



Taking responsibility for a sustainable future

# Lincoln Envirotown Trust Newsletter

April 2010



**A week of successful events 22<sup>nd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> March!**

Lincoln, Prebbleton, Rolleston, Springston and Leeston "Envirotowns" worked together to provide events for the week leading up to Earth hour 2010. There were a number of events each day. Events were provided by the communities, Lincoln University, Landcare Research, local libraries, local businesses as well as the SDC – this was a great example of bringing people together for a common cause.



*The audience at the Video competition presentations – well done Prebbleton School for their winning entry!*



*Electric car display by Voltmotive*

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



# Earth Hour



*Earth Hour Torch light walk in Rolleston. Prebbleton also had a torch light walk, starting with a picnic and followed by refreshments*

**Earth Hour – candle lit barn dance. Turn off your lights and appliances – come and share the power – and have fun! – and they came in droves – and had fun! All ages from 3 – 83.**



**During the actual earth hour, the band (Bantam of the Opera) played “unplugged” in the middle of the hall and as many people as could fit, danced in a circle round them.**

## Are you keen to learn more about how you can maximise your Home's Energy Efficiency? LAST CHANCE TO BOOK!



**LINCOLN ENVIROTOWN** is running another tour of homes to enable interested visitors to learn and experience from the owners, the benefits, advantages, pitfalls, costs and savings achieved, by adding these factors into their home design and their living environment. We have held two successful tours in the past.

We will visit a variety of homes showing energy saving aspects such as older homes with **retrofitted insulation**, **solar water heating**, or homes designed to be energy efficient and homes **generating their own electricity** and **other efficient systems** such as **wind power**, **passive heat retention**, **double glazing**, **internal heating**. These homes are different from those of previous tours. **We have so much interest that we may be running two buses!**

The Energy Efficient home owners, will showcase the features and discuss the success or otherwise with those who want to gain the knowledge – our bus tour guests will be on site at these homes anywhere from **15 -30 minutes to look around** and have the opportunity to listen and talk to these home owners about any features of interest, in an informal casual setting... beats getting the “sales pitch” from the sales person. There will be a stop for afternoon tea, which will be included in the price. You will need to let us know of any special dietary requirements.

**Tour date: Sunday 2nd May 2010** – leaving from Lincoln – a newsletter will be sent to confirm reservations - how to prepay for the seats reserved, start finish times and other relevant details

Seats are limited and \$10.00 per person. Please register via email to [rose@lincolnenvirotown.org.nz](mailto:rose@lincolnenvirotown.org.nz) or ph 033296446

### Check out our Web site!

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

Here you can check out back issues of our newsletters, find sustainability links and much more. **Please let us know what information you would like.**

**NEW! WE NOW HAVE A FORUM WHERE YOU CAN POST YOUR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS AND GET FEEDBACK FROM OTHERS – TRY IT OUT!**

**Help Needed:** Parents - are you interested in helping to coordinate the kids club this year? We may be able to make a small payment for your time. Please contact Sue for more information on 329 5858.

**Job opportunity:** We need a coordinator for the Lincoln Zerowaste Street Challenge, to be held 30<sup>th</sup> Oct – 7<sup>th</sup> November. This will be a short term contract position and the coordinator will work with the LET Zerowaste sub-committee. Please contact Sue for more information on 329 5858

## Great Idea from Lincoln New World Supermarket – check this out!

I (Sue) was in there a few weeks ago and found they were selling packs of 3 organic, sustainable cotton reusable produce bags for fruit and vegetables. Of course I haven't put my fruit and vegetables in plastic bags for a long time – I try to come home with no plastic packaging – but this idea makes it easier for the customer and quicker at the checkout.



[www.rethinknz.com](http://www.rethinknz.com)

### SELWYN FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET

**Summer Season:** Now on Every Saturday 10am -1pm

at the green space next to **Lincoln Community Centre.**

New stalls include Asparagus, Jewellery, Art Work, Vegetables, Eggs, Gluten Free baking, Vegetable plants, Fish and Gourmet Nuts.

New stalls starting Nov. include 'A Slice of Heaven' baking & Organic Veg.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MARKET**

New stallholders contact Debbie on 3295757

For a FREE fundraising stall contact Joy on 3257497 or Jill on 3256133



## **PLANTING DAYS**

**Sunday 2nd May 2.00pm**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May with SpringFresh volunteers**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June (to celebrate Arbour Day)**

**10.00am start**

**Barbecue lunch provided at 1.00pm, bring your own drinks.**

**Bring your own tools such as spades and protective gloves. We will provide the plants!**

**If you can help, at any time, please ring Denis on 325 2806. He needs all the help he can get! Just an hour of your time would make a difference to this community asset.**

## **Friends of Mahoe**

If you want to be on the email contact list for Mahoe planting days and working bees, let us know.

If you have any spare time during the week, we still need lots of people to help with the maintenance.

We hold regular working bee on the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 2.00pm**. Please join us. Bring your own tools such as spades and protective gloves. For more information ring **Denis** on 325 2806. The Mahoe Reserve is a native restoration project in Boundary Road next to the Lincoln Golf Course. If you can help at another time, just let us know. The new access way will be planted with natives in the autumn.

## **Mahoe Reserve Committee**

You are also welcome to join the Mahoe management committee. Only a few meetings a year! Contact Sue on 329 5858 or [sue.jarvis\(at\)orcon.net.nz](mailto:sue.jarvis@orcon.net.nz) for information.

## **Biodiversity Good News:**

Ngai Tahu Property have ordered 50,000 ecosourced native wetland plants for the new Lincoln Sub-division.

## **Liffey Stream Water Quality testing**



The Lincoln Envirotown Trust regularly tests the quality of the water in the Liffey Stream, in conjunction with the Waterwatch team from Lincoln University and the Lincoln High student group LEO. Our next testing will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May starting at 12.15pm. Meet near the children's playground by North Belt if you would like to join in. For more information contact Sue Jarvis 329 5858

**The Springs Road/Gerald Street Plant&Food corner native planting – urgently needs weeding. Can you help? Contact Sue on 3295858**

# The Lincoln Community Garden



**James Street in the Maternity Hospital Grounds– if you haven't joined in yet, come along!**

**We would love to have you involved!**

**If you haven't met Paul, our garden coordinator yet, come along and say "hello" and share a cuppa. Come and learn about gardening, come and share your knowledge with others.**

## **Open garden days**

9.00am -12.00pm and 4.00pm -6.00pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

Educational tours available for groups and individuals outside these hours by arrangement.

If you come by car, please DO NOT drive into the hospital grounds, park on the road and walk quietly around to the left. The garden is the section to the left of the hospital.

Ring Paul for further information on 022 0 10 20 60 or email to [LincolnCommunityGarden@gmail.com](mailto:LincolnCommunityGarden@gmail.com)

**Kids - need something to do in the July Holidays?**

**Come to the Lincoln Envirotown Enviro kids club**

**KidsFest Event**

**Sustainable Country Fun**

**Practical Activities for 3-12 year olds. Kids, please bring your parent/caregiver. Ring Sue for more info on 329 5858**

**15<sup>th</sup> July**

**10.30 – 11.10 am**

**Lincoln Community Centre**

**Do you want to recycle your old compact fluorescent light bulbs?  
Here is where to take them**

The larger hardware stores in Selwyn have been contacted by the Selwyn District Council about recycling the lamps and two have agreed to initially take two Compact Fluorescent Lamp recycling boxes and to continue funding them after the initial set-up. These are ITM in Darfield and Betta Electrical in Leeston. In addition, a number of Christchurch stores are participating as part of the Christchurch City scheme. The Christchurch stores with recycling boxes of most interest to Selwyn residents will be Mitre 10 Mega Hornby, ITM Hornby, Placemakers Riccarton, Bunnings Tower Junction, Mitre 10 Riccarton. From Dave Hock SDC

### Book review:

Stibbe, Arran (ed) (2009) **The Handbook of Sustainability Literacy – skills for a changing world.** Green Books, Devon, UK.

This collection of essays profiles the work of leading sustainability educators and activists. Topics as broad as Commons Thinking, Permaculture, Values Reflection & the Earth Charter, Carbon Capability, Gaia Awareness and Institutional Transformation are explored in an easily accessible style.

The ideas are simple yet powerful and offer a way forward for those of us feeling a little jaded with sustainability work.

The book has a complementary website hosted by the University of Brighton, to aid all people wanting to move the sustainability agenda along <http://www.sustainability-literacy.org/index.html>.

The video presentations and interviews are interesting and in some cases, inspirational.

All in all, these combined resources offer useful insights, tools or ideas for actions to help us move our society closer toward sustainability outcomes.

*Jocelyn Pappill*

*First printed in the SOC Feb/March 2010 newsletter*

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

## 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.**

## You don't live in Lincoln but would like to make a difference? There are Sustainability Groups in other communities:

### ROLLESTON ENVIROTOWN (RET)

"A better environment starts with you"

Exciting developments are underway with the **Rolleston Envirotown Market held** in Rolleston Square, the second Sunday of the month 10.00am -1.00pm. Please contact RET if you wish to have a stall. If you are interested in getting involved in the Rolleston **Community Garden** on Rolleston Combined Church land, corner William Street and Brookside Road, contact Nicole or Catherine.

As part of the Selwyn Earth hour events Rolleston held the video competition presentations, electric car demonstration and a torch light walk.

RET meetings are held once a month at the Community House in Rolleston, 45 Shelley Street

They would welcome more residents to their group. Interested in joining? Email **Nicole**

[tonicermu@gmail.com](mailto:tonicermu@gmail.com) or phone **Catherine 347 8240**

*RET community market in Rolleston*



## SPRINGSTON

Do you live in the Springston Area?



The Springston group has decided on a name: **Springston Enviro-Community** and a logo design. If you have graphic design skills to turn the logo into something that looks professional please contact Sue (see below). They already have a web site. [www.springstonenvirocommunity.webs.com](http://www.springstonenvirocommunity.webs.com) Have a look and suggest what you would like on it to web manager, Tom.

The group is of all ages from high school students upwards. They have decided to start with a survey of the local community to find out what they would like, the draft of which has been written. They have opened a bank account, plan to have a pot luck dinner with a speaker to get further community support.

We invite anyone interested in contributing to the ideas for actions, or just to meet people, to come to the next meeting. For more information ring **Arnia on 329 5757 or Sue on 329 5858 or email [arnianz@hotmail.com](mailto:arnianz@hotmail.com)**

## LEESTON ENVIRO TOWN

Leeston held an initial meeting following leaflets being distributed around the town and about 30 people turned up. Various interest groups were formed. They have an 'organising committee' but they still need to organise some actions. They are planning to encourage Leeston businesses to take part in a responsible Business Award. Leeston's coordinator is Sara Russell and she welcomes your involvement and ideas. Contact her on 03 324 3949 or 027 291 4925 or email [russellsaraj@gmail.com](mailto:russellsaraj@gmail.com)





**PREBBLETON ENVIRO-VILLAGE** is a small but enthusiastic group, inspired by the work of Lincoln Envirotown Trust. The group was formed in early 2009 and the number of Prebbleton residents supporting the concept has been steadily growing.

They have organised a number of successful events: a community pot luck dinner to share ideas, Responsible Business Awards in 2009, a “mulcher” morning at the local nature park and a torchlight walk of the village to celebrate Earth Hour.

The local school is on the way to becoming an Enviroschool with an active enviro team (and they won the Earth Hour video competition!). A community cottage will provide a place where locals can come to obtain information about community groups and events.



*Prebbleton's Mulcher Morning*

#### **Contact Details**

If you would like to find out more about Prebbleton Enviro-Village please call Nicola Willett on 3497990 or email [n.willett@xtra.co.nz](mailto:n.willett@xtra.co.nz)

#### **LITTLE RIVER**

The Little River Promotions group invited Sue to speak at a community meeting in the Okuti Valley Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> April. This was well attended by over 30 enthusiastic local people. Following the presentation about Lincoln Envirotown, Sue facilitated discussion of local issues and goals by the group. They have arranged another community meeting next month and have already decided on some actions. Watch this space!

#### **WEST MELTON or TAI TAPU**

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

**All the Enviro towns will be coming together to share ideas and progress on 1<sup>st</sup> May with a pot luck dinner. Contact Sue if you are interested in coming along.**

***The Lincoln Envirotown Trust is providing 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.

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.

## Other useful stuff!

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

LET meetings are normally held the **FIRST MONDAY** of each month at 7:30pm in the Lincoln Community Centre on Gerald Street. For more information please contact Sue Jarvis, 329-5858 or [sue.jarvis\(at\)orcon.net.nz](mailto:sue.jarvis(at)orcon.net.nz).

**NEXT** meeting is **3<sup>rd</sup> May** with **David Schwartzfeger** speaking on the first phase of the **Old Dairy Farm housing development, which is now underway**. All welcome.

The following meeting will be on the **31<sup>st</sup> May** (because of conflict with Queen's birthday weekend)

### GOOD WEB LINKS:

Thinking of building? Try PET bottles!

<http://www.temasactuales.com/temasblog/environmental-protection/more-construction-with-pet-bottles/>

Too much "stuff" at you place? Watch this! <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>

Remaking Trash into treasure [www.craftzine.com](http://www.craftzine.com)

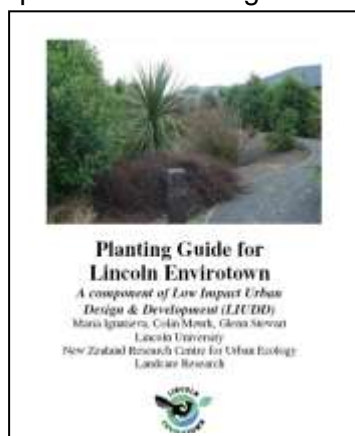
**Facts of 1080:** For people who are interested to know about the facts about 1080, Federated Farmers and Forest & Bird have jointly created a web page of some useful information. Check it out. <http://www.1080facts.co.nz/>

**Omihi School Biodiversity Project**

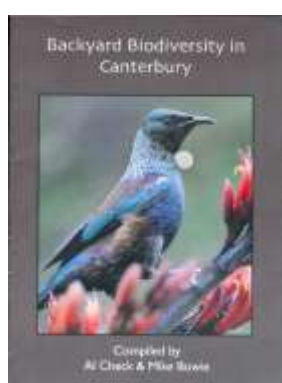
<http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/countrylife>

## Lincoln Area Native Planting Guide

Ever wondered which native New Zealand plants might add that special something to your landscaping? A new Lincoln planting guide written for LET with help from Landcare Research and Lincoln University that 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 for \$2.00. It is also available as a downloadable file from our web site: [www.lincolnenvirotown.org.nz](http://www.lincolnenvirotown.org.nz)



**Backyard Biodiversity in Canterbury**  
This booklet is available **FREE** from the Lincoln Library and other Selwyn libraries on request. It is also downloadable as a pdf from the LET web site from the resources page.

## 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.**

## THE GARDENERS FORUM



**Do you want to learn about gardening** –‘how to’ and ‘when’?  
**Are you an experienced gardener** and willing to pass on your knowledge to others?  
**Want to get to know others** who enjoy gardening?

### Then come along to the Gardeners Forum

We meet monthly on a Wednesday evening with garden visits at the weekend. If you'd like to join us or find out more please ring: Nancy 3252 602 or Jo 3498 678.

## LOCAVORES WEBSITE

Simon O'Sullivan has made a website that is dedicated to "locavores" (people who eat locally grown food), and his goal is to try and encourage eating locally produced food. It works kind of like Trademe but people who grow extra produce from their gardens/farms can list it to give away/swap/sell. People can then go on the site and from a given location search for produce within a radius from that location. The website is free to use. Simon also hopes that neighbours who have their own vegetable gardens will meet through the site and be able to swap food. The website address is: [www.locavore365.org](http://www.locavore365.org)

### Events to put in your diary (details in this newsletter):

**Friends of the Mahoe Reserve monthly working bees:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 2.00 pm.  
Next 2<sup>nd</sup> May and 6<sup>th</sup> June

**LET Meeting: Usually the FIRST MONDAY of the month**

**Next LET meeting:** May 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Save energy by shopping locally: Lincoln Farmers Market** (every Saturday) and  
**Rolleston EnviroTown Market:** the second Sunday of the month 10.00am -1.00pm Rolleston Square.

**1<sup>st</sup> May** LET pot luck dinner

**2<sup>nd</sup> May:** Another Energy Efficient Homes Bus Tour. Let us know if you are interested.