

Student Story: Lizzie Sanderson



Lizzie Sanderson was unemployed at the time of the 2012 Permaculture Design Course (PDC) and was able to participate due to a partnership between the course team and the local Workers Education Association (WEA). Also, as a dyslexic, Lizzie had struggled with traditional teaching methods. She had this to say about the course:

"The irony of being out of work is you have the time, but not the money to get involved with much in the permaculture learning field. As I'm sure you know, being able to do something like the PDC is a huge boost to confidence and skills, and provides a route hopefully off benefits..."

"I wanted to learn more about permaculture. I wanted to mix with others with the same interests, and try a different kind of learning. I don't fare too well in traditional learning settings, and this was such a positive experience for me.

"[The PDC has] validated what I thought I knew and understood, filled in some gaps, increased confidence and given my huge impetus. It's joined up the dots if that makes sense? Life changing indeed..."

After the course, Lizzie started implementing permaculture at a local community garden, attended the 2012 convergence, and began connecting up with a local guild of permaculture practitioners. She is now back in work and enrolled on the Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design.