

North & South Recommends



Fur Sure

For the ultimate in wearable recycled luxury, you can wrap yourself in a one-off designer garment by Christchurch's Susy Wi Rutene (above). Using old fur coats and stoles, Wi Rutene creates elegant, lightweight garments that give vintage style a cool, contemporary edge. In a skin-sensual twist, she mostly turns the fur to the inside of the garment, then restitches, stamps and textures the "outer" skin. Her range includes long coats, short jackets, stoles, capes, skirts and fitted belts. Prices start at \$350. Available from Boxes, Christchurch; Goddess, Queenstown; Hamilton & Murray, Wellington; The Cupboard, Auckland; and Zohar, Mt Maunganui. For further details ph (03) 942-9915.

On The Road

A tip for roadside stall aficionados travelling with reluctant-to-stop drivers: claim sudden carsickness or incontinence on the approach to Greytown's GP Orchard. Once the vehicle has halted, peruse bins full of good quality locally grown produce — apples, corn and, when

in season, stone fruit, berries and \$5/kg fat summer cherries — also shelves of gourmet goodies. The simple shop showcases Wairarapa products like ostrich sausages and salami, honey, goat cheese, saffron threads and lemon cordial. The owners also stock Greytown-made salad dressings, preserved fruit and bottles of raspberry and chocolate sauce. Fresh ostrich eggs come with instructions to boil for an hour and 20 minutes. Main Road North, ph (06) 304-9926.

Clean Sweep

The brand new (and brand-savvy) B_E_E range of cleaning products has scored top green credentials and promises to outperform most of the stuff currently rolling around under your sink. We can't help thinking, though, B_E_E's dishwashing liquid, surface cleaner, laundry liquid and whitener will also appeal to those who simply can't resist the snappy, matching packaging and heavenly scents. Even scrubbing pots can be made slightly less drudge-like by the dishwash waftings of essence of spearmint, orange, eucalyptus and

kawakawa. But you do have to pay more for homegrown, eco-friendly and essential oils-infused cleaners than for budget brands (\$5.99 for B_E_E's 500ml surface cleaner, for instance, \$3.99 for 500ml dishwash and \$8.99 for 1kg whitener). Available at select supermarkets in Auckland, Wellington and the Waikato, ph (09) 361-5871.

Fine Wine

Central Otago is one of the country's fastest growing wine regions and Johann Small-Smith of winedeli.com is arguably the local expert. His Queenstown wine store

and delicatessen is a well-stocked tribute to Central Otago wines (without neglecting top vintages from other New Zealand regions) and Small-Smith will be happily distracted from other duties to explain their tastes and origins. If he succeeds in talking you into purchasing more than you can carry, he'll ship your favourite pinot or sav blanc anywhere within New Zealand or the world, in fact. Before leaving, check out the chocolates, cheeses, salamis and other good things in the deli side of the store. 40 Shotover St, ph (03) 442-4482, www.winedeli.com

JANE WYLES

