**New intern program for 2021 @ Telopea Mtn Permaculture**

Telopea Mtn has been hosting interns now for over ten years but we have limited in numbers and with most staying 2-6 years the opportunities were slow coming so we have decided to change the system so we can expand the oportunities.

Prerequisites to apply are

1. must have successfully complete the PDC with Peter (eg: received your certificate/s)
2. join Wwoof Australia, this gives you an insurance policy against injury (global membership approx $60)
3. complete this application form, you may be selected for an interview by Peter & Silvia
4. submit application by emailing to [telopeamtn@bigpond.com](mailto:telopeamtn@bigpond.com) by Friday 5th Feb 2021
5. Peter & Silvia to select successful interns to start 1st round in Feb.

It often worries me that the PDC alone gives people a false sense of real permaculture life which can be quiet subsistence living, with initial work to implement you systems you designed but then the maintenance of these systems including orchards and animals is overlooked plus then there’s the other incidents such as trees falling on your fences, sheds that while they create firewood opportunities they require work time to process, clean up and repairs. That’s where we have seen the internships assist those wanting to live the life (especially urban ones becoming small scale farmers) but also the running small scale micro businesses in design , implementation and orchard management practices.

By working in real life situations we can do the tasks but discuss how to manage these and improve the systems as we do this too. (bit like work experience for adult permies) as a mentor I find myself coaching many in all aspects of the micro business person from tax ideas to quoting jobs to the skills to actually do these jobs requested, I get far to many requests for work of all kinds so I look to the interns who want other paid work to see who wants to work in areas such a consults, implementing , building beds, structures and more plus good orchard skills such as pruning, espaliers and grafting.

The internship gives me the opportunity see what skills you have already and what needs you have to be capable of taking on designs or work out there, I spend a lot of my time matching the right Permies to clients (I do not take a cut , this does not fit my Permie ethics, I don’t set prices either this is not my business, but I can help you decide what to charge)

**Program overview.**

The program is to operate Wed 9.30-4pm as in the past years, possibly also on some Fridays over Bareroot Season

Troy & Dean to join Peter & Silvia as Mentors with each having separate areas of expertise & responsibility.

Possibly 5-6 interns each intake (on a volunteer basis)

First trial of system is mid Feb to end March (5wks) likely to be 5 weeks but could be up to 8 weeks

2nd Sessions- about May 26th until June 16th or until 30th likely 4weeks up to 6 weeks

3rd Session- about Aug 25th till Sept 15th likely 4 weeks

4th Session (undecided) approximately Nov 17th to Dec 8th 4 weeks

**Troy: One Intern** doing fruit tree tasks, but also may take Peter’s **intern** as well sometimes

Tasks

1. Documenting in apple collection, ripening times, blackspot, leaf fungal issues, splitting
2. Documenting in plum collection
3. Spraying (organic certified) for fungal issues, woolly aphid.
4. Pruning to open up, if needed
5. Trimming rows pear & nashi
6. Irrigation maintenance and implementing
7. Pumps & other machinery maintenance & service
8. Nursery work
9. Machinery maintenance
10. **Picking fruit and collecting**

**Dean: two Interns** doing many tasks (may also have Peter’s Intern too)

Tasks

1. Trimming around trees
2. Fencing skills
3. Animal building needs.
4. Netted enclosure maintenance
5. Dingo skills operating
6. Potting trees
7. Nursery work
8. Grafting trees
9. Pruning tree skills
10. Welding skills
11. Building skills, Eg: animal structures
12. **Picking fruit and collecting**

Silvia: **One or two Interns zone 1 , zone 2 plus animal duties.**

Tasks

1. Z1 & 2 Garden maintenance
2. Animal husbandry & associated tasks
3. BD Veggie growing, planting & picking.
4. Nursery work
5. Grafting trees
6. Pruning trees skills
7. Picking fruit in season

**Peter’s Intern (when not with Troy or Dean)**

1. Design layout trees, knowledge on varieties.
2. Grafting skills
3. Pruning skills
4. Design in fencing, sheds & more
5. Nursery skills, grafting, management, potting mediums, water use

**COMMON TASKS all may be required to do**

Firewood splitting and stacking

Moving mulches

Load & unload straw

Preparation for classes

Label trees for bareroot season

General & garden maintenance

Food growing

**Renumerating New interns**

You must join Wwoof Australia

This direct Training is currently worth $50 per hour (current standard)

Free Biodynamic Fruit when in season, rootstocks over winter or scion, access to cuttings

Fruit tree advanced classes (one class per block of weeks completed, to use when you wish 2021-22)

*When available* One on one coaching in doing mud map visits for active designers

*We also get regular requests for people wanting Permie and fruit tree services that we can pass on*

Most of our past interns run their own successful Permie small businesses now

Other internships we know of.

Geoff Lawton runs a 3month Internship, it costs you $7000 to attend, you work 40 hrs a week, get to live in a tent onsite, grow, harvest & cook your own food onsite, you get access to Geoff’s classes run onsite during that time (not a PDC)

@ Melliadora you paid $2500 bond to be a 15mth apprentice (David called it)

**Application form for internship @ Telopea Mtn Permaculture & Nursery 2021**

Name I Prefer to be called.

Home address

Mob. Email.

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*Sex Age*

*These two questions above are optional to answer*, we see no barriers for either of these to being able to become a good Permie manager, operator, designer or participate in our program.

Year completed PDC with Peter

Why would you like to do an internship with Telopea Mtn

Which session are you applying for (can be multiple) put in order of preference,

What areas of permaculture most interest you

What skills would you like to learn/ improve

What relevant skills do you already have

What tools or machinery have you used before (list below) feel free to add notes too, leave blank means not used

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| tool | Used 1-3 times | Used as DIY @ home | Used professional |
| Chainsaw petrol driven |  |  |  |
| Chainsaw electric or battery |  |  |  |
| Other saws such as dropsaw, circular, reciprocating |  |  |  |
| Drills &/or drivers elec or battery |  |  |  |
| Grinder |  |  |  |
| Hedge trimmer or similar |  |  |  |
| Whipper snipper |  |  |  |
| Pruning saws including pole saw |  |  |  |
| Lawn mower hand petrol or elec |  |  |  |
| Ride on mower |  |  |  |
| Small sub compact tractor 20-28hp |  |  |  |
| Larger tractor 35hp + |  |  |  |
| Dingo & attachments |  |  |  |
| Excavator |  |  |  |
| Spray equipment |  |  |  |