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Term 1 Newsletter (Feb 2010) - as updated on website May 2010.

## Thanks for backing Sustainable Living in the National Volunteer Awards!

A million kiwis roll up their sleeves every year and volunteer for a charitable cause. Until 10th May you could help them by voting for a favorite in the annual volunteer awards at: <http://gomad.co.nz/#Environment> , for prizes including useful support for the favoured charity in the form of free advertising in GOOD magazine. Voting has closed and we're pleased to find that Sustainable Living Education Trust is shortlisted in the Environment category, alongside two other worthy charities.

Tony Moore, Chair of Trustees, SLET.

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## Let's get practical in NZ on carbon

After Copenhagen's failed talk fest, it's time to think more about your carbon footprint without waiting for the politicians to agree internationally. Why not trim 10% of yours, starting in 2010? Download free information on how to do these 10:10 actions for households at the Sustainable Living NZ website, also available on our Actions page.



The 10:10 idea is catching on fast in the UK, with backing from local government, media, businesses, schools, sports teams and the public. Picture above shows a launch event from Britain where most of those present

made their pledges of early action at home or work - on insulation, travel, waste reduction and food choices. You could do that too! Visit: [www.1010global.org/nz](http://www.1010global.org/nz) for more.

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## Welcome to Sandy



Sandy Ryan from the Community Houses of East Manukau City has joined the Sustainable Living trustees, bringing useful experience of hosting our classes in a multicultural setting. Picture below shows class members, tutor Peter Ng, Sandy and guests at the end of a course held in 2009.



Sandy Ryan's work in Manukau City has been recognised as a finalist in the ARC environmental awards and recently featured in an article by Matt Bowen in the Eastern Courier. Here are some extracts:

"A white sock fixed to a car exhaust pipe isn't your typical learning tool. Unless you're taking part in Manukau's first sustainable living programme at Howick and Pakuranga community houses. ... "When we do travel and have fuel emissions, we go out and start up a car and put a white sock over the exhaust pipe," says co-ordinator Sandy Ryan. "It turns black pretty quickly – so what happens when that goes into the air? Nobody thinks about that and they get a real shock." ... Mrs Ryan says she initially had Chinese immigrants in mind because "they didn't know what Kiwis grow or eat". "So we started teaching them how to grow stuff."

So Mrs Ryan set about setting up a service to help "new settlers" manage their properties better. But many locals faced similar problems. "We actually

haven't ended up with a huge number of migrants. We've ended up with a lot of New Zealanders who wanted to get back to growing things for themselves. They wanted to know what was in their food and that it was safe. "People are really interested in living sustainably, trying to reduce their waste and lessen their impact on the environment."

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## Enviroschools and University links

Dr Maureen Howard (at the right of photo below) spoke with 18 school teachers at a Dunedin workshop last year about synergies between Enviroschools - which works within the childrens' learning curriculum - and Sustainable Living - designed for parents and proving useful to teachers. She demonstrated her point with a session on DIY household cleaners. Now sessions are planned which will link the two education programmes in some Dunedin schools. Similar Enviroschools links are under way in Marlborough, through Annie McDonald, Education Officer at Marlborough District Council.



Maureen Howard is also running a series for Otago students living in flats, this term, as you don't have to be a householder to get real value from the course. In Christchurch a new round of *Eco My Flat* will soon be under way at Canterbury University, using material from our programme to help equip the student flats for their actions during the first Semester. Read about this at [their competition webpage](#) and see UC's new [E-booklet for students](#) which is a great starter. <

[http://www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/ecomyflat/Eco\\_My\\_Flat\\_booklet.pdf](http://www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/ecomyflat/Eco_My_Flat_booklet.pdf) >

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## Our courses

Details of many of the Sustainable Living evening courses and single topic workshops around NZ are at our regional pages.

If you've spotted a course offered locally that's not listed, or you're a tutor who plans to run one - do let us know in advance and we'll list it! For South Island plus Wellington region: rhy (at) sustainableliving.org.nz and for the rest of the North Island: jennifer (at) sustainableliving.org.nz

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## They like us!

Unsolicited endorsements are always the nicest, so we are pleased to report that a recent survey by WasteMINZ of waste minimisation practitioners in business and local government produced several quotable ones about Sustainable Living:

- "Excellent resource, successful programme"
- "Sustainable Living, Enviroschools and CYOE have excellent messages - easy to access and understand - designed for the entire community rather than those who are already being sustainable."
- "Recommended for its success, reach, cost-effectiveness and longevity."

The same survey showed that 53% of those respondents used internet searches as their first source of information and 42% started with their personal network of colleagues. We aim to offer information both ways.

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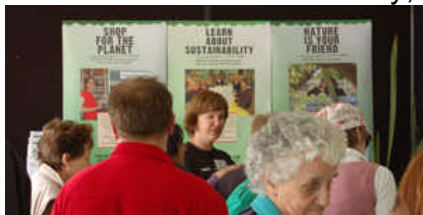
## Research is Hatched

Sustainable Living features as a case study (Chapter 16) in a new E-book from Landcare Research, along with chapters on education for sustainability in secondary schools, future scenarios for New Zealand and many other interesting topics covered by a five year programme supported by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology that looked at building capacity for sustainable development. National Coordinator Rhys Taylor was a research team member, part-time. Download book sections free to view on screen or to print: <http://www.hatched.net.nz>

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## See us at the Ellerslie Flower Show

Meet Christchurch-based tutors Adrienne, Oliver, Jocelyn or Rhys who will be among the team in the City Council tent (CR12) at this famous Garden Show. Learn about water efficiency, native plants, and composting techniques.



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### Would you prefer to write to us, or phone, rather than email?

You can contact Sustainable Living Education Trust by free surface mail: write to FreePost SUSTAINABLE, PO Box 13121, Armagh Street, Christchurch 8141. Phone enquiries to National Coordinator on 03 960 2656

Support Sustainable Living with a donation through [Give-a-Little](#). We are a registered charitable trust.