

Adam Day

2011 • PHD Doctor of Philosophy, MATH Mathematics



Reading ‘The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time’ made Adam Day realise how much he loved mathematics and saw him decide to study it further.

What began as a Graduate Diploma in Science, soon led to an Honours degree and then a PhD examining the interaction between computability and randomness, which Adam completed in 2011, supervised by Professor Rod Downey.

“Professor Downey’s passion for mathematics, jovial nature and support for whatever I wanted to work on made the experience of pursuing a PhD enjoyable yet challenging.”

He then went on to a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, Berkeley before returning to Wellington to work as a lecturer within the School of Mathematics and Statistics. In 2015, Adam was awarded the New Zealand Mathematical Society Early Career Award for Mathematical Research. He now works as a principle advisor at the Tertiary Education Commission.

“Wellington is a fantastic compact city and a great place to be if you can find good accommodation.”

Adam says that his study programmes lived up to his expectations. “My experience at Victoria University of Wellington has opened up a world of possibilities for me. If you are passionate about doing a PhD, go for it and work hard to make the most of any opportunities you get.”