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**EB News 53**

**February 2010**

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**EB News** is an email newsletter featuring events & workshops promoting earth building & low impact living.

**Please feel free to pass this newsletter around!**

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Contact Editor: [EarthBuildingAssociationNZ@gmail.com](mailto:EarthBuildingAssociationNZ@gmail.com)

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FROM THE EDITOR:

Handy hint - Did you know you can see the latest EB News on the Earth Building Association website: <http://www.earthbuilding.org.nz/enews/current.pdf> - how nice.

While you're there, become a [member](#) of **EBANZ!!!**

check out our website, I dare you, click click click!

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

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## Content:

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EcoDay 2010

Sunday 28 February 2010

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International PERMACULTURE DESIGN COURSE

26 March-9 April, R.V.F., Matakana

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Introduction to Natural Building

6 March 2010, Warkworth SORRY: FULL

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**Terra-aqua-culture Training – 4 day workshop**

9-13 April 2010, Taranaki

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"Go Green Expo" Organic & Sustainability Expo

Sunday, July 11, 2010

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Japanese clay plaster on bamboo lath -Article

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NZ Flax thatching! -Article

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## Links & ongoing courses:

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### Earth Building Workshops and other courses

Nelson area, 03 528 4751

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### Ongoing Modular Permaculture Design Course

Tarakaki, June 2009 - Feb 2010

Ph 06 756-8229 or 06 756-9100 [kamaburwell@iconz.co.nz](mailto:kamaburwell@iconz.co.nz)

<http://www.environaki.co.nz/courses-education.htm>

### 8. Design Project- 27 & 28 Feb 2010

#### Last session:

*with Kama Burwell & Dee Turner*

In small groups or solo, you will complete and present a design project. The aim of the project is to apply permaculture design to a specific site or proposal, while making use of the knowledge and processes learnt during the course.

Contact us:

Kama Burwell, Taranaki Environment Centre, Ph 06 756-8229 or 06 756-9100.

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## EB News

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## Think dirty : join [EBANZ](#)

We always welcome new members! Just \$55 per year!

Plus \$5 discount (\$50 total) if paid by internet banking:

**Internet Banking:** Kiwibank account # 38-9007-0611251-00

**Please include reference** - your full name/mailling address

(so we can verify payment to our Membership Secretary)

**SNAIL MAIL:** join by filling out & sending us the Membership Form & cheque - click [here](#) for the pdf form

**EMAIL:** enter the required details from the online form into an email - click [here](#) for email

**You Get** - subscription to 4 high quality magazines every year (includes glossy colour photos)

- access to earth building professionals via dedicated email chat-group

- discounts on the annual conference/tour fees

- access to EBANZ extensive library of [DVD/Videos](#)

- help support the research and development of earth building in NZ  
(we've been doing heaps of research & testing of light earth bricks!)



# EcoDay 2010 !!

28 February 2010 Olympic Park, New Lynn in Waitakere City - [Map](#) << [very good map](#)

Sunday 28 February 2010

Yes! Earth building courses!!! search the Homepage (link below this)

EcoDay is a free, community event and is Auckland's premier environmental festival. EcoDay highlights include:

- an EcoExpo showcasing a wide variety of green businesses promoting sustainable products and services in the areas of renewable energy, water conservation, waste minimisation, sustainable gardening, fair trade and organics
- a Green Marketplace where visitors can purchase eco-friendly and fair-trade products
- a Green Transport Zone featuring the latest in hybrid and fuel efficient vehicles, electric and manual bicycles, as well as information about walking, cycling and public transport options
- a Recycled Arts and Crafts Market featuring products made from found, recovered, reused and recycled materials
- a series of free Seminars on topics such as sustainable building, renewable energy, climate change and permaculture, as well as free, practical hands-on Workshops on themes such as composting, propagation and organic gardening
- free EcoTours to selected local ecohomes and organic gardens
- an EcoKids zone with storytelling, clowns, facepainting and trapeze artists
- delicious organic food and drink

The festival is staged in close proximity to the EcoMatters Sustainable Living Centre and the Trusts EcoHouse and both locations will be open to the public on EcoDay 2010.

EcoDay, now in its eighth year, provides visitors with practical information and advice on incorporating sustainable living principles and practices into their everyday lives.

For further information or to book your exhibition space online, visit:

[ECODAY 2010 HOMEPAGE](#)

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## Rainbow Valley Farm, Matakana

# International Permaculture Design Course

**LOOK!:: 26 March-9 April 2010: Lead Tutor: Trish Allen**

This Permaculture Design Course will be held at Rainbow Valley Farm.  
Enroll today! What a great opportunity to get a qualification from arguably the leading permaculture centre in NZ.  
People come from all over the world to learn at this iconic farm.

### Rainbow Valley Farm

Our water comes from springs near the highest point on the farm, and is gravity fed to our house and gardens.  
Our used water with all its nutrients goes to the orchard.

The farm has become known as a model of permaculture and now we run tours and workshops each summer to share what we have learnt with others. Over the years we have hosted groups from garden clubs, schools, kindergartens and university students from New Zealand and overseas, as well as government ministers and United Nations advisors.

We also take in a small number of interns and volunteers who work with us on the farm and take part in our daily lives.

Permaculture Design Course: **26 March-9 April 2010:** Lead Tutor, Trish Allen others include Darren Doherty, Graeme North

This is an intensive 14 day course, where you have the chance to get fully immersed in the permaculture way of thinking and acting.

### Price structure:

\$1,500 to \$2,060 depending on accommodation option chosen. More info, enrollment form >[Click](#)

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## **Full:** *Introduction to Natural Building*

6 March 2010, Warkworth with Graeme North

- **SORRY, ALL PLACES HAVE BEEN FILLED**

**BUT** if you are interested in future earth building courses in Warkworth, please email your interest to [info@ecodesign.co.nz](mailto:info@ecodesign.co.nz) - You will be put on a database as preferred first contact for future courses.

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### **Terra-aqua-culture Training – 4 day workshop**

9-13 April 2010, Taranaki

#### **Haikai Tane, Professor of Sustainable Development**

Introducing the culture, craft and science of farming water flowing through the landscape.

Dao terraquaculture, the world's most productive farming system, has thrived for over 5000 years in the Asia-Pacific realm - achieving levels of sustained productivity beyond the reach of agriculture.

This 4 day practical workshop will expand your skills and capabilities in productive farming and forestry systems to enable sustainable rural livelihoods in Aotearoa New Zealand.

For information, email [sherylam@kinect.co.nz](mailto:sherylam@kinect.co.nz) or phone 03 435-0366.

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Feature Event



# "Go Green Expo" Organic & Sustainability Expo

Sunday, July 11, 2010 - Monday, July 12, 2010, Auckland TBC

The Expo will now be held in Spring 2010 in Auckland, Wellington & Christchurch  
Register your interest [here](#)

Welcome to the Annual Organic & Sustainability Expo called the Go Green Expo. The Expo will be held annually in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch from 2010.

## **The mecca of 'Organic and Sustainable living'!**

Come and discover a whole new range of exciting products and services that will delight your senses and tantalise your taste buds, look for home improvements and buy gifts!



## **What is the Go Green Expo?**

- New Zealand's Premier Organic, Sustainability and Green Products & Services Expo
- Consumer & Trade Show
- Fully supported by the Industry
- Lifestyle show embracing healthier, sustainable and practical living options, covering: -
  - Food, Wine & Beverages
  - House, Garden & Building
  - Fashion & Manchester
  - Personal Care, Health & Beauty
  - Mother & Baby
- 'Good Environmental Practice' entrance criteria ensuring all exhibitors are genuine

- Unique opportunities to Taste, Learn, Buy and Talk to exhibitors about their products and where you can get them from
- Live and interactive demonstrations and fascinating presentations

Find out all you want to know about 'organic and sustainable living' at the **Go Green Expo**.



### Why the Go Green Expo?

Society today is demanding a healthier and more environmentally responsible lifestyle in response to a real concern for our well-being and that of the world we live in. However, navigating your way around the growing range of products and services available can be quite a difficult task. The Go Green Expo has been created to take the sweat out of your steps and provide you with a 'one stop shop' on what is available, where you can find them, why they are better and who are the genuine players.

Who Should Visit?

A must-attend event for:

- Anyone interested in their health and well-being
- Environmentally conscious consumers
- Health professionals, remedial and alternative therapists
- Students and education professionals interested in health and the environment
- Retailers
- Wholesalers
- Producers
- On-line distributors
- Restaurants, caterers and hoteliers
- Health, gyms and leisure clubs
- Importers and exporters
- Media

and many more...

Click here >> <http://www.gogreenexpo.co.nz/>

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Article **Japanese Krakabe:** Traditional clay plaster on bamboo lath, explained



Fig. 9, Bamboo lath viewed from inside

Fig. 10, Bamboo lath view

"Two sizes of bamboo are used for the lath, round bamboo and 3 - 4 cm in diameter and bamboo about 1 cm in diameter. Large bamboo is split into 3 or 4 portions, which are then fixed horizontally to the vertical small bamboo tying up with paddy ropes. This looks like weaving or bird cage (Fig. 9, 10)."



Fig. 11, Plastering *Arakabe* on bamboo lath

Fig. 12, Dried *Arakabe*

"In rural areas, lath work, clay walling and thatch roofing were traditionally performed by Kumi or Yui, a mutual aid of local community, as farmers used to do such jobs and quality of works did not matter. Thus, previously the house building was started just after the paddy harvesting in October, and Arakabe was applied before the advent of winter, preferably in November. Arakabe must be left for 1 or 2 months until it dries completely...."

If you are interested in the **8MB** full article, email the editor (link at the top), be aware it might take me a while if there are lots of responses...

Article

## NZ Flax Thatch !!

**Traditional Dutch Roof Thatcher Completes Camp Outdoor Kitchen**

*(Press Release from Queenstown Top 10 Holiday Park "Creeksyde" February 4, 2010)*



**caption:** Leo van Midden works with tied bundles of dried flax to thatch the roof of a new BBQ area at Queenstown's Top 10 Holiday Park "Creeksyde" in traditional Dutch style. A visitor from The Netherlands has put the finishing touches on a beautiful outdoor kitchen and dining area constructed from mostly recycled materials at Queenstown's Top 10 Holiday Park "Creeksyde".

Leo van Midden is a traditional thatcher who has thatched the building's roof from locally harvested and dried New Zealand flax to complete a gorgeous shelter for a guest BBQ area. He has been a regular visitor to the holiday park since his daughter worked at Creeksyde some years ago.

Creeksyde is world renowned for its sustainability commitment and was in 2002 the world's first Green Globe environmentally certified Holiday Park. The park achieved Gold status in 2008. Finding interesting and knowledgeable people to help has always been part of the philosophy of owners Erna and Tony Spijkerbosch.

The provision of the new guest kitchen area has been subject to these exacting policies - simply buying a BBQ and getting a builder to construct a shelter was not an option.

"We found an old 1800's coal range a couple of years ago and started thinking about building a sheltered outdoor kitchen. We scavenged some galvanised pipe from the refuse station and collected a whole lot of old valves," says Mrs Spijkerbosch. "It really all grew from there. We always wanted to have a thatched roof but were scratching our heads on how to go about doing this when we struck a deal with Leo and his brother Jan to complete the work. The ridge cap of the thatched area will be finished with copper from an old hot water cylinder. The flax was gathered and dried by a young chap in Mossburn. The patchwork sides to the building are made of old cast iron radiators and the concrete includes maximum quantities of crushed glass."

For full article or for Further information: contact Erna Spijkerbosch 03 442 9447 or [erna@camp.co.nz](mailto:erna@camp.co.nz)

## Spotlight:

# you want whacky green gadgets ?!

Have you been searching for the website which will give you disgusting turkey offal – heads, feet, intestines, and lungs swollen with putrid gases that gets transformed into over \$12,000 US worth of fuel, or a 1975 GMC pickup modified to run on spent coffee grounds that proves that any biomass can be used for gasification, or a ferris wheel operator in India that at some point realized that he could save some money by paying a handful of locals to manually operate a ferris wheel instead of using electricity. Well enjoy, if you dare! Click [here](#)

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