

SHARE News

Spreading the word for a sustainable Hepburn Shire

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1. DIARY DATES

November 2	Trentham Sustainability Group Meeting
November 8	Bushfire Preparation Workshop
November 12	Sustainable schools meeting
November 14	Harvest Swapmeet
November 21	Glenlyon Make it, Bake it, Grow it Market
November 22	Edible weed workshop
November 27	SHARE AGM

2. EVENT DETAILS

Trentham Sustainability Group Meeting Monday 2nd November

Trentham Sustainability Group meets monthly. All welcome

Where: Trentham Railway Station

When: Monday 2nd November 7.30 pm

Bushfire Preparation Workshop - Sunday 8th November

David Holmgren, author of the discussion paper "Bushfire Resilient Communities and Landscapes," available at www.holmgren.com.au, gives practical instructions in the use of low-impact techniques for fuel reduction as alternatives to burning.

Where: Doctor's Gully at the causeway, Hepburn Springs

When: Sunday 8th November, 10am - 1pm (then lunch and discussion - bring a contribution to share)

Cost: \$15/adult, children and 2nd workshop attendance free

Contact: Su on 5348 3636 or HRN@internode.on.net.

Sustainable Schools Meeting - Thursday 12th November

Students, teachers, parents and volunteers will meet to share help our schools be more sustainable & celebrate a productive year. All schools in Hepburn Shire are welcome.

Where: Daylesford Primary School

When: 4pm, Thursday 12th November

Contact: 5348 4822 or info@share.asn.au.

Daylesford Harvest Swapmeet - Saturday November 14th

Spring has sprung and it is time to give those veggie gardens a little TLC. Come to Daylesford's Harvest Swapmeet, held on the long tables out the front of Perfect Drop and bring along your favourite seeds, seedlings or just ideas to swap. Oh and if anyone actually has an excess of vegies to swap these will be greeted with much enthusiasm too!

When: 10.00am till noon on the second Saturday of the month

Where: The Perfect Drop, Howe Street, Daylesford

Glenlyon monthly market Saturday 21st November

The Glenlyon Village market will be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month in & around the Glenlyon hall. The next market is on Saturday 21st November.

Enquiries: Dan 5348766

Edible weed workshop - Sunday 22nd November

Alexis Pitsopoulos will be running a workshop on edible weeds, involving an identification walk and discussion of nutritional and medicinal properties of weeds and wild plants growing around our local community.

Where: Meet at Melliodora, 16 Fourteenth Street, Hepburn

When: Sunday 22 November, 10am - 12:30pm

Cost: \$15

Contact: Su on 5348 3636 or HRN@internode.on.net (bookings please).

SHARE Annual General Meeting and Community Celebration - Friday 27th November

The AGM will be followed by a delicious local organic meal by Gary Thomas (Spade to Blade), music by local bluegrass band, Family Farm, as well as dancing, good company and fun.. All welcome – financial members get to vote.

Where: Senior Citizens' Room, behind Daylesford Town Hall

When: 6pm registration, 6.30 AGM, 7.30 dinner, Friday 27th November

Contact: Book for dinner before 19th November by calling Liz on 0402 553 181 or email info@share.asn.au.

3. LOCAL NEWS

Daylesford pedals for climate action

The Daylesford and Hepburn community again demonstrated their practical and creative approach to environmental issues when hundreds of locals gathered in Burke Square throughout Saturday 24th as part of the international day of climate action. A specially designed trailer of 12 bikes connected to the power grid and a domestic solar array collected enough green-power to hold a carbon negative screening of the inspiring environmental film 'The Age of Stupid'. As well as pedalling and participating in a 'Big Picture' to be shown in Times Square, New York, locals celebrated the practical initiatives the community is taking to move to a sustainable future. SHARE — which by November will have installed 116 grid connected photovoltaic systems — distributed information about new solar hot water and solar electric community purchase schemes. In the evening over 120 people gathered in the Daylesford Town Hall to watch 'The Age of Stupid'. "Our actions send a strong message to our leaders heading to Copenhagen that the time has passed for petty politics, and we need to get serious about climate change now." said Hepburn Wind chairman Simon Holmes à Court. "We are demonstrating what is possible. We need our leaders to set ambitious, science-based targets. Whereas Australia is currently aiming for just 20% renewable electricity by 2020, the completed Hepburn Wind project will be equivalent to Daylesford and Hepburn Springs residents achieving 100% in 2010." Thanks go to all involved in making the day such a success including SHARE and Hepburn Wind committees and members, especially Jack Gilding, David Grigg and Laurel Freeland for her tireless enthusiastic spruiking.

For more details and photos of the day visit:

Report: <http://www.hepburnwind.com.au/news/ageofstupid.htm>

Photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/hepburnwind/>

Central Victoria Solar City

The Central Victoria Solar City project offers incentives to local residents and businesses to participate in a trial range of energy efficiency, local energy generation and demand management products and services. The project aims to discover innovative local energy solutions for you, your community and the planet. There are six packages offered to households: Energy Audit

Package, Retrofit Package, Smart Rates Package, Solar Hot Water Package, Household Solar Electric Package, Solar Park Package, or the Full Suite Package. For more information see <http://www.centralvictoriasolarcity.com.au/>. Full details available soon.

SHARE will be organising a bus trip to see the Solar Park opening in Ballarat as part of this project. Details to be confirmed, but this will likely take place on 28 November. Please email your expression of interest for this bus trip to info@share.asn.au.

Membership Fees

SHARE is a not-for profit community organisation that depend on membership fees, donations and grants for funding. To assist the many exciting project ideas, SHARE is encouraging people to become financial members. Membership fees are \$15 for an individual, \$25 for a household and \$50 for a business. Please visit our new website at www.share.asn.au, update your details and pay by EFT (electronic funds transfer).

Benefits of being a financial member of SHARE include:

- * save up to \$600 on an evacuated solar hot water service
- * discounted photovoltaic solar arrays
- * free advice on how to reduce your energy and water bills
- * discounts to events and workshops
- * access to borrow SHARE equipment
- * ability to include information in SHARE newsletters and website / blog
- * be part of promoting a sustainable shire and planet
- * connect with others and have FUN

Solar Hot Water Bulk Buy

SHARE has partnered with BREAZE to offer AAE evacuated tube solar hot water systems to our members. According to the manufacturer AAE these systems are very efficient and will be unaffected by frost. Please ensure you are a financial member of SHARE/HREA and then go to www.breaze.org.au for more detail and to look at system prices. You'll save around \$600 on the retail price. Prices in BREAZE's spreadsheets vary depending on what size system you need (call Geoff at AAE to determine this on 9770 8365) and whether you are changing from gas to electric or from gas storage to gas instantaneous booster. You will then need to get a quote for installation from a plumber. SHARE has been advised that standard installations will cost between \$1,200 and \$1,800.

Keep in mind that the best system in terms of CO2 reduction is a solar evacuated tube array with a gas instantaneous booster. If you can't get the info you need from the BREAZE web site, please email Anneke at info@share.asn.au or call 5348 2976 for more information or to receive a copy of a standard quote for installation.

Grid Connected Photo Voltaic (PV) Solar Update

SHARE is looking into partnering possibilities to increase our buying power, to deliver another bulk-buy of quality Conergy panels. There will also be an option for those who wish to purchase a cheaper, unbranded system. To express your interest in a PV, electricity system, please email Anneke at info@share.asn.au or call 5348 2976.

Seeking Passionate and Committed People to nominate for SHARE Committee

If you are passionate about sustainability and you have some time and talent we would like to speak with you about nominating for a position on the SHARE committee or one of its subgroups. We aim for a broad representation from across the whole Shire as well as a cross section of interest in sustainability matters – environmental, economic, social and personal.

If you are interested and would like more information please contact info@hrea.org.au or call 5476 4495

4. NEWS FROM ELSEWHERE

For the latest information on the feed in tariff check out this update

<http://www.energymatters.com.au/government-rebates/feedintariff.php>

Victorian Climate Action Groups Network meeting

When: 12 noon - 4pm, Saturday, November 7, 2009

Where: Climate Action Centre, Lvl 5, New Building cnr Victoria & Lygon sts (enter through Lygon st carpark) Carlton

For more info or to agenda suggestions: email info@climateactioncentre.org

Launch of Changing Places at the National Museum

The National Museum of Australia recently launched Changing Places, an online project aiming to generate discussion about the cultural dimensions of climate change.

Changing Places invites people to upload contemporary or historic photos that show how anthropogenic climate change is changing places they know and love. People are then asked to note how they feel about these changes. Changing Places offers a rare opportunity to discuss the cultural and emotional dimensions of global climate change, at a local scale.

The site can be found at: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/changingplaces/>.

Book release “Time to Eat the Dog: The Real Guide to Sustainable Living”

Forget about buying that Prius, just ditch the dog...Researchers found that keeping a relatively average-sized dog can have a similar ecological impact as driving 10,000km a year in a big 4X4.

According to the book Time to Eat the Dog: The Real Guide to Sustainable Living, New Zealand-based architects Robert and Brenda Vale worked out that an average dog goes through about 164kg of meat and 95kg of cereals a year, they then applied lots of complicated methods (which you don't really want to read here) to work out how much of an ecological footprint cats and dogs make based on the amount of land needed to grow common brands of pet food. “We're not actually saying it is time to eat the dog. We're just saying that we need to think about and know the (ecological) impact of some of the things we do and that we take for granted.”

The book description reads: The world and its resources are finite, yet we are seemingly locked into a system based on growth: growth of population, growth of income and growth of consumption. From this irrefutable starting point, Time to Eat the Dog? attempts to uncover what sustainability really means. Brenda and Robert Vale explore the environmental impact of the decisions we make, from what we eat and what we wear to how we travel and enjoy ourselves. Their book will make you see your life and your place in the world in a completely new light. Challenging the orthodoxies that underpin our entire economic system, this is one subversive read...

SHARE IDEAS:

Contribute to the new SHARE web site, www.share.asn.au

SHARE's new web site is a community resource to share information and ideas about sustainable community. The web site is also a 'blog' so you can add comments, suggestions and ideas.

Please check it out and let us know what you think. If your community group would like to join Hepburn Relocalisation Network, Trentham Sustainability Group, Carbon Rationing Action Group and Daylesford Harvest Swapmeet in the online 'community space' let us know by emailing info@share.asn.au.

About SHARE

SHARE is a not-for-profit, non-political community organisation that is run by volunteers.

When SHARE established the vision of a connected community sharing a sustainable future it identified the following broad strategies to cultivate sustainable community: create a sustainable organisation, to be the ears and voice of sustainability, connect and catalyse local sustainability initiatives and to build capacity. This will include:

- Identifying ways to engage more broadly with community and to cultivate sustainable community and business initiatives;
- Attracting a broader committee representation from across the whole Hepburn Shire
- Building our own capacity - finding ways to be more sustainable ourselves as an organisation, including the possibility of creating a visible physical presence in the region
- Identifying our priority projects and what we offer our members
- Communication, web, financial, membership, marketing strategies, admin resources, support and systems
- Collaborating with business, community organisations and agencies locally, regionally and broader

If there is something you feel passionate about please do talk with to us about it. Or if you have the interest, time and talent to contribute we are seeking a broad range of representation to engage in generating viable healthy and sustainable community.

SHARE News is created by volunteers from Sustainable Hepburn Association (SHARE) to communicate what is happening regarding sustainability and to encourage people to be mindful of our actions at home, work and play.

SHARE News is emailed to more than 500 people each fortnight and placed on noticeboards around Hepburn Shire. Feel free to share with others that may be interested. We need your input. Please email sustainability-focused items ready to be included to info@hrea.org.au (Please don't send a flier or poster that requires the information to be extracted). Your contributions and feedback are appreciated

Deadline for next SHARE News: **Wednesday 11th November**