**GLEN AUSTIN CONSERVANCY**

**“WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”**

**SERIES OF TALKS BY JOHN NZIRA - PERMACULTURALIST**

The aim of these talks, is to help us become more self-sustainable & better position ourselves to adapt to climate change; improve our local environment, health, lifestyle & property values; save water; & last of all, save money!

John Nzira, a resident of Glen Austin studied Permaculture, Environmental Education & Ecological Agriculture in Zimbabwe, Canada, USA & Israel. He is an internationally accredited Permaculture trainer & has a history of successful implementation of many community projects in the SADC region. He believes in “working together” to make a difference.

We have booked 4 dates so far. The talks will start at 14h30, last approximately 90 minutes & cover:

**Saturday 27th Jan:** Water-wise solutions for plot owners – grey water collection ideas, reed beds, roof water collection, swales, dams vs tanks, keeping water clear of mosquitoes, mulching, succulents & water wise plants, water-thirsty plants/trees

**Saturday 24th Feb:** Winning back the Wildlife on our plots – birds, bees, owls, fish, butterflies, bats

**Saturday 14th April:** Soil management – when to till/plough if ever, mulching, soil adjustment, natural soil foods, foliar sprays

**Saturday May 26th**Worm farming & compost making

**Saturday June 23rd:**Food gardens – companion planting, medicinal herbs, shapes & forms

Other topics are likely to crop up in the discussions, depending on the audience & line of questions, so it would be good to attend all, if possible.

Future talks yet to be diarized:

* Ways to protect our air supply – pollutants, bonfires, wood vs coal fires, use of plants and trees, ozone
* Edible hedge rows
* Food processing and entrepreneurial skills
* Ferro cement water tanks

Shayne & Ralph have kindly offered to host these talks for free, at Wild Goose Guest House, 198 Allan Road. There will be a cash bar but no other refreshments.

At this stage there is likely to be no charge for Conservancy members & possibly a small charge for non-Conservancy members. John is donating his time but would like to raise money for farmers in Venda and Rusape in Zimbabwe. He has a program called “Adopt a Forest”, where he teaches farmers how to raise indigenous trees from seeds. He then buys back the trees & plants them along the river or uses them to rehabilitate degraded land.

This initiative will rely on community support, so please drop me a mail to book a seat:

Judy on jb@eatsafe.co.za or phone 083 266 8187