
Seminar promotes eco-thrifty building

Just in time for spring building projects, Hamilton East's unique meeting venue, The Greenspace, is offering an evening seminar on eco-thrifty renovation for homeowners.

The Greenspace is providing two informative presentations from owners who remodelled character buildings as well as a backstage look at The Greenspace.

Whanganui permaculture designer and educator Nelson Lebo will chronicle the success of his eco-thrifty renovation project in Castlecliff.

Seven design principles guided the process of converting a cold, draughty 100-year-old villa into a warm, energy efficient home.

On a more local level, the owner of The Greenspace, Annie Perkins, will show how she converted a 1930s bungalow into a practical and eco-friendly business space. This renovation project demonstrates that

additions and conversions can be done without losing character, as well as highlighting the trade-offs between cost and performance when it comes to picking the right green materials.

Ian Mayes, Hamilton City Council's Eco-Design adviser will be on hand to answer questions about local support for environmentally-friendly design initiatives and WEL Energy will also be available to talk about the new photovoltaic solar energy system they've installed at The Greenspace.

These projects offer a practical how-to guide for anyone who'd like to reduce their eco-footprint whilst still saving money.

■ October 10, 6.30pm start for garden tour, talks at 7pm. The Greenspace, 60 Te Aroha St, Hamilton. Information 855 7163.