

FLOURISHING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Many of the familiar elements of our society are in a state of transition and the future looks likely to be much more local. Many people are experimenting with different ways of living...

Have you ever wondered how it would be:

- *To live more lightly on the earth and not have to own and do everything yourself?*
- *To live more communally and share space and resources?*
- *To have a greater sense of community without losing privacy and autonomy?*



AN INTRODUCTION TO FLOURISHING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Friday 10th July 2015, 7 to 9 pm

Cost \$15

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SEMINAR

Saturday 11th July 2015, 10 am to 4.30 pm

Cost \$45

(including Friday introduction)

Kauaeranga Hall, Kauaeranga Valley Road, Thames

Presenter **Robin Allison**, an eco-architect, was the initiator and project coordinator of the entire development and construction phase of Earthsong Eco-Neighbourhood. She has also visited and researched a number of other communities around the world. Robin brings this wealth of skills and experience to inspire and assist others to develop sustainable communities. www.robinallison.co.nz

Earthsong Eco-Neighbourhood is an example of collaborative living in which residents actively participate in the design and operation of their own community. It is a 32-home neighbourhood in Ranui, West Auckland, recognised internationally as a model of socially and environmentally sustainable community, and a finalist in the World Habitat Awards and UN Habitat Awards. www.earthsong.org.nz

Following the Friday night introduction, the Saturday seminar will cover detailed aspects of the following key areas:

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE and EFFECTIVE DECISION-MAKING

Enormous creativity and strength are possible when empowered individuals work together for the common good. Robin will introduce the key organisational structures and agreements, including the "coloured cards" method of consensus decision-making, that have served Earthsong so well.

DESIGN FOR COMMUNITY - Social and Environmental issues

Physical design doesn't create community, but it can powerfully encourage or discourage community. Key aspects of designing for healthy community and environment will be explored, from macro issues of site layout and common facilities, to more subtle relationships between houses and collective spaces.

PROJECT PLANNING - FROM VISION TO BUILT REALITY

Community building projects involve a wide range of steps, from developing a cohesive group vision, through membership processes, to collaborative design, legal and financial structures and other development issues. Robin will share some key learnings and processes that help create a successful community.

To register contact Trish Hatfield: trish_hat@paradise.net.nz

