Fertile Edges
Regenerating land, culture and hope
by Maddy Harland

Maddy Harland offers a unique, frontline take on the environmental successes and challenges facing this planet and its people over 25 years. She explores the rise of permaculture globally, from its origins in Australia in the 1970s to its current activities in over 170 countries worldwide, and describes positive developments of this global movement and the huge potential it has yet to achieve. This narrative is contextualized by significant events like wars, disasters, deforestation, rising sea levels, the threat to the Gulf Stream, 9:11, Occupy, the rise of Trump, Brexit and climate denial.

Amid a wealth of permaculture’s solutions and the ecocide of ‘business as usual’, Maddy interfaces practical permaculture and global transformation with deep ecology. This is a potent and entertaining cocktail. She writes of regenerative culture, earth restoration and social permaculture, long before they become core permaculture ideas and practices. Her deep connectivity with the natural and human worlds – a love for the changing of the seasons, of landscapes and species – and all that our differing cultures and spirits have to offer one another add another dimension of heart to this book.

Maddy Harland is a co-founder and editor of Permaculture International: practical solutions beyond sustainability, a magazine which offers practical, innovative solutions and global perspectives. 2017 is the magazine’s 25th Anniversary Year. Maddy is an activist, publisher, gardener, teacher, community leader, Queens’ Award winning entrepreneur, mother and ground-breaking woman. These writings, based on her editorials from the magazine, from the mid 1990s to the current day, are a call to arms amid the enormity of world events and offer pathways to hope and strength in times of crisis. Her voice has proven to be forthright, understanding, defiant and needed at a time of growing crisis.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Maddy Harland is editor and co-founder of Permaculture magazine, an international quarterly in print, digital and online at permaculture.co.uk. Maddy co-founded Permanent Publications in 1990, a publishing company specialising in practical ecological solutions, and the Sustainability Centre in Hampshire, UK, once a military base, and now a thriving immersive learning centre. She is a founding member Gaia Education who developed the Ecovillage Design Education course endorsed by UNESCO. Maddy is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and is a Visiting Knowledge Exchange Fellow of the Institute of Theological Partnerships at the University of Winchester in the UK.

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Magazine: www.permaculture.co.uk

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160 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Abingdon
Oxon OX14 4SB
Tel: 01235 465 642
Email: trish.clapp@orcabookservices.co.uk
Web: www.orcabookservices.co.uk

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Advanced Information

Published: October 2017
ISBN: 978 1 85623 309 5
210 x 216mm
b&w illustrations, 192 pages
Paperback
£9.95

File
Environment
Current Affairs
Politics

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Winners of The Queen’s Award for Enterprise in the Sustainable Development category (2008)