“We Just Begin”

Barbets Duet

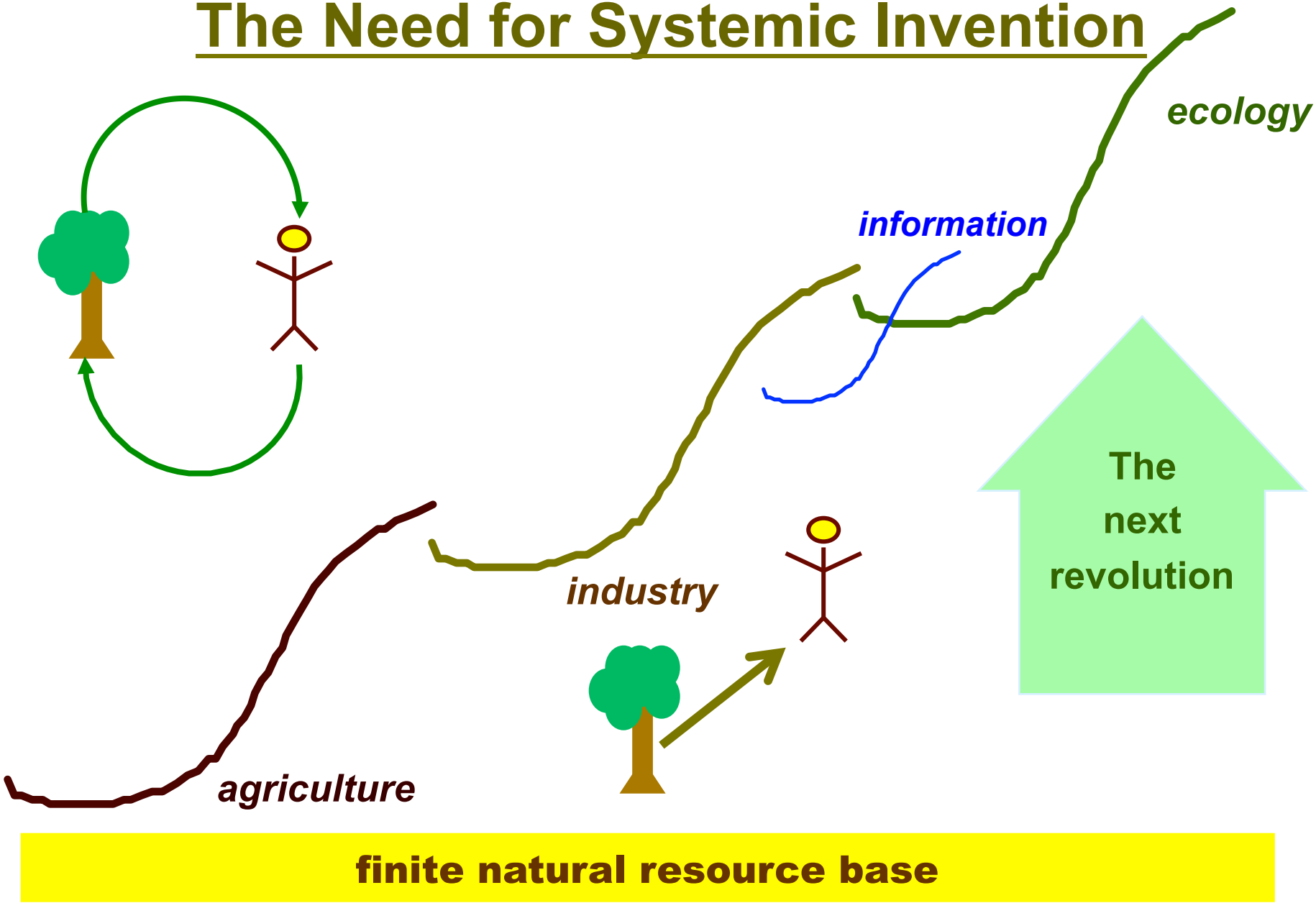
an experiment in systemic invention

Talk at Free Word Centre, London
10 December 1012
from
Barbara Heinzen
Chris Jones
James Magode Ikuya

www.barbaraheinzen.com ➔ **Barbets**

www.barbetsduet.com

The Need for Systemic Invention



Early English Lessons in Systemic Invention

E

Engagement

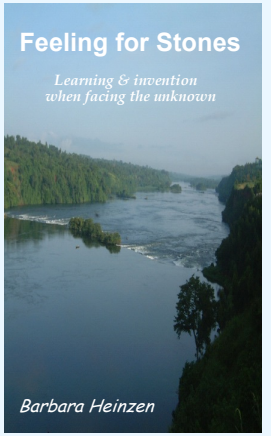
& aEsthetics

Experiment

& Education

Extremity

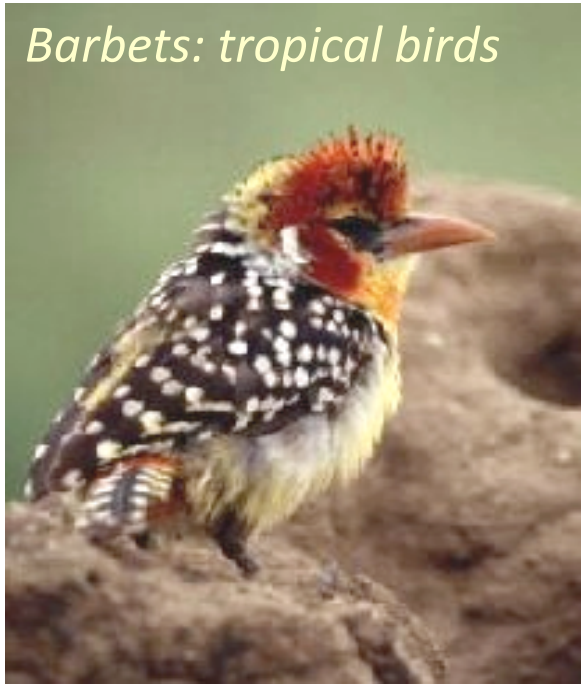
& NEcessity



Barbets Duet

A Business Idea, Not a Charity

("It will take 20 years…")

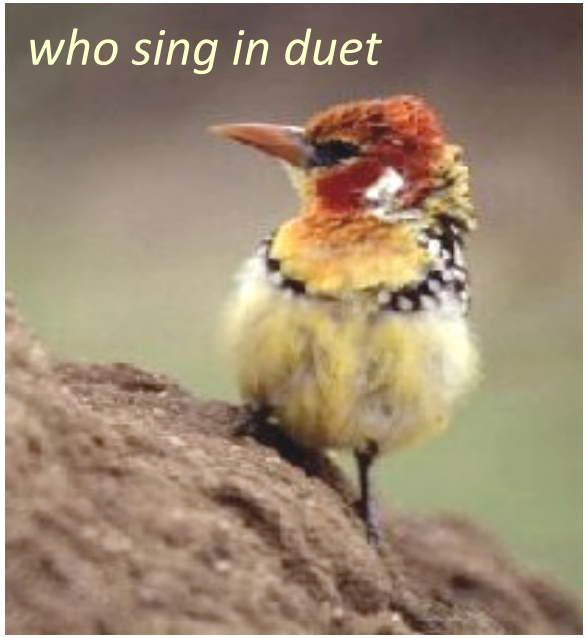


SUPPORTING
people

who support
the
natural world

INVENTING
New institutions

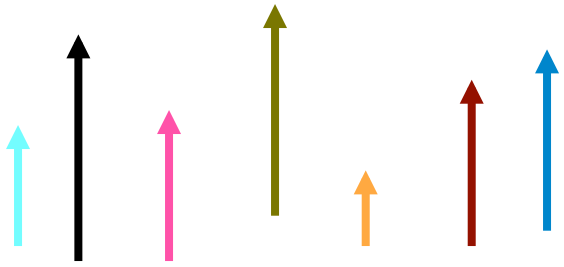
e.g. property rights
& marketing structures
organisational forms



LEARNING
from
2 cultures:

Africa + West,
Modern & Traditional

on equal terms



Barbet learning sites

Red & yellow barbet, Tarangire, Tanzania - *Photos from:* http://www.birdingafrica.net/page69.html

Partners & Sites, 2008-2012

experiments begun, conventions & cross-learning, self-financed

James Magode Ikuya
Molo, near Tororo, Uganda

Oby & Hilda Obyerodhyambo,
Seme, near Kisumu, Kenya

Barbara Heinzen,
Coordinator, UK &
Hudson R. NY, USA

Chris Jones,
Woodland Valley
Farm, Cornwall, UK

Sammy Muvelah,
Lukenya,
nr Nairobi, Kenya

Rose Lyimo,
Himo, Tanzania

Msichoke Seaweed Farmers
& Mwajuma Masaiganah,
Mlingotini, Bagamoyo, Tanzania

Diverse Ecologies ➔

➔ Diverse Learning

Useful Principles

Barbets Duet Working Assumptions	Initial Governance Principles	Establishing a Barbet Site
Multiple experiments & diverse sites ➔ rapid learning	**Each site evolves in its own way to its own conditions.**	**"Just Begin"** With something that bears fruit quickly
Equity & engagement across knowledge, power & culture	There is value in coming together.	**Barbet activity is consistent with its site**
Give & gain: Everyone has something to give & something to gain.	In coming together, all have a stake and all share responsibility.	Shape environmental ambitions around immediate needs.
Mosaic Rights ➔ support environmental goals.		Learning by demonstration
		Thinking step by step; one thing follows on another
		Follow the path of least resistance; start with what is most possible.
		Utu Net Benefits

"Rather than asking how can Lukenya support a Friesian cow, I ask: what can Lukenya support?"
Sammy Muvelah, '10

POTENTIAL MARKETS	**Products of "Thing" Culture:** **Moveable products** ***Tangible, portable, Species-specific***	**Products of "Earth" Culture** **Environmental products** ***Intangible, immoveable, Site-specific habitats***
Utility: **creating things we need** e.g. clean water, air, food, medicine, cosmetics, building materials; biofuels	***•Timber & grasses*** ***(wild & domestic)*** ***•Medicinal plants*** ***•Domestic biodiversity*** ***(e.g. seed & semen banks)*** ***• Edible – wild & domestic*** ***(e.g. roots, bush meat)***	***•Ground water recharge*** ***•Water purification*** ***•Carbon sinks*** ***(e.g. swamps, grasslands, uncut forests)*** ***•Waste management*** ***Decomposition services***
Insurance: **reducing risks** of climate change, flooding, loss of ground cover due to climate extremities; loss of food species to disease or bad weather	***•Woodlots & grasses*** ***•Medicinal plants*** ***•Diverse food supply*** ***•Domestic biodiversity*** ***(e.g. seed & semen banks)***	***• Flood control*** ***• Micro-climate change*** ***•Wild biodiversity*** ***•Carbon sinks***
Aesthetics Fashion, bragging rights, tourism, meditation	***•Edible wild:*** ***(e.g. teas, roots, bush meat)*** ***•Wild biodiversity***	***•Species habitats***
Intellectual property Genetic reserves	***•Medicinal plants*** ***•Domestic biodiversity*** ***(e.g. seed & semen banks)*** ***•Wild biodiversity***	***•Species habitats to support genetic reserves***
Learning & Advisory Services **Practical land management & business, Integrating income & environ'tal restoration, Managing experiments & systemic invention**	***• Barbets Game*** ***• local field guides*** ***• 'How-to' manuals***	***• Visitor Centres (c.f. Eden Project)*** ***• Advice on environment/economics integration*** ***• Working stays at sites***

Fundamental Issues

Can price signals reward abundance, not scarcity?

What exactly can be owned & traded?

This may be necessary,

but is it possible?

> ***"If it is necessary,***
> ***it must be possible."***
>
> **Julius Kipng'etich**
> **Director, Kenya Wildlife Service**
> **17 October 2007**

Woodland Valley Farm

a working organic farm & outdoor classroom

Barbets Duet Learning Site

presented by Chris Jones, Cornwall

Free Word Centre
10 December 2012, London

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

The Organic Farm

Organic livestock farm

Organic Suckler Beef herd
Rare breed organic pork
Farmed area = 63 Ha
Woodland = 8 Ha

The whole managed to produce food and
Sequester carbon

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

WOODLAND VALLEY
CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

The Countryside Classroom

Why?

Outdoor education is vital

An awareness of where food comes from

An appreciation of the natural environment

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

WOODLAND VALLEY

CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

But its not just about pretty barn conversions...

experiment,

try new things,

or re-try old ones.

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

WOODLAND VALLEY

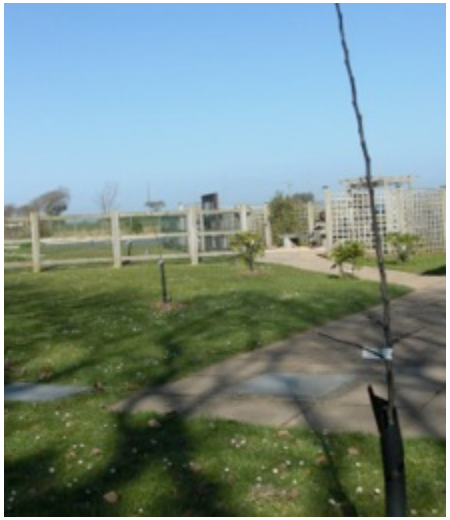
CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

Low impact building materials

Hard space ➔ growing space...

Outdoor classroom

Local Transition Group



WOODLAND VALLEY

CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

Allotments

Which we set up on our field adjacent to village where many people had no access to gardens or land. We now have 20 families renting plots here, with scope for expansion

Grow It Global

600 school children
60 plus teaching staff
Annually over 4 yrs 2009-12

Ugandan farmer at Woodland Valley
➔
new insights re UK farming, esp.
- **scale**
- **diversity**
- **energy**
- **water**

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

WOODLAND VALLEY
CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

Our Carbon Impact in 2007-8

- 256t CO_2 (84% land use, 16% energy)
- 4.47 CH_4 (ruminant livestock)(58t)
- 0.59t N_2O (51% stock, 49% crops) (176t)

➔535t CO_2 equivalent

Mitigated by sequestration through land use and tree growth of 227t CO_2

Net emissions of 308t CO_2 equivalent

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

WOODLAND VALLEY
CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

Challenge in 2008

Reduce the GHG emission to zero

maintain/increase productivity of the whole farm

Do not compromise long term viability

How?

Plant trees in less productive areas

(11.4 ha?? Could grow 60t cereals on that acreage! Or keep 12 cows)

Switch to perennial crops, perennial pasture.

Micro-generation.

Educate, conserve, sustain: farm as if we'll live forever

WOODLAND VALLEY
CORNISH ORGANIC FARMING

Carbon Account 2010-2011

- **Scope 1 Emissions** – ie fuel– **26,645kg**
- **Scope 2 Emissions** – Electricity - **12,924kg**
- **Scope 3 Emissions** – Livestock, decomposition, fertility, machinery under 10 years old, material **155,416kg**

➔ **Gross Emissions = 195 tonnes CO2e.**

- **Sequestration –** in woodland, hedgerows and soil - **558,177kg,** or

66kg of carbon credit per live weight Kg of beef sold

➔ **353 tons net sequestration**

Lessons Learned – Woodland Valley Farm

- Vital life support systems are threatened.
- What is a farm/land for?
- Diversity has value.
- Restoration of diversity is expensive.

Molo, near Tororo

Uganda

General Degradation

Molo, Uganda, 2009

Degradation, esp. Riparian Land

Safari Convention,
April 2011

Molo, Uganda - April 2011

James Magode Ikuya & MIAFI

Deforested land & degraded banks of Kanginima stream at Molo ➔lower water table & poor crops

Tour of the seed bank that will restore forest

Visiting a new fish pond; less land needed for income.

Safari Convention, April 2011

Molo, Uganda - April 2011

James Magode Ikuya & MIAFI

Day 2: Breakfast & a visit to Magode's garden, followed by knowledge sharing and a final celebratory meal.

Castor oil

Kabaka Anjagala

Msi Choke presents Tanzanian work & shares the taste of seaweed.

New Agreements for New Conditions

2012 agreement, witnessed by elders, right to flood a neighour's land

Kanginima stream

First fish pond, 2011 Molo Rural Agricultural Farming Initiative (MRAFI)

The Surprise – Where Are the Fish?

November 2012