



Earth Building Association of New Zealand

... promoting the art and science of earth building

www.earthbuilding.org.nz

PO Box 1452, Whangarei

EB News 22

14 March 2007

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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.

Licensing Building Practitioners

This is important and could effect the Future of Earth Building

The Department of Building and Housing have been developing a scheme for licensing building practitioners as set out in the Building Act 2004 and have recently put out a document for public comment. The consultation document has been posted on their website at

<http://www.dbh.govt.nz/occupational-licensing-discussion-docs>.

The document focuses on the:

- minimum standards for Carpentry, Design and Site license classes (to be introduced from 1 November 2007)
- initial application and assessment processes
- continued licensing requirements.

Printed copies of the consultation document, or further information about the scheme, can be obtained by phoning our Contact Centre on 0800 60 60 50.

Designers, builders and home owners interested in earth building and associated alternative building systems should comment on the proposal as the scheme concentrates on conventional construction systems and it is not at clear how alternative systems are to be dealt with if at all and who would supervise owners who build their own houses of earth or other alternative systems.

THIS IS IMPORTANT! IT COULD AFFECT THE FUTURE OF EARTH BUILDINGS!

This document has been posted on their website at: <http://www.dbh.govt.nz/occupational->

[licensing-discussion-docs](#)

Pizza Ovens

10.00- 4.00pm 17 March 2007 Koanga Gardens

Presented by Wolf Heipe

Price \$112.00

Wolf has been playing around with earth for a few years now and lives in a beautiful Light Earth home he built with others. Earth is a passion of his and he'll build an Earth Oven with you over this weekend, using mainly clay and sand and some lime for finishing touches. It takes two days to finish the oven but you do not need to come to both workshop days. You can learn everything you need to know in one day. We'll also show you how to build a fire and cook in another earth oven that is already built. These ovens can cook bread, pizza, casseroles, basically anything can be cooked in them, and it's just a matter of experience and technique. This is always a really popular workshop so be in early to avoid disappointment.

Website: www.koanga.co.nz Phone: (09) 4312732 Email: info@koanga.co.nz

Strawbale Workshop

17- 18 March 2007 Whangarei

This weekend workshop will give you an opportunity to assess the diversity for strawbale building - whether you wish to build your own home, construct a garden shed or just decided if strawbale is the right medium for your project. You will learn techniques through hands on practical activities and also have the opportunity to view projects in various states of completion.

Courses are limited to 12 people and have a minimum size of 6 confirmed paid enrolments before commencement. Note: this is an adult workshop and because of site safety policy, is not suitable for children to attend.

Ian B Redfern (Prof) A.D.N.Z, A.I.P.E.N.Z, is passionately committed to helping people gain the skills to build their own homes through workshops and mentoring. Although formally trained as an engineer, he has been involved in the construction industry for over 25 years and brings a wealth of practical skills and knowledge of conventional, energy efficient and alternative design and construction to each project he undertakes.

His business Adobe South is involved through the design and mentoring to owner-builders. Ian has an extensive and longstanding experience with strawbale construction within New Zealand and networks globally with his peers.

The two day workshop is \$200.00 per person with a one day Saturday or Sunday only option of \$120.00 per person each day. Prices include GST.

Contact Ian Redfern: Website: www.adobesouth.co.nz Phone:(09)4302020



Eco-Design Course

19 March – 3rd April New Plymouth

Two week residential. Discover a permanent awareness of strategies for Sustainable Living in the 21C. A design process in and of itself, we learn to shape alternative futures. Learn the Science of Ecological Design, commonly known as Permaculture, with some of New Zealand's finest educators for sustainability and International guest tutors. Experience this emerging culture of sustainability first hand. Limited Numbers. Book Today. Fee covers all food and accommodation, tuition, notes and field trips.

What students have said; “The best teacher I’ve ever had”, “This course has changed my life”, “The most value for money...you guys are giving it away”, “What is Permaculture? This is Permaculture! You guys are doing it”, “There’s something about this place...a space for local, national and international change”, “Thank you so much...I now know my purpose on Earth”. Taranaki Environment Centre Grifen Hope, Darren Doherty, Robina McCurdy & friend Cost: \$900–1200.00

Contact us for more information. Website: www.environaki.co.nz Phone/Fax: (06) 756 8229
Email: info@environaki.co.nz

**Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to friends!
Or print this off in B&W for your notice board, Thanks.**

Eco and earthen architecture workshop with Graeme North

10.00- approx 4.30pm, 1 April 2007 Warkworth

Mud Brick (Adobe) and Cob

Find out about the possibilities of using natural earth as a building material.

Learn how this material contributes to healthy buildings, and some of the benefits and constraints involved in its use, including the use of the NZ Earth Building Standards.

Find out how to select and test soils for suitability.

This workshop is largely a hands-on experience of making bricks from mud and laying them, and also explores direct building into massive durable cob walls.

We will also discuss earth plastering, earth floors, strawbale building, and passive solar and other design criteria.

Fees: \$112.50 per person GST incl. (includes morning and afternoon teas and lunch).

Please note that numbers are strictly limited and \$50.00 is payable in advance to secure a place. The deposit is non-refundable unless the event is cancelled

Graeme is a registered architect with extensive experience with many different techniques and types of earthen materials gained from many projects over 35 years.

He has also designed many buildings using more conventional materials and is well known for his environmentally friendly building work.

His work also embraces the use of strawbales, earthen and lime plasters, and incorporates plants into "livingscapes".

He was the first Chairman of the Earth Building Association (EBANZ) of New Zealand and chaired the Standards New Zealand Technical Committee that wrote the comprehensive suite of three NZ earth building standards.

Graeme has received several awards for his contribution to the earth building standards, as well as environmental and architectural work. He has international recognition as an earth building architect and has been persuaded to give one workshop this year.

To enrol, send your name, address, phone number, workshop date and deposit to Graeme North, 49 Matthew Road, RD1, Warkworth

For more information: Phone: (09) 425 9305 or Email: ecodesign@xtra.co.nz



David Holmgren

Public Speaking Tour through out New Zealand April 2007

1. Permaculture Solutions for the Energy Descent Future
2. Can a Permaculture Makeover Save the Suburbs?
3. Scenario Planning for Energy Descent and Relocalisation:

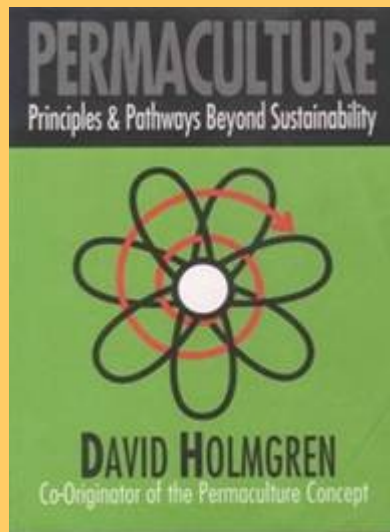
David is best known as the co-originator of the permaculture concept (1978 with Bill Mollison).

His recent book Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability provides deeper insights into the principles behind permaculture strategies and techniques for living within nature's limits.

Book for sale \$45 incl. postage from Email: books@livinglightly.org.nz

See www.holmgren.com.au or for details of NZ tour see:

<http://www.permaculture.org.nz/showOneEvent.php?eventnum=173>



Easter 2007 Permaculture Hui

6- 8th April 2007 Warkworth

\$115 includes all meals.

Registration forms and details http://www.permaculture.org.nz/PiNZ_hui_registration_form.pdf

The permaculture community is gathering. You are invited to join us in conversation and celebration about the role of permaculture in creating sustainable futures. Permaculture design has much to offer society at this time; are we willing to deliver?

Limited numbers so register early by contacting:

Email: hui@permaculture.org.nz or Fax: (07) 377 8914

Advanced Permaculture Design course with David Holmgren

9- 11 April 2007 Warkworth

This workshop is designed to provide a more indepth understanding of permaculture design principles using the format developed in Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability and the Principles Teaching kit (both by David Holmgren) This workshop is targeted at PDC graduates but also can work as a higher level introduction to permaculture concepts for those with a background in sustainability issues and practices and familiarity with Permaculture. For teachers and prospective teachers of permaculture, the workshop is a unique opportunity to get first hand access to source material as well as experience a variety of learning modes and presentation techniques.

Workshop includes:

- * Presentation and discussion exploring the scope and evolution of permaculture solutions.
- * Structured observation and mapping exercise of the local environment, building and sharing skills in reading landscape.
- * Virtual tour of David & Su's property to provide inspiration and examples.
- * Re-configured design principles, using a format applicable to PDC teaching.

* Presentation on Peak Oil and Climate Change Scenarios with relevance to permaculture, with groupwork on strategic responses applicable in each scenario - this is to help participants integrate a big picture understanding of the emerging context for permaculture action. (referred to in Energy Bulletin: www.energybulletin.net/22674.html)

A network exchange, course review and principles card game completes the workshop.
contact Robina McCurdy Email: robina@win.co.nz or Lisa Email: consciuseducation@ihug.co.nz or Phone/Fax (06) 345 2834



EarthBuilding Workshop

28-29 April 2007 Whangarei

This short weekend course is designed to give enthusiasts practical skills and confidence, so you may embark on a lifetime of self-learning about earth building. Learn skills to assist in building your own home or create interesting landscaping features and low walls.

Courses are limited to 12 people and have a minimum size of 6 confirmed paid enrolments before commencement. Note: this is an adult workshop and because of site safety policy, is not suitable for children to attend.

Ian has built several poured earth homes and has their cottage well underway (you will visit this site). Ian is currently mentoring many owner builders in the North Island.

An alternative programme will be offered should the weather not be conducive to outdoor building.

The two day workshop is \$200.00 per person with a one day Saturday or Sunday only option of \$120.00 per person each day. Prices include GST.

Contact Ian Redfern: Website: www.adobesouth.co.nz Phone: 09 4302020

AdobeUSA 2007

18- 20 May 2007 New Mexico

The 4th Adobe Conference of the Adobe Association of the Southwest: AdobeUSA 2007 will take place May 18, 19 and 20, 2007 in El Rito, New Mexico on the campus of co-sponsor Northern New Mexico Community College in Cutting Hall Auditorium. It adjoins the two-story South Dorm

and Cafeteria forming a stately adobe complex. A tour of area adobe structures will take place Monday, May 21, 2007.

Topics of special interest are:

Affordable adobe construction

Thermal properties of earthen materials

Physical properties of earthen materials including seismic considerations

Historical buildings of note

Historical builders, developers, architects or designers worldwide

New projects: architecture, adobe art and design

Adobe education

Manufacture and supply of adobe and related construction materials

Information on the Association and the previous conferences can be found at:

<http://www.adobeasw.com>



Organic Explorer wants you

I work as the graphic designer/photographer for Organic NZ Magazine, and over the last 3 years have visited many gorgeous hand made homes, gardens and built environments. The catalyst however, for an idea to create a website – a GREEN TRAVEL GUIDE TO NZ, came about through the EBANZ Conference Tour in Coromandel, October 06.

Spending the weekend touring homes, eating at funky cafes and seeing the local eco-tourism activities available, led me to think, how many places like this there are in NZ and how they are not adequately represented in mainstream tourism guides.

I would like to invite all EBANZ members who have environmentally friendly accommodation,

eco-tourism ventures, or organic food cafes/supplies open to travellers, to contact me. I will send you information about Organic Explorer and how to list your business on my website.

Organic Explorer is FREE TO LIST UNTIL JUNE 07, and the website will be operative and accessible from March 1st 2007. I am currently collating as many listings as possible before the site goes live.

Please email me: leoniejohansen@xtra.co.nz if you would like to request further information.

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.

Radio FM 104.6	Green Planet Discussion	Radio FM 104.6	Thur 8-9 am
www.koanga.org	Pizza Ovens Workshop	Koanga	17 March 07
www.adobesouth.co.nz	Strawbale workshop	Whangarei	17-18 March 07
www.vironaki.co.nz	Eco-Design Course	New Plymouth	19 March- 3 April 07
ecodesign@xtra.co.nz	Adobe and Cob Workshop	Warkworth	1 April 07
www.permaculture.org.nz	Permaculture NZ Hui 07	Warkworth	6-8 April 07
www.permaculture.org.nz	David Holgram Teaching/ Speaking Tour	Through out New Zealand	6-30 April 07
www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz	Advanced Permaculture Workshop	Warkworth	9-11 April 07
robina@win.co.nz wanakapermaculture@paradise.net.nz	Permaculture Design Course	Wanaka Central Otago	13-27 April 07
www.adobesouth.co.nz	Earthbuilding workshop	Whangarei	28-29 April 07

www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz	Bottle walls and windows	Warkworth	12 May 07
www.adobeasw.com/	AdobeUSA 2007	New Mexico USA	18-20 May 07
www.ecofestnelsontasman.co.nz	Ecofest	Nelson	11 Aug 07
www.ecoshow.co.nz	Ecoshow	Taupo	10-14 Oct 07
www.sb07.org.nz	Sustainable Building Conference	Auckland	14-16 Nov 07
www.jasperweb.cpit.ac.nz	Permaculture Design Course	Christchurch	24Oct-28 Nov 4 evenings
info@sustaining-hb.org.nz	Sustainable /Earth Building Courses/ Permaculture	Hawke's Bay	Various dates
www.envirocentre.org.nz	Sustainable /Energy/ Earth Building Course	Hamilton	Various dates

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

This month we introduce Blue Forsyth



I am a passionate advocate for natural building, especially the use of earth, straw and natural

plaster systems. I have been active in promoting and teaching the use of these materials for over 20 years. As well as new building projects, I often works with the Historic Places Trust to help preserve our earth-building heritage.

My company, "Kakariki Earth Ltd" specialises in natural building and resource efficiency.

Contact Blue Forsyth at: Kakariki Earth Ltd
Phone: (03) 6938444 Email: mudmen@ihug.co.nz
20 Hislop Street
Geraldine

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