

Individual member spotlight

We asked Lifetime member Alison Ensor why being a part of the permaculture network is important

Permaculture is important to me because...

It has shown me so much more than just how to live sustainably, it has taught me how to think about everything I do. I now seem to instinctively look for the bigger interconnection between things, to recognise systems, to observe behaviour and relationships. Permaculture makes sense on so many levels and has enabled me to understand nature, feel part of nature, and the wisdom revealed has become what I would call a spiritual part of my life.

Being a part of the permaculture network has helped me to...

Develop confidence in my own permaculture designing ability, gain a diploma, run a LAND Centre, make friends and start to offer opportunities for others to start living more 'eco-creatively' themselves. Trying to do anything entirely on your own is very hard and often demoralising. Finding other people who inspire you, or indeed who you can inspire, creates new enthusiasm and energy to keep going.

I would want more people to know about permaculture because...

Without discovering something like permaculture, which enables you to really connect with nature's wisdom, people will not break free from the consumerist way of thinking. It's all about changing belief and thought patterns and the best way of doing that is not preaching, but doing something practical that works, inspires, and creates new connections.



Alison Ensor

Becoming a LAND Centre has really spurred me on to share the permie ideas I've implemented here, from the washing line bean 'tent', to the trampoline solar hot tub, or the pallet reedbed. First they laugh, then they say, 'Wow I've never thought of that, I could do that!'

Inspiring enthusiasm in others is the best way of keeping your own energies circulating and makes you realise how far you've come. This is my first year of opening to the public and I'm offering a few workshops, open days, and can give personal guided visits. I even had a couple of volunteers helping with cobbing the rocket stove the other day, so if anyone wants to lend a hand in exchange for lunch just give me a shout, I just love sharing permaculture!