



Alton Climate Action &
Network
Discussion Group
April 2020



ACAN's First online discussion group meeting will be on

Permaculture and Climate Change

Wednesday 29th April at 7:30pm

Please register your interest by email so we can send you the zoom link

altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

The idea is that we spend as much or as little time as we like, or can spare, getting an introduction to the subject, then get together online to discuss and learn from each other and maybe come up with a project or two, to try out what we have learned.

See below for learning resources in the form of an on-line talk, articles and videos.

The discussion will be online using Zoom and is expected to last about an hour.

Website: altonclimatenetwork.org.uk Email: altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com Facebook: [@AltonClimate](https://www.facebook.com/AltonClimate)

Permaculture has been around for years, with well proven success, but is still not well known or understood.

Its techniques can improve crops yields in our own gardens and allotments as well as on a larger scale in farms both here and around the world.

ACAN's new link with the GUMBI villages project in Malawi also prompted our choice of permaculture as a discussion topic.

To quote from their newsletter:

Now the villagers face another, growing menace: climate change which is destroying their crops and causing hunger and malnutrition.

"In the past, the rains came regularly in early October but these days it is in December and they are heavier. We do not know what to expect. We are experiencing more heat in the summer months and it is also hotter in the winter. Strange winds damage peoples' crops and homes and we are seeing new pests. Special worms which we have never seen before are destroying our crops and we do not know how to control them.



The result is another hunger crisis and a lot of malnutrition in the villages. I believe 10% of the children are now malnourished. Harvests are badly affected. We need to adapt to climate change and would like to plant trees and learn new techniques to farm other crops but we need advice."

ACAN is supporting the Gumbi Education Fund with a project to educate some young people about how to grow food more sustainably using permaculture techniques.

https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/permaculture-food-sustainable-productive_n_5b8e3618e4b0162f47266755?ri18n=true.

We hope that ACAN's support will enable young people in the Gumbi villages to learn about permaculture as a way of mitigating some of the impact of climate change.

We have sourced a variety of learning materials to find out more about permaculture and what it can do.

A Talk by Maddy Harland

XR Godalming have very kindly extended an invitation to all ACAN, ALFI and AVLAN members to join their online talk by Maddy Harland entitled "***Permaculture and the Climate Crisis***" It is being held on ***Wednesday 22nd April at 7:30pm on Zoom.***

Please sign up via Eventbrite using the link below. Eventbrite will then email you the link and password to

attend the Zoom event. It asks for donations but if you do not have a paypal account you will not be able to do that. Don't let that put you off – ACAN will make a donation on our behalf.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/xr-godalming-presents-permaculture-the-climate-crisis-with-maddy-harland-tickets-102468764834>

If you prefer to read articles try:

<https://www.permaculturewomen.com/introduction.html>

<https://theecologist.org/2010/mar/30/beginners-guide-permaculture-gardening>

<https://www.growforagecookferment.com/permaculture-forest-garden/>

Bill Mollison was the grandfather of Permaculture so if you want chapter and verse from the master himself try this one:

https://www.academia.edu/5098938/Introduction_To_Permaculture_-_Bill_Mollison

Or get Practical tips from Morag Gamble (Permaculture Education Institute):

<https://ourpermaculturelife.com/morags-simple-successful-no-dig-garden-method/>

No dig garden (15 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9Wq32IRrPQ>

7 top tips for no dig gardening (50 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15lu8a5fi4k>

12 tips for a thriving edible garden (1 hour)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hbgtNWPdTw>

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