



Steve Burns Reference February 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Steve Burns since he was a participant on the Holmgren Design Hepburn PDC in the late 1990's. Over many years I have witnessed the outcomes of Steve's work, particularly in the Ballarat community where he has provided inspiration, leadership and mentoring to many permaculture practitioners, activists and teachers through the Ballarat Permaculture Guild. My contribution in teaching principles and other subjects on the All Seasons Permaculture Design Course allowed gave me the opportunity to collaborate with Steve as course organiser and facilitator. His depth of profession experience in adult learning and workplace training were great strengths in the success of those courses.

Steve was a participant on the first 4 day Advanced Principles courses I taught (Bolinis California 2005) and worked with me as a facilitator on two more courses taught on home ground in Hepburn.

Steve Burns doesn't have a high profile as a permaculture teacher in Australia because his role has been more of a facilitator and because he has chosen to focus his efforts on home ground in one of Australia's larger regional cities Ballarat. However Steve also has considerable experience in applying his skills as a facilitator combined with disarming Aussi charm in many situations and cultural contexts around the world. He is one of the few people that I have worked closely enough with to be very confident, in both his understanding of my teaching of permaculture ethics and design principles, as well as his owned grounded articulation of these principles.

I can strongly recommend Steve as a permaculture teacher and facilitator able to give students outside Australia a strong connection to my lineage of permaculture teaching as well as a broad and deep understanding of the history, diversity and lessons from the nearly 40 years of permaculture activism in Australia.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Holmgren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Holmgren" clearly distinguishable.

David Holmgren

Co-originator of the permaculture concept