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eco-tips

Here are some ideas to support local and Australian businesses when celebrating Christmas this year?

- plan your holiday outings at local, owner operated restaurants;
- buy a gift-certificate for a family photo shoot or membership to the local gym as great gift ideas;
- support Tasmanian crafts people who knit their scarves personally, or sell handmade jewellery.

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newsletter

Welcome to our last newsletter for 2011- what a year it has been! In the last few months we've welcomed back Jane from her time away with baby Hazel, improved and updated the Eco-style website, as well as completing a number of projects. These projects include the Northern Hobart house, which is our 'feature project' in this issue, a house in Mt Nelson, and extensions in Rosny and North Hobart. We also have a record number of projects under construction and in various stages of design to be completed in the New year in Paradise, Charlottes Cove, Newtown, Sandy Bay, Dodges Ferry and Sandfly. It is a happy and productive office.

We have relaunched our website. More projects and updates to come. The new hosting platform allows us to update the site regularly and easily. If you haven't already seen it, we invite you to check out the site at www.eco-style.com.au. We welcome any feedback.

Eco-style will be closed for the Christmas period- Friday 23rd December 2011 to Monday 9th January 2012. All of us at Eco-style wish you and your family a safe and Merry Christmas; and look forward to hearing from you in 2012.

eco-news & events:



eco-notes:

Tips for Surviving a Renovation:

- Try to be realistic. Renovations are noisy, dusty and inconvenient; however the end result is going to be worth it! Eco-style does not just design the building, we design the process and assist you to survive and enjoy the process too.
- Make flexibility the mantra because sometimes, there may be no hot water or electricity, but if everyone is forewarned and flexible it will be a lot easier to live with.
- Have a backup plan in place i.e. dinner can be ordered from the local restaurant if there is no electricity, or plan to shower at the gym during these days.
- Allow at least two weeks to pack up your stuff before the renovation starts. This allows you to organise and remove any unnecessary items. When you move into the new area, start with the essentials first – don't just stuff all the old items back in.
- Double or triple the amount of dirt and dust there might be (there's always more than you expect). Also, to keep dust contained tape plastic sheeting over doors, furniture and clothing.
- During the renovation period, aim to keep at least one room 'sacred'; with no boxes, no stacked up furniture etc.
- Be organised and plan for the unexpected. This may include bad weather, material shortages, labour delays and fixing unforeseen issues. Establish a contingency plan too; your budget may have to increase due to unforeseen circumstances.

- residential
- multi residential
- commercial
- concept design
- site selection
- master planning
- interior design
- renovations
- extensions
- project management



Northern Hobart House

feature project:

The brief was complex with a number of conflicting requirements and highly specialist needs which Eco-style worked closely with the client to resolve. The owners required a large but warm and welcoming 5 bedroom family home that could accommodate a range of shared and private spaces.

Sustainable design was balanced with ease of use, maintenance requirements and budget.

The owners wanted a funky, contemporary, flexible, accessible home with and multi-purpose spaces connecting outdoor spaces with indoors, and areas for entertaining. The colours and finishes are modern and robust, yet polished and fun.

eco-related business:

Independent Living Centre Tas
www.ilctas.asn.au

Independent Living Centre is a non-profit community organisation that provides advice and information to make your life easier.

Assistive Technology is anything that can help you to do a task. ILC Tas offer information and advice tailored to your situation. Solutions could involve changing a technique, using a service, handy hints or adapting something you can find around the home.

This includes: Equipment for daily living, Communication and Technology and changes to your environment (access and design). ILC Tas provides a mobile outreach service, technology access services, a website, education and professional health consultants to advise and assist anyone with special needs.

KeepCup

feature product:

The KeepCup is the first barista standard reusable coffee cup. They are made from BPA free plastic making them lightweight and easy to carry, non toxic, dishwasher and microwave safe! They can also help reduce your environmental footprint!

For a coffee drinker who drinks 5 coffees a week, by replacing the disposable paper cups with a KeepCup, you'll save: 260 paper cups, which equates to 3kgs of landfill and 265mjs of energy. www.Keepcup.com/the-keepcup/calculator

The KeepCup also makes for a great idea if you're stuck for a great Christmas present. See www.Keepcup.com

