

Surf Coast Energy Group News

July 2010



EVENTS

Sat 3rd July 4pm to 6.30pm
Population and Climate Change Forum
Surf World Sport & Rec Center, Torquay
Bob Birrell, Mark O'Connor and Kelvin Thompson

Tues 6th July 7.30pm
SCEG AGM
TIA Hall, Price St., Torquay
Join us to vote in our new committee followed by a celebration of all our achievements over the past year. Please bring a plate.

Fri 9th July 7pm SCEG Film Season
The Burning Season
Surf World, Torquay
Presentation by the film's producer, writer and director Cathy Henkel.
This documentary follows young Australian entrepreneur Dorjee Sun who believes there is money to be made from protecting rainforests in Indonesia, saving the orangutang from extinction and making a real impact on climate change. He sets out across the world in search of investors for his carbon trading scheme. But at the same time he is doing this, the palm oil farmers are burning the forests and orangutans are dying.

ACTIONS AND PROJECTS

Solar Photovoltaic Bulk Purchase Opportunity We are very close to reaching the required number of installations to receive our donated PV system from Solar Shop Australia for a selected community building. The scheme has been extended for just a few more weeks in the hope that we can reach this target. Please call Aaron Lewtas, Solar Shop's Renewable Energy Advisor for the Southwest.
Mob. 0402 931 872 www.solarshop.com.au
Email. aaron.lewtas@solarshop.com.au

Torquay Plastic Free
Torquay Plastic Free is a community group of volunteers who have joined forces to make Torquay plastic shopping bag free by August 2011.

Plastic shopping bags represent a significant litter issue globally. In Australia, we use over 10 million new single-use plastic shopping bags EVERY DAY. It works out as 200 plastic bags per Australian, every year. The World Wide Fund estimates that over 100,000 whales, seals, turtles and birds die every year as a result of plastic bags in the ocean.

Torquay is in a unique position to instigate environmental change for the better. Through the help and co-operation of local retailers, traders, and the broader community, the group's objective is to reduce the amount of litter going to landfill or ending up in our waterways.

By making Torquay a cleaner and more environmentally aware town, we are taking a positive step towards showing visitors that we love our town, we respect its natural beauty and are investing in its future. Efforts will also be pioneering not only in terms of Victoria, but nationally. By joining other coastal towns such as Aireys Inlet, Anglesea and Queenscliff Torquay will form a major catalyst for the entire western Victorian coastline achieving plastic bag free status!

Please join us in helping make this happen! contact Claire Gilbert on 0408 574 856 or claireemilyjai@hotmail.com.

Sustainable Seafood

Last months Film 'The End of the Line' created interest from a number of members in instigating a local 'sustainable seafood' project. More on this can be found on our website under sustainable food. Please get in touch if such a project might interest you.

NEWS

BZE taken to Canberra

The work of the Beyond Zero emissions group has been taken up to Canberra for discussion by senators Judith Troeth and Christine Milne for discussion. Mike Lawrence presented this report to SCEG recently. More can be found on our website about the report and the [BZE Age article](#)

Sat 17 July National Day of Action to Replace Hazelwood

The Replace Hazelwood campaign is gaining ground and going national. Environment Victoria are asking community groups across the country to join in with community actions across Australia calling on Julia Gillard to make a commitment to Replace Hazelwood with clean energy by 2012. Anyone keen to get involved, for instance taking a photo of themselves holding a Replace Hazelwood sign and sending it in to any of our politicians, please contact: victoria.mckenzie-mcharg@environmentvictoria.org.au also check out the video message on our website.

Realising Sustainable Transport

12 - 23 July at The Gordon Institute

Exhibition of cycling and other developments around sustainable, eco friendly transport that is changing communities. A unique and exciting event at the The Gordon Gallery as part of the 2010 State of Design Festival.

[Sustainable Transport Exhibition](#)

Give our Streets the Green Light is a campaign to advocate for partial funding from the state and federal government to assist in the change over to more efficient street lighting. The Municipal Association of Victoria, a peak body for local councils, has a petition to the government calling on them to help fund the change over for street lighting to energy efficient bulbs. Street lighting is one of the main energy users for local councils, and changing this across the state will save councils significant energy, emissions and cost. This process has been going on for years, and is finally coming to a head with this campaign by the MAV. Please sign the online petition:

<http://www.greenlightourstreets.com.au/>

Ride the Talk

support John on his ride around Australia John Knox, an ATA member and part-time staff member, has decided that he needs to be more active in the fight against climate change to give his two children the best opportunity to live in a low-carbon world.

A past cycle tourer and cycle commuter for over 30 years, he's getting on his bike to travel around Australia, giving talks to provide people with practical tips to help save energy and money. John will also be collecting signatures for a petition, which will be sent to the federal

and state governments, calling for immediate action on climate change.

John will embark on his ride at the start of August and travel in an anti-clockwise direction around Australia. Sign the petition at <http://www.ridethetalk.com.au/>

Sun 18 July Fruit Grafting Workshop

The Ballarat Permaculture Guild also has strong links with BREAZE and we are holding a fruit grafting workshop in Ballarat on with Graeme George

www.ballaratpermacultureguild.org

Electoral Role

As we await the announcement of a Federal Election this is a reminder to anyone between the ages of 18 and 25 to make sure they are on the electoral role. Currently the role closes at 5pm on the day the election is announced.

EVENTS AUGUST AND BEYOND

Wed 4th August 9am to 1pm

SCEG strategic planning day. We have engaged a facilitator and would love to hear from members keen to be involved in this important process in setting our direction for the next 12 months.

Sat 12th Sept

Sustainable House Day

2009 was a huge success, with 183 open homes and 31,000 visitors Australia wide. SCEG are coordinating the event in the Surf Coast and are now calling for houses that would like to be involved in the 2010 The event offers a great way for the general public to view and access practical information on sustainable living from homeowners, who are living greener. We are also looking for local businesses keen to promote sustainability, who would like to sponsor the event. With coverage on a national and local level, as well as the opportunity to have a representative on site on the day, it is a great way to promote your business. For more info go to www.sustainablehouseday.com or call Aaron on 0402 931 872.

Join **SCEG**

Visit us online at www.sceg.org.au

Contact **SCEG**

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