

SHARE

Sustainable Hepburn Association *Renewing the Earth*

Media Release

9 July 2009



Award-winning Inventor Visits Daylesford



The Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre was a hub of energy on Thursday 2nd July. Many braved the cold to hear the inventor of SolaMate solar air heating, Stuart Elliott, speak about his experiences retrofitting old poorly-designed homes to be more energy efficient and his invention.

Mr Elliott showed graphs of 'before' and 'after' data for the changes he made to his home and explained how SolaMate can help reduce energy. He emphasised the importance of insulation and draft-proofing, which cost-effective changes. Government rebates are currently available for insulating homes.

SolaMate is a roof panel that can heat, cool and ventilate a building using solar energy. The core invention of the SolaMate panel is a triple-glazed plastic extrusion able to harvest solar energy efficiently. Air is warmed in winter and cooler air is brought into the building in summer. Details are available a www.sola-mate.com.

SHARE invited Mr Elliott to Daylesford after being asked by Ruth Bray, who saw SolaMate on the ABC's New Inventors. SHARE President, Laurel Freeland stated that "SHARE host Open Forums on the first Thursday of each month to give people the opportunity to connect and learn about what is happening regarding sustainability. Our next Forum will be about water".

SHARE will be hosting "Wise Words in Winter" with Hepburn Wind and Hepburn Relocation Network from 1.30pm on Sunday 9th August at Daylesford Inn.

SHARE (Sustainable Hepburn Association *Renewing the Earth*) is the new common name for the Hepburn Renewable Energy Association. More information about SHARE, upcoming events and useful links can be found at www.hrea.org.au.

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For further information: Fiona Robson ph 5348 4822