

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT...**

"The stone-age didn't end because we ran out of stones. Slavery didn't end because we ran out of slaves. And the carbon era is not going to end because we've run out of fossil fuels. It's going to end because we made a conscious decision to move away from it" (Charlie Kronick, Greenpeace UK, 2006).

**FROM THE EDITOR**

Brrrrrr! I have had a challenging winter, resisting the urge to dig out the electric blanket and stay just another minute in the hot shower in these chilly mornings. But outside in the garden today I noticed new growth on the fruit trees and the occasional burst of lovely warm sunshine. Not long now before Spring will be with us.

In the meantime, the August edition of the Pine Rivers CAN newsletter brings you hints to stay warm and still be energy efficient, the latest news on our projects and campaigns, and great books to read on cold nights or windy days.

But don't stay inside all month! Come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August to find out more about energy efficiency in the home, and visit our stall at the Lowlands Festival at Osprey House on 31<sup>st</sup> August. Read on for more information.

Yours in hope for a greener future,

*Kirsten Kennedy*

Co-Chair,  
Pine Rivers Climate Action Network



PR CAN Members say  
"Come On Kevin!"

"Turn the Tide Kevin" is giving all Australians a way to tell their Prime Minister what they expect.



Turn The Tide Kevin is a visual petition of images from concerned residents from all over Australia. The campaign's aim is to have over 1,000 images in the petition by late September.

**How do I do it???**

**What to do:**

**1. Find a group** of people that would be happy to stand in a photograph supporting this message.

**2. Make a banner!!** cardboard, paint a sheet, coconut husks anything that comes to hand – or **contact Pine Rivers CAN to borrow their banner pictured above.**

**3. Take the photo** - please limit other banners/messages to club banners only (no party political signage). The message needs to be clear.

**4. Send the photo** to Pine Rivers CAN [pineriversCAN@gmail.com](mailto:pineriversCAN@gmail.com) and we will forward your images, or send your pics direct to [turn.the.tide.kevin@gmail.com](mailto:turn.the.tide.kevin@gmail.com) (if you can, reduce it to < 200 KB). Please include....

- Where you are from.
- What type of community you are.
- Estimated numbers in the photo.
- Date photo was taken
- Contact person and details.

Plus comments about your photo that you'd like to share.

Happy snapping

**"Turn The Tide" team**

[turn.the.tide.kevin@gmail.com](mailto:turn.the.tide.kevin@gmail.com)

## Did You Know?....

Heating and air conditioning are the biggest energy users in Australian homes, contributing up to 40 percent of our houses' greenhouse gas emissions. On average, heating an Australian home contributes 1.5 tonnes of greenhouse gas a year, but a large home in a cold city can contribute up to 10 tonnes a year! To imagine how much that is, 10 tonnes is enough to completely fill about 10 large homes with pure carbon dioxide gas!

The best way to keep your house warm in winter is to stop heat escaping. A third of heat lost from a home is through an uninsulated roof, 20 percent through uninsulated walls and around 15 percent through an uninsulated floor. And a window loses ten times as much heat as a wall in winter!

*(Facts and Figures courtesy of: Climate Change: What you can do about it at work, at home, at school by Paul Holper and Simon Torok, CSIRO Publishing, Sydney, 2008.)*

Needless to say, insulation and closing windows, doors and curtains can make a big difference to the internal temperature of your house. Keep reading for this month's Green Hints on how to further reduce your family's carbon footprint through smarter options for keeping warm through winter.



## Home EnergyWise Kit (Queensland only)

The Home EnergyWise Kit demonstrates just how easy it is to do your part in helping to battle climate change and save money on energy bills. We can all be smarter about how and when we use energy in the home. Home EnergyWise Kits contain energy efficiency information and do-it-yourself auditing tools to help you identify energy use patterns in your home and take positive steps to reduce your energy consumption and lower your energy bills. The kit contains no-cost, low-cost and added-cost energy saving ideas grouped according to how and where energy is used in the home:

- Keeping cool and keeping warm
- Lighting
- Kitchen, bathroom and laundry
- Outdoors
- Standby power.

Fill out the online request form and the Department of Mines and Energy will post you a free Home EnergyWise Kit. Please allow two weeks to receive your kit. Or phone (07) 3224 7527 to order your copy.

## Green Hints for the Month

Rugs or mats are a quick solution to a cold floor. (And they can easily be rolled up and stored away in summer months to make the most of cool timber or tile floors.) Covering internal walls, particularly those that face south, can reduce heat loss in winter. Even a large woollen wall-hanging can provide extra insulation.

Who could resist a snugly hot water bottle to pre-warm your bed on a cold night? It's way cheaper than an electric blanket and you can use the cooled water the next day to give your pot plants a drink.

The most cost effective and energy efficient way to warm yourself is of course to add another layer of clothing or bedding. If you feel cold, your head loses a lot of heat so wearing a beanie helps retain your body heat.

If you live in a cold area, choose a heating system suited to the size of the room, activity carried out in the room and safety. Radiant heaters are best suited to TV watching in one small area. Oil filled column and fan forced heaters are suited to smaller rooms since they heat up all the air in the room. Gas heating is an appropriate form of heating for large areas for long periods of time. And make sure you close off the room you want to heat, as it's far more efficient to heat one room than a large open plan living area.

For further hints and other everyday actions, visit our website [www.pineriversCAN.org](http://www.pineriversCAN.org).

Got some great room heating hints of your own? Come and share them at the next meeting for PR CAN on Wed 20<sup>th</sup> August.

## PINE RIVERS CAN AUGUST MEETING

Come along to the August meeting for Pine Rivers CAN and hear more about energy efficiency in the home. Daniel McCoy, Energy Efficiency Officer at Moreton Bay Regional Council, will be joining us to chat about how we can work together to promote energy efficiency and sustainability in the district.

Time: 7pm start

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Old Catholic Church Hall,

Corner Samford Road & Camp Mountain Road, Samford

RSVP appreciated to Kirsten on 0418 870 060 or [pinerriversCAN@gmail.com](mailto:pinerriversCAN@gmail.com)

*Gold coin donation encouraged to cover venue hire*

## Member's Section



On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July the GREENPEACE ship the "ESPERANZA" docked at Hamilton wharf. My husband & I went down to check it out. We watched a short film on the history of GREENPEACE and all the amazing things they've done in the past 30 years. I was moved to tears by the heroic efforts this group has conducted over the years with millions of active people around the world, including:

- A) Driving a revolution in the way we use and produce energy in order to prevent catastrophic climate change
  - B) Defending our oceans by challenging destructive fishing, saving whales and creating a global network of marine reserves
  - C) Campaigning to protect forests and the climate by saving the world's remaining ancient forests
  - D) Campaigning to keep our food and environment free of genetically engineered (GE) organisms
  - E) Working for peace by reducing dependence on finite resources and calling for an elimination of all nuclear weapons
  - F) Creating a toxic-free future with safer alternatives to hazardous chemicals in today's products and manufacturing
- This latest campaign is so important and as Pine Rivers CAN is implementing a Solar Panel initiative we can include ourselves as part of **"AUSTRALIA'S ENERGY [R]EVOLUTION"**

<http://www.greenpeace.org.au/energyrevolution/landing.php?source=Index>

*The following are excerpts from Fact Sheets I obtained on the day:*

### **GREENPEACE – "AUSTRALIA'S ENERGY [R]EVOLUTION"**

Imagine Australia powered by pure, renewable energy, with wind farms and geothermal plants dotted throughout the countryside, solar panels and heat collectors on almost every city building. Australia could lead the way in these state-of-the-art, sustainable, climate friendly technologies. We could have a vibrant renewable energy industry, employing tens of thousands of Australians in "GREEN" jobs. This is the vision behind *Australia's Energy [R]evolution*. The good news is that the *Energy [R]evolution* is entirely achievable.

#### **EASY SAVINGS**

The first step in the *Energy [R]evolution* is to make our transport, buildings and appliances more energy efficient. This is an easy way to substantially reduce Australia's energy demand – and it doesn't require major lifestyle changes. There are good opportunities for making big reductions in our carbon footprint just by being smarter in the way we use power.

#### **ACCELERATING RENEWABLES**

The second step is to bring renewable energy online as quickly as possible. Renewable technology is fossil fuel-free and creates no carbon emissions during operation. In the *Energy [R]evolution* plan, the amount of wind power Australia will install by 2020 is the same that the US has installed in the past 18 months alone.

#### **THRIVING NEW INDUSTRIES**

An *Energy [R]evolution* will create tens of thousands of jobs in new "GREEN" industries. Renewables are job creators. Solar technology employs eight times as many workers as coal for the same amount of energy produced. Jobs created in the energy efficiency sector could include installing insulation and solar collectors in existing buildings.

#### **AFFORDABILITY**

Shifting our energy supply to renewable sources keeps energy affordable. Fossil fuel prices will continue to rise over the coming decades, partly due to the gradual worldwide introduction of a price on

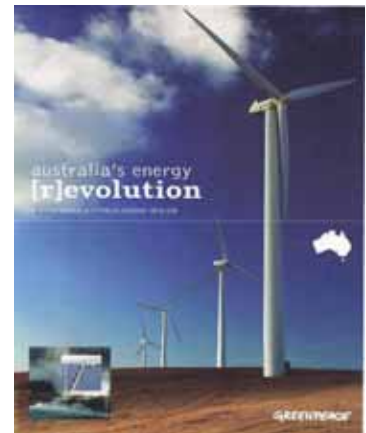
carbon. Renewables aren't affected by global fuel prices. Renewable technology guarantees stable energy prices.

#### **A JUST TRANSITION**

As Australia phases out coal-fired power plants and transitions to renewable energy, affected workers and communities must be supported. The federal Government must ensure that the *Energy [R]evolution* is socially just. Income support and new opportunities for coal workers, such as retraining for employment in new "GREEN" industries should be provided. New renewable power plants should take advantage of the existing workforce and infrastructure and be built in Australia's coal regions.

#### **POLITICAL WILL**

Australia is capable of making the shift to renewable energy. The Rudd Government needs to show it's serious about tackling climate change by providing support for an *Energy [R]evolution*.



To avoid catastrophic climate change, the World must take action in the next couple of years. Beginning our *Energy [R]evolution* immediately would make Australia a global leader in this task. It would also create a vibrant Australian export industry for renewable technology.

An *Energy [R]evolution* makes environmental and economic sense.

There is no time to lose and no excuse for the Government not to act immediately.

**Ady Hopkins**  
PR CAN Member

## Book List

The following books on topics related to simpler, healthier and greener lifestyles are a selection of those available from the Moreton Bay Regional Council libraries. Often, the easiest way to source the books is to check out availability on-line and place a hold on books not located at your nearest library. Another great source for books on sustainable living is the Good Life Book Club which can be found on-line at [www.goodlifebookclub.com](http://www.goodlifebookclub.com)

### Warm House, Cool House by Nick Hollo

An outstanding, practical Australian guide to understanding passive solar design for your new home or renovation. Heaps of

clear line drawings, photos and plans of actual built homes, together with advice from builders, academics, architects and homeowners. Slash your energy bills and live in a home that minimises artificial heating and cooling systems.

### Making Your Home Sustainable by Derek Wrigley

This Australian book is full of practical advice, clear illustrations, and tips to make your home super energy efficient. Topics include: solar hot water, retrofitting an existing house, reducing electricity use, mass and insulation, ventilation, reducing water use, landscapes, rented houses, contacts and suppliers.

### True Green – 100 everyday ways you can contribute to a healthier planet by Kim McKay and Jenny Bonnin

This colourful Australian book not only gives you 100 ideas or steps you can take to make the planet healthier, it also gives accurate statistics about each of the 100 items. So if you're wondering: "Is it really worth putting in a solar water heater?" the figures here will show you that the answer is an emphatic "yes". A very positive and upbeat book.

Watch this space for more great books next month.

**Fay Benjamin**  
PRCAN Member

## Film Screening and Community Forum

### Australia Pumping Empty: The Looming Peak Oil Crisis

This recently released documentary will be the feature of an evening examining the issue of Peak Oil. A discussion panel on the night will include Qld Minister for Energy and member for Ferny Grove Geoff Wilson, and Robert Pekin, founder of Food Connect.

Join PR CAN for this special event from 7pm on Thursday 4th September at the Samford Farmers Hall. Entry is by gold coin donation.

For more information on the film screening or to reserve your seat, please contact Kirsten on 3889 1634 or 0418 870 060.

Watch local papers for our advertisements in the coming weeks.

### ECO DRIVE WATCH RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to PR CAN supporter, Mrs Trina McKone who is the winner of the Citizen Eco Drive Ladies Watch. The raffle was drawn at our last meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you to all of our supporters who bought and sold raffle tickets. All funds go towards spreading our message about Climate Change and the positive steps we can all take towards a more sustainable future.

## Other Solar News

As mentioned in June's newsletter Kim Pantano was applying for funding for Solar Panels for the Kumbartcho and Osprey House Community Centres. The panels have now been installed and are waiting to be connected to the grid. These centres perform a marvellous job of promoting environmental issues and now are leading the way in obtaining green power. Well done Kim. We hope to show some photos and report on the "power-up" next month.



### Samford Solar Neighbourhood

Pre installation inspections are currently underway. Looking good Samford Valley.

**Go solar, go solar, go go go solar!**

### New Segment

#### "AT MY PLACE"

What steps are you taking in your household or workplace to make a difference?

PR CAN would like to hear from readers for future editions of our newsletter. Send in your green hints, descriptions or photos of special projects, and more. Email us today at [pineriversCAN@gmail.com](mailto:pineriversCAN@gmail.com)

## GARNAUT REVIEW – What Is That All About?

The Garnaut Climate Change Review is an independent study by Professor Ross Garnaut, which was commissioned by Australia's Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments. The Review was established on 30 April 2007.

The Review will examine the impacts of climate change on the Australian economy, and recommend medium to long-term policies and policy frameworks to improve the prospects for sustainable prosperity.

The Review's Final Report is due on 30 September 2008, and a Draft Report was released on 4 July 2008.

The Draft Report is at:

[http://www.garnautreview.org.au/domino/Web\\_Notes/Garnaut/garnautweb.nsf](http://www.garnautreview.org.au/domino/Web_Notes/Garnaut/garnautweb.nsf)

This may be viewed as an overview (22 pages) or as a full draft report (536 pages).

*Happy reading!*

**Paul M.**  
Pine Rivers CAN member

From the Garnaut Review [www.garnautreview.org.au](http://www.garnautreview.org.au) and Australian Government Department of Climate Change [www.greenhouse.gov.au](http://www.greenhouse.gov.au) websites.

## ACF President Ian Lowe's response to the draft Garnaut report

The draft Garnaut report is a cautious but important step toward a response to climate change.

Garnaut correctly observes that the rate of climate change is accelerating and we now risk catastrophic damage to the Great Barrier Reef, other outstanding natural areas and our food-producing capacity. The science was already clear twenty years ago. Further delay would be unconscionable.

As Garnaut says, our effort will help to keep alive "the possibility of an effective global agreement". The likely costs of emissions trading or moving to a basket of

renewable energy supply technologies are far less than the certain costs of inaction. A range of conservation measures could reduce emissions by 35 per cent or more at no cost, in many cases with financial benefits.

While the targets and details of the trading scheme await modelling still under way, we know that electricity typically represents only about two per cent of household expenditure and transport about five per cent. Including the costs of releasing carbon dioxide might impose about \$20 a week on an average household if there are no efficiency improvements.

I can't imagine many people being prepared to look their grandchildren in the eye and say we allowed the Great Barrier Reef, Kakadu, the wet tropics and the Murray Darling Basin to be destroyed,

just to save \$20 a week or less. The Rudd government should move swiftly to implement the Garnaut report, to strengthen the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target, to give us world's best practice efficiency standards for appliances and to invest massively in public transport through Infrastructure Australia.

*Professor Ian Lowe is President of the Australian Conservation Foundation.*

[http://www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news\\_id=1819](http://www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news_id=1819)



## RECOMMENDED WEBSITE

Householder's Options to Protect the Environment Inc.  
[www.hopeaustralia.org.au](http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au)

A fantastic website that shows us all what community based groups can achieve. They have an extensive library and list of recommended reading, much of which is accessible online. The site also features a great "Diary Dates" section with links to upcoming events such as [Keep Australia Beautiful Week](#) (25-31 August), [Landcare Week](#) (1-7 September), [Sustainable House Day](#) (13-14 September) and [World Car-free Day](#) (22 September).



Based in Toowoomba, and gathering information and resources from all over Australia, H.O.P.E. has a great supporters base that you can become a part of. Membership is free and open to anyone who is interested, including individuals, families, businesses and organizations.

HOPE's principal focus is waste minimization and the conservation of energy and resources. HOPE aims to achieve this in three ways:

Raising awareness – letting people know about these issues

Education – suggestions on how to tackle these issues

Showing – how easily it can be done

**Check out their website today!**

## Forthcoming Events

Moreton Bay Regional Council in conjunction with ENERGEX presents the 2008 Outside & Alive Festival

**Lowlands Festival**  
presented in conjunction with Northquarter

**FREE environmental family fun day**  
Sunday, 31 August  
Osprey House Environment Centre,  
Dohles Rocks Road, Griffin  
11am - 3pm

Are you interested in the environment?  
Do you want to learn how to PROTECT it?  
Then this is the event FOR YOU!

Lowlands Festival is presented as part of Riverfestival.

see **RANGER Stacey** live on stage from 12.30pm!

**FREE activities including:**

- Jumping Castle
- Face Painting
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Canoeing
- Wildlife Shows
- Radical Reptile Show
- Clever Crafts
- Music
- Kids Entertainment
- Wildlife Walks, plus **MUCH MORE!**

Lowlands Festival is an initiative of Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government

For more details, visit [www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au](http://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au) or call 3480 6666.

Lowlands Festival Sponsor: north quarter

Presenting Partners: energex

Moreton Bay Regional Council

\*\* PR CAN will be at the Lowlands festival - come and join us \*\*

### Pine Rivers Climate Action Network

**Phone** Kirsten: 3889 1634  
Mobile: 0418 870 060

**E-mail** [pineriversCAN@gmail.com](mailto:pineriversCAN@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.pineriversCAN.org](http://www.pineriversCAN.org)

#### PR CAN CORE WORKING GROUP:

**KIRSTEN KENNEDY**  
Co-Chair, Communications & Publicity Officer,  
Fundraising Co-coordinator (Temp)

**REBECCA STOWE**  
Co-Chair, Treasurer, Solar Neighbourhoods  
Project Manager

**LESLEY HUGHES**  
Secretary, Web Master, IT Support

**HOWARD NIELSEN**  
Solar Neighbourhoods Co-coordinator

**POSITION VACANT:**  
Fundraising Co-coordinator

**PRCAN meets regularly on the third  
Wednesday of every month**

"Pine Rivers CAN!" is a Climate Action Network started by a group of concerned local residents who are passionate about taking real and effective action on climate change. Pine Rivers CAN acts locally with residents, schools and businesses to raise awareness of climate change and create a sustainable future for the world, starting at home.

Helping residents to live more sustainably is what the network is about, especially by promoting energy efficiency and supporting renewable green power options, as well as promoting material efficiency through reducing, reusing and recycling.

Thanks to Mr Harry Johnson of Kingfisher Recycling Centre for passing on his "Almost 365 Hints That Don't Cost the Earth" which we will be incorporating into our monthly hints and our website's "What You Can Do" page.

Mr Frank Ondrus from H.O.P.E. for his advice and encouragement to PR CAN and for sharing his experience of grass roots community work.

Contributions from PR CAN supporters are always welcome for our monthly newsletter. Send your book/movie reviews, seasonal recipes, eco-related stories from the community, hints and tips for saving energy/living more sustainably to [pineriversCAN@gmail.com](mailto:pineriversCAN@gmail.com).

the **GREEN  
PRECINCT**  
Paddington

**LAUNCH & SHOWCASE**  
of Australia's first  
**Green Living Precinct**  
**FRIDAY AUGUST 22**

Drop in between 6pm - 9pm

Sowelu Centre

83 Latrobe Tce, Paddington

A showcase of green businesses with samples & examples of organic food & wine, fair-trade gifts, organic clothing & skin care, sustainable transport, organic gardening & green homes.

[www.greenprecinct.com.au](http://www.greenprecinct.com.au)

For more information or RSVP, call Biome on 3368 3009.

Coming soon

**Greenfest**

**10-12 October Brisbane**

Greenfest is Brisbane's free green festival and the place for people to come together to win the race against climate change. More in September's newsletter. ([www.greenfest.com.au](http://www.greenfest.com.au))