



The ScotLAND Guide

*All you need to know to help your project apply to become a ScotLAND Centre,
Permaculture Scotland's network of sites of demonstration and learning!*

Last updated: October 2018

Contents

Contents	2
1. Welcome	4
2. What is ScotLAND?	5
<i>a) Aims & Objectives for ScotLAND - the things we plan to achieve</i>	5
<i>b) Outcomes for ScotLAND</i>	6
<i>c) ScotLAND achievements so far</i>	6
3. Why join ScotLAND?	7
<i>Testimonials</i>	7
4. Applying to ScotLAND	8
<i>a) Who can apply?</i>	8
<i>b) Why are there different categories?</i>	8
<i>c) Criteria & Support</i>	9
<i>i) Members</i>	9
<i>ii) Learners</i>	9
<i>iii) Centres</i>	10
5. Who are the ScotLAND team?	12
<i>a) Outreach Worker</i>	12
<i>b) The ScotLAND circle</i>	12
<i>c) PSWG (Permaculture Scotland Working Group)</i>	12
<i>d) Other Relevant Permaculture Association Staff</i>	13
<i>e) ScotLAND Tutors</i>	13
<i>f) The LAND Advisory Group</i>	14
<i>g) How you can help</i>	14
Appendix - History of ScotLAND	15
<i>a) The Permaculture Association (Britain)</i>	15
<i>b) The LAND Project in England</i>	15
<i>c) Permaculture Scotland and the ScotLAND project</i>	15
<i>d) The ScotLAND Criteria - A Potted History</i>	17

1. Welcome

ScotLAND aims to be a showcase of “Learning And Network Demonstration” permaculture sites in Scotland. This handbook has been compiled to help you:

- ◆ *decide whether or not to apply to become a ScotLAND Learner or Centre;*
- ◆ *understand what support you can access if you become a Learner or Centre;*
- ◆ *understand the other opportunities the ScotLAND Project offers.*

Phase 1 was the initial stage of ScotLAND, and had established 12 Learners and Centres by the end of 2013.

Phase 2 began in 2016 with funding from Robertson Trust, Awards For All and Seedbed Trust to promote and develop the ScotLAND Project by expanding the network, providing tutorial support and organising the Group Visit Scheme.

On receiving this Guide, we encourage you to take part in the Action Learning Cycle as you:

- 1. Observe - read this handbook*
- 2. Think/Reflect - digest what ScotLAND is all about*
- 3. Design / Strategy - consider how your project fits with ScotLAND Centre Criteria*
- 4. Implement - apply to ScotLAND to become a Centre online.*

Then return to:

- 1. Observe - notice what you have learned about your project during the process.*

If in the process of reading this handbook you have any queries that aren't answered, please email scotlandworker@permaculture.org.uk.

A big thank you to all the many contributors who helped make this document and the Centre Application process flow and happen:

Luci Ransome, Lusi Alderslowe, Rachel Bailey, Graham Bell, Ruby Alba, Andy Goldring, Karen Atkinson, Jay Ashton, Beth Ramsay.

All the best with your application!

*ScotLAND Outreach Worker
Finn Weddle, September 2017*

2. What is ScotLAND?

ScotLAND is an exciting and inspiring project to establish exemplary permaculture Learning And Network Demonstration sites throughout Scotland. We want to tell lots of people about these great projects so they can visit and learn about permaculture as well as increase networking opportunities between groups and individuals.

If a picture says a thousand words, then visiting a permaculture demonstration site will say a million or more; that's why ScotLAND was created - to give more people the chance to see how permaculture really work, with their own eyes. With your help, we can do it!

2a. Aims & Objectives for ScotLAND - the things we plan to achieve

The aim of ScotLAND is to set up and support a network of practical examples of land-based permaculture design in various places, micro-climates, and cultures throughout Scotland. As well being a badge of recognition for your remarkable work so far, ScotLAND Centres are those examples of permaculture which are generally open to the public for visits, demonstrations and educational events. These examples can include any physical space, and we currently consist of a mix of urban and rural home gardens, community gardens, public spaces, allotments, smallholdings, woodlands and farms. If it's designed using permaculture principles and is a physically demonstrable project, you are eligible to join.

To achieve our aim, ScotLAND will:

- *establish a network of sites that meet the criteria to become ScotLAND Learners and Centres;*
- *support these ScotLAND Learners and Centres as well as projects wishing to become Learners and Centres;*
- *link projects through one-to-one support, regional training and skill-sharing events;*
- *raise awareness nationally of permaculture and the change-making work of each ScotLAND Site;*
- *enable practitioners to engage a local and global community in land-based permaculture;*
- *empower people who are new to permaculture to visit established ScotLAND Centres;*
- *demonstrate to people across Scotland how the permaculture ethics and principles can be applied in action in our climate.*

2b. Outcomes for ScotLAND

The differences we want ScotLAND to make:

1. **NETWORK:** ScotLAND will have created the first network of permaculture practitioners working on land-based projects in Scotland.
2. **LEARN:** Learners and Centres will excel in their permaculture design skills, and will be better equipped to teach others the possibilities of permaculture design.
3. **OUTREACH:** ScotLAND Centres will be better resourced to deliver courses and local presentations, and seen as a hub for permaculture in their local community.
4. **VOLUNTEER:** ScotLAND Learners and Centres will be better prepared to provide volunteer opportunities for local people and itinerant learners.
5. **VISIT:** Potential visiting groups will be aware of the opportunities to actively visit ScotLAND Learners and Centres.

2c. ScotLAND achievements so far

1. Seventeen ScotLAND Learners.
2. Ten ScotLAND Centres
3. 350+ people from twenty groups from hard-to-reach communities funded to visit ScotLAND Centres;
4. Twenty-three supporting tutorials arranged for Learners.
5. 20,000+ people visiting, volunteering with or attending a course at a ScotLAND Learner or Centre.

3. Why join ScotLAND?

If the benefits weren't obvious to you already, here are some the great perks of being a part of the ScotLAND project:

- ❖ *connecting with other inspiring permaculture projects in Scotland;*
- ❖ *advertising your work on the Permaculture Association website;*
- ❖ *gaining access to the training and support that you need to continue on this journey;*
- ❖ *increasing the visibility and accessibility of your project to others for permaculture-related courses and events;*
- ❖ *receiving more volunteers and visitors at your project;*
- ❖ *being invited to ScotLAND events, including skill-shares;*
- ❖ *being able to apply for funding through the Permaculture Association for charitable work you would like to do on your site.*
- ❖ *gaining recognition for all the great work you do;*
- ❖ *and much more besides!*

Testimonials

Ed Tyler, Kintyre Bioregional ScotLAND Centre:

As an active designer, teacher and tutor it is great to have folk over to our site to look round and give me a chance to explain what me and Carina have been doing here for the past ten years and to show them my plans for the site as it has evolved.

It's also a great way for me to connect with other permaculture projects happening in different parts of Scotland. It can feel a little isolated out here in the wild west, where the word "permaculture" is rarely spoken.

I think it's a great way for people to learn the permaculture design process in a practical, hands-on way, working on their own piece of land which they see and interact with every day.

4. Applying to ScotLAND

There is one [application form](#) which will decide whether you become a Member or a Learner; we do not expect anyone to meet all of the criteria to be a Centre immediately, so there is no separate form for this. Once you've made your application, the ScotLAND team will give every support possible to enable your journey to becoming a Centre.

For details, please see ScotLAND Application [Flowchart](#) for more information about how the process works.

4a. Who can apply?

Any individual or group can join if you have a permaculture-minded physical project, and are a member of Permaculture Scotland. [Note: If you are a member of the Permaculture Association and live in Scotland, you are automatically a member of Permaculture Scotland.]

To define 'physical' or 'physically demonstrable' project, we mean any site that could be visited by the public and be seen to apply permaculture principles. We want to encourage all applications of design, whether land-based or not, but social permaculture designs are often less tangible and harder to 'visit'. For this reason we have to exclude all non-visitable projects from ScotLAND.

4b. Why are there different categories?

There are loads of fantastic projects throughout Scotland which are great examples of permaculture in action, and they are at different stages in their permaculture learning and implementation journey. Our process helps ScotLAND to give appropriate support to the different stages of learning, based on each project's achievements and learning needs.

The different criteria for the three categories are listed in full detail on the following pages. We suggest you read these criteria carefully before applying so that you have a good grasp of what you can expect from the project.

4c. Criteria & Support

i) Members

To become a ScotLAND **Member**, your project needs to:

- ✓ be a member of the Permaculture Association;
- ✓ have (or be part of) a land-based project or eco-structure in Scotland;
- ✓ have support from your project's organisation.

The **Member** category exists in order to catalogue the many applicants with worthwhile projects who simply don't meet the Learner criteria, as listed below. We will support you by offering the best advice we can on how to pursue Learner status.

ii) Learners

To become a **ScotLAND Learner**, your project needs to:

- ✓ meet the Member criteria as listed above;
- ✓ aspire to fulfil, and be actively working towards, the Centre criteria as listed below;
- ✓ be committed to the process for two years minimum;
- ✓ agree to the terms of mutual support, as described in the [ScotLAND Agreement](#)
- ✓ organise at least one occasion per year to receive volunteers and/or visitors;
- ✓ have at least one key member of your project with a Permaculture Design Certificate [72-hour Course] or other suitable level of permaculture knowledge or education.*

*We value non-formal education, so if you do not have a key project member with a PDC but believe there is sufficient knowledge within your group to call yourself a permaculture project, please get in touch to discuss.

Learners will have access to private tutorship from our team of Scotland-based tutors, either in person or over the phone. For the period June 2016 - June 2019 we foresee being able to fully fund any private tutorials for Learners, although we might ask for voluntary contributions on a 'pay it forward' basis. This is to allow funds to reach those who really cannot afford tuition. This said, our budget reflects the likelihood that the majority of people would prefer to be fully funded, so any contributions really are voluntary!

iii) Centres

Please note: make sure that everyone involved in the running and planning of your project has read through the **Essential and Desirable** criteria. In this way everyone in your project will have a shared understanding of what a ScotLAND Centre demonstration project is.

To become a **ScotLAND Centre**, your project needs to:

- ✓ meet the Essential Criteria below;
- ✓ be working towards the Desirable Criteria below.

Essential Criteria

1. **ScotLAND MEMBERSHIP**
ScotLAND Centres must meet all of the ScotLAND Learner criteria (above).
2. **PERMACULTURE DESIGN**
Have a design that uses the ethics, principles and methods of permaculture (or have a design in progress).
Be committed to their project development.
Other project members have some understanding of permaculture
3. **NETWORK**
Be willing to share skills and relevant information with other permaculture projects, volunteers and visitors via the Permaculture Association website.
Be willing to maintain Permaculture Association membership as individuals and/or project groups.
4. **DEMONSTRATING PERMACULTURE**
Demonstrate permaculture in practice on site.
5. **WORKING WITH VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS:**
Be willing and able to receive visitors and volunteers
Be willing to contribute to ScotLAND monitoring and evaluation
Have appropriate insurance policies, health & safety procedures and risk assessments.
6. **ScotLAND IDENTIFICATION**
Be willing to display membership of ScotLAND on project websites and on the actual site.
Be willing to include web links on project websites to the Permaculture Association and ScotLAND

Desirable Criteria

- 7. ORGANISATION:**
*Be willing to have an ongoing presence on the Permaculture Association website.
Be well organised.*
- 8. RESEARCH:**
*Have an active programme of research. This may include, for instance:
ongoing record keeping of planting and yields
records of inputs and outputs such as those affecting fertility and energy
harvesting/usage
systematic photographic recording of the site
other experimental activities*
- 9. ScotLAND PROMOTION:**
As groups or individuals, be a spokesperson for the ScotLAND project to interested parties and the media.
- 10. EDUCATION & LEARNING:**
*Have educational & training resources available for visitors
Have a programme of courses and events*
- 11. SKILL SHARING OPPORTUNITIES:**
*Be willing to attend regional skill-sharing and training events
Be willing to host regional skill-sharing and training events*

The support available to ScotLAND Centres is generally more informal, as by the time you have become a Centre you will have been part of the network for some time. Your team will be well acquainted with other members of the ScotLAND network, and you will have a strong say in the future direction of the project. Having benefited from several tutorials, your site will be a highly functioning and beautiful permaculture demonstration site and you will be in a position to guide and support aspiring Learners. (Of course, more tutorials will be available upon request but they are less likely to be funded by us.) Your project will be well-known locally, nationwide and perhaps even internationally, and you will even be able to earn a small amount of money by hosting groups through the Group Visit Scheme.

5. Who are the ScotLAND team?

Thanks to various funders over the years, and the dedication of a small group of volunteers, the ScotLAND Network has been going for around five years now! In this section we will introduce you to some of the key people you need to know if you are going to join the Network.

5a. Outreach Worker

The Outreach Worker (currently Finn Weddle) is here to:

- ❖ be a first point of contact and support for new applicants and existing Members, Learners and Centres;
- ❖ help arrange tutorials on site or by phone;
- ❖ support the organisation of groups to visit Centres (via the Group Visit Scheme)
- ❖ liaise with the LAND Advisory Group, Permaculture Scotland Working Group (PSWG), the Permaculture Association staff and tutors;
- ❖ keep track of project finances;
- ❖ seek further funding for the project.

The Outreach Worker is supported by a small team of dedicated volunteers (PSWG) and is the only (very part-time) paid staff to support Scottish permaculture. If you would like to help promote permaculture throughout Scotland in any way, or support the Outreach Worker with any of the tasks listed above (e.g. funding applications), don't hesitate to get in contact:

Worker email: scotlandworker@permaculture.org.uk

Worker phone: 07747731108

Permaculture Scotland email: scotland@permaculture.org.uk

5b. The ScotLAND Circle

Permaculture Scotland has a Sociocratic structure which means it operates as a collection of semi-autonomous circles or sub-groups, [read more here](#). One of the circles is the ScotLAND circle. This currently consists of:

Lusi Alderslowe (Tutor, Operations Leader of ScotLAND Circle)

Finn Weddle (Outreach Worker, Representative of ScotLAND Circle)

Ed Tyler (Tutor, ScotLAND Centre)

Lorraine Ishak (ScotLAND Centre)

Pippa Downing (ScotLAND Member)

We are looking for a Learner to join this circle, please contact Finn if you are interested.

5c. PSWG (Permaculture Scotland Working Group)

The PSWG general circle are:

- ❖ Lusi Alderslowe
- ❖ Graham Bell
- ❖ Lesley Anderson
- ❖ Lorraine Ishak
- ❖ Finn Weddle
- ❖ Ed Tyler
- ❖ Geri Sinclair
- ❖ Judy Martin
- ❖ Trisha Orr
- ❖ Maria Suarez
- ❖ Daria Piskorz
- ❖ Ludwig Appeltans
- ❖ Pippa Downing

You can contact them by emailing:
info@scotland.permaculture.org.uk

5d. Other Relevant Permaculture Association Staff

Membership and Website (for technical issues):

Nicola Bell
membership@permaculture.org.uk

Chief Executive, Project Advisor:

Andy Goldring
andyg@permaculture.org.uk

5e. ScotLAND Tutors

The ScotLAND Tutors are all experienced permaculture designers who have each completed a full Permaculture Design Course and a Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design. They all have experience and training in teaching/tutoring permaculture:

- ❖ Lusi Alderslowe (Dumfries & Galloway)

- ❖ *Graham Bell (Scottish Borders)*
- ❖ *Ed Tyler (Argyll & Bute)*
- ❖ *Lesley Anderson (Fife)*

As you can see, our team of tutors are hard pressed to reach the Highlands and Islands. This is an obvious flaw if we are to promote Scotland nationwide! If you could see yourself as a permaculture tutor one day and could help us spread more evenly across the country, get in touch.

5f. The LAND Advisory Group

This group of experienced permaculture designers and tutors makes final recommendations for projects to gain ScotLAND Centre status. We aim for there to be a Scottish representative on this group (please get in touch if you think you may be able to do this). For more info [please click here](#).

5g. How you can help

The resource limits we currently face are that of money and time. Anyone who has the time and the passion to support us to permaculture Scotland is invited to do so! Either by writing funding applications, deciding policy, joining a working group, speaking to the public at events or anything, every hour volunteered helps.

Appendix - History of ScotLAND

This section used to contain a full history of the ScotLAND Project to date. This has now been moved to the Permaculture Scotland [website](#).

The Permaculture Association is a company (05908919) and registered charity (1116699 and SC041695.)