



FOR YOUR DIARY

NWEC Summer Solstice Party

Sunday, 20 June 3 pm - Penguin

Come along to the Penguin Sustainable Living Centre for some acoustic music as well as pizza (cooked in our new cob oven!) and mulled wine and hot herbal tea for the sensible. Contact Theresa for any inquiries on 0413 039 733

South Hobart Solstice Savers Monday, 21 June 6:30-8:30pm

Join the South Hobart Sustainable Community Group to learn how to save energy and stay warm this winter. St. Francis Xavier Hall, Anglesea Street.

Hobart Biochar Workshop **28 June 2010**

A one-day workshop to discuss recent advances in biochar research and policy, identify priorities & for opportunities developing biochar R&D projects in Tasmania. UTAS Art School, Hunter St, Hobart Waterfront. Read more about the workshop at <http://anzbiochar.org/>

WHIMBY Seminar Series

Wednesday, 30 June - 5:30pm

The Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand is hosting the WHIMBY (What's Happening In My Back Yard) Seminar Series. The next seminar is focused on renewable energy. The seminar is at GHD, Salamanca. Please RSVP to Anthony sustainability@internode.on.net

SLT Celebration

Wednesday, 14 July 5-7pm

Waterside Pavillion - Mawson Pl, Hobart

Art from Trash Exhibition

Opening Night Friday, 23 July 6pm

Art From Trash is an annual community event that encourages the use of discarded materials in the production of visual art. The exhibition will run from 22 July - 2 August at the Long Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre. For info on how to enter visit www.artfromtrash.org

A TIME OF TRANSITION (and Renewal) AT SLT

Changes are afoot here at Sustainable Living Tasmania! After more than 12 years at the helm, Margaret Steadman is stepping down as Executive Officer. She has been an amazing advocate of sustainability in Tasmania and has been an inspirational leader for the organisation. Below are some words from her...

"In my first job in Tasmania 14 years ago I remember driving to Launceston listening to David Suzuki on the car radio. He was talking about how we all need to take the environmental crises really seriously in our whole life not just our spare time and I thought 'Yes, yes. I need to earn my livelihood working at what I really care about'. I quit my existing job and took a part time job running a neighbourhood house while I worked at re-organising my life. I volunteered at the Tasmanian Environment Centre and within a year was its coordinator.

In a small organisation like ours, personal interest and strengths are really influential and I was interested in urban sustainability issues, where there seemed to be a gap in advocacy, services and information. With the support of the Board and other staff and with the success of the first Home Expos, TEC moved more into that arena and eventually changed its trading name to Sustainable Living Tasmania. I think we have made a real contribution and I'm very proud to have been part of it and grateful to have worked with so many inspired, resourceful, intelligent and resilient people. Thank you to you all. Twelve years on ... time to take another leap."

Margaret will be sorely missed, but we have been lucky enough to find an enthusiastic and inspiring replacement in Todd Houstein. A few words from our new EO...

"To be coming home inspires such wonderful feelings! I was born in Tassie and lived there for my first 28 years. The only thing that dragged me away to Melbourne was the opportunity to work with Engineers Without Borders (EWB), an amazing organisation that assists disadvantaged communities to improve their quality of life through education and sustainable engineering projects. Four years on, the only thing that is dragging me away from EWB is the great opportunity to work with Sustainable Living Tasmania. There are so many inspiring developments happening in the sustainability movement in Tassie and I'm really excited to be coming home to work with you all on them."

Please join us to celebrate the achievements of SLT and Margaret over the past 12 years and welcome Todd on Wednesday 14 July from 5-7pm at the Mawson Place Waterside Pavillion. Please RSVP to lissa@sustainablelivingtasmania.org.au or call 6234 5566 by 10 July.

June also brings with it the end of your annual SLT membership. A renewal form is on page 2. Please complete it and return as soon as possible. Feel free to call us if you are unsure if you have already renewed. We are also grateful to accept any tax deductible donations!

Membership Renewal Form 2010-2011

TAX INVOICE (ABN 84 197 085 255)

Tasmanian Environment Centre trading as **Sustainable Living Tasmania**

Please ensure that your membership is renewed by the end of June

- Yes I want to renew my membership
- I want to make a tax deductible donation
(donations of over \$2 to the Public Fund are tax deductible)
- I want to become a monthly supporter of SLT

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Phone.....(h).....(w).....(m)

Email.....

Membership Fees - please circle your selection (all fees include GST)

Concession	1yr	\$11.00	3yrs	\$30
Single	1yr	\$30.00	3yrs	\$75
Family/household	1yr	\$40.00	3yrs	\$100
Organisation	1yr	\$60.00	3yrs	\$160
Newsletter Surcharge	1yr	\$5.00	3yrs	\$15
Once off Donation		\$.....		
Ongoing Support	(complete additional information below)			

Total Payment \$

- I enclose a cheque/money order payable to Sustainable Living Tasmania.
- Please charge my credit card (details below).
- Please send me a receipt so that I can claim a tax deduction for my donation.

We need your help to continue our vital work and help make Tasmania a sustainable island!

Please consider becoming a monthly supporter of Sustainable Living Tasmania.

- I would like to make a regular monthly donation on the (insert date) of each month for the amount of \$..... by direct bank deposit into your bank account. (Sustainable Living Tasmania Public Fund bank account details are BSB 067 000, Account No. 1052 2969)
- I would like to make a regular monthly donation of \$..... by credit card.
Please debit my: Visa Mastercard (complete details below)

Please note – monthly payments will be charged to your credit card on the last Monday of each month. This authority may be cancelled at anytime by notifying us in writing.

Name on card

Card number: _____ Expiry date ---/---

Signature:

Please send completed forms to:
Sustainable Living Tasmania - 1st floor, 71 Murray St, Hobart, TAS 7000
Fax (03) 6234 5543

Thank you for your ongoing support!

CONTAINER DEPOSITS MAKE CENTS

You know the dilemma. You're away from home, clutching an empty beverage container and ask yourself - Where can I put it? Do I drop it somewhere discreetly? Put it in the bin (if I can find one)? Carry it back home again?

Unfortunately the world lacks rubbish fairies to take care of empty bottles and cans, let alone sort through rubbish bins to make sure they get to the nearest recycling facility. We consume 14 billion beverage containers a year, with less than half recycled.

This is the challenge the country's environment ministers will face when they meet in early July to decide on whether we should have a container deposits scheme (CDS). South Australia has had one for 30 years and the Northern Territory just announced CD will start in 2011. Other states are grappling with the economic, environmental and political issues.

It is a critical time to write to the Environment Ministers as they prepare for the next EPHC meeting on 5 July in Darwin. Further background info is available on the Boomerang Alliance www.bringitback.org.au/boomerang/node/43 and Total Environment Centre www.tec.org.au/packaging/455-beverage-container-deposits-their-time-has-come websites.

LOCAL ENERGY FOR CHANGE ACHIEVEMENTS

The Local Energy for Change project conducted by SLT in partnership with the Kingborough and Brighton Councils with funding from the Tasmanian Climate Change Office's ClimateConnect program has helped over 170 households in southern Tasmania become more energy efficient.

151 homes had energy assessments conducted by our team of trained assessors. Their reports, combined with the offer of rebates, stimulated many householders to take action to make their homes warmer, more energy efficient, more comfortable and less costly to keep warm.

27 homes were given incentives to improve their ceiling insulation, 65 to improve their window treatments, 71 to improve their draught proofing, 53 to install AAA showerheads and/or shower-timers and 74 to install CFLS. The home energy assessment reports led to many enthusiastic and appreciative householders taking up the challenge of acting on all the recommendations. As one householder wrote to us: "I am thrilled with the advice and support I received from the assessor.... He was encouraging, non-confronting and supplied us with many ideas and options which he helped us to prioritise. We felt the improvement in the warmth of our kitchen immediately following the installation of the honeycomb blinds."

CYCLING THE GO

Cycling South's Super Tuesday Results

The counts are Hobart's first comprehensive assessment of bicycle commuters and show that cycling is a transport option being adopted by a substantial number of Greater Hobart workers. Despite inadequate or non-existent cycling facilities in most parts of Hobart, people are still choosing to leave the car at home and travel to work by bicycle, relieving congestion, reducing greenhouse emissions, saving money and making a healthy change. Just imagine how many more people could be riding if they were provided with comfortable and convenient cycling routes to get there.

At the busiest location on the Intercity Cycleway at the Hobart end 299 cycle commuters were counted between 7am and 9am. That's almost 300 less cars coming into the city in the morning and competing for parking spots, and that's just on a single cycling route. A permanent bicycle counter installed by Hobart City Council prior to Christmas on the Intercity Cycleway has been recording a peak weekday of 1100 cyclists per day, with the average around 900 per day since the installation.

On the narrow and wind-exposed footpath over the Tasman Bridge, on average 1 rider a minute crossed the bridge between 7am and 9am. That's the equivalent of 120 less cars or 3 less buses driving over the bridge in the morning peak. Even at sites over 10km from the CBD cycle commuters were evident. In the morning peak 54 riders an hour were counted on the Intercity cycleway at Glenorchy.

Collecting data through initiatives such as the Super Tuesday bicycle counts helps to address the urban myth that no one rides bicycles in Hobart. Myth busted! Visit www.cyclingsouth.org for complete results.

LINDISFARNE COMMUNITY GROWING

Wide support for community garden at Beltana Park

On 9 June the Lindisfarne Community Garden Group lodged with Clarence Council a petition in support of a community garden at Beltana Park with over **750** signatures. The vast majority of these are by Lindisfarne residents. The results of an online petition with the same wording were also handed in. The online petition has 135 signatures, 70 of which are by Clarence residents. Many of the other signatories are people with community garden experience. The online petition is note-worthy for the comments people were able to make. In addition, letters of in-principle support have been received from four local schools and a survey found that 16 out of 18 local businesses in Lindisfarne Village favour the proposal. Many thanks to those who signed our petitions!!



Le Mobilizer Update - Rural Rides W(Rap)

After one hell of a ride, the Rural Rides program is wrapping up. Rural Rides is a Cool Pool Tas initiative aimed at increasing carpooling in rural areas, starting with the Huon Valley and the Tasman Peninsula. The project was funded by the Tasmanian Climate Change Office and hosted by Sustainable Living Tasmania.

The one (sometimes two and sometimes three) person Rural Rides team attended events, set up workshops and rallied support amongst the community. And the population responded with lots of positive feedback and some sign ups to Cool Pool Tas. Some particularly helpful organisations included the Dunalley Tasman Neighbourhood House, Lin Thorpe's Office, Geeveston Community Centre, DS café Huonville, and employees of Tasman Council and Huon Valley Council.

Although Rural Rides was a difficult project, it provided insight into transport for rural communities and the role of carpooling in these communities into the future. It is apparent to most of us that options are currently limited for sustainable transport in Tasmania; it is up to all of us to include ourselves in the solutions, as we enter an era of taking responsibility for our daily decisions.

The membership from the target areas increased by 56% in the 11 months that the Rural Rides project has been running. If you were one of the people who showed support for this project, thanks and keep spreading the carpool word.

Signing off,
Laurel Waddell - Rural Rides Project Coordinator



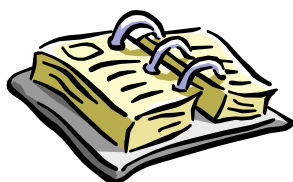
Stop Press!

A chance to build sustainable housing – at last – Contact Mary Jenkins SouthernCohousing@gmail.com

ONE FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS...

Call for Submissions on SLT/TEC

Sustainable Living Tasmania (formerly Tasmanian Environment Centre) is nearly 40 years old! To celebrate our achievements we are collating a history of the organisation. A subgroup of the Board is coordinating the effort to document our history and would love your contributions. Please consider helping with this project by contributing interesting information such as photos, newsletters, newspaper clippings, posters, etc. We are also looking for people who would be interested in researching various aspects of the history of the organisation and writing a chapter or sharing your personal reflections and recollections of your involvement and the organisation. If you would like to contribute to this exciting project, please contact Patsy Jones at patsycj@ozemail.com.au or Phil Anstie at phil.anstie@gmail.com.



NORTHERN TASMANIA TAKING OFF

Nearly 40 passionate, inspiring people attended a Transition Training Course organised by the Launceston Environment Centre in May. It was a fabulous gathering and ensured that there is lots of energy to progress transition throughout the State. The North West Environment Centre has also received funding to hold a training weekend. There are many opportunities to get involved & work together to make Tasmania a sustainable island!

NEW SUSTAINABLE LIVING GROUP FORMING IN KINGSTON / BLACKMAN'S BAY AREA

Please contact Melissa Staples on 6211 8228 if you are interested in being involved or want more information.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN STRAHAN **Community Works Together to Promote Sustainability**

The Strahan Sustainable Tourism group has been operating for over 12 months. They have achieved many positive outcomes for Strahan and are working on various projects that are still in progress. The Sustainable Tourism group is a sub-committee of Destination Strahan, encouraging members to learn about and adopt sustainable practices and encourage our guests to follow. Strahan is on the edge of a world heritage area and this area needs protection to survive.



The Sustainable tourism group held its first meeting in October, 2008, initiated by Mark and Pam McDermott. Mark attended a climate change meeting initiated by the Dept of Tourism and members of the Premier's Department. Pam attended a sustainable tourism seminar in Launceston organised by Qantas. The message from both of these meetings was that climate change is high on the agenda of the world community and Strahan tourism businesses need to remain competitive with other destinations and meet expectations of our guests who are now demanding products that are shown to be sustainable and looking after the environment.

Discussions at our meetings have so far been centred on sustainable tourism, reducing our carbon footprint, helping the environment and endeavouring to meet the expectations of our guests. Our major project has been working on a proposed dual walking and cycle track around the harbour area to encourage more people to experience our beautiful area in a healthy environment, reduce traffic congestion around the wharf area and reduce our carbon footprint. Once the cycle way is built, tourism operators are to make bulk purchases of bikes and helmets for guests to use. Recently, with the help of West Coast Council, we were fortunate enough to secure a Federal jobs grant to build 1,000 metres of track which has already started. We believe with further grants and lobbying we will see the track completed. We would then like to extend the track to Ocean Beach. Another project we have been working on has seen businesses in Strahan purchase some 20 worm farms. We are reaping the benefits of recycling food waste with liquid tea fertiliser as a by product which is great for our gardens. Guests are encouraged to collect their food scraps for the worms as well.

Another exciting project we is to make Strahan the 2nd town in Tasmania, after Coles Bay, to be plastic bag free at the checkout. We recently held a logo competition at the Strahan Primary School where students designed a logo to go on calico shopping bags. Our first order of bags arrived in late January and we have now distributed all 5000 bags ordered and are in the process of ordering again. The logo's main image is an azure kingfisher as the school children have been working on cleaning up the Manuka Creek area around the school grounds to encourage the kingfisher to breed and return to this area. This has been an exciting environmental project for the school children to be involved in and is improving the habitat for these iconic birds.

We have had great support from the Cradle Coast Tourism authority who organised a "Shades of Green" forum in Strahan in September and also donated energy efficient light globes for our group to sell to raise money for our bag project. They continue to offer us assistance and encourage us in our projects.

It is hoped in the long term that all tourism operators, businesses and the community will be involved in protecting the Strahan environment and reducing our carbon footprint. It will be a slow journey but we all need to begin now to work towards a sustainable future. Our motto, which appears on the bags is: "one small step at a time". We know individual projects don't make a huge difference but we can make a start towards doing our bit to care for our environment and maybe help sustain the planet for future generations.

Submitted by Pam McDermott, Strahan Sustainable Tourism Committee

EARTH BAG AND COB BUILDING



HELP! Do you have ideas or experience in Earth Bag or Cob Building? We would love to hear from you! Please call Rom on 0408103470.

sustainable living EXPO

6-7/11/2010

Things are ramping up for our 12th annual Sustainable Living Expo on 6 & 7 November. If you are interested in exhibiting or running a workshop, registration forms and more information are available on the Expo website – www.sustainablelivingexpo.org.au. We are also looking for performers, artists and craftspeople to contribute to the festival program and volunteers to help with the organisation. Contact Lissa if you can help.

**REGISTRATIONS
NOW OPEN &
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

PRODUCTIVE FOOD GARDENS AND WILDLIFE

Your garden can be a safe haven for wildlife while still growing food in a sustainable way. There are benefits to encouraging wildlife, such as birds, frogs, lizards, bandicoots and many types of insects to your productive food garden. They provide natural pest control & increase pollination leading to better fruit/flower set and production.



Many people grow their own food in a sustainable way. There is a great sense of achievement in growing your own produce, sharing it with others and the taste - nothing beats home grown. But what about wildlife - especially those that, like you, may find your plants tasty? It is possible to have a productive food garden and still share your garden with wildlife. There are many ways you can protect your food garden from possums or wallabies without having elaborate or costly structures. You can use recycled materials from tip shops, friends, demolition sites or second-hand stores.

Your productive food garden may be plants in containers, raised beds or a much larger plot. Gardens for wildlife has added lots of tips and photos from people who have productive food gardens and still welcome wildlife to their website. To find out more, visit www.gardensforwildlife.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/gfw.nsf/Advice/5610A228B273D5B2CA25773C00183022.

LET THEM KNOW WHAT YOU THINK – a Thought from the Editor

I, like many, have been quite disappointed in the lack of government action on climate change, sustainable urban spaces, social justice, etc, etc... Recently, while doing a presentation for Glenorchy U3A, I had a realisation that I'd like to share. It often seems like industry and interest groups have the ear of government and a disproportionate influence on decision making. Why doesn't government listen more to the public? This was my realisation... we don't often tell government what we think! We expect them to know. We can't rely on polls to inform our local, state and federal representatives...if we want them to act on our behalf we need to tell them what we think. There is a quote from Franklin Roosevelt speaking to a group of reformers saying "*I agree with you, I want to do it, now make me do it.*" He was imploring them to lead the way and then the leaders would follow. So, I am urging everyone to join me in helping our elected officials take stronger action. If there is an issue you are passionate about, write or call the relevant politicians to share your thoughts and ideas.

IF UNDELIVERABLE PLEASE RETURN TO:

Sustainable Living Tasmania
1st Floor, 71 Murray St, Hobart, Tasmania 7000

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA