

# Wodonga Albury Towards Climate Health

## WATCHWORD 24.4.19

### StopAdani convoy

#### Bob Brown's Stop Adani convoy event, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April, Gateway Lakes

Former Greens leader Bob Brown and current leader Richard Di Natale joined over 400 protestors at the Stop Adani convoy rally in Wodonga on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. Crowds at the departure from Gateway Lakes were bigger than those in Melbourne! Bob Brown was brilliant and the atmosphere electric. Hats off to Tracey Esler and to all the StopAdani Albury Wodonga crew for helping to organise such a great event. Lots of photos here!

[https://www.facebook.com/wodongaandalburytowardclimatehealth/posts/2150663601693603?notif\\_id=1555654600070725&notif\\_t=page\\_post\\_reaction](https://www.facebook.com/wodongaandalburytowardclimatehealth/posts/2150663601693603?notif_id=1555654600070725&notif_t=page_post_reaction)

And watch this video courtesy of Kate Sleeman and Lizette Salmon. Safe travels to Tracey, Pat, Bob, Beverly and your fellow travelling activists. We are with you in spirit!

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=1398039957004529&id=100003956149020](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1398039957004529&id=100003956149020)

### Election opportunities

#### Indi candidates forum in Benalla, 10<sup>th</sup> April

Several WATCH members attended this forum. Here's a link to the video recording, courtesy of the Benalla Ensign:

<https://www.facebook.com/BenallaEnsign/videos/574271752983273/>

And here is a list of further opportunities to hear the candidates speak in the coming weeks:

#### Indi

- Border Mail Candidates Forum, Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 7- 8.30pm, Huon Hill Hotel, Wodonga
- VFF Candidates Forum, Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7.30 – 9pm, CWA Hall, Templeton St, Wangaratta
- Mansfield Business Association Forum, Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>, Uniting Church Hall, Mansfield 7 - 8.30pm
- La Trobe Uni Education Forum, Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, Albury Wodonga Campus, 2 - 3.30pm
- ABC Candidates Forum, Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre, Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 6 - 7.30pm

#### Farrer

- NSW Farmers Association Deniliquin Meet the Candidates, Monday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm  
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/meet-the-candidates-farrer-tickets-60102920453>
- Albury Library, Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm
- Youth Forum, Monday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 4pm, Retro Café, Albury

### WATCH action

#### Presentations

Lizette recently spoke to the Albury-Hume Rotary Club about climate change, why she became a climate campaigner and WATCH. About a third of the group had heard of WATCH and about two thirds had heard of the Adani mine. She also gave a presentation to the Wodonga Inner Wheel group. Awareness of the Adani mine was high - it looked like at least 90% had heard of it. It's difficult to know exactly what sort of an impact these talks have, but Lizette feels that, even if just one person is moved to think or behave a bit differently, it's worth it.

#### Letters to the editor

A Border Mail reader recently suggested that temperatures in Rutherglen may not be any higher now than they were in the 1880s. Bruce Key was happy to clarify the situation and here are some stats from his letter:

- From 1914 to 1918 there was a total of three days when the temperature exceeded 40C.
- Exactly 100 years later (from 2014 to 2018) there were 32 days that exceeded 40C.
- In January of this year Rutherglen had 10 days above 40C, including one day of 45.9C (115F) which is way above the 105F that was found for the 1880s.

<https://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5964825/its-certainly-a-lot-hotter-than-a-century-ago/?cs=9940>

#### Citizen science database

For more on local climate impacts visit: <https://watch.id.au/local-climate-impacts/>

## #StopAdani Albury Wodonga (SAAW)

### Next meeting 6pm, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Come to our next meeting at the Sustainable Activity Centre on the Causeway– please RSVP to Tracey: [tesesler@gmail.com](mailto:tesesler@gmail.com) This meeting will be combined with a welcome for Shannon Loughnane. Shannon is currently walking from his home in Melbourne to Parliament House in Canberra (approx. 700kms!) to protest our country's inaction on climate change.

### My extremely long walk for climate action, Thursday May 2nd 4 - 5pm, St Stephens Uniting Church, Wodonga.

Hear Shannon speak prior to the SAAW meeting. Please RSVP by joining the Facebook event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/445730549504728/>

### Big Letters Walk, Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 10am

We will be meeting at the foot of the pedestrian overpass at the top end of Dean St, next to Baker Motors. A couple of us will be standing next to the big letters somewhere along the route of the Nail Can Hill run, the next day, Sunday May 5th. If you'd like to join in, let Les Langmead know 0429 959 605 or email [leslangmead@gmail.com](mailto:leslangmead@gmail.com)

### Knitting Nannas

Knitting Nannas are back in QEII Square on Thursdays at 12.30 pm.

**Facebook** To keep abreast of breaking news, please visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StopAdaniAlburyWodonga/>

## 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>

**April** <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2019-04/>

**May** <http://ecoportal.net.au/events/2019-05/>

## Selected events

### Off-Grid Living Festival, Saturday 4th May, Eldorado

<http://offgridlivingfestival.com.au/festivalday2019/>

### Energy Workshop for Business, Wodonga, Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 am

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/energy-workshop-for-business-wodonga-tickets-58047802540?>

### Sustainable Abundance with Joel Salatin, May 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, Nutrisoil, Baranduda

<https://m.facebook.com/events/428201711058549?>

### Swanpool Environmental Film Festival, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1pm – 9.40pm

Brought to you by Swanpool Landcare and Benalla Sustainable Future Group Afternoon tea and dinner provided by the Swanpool Catering Team Tickets \$30 and booking essential on TryBooking [www.trybooking.com/BCBBX](http://www.trybooking.com/BCBBX) See [www.swanpoolcinema.com.au](http://www.swanpoolcinema.com.au) for details.

## 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 send it to Lauren Salathiel at [l.salathiel@gmail.com](mailto:l.salathiel@gmail.com)

## Recent articles

[Make your seafood dinner sustainable this Easter](#) By Tess Middleton, Fin Free Albury Wodonga

[Cloth vs disposable nappies: Why the planet needs you to make the switch](#) By Emma Avery, Founder & Owner of Cloth Baby

[That which cannot be spoken about](#) By Alan Hewett

[Switch off lights, switch on to sustainability](#) By Tess Middleton, Fin Free Albury Wodonga

[Leave no-one behind this World Water Day](#) By Jonathon Howard

## Climate updates

### David Attenborough climate change TV show a 'call to arms'

Sir David Attenborough's new BBC documentary on climate change has been praised by TV critics. Climate Change - The Facts, was a "rousing call to arms. Sir David, 92, has called global warming "our greatest threat in thousands of years". <https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-47988337?f>

### Former fire, emergency services chiefs demand action on climate change in open letter

Great interview with Fran Kelly on RN Breakfast:

<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/chiefs-demand-action-on-climate-change-in-open-letter/10987224>

### Doctors declare a climate emergency

'Climate change is killing people and children are one of the groups most at risk'

<https://www.dea.org.au/media-release-doctors-declare-a-climate-emergency-and-call-on-governments-to-support-the-move/>

### Climate change campaigners: suited or superglued, we need them all

The cause is being taken up in the corridors of power but we still need activists outside on the streets:

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/apr/17/the-guardian-view-on-climate-change-campaigners-suited-or-superglued-we-need-them-all?>

## More on Adani

### Documents reveal Government approved Carmichael mine despite Adani ignoring scientists' advice - AM - ABC Radio

Documents obtained by the ABC show the approval was made despite Adani refusing to accept key scientific advice from the CSIRO and Geoscience Australia and the minister claiming the advice of those agencies was accepted in full.

<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/am/carmichael-mine-approved-despite-adani-refusing-csiro-advice/11027852?>

### Adani no saviour of India's poor, despite the rhetoric

Dhanya Mani is the daughter of Indian migrants, a member of the Liberal Party and believes climate change is a national emergency. <https://www.theage.com.au/federal-election-2019/adani-no-saviour-of-india-s-poor-despite-the-rhetoric-20190418-p51fcy.html>

### Traditional owners still stand in Adani's way

Members of the Wangan and Jagalingou Traditional Owners Family Council are contesting the validity of Adani's Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA). The case is due to be heard by the [full bench of the Federal Court](#) in May.

<https://theconversation.com/traditional-owners-still-stand-in-adanis-way-115454?>

## Wildlife matters

### The state's environmental report card is grim

Climate change is already having a serious effect on Victoria's environment, generating more extreme weather, less rainfall and snow cover, warmer sea surface temperatures, rising sea levels and the threat of greater bushfires.

<https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/extreme-weather-rising-seas-feral-animals-the-state-s-environmental-report-card-is-grim-20190319-p515kd.html?>

## Are more Aussie trees dying of drought?

Scientists need your help spotting dead trees:

<https://theconversation.com/are-more-aussie-trees-dying-of-drought-scientists-need-your-help-spotting-dead-trees-113756?>

## Good news from our region

### Old Beechworth Gaol home to new community-led clean-energy project - ABC News

A local community energy company has launched the northeast's first community-owned solar power system.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-04-14/community-owned-renewable-energy-north-east-victoria/11002014?>

Watch the Prime News video here:

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=2222774641149393&id=136887483071463](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2222774641149393&id=136887483071463)

### Rare Striped Legless Lizard found in Beechworth for first time in decades

Trust for Nature's North East regional manager Will Ford said it was the first time in 40 years the extremely rare Striped Legless Lizard or *Delma impar* been located in the Beechworth area.

<https://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5988292/snake-a-fake-rare-legless-lizard-found-in-region-for-first-time-in-40-years/?>

### Victorian Tree of the Year – National Trust

There is a candidate from Beechworth, an Apple Box or But But on the corner of Tanswell Street and Dowling Court, Beechworth. You can vote here: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/treeoftheyear/>

### Seed Savers Albury Wodonga

Always interesting and practical! Here is a calendar of events for the year. Click here and [view it as a PDF](#).

## Words of wisdom

### Greta Thunberg

Sweden's teenage activist Greta Thunberg choked backed tears as she begged EU leaders to act on climate change like they did on Notre-Dame.

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=2489979404355027&id=125982670754724](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2489979404355027&id=125982670754724)

### Tim Winton

'Our leaders are ignoring global warming to the point of criminal negligence. It's unforgivable'.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/apr/20/our-leaders-are-ignoring-global-warming-to-the-point-of-criminal-negligence-its-unforgivable?>

## And finally...

### 'Don't get depressed, get active!'

So said Bob Brown at the StopAdani event in Wodonga last Friday, a message for us all.

## 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. Next newsletter is due out on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Please note there will be no newsletter in May.**

### Facebook

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

### WATCH meetings

WATCH meetings occur every quarter, usually in central Albury. The next meeting will be at 6pm on Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup>. Contact Lizette to be advised of the venue: [lizette@salmonfamily.id.au](mailto:lizette@salmonfamily.id.au)

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

**WATCH website:** [www.watch.id.au](http://www.watch.id.au)

*Warm regards,*

*Jenny Davies*