

Why do a PDC at Telopea Mtn.

When doing my PDC in 1995 I found there were not many places to see what was being taught, so Silvia and I designed our place to demonstrate some examples and so for the last 24 years we have had thousands come here to look & learn.

Our strengths are in Soils- building & understanding them, Bio-dynamics, Heritage Fruit trees of many kinds, growing, caring and producing these plus Animals in Permaculture which most think is only about chooks & worms, we have experience with meat & dairy animals and protecting rare & useful breeds such as Llama, Alpaca, Scottish Highland Cows, Goats, 3 breeds of Sheep, Geese, Guinea fowl, Duck, Call ducks & Chicken rare breeds.

With our PDC's we not only deliver the core subjects of 72 hours that all PDC's are obliged to, we take more time to deliver and expand on these plus we teach some real skills such as making Hot compost, No-dig & wicking beds, how to graft a fruit tree, we demonstrate how you can make a yield (real cash income or meet your families needs) with 4 micro businesses operating off our property (where most old school would say this is not possible on this size land).

Our tutors are selected because they have worked hard in their field of expertise and we believe you need multiple ideas and viewpoints so we also take you to many properties big & small to show you what is real & possible.

We are now offering "Beyond the PDC" classes to help you expand your skills & knowledge even further. This draws on our overseas experience in learning & consulting. Once you can grow stuff we then can show you what to do with it.

Making wine, cheese and smoking foods are just some of it. Swales are discussed in PDC's but we look at the many we have built in different location/situations plus you can get involved in making them as well.

So our aim is to send new Permies on their way who are not just empowered but also skilled, some become teachers, consultant designers or just damn good food providers, whatever they wish for.

Many who have done the PDC's here in the hills since it started in 1995 return to see us for support and friendship and many local people have joined the Local Permie group MDPG we have been the conveners of for the last 18 years. Our international and interstate students keep in contact as well.

Doing a PDC with a group of 20 odd people forms bonds in each group, I cherish those & now I still regularly see the ones I did mine with 20+ years ago.

PDC Info for interested participants

So What is a PDC ?

A "Permaculture Design Certificate", started as an intense 72hr course developed from the "Permaculture- A designers manual" written by Bill Mollison and published by Tagari Press in 1988. this followed the work of the co-origonators of Permaculture, Bill Mollison & David Holmgren that started in the early 70's in Tasmania.

Bill still runs a 72 hr course (for \$1600-1850 with no visits) in Melb once a year (2008) In Victoria this has progressed to a syllabus written for South East Australia by the Permaculture Melbourne Victorian educators group (VEG.) over the last fifteen years. We will use this syllabus for our 147hr course

By completing a PDC you would cover the concepts and could then practice and teach Permaculture as people have now done all over the world. now with the Nationally "Accredited Permaculture Training" (APT) you can apply for RPL- RCC to convert my course into units towards Cert III, IV or

Diploma in Permaculture (with some additional homework), this works well with Hort and other similar studies as well.

Who would benefit from completing a PDC ?

Simple answer is anyone.

- Whether you just wish to expand your knowledge.
- You may be a student in a related discipline you will find it beneficial to see things from another side of your chosen field.(ie Horticulture, Agriculture, Social sciences, Environmental pursuits, Scientist or Teaching)
- Any household in suburbia would benefit from better design of space and resource use
- It is an essential prerequisite to anyone contemplating a rural property purchase or a Conversion to Organic or Bio-Dynamic farming.
- Or even starting and operating a business.

There are no age, social, political, ethnic or spiritual barriers, no slick sales talks or people trying to convert you to something.

You may bring any past experiences, Spiritual belief or anything else with you to the course and should find no conflict with integrating it into your life.

How is the course conducted ?

The guidelines we run by are rooted in the “Ethics of Permaculture”

- Care of the earth,
- Care of the people,
- Set limits to consumption and reproduction, and redistribute surplus.
- *Care of spirit*

The course will cover essential topics including design tools and principles; it will also involve site visits to see examples.

It will also draw on the large volume of knowledge that is usually present within the participants of a course on an enormous array of subjects.

Why do a PDC ?

It is this last point that consolidates the value of attending a PDC as opposed to reading the growing volume of publications produced over the last 30 years now available on the subject.

The conversations in the breaks often yield the most answers to your individual questions.

This program of topics is from the 2009- 2 certificate course, the sequence varies yearly due to Tutor availability plus it has to fit around the many commitments we and the visitor properties have in Permaculture or Heritage Fruits Society

The class topics and content evolves every year based on the feedback received from over 400 students of PDC, we aim to meet the curriculum plus the needs of our students.

Tutor	Venue	
Peter Allen	Emerald	Introductions,
		History
		Ethical Principles.
		Design Principles.
		Energy Laws & Processes.

		Renewable and non-renewable Energies.
Teresa	Teloepa Mtn	Gaia, ecosystems & food webs.
Fleur		Trees and forest ecology.
		Climates
		APT
Peter	Teloepa Mtn	Pattern Recognition.
		Reading the Landscape – landforms & soil
		Reading the Landscape – water.
		Soil ecology.
		zone 1 & 2 strategies,
Peter Allen	Teloepa mtn	Practical permaculture Day
		Biodynamic composting- No- Dig gardens easy potato patches
Peter	teloepa mtn	
		Design Tools:
		Zones , sectors,
		functional analysis.
		Design features of Landscapes
		Design of fire-prone landscapes.
Peter Allen	Teloepa Mtn	Strategic Planning & Mapping.
		Design Workshop – PRE site analysis.
		Designing Zone 1 Gardens
		Genetic Diversity & Seed-saving.
		Orchards for Zone 2.
Sunday	site visit	local property
	visit	1st visit to possible final design site, or do your own

Peter Allen	Teloepa Mtn	Zone 2 design.
		Zone 3 & 4 Broadacre Farming
Peter Allen	teloepa Mtn	Trees in Pc Systems.
		Microclimates
		Aquaculture & basic Rural water use
	visit	Jenny, Vicki & Maybe Lees
	school hols	no classes for Tuesdays
Olwyn	heathmont	Treating & Recycling waste water , ponds, green cleaners and there effectiveness
peter		Plus see Biolytix composting toilet & other water saving devices
peter		3 site visits
visits		
Olwyn Smiley	Heathmont	grey water system, cleaners, ponds
	Heathmont	Urban food garden
John Ferris	Visit	edible food forest nursery
John Aukett	Teloepa mtn	Rural water use
9-4.30pm		Water in Pc Systems. PA Yeomans & Peter Andrews
Peter Allen	Teloepa Mtn	Animals in Permaculture.
Silvia		animals- poultry
		Rare breeds
		Animals
		Animals, Behaviour,

		design(Shed, central laneway, housing)
Peter Allen	Vicki	intro to beekeeping
	Damian	native fauna
Karen Van Huisen	Teloepa Mtn	Energy efficient housing design
		passive solar
		Retrofitted House(cont)
Peter		Alternative energy systems, heating
Dave Key		building materials, insulation, thermal mass
	Teloepa Mtn	Economic Strategies.
Miranda		Ethical Investment
		Community Strategies
		Alternative energies
		Peak Oil, Nuclear,
Heather & Andrew	Dixons creek	solar
Visit	Dixons Ck	solar array, passive solar, water, trees & fire design
Kushala	teloepa Mtn	Cuba video
		community strategies and events
		Bioregionalism
Peter		Settlement Design.
		Ecovillages/Co-housing
all (arvo 4hrs)	Teloepa Mtn	Working as a Designer.
		Starting a Business.
		Design Workshop – Final Designs.

All tutors invited	Telopea Mtn	Design Presentations.
		Beyond the Design Course.