



Taking responsibility for a sustainable future

Lincoln Envirotown Trust Newsletter

September 2011

For the summary of up-coming events scroll to the end of this newsletter, back copies of the newsletters can be found on the LET web site.

What's been happening?

Environment Minister experiences Lincoln Envirotown!

Following his visit to Lincoln University on Tuesday (30th September) the Minister for the Environment, Nick Smith, toured some of the features of Lincoln Envirotown. He visited the Kidsfirst Lincoln Kindergarten, the first preschool in New Zealand to become an Enviroschool and the first to gain Green-Gold status. He walked past Lincoln High school (no time to visit!), the first High School to gain Silver Enviroschool status in the South Island, to get to the Mahoe Reserve, native planting project, where he met Lincoln Envirotown members and High School environmental leaders. He showed his commitment to the environment by planting a tree in the reserve. Then off to Lincoln New World, the most environmentally sustainable supermarket in New Zealand (by passing the Lincoln community gardens, as time was short). At the supermarket he viewed the wind turbines, generating enough power to run 2 average households, the heat collection system from the fridges heating the hot water, the water collection from the roof and the waste reduction efforts such as the reusable netting vegetable bags, potato starch vegetable trays and recycling. Then back into the silver ministerial car for a quick trip to the airport, just in time to catch his plane.



Planting a tree at the Mahoe Reserve with the help of Denis Blomquist.



Nick Smith talking to Kyle Burnett about compostable packaging

www.lincolnenvirotown.org.nz

Mahoe Planting 4th September

Thank you to all who helped – about 22 people, one dog and a puppy (not sure how much help the puppy was!). Children came with their parents and a number of Lincoln Scouts did a great job. It was great to see the Mayor of Selwyn, Kelvin Coe, at the event.



Mike Bowie explaining planting techniques



Lincoln Community Gardens Kidsfirst Lincoln Kindergarten working on their plot



Garden Composting Workshop 10th September



Terry Windle explaining how to make good compost



June and Ian Burney showing their Ecotankas and soap nut products and explaining how to reduce the use of harmful chemicals



Daphne explaining how "Big Boy" compost tumblers work.

For more information about getting involved in the garden please ring Ruth on 325 2193

Visit to Lincoln Envirotown by the Public Health Association conference delegates



Kyle Burnett explaining the sustainability features of the Lincoln New World Supermarket



Looking at some of the 35,000 ecosourced native plants around the ponds at the Ngai Tahu Lincoln development.



Conference delegates looking at the Lincoln Community Gardens

Springs Road native planting area working bee 11th September



Thanks to Ralph Scott and to Karen Lavender and the boys from the Asia Pacific Football Academy



What is coming up?

Mahoe Reserve Working Bee **Now the trees are planted we need to look after them!** **Sunday the 2nd October at 2.00pm**

Please bring tools, gloves, buckets and if possible a wheelbarrow or two would be good!

Where: Mahoe Reserve, Boundary Road, Lincoln, next to the Golf course, opposite the High School. For more information contact Sue Jarvis 3295858

The Mahoe Reserve relies on community helpers to keep going. If you are part of the Lincoln Community, or even if you are not, we would really appreciate your help at working bees, or at any time that suits you! Contact Denis on 325 2806

Friends of Mahoe

If you want to be on the email contact list for Mahoe planting days and working bees, let us know. You are also welcome to join the Mahoe management committee. Only a few meetings a year! Contact Sue on 329 5858 or sue.jarvis@orcon.net.nz for information.

Support our local businesses that are doing their bit for sustainability. A list of local businesses that have gained a LET Responsible Business Award for environmentally sustainable practices can be found on the LET web site.

Lincoln Envirotown Trust Meetings – get involved, meet like-minded people

LET meetings are normally held the **FIRST MONDAY** of each month at 7:30 pm in the Lincoln Event Centre meeting room off North Belt. We often have guest speakers. All welcome!

For more information Please contact Sue Jarvis, 329-5858 or sue.jarvis@orcon.net.nz .

NEXT meeting is 3 October Ping Lim will give an interactive talk titled “A LED light a day makes the world a sustainable and forgiving place” at the start of the meeting. All welcome.



SPRING COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

1ST OCTOBER (10 AM TO 1 PM)

THIS IS THE START OF THE SUMMER WEEKLY MARKETS

(On Green beside Lincoln Community Centre)

COME AND HAVE SOME FAMILY FUN

With

MAYPOLE DANCING

FLOWER GARLAND MAKING

LIVE GREEK BOUZOUKI &

CLASSIC ROCK DANCE MUSIC

FROM THE WOMBATS AND NICOS

+

LOTS OF LOCAL PRODUCE, BAKING AND CRAFT STALLS

HOME BREW COMPETITION

In Mid Nov (Get brewing now!!)

Follow us now on Facebook – Lincoln Farmers and Craft Market

Enquiries ring Debbie on 03 3295757

2011 Responsible Business Award assessments have STARTED

If you want to get in contact with your local assessor contact Sue who will give you the details. 329-5858 or sue.jarvis@orcon.net.nz

Last year's winners are on our web site:

www.lincolnenvironment.org.nz click on tab bottom left of home page.

You can search for Lincoln, Leeston or Prebbleton Businesses

Please contact us if you would like to be involved. If your business already has an award you will need to be reassessed to keep or upgrade your certification. This year we will also include Rolleston Businesses.

Remember to support your local sustainable businesses – and also reduce your “shopping miles” – see who they are on our web site.

Do you have environmental goods or services to advertise? Or does your business have a high standard of environmental management? We accept ads from businesses that fit with our aims. \$80 +GST for a full page, \$40 half a page etc. Not for profit environmental organisations may be accepted at no cost. Any money goes to support our activities promoting environmental sustainability.

Earth Hour 2012 – we will be planning a week of activities leading up to earth hour – starting soon. We would like representatives from as many Selwyn communities as possible to help us with the planning. Let Sue know if you are interested. 329-5858 or sue.jarvis@orcon.net.nz
So far we have organised another Kim Hill Hot Energy Debate, 29 March 2012 and an Earth Hour Barn dance 31 March 2012. **We will also be holding a video competition again – so get planning and filming!**

Earth Hour 2012 Video Competition: are you interested in making a video with an environmental theme? Contact Peter Hill peter.hill@selwyn.govt.nz for information

You don't live in Lincoln but would like to make a difference?

There are links on the LET web site for information about the other Enviro communities.

There are Sustainability Groups in other communities:

ROLLESTON ENVIROTOWN
"A better environment starts with you"



Rolleston Envirotown meetings are held on the third Tuesday evening in the month (during winter starting at 7.00pm and during summer starting at 7.30pm). The meeting venue is Community House in Rolleston, 45 Shelley Street. Email Nicole tonicermu@gmail.com or phone Catherine 347 8240 if you are interested. All welcome. Visit www.rollestonenvirotown.org.nz

The Rolleston Envirotown Market for produce (includes organic) and craft is held on the second Sunday in the month 10am to 1pm. The market is sited in the Rolleston Square carpark area alongside Rolleston Drive. During inclement weather the market will be held along by the shops. BUG-R offer free bicycle maintenance at some of the monthly market days.

The Rolleston Envirotown Community Garden is being led by Sacha, if you would like to help

contact sacha.murray@hotmail.com The group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Community House, Rolleston.

The Rolleston Envirotown Community Garden group greatly appreciate any help as they continue the process of the creation of their community's garden. For more information, donations, or to simply lend a hand contact Sacha on sacha.murray@hotmail.com or alternatively ring 03 347 8175. They would like to thank the church and sponsors for their help and support to get them to this point. Without this support this project would not have been possible. **Next Working bee is 8th October 10-12.**

The Rolleston Responsible Business Award assessments are under way, contact Sam Rowland for more details sam.rowland@gmail.com, 027 327 1803

SPRINGSTON ENVIRO-COMMUNITY



The Springston Enviro-Community (SEC) meetings are held on **the 4th Monday of the month**, 7.30pm at the Errol Tweedy Pavilion, Springston Domain, Ellesmere Junction Road. Everyone welcome! The next meeting is on the **26th September everyone welcome**. Come and meet up with a group of enthusiastic locals. If you want to find out more, contact Sue on 329 5858.

The community garden is underway and the Springston School children had their first visit on Friday 9th September. Thank you to Helen Mather for providing the land, and Colin Giddens and Geoff Prattley for all the work they are doing getting it ready. The official opening will probably be on the 30th September. If you can help in any way, let us know



LEESTON ENVIRO TOWN

For more information about Leeston Envirotown Phone: Margaret on 324 3949, or contact Mel melissa.renganathan@gmail.com The Leeston, Southbridge and Doyleston Responsible Business Award assessments are underway. These encourage businesses to operate in an environmentally sustainable fashion and promote local businesses, if you want to know more contact Margaret.

PREBBLETON ENVIRO-VILLAGE



Sharing Skills Sessions

On Sunday 19 June 2011 we had a very entertaining and informative afternoon learning all about worm farming from Shelley Bakker. Shelley has a wealth of knowledge about worm farming, and in the course of the afternoon she set up my worm farm. I am happy to report that the worms are thriving. Although they have been shaken and snowed on they are working their way through our kitchen scraps, and creating fertiliser for the garden. Thanks to Shelley for this practical and interesting session. If you would like to find out more about worm farming but were unable to attend on the day Shelley produced a pamphlet with all that you need to know about worm farming, just call and I will get you a copy.

To celebrate the arrival of spring our next session will be a visit to the garden of Fiona Waghorn, at Birdlings flat. Fiona writes on gardening, and uses many sustainability principles in her gardening practices. We will be visiting Fiona on Sunday 9 October 2011 in the afternoon. If you are interested in coming along please contact me, as we will need to confirm the numbers before we go.

We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. If you would like to find out more about Prebbleton Enviro-Village please feel free to come along to our next meeting Nicola Willett (ph 3497990 or email n.willett@xtra.co.nz)

The Prebbleton Responsible Business Award assessments are underway, a free way to get helpful advice on how to operate more sustainably and reduce costs and also a way to get free promotion of your business! If you would like more information contact Maree Dawson 349 7656

LITTLE RIVER

To contact the Little River group ring Kaite Hansen on 325 1917 or believe33@snap.net.nz

WEST MELTON ENVIRO-COMMUNITY (WMEC)

Interested in Sustainability and Environmental issues?

You are invited to meet with likeminded people to discuss and plan environmental sustainability actions for the West Melton area including the development of WMEC mission statement and objectives. A draft has

been written of the mission statement and objectives and further work needs to be done on then action plan.

Where: West Melton School Library

When: **Thursday 8 September at 7.00pm**

Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month. All welcome.

If you would like more information about meetings please do not hesitate to contact Heather McHarg

heather@westmelton.school.nz, 347 8448

or Ingrid McGeachen info@westmeltonenviro.org.nz

See the new West Melton Enviro-Community web site! www.westmeltonenviro.org.nz

West Melton Energy Expo

Solar water heating and wind and solar energy generation were the topics from the West Melton Community Survey that people most wanted to know about. So the WMEC are planning to hold an expo on Energy issues including practical help such as the installation of alternative generation 6th November. If you are interested in exhibiting or in providing a workshop or in being a speaker, please contact Ingrid (details above).

TAI TAPU

If you live in **Tai Tapu** we are hoping to arrange an initial meeting soon. If you are interested contact **Sue on 329 5858**

BURNHAM

If you live in or near Burnham let us know as there is interest in getting a group going there.

DARFIELD

If you live in **Darfield** we are hoping to arrange an initial meeting very soon. If you are interested contact **Sue on 329 5858**

The Lincoln Envirotown Trust is providing encouragement and support to these communities as they get underway with their sustainability plans.

If you live in another community and would like help to get a group started, contact Sue.

We also help other communities outside the Selwyn area.

We have set up “**on line communities**” for all the “Enviro” groups linked to LET, under the umbrella of “Selwyn groups” <http://selwyncom.onlinegroups.net> . **Have a look!** The idea is to allow a small community or a street etc to easily contact each other – perhaps to say “we have extra pears, who would like some” etc. John Veitch has been our “coach” – Thank you, John

A speaker programme is part of our aim to be a role model for other communities and provide help and support for them to progress towards sustainability. If you would like a speaker for your group or community contact Sue on 329 5858.

Transition Initiatives Forum <http://ctnews.org.nz/>

By johnadams, on 28 Aug 2011

The Transition Initiatives Forum met at the WEA in Christchurch last week.

TIF is an informal gathering of some of the people who are working locally to help people, families and communities make the transition to a lower energy and lower carbon future. Among the groups represented last week were: SOC, WEA, Project Lyttelton, CPIT, St. Albans Community Centre, Delta Trust, Lincoln Envirotown, Mt Pleasant Residents, Time Bank.

Conversation moved in many directions such as:

- A farewell to Christoph Hensch who has served Transitioning in Christchurch so well and is off to take up new challenges in Melbourne;
- The possible future direction of the TIF – we plan to meet about every 2 months and to use this website to keep in touch.
- The Draft Central City Plan – SOC is hosting a meeting this Tuesday (also at the WEA) to consider a submission on the plan. We'll want it to be as strongly sustainable as possible.
- Earth from Above – these impressive photos are on display in Rolleston Avenue and can be guaranteed to make people think about living more sustainably.
- Fleeing Vesuvius – a new book that's being promoted highlighting what is known of threats to our current society.
- 350.org Moving Planrrt – there will be a day of action on Climate Change on Sept 24th with people converging on Hagely Park for a rally and to listen to informative speakers.
- Deep democracy – when democracy is under threat it's promising to hear it being actively discussed and modelled.
- Time Banking – The Lyttelton Time bank is spreading its ideas accross the Port Hills.

Our next meeting is planned to be at CPIT where we'll be learning how to contribute to this website – and make comments. Date & time to be announced.

Hopefully the meeting after that will be themed around Time Banking.

So there's plenty going on in the world of Transitioning.

Stuff for Enviro Kids

Please send us any ideas, information or links for Enviro Kids!

Lincoln High School Environmental Council (LEO) is planning to test the Liffey stream again for water quality, probably 30th September 12.15 pm. Contact Matthew Young for more information. mattforestyoung@gmail.com. The public are welcome to come along.

Check out the teacher resources at the HotRock website. <http://www.thehotrock.org.au/home/>
These are created for secondary school students, but have been adapted with success for older primary students.

HotRock is a NfP that is guiding, funding and resourcing sustainability education in Australia. Integration of sustainability education into the mainstream curriculum is the focus of their approach.

HotRock is looking for schools overseas that are prioritising action focused sustainability

education. It would be wonderful to link these schools up with sustainability-focused schools over here in Western Australia. Students sharing project outcomes across the oceans.

The Lincoln Envirotown 2011 Writing Competition

The Presentation Ceremony 18th September, at the Lincoln Event Centre. Awards presented by Kelvin Coe, Mayor of Selwyn

Other useful info

24 Hours of Reality will focus the world's attention on the full truth, scope, scale and impact of the climate crisis. To remove the doubt. Reveal the deniers. And catalyse urgency around an issue that affects every one of us."

Al Gore Chairman of the Climate Reality Project

Rachel Brown, CEO SBN, has been selected as a presenter for Al Gore's new climate change campaign, ["24 Hours of Reality"](#)

She'll deliver a multimedia presentation created by Al Gore to an audience of 220 at precisely 7pm on Thursday 15 September 2011. Broadcasting to the world via live web-streaming, the theme of the presentation for New Zealand is focused on busting the myths about climate change. From 7:45pm, there'll be a special section focused on NZ and some of the fantastic organisations actively working on reducing climate change now.



Building on the massive awareness generated by the former Vice-President's "An Inconvenient Truth", this event is designed to highlight the reality of the climate crisis. It'll be broadcast live online from September 14 to 15, over 24 hours, [in 24 time zones and in 13 languages](#)



Help make sure that 24 Hours of Reality marks the beginning of a new era of action addressing the climate crisis. Be a leader in your community and [plan a viewing party.](#)

From Celsias.co.nz

Some of you may have seen this article. It seems an interesting concept that would be relatively straightforward to put into practice. I personally don't see it as being that radical although I guess when you think of Solid Energy as being fined for developing the lignite field, maybe it is!

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/environment/news/article.cfm?c_id=39&objectid=10749842

(from Jill Greenhalgh)

Submissions:

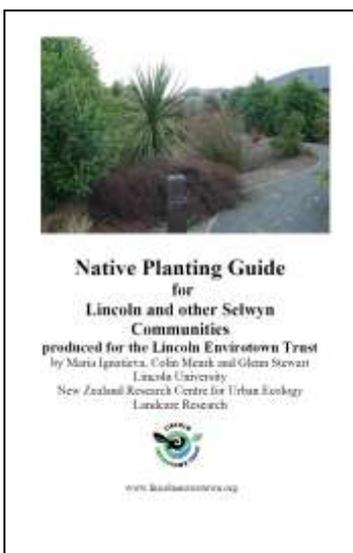
LET frequently makes submissions to Government, ECan and the SDC as well as to other organisations. If you are interested in helping with submissions or have an issue you think that LET might be interested in making a submission on, please contact Sue on 329 5858

Get Involved!

We have a number of sub-committees and interest groups – let us know if you would like to join groups interested in energy generation, water conservation, native biodiversity, children's environmental education, reducing light pollution (starlight project) and many other groups – you could start one! Our energy generation group is collecting information about the feasibility of wind and solar generation, which will eventually be available on our web site.

Lincoln and Selwyn Native Planting Guide – now updated!

Ever wondered which native New Zealand plants might add that special something to your landscaping? A Lincoln and Selwyn planting guide written for LET with help from Landcare Research and Lincoln University will help with basic background information and planting suggestions.



This guide will help you decide which native plants are suitable for your garden. It gives ideas for shrubberies, hedges, pergolas, herbaceous borders, native lawns, rock gardens and rain gardens. Ecosourced natives are much more likely to survive in our local conditions, without as much care and watering as non-natives. Be part of the Greenway Canterbury movement aiming to spread corridors of natives from the mountains to the sea so that our threatened native plants and animals have somewhere to live and can move from one habitat to the next. This guide is available from the Lincoln Library and Lincoln CRT Real Estate. It is also available as a downloadable file from our web site: www.lincolnenvironment.org.nz. Thank you to Kiwiflora and Southern Woods for their sponsorship.

Fed up with all that junk mail but still want to receive the local papers?

Collect one of our mail box stickers from the Lincoln Library for a gold coin, or contact us



Borrow the LET Cent-a-meter

The LET Cent-a-meter is a tool that assists homeowners with information about their own energy use. The Cent-a-meter is available from LET for at least \$5 dollars donation and a \$100 refundable deposit. **If interested, contact Sue Jarvis at 329-5858.**

Date	Event	Where
September 18 th , 2.00pm	Children's writing competition presentations	Lincoln Event Centre
October 1 st , 10am -1.00pm	Lincoln Farmers and Craft Market Spring community festival	On Green beside Lincoln Community Centre
October 3 rd 7.30 pm	LET meeting: Ping Lim will give an interactive talk on "A LED light a day makes the world a sustainable and forgiving place" at the start of the meeting.	Lincoln Event Centre
October 10 th , 7.00pm	Leeston/Southbridge Responsible Business Award ceremony	Leeston Library community room
October 21 st , 5.00pm	Rolleston Responsible Business Award ceremony	Rolleston Community Centre
October 27 th , 5.30pm	Lincoln/Prebbleton Responsible Business Award ceremony	Lincoln Event Centre
November 6 th	Energy Expo	West Melton Community Centre
Third Tuesday of month 7.00pm (in winter)	Rolleston Enviro Town Meetings	Rolleston Community House
Second Tuesday of the month	Rolleston Community Garden meetings. Next Working bee is 8th October 10-12	Rolleston Community House
4 th Monday of the month, 7.30	Springston Enviro community meetings	Springston Domain, Errol Tweedy lounge
2 nd Thursday of the month, 7.00pm except October, which	West Melton Enviro Community meetings	West Melton School library

will be on the 6th October		
3rd Wednesday of the month	Prebbleton Enviro Village meetings	Contact Nicola Willett (ph 3497990 or email n.willett@xtra.co.nz) for venue
March 2012	Environmental Video Competition	Contact Peter Hill peter.hill@selwyn.govt.nz
Thursday 29 th March 2012	Kim Hill Hot Energy Debate	Lincoln University
Saturday 31 st March 2012	Earth Hour Barn dance	Lincoln Event Centre