

# Wodonga Albury Towards Climate Health

## WATCHWORD 21.11.18

### Two special events

#### **'Funeral for our future' protest, Saturday 1 December 1-2pm, Australia Park, Albury**

Corner Ebden St and Wodonga Place. Come to our symbolic funeral to demand action to stop the Adani coal mine and transition from fossil fuels. Kate Auty, Professorial Fellow at University of Melbourne & Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment (ACT) will be our main speaker. And Fr Peter McLeod-Miller will be "officiating" at the service. Wear black to join us in mourning what we may lose. Further information: Tracey Esler, 0419470458 or [tesesler@gmail.com](mailto:tesesler@gmail.com). More details here: <http://ecoportal.net.au/event/funeral-for-our-future/>

#### **School Strike for Climate Action, QE2 Square Albury, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 12-2pm**

This is a national youth-led action ([www.schoolstrike4climate.com](http://www.schoolstrike4climate.com)). Adults are also most welcome. If you know any committed young people who might want to join the youth working group please contact Jodie Farrugia on 0407 328 450 or email: [jodief74@gmail.com](mailto:jodief74@gmail.com) And for more details please go to this link: <http://ecoportal.net.au/event/big-school-walk-out-for-climate-action-albury-wodonga/>

#### **Why we're striking from school over climate change inaction**

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/victoria/why-we-re-striking-from-school-over-climate-change-inaction-20181031->

### **#StopAdani Albury Wodonga (SAAW)**

#### **Recent actions**

We've persuaded Wodonga ALP branch to pass a motion opposing Adani. We door-knocked more than 200 homes in East Albury. We've raised awareness at the Albury Show and Sustainable Living Fair. StopAdani corflute yard signs are popping up like mushrooms and generating many conversations. If you'd like one, please contact Tracey Esler at 0419470458 or [tesesler@gmail.com](mailto:tesesler@gmail.com)

#### **Next StopAdani Albury-Wodonga meeting –Thursday 6 December, 6pm**

Unfortunately, the Adani situation has become much worse in the past few weeks. It looks like they've found a way to restructure the project's plans to pay for it in instalments, making it far more likely to proceed. Let's make the next six months the Climate Elections. If you're ready to step things up a notch, please come to our next meeting - RSVP to Tracey Esler [tesesler@gmail.com](mailto:tesesler@gmail.com)

#### **Victorian election**

All Benambra candidates have been asked to display StopAdani corflutes in their office windows. Thanks to Mark Tait (Labor) and Jenny O'Connor (Independent) for agreeing to do this. And Jacqui Hawkins has agreed to hang a corflute in her front garden.

#### **Write a letter to the editor**

The letters pages are one of the most read pages of newspapers. If you oppose the mine, please write a letter of under 200 words and email to: [letters@bordermail.com.au](mailto:letters@bordermail.com.au)

#### **Knitting Nannas**

Knitting Nannas meet from 12.30pm to 1.30pm in a new venue, QE2 Square, Albury. BYO chair, knitting optional!

#### **Facebook**

For photos and videos of SAAW actions and to be kept abreast of breaking news, go to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StopAdaniAlburyWodonga/>

### **WATCH news**

With estimated crowds of 4000-5000, Albury Wodonga Sustainable Living Festival on November 8<sup>th</sup> was a great success, with lots of visitors to the combined WATCH and StopAdani Albury Wodonga stall and many conversations about climate change, coal and the need to transition to renewables now! Well done to WATCHers, Lauriston Muirhead, Bruce Key and Jenny Davies who've been committed climate conversationalists for over a decade! Photos here:

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=1920799301346702&id=350267491733232](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1920799301346702&id=350267491733232)

## Waste matters- inspiring stories from our local schools

### Coffee Cup Project – Trinity Junior School, Thurgoona

Trinity Junior School students have produced a video to support their Art Project which was launched at the Sustainable Living Festival Fair. Their task was to create awareness of the number of single use coffee cups used each day in the region - 10,241 cups a day! That's a lot of cups going into landfill each day. See their fantastic work here: <https://youtu.be/U0h8RQPL7BY>

### Waste Audit – Wodonga Middle Years College, Huon Campus

Students from the Huon Campus sorted through their school rubbish bins in a fact-finding mission to learn firsthand how much waste our College produces. The project has been driven by students at the College and once the audit is completed students will design strategies to reduce the waste produced by the College.

<http://www.wmyc.vic.edu.au/waste-audit/>

## 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>

**November** <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2018-11/>

**December** <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2018-12/>

## Selected events

### 'World Energy and Climate Change', Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 4:30 – 6pm, Wangaratta Library meeting room, Docker St

Tim Goodson completed Year 12 at Wangaratta High School just 10 years ago. He studied engineering and undertook additional study mastering in the area of energy. Tim now works for the International Energy Agency in Paris. While he is back in Wangaratta for a short time he has offered to share his insights with the local community.

## Living Lightly

*Living Lightly* is published every Wednesday in the Border Mail and published on the Ecoportal website <http://ecoportal.net.au/articles/>. It is a wonderful way to connect with people who have similar conservation and environmental values. If you have a 380 word article you'd like to share, please contact Karen Bowley [kbowley53@gmail.com](mailto:kbowley53@gmail.com)

## Recent articles

- [Wodonga Middle Years College sustainable gardening tour](#) By Helena Foster, School Community Gardener, Wodonga Middle Years College Felldoan Campus
- [Albury Waste Management Centre tours](#) By Karen Brawn, Halve Waste
- [Living Lightly at Festivals and Events](#) By Sharon Potocnik, Coordinator, Sustainable Activity Centre, Gateway Island
- [Renewable Energy](#) By Bruce Key, Wodonga Albury Towards Climate Health (WATCH)

## Costa in the region!

### All systems go at new Beechworth Food Co-op

Costa Georgiandis from Gardening Australia: recently opened the Beechworth Food Co-op at their new premises. Here's a video of the event:

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=2096777383907808&id=1524913524427533](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2096777383907808&id=1524913524427533)

### Yackandandah community garden

Another great video featuring Costa on a tour around this standout community garden:

<https://m.facebook.com/search/videos/?q=yackandandah%20community%20garden&source=filter&isTrending=0&tsid=0.8506101216189563>

## Climate updates

### Farmers for Climate Action

Farmers for Climate Action have pulled together a terrific package of content from the recent 'Managing climate risk in agriculture' conference in Beechworth. You can check out presentations, interviews, coverage and more:

[https://www.farmersforclimateaction.org.au/managing\\_climate\\_risk\\_in\\_agriculture\\_2018\\_beechworth\\_victoria](https://www.farmersforclimateaction.org.au/managing_climate_risk_in_agriculture_2018_beechworth_victoria)

### US court gives young activists go ahead to sue Donald Trump over climate change

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/us-court-gives-young-activists-go-ahead-to-sue-donald-trump-over-climate-change>

### Dozens arrested after climate protest blocks five London bridges

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/nov/17/thousands-gather-to-block-london-bridges-in-climate-rebellion?>

### While my island nation sinks, Australia is doing nothing to solve climate change

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/commentisfree/2018/oct/10/while-my-island-nation-sinks-australia-is-doing-nothing-to-solve-climate-change>

### Liberals are prepared to lose the election over climate change

A thought-provoking article by Oliver Yates: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/oct/23/scott-morrison-needs-to-realise-liberals-are-prepared-to-lose-the-election-over-climate-change>

## Energy news

### Thurgoona's journey towards a 100% renewable energy future

Following on from the successful 2017 Community Renewable Energy Forum, Renewable Albury Wodonga Energy (RAW Energy) has partnered with Thurgoona Community Action Group and Mondo Power to bring the Thurgoona community a solar power and battery offer. EOI's are open for this offer until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. Head to the website to complete the online EOI: [www.mondopower.com.au/thurgoona](http://www.mondopower.com.au/thurgoona)

### Solar tip

Some interesting developments at Albury's landfill site in this Prime 7 video:

<https://www.prime7.com.au/news/4951-solar-tip>

### 'Records falling everywhere': solar panel demand goes through the roof

<https://www.theage.com.au/business/consumer-affairs/records-falling-everywhere-solar-panel-demand-goes-through-the-roof-20181101-p50dgw.html>

### AEMO says new wind, solar and batteries will mitigate summer blackout risks

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/aemo-says-new-wind-solar-and-batteries-will-mitigate-summer-blackout-risks-19367/?>

## Kangaloola

A couple of great videos from our local wildlife sanctuary:

### Koala fears

<https://www.facebook.com/Prime7NewsBorder/videos/247807252754808/>

### Global mission for wildlife

<https://www.facebook.com/Prime7NewsBorder/videos/431003837431790/>

### Kangaloola Wildlife Rescue experiences influx of animals as region expands, habitats destroyed

<https://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5740853/dead-koala-a-sign-of-perilous-times-of-urban-development/?cs=9681>

## Book reviews

Ideas for Christmas gifts?

### *Climate Justice* by Mary Robinson

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/oct/14/climate-change-hope-resilience-fight-for-sustainable-future-mary-robinson-review>

### *Milkwood* by Kirsten Bradley and Nick Ritar

<https://theplanthunter.com.au/harvest/book-review-milkwood-kirsten-bradley-nick-ritar/>

### *Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/21401526-dark-emu>

**Call of the reed warbler by Charles Massey**

<https://www.uqp.uq.edu.au/book.aspx/1445/Call%20of%20the%20Reed%20Warbler>

**The Moth Snowstorm: Nature and Joy by Michael McCarthy**

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25002982-the-moth-snowstorm>

## **Fascinating images...**

**The resonances between indigenous art and images captured by microscopes**

<https://theconversation.com/the-resonances-between-indigenous-art-and-images-captured-by-microscopes-105120?>

**Photos of Australian native bees**

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2018/oct/29/bees-of-australia-up-close-with-native-species-in-pictures>

## **Thankyou**

Thanks again to everyone who has provided content for this newsletter including those who regularly send links, write *Living Lightly* articles or letters to the editor. They are all much appreciated. The final newsletter of 2018 will be coming out on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **WATCH meetings**

We meet every second month, usually in central Albury, and offer plenty of opportunities to take positive action. The final meeting for 2018 will be at 6pm on Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Website**

Please check our website: [www.watch.id.au](http://www.watch.id.au)

## **Facebook**

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

**WATCH email address:** [watch.albwod@gmail.com](mailto:watch.albwod@gmail.com)

*Warm regards,*

*Jenny Davies*