbles, jams and tarts.

We all felt happier and healthier as we returned home and cheerily said our goodbyes to one another. No punctures or TV dramas on this ride. Just unadorned reality.



For further information on forthcoming rides contact [dezoysa@aol.com](mailto:dezoysa@aol.com)

## Remembering your Sovereignty Part 3

By Thomas Smith

In this third and final installment Smith takes us to court, an experience better served by the law of the land and not by any corporate body.

Visiting the court, you will be asked before entering the courtroom to give your name and prove your identity. Do not agree to be a 'person', 'the accused', 'a defendant', instead, perhaps, state that; 'I am commonly called Tom, I am an interested third party who is here to help resolve the matter, let the judge know I am here'. If they insist on details, ask under what authority they are demanding the information if they have a signed contract under which you have agreed to perform. Stick to your guns and don't follow any orders. You may possibly have a notice of understanding in place that you have served on the court, the prosecution etc stating that you will provide them with a bill for the service of fulfilling any orders received and that you will not allow joinder to be created between you and any 'person' or suffer any

loss or abridgement of your sovereignty. When they demand that "all rise for the judge" remain seated. Don't follow orders. If hassled, again ask that they show you the law or the signed contract that generates an obligation on you. When the name of your person is called, or they ask your name, try some of the following, speak from your heart, you must know that this is true;

"I am a man on land and I extend my hand in peace to this court. I relieve this court of its duty to perform and waive all benefits" (this demonstrates your understanding that you are not a 'person', that you are not subject to admiralty law, that you seek resolution not conflict, that you are sovereign in that court, that you dismiss the court and ask for none of the alleged benefits of its service)

"I am the living human being known as Tom Smith and not any legal entity or corporation of a similar name. I do not allow joinder to be created, I suffer no loss or curtailment of my inalienable sovereignty. I am here to help close this account. The record will show this"

If threatened with contempt of court, ask if it is that is an accusation of criminal or civil contempt, if criminal, "let the injured party step forward, I wish to make peace", if civil, "present the binding contract under which I have agreed to perform".

Hold tight, do your research and play with them, don't follow orders, make demands, don't get in the dock, don't respond to the name of a person, make it clear where you stand. There may be no moment of admittance of defeat from the court, they are more likely to kick you out of the building, or mumble something and try to wash their hands of it, but you are and will remain a free man or woman.

Remember who you are, a sovereign, free human being.

"All those assuming Judicial authority have to swear an oath or attestation to serve the Queen and to uphold the law of the land (common law). They have no authority to uphold commercial law (law of the sea) unless you consent. They are obliged to honour their oath when requested, and produce evidence of their oath on demand. If they refuse they dishonour the Queen and her oath to uphold the law of the land, and of course those who have sought to uphold and preserve the law of the land, and customs and traditions of the country."

**Tpuc.org**, **thinkfree.ca**, **worldfreemansociety.org**, **suijurisclub.net** are good research resources. There are a series of very good videos on YouTube with speakers like John Harris looking at corporate law, Acts and Statutes, and public liability.

**NOTICE**  
Dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011

**Issued to:**  
Bromley Magistrates Court  
Bromley, Kent BR1 1RA

Let me state firstly that I am not acting in “person”, as a corporate body. I am Merlyn Peter, a human being exercising my sovereign rights. This includes the application of the Common Law as distinct from Statutory Law or corporate law. I do not consent to being governed under the legal system and as such have not “contracted” with either yourselves or any other legal corporate entity concerning the matter of council tax payments. I am Merlyn Peter, an identity I choose to represent my true human self and not given to me at birth. When you address me in court it is in this capacity that you must proceed. To uphold the Common Law and to be protected by your ‘oath-spoken’ or ‘juris-diction’, a power invested by the community, you should give clear evidence of your conviction here.

Now, in clarification of the outstanding issue, the reason for the withdrawal of my council tax payments is due to the violation of the Common Law by the claiming party, in this case Lewisham Council. I have given, I believe, ample reason indicated in the communications between myself and the said corporate body. The destruction of my property by Lewisham Council and the offer of a peace settlement was rejected or not simply accommodated by them. I have written to the Mayor and other heads of their departments and notified them of my actions. The enforcement of a liability order against me contravenes any peaceful resolution under Common Law. Under these conditions I will not legally contract to pay any further instalments unless the offending said body seeks to grant me compensation for the loss, and acknowledge the power of Common Law. A conditional acceptance to their demands must first deal with the said lawful issue of the destruction of the greenhouse before any legal issues regarding council tax payments can be finalised. Likewise, I set a precedent here, that all corporate bodies wanting to exact my consent under legislative law should prove my own corporate liability as well as theirs. And also, that any further court appearances or legal afflictions upon myself, a human being, is subject to retributive costs of one sort or another.

I hereby witness the existence of this document.

Witness (1).....

Witness (2).....

Witness (3).....

The experiences of South London Permaculture have been duly recorded and more information can be found in the website. The defining line between SLP and myself can be very fine, since I bulk most of SLP’s activities, a situation I hope will change by next year. But of late I pre-empted this article regarding going to court for not paying my council tax. Below I unfold the story, that I hope in a way shows true justice of the law and how primarily those who follow an instinctive way of life in perception and action are naturally protected by the grace of the land or God, one way or another.

Unfortunately back in March the members of the Lewisham council and the nature reserve at the top of Devonshire Road decided to trash my greenhouse without due consultation to me. They just smashed it up and skipped it. After various responses they admitted to it but claimed it was theirs because it was on their land. I asked them to resolve this issue but they could only deeply apologise. They even tried to claim afterward that it was dangerous because there were missing panels. Admittedly this was true because during transportation the greenhouse was damaged. But it was still a safe structure. In fact, the nature group had lost contact with the one project leader who helped me construct it. She had resigned from her activities because of the general out-of-touch attitude of the committee there. They did not want to replace it so I refused to pay the council tax on the basis that I am not a legal entity (corporate body) but rather a human being. I quoted Common Law and told them it was a violation of private property, and that they have broken the law. It went to court but I issued a Notice to the courts (opposite) stating my position as a human being. The council were uncomfortable with the idea and tried to deter me from asking for a hearing. They suggested that I should just pay up with an additional fine. I advised them that they have not resolved the issue of the greenhouse, and that as an Officer of the

Peace they had rejected my own resolution. So I looked the judge in the eye and said that I was sovereign here, that I did not have to use the courts to resolve this case of the unpaid council tax, that I was not a corporate body, i.e. a legal entity, and that I am setting a precedent. I went under the commonly known name of Merlyn Peter, not Mr. Merlyn Peter. So she asked me what would I have them do. I said that as one corporate body to another (from the courts to the council) they should enforce the council to resolve the issue of the greenhouse first before I could even be considered a legal entity. They discussed it for a while and then ordered Mr. Merlyn Peter to pay the outstanding amount of council tax from May this year. I walked out saying politely thanks very much, telling them I did not need to be here anymore. They also thanked me for my time. "The Magistrates are purely there for issuing summary judgement for profit." No letter from the courts was forthcoming. Instead I have received a letter from the bailiffs telling me to pay the outstanding balance and fine. They are now knocking on my door. This is a violation of my peace. I don't vote/am not on the electoral role. I claim no monies from the government. I don't pay taxes. I don't earn enough to pay off my debts (my rent is £5,000 a year). I want nothing to do with the system - I am a freeman. I have a right to protect myself.

My suggested course of action is to form a militia to protect the natural rights of the common man and hand a Notice of Intent to bailiffs Whyte & Co. based in Swanley, Kent stating that it is gross negligence to not know the difference between Common Law and Statutory Law. That as Freeman we have a right to be left alone in peace without violation to our property and selves. **Who will join me?**

**See** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=LNhsRjsw4Yc> for an illegally shot video in a magistrates court regarding the payment of council tax.

PO Box 24991  
 London SE23 3YT  
 26<sup>th</sup> July 2011  
 RE: 147006

Rebecca Goodman  
 Lewisham Council  
 Lewisham Town Hall  
 Catford Road  
 London SE6 4RU  
 ATTN: Corporate Complaints Team

Dear Rebecca Goodman,  
 Subject: Loss of Greenhouse and refusal to pay council tax  
 Thanks for your letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> September. I'd like to say that I don't like bureaucracy too much and consequently I would eventually ignore all forms of it. Hence, I don't seek the need for an adjudicator who would do much the same as you.

I have been to court under no legal pretension. I told the judge that I am not here as a legal entity, but rather a human being and that I am sovereign. She listened and asked me what would I have her do. I said that as one corporate body to another (yourselves), she should force you to settle this matter before I would consider myself a legal entity again, as opposed to a human being exercising my natural rights under Common Law. Nevertheless the courts claimed to issue an order against me although nothing was forthcoming in the post. Only a letter issued from your Council Tax dept. from Whyte and Co. bailiffs threatening to detain my goods came through. They can't take anything because I don't believe in ownership; the flat is in my mother's name; and I am moving out to travel the world with new housekeepers who have agreed to pay the council tax from the date they moved in (beginning of September). You may disregard my last proposal and consider a new one.

I do work, both voluntary and paid with Evelyn Community Gardens in Deptford, which recently won Lewisham in Bloom award. If the council is willing to erect another greenhouse or polytunnel at this location, and then cancel all penalty fines, then I am willing myself to become a legal entity and pay the outstanding council tax payments. As compensation the responsibility of the new greenhouse would fall under my club name, South London Permaculture, which will hold the property in trust since Evelyn Community Gardens is a member.

I am looking to write an article in my newsletter and require a quick response. I look forward to hearing from you promptly.

Best regards,  
 Merlyn Peter, a human being



By Christina Borgi  
 Evelyn Community Garden has managed to establish itself within the community, over the 7 years of hard won battles for funds and social issues. The idea of the project was to provide, where there was derelict land, a resting place for the community, as well as a ground for developing community networks. But first and foremost it is a place to grow communal food, following different practices and

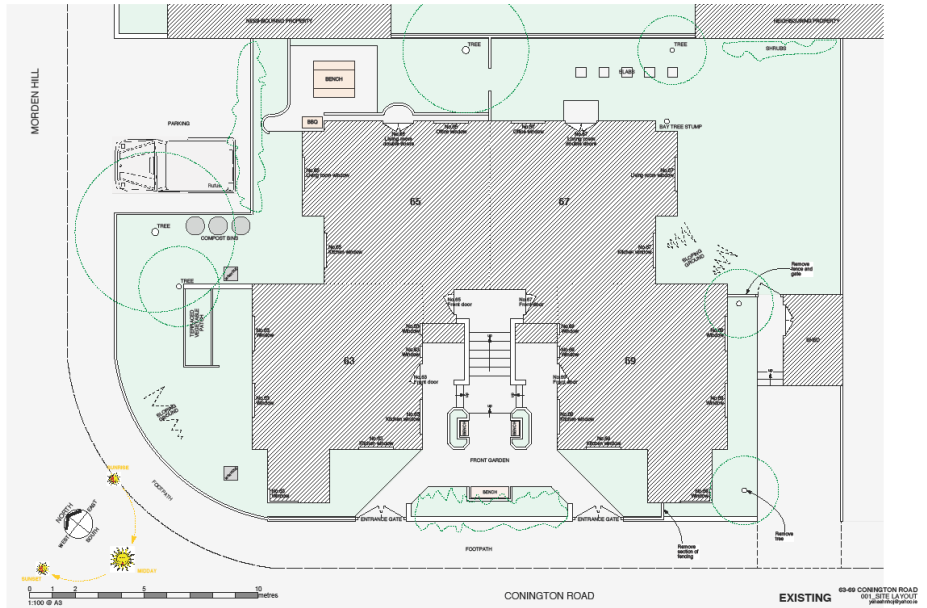
learning from each other, sharing skills and knowledge, and bringing together its members. What a rare enterprise in this day and age! Today there are regular volunteers who come and help, learn to grow, and learn to share together. Particularly interesting is a very regular user group formed by families of home educated children from New Cross and Deptford, who seem to understand the immediate value and purpose of the Community Garden. They learn about nature and bond with their kids, implement different practices, and buy their fresh veg for a donation. Different ethnic groups are encouraged into the garden by way of allowing women to grow in covered areas, where no one can see in, and the legacy of different cultures shows in the

special plants that grow there. This year, Evelyn Garden has managed to secure funding to plant fruit trees around the rest of the estate, providing future food for city foragers and trying to induce sustainable practice to our city. We are currently inviting any interested parties to come forward and become Friends of the Evelyn Garden, an unconstituted group which will oversee the garden, and protect it from any powers which, in their absence to the threat of that very power, might aim to dismantle it so as to turn it into individual plots... Haven't we got enough individuality in our society?!

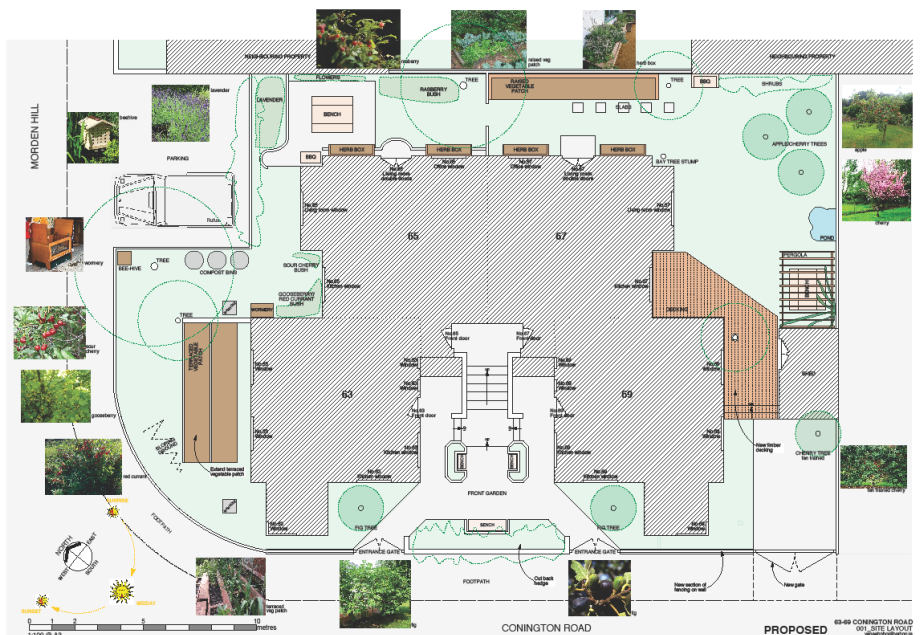
The author can be contacted at:  
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[www.evelyncommunitygarden.com/](http://www.evelyncommunitygarden.com/)

## AN INTRODUCTORY TO PERMACULTURE by Merlyn Peter

In this site proposal one of the first things we do is OBSERVE. Some of the residents have lived here for many years but due to lack of co-ordination and group unity the garden has failed to become a social gathering place and has thus been neglected. Our first observation must be: WHO TAKES RESPONSIBILITY? Even though the coop has regular meetings, not everyone turns up. The subject of the garden came up when my petitioners were due to have a baby, and then as if maternity reawakens one's consciousness, the garden was seen as vital towards the upbringing of the child. Especially in light of the protective nature of it. Thus POTENTIALITY tends to be the first stimulation for a RE-EVALUATION of the garden. In the past though, the stifled development of the garden has been a factor of other forms of BARRIERS, i.e. their negative aspects. This could include the work load to keep the garden operational, the lack of finances or equal commitment from the residents, or the lack of a used social space to share ideas informally. This brings up one of the key defining elements of permaculture: RESOURCES. So during my client interview with the new-to-be parents, it became apparent that their personal success was motivation enough to raise the issue of the garden in the coop meetings and reallocate part of the house fund to it. On our first work day 4 or 5 members asserted their desire to remove much of the overgrowing vegetation from their windows and potential food growing areas. Firstly though, one must remember that the INTEGRITY held within nature is grounded in its self-reliance and resilience to withstand extremities, and so it stores NATURAL CAPITAL in the form of water, soil, seeds and biomass. This is a PATTERN for human systems to follow. Hence, all the bindweed and clippings have been allowed to die and rot in a pile. All excessive shrubs have been cut down to size or removed and then chipped to provide extra ground cover. At the same time they will be utilised to provide a weed deterrent. The disused car port has become the interface for the TRANSLOCATION of materials between the garden and the street allowing additional materials like logs and leaf litter to be systematically left by road sweepers or arboriculturalists. Resources then make themselves available at different times of the year, and much of it is free, like cardboard, cuttings, and home-made cake. Now is the time to drink your coffee and have some of that cake, re-evaluate, wait for the WINTER and see how the vegetation naturally dies down and stores energy. Contrary to belief, Winter can be a time to spend much more time at home thinking about the garden and putting more ideas to paper. It is a time of natural dormancy after AUTUMN has shown the way of preservation for the forthcoming months. Lines and edges make themselves more apparent; roots in perennials are swollen; spent seed heads bluster in the wind; leaves keep the surface of the soil warmer and provide frost protection; pools of icy water gather in dips and natural frost pockets; the sun is lower in the sky and thus top floors get more direct sunlight during the day. There is generally more SPACE in a garden. It is an opportunity time to take stock of one's resources and make use of the fact that people like spending time at home. The home is an extension of the garden, anthropologically speaking. So use these resources and patterns to DESIGN away, as one waits for the first signs of SPRING. Know your growing areas for cultivated crops, allow for wilderness and plan for social events during the year. Start to IMPLEMENT these ideas by working out work schedules, available resources, immediate needs, future obstacles, and possible outcomes and scenarios. Come SUMMER all the hard work will feel worth it. Some people will have fallen into natural roles; others may get a glut of vegetables and want to barter outside the community, in exchange for maybe labour or other produce. In those first years there is a lot of formative work which will go to waste unless a MAINTENANCE program is implemented. Imagine it like a fruit, maybe a plum or apricot, with a stone in the middle. The hard nut inside contains the seed or kernel for further regeneration, symbolised by the building and its occupants. The flesh around the nut is what swells and contracts during the seasons. It protects the nut and requires being nurtured before being eaten. This is the garden, our fourth skin.



*Nimbus Housing Coop, Before and Getting There: Good permaculture design builds in evolution. The seasonal character of a project is just one aspect. The movement of interaction is another. A permaculture is perpetually assessed and so must be understood for its cyclical nature. The above plan is how the gardens around the housing coop appear, and below after a site visit the potentiality to explore various niches and dimensions. It is a long way from being complete. In fact, nature had taken the gardens by vengeance. By looking at the growth of these plants one already has a seasonal pattern to work with: shrubs had become leggy, allowing for shade spots to develop under their canopy, trees had become tall providing safe nesting areas and visual as well as practical stimulation from the first floor, ground covers had successfully competed against grass and had started dominating vertical spaces, lessening the harshness of the building masonry, and objects and structures had been lost to rampant growth highlighting the need for storage space and accessibility.*



## 2011 Courses, events & further contacts

### Brighton Permaculture Trust

GREEN ROOFS  
29-30 OCTOBER 2011

ECO RENOVATE YOUR HOME  
2 NOVEMBER 2011

SELF-BUILDING AN EARTHSHIP  
11-13 NOVEMBER 2011

INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE  
19-20 NOVEMBER 2011

INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE  
COURSE 1: 19-20 NOVEMBER 2011  
COURSE 2: 7-8 DECEMBER 2011  
COURSE 3: 28-29 JANUARY 2012

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES, A PERMACULTURE DESIGN COURSE  
17 FEBRUARY - 27 MAY 2012

PLANNING AND PLANTING A SMALL ORCHARD  
COURSE 1: 1 DECEMBER 2011  
COURSE 2: 3 DECEMBER 2011

PRUNING OLD FRUIT TREES  
COURSE 1: 14-15 JANUARY 2012  
COURSE 2: 17-18 JANUARY 2012

PRACTICAL PERMACULTURE GARDENING  
31 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2012

BUILDING WITH STRAW BALES  
27-29 APRIL 2012

MUSHROOM CULTIVATION  
5 - 6 MAY 2012

COMMUNITY ORCHARD TRAINING  
COURSE 1: 19 MAY 2012  
COURSE 2: 22 MAY 2012

FOREST GARDENING  
30 JUNE - 1 JULY 2012

FRUIT TREE GRAFTING

4 August 2012  
SCYTHING  
11-12 AUGUST 2012

BUILDING WITH RAMMED EARTH AND CHALK  
COURSE 1: 15-16 OCTOBER 2011  
COURSE 2: 13-14 OCTOBER 2012  
www.brightonpermaculture.co.uk  
t 0774 618 5927

EARTHSHIP BRIGHTON TOURS by Low Carbon Trust  
www.lowcarbon.co.uk

### The May Project Gardens

PECKING FROM THE WOODS - IDENTIFYING EDIBLE FUNGI  
25TH OCT (DULWICH UPPER WOODS - FARQUHAR ROAD, NORWOOD SE19 1SS)

PALLET HOUSE BUILD  
1ST NOV (MAY PROJECT GARDENS - MIDDLETON ROAD, MORDEN SM4 6RW)

OPEN day: Topic suggestions welcomed  
8TH NOV (May Project Gardens- Middleton Road, Morden SM4 6RW)

COME WE GROW: FUNDRAISER EVENT @ THE BRICK BOX 9PM-2AM  
11TH NOV (TOOTING MARKET 21-23 TOOTING HIGH ST., LONDON SW17 0SN)  
£5 advance, £5 on the door b410pm  
£15 Family Ticket 2 + 2  
t 07852439970 or KMT on 07921917453  
w http://www.thebrickboxtooting.co.uk

### Naturewise

WINTER WORK - INCLUDING PRUNING  
29 NOVEMBER 2011

USING NATURAL RESOURCES - COPPING  
14 FEBRUARY 2012

For more information or to book a place, email Seema Patel on thecatwhosaw-stars@yahoo.co.uk  
m: 0787 2482991  
www.naturewise.org.uk  
t 0845 458 4697  
e info@naturewise.com  
e londoncourses@naturewise.org.uk

### Evelyn Community Gardens & SLP

FRUIT TREE GRAFTING  
29TH OCTOBER 2011  
£10, FREE TO ECG & SLP VOLUNTEERS  
t 07703625682  
e chrisborgi@gmail.com  
w http://www.evelyncommunitygarden.com  
a Windlass Place, off Grove Street  
Deptford, SE8 3QH

### Woodlands Farm & SLP

FRUIT CULTIVATION TOUR (APPLE DAY)  
22ND OCTOBER 2011 1PM  
WOODLANDS FARM, SHOOTERS HILL, WELLING, KENT DA16 3RP  
t 8319 8900  
e woodlandsft@aol.com

### 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  
0845 458 1734  
Merlyn Peter (Hon) Chair

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

To place an advert or an article please call Merlyn on 0845 458 1734  
newsletter@southlondonpermaculture.com

### Free offer

This is a limited offer only available to members. Membership applications will receive a free DVD entitled 'The World of Permaculture'. The short documentary highlights 3 projects: Ragman's Lane Farm, Naturewise and Soteriologic Garden.

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 £6

### Sign-up/Renewal form

Sign up for:	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	£6
<input type="checkbox"/> Family membership (2 adults, 2 kids)	£8
<input type="checkbox"/> Group Membership (3 copies of)	£10
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership renewal	£2
<input type="checkbox"/> Grafted fruit trees to order - please	£13 +
<input type="checkbox"/> DVD - <i>The World of Permaculture</i>	Free to members
<input type="checkbox"/> Nini's Olive Oil Extra Virgin, cold pressed 1lt.	£9
<input type="checkbox"/> Merlyn Peter's bounded thesis	£1.50
<input type="checkbox"/> P & P (or collect)	£6

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of Payment

- Check (payable to South London Permaculture)  
 Cash in person only

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## South London Permaculture

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Email: info@southlondonpermaculture.com

