

Wodonga Albury Towards Climate Health

WATCHWORD 21.2.18

#StopAdani Albury Wodonga (SAAW)

Protest and 'queue-in' outside Sussan Ley's office, Thursday 22nd February 12.30-1.30pm, 517 Kiewa St Albury

Come along to our protest and 'queue-in' outside Sussan Ley's office. This event will feature a speech by former Albury mayor Claire Douglas, a choir led by Dr Penny Vine and a long line of people delivering letters to Sussan's office. Please bring your letter about Adani to hand-deliver to her office. We'll have letter templates available, but personalised ones would be great. Included below are some guidelines and core messages that you could use to write your letter to Sussan:

- Mention why you are so concerned about the mine
- Add some information about your background e.g. work or family situation.
- Avoid personal attacks.
- Keep the message broad and focussed on the depth and breadth of community opposition to this project due to serious concerns about the future of the Great Barrier Reef and our already warming climate.

Stay in touch

Contact Tracey Esler for further details: tesesler@gmail.com For photos and videos of our actions and to be kept abreast of breaking news, go to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StopAdaniAlburyWodonga/>

More on Adani

Adani dealt another blow to Queensland coal mine

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/adani-dealt-another-blow-to-qld-coal-mine>

Suspicious Adani altered lab report while appealing fine for Abbot Point coal spill

Original report is said to have showed more pollution flowed into sensitive Caley valley wetlands than company had alleged

https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/feb/02/suspicious-adani-altered-lab-report-while-appealing-fine-for-abbot-point-coal-spill?CMP=soc_567

The power and the folly: Will Adani go down like Gunns?

The Adani and Gunns parallels demonstrate Australian politicians are completely controlled by the power of vested corporate interests.

Ecoportal

<http://www.ecoportal.net.au>

Ecoportal is your online directory, listing groups and events for sustainable living in Albury-Wodonga, North East Victoria and Southern New South Wales. Follow Ecoportal on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Ecoportal.net.au?fref=nf>

February <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2018-02/>

March <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2018-03/>

Selected events

Fair Food Farmers and Followers Gathering, Sunday 4th March 10am - 2pm, Wooragee Community Hall

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/north-east-fair-food-farmers-and-followers-2/>

This is the second annual event and will follow on from year one in its desire to strengthen our regions local food movement. Hosted by the Beechworth Food Co-op and Black Barn Farm.

Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 4th March

Check Ecoportal for various local events <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2018-03/>

'War on Waste' movies - Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th March

Would you like to know how the Alpine Shire tackles waste? Hosted by Bright & Mt Beauty Boomerang Bags and Myrtleford Landcare & Sustainability group Details here:

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/war-plastics-film-nights/>

2018 North East Water Forum, 21st March, 10am – 3pm, North East Water Auditorium, 83 Thomas Mitchell Drive, Wodonga

<http://ecoportal.net.au/event/north-east-regional-water-forum/>

This community water forum will discuss the future of water in a changing climate: This is a free event but bookings are essential:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfapA8w0laIMCbQ1gmrFSQOi_PpKxz0pIK49bxpGFqUqmm6nw/viewform

Living Lightly

Living Lightly is published every Wednesday in the Border Mail and published on the Ecoportal website <http://ecoportal.net.au/articles/> Karen Bowley is always on the lookout for inspiring articles so please send your 380 word article to kbowley53@gmail.com.

Recent articles

[What's that Jewel Flying Around in Your Garden?](#) By Jonathon Howard, Albury

[Is the End of the World Nigh?](#) By Alan Hewitt, Chiltern

[Food For Thought](#) By Lauriston Muirhead, Albury Wodonga Towards Climate Health ([WATCH](#))

Reduce, re-use, recycle, repair, refuse!

Boomerang Bags drive grassroots community action in Indi – YouTube

A wonderful clip of Cathy McGowan speaking in parliament and mentioning the SAC, the Repair Café, plus Boomerang Bag groups in various part of Indi.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=3BK1BaQZN4U>

The Queen declares war on plastic after David Attenborough documentary

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/02/11/queen-declares-war-plastic-david-attenborough-documentary/>

Recycling on the brink of collapse in Victoria as China ban bites

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/recycling-on-the-brink-of-collapse-in-victoria-20180131-p4yz5f.html>

REDcycle bin in Wodonga

A message from REDcycle: The new store in Wodonga will eventually receive a bin. Please be assured the bins are being rolled out but unfortunately not as fast as we would like. In the meantime, the two other Wodonga stores still have bins.'

Costa at the SAC!

Costa Georgiadis urges a local focus in Border permablitz plan

After the recent workshop at the Sustainability Activity Centre, Costa says he'd been keen to come back to our area and do a number of Gardening Australia segments here so watch this space!

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5193036/costa-georgiadis-urges-a-local-focus-in-border-permablitz-plan/?cs=11>

Here's Costa's video tour around the SAC. You might spot some familiar faces!
<https://facebook.com/CostasWorld/videos/1580231905400399/>

Energy matters

Fully charged: Renewables and storage powering Australia – Climate Council

The Climate Council has launched a brand new report which shows that energy storage solutions, like batteries and solar thermal, are rapidly decreasing in cost.

[Read and share our report, *Fully Charged: Renewables and storage powering Australia*, for the full rundown.](#)

In an Australian first, two schools powered solely by green energy

<http://www.smh.com.au/business/in-australian-first-two-schools-powered-solely-by-green-energy-20180130-p4yz1w.html>

Energy matters myth busting

A useful article from the Australian Solar Council.

<https://www.solar.org.au/industry-news/energy-matters-myth-busting/>

Carbon pollution

Emissions increases approved by regulator may wipe out \$260m of Direct Action cuts

Nearly 60 Australian industrial sites have been given the green light to increase greenhouse gas pollution, potentially cancelling out hundreds of millions of dollars of public spending on emissions cuts under the Coalition's Direct Action climate policy.

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/feb/19/emissions-increases-approved-by-regulator-may-wipe-out-260m-of-direct-action-cuts>

Buried at sea: State hunts for underground home for carbon emissions

Words fail...

<https://www.theage.com.au/politics/victoria/buried-at-sea-state-hunts-for-underground-home-for-carbon-emissions-20180211-p4yzy9.html>

It'd be wonderful if the claims made about carbon capture were true

Josh Frydenberg talks up carbon capture and storage not because it's effective but because it's a point of political difference

Audit office slams Australia's dud investments in "clean coal"

Clean coal may be a marketing term that you can still read and hear about but the technology remains nothing more than a fantasy.

Water woes

The village that fought and lost a war against the new water merchants

A terrific article by Tony Wright Stanley's fight to save its water:

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/the-village-that-fought-and-lost-a-war-against-the-new-water-merchants-20180215-p4z0fh.html> by Tony Wright?

States' dummy-spit over the Murray-Darling Basin Plan clouds the real facts

New South Wales has pledged to walk away from the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, while Victoria's water minister has declared the plan 'over'.

Climate updates

On Top Of The World - ABC Foreign Correspondent

Is the world going mad when Greenlanders fight drought and brushfires and catch warm water fish? A decade after discovering a farming boom in Greenland, Eric Campbell returns to see how locals are facing up to climate change.

[How to use critical thinking to spot false climate claims](#)

Most of us lack the expertise to evaluate climate science, but there are ways anyone can spot a badly reasoned argument.

Murky world of 'science' journals a new frontier for climate deniers

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/planet-oz/2018/jan/24/murky-world-of-science-journals-a-new-frontier-for-climate-deniers>

Weather analyser

WATCH member Bruce Key found this very useful site as it shows many weather related variables that are right up to date. Users need to click the globe to rotate it, and click the menu items on the LHS to change what is being displayed. Here's the link:

<http://cci-reanalyzer.org/wx/DailySummary/#t2anom>

Border Mail articles

Twenty years on Professor's lasting wetland legacy

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5205055/twenty-years-on-professors-lasting-wetland-legacy-remains/?cs=48>

Workshop wants to woo working bees to community garden

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5225682/workshop-wants-to-woo-working-bees-to-community-garden/?cs=11>

Kitchen scraps work wonders when they join the war on waste

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5218640/kitchen-scraps-work-wonders-when-they-join-the-war-on-waste/?cs=24>

\$170 million Finley solar farm to create work for 200 people

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5218725/170-million-finley-solar-farm-to-create-work-for-200-people/?cs=11>

Surplus food gains fresh purpose under new Border partnership

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5200175/surplus-food-gains-fresh-purpose-under-new-border-partnership/?cs=11>

Bees and solar farms - a sweet combination

Solar Power and Honey Bees Make a Sweet Combo in Minnesota

Watch this terrific video. Great concept!

<https://www.facebook.com/ajplusenglish/videos/1076828839125289/?fref=ts>

And more information here:

<https://modernfarmer.com/2017/09/solar-honey-in-minnesota/>

Food for thought

How to help my daughter face climate change with an open heart

<http://www.yesmagazine.org/planet/how-to-help-my-daughter-face-climate-change-with-an-open-heart-20171204>

This is how we take back control: from the bottom up - George Monbiot

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/feb/08/take-back-control-bottom-up-communities>

In Blue Planet II David Attenborough reminds us that the planet is in our care

This award winning documentary series is now showing on Channel 9 on Saturday evenings at 7pm.

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/tv-and-radio/in-blue-planet-ii-david-attenborough-reminds-us-that-the-planet-is-in-our-care-20180202-h0sje8.html?btis>

Thankyou!

Thanks again to everyone who has provided content for this newsletter. The next edition is due out on 21st March.

WATCH meetings

We meet every second month in central Albury and offer plenty of opportunities to take positive action. The next meeting will be at 6pm on Tuesday 10th April. Contact Lizette to be advised of the venue: lizette@salmonfamily.id.au

Website

Please check our website: www.watch.id.au

Facebook

And follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wodongaandalburytowardclimatehealth>

WATCH email address: watch.albwod@gmail.com

Warm regards, Jenny Davies