

Bruce Middleton

From: "urban sprout" <sprouts@urbansprout.co.za>
To: <bruce@thegremlin.co.za>
Sent: 16 February 2012 04:29 PM
Subject: *** SPAM ***newsletter #40 - shape your world

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newsletter #40: shape your world

The world is both crazy and wonderful. As I tap behind a keyboard, sitting outdoors in a peaceful garden, and listen to the amusing chirrups of a fiscal shrike, the world that unfolds out there is largely hidden from me and I from it. Yet I have a reciprocal relationship with the world, whether I acknowledge it or not.

My view of the world and my interaction with it shape my own physical body, the relationship with my family, and my connections with people I may never meet. For example our bodies contain many contaminants that have been 'gifted' us by the companies whose products we purchase; the laptop I work on was probably manufactured with dodgy labour practices that reduce employees' quality of life, etc.

Collectively though, a culture of mindfulness is taking root, and producing great shifts in society.

Apple Inc has **recently admitted human rights problems**; GM giant BASF is **closing down offices in Germany**; corporate investors are **asking fracksters to 'please explain'**; and companies listed on our own JSE are having to take their **sustainability reporting more seriously**, or face embarrassment amongst their peers. These actions are brought about not by corporate altruism - the scramble for profit is as great as ever - but by a new breed of aware consumer insisting on their rights as a stakeholder in the world around them.

Have a great month as we head towards Autumn (make use of the **Livingseeds green manure giveaway** below), and keep up with us on **facebook** and **twitter** as we endeavour to uncover stuff that matters.

With best wishes
 Glen & Wanda



home DIY - fun, simple, satisfying, green!

The more I see how much DIY has become a worldwide trend in recent years - due to lack of money and a growing green conscience - the more I am



leaving only footprints

After another average week, similar to the one most of us experience - rush, dash, hare down the road, swerve round that corner, beat that deadline, race to fetch/buy/get - the



the blue side of carbon

The first policy framework outlining the activities needed to include coastal marine areas such as mangroves, tidal marshes and ocean 'grasslands' into the work of the United

beginning to believe that the recession has helped to trigger society back into a place of... [Read more](#)

drive out to Paternoster did little to relax me... [Read more](#)

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was presented at... [Read more](#)

giveaway



Living Seeds, are giving away a hamper of green manure seed. Green Manures are a vital tool for the eco-gardener or farmer. They are typically used during the winter months (but not always) to provide cover for the bare winter soil, to help increase nitrogen content of the soil and to help build soil quality and organic content.

To stand a chance of winning, email giveaways@urbansprout.co.za with the name of a green manure that Living Seeds supplies.



young local activist wins nkosi award

Wheelchair-bound Chaeli Mycroft travelled to the Netherlands last November to receive this prestigious award from the KidsRights Foundation, a sign of true recognition for the work she does with disabled children through her organisation... [Read more](#)



ccr expo set new greening standards

At the end of last year, Scan Display and Interactive Africa pulled out all the stops to put together the South African Climate Change Response Expo (CCR Expo) on behalf of the Department of Environmental Affairs. In 4 weeks they essentially...[Read more](#)



wind generator design uses recycled hard drives

The design for a sustainable wind generator using redundant materials has earned a prestigious international award from Hartmut Jagau, a master's student in electrical engineering at the University of Cape Town. [Read more](#)



cape town celebrates world wetlands day

In celebration of World Wetlands Day, the City of Cape Town hosted various wetland education programmes as part of its Youth Environmental School (YES) programme during February 2012. World



cycling, walking, best for health and climate justice

Rapid transit and safe cycling/walking networks are good for both health and climate - and climate experts should consider more systematically how these strategies can reduce CO2



launching trees for zambia

For three weeks in July 2012, Greenpop is hosting a reforestation project in Livingstone, Zambia; the country with the second highest deforestation rate in the world. We will plant over 5000 indigenous and fruit trees that

Wetlands Day is held every year on 2 February... [Read more](#)

emissions in the transport sector, one of the world's major.... [Read more](#)

are growing at the... [Read more](#)

green events to look out for

- Thu, 16 Feb Joburg Green Drinks @ FTFA
- Fri, 17 Feb Out of Eden - storytelling event
- Sat, 18 Feb One Struggle 2012 (conference)
- Sat, 18 Feb Earth Element/Late Summer with Daniel Jardim
- Mon, 20 Feb Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2011
- Mon, 20 Feb Eat more Raw - Thai
- Tue, 21 Feb Natural Building Workshop
- Thu, 23 Feb Green Star SA Rating Tool Info Sessions
- Sun, 26 Feb Jane's Delicious Garden Workshop
- Tue, 28 Feb Marking one year since Fukushima

...and plenty more - visit our green events page for Feb

urban sprout info

to give us feedback or suggestions, let us know about a green event, or just to say hi:

Email: sprouts@urbansprout.co.za
Website: <http://www.urbansprout.co.za/>



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