



Earth Building Association of New Zealand

*... promoting the art and science of earth building*

[www.earthbuilding.org.nz](http://www.earthbuilding.org.nz)

PO Box 1452, Whangarei

## **EB News 13, 5 March 2006**

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### **The Earthbuilding Association of New Zealand (EBANZ)**

EBANZ is a network of enthusiastic and experienced volunteers, who are interested in promoting environmentally friendly, sustainable building, with a focus on earth as a construction material.

EBANZ publishes this bi-monthly magazine, runs an interactive web site, lobbies government organisations, sends out regular email newsletters (EB News), organises an Annual Conference and local events in your area to promote earth building.

### **Chairperson Required**

Our EBANZ Organisation needs a volunteer with vision and guiding hands to act as Chairperson until the next Conference. If you would like any more information please contact [Richard Morrison](#), or [Peter Olorenshaw](#) initially.

### **Permaculture Design Course**

Rainbow Valley Farm, Warkworth. 14-day course from 17-31 March 2006.

International Certificate from Bill Mollison's Permaculture Institute in Australia.

Permaculture (a contraction of Permanent Agriculture) is the conscious design and maintenance of productive ecosystems, which have the stability and resilience of natural eco systems. It is the harmonious integration of landscape and people providing their food, energy, shelter and other material and non-material needs in a sustainable way.

This course enables participants to gain a permaculture design certificate (PDC) while studying on a working permaculture farm.

The course will:

- give you a good understanding of the ethics, principles and patterns of permaculture design
- convey a general understanding of a wide range of common strategies and techniques
- explore the implications of social change towards ecological sustainability
- visit and observe some of the strategies and techniques within our bioregion
- practice the design methodology amongst the group, supervised by the tutors
- assist each student to access resources required to actively take the course philosophy and methodology into their future lives.

The tutors:

Joe Polaischer & Trish Allen: practising permaculturists who established Rainbow Valley Farm. Joe is an environmental activist and has taught permaculture in Austria, Italy, Japan and Turkey.

Sabine Druueckler & Wolfgang Hiepe: Have established a beautiful permaculture orchard/ garden and built an ecologically friendly home.

Graeme North: environmental architect,

Contact us: [www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz](http://www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz) Email: [kana@rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz](mailto:kana@rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz)



### **Get Muddy Adobe Course,**

April 22-25, 2006, 37 Timaru Rd, Waimate, South Canterbury.

Our aim is to offer participants a fun-filled hands-on experience of adobe brick making and laying and experience of other alternative building technologies.

Saturday 22nd April; 11:00 am Introduction to Earthwood, Rusty and Wal's adobe house (in progress) and to Robert and Marieke's house (completed). Hands on adobe brick making. Tour of Robert and Marieke's adobe house followed by dinner.

Sunday 23rd April; 9:00am we will be laying up adobe bricks to construct a wall, making a cob pizza oven and if time allows a light earth demo.

Monday 24th April; 9.00am we will be finishing the cob pizza oven and experimenting with straw bale seat as time allows.

Tuesday 25th April; more adobe brick making for the survivors!

For further information on the course, meals, accommodation and costs contact us:

Ruth Clark [trusteerustee@yahoo.com](mailto:trusteerustee@yahoo.com) 027 2415849 or 03-689-6189



**Special Deal for EBANZ Members** purchasing the “NZ Earth Building Standards” Offer valid till 31 May 2006.

30% discount off each individual Earth Building Standard or a 40% discount off the full set.

NZS 4297:1998

Engineering design of earth buildings

NZS 4298:1998

Materials and workmanship for earth buildings

NZS 4299:1998

Earth buildings not requiring specific design

For more information on an EBANZ Membership and the special New Zealand Earth Building Standards discount please contact:

Richard Morrison ph: (04) 5686838. email: [RFMdesign@paradise.net.nz](mailto:RFMdesign@paradise.net.nz)

**This months "Ausbale" ([Straw Bale Assoc of Australian](#)) Newsletter includes:**

- Re Vegetation of the Newton Property
- Queensland Straw Bale Home FOR SALE
- Climate Change in Queensland
- Information Night - Wolffdene. Tuesday 7th February

You can view the Straw bale Newsletter at [http://newtonhouse.info/current\\_newsletter.htm](http://newtonhouse.info/current_newsletter.htm)

Happy Baling

Chris Newton

**Hello there.**

My name is Allan Christensen and I found your email address from the back of the recent Earthbuilding issue. I'm a 27 year-old guy from Canada who came to New Zealand to do research for a documentary on rubbish as well as a documentary on soil. Along with the research, I've also been doing a lot of woofing, learning about organics, permaculture, gardening, bees, grey-water systems, and so forth.

I have two months left in the country, and while sitting in my friends earth-rammed house I got the idea that I'd like to spend my last two months assisting and learning about various kinds of earth-building. I am emailing you because I thought that you might know of one or more people who are currently building and could use a volunteer. I don't claim to know much at all about earth-building, but I'm a hard-worker, catch on quick, and have no problem taking direction.

I hope to hear from you,  
Allan Christensen email: [stromfeldt@gmail.com](mailto:stromfeldt@gmail.com)

### **Straw Bale Design & Construction Workshop**

Peel Forest, South Canterbury April 24-28, 2006

This week-long straw bale design and construction workshop will be a blend of both theory (classroom) and practical (hands-on) experience. Our project will be a 6-bunk straw bale bunkhouse in which the instructors will guide you through each of the steps of the building process, from foundations to finish work. The building will incorporate use of on-site timber, interior & exterior natural plasters and a living roof. Multiple techniques will be discussed, drawn and one then implemented for each portion of the building system. We will inform you of the NZ Standards and Codes that you will have to meet, give suggestions on approaching and working with your natural building project with your local Council, update you on recent changes to the code and how those changes affect homeowners, professionals and tradesmen within the industry and describe methods in which to get your project a building consent!

During the week we will also tour local straw bale homes and enjoy evening slide shows. Come prepared to learn lots and get some hands-on experience building a straw bale structure! Workshop limited to 15 participants.

COST: \$750 + GST for workshop, on-site accommodations + 3 meals/day

LECTURERS: Sarah Johnston, Sven Johnston, Julian Kirkwood, Blue Forsyth

CONTACT: Peel Forest Outdoor Pursuits Centre @ 03 696 3832 or email: [pfopc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pfopc@xtra.co.nz) for more information.



### **Permaculture Design Course, Taranaki, 14-28th March 2006**

The original two week intensive Ecological Design Course...fostering a culture of sustainability by the science of design. Learn effective strategies for living lightly on Earth. Be empowered with the language and tools of sustainability. Find the ideas and vision to create self-reliance. Forge a new pathway for yourself, your whanau, and community in the transition towards sustainability.

Venue: Taranaki Environment Centre - the hub of an active bioregional community  
Tutor: Grifen Hope, Peter Heard, Geoff and Nadia Lawton, Daniel Nepia and Finn Mackesey.  
Cost: \$900-1200 Sliding Scale income dependant.  
Contact: Grifen (06)7588523, Email: [grifen@wholehabitat.co.nz](mailto:grifen@wholehabitat.co.nz), Web: [www.vironaki.co.nz](http://www.vironaki.co.nz)

**Enviro Day, Warkworth, 26 March 2006,**

Sunday 26 March 2006

Kourawhero Hall, Woodcocks Road, Warkworth.

Contact Graeme North or Dan (09) 4259305

Email: [ecodesign@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ecodesign@xtra.co.nz)

**“Good Life Trail and dinner” 9.30- 5.30 11 March 2006. Wairarapa**

Participants will visit four properties featuring organic production of livestock, fruit, herbs, vegetables and wine, where they will be able to experience the activities on each property. We also intend to provide displays of sustainable building, energy production and other activities related to self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Our aim is to;

To showcase the Wairarapa as a centre of excellence in food and wine production;

To display the diversity of organic production as “The way of the future”;

To offer education and hands-on experience about sustainable lifestyle choices.

Tour cost \$45.00 plus lunch \$10.00 and 4 course dinner with live music and a speaker \$95.00.

For more information contact;

ph 06 306 8253 fax 06 306 8563 email: [josje@ecoagrilogic.co.nz](mailto:josje@ecoagrilogic.co.nz)

or call Sonia Corbett, ph: 06-379 9378 email: [sonia.corbett@wise.net.nz](mailto:sonia.corbett@wise.net.nz)

**Earth building workshop**

The Quarry Arts Centre, Whangarei. 11- 12 March and the 6- 7 May, 2006.

These two day hands on workshops cover Earth Building Techniques and applications including adobe, in-situ adobe, rammed earth, cob, paving, pizza ovens and passive solar design.

Cost is \$150 p.p. per weekend

Tutor: Henery Mackeson

For further info or to enrol, call us on (09) 438 1215 or email us on [nctrust@ihug.co.nz](mailto:nctrust@ihug.co.nz)



### Whats in the next EBANZ Magazine?

- Adobe blocks, with Jason Montgomery.
- Report from the Award winning EBANZ Stand at the Organic River Festival, near Levin.
- Earth plastering, with Verena Maeder, in Nelson.
- Alan Drayton reports from Earth Song, Auckland.
- Earth Architecture in Southern India.
- Book review: EcoNest: Creating Sustainable Sanctuaries of Clay, Straw and Timber.
- Plus: Courses, Regional Contacts details, Advertisers, Wonderful colour pictures.

### Traditional Timber Framing Workshop

POST & BEAM – MORTISE & TENON CONSTRUCTION

Sun 30 April – Sun 14 May, 2006. Golden Bay Nelson

LEARN: mortise & tenon construction in a hands-on residential workshop held at Tui Community, Wainui Inlet, Golden Bay, Nelson Province. Participants will construct a traditional ‘shaker timber-frame’ from rough timbers, using traditional tools and methods. In USA and Europe, this is a popular structure for ‘light earth’ and wattle & daub walls, and is supported by our local building inspector.

Areas covered will include history, wood selection, care and use of tools, types of joinery, layout and foundations, frame assembly , plus raising and roofing. Moderate physical fitness and strength will be necessary.

This workshop is akin to an apprenticeship, and only 4 places in total are available.

INSTRUCTOR: Huckleberry Leonard (from USA)

Huckleberry is a builder of 35 years experience. He is a shipwright and master craftsman, and has cut and assembled several timber frame buildings in North America. He practices traditional methods, and uses hand tools wherever possible. All frames are constructed using joinery and wooden pegs (trunnels) and raised without the use of machinery.

Cost: Residential: \$1075 - \$1250 (means-based sliding scale) Includes: food & accommodation, instruction & instructor, tool use & materials.

Non Residential option for locals: subtract \$180 from the above cost (includes lunches & teas).

CONTACT & REGISTRATION: Robina McCurdy

Email: [robina@win.co.nz](mailto:robina@win.co.nz) ph: 03-5258605; 5258605

### Additional Courses of Interest

Click-through to the courses below to find further information (please ensure that you confirm all event details with the organisers). If you have any events or courses you would like listed in a future EB News, please email the details to the editor, [Richard Morrison](mailto:Richard.Morrison@xtra.co.nz).

<a href="http://www.radio104.6.co.nz">Radio FM 104.6</a>	Green Planet Discussion	Radio FM 104.6	Thur 8-9 am
<a href="mailto:nctrust@ihug.co.nz">nctrust@ihug.co.nz</a>	Earth building workshop	Whangarei	11- 12 March 06 6- 7 May 06
<a href="mailto:Grifen@wholehabitat.co.nz">Grifen@wholehabitat.co.nz</a>	Permaculture Design Course	Taranaki	14- 28 March 06
<a href="http://www.Rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz">www.Rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz</a>	Permaculture Design Course Earth oven workshop Open days	Warkworth Warkworth Warkworth	17-31 March 06 8 April 06 Various dates
<a href="http://www.Koanga.org">www.Koanga.org</a>	Woodlots forLifestyle Blocks Pizza ovens Various Lifestyle Courses	Koanga Koanga Koanga	18 March 06 8 April 06 Various dates
<a href="mailto:ecodesign@xtra.co.nz">ecodesign@xtra.co.nz</a>	Warkworth Enviro Day	Warkworth	26 March 06
<a href="http://www.digitalearth.org.nz">www.digitalearth.org.nz</a>	Summit on Sustainability	Auckland	9-12 April 06
<a href="mailto:trusteerustee@yahoo.com">trusteerustee@yahoo.com</a>	Adobe workshop	Waimate	22-25 April 06
<a href="mailto:pfopc@xtra.co.nz">pfopc@xtra.co.nz</a>	Strawbale course	Geraldine	24-28 April 06

<a href="http://www.solidearth.co.nz">www.solidearth.co.nz</a>	Experimental earth building	Nelson	29-30 April 06
<a href="mailto:robina@win.co.nz">robina@win.co.nz</a>	Post and Beam-Mortise and tenon construction	Golden Bay	30 April-14 May
<a href="http://www.enviroaust.net">www.enviroaust.net</a>	Enviro 06 Conference and Exhibition	Melbourne	9-11 May 06
<a href="http://www.schumachercollege.org.uk">www.schumachercollege.org.uk</a>	The Sustainable City Course	Devon (UK)	14 May-2 June 06
<a href="http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2006/eco-arch2006/cfp.html">www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2006/eco-arch2006/cfp.html</a>	Eco Architecture 2006	New Forest (UK)	14-16 June 06
<a href="http://www.earthbuilding.org.nz">www.earthbuilding.org.nz</a>	Annual Conference Earth Building Association of New Zealand	To be advised	21-22 October 06
<a href="http://www.branz.co.nz">www.branz.co.nz</a>	BRANZ CITE course on Sustainability	Wellington	6-10 November 06

**In this space we would like to acknowledge members who have contributed to the success of the EBANZ organisation.**

**This month we introduce Gretchen Gould, your Regional Contact in South Canterbury.**



**I live in Geraldine, and I work as an Architectural Designer for Citrus Design Ltd. I have always been interested in alternative building methods but my particular passion is working with straw and I have just recently found the love for earth. One day I dream of building my own straw home with an earth plaster, for now I have to be content getting muddy when helping others.**

**Contact me on 021 386650 or email me: [citrusinteriors@xtra.co.nz](mailto:citrusinteriors@xtra.co.nz)**

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