



Earth Building Association of New Zealand

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

www.earthbuilding.org.nz

PO Box 1452, Whangarei

**EB News 28**

**12 November 2007**

**Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to friends**

[EBANZ Website](#)    [Subscribe to this "FREE" EB News](#)

[Contact Richard Morrison, the Editor](#)

**Hi All**

As I sit down to compile my last edition of the "EB News" I wonder if its achieved the original goals of introducing more people into sustainable ideas and practices. To be able to compile this email, talk to the event organisers and know that it could be having a positive effect on your lives has given me a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction.

Yes it time for me to move on. The new Editor is **Dan Mohr** and with the support of the EBANZ Committee I sure the EB News will continue to arrive. My special thanks to my friend and volunteer Doug Lambert for his patience and computer skills, to the EBANZ members who have supported me and most of all to you, the readers.

Thanks  
Richard Morrison

### **Earth Building Association of New Zealand Conference: Nelson 2007**

What a great weekend, lots of quality character earth homes to view, an earth oven and a wall to practice our building skills on, evenings of lectures and a discussion afternoon and a very successful AGM. There will be more information and pictures in the next EBANZ magazine.

Welcome to Verena Maeder as the new Chairwoman and her very capable Committee. The future of EBANZ is looking positive.

Thanks to Verena, Carlo Weigand and helpers for organising a hugely successful Conference.

A special thanks to the Staff at the "Riverside Community and Cultural Centre" Upper Moutere, Nelson, for providing such great environment to hold our Conference in. It was a pleasure to be there and the food was wonderful.



The team that traveled to Golden Bay on the Monday

### **Teaching for Sustainability Conference 2007**

22- 24 November 2007, Wellington

The conference covers various sustainability issues, with a particular emphasis on how to then integrate this knowledge, skills and practice into education. Victoria University (with the help of Genesis Energy, TRCC, IAG NZ, Lift Education, and Grove Mill) is holding a conference for Primary and Secondary School Teachers. Conference places limited to 150

Register now. website: [www.trcc.org.nz/](http://www.trcc.org.nz/) under courses

**Sorry I've just heard this conference is fully booked. But Register and may be that demand will enable them to organise another similar Conference.**

### **Life Cycle Analysis Course**

23 November 2007, Wellington

Environmental Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is based on the concept of Life Cycle Thinking, which integrates consumption and production strategies over a whole life cycle, so preventing a piece-meal approach to systems analysis. Life cycle approaches avoid problem shifting from one life cycle stage to another, from one geographic area to another, and from one environmental medium to another.

LCA is an analytical tool for the systematic evaluation of the environmental impacts of a product or service system through all stages of its life. It extends from extraction and processing of raw materials through to manufacture, delivery, and use, and finally on to waste management. This is often referred to as "cradle to grave". A number of other environmental assessment tools are restricted to the production process, which is sometimes called "gate to gate" or in the case of embodied energy cover the life cycle from "cradle to gate" without taking the end of life into account.

What is currently being done, how can we use it, how can we do it?

This workshop will include an initial presentation on Environmental Life Cycle Assessment, the advantages and disadvantages and possible applications. Participants will then engage in an exercise to discuss the scope of LCA studies and the implementation.

RSNZ Lecture Theatre, 1st Floor of Science House, 11 Turnbull Street, Thorndon, Wellington.

website: [www.nzsses.auckland.ac.nz/forums/index.htm](http://www.nzsses.auckland.ac.nz/forums/index.htm) email: [vicky@nzsses.org.nz](mailto:vicky@nzsses.org.nz)

## **Permaculture Design Course**

17 November– 1 December 2007 Golden Bay

'Permaculture Design' - a two week community oriented residential course in integrated land-use design for sustainability.

This is an interactive, practically oriented international certificated course, where participants put into practice what they learn theoretically. Involves 'hands-on doing' and ecological design of: natural buildings & renewable energy, organic gardens & orchards, water harvesting, animal systems, wildlife habitat, human settlements.

Maximum Number of People: 18

Main Tutors: Robina McCurdy & Huckleberry Leonard

For Further Info Contact: Jessica Trevino phone: (03) 5258399 (message only)

email: [events@tuitrust.org.nz](mailto:events@tuitrust.org.nz)



## **Building with Sustainable Materials.**

24 November 10.30-12.30pm Waitakere City Auckland

Healthy choices for you and your family

Arm yourself with eco-friendly options when choosing materials for building or renovating.

Discover where hidden toxins are lurking in your household and how to avoid them.

Which are the best and safest building materials to use with the least environmental impact?

Bookings essential. Workshops held at Sustainable Living Centre, 4 Olympic Place, New Lynn, Waitakere City phone: (09) 826 0555 email: [slc@ecomatters.org.nz](mailto:slc@ecomatters.org.nz)

## **Eco-Tourists in New Zealand go High-Tech in their search for Sustainability.**

Travelling just got a whole lot easier for Eco-Tourists in New Zealand with the availability of NZ's first downloadable travel guide. The Organic Explorer eBook caters specially to the eco-conscious traveller and pulls together Ecotourism Adventures, Organic Home Stays and Restaurants, Farmers Markets, Sustainable Eco-Accommodation, Health and Well Being Retreats, exclusive Lodges and authentic Cultural Tourism opportunities.

The eBook, with more than 300 listings, is a natural extension of the Organic Explorer website. Check out our website: [www.OrganicExplorer.co.nz](http://www.OrganicExplorer.co.nz)

# Organic explorer

Green travel guide to New Zealand

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

25-30 November 2007 Geraldine, South Canterbury

Join us in this intensive week-long theory and practical workshop focused on straw bale design and construction. A combination of both classroom and hands-on sessions will give you a thorough understanding of the multiple wall systems, their details, and how straw bale walls work as a part of the whole building system. Come ready to learn and to discuss some of the common questions that surround straw bale building such as flashing details, moisture issues and plaster systems.

This course will be held between the 25-30 November 2007: 8:30am-5:00pm daily with evening events such as home tours and guest lecturers and be based at the Struan Farm Retreat, Geraldine, South Canterbury, New Zealand. The fee includes the 5-day workshop, food and accommodation (dormitory style) @ Struan Farm Retreat and costs \$845.00

### LECTURERS:

Blue Forsyth, Kakariki Earth  
Gretchen Gould, Citrus Design  
Sarah Johnston, SOL Design  
Sven Johnston, SOL Design

CONTACT Sarah Johnston, for more information & registration forms:

email: [sarahjohnston@ihug.co.nz](mailto:sarahjohnston@ihug.co.nz) or leave a message with your enquiry phone: (03) 693 7369



## **Earthbuilding Workshop**

1-2 December 2007 Takaka Golden Bay

This two day workshop will cover all major aspects of earthbuilding, particularly adobe (mud brick) and cob construction and provide information and good experience for those interested in building in earth. A site visit to several earthbuildings will be made during the workshop. Contact Richard and Bella Walker at Green Horizon Workshops for more information. phone: (03) 528 4751 e-mail: [ess@ts.co.nz](mailto:ess@ts.co.nz)

## **Northland Craft Trust Summer Do 2008**

5th-13th January 2008 Whangarei

### **Earth Building** – Henry Mackeson, Graeme North & Thijs Drupsteen

Henry Mackeson is an earth builder and developer of the adobe-in-situ method. He has been involved in earthbuilding projects in New Zealand, UK and Vanuatu. Henry is also a potter, sculptor and builder and has been tutoring earth-building methods since 1985.

Graham North (registered architect) has been pivotally involved with the growth of the earth building renaissance since 1971, being personally involved since then in the design of hundreds of earth buildings. He was founding Chairman of the Earth Building Association of New Zealand (EBANZ).

Thijs Drupsteen is a qualified engineer and has been involved in the research, design and standards writing for earth buildings since 1983. He is also involved in passive residential solar design.

#### Course Content

This is a hands on course, exploring a wide range of methods including adobe, rammed earth, cob, cinva brick and paving. Participants learn through building permanent structures, putting into practice the theoretical and technical knowledge gained. Students will also visit a diverse range of earth buildings in the area.

#### Other Tutors and courses

Painting - James Lawrence

Stone Sculpture - Iosefa Leo

Ceramics - Richard Parker

Life Drawing - Marianne Muggeridge

A Cappella singing – Tony Backhouse

Slab Clay Sculpture – Matt McLean

Experimental Printmaking – Joan Travaglia

Flax Weaving – Eileen Joy Wikitera

Course Fees of \$400.00 cover the tutoring, but materials are paid for separately, according to individual use. Workshops start at 9am daily. The official opening is at 9am, Saturday 5th January 2008. The Summer Do ends at lunchtime Sunday 13th January 2008.

Campsites are available at the Quarry at a cost of \$40.00 per person for the Summer Do duration. Breakfast supplies will be provided. We can also offer advice on local, low cost accommodation. Fully catered options will be available (including vegetarian) onsite for around \$180.00 per person for the duration of course. Daily Lunch/Dinner options will also be available.

For more information: The Quarry 21 Selwyn Ave, PO Box 1452, Whangarei.

phone: (09) 438 1215 email: [nctrust@ihug.co.nz](mailto:nctrust@ihug.co.nz)

## **Eco- Home and Permaculture Land Use**

13 January 2008 Todd Valley Nelson

Practical concepts and tips for designing your eco home and environment

Site selection

Eco building design

Mud brick construction

Solar power generation  
Water collection  
Sewer and waste disposal  
Permaculture, Bio-dynamic and Organic land use  
Fruit, nut and native selection/ production  
Information booklet provides

Tim Maples has been developing his 15 hectare property and constructing his mud brick solar powered home for the last 12 years. Tim has an extensive background in Organic and Bio-dynamic horticulture and Permaculture methodology over the last 30 years.

phone: (03) 5452210 email: Tim at [inovagroup@netaccess.co.nz](mailto:inovagroup@netaccess.co.nz)



### **Advanced Adobe Workshop**

12- 16 February 2008 Takaka Golden Bay

This five day workshop will provide you with in depth knowledge of the design and construction process of adobe buildings. It involves a good amount of hands on practical experience to give you the techniques and confidence to build your own adobe building. Approximately half of the workshop will be on design and site and soil evaluation and half will be building a small adobe building.

Contact Richard and Bella Walker at Green Horizon Workshops for more information and courses.

phone: (03) 528 4751 or email: [ess@ts.co.nz](mailto:ess@ts.co.nz)



### **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.

### **Organic River Festival**

18- 20 January 2008 Kimberley Reserve Levin

The Organic River Festival is a vibrant and upbeat celebration of the good life fueled with the tastiest organic food, wine and beer - a weekend of sights and sounds, the arts, films, inspiration, relaxation and sustainable living. Turn up with your friends and camp for the three nights to have the best weekend of the summer.

A selection of international, national and top regional bands offer a continuous musical line-up on the main stage and in the main food marquee. A dynamic kidzone entertains all day.

Over 100 stalls from all over NZ show the latest eco trends, alternative technology, complimentary health and creative arts and crafts etc. Said to be NZ's answer to Glastonbury (in the sun).

Great family camping. For details, 3 day camping pass or day tickets visit Website: [www.ecofest.co.nz](http://www.ecofest.co.nz)



### **Build your own water tank**

19- 20 January 2008 Takaka Golden Bay

Learn how to build your own ferro cement water tank for a fraction of the cost of a manufactured one. A water tank will be built during the workshop.

Contact Green Horizon Workshops for more information on this and other courses.

Richard and Bella Walker phone: (03) 528 4751 e-mail: [ess@ts.co.nz](mailto:ess@ts.co.nz)

### **Sustainability EXPO**

26-27 January 2008 Rolleston Christchurch

Find out more about: solar electric (photovoltaic) and wind energy systems solar hot water systems and other sustainable technologies energy efficient appliances, building design, housing and transport

information, advice, education...and much, much more.  
See some working displays and talk to representatives.  
Attend talks on a wide range of topics, there will be concurrent talks sessions on renewable energy, building, waste and water resources, general.

...for the benefit of our environment

10am to 5pm Saturday 26th January & Sunday 27th January 2008

Rolleston Community Centre, Rolleston 7614, Canterbury (New Zealand)

Mike O'Connell mobile: 027-457-6527 website: [www.sustainabilityexpo.co.nz](http://www.sustainabilityexpo.co.nz)

### **The original 72-hour Permaculture Design Course.**

22 February- 7 March, 2008 Matakana Warkworth

This is an intensive 14-day course where you have the chance to get fully immersed in the permaculture way of thinking and acting whilst 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 to take the course philosophy and methodology into their future lives.

The venue is the award winning Rainbow Valley Farm, Matakana, New Zealand

contact Trish Allen, phone: (09) 422 7432, email: [kana@rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz](mailto:kana@rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz)

web site: [www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz](http://www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz)



### **Permaculture Design Course**

26 February- 10 March, 2008 Golden Bay Nelson

'Permaculture Design' - a two week community oriented residential course in integrated land-use design for sustainability.

This is an interactive, practically oriented international certificated course, where participants put into practice what they learn theoretically. Involves 'hands-on doing' and ecological design of: natural buildings & renewable energy, organic gardens & orchards, water harvesting, animal systems, wildlife habitat, human settlements.

Maximum Number of People: 18  
 Main Tutors: Robina McCurdy & Huckleberry Leonard

For Further Info Contact: Jessica Trevino phone: (03) 5258399 (message only)  
 email: [events@tuitrust.org.nz](mailto:events@tuitrust.org.nz)

### 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
<a href="http://www.trcc.org.nz">www.trcc.org.nz</a>	Teaching for Sustainability Conference 2007	Wellington	22-24 Nov 07
<a href="http://www.nzsses.Auckland.ac.nz/forum">www.nzsses.Auckland.ac.nz/forum</a>	Life Cycle Analysis Course	Wellington	23 Nov 07
<a href="mailto:sarahjohnston@ihug.co.nz">sarahjohnston@ihug.co.nz</a>	Straw Bale Design & Construction Workshop	Geraldine South Canterbury	25- 30 Nov 07
<a href="mailto:events@tuitrust.org.nz">events@tuitrust.org.nz</a>	Permaculture Design Course	Golden Bay	17 Nov- 1 Dec 07
<a href="mailto:sic@ecomatters.org.nz">sic@ecomatters.org.nz</a>	Building with Sustainable Materials	Auckland	24 Nov 07
<a href="mailto:robina@win.co.nz">robina@win.co.nz</a>	Natural Building Apprenticeship	Golden Bay	2- 22 Dec 07
<a href="mailto:ess@ts.co.nz">ess@ts.co.nz</a>	Earthbuilding Course	Golden Bay	1-2 Dec 07
<a href="mailto:enrolonline@cpit.ac.nz">enrolonline@cpit.ac.nz</a>	Earth & Strawbale Building	Christchurch	3-4 Dec07
<a href="mailto:nctrust@ihug.co.nz">nctrust@ihug.co.nz</a>	Summer Do 2008 Northland Craft Trust	Whangarei	5-13 Jan 08
<a href="http://www.ecofest.co.nz">www.ecofest.co.nz</a>	Organic River Festival	Levin	18-20 Jan 07
<a href="mailto:ess@ts.co.nz">ess@ts.co.nz</a>	Build your own water tank	Golden Bay	19-20 Jan 07
<a href="http://www.sustainabilityexpo.co.nz">www.sustainabilityexpo.co.nz</a>	Sustainability EXPO	Christchurch	26-27 Jan 08
<a href="http://www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz">www.rainbowvalleyfarm.co.nz</a>	Permaculture Design Course	Warkworth	22 Feb-7 March 08
<a href="mailto:events@tuitrust.org.nz">events@tuitrust.org.nz</a>	Permaculture Design Course	Golden Bay	26 Feb-10 March 07
<a href="mailto:Info@sustaining-hb.org.nz">Info@sustaining-hb.org.nz</a>	Sustainable /Earth Building Courses/ Permaculture	Hawke's Bay	Various dates

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

Sustainable /Energy/  
Earth Building Course

Hamilton

Various  
dates

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

**This month we introduce our new Chairwoman Verena Maeder.**



Verena Maeder and Carlo Wiegand run Solid Earth Adobe Buildings in Nelson. Solid Earth is offering cement-free Adobe Bricks, Earthbuilding Construction Work, Earth Plasters, Earthbuilding Design and Workshops. 16 years of experience, European Earthbuilding Background and Degrees in Building Biology, Organic Architecture (Verena) and Environmental Science (Carlo).

Phone/Fax: 03 545 0240    email: [contact@solidearth.co.nz](mailto:contact@solidearth.co.nz)    web: [www.solidearth.co.nz](http://www.solidearth.co.nz)

[EBANZ Website](#)

[Join EBANZ](#)

[Subscribe to EB News](#)

[Unsubscribe from EB News](#)