

# WICI: Waitakere Inform Challenge Inspire: The seminars

## Programme at a glance...

	12 August: 6.45 pm – 9pm Limits	13 August: 6.45 pm – 9 pm Creating	14 August: 6.45 pm – 9 pm Doing
<b>Intro</b>	Bob Harvey, Mayor of Waitakere City Council. Why things need to change.	Ann Magee, Sustainability Strategist. Let's start to create a better city	Penny Hulse, Deputy Mayor of Waitakere City Council. Leading the change charge.
<b>Inform</b>	Feeling a bit peaky. A <b>video</b> from Post-Carbon Institute in the USA.	Re-inventing cities. A <b>presentation</b> by Martin Udale, Chief Executive Officer, McConnell Property.	The urban ecosystem. A <b>presentation [via video-link]</b> from Australia] by Peter Newman, sustainability activist.
	The urgency of reducing our dependence on oil. A <b>presentation [via video-link]</b> from Wellington] by Tim Jones, Convenor of the Sustainable Energy Forum.		
<b>Challenge</b>	Three obstacles and three solutions to doing things differently. A <b>presentation</b> by Niki Harre, senior lecturer, the University of Auckland.	The ecology of ideas. A <b>presentation</b> by Jacquie Clark, cultural producer.	The value of social capital as the currency of change. A <b>presentation</b> by Damian Collins, Assistant Professor of Human Geography, University of Alberta
		The wisdom of designing cradle to cradle. A <b>video presentation</b> by William McDonough, architect and designer.	New thinking of the climate crisis. A <b>video presentation</b> by Al Gore.
<b>Inspire</b>	Designing a different future. A <b>presentation</b> by Gary Marshall, Head of Design, DJ Scott and Associates.	The importance of place. A <b>presentation [via video-link]</b> from the UK] by Jonathan Smales, Group Chief Executive, Beyond Green.	Activating the collective. A <b>presentation</b> by Dorothy Wilson, community and local government leader, advisory and activist.
<b>Closing</b>	Let's do things differently. Bob Harvey	Let's do things differently. Ann Magee.	Let's do things differently. Penny Hulse.

# Seminar One | 12 August 2008

**Limits: There are limits to the way we live. These limits need to be exposed**

## **Feeling a bit peaky**

The video to be shown will inform you about what peak oil is and why we should be worried. A link to this video will be uploaded to this site after the seminar.

Post Carbon Institute is a think, action and education tank offering research, project tools, education and information to implement proactive strategies to adapt to an energy constrained world. The development of Post Carbon Institute came out of concern for the environmental, social, political and economic ramifications of global over-reliance on cheap energy.

[www.postcarbon.org](http://www.postcarbon.org)

## **Presenters on the video are Richard Heinberg and Julian Darley**

**Richard Heinberg** is a senior fellow of Post Carbon Institute, whose monthly MuseLetter has been published since 1992 and whose essays and articles have appeared widely and in many languages. He writes a monthly column for *The Ecologist* magazine, and has been featured in many film documentaries, including Leonardo DiCaprio's *11<sup>th</sup> Hour*. He is the author of the book *Peak Everything: Waking Up to the Century of Declines*.

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

**Julian Darley** is founder and director of Post Carbon Institute and Global Public Media. He is the author of *High Noon for Natural Gas: The New Energy Crisis*.

## **The urgency of reducing our dependence on oil**

**Tim Jones** will follow up the peak oil video by talking about the implications of peak oil for New Zealand.

Tim has been the Convenor of the Sustainable Energy Forum since 2006, having served on the committee since 2004. He is also the Convenor of the Transport and Oil Working Group of the Sustainable Energy Forum. He is on the committee of the Climate Defence Network, and has recently been appointed a member of the Government's Vehicle Energy and Renewables Group, which is tasked with advising the Government on the introduction of transport alternatives to fossil fuels and the internal combustion engine. He is a writer, editor and communicator.

## **Mental obstacles to changing our behaviour**

**Niki Harre** has been tasked with challenging us about how we respond to the need to change our attitudes and behaviour, particularly at a time when climate change has become a more mainstream concern for New Zealanders.

Niki is the co-author of the book *Carbon Neutral by 2020: How New Zealanders can tackle climate change*. She is a senior lecturer at the University of Auckland where she has taught social and community psychology for ten years. Her recent research projects have focused on psychological wellbeing, positive youth development and political activism. Alongside this, Niki has an interest in transport behaviour and has worked with local councils and schools on several initiatives to encourage young people to driver safely. She lives in hope that one day teenagers will think buses and bikes and cooler than cars.

## **Designing a different future**

**Gary Marshall** says that all that is limiting us in doing things differently is our imagination. Gary has been tasked with inspiring you about what a city of the future could look like.

Gary has been working with DJ Scott Associates since completing his Masters in Landscape Architecture in March 2005. Prior to this Gary completed his Bachelor of 3-Dimensional Design in 2000. He has extensive working knowledge and understanding of sustainable and spatial design, including urban design, low impact stormwater design, landscape ecology, energy systems, material specifications, permaculture design and participatory design. Gary has also developed and presented a number of lectures on sustainable design and theory. [www.djscott.co.nz](http://www.djscott.co.nz).

# Seminar Two | 13 August 2008

## Creating: Our future is there for the creating

### Let's start to create a better city

**Ann Magee** is a sustainability strategist with a particular interest in cities.

Ann has worked on sustainable city strategies and projects at Waitakere City and the Auckland Regional Council from 1989-2008. She is involved with central government, the universities, crown research institutes, local government and community groups, nationally and internationally, on initiatives to accelerate New Zealand's transformation to sustainable development.

Prior to 1989 she taught urban studies at Waikato and Victoria (Wellington) Universities.

Her New Lynn home is retrofitted to be substantially energy and water self-sufficient.

### Re-inventing cities

**Martin Udale** will discuss his perspective on community building for the future.

When uncertainty and change is a constant then there is a strong need to re-build the idea of community and to connect people to place and identity.

Martin joined McConnell Property Limited in April 2003 as General Manager, with more than 25 years' experience in the UK and Australian property markets. Martin is interested in the role that development can play in improving the communities we live and work in.

Where development was once seen as an outcome in itself, he believes we must consider the social, environmental and economic aspects of projects in order to create successful, vibrant, enduring environments.

[www.mcconnellproperty.co.nz](http://www.mcconnellproperty.co.nz).

### The ecology of ideas

#### Jacque Clarke

Jacque Clarke is a cultural theorist and producer. She is the founding editor and later producer of [www.thebigidea.co.nz](http://www.thebigidea.co.nz) the largest online network in New Zealand's creative industries. She is currently writing a PhD at the University of Auckland across art history and architecture on ecology and creativity.

Creativity is an essential part of living and our future, it is not an add-on. Jacquie will challenge is to think about how to incorporate creativity and ideas into ways of working.

The ecology of ideas is a look at social ecology models around optimising creativity within transdisciplinary environments.

### **The wisdom of designing cradle to cradle**

This video challenges us to think differently about how products are designed and builds on the concepts from the story of stuff video shown in Seminar One.

**William McDonough** architect practices green architecture on a massive scale. In a 20-year project, he is redesigning Ford's city-sized River Rouge truck plant and turning it into the Rust Belt's eco-poster child, with the world's largest "living roof" for reclaiming storm runoff. He has created buildings that produce more energy and clean water than they use. Oh, and he's designing seven entirely new and entirely green cities in China.

Bottom-line economic benefits are another specialty of McDonough's practice. A tireless proponent of the idea that absolute sustainability and economic success can go hand-in-hand, he's designed buildings for the Gap, Nike and Frito-Lay that have lowered corporate utility bills by capturing daylight for lighting, using natural ventilation instead of AC, and heating with solar or geothermal energy. They're also simply nicer places to work, surrounded by natural landscaping that gives back to the biosphere.

In 2002 he co-wrote Cradle to Cradle, which proposes that designers think as much about what happens at the end of a product's life cycle as they do about its beginning. (The book itself is printed on recyclable plastic.) From this, he is developing the Cradle to Cradle community, where like-minded designers and businesspeople can grow the idea. He has been awarded three times by the US government, and Time magazine called him a Hero of the Planet in 1999. [www.mcdonough.com](http://www.mcdonough.com).

### **The importance of place**

**Jonathan Smales** will inspire us about how attention to place-making can deliver better built communities.

One of the most experienced and effective sustainability strategists and practitioners in the UK, Jonathan has spent over 20 years working in sustainability. He works closely with chief executives and directors of development companies, pension funds, public sector bodies and social businesses, conducting and participating in large scale urban renaissance, place-making and master planning exercises for regeneration areas and new communities.

In the last five years Jonathan has researched and written the sustainable development strategy for both the Housing Corporation and the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), helped found the

government's climate change communications initiative and published papers and guides on principles and processes of sustainable regeneration and housing. In 2004 he was invited by the BP Pension Fund to help conceive and plan a project that has become the UK's most carefully considered, joined-up, large scale sustainable development proposal: a 25,000 home urban extension north of Harlow. He has conducted major regeneration and place-making projects with widespread community and other stakeholder involvement. [www.beyondgreen.co.uk](http://www.beyondgreen.co.uk).

# Seminar Three | 14 August 2008

## Doing: We need to do everything differently

### The urban ecosystem

**Peter Newman** says that we have a lot to learn from nature and this presentation will inform you on how ecosystem thinking can be a powerful tool for urban redevelopment.

Peter is the Professor of Sustainability at Curtin University. He has just been appointed to the Board of Infrastructure Australia.

From 2001-2003 Peter directed the production of Western Australia's Sustainability Strategy in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. It was the first state sustainability strategy in the world. In 2004-5 he was a Sustainability Commissioner in Sydney advising the government on planning issues. In 2006/7 he was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at the University of Virginia Charlottesville where he completed two new books Resilient Cities: Responding to Peak Oil and Climate Change and 'Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems'.

In Perth, Peter is best known for his work in saving, reviving and extending the city's rail system. Peter invented the term 'automobile dependence' to describe how we have created cities where we have to drive everywhere. For 30 years since he attended Stanford University during the first oil crisis he has been warning cities about preparing for peak oil. Peter's book with Jeff Kenworthy 'Sustainability and Cities: Overcoming Automobile Dependence' was launched in the White House in 1999. He was a Councillor in the City of Fremantle from 1976-80 where he still lives.

### The value of social capital as the currency of change

**Damian Collins** will show how change is not going to happen by the council working alone. The power of social capital in developing new models to deal with issues facing communities is a key part of our future. Damian will show us some of the ways in which communities are organising themselves and doing things differently to become more resilient to the changes around them.

Damian is a geographer with particular interests in the ways in which communities can come together to promote both better cities and better health. He has been involved in research into Auckland's Walking School Buses since their establishment in 1999, and has developed an interest in the benefits of walking more generally. He also undertaken research into homelessness, coastal development, and health promotion. Until recently, Damian was employed at the University of Auckland, but has now taken up an Assistant Professor position at the University of Alberta in Canada.

## **New thinking of the climate crisis**

**Al Gore** is well known for his Oscar-winning movie *An Inconvenient Truth*. This new video builds on that with some new ideas on what it will take to deal with climate change.

In 2007, Gore was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (together with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) for "efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change." He is also the author of the 2006 text, *An Inconvenient Truth* on the topic of global warming and starred in the Academy Award-winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*, released in conjunction with the book. He helped to organize the 07 July 2007 benefit concert for global warming, *Live Earth*.

Gore is currently the cofounder and chairman of Generation Investment Management, cofounder and chairman of the Emmy Award - winning American television channel Current TV, a member of the Board of Directors of Apple Inc., and a Senior Advisor to Google. He is also a partner in the venture capital firm, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, heading that firm's climate change solutions group. In addition, Gore is on the faculty of Middle Tennessee State University as a visiting professor and was a visiting professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Fisk University, and the University of California, Los Angeles in 2001. [Profile downloaded from [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)].

## **Activating the collective**

**Dorothy Wilson** will sum up on how working together is the only way to ensure our future. Dorothy will inspire us all about what we can all do to make a difference and how we need to do this together.

A former journalist and teacher, Dorothy spent 12 years as a Councillor on Waitakere City Council, the last six as Deputy Mayor, helping to introduce the Eco City direction. She has continued this work in local government and in the community including the retrofitting of her own house 10 years ago to demonstrate what steps people can take to help prepare for the uncertainties of climate change and peak oil.