



rituals like tidying up can be creative artistic practices redefined as a kind of 'environmental art'. The group has created pieces from the traditional genres of fine art; still life and landscape that encourage the homeowner to use their domestic skills to develop the 'artworks'.

For example, the Wall Dresser pictured is a soft rubber sheet dimpled with a regular array of hemispheres. Each hemisphere is to provide a mechanism for the hanging of clothes and other items of fabric, creating a storage and display system. The users' poetic licence is in choosing the chaotic or orderly arrangement of colours, textures and patterns.

These and other unusual furniture concepts will be explored in 'ShowRoom' at Objectspace, Auckland, on 8 Sept - 6 Oct. |3  
[www.objectspace.org.nz](http://www.objectspace.org.nz)

### 'Totel' package

As pressure increases on shoppers and supermarkets to reduce plastic

bag consumption, Wellington sustainable business Totel has taken the initiative with the launch of a new range of New Zealand-made reusable shopping bags - the Grandtotel. Scenario Communications developed the Totel identity and brand story using fresh, vibrant graphics for high visibility and impact.

These tote bags are durable, 100% recyclable and contain 10% locally recycled plastic.

Eco-effective principles were used during design and development and, as part of its commitment to sustainability, the company is offering to take back bags when they are past their useful life (i.e. when they're 'totelled') and return them to the manufacturer for recycling. |4

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

### Pet projects.

'House Trained' is an upcoming shopfront exhibition of furniture at fashion store DeNada in Wellington, which will explore ideas around personality in inanimate objects.

Taranaki-based designers Rebecca Asquith and Tim Wigmore claim all their furniture works are well trained and friendly - like pets or loyal companions. They'll cheer you up when you need it, hold your cup of coffee, take your coat or provide a little light in those darker moments, they say.

Many of the works are now also available through Unless - Sustainable New Zealand Design, the contemporary design store that the pair started up in Okato with a handful of others earlier this year. The store focuses on high quality, environmentally responsible New Zealand design objects, with plans to exhibit in Milan 2009. 'House Trained' opens 27 September. |5  
[www.unless.co.nz](http://www.unless.co.nz)

### Painting it green

About 50 staff at Dulux head office in Gracefield took environmental enthusiasm to the beach earlier this month with a tree planting and beach clean-up at Petone. The day was organised by the Dulux

Sustainability Champions - an internal team dedicated to decreasing the company's eco-footprint. The trip also celebrated the results of their '100-Day Sustainability Challenge' this year, which set in place a number of significant changes to reduce waste and consumption, in addition to economic gains.

Dulux New Zealand is well on its way to meeting the international company's 2010 targets - such as halving waste - and has pre-empted the Waste Minimisation Bill here. Factory changes include recycling tins, can and drums; the development of low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) paints; donating mis-tinted paints to local schools and giving shredded paper to the Newtown SPCA for bedding for puppies and kittens.

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

### Young achiever

Michael Goble of shopfitters Shears & Mak has won a trip to DesignEX 2008 in Melbourne as recipient of