

recycling WORKS[®]

TERRANOVA
NOT WASTE, JUST INNOVATION

Business Boxes on with Recycled Resources

Marilyn Marshall has been in the gift box business for over ten years and spends her days surrounded by things that look wonderful. Now, through her contact with Waste Exchange, her shop smells wonderful too.

Marilyn's business, The Beautiful Box Company, creates gift boxes that are unique because the gift is not just on the inside – the boxes themselves are works of art. Each box is covered in New Zealand art – some are commissioned and some are prints accessed from museums. Some boxes even fold into houses, and they all form a keepsake long after the products inside have been consumed.

Packing and shipping such boxes and their contents requires good-quality packaging material which, until a few months ago, Marilyn had been purchasing. That was becoming ever more expensive, especially as she began offering more fragile items such as wine. However, through the Exchange service Marilyn was able to source ideal packaging materials at no charge.

A local luxury cosmetics shop had bubble wrap material to spare and was in dire need of a home for it. It was the ideal match. "It's fantastic" says Marilyn. "They just ring me when their packaging material builds up and I go and collect it from them. My shop smells wonderful now as well, because the bubble wrap was previously used



Marilyn Marshall shows the slicka pads and packaging from Waste Exchange.

around beautiful smelling cosmetics and soaps."

Marilyn uses only the perfectly clean, 'as new' wrap, lining each box with it, and also wrapping the more fragile items separately. Heavier boxes are also sometimes placed inside another carton for shipping. The same shop also provides concertina-like corrugated cardboard 'webbing', which is particularly effective for wrapping around the entire gift box itself, once placed inside the carton.

Also sourced via Waste Exchange are slicka pads for cooling. These hard, water-filled pads come in two sizes, and were used by a pharmaceutical company. Marilyn freezes them and

places them inside a plastic bag to ensure any dampness is not transferred to other gift items, and uses them to ensure cheeses and cold meats are kept chilled while the gift box is in transit. They can then be reused by the gift recipient.

Through other sources Marilyn accesses clean 'bran beads' (like polystyrene packing beads), which are biodegradable and dissolve in water. Another local company provides brown paper with a bubble wrap underside, ideal for wrapping the boxes for shipping.

Towering Trees in the Library

The end of the school year was a little brighter for students at Buller High School on the West Coast thanks to a giant Christmas tree in their new library. Teacher Helen Walker sourced the tree via Waste Exchange, although she got a little more than she bargained for!

The tree turned out to be a massive 65 kilograms and stood about 10 feet high. Still, it has been a great addition to the school. "It is a beautiful tree and well worth getting" Helen says. "We would like to thank TerraNova for this opportunity." The tree was erected in the school's new library, but even so the top had to be bent over so that it could fit. Helen brought in her decorations from home so that the Year 13 students could decorate the tree at the start of November, before they left for exams. However, given that Helen's

decorations were used to adorning a smaller version, the result left the new tree still a little bare! A new year's art project perhaps?



Buller High School's giant Christmas Tree.

recycling WORKS®

TERRANOVA
NOT WASTE, JUST INNOVATION

A Tale of Two Houses

Andrea Gauland and her family have recently added two new houses to their lifestyle block property in Oxford-with some help from Waste Exchange. Fortunately the Gaulands are not surrendering the peace of their farm to residential development; the houses in question are a new glasshouse, and a rabbit hutch for their pets – all made from reused and recycled materials.

Andrea first heard about Waste Exchange through a lifestyle internet forum and has been using the service now for over four-and-a-half-years. The Gauland's block, Te Hua farm, is a testament to the success of combining resources from Waste Exchange with a great imagination and some hard work. Many things at Te Hua have been created from resources sourced through the service.

The latest additions were completed in October last year, although Andrea had had the idea of a rabbit run for about four



The Gaulands' finished glasshouse.

years. A five-metre long aluminium frame provided the perfect foundation for both the run and glasshouse. Two large sheets of

plywood – the bottoms of crates in which machinery had been shipped – serve as the run's floor, and 'waste' planking was used to construct an 'L' shaped hutch. The roof was given to them by a friend, and the door was also second-hand.

The run is raised off the ground by old cinder blocks sourced via Waste Exchange, and this ensures that the domestic rabbits are safe from contact with wild rabbits that might pass on viruses. The run will be home to the does and their offspring, who will be moved into an outdoor run when they are older and stronger.

The glasshouse was constructed from a house lot of windows that the Gaulands sourced via Waste Exchange four years ago. Despite not being used for so long, the sturdy rimu frames had resisted rot and water damage. The windows were bolted into a square, and a door that was in storage was finally put to use. The roof is actually made of opaque plastic panels cut from 1,000-litre bottles that had once held Guinness extract, and finished the house off perfectly.



The well-designed, dry, airy rabbit hutch.

recycling WORKS®

TERRANOVA
NOT WASTE, JUST INNOVATION

A Tale of Two Houses

Andrea Gauland and her family have recently added two new houses to their lifestyle block property in Oxford-with some help from Waste Exchange. Fortunately the Gaulands are not surrendering the peace of their farm to residential development; the houses in question are a new glasshouse, and a rabbit hutch for their pets – all made from reused and recycled materials.

Andrea first heard about Waste Exchange through a lifestyle internet forum and has been using the service now for over four-and-a-half-years. The Gauland's block, Te Hua farm, is a testament to the success of combining resources from Waste Exchange with a great imagination and some hard work. Many things at Te Hua have been created from resources sourced through the service.

The latest additions were completed in October last year, although Andrea had had the idea of a rabbit run for about four



The Gaulands' finished glasshouse.

years. A five-metre long aluminium frame provided the perfect foundation for both the run and glasshouse. Two large sheets of

plywood – the bottoms of crates in which machinery had been shipped – serve as the run's floor, and 'waste' planking was used to construct an 'L' shaped hutch. The roof was given to them by a friend, and the door was also second-hand.

The run is raised off the ground by old cinder blocks sourced via Waste Exchange, and this ensures that the domestic rabbits are safe from contact with wild rabbits that might pass on viruses. The run will be home to the does and their offspring, who will be moved into an outdoor run when they are older and stronger.

The glasshouse was constructed from a house lot of windows that the Gaulands sourced via Waste Exchange four years ago. Despite not being used for so long, the sturdy rimu frames had resisted rot and water damage. The windows were bolted into a square, and a door that was in storage was finally put to use. The roof is actually made of opaque plastic panels cut from 1,000-litre bottles that had once held Guinness extract, and finished the house off perfectly.



The well-designed, dry, airy rabbit hutch.

Fundraising Helps Flawed Floor

If 'good things take time' then the new floor for the Runanga Community Hall will be fantastic when it is finished. Work on repairing the floor began two-to-three years ago, and is proceeding piecemeal to allow the functioning hall to continue to be used.

Such an endeavour not only takes time but money, and the Runanga District Committee has been looking for enterprising ways to raise funds. Knowing this, a friend familiar with Waste Exchange put facilitator Jim Forsman onto RDC member Owen Burnett.

Jim added Owen to his email mailing list, which alerts interested parties of new materials added to the database. Using Waste Exchange was an "easy, useful thing" says Owen, and through it he was able to source 200 quarter-round posts from a vineyard in Renwick. The posts have been sold to build a retaining wall and for use as fence posts, and there is demand for more. The funds raised from their sale have gone towards the repairs to the hall floor.

Thanks to a dedicated work committee, repairs on the floor continue to make good progress. Fundraising efforts such as monthly market days also continue, and meanwhile, Owen keeps his eyes on the Exchange listings for other potential fundraising resources.



Owen Burnett with posts.



Work on the Runanga Community Hall proceeds.

recycling WORKS®

TERRANOVA
NOT WASTE, JUST INNOVATION

Local Community Trust Sounds Good



The piano before (left) and after (above)

First time Exchange user Clinton Chiffers got lucky with his find of a piano – not only was it precisely what he wanted, but it was literally just around the corner from his home.

Clinton had heard about Waste Exchange several years ago from an acquaintance in the village of Runanga (West Coast), where he lives, but had not used the service until late 2007. As chairman of the recently established West Coast Children's Trust, Clinton was on the lookout for anything that could be helpful to the Trust.

Before joining the Trust the piano had been located in the old Miners' Hall – literally just 300m away from Clinton's house. Despite the close proximity, moving it was still a major effort. However, some lateral thinking saw local volunteer firemen recruited to provide the muscle, as part of one of their training exercises. All that remained was to tune it and spruce it up, and for that some local people interested in the trust agreed to provide a snappy paint job. The Trust was launched in June 2007. It aims to establish a fund to help children under 18 who have aspirations that are constrained by a lack of finance. It is, Clinton says, all about "Coasters helping Coasters." As part of fundraising efforts, the Trust ran a festival on Westland Anniversary Day

(1st December) to seek donations and create awareness for the Trust while providing a day of family fun and entertainment.

The plan had been to have the piano on hand to provide some musical interludes, but unfortunately the necessity of moving it so much caused it to lose its tuning. However, the piano was still a major point of focus on the day, being literally centre stage while dancers and singers performed around it.

The piano will now be kept as a resource for the use of any children who might have an interest in music, but can't afford to buy or hire a piano.

