

### **Energy Audit confirms the *Great Ponsonby* is right on track**

The Great Ponsonby Arthotel, a small hotel located in central Auckland, had their TEEP Energy Audit completed in September 2008.

The Great Ponsonby is a restored 1890s villa and was found to be very energy efficient. The audit report showed that the premises were already achieving many energy-savings through initiatives such as turning off refrigerators, microwaves and AV equipment when not in use. The hot water and most heating and cooking use natural gas, and shower flow restrictors are already in place. There are also many efficient compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) being used in place of incandescent lamps.



The Great Ponsonby's Energy Use Index was found to be 27.56kWh/guest-night or \$4.11/guest night, 10% lower than benchmark levels for B & Bs.

Owner, Gerry Hill, says the energy audit confirmed that the Great Ponsonby was already on the right track with its energy management practices.

"The energy audit gave us concrete data to prove to our staff that doing the small things really does make a difference," Mr Hill said.

"One staff meeting per week is dedicated to energy efficiency initiatives. Being able to give staff the true cost of running a heated towel rail each year for example has really motivated the staff to not only turn off the heated towel rails in units that are not in use, but the staff are now turning their towel rails and TVs off at the wall at home too."

As a result of the energy audit the Great Ponsonby Arthotel will now also be replacing the remaining incandescent lighting in its premises with CFLs.

The Great Ponsonby also uses 'Hibernation signs'. These are put on the rooms which are not being used so that everyone knows that they need to keep all the electrical equipment in these rooms off. Then when the rooms get filled, everything gets switched on again.

"It was also good to get our carbon footprint calculated as part of the audit", Mr Hill said. "Now the Great Ponsonby has a clear target to offset our footprint through our tree planting initiative in Motuihe Island."