

Surf Coast Energy Group News

November 2011



LOCAL EVENTS

The following local events are conducted by other groups, individuals and SCEG members, not SCEG. If you have a relevant event to include in our next newsletter, email details to info@sceg.org.au.

HEPBURN WIND LAUNCH FESTIVAL

Sat 5th Nov

Leonards Hill

Visit the closest wind farm to Melbourne (of which SCEG is a shareholder!), and see for yourself what happens when a community pulls together to achieve something big. A family friendly event featuring local music, food stalls, wind farm tours and an address by leading climate scientist David Karoly.

Details: hepburnwind.com.au/launch

FILM SCREENING 'QUEEN OF THE SUN: What are the bees telling us?'

Mon 7th Nov 7:30pm

Danawa Community Gardens, Spring Creek Reserve, Torquay

6pm for soup and bread

7:30pm sharp for film and speaker Jessie Ayani. Not for children, babes in arms excepted. Gold coin donation. Bookings required. Contact Pam on 0457 413 759 or pammarshall@optusnet.com.au

BEE-KEEPING WORKSHOP

Sat 19th & Sun 20th Nov

Freshwater Creek Steiner School

Many of you attended the SCEG Film Night 'Vanishing of the Bees' and were interested in bee-keeping. This weekend intensive course on bee-keeping will explore almost everything you need to know to start natural bee-keeping on your property. Cost: \$275.

Further information at

www.heartofthesun.com/schedule.htm#Natural or contact Pam on 0457 413 759 or pammarshall@optusnet.com.au

MONEY FOR LIFE WORKSHOP

Sat 3rd & Sun 4th Dec 10 - 5

Spring Creek Community House, Torquay

The workshop teaches a specific, simple and proven series of steps for evaluating all of your outgoings. This allows you to find out for yourself the areas where you are not getting the best value for your dollar and to make changes that are most effective for your circumstances and goals. This includes finding ways to live a simpler life with a lower carbon footprint and increased resilience, happiness and contentment. Cost \$125 or \$95 for concession.

Further information at

<http://sites.google.com/site/sustainablemoney> or contact Chris Lampard at sustainable.money@gmail.com

NEWS AND CAMPAIGNS

SMART METERS

You've probably been hearing lots about the installation of new 'smart' meters in our area. Here's a great article from Renew magazine summing up these meters

<http://renew.org.au/energy-efficiency/smart-meters-a-rough-guide>

ALCOA COAL MINE RENEWAL

Last week the state Government announced coal mining will be allowed to continue at Anglesea with the extension of Alcoa's lease for a further 50 years.

Whilst this decision is what we expected; Alcoa had the right to an extension for 50 years, we need to question why the state government has missed this opportunity to

negotiate further with Alcoa. The contribution this mine makes to carbon emissions and climate change are not mentioned. Emissions reductions, a time frame for a transition to renewable energy sources and a shorter transitional lease are not a part of the “modernized” lease agreement.

The long term interests and health concerns of the Anglesea community have not been included either in these negotiations, with Anglesea Air Action’s Sonia Ivetac saying “We have been asking for an independent health study for Anglesea prior to the lease renewal, but had no positive response from the state government or Department of Health”.

There have been many locals and people further afield who have contributed many months, if not years, in raising concerns with Alcoa and the state government over the continuation of mining in Anglesea. SCEG would like to acknowledge and thank Anglesea Air Action, the Geelong Environment Council, Angair, Anglesea River Action Group and Friends of the Earth.

You can read more about local actions here: <http://angleseairaction.org/>

and please follow this link to **SIGN THE PETITION**, which will be presented later this month to the legislative council <http://www.change.org/petitions/premier-of-victoria-alcoa-must-transition-to-renewable-energy>

GREENEARTH ENERGY

Graeme Stockton from the SCEG Committee continues to participate in the Community Representatives Group (CRG) meetings for Greenerth Geothermal Energy. Greenerth conducted a tour for the CRG of about a dozen sites back in May and have since received wider community feedback about the sites. SCEG provided a

formal submission to this process. Greenerth will hopefully provide more details on its shortlist in the next few weeks. Stay tuned...

SCEG OPPORTUNITIES

ARE YOU A FILM BUFF?

Our third successful film season finished last month! If you enjoyed the film evenings and would like to contribute to next year’s event, email info@sceg.org.au, talk to a Committee member or drop into the ‘TOPS’ office during the library open hours on Friday mornings (see below for details).

SCEG LIBRARY

Fridays 9.15 to 11am, school terms at ‘TOPS’ The Old Police Station, Price St. Torquay. Many of the films we have screened are available to borrow at no cost to members, as well as a range of books on climate change and related issues. If you have borrowed an item and have had it for a while, don’t forget to return it soon!
Returns of DVDs and books; Spring Creek House 9am -1pm weekdays.

Find SCEG on Facebook

SCEG Twitter: @SCEGinfo

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