

# Monty Matters

DECEMBER  
2018

## Next Food Swap,

9th Dec, from 10:30am to  
11:30am

at Were St . Montmorency



## Steering Group

### Convenor:

Katherine Barling

### Co-convenor:

Claire Holm

### Treasurer:

Garry Shilg

### Secretary:

Alan Cuthbertson

### Minute Taker:

Margaret O'Dowd

### Editor:

Alan Cuthbertson

### Ordinary members:

Jennifer Helmich

Pam Rowley

Vicki Jordan

Kay Tilley-Schilg

## Araluen Power Generation

	Nov	Since Installation
Power generated	2.9 Mwh	1 Mwh
Savings	\$500	\$7,300

## What's on

- **Sun 9th Jan**— Food Swap (Note new date)

## NEXT Meeting:

Wed 5th December

### For info, contact:

email:

[montymoves@gmail.com](mailto:montymoves@gmail.com)

### Mob:

Katherine - 0413 941 170

### Website:

[www.transitionmonty.org](http://www.transitionmonty.org)

### FaceBook:

## Naked Truth Calendar

Last chance to get your Christmas calendar and help support #StopAdani. This fund raiser for the Stop Adani Eltham group has 12 very tasteful images of naked activist protesting against coal.

<https://stopadanicalendar.weebly.com/shop.html>

## Join The Extinction Rebellion



Over the last 6 month's, a group called the Extinction Rebellion started in England. It's aim is to use Civil Disobedience to force the government to take action on Climate Change. This culminated in sit in's on 5 bridges in London on 17th October. Over 60 people were arrested.

This movement is going worldwide and aims to have acts of mass civil disobedience in mid April.

If you wish to learn more about this movement and Melbourne's plans for April, please contact me and I will arrange an information session.

For more information on the London campaign, visit:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2018/nov/22/we-cant-get-arrested-quick-enough-life-inside-extinction-rebellion-video>

Or google "Extinction Rebellion London"

Alan Cuthbertson

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**Note: These views are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Montmorency Community Group**



## You can now watch the Climate Emergency Conference presentations online!

Earlier this year, Darebin Council presented the first-ever national climate emergency conference hosted by a local government.

The conference brought together councils, other levels of government, business and organisations, as well as our community to identify strategic and urgent action, with appropriate scale and speed to deliver a safe climate.

The high quality and diversity of speakers, and the many interesting and inspiring perspectives from which the topic of climate emergency was examined, provided so much food for thought.

In case you missed the event, you can [browse the Climate Emergency Conference Program](#), and [watch many of the presentations online](#).

For more information about Darebin Council's response to the climate emergency visit [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/climateemergency](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/climateemergency)

## Sustainability Leaders program for Banyule and Darebin

Monty Community Group supports this programme and as many of us in the group have now participated, we can support younger people who want to get involved and assist with initiating projects in our local community. Who's in?

Do you want to influence sustainability and address climate change in your local community and beyond? Do you live, work or study in the Cities of Banyule or Darebin? This free Community Leaders in Sustainability course offered by both Banyule and Darebin Councils may be for you or someone you know.

The course provides training and leadership opportunities to create change in your community, including project management, leadership, grant writing, working with groups, marketing and communication. You are then mentored to run a local environment project. We encourage existing community groups to apply.

The course consists of 12 Thursday evening workshops - each 2.5hrs - starting February 2019 plus two weekend field trips.

Come to our information session at **6pm Thursday 13 December at Darebin Council Chambers** (350 High Street, Preston) to learn more about the course and how to apply.

Course application forms will be available at our information session, and applications close 14 January 2019.

For more information visit [www.sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au](http://www.sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au) or contact by email to [info@sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au) or phone 8470 8405.

## HELP YOUR STREET TREE SURVIVE THE SUMMER HEAT

A few months ago, I was delighted to see a new tree appear on my nature strip, in response to my request to the Council. It is a sturdy hakea laurina, a species which is well adapted to the exposed conditions and the hard clay ground.

But to ensure that this hakea survives and grows, the Council has asked me to help care for it.

It would be wonderful if all residents could do the same over the hot dry summer weeks ahead. So what is needed to keep your tree alive?

- Give your tree 2 or 3 buckets of water twice a week during the summer. This is especially important when they are young, but even mature trees will benefit.

BUT

- Do not remove the mulch from around new trees. This material helps retain moisture and keep the weeds down.
- Do not pile grass clippings around the trunk as this encourages collar rot.
- Do not use poisons or herbicides near the tree, as this can cause the death of young trees



- Do not park your car or leave heavy items under the tree- this will compact the soil and damage the roots

That's all!

If you have concerns about the survival of your tree, you can contact the Parks and Gardens Department- 9490 4222

Pam

***Street trees in Looker Road***



## STALLS IN WERE STREET

Thanks to the many people who helped with our information stalls in Were Street Park on Saturday 17th November. This was a good opportunity to present our work to the public and for different local groups to meet each other.

Monty Community Group- Thanks also to those who supported the MCG stall by stopping to look, get information, book for an event or buy a nude calendar for the Stop Adani campaign.

Friends of Monty Bushlands- both adults and children enjoyed this stall. Congratulations again to Julia, assisted by Mo and Zahir, for the fascinating displays of indigenous plants, weeds, nature table, maps, wildlife literature and decorated bike.

MASSG- thanks to all those who donated to the food drive for the ASRC and who stopped to buy a book, jewellery or plants, collect information and sign our petition. A total of \$500 was raised from sales and donations.

"Jagajaga Right Track" stall - many shoppers and cafe customers stopped to support the Kids Off Nauru campaign. Well done to Alessandra for efforts on this stall.

Pam



***Julia and Pam manning one of the stalls***

## The Adani Bad News

You may have heard that Adani has halved the size of their mine and can now finance it themselves. They said they planned to start work before Christmas, but nothing has happened. While disappointing, it is not the end. Adani has said many times they would be starting work, but never have. The revised plans mean they must reach agreement with Aurizon to use the existing rail line. This may be harder than Adani thinks.

It is also encouraging that CSIRO has come out and said that the mine threatens critical natural springs in Qld.

### This must get the vote for the most insensitive tweet:



***My Favourite poster***

## The Adani Good News

A strike by Australian School students calling on the government to take action has made international news. There were rallies all over Australia with more than 15,000 students taking part.

I was at the Melbourne march (probably the biggest) and it was inspiring.

Here is the report from the project:

[14 yo Jean was on The Project last night here and it is so good!](#)

The idea grew from Greta Thunberg, a 15-year-old student in Sweden. She went on strike every Friday outside the Swedish parliament.

Her stand attracted world wide media attention and she has now toured Europe encouraging students to take a stand against climate change.

Her actions inspired 3 girls from Castlemaine to do the same.

It has also attracted the attention of our prime minister who suggested that they have got Climate Change under control and the students would be better spending their time studying at school.

Unsurprisingly this attracted a lot of condemnation, with Jagveer Singh saying "If the politicians were doing their job, they wouldn't need to go on strike."

For the full video from SBS News:

[www.facebook.com/sbsnews/videos/203892383825741/UzpfSTMzMzE5ODg4MDg0MjQ5Nzoz-NDgzNTczOTI2NTk5Nzk/](http://www.facebook.com/sbsnews/videos/203892383825741/UzpfSTMzMzE5ODg4MDg0MjQ5Nzoz-NDgzNTczOTI2NTk5Nzk/)

Visit and support their facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/StrikeClimate/](http://www.facebook.com/StrikeClimate/)

If you want to see some more of the coverage, just google "school strike 4 climate"

Alan C

## Christmas sign off

As we head into the summer holiday period for many, and a time to catch up on some work jobs for others, or plan for the year ahead, we thought a selection of interesting reading might be of interest to you.

**Planning for a sustainable festive season** - remember there's alternatives to make things even more sustainable and joyful this festive season. I don't cover all these by any means, but most years I get to explore one of them - there's buying local, there's home made and remade and repurposed gifts, there's fair trade gifts (thinking of Only Just in Eltham as a local shop), experiences rather than things (I'm thinking a day at the beach, camping in the back yard, a trip to the zoo with 2 friends, a walk or bike ride on the Yarra trail all the way to Petty's Orchard in Templestowe etc), and all the trimmings - there's quite an array of sustainable Christmas trees now both in purchasing or renting a real tree... there's wrapping in fabric or recycled paper (recycle kids school art as wrapping paper, or wrap using Japanese techniques google Furoshiki and sustainable festive season and have some fun as you go. There's many ways to make our festive season even more sustainable.. just one extra way. For me this year, i've taken on buying all the food and gifts I get from local traders. Let us know what you discover and we can publish some tips next month.

**The Banyule Walking Strategy** - its a new strategy for Banyule, finalised this year at 8/12/18 Council meeting. If you have ideas how we can implement some of this in our local community, or add to our Walks in Monty from this year, or repeat them even, please note these down and be in touch with us.

See [https://s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/hdp.au.prod.app.ban-shapingbanyule.files/8615/4457/5946/Banyule\\_Walking\\_Strategy.PDF](https://s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/hdp.au.prod.app.ban-shapingbanyule.files/8615/4457/5946/Banyule_Walking_Strategy.PDF)

**United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals** - have a read through these 17 goals the UN has identified for creating a sustainable world for all. Which appeals to your interests and values and possibly skills? Which one can you see potential for our local community to do something with? We'd love to hear your ideas, so please write to us or call to arrange a catch up and a chat!

see <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

**Project Drawdown - 100 Solutions to Reverse Global Warming** - we hear various comments on how long we have to transfer our power needs to renewable sources, from 5 years to 12 to longer. This project goes a step further and analyses and sets out 100 ways we already have to reverse the current direction of more carbon in the atmosphere and begin drawing carbon back to earth. We can do this! There's now workshops available to help communities explore this together and we will bring these workshops to Banyule in 2019. For those who like the reading about bit, here's a link to the project and the book, which was launched in Australia at the Sustainable Living Festival here in Melbourne last February.

see <https://www.drawdown.org>

**Transition towns** - The worldwide Transition movement - where next? The transition towns movement is over 10 years old now, and still expanding across the globe with new groups starting up, new hubs (we now have a transition Australia hub too (see below)

For more on the slow and reflective opportunities of **inner transition** see <https://transitionnetwork.org/about-the-movement/what-is-transition/inner/>

See other transition groups from around Australia (and maybe connect whilst you are travelling this summer).

See **Transition Australia** at <https://transitionaustralia.net>

Katherine Barling



## Banyule Council's Climate Urgency Report

The Banyule Council has just completed a review of its Climate Action performance. This involved Climate Action Forum in September where groups provided input.

The most recent Council meeting of 10 December tabled the following report after engaging with us as community stakeholders. The additional notes show there is room now for us all to work together to make Banyule a leading contributor to restoring a safe climate.

See <https://www.banyule.vic.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Agenda-Minutes-Audio-Recording>

While it was disappointing that council rejected suggestions to spend 6 months investigating the need to declare a Climate Emergency, they did agree the following.

That Council:

- Recognises that urgent action is required across all three levels of government to tackle climate change and that within this context Banyule City Council is taking a strong leadership role on behalf of our local community.
- Notes that Banyule City Council is unable to achieve its target of carbon neutrality by 2020 without purchasing offsets at a cost of \$250k to \$300k per annum and that Council does not wish to purchase offsets to achieve carbon neutrality at this stage.
- Establishes a target to achieve carbon neutrality by 2028 without the purchase of carbon offsets. The Council Executive is asked to establish a pathway to carbon neutrality including interim targets.
- Endorses the following Climate Change Action Package to position Council to achieve carbon neutrality by 2028:
- Continue to deliver current carbon abatement initiatives and broad range of community environmental programs that are consistent with the Council Plan 2017-21 and associated environmental strategies. This includes \$1.30m in solar PV across Council buildings and facilities in the 2017/18 and 2018/19 budgets.
  - Consider an additional \$5.0m budget over the next three years comprising:
    - \* \$1.95m for additional solar PV across 150 Council owned buildings and facilities.
    - \* \$1.20m for energy efficiency enhancements (i.e. double glazing, insulation, etc.) across Council owned buildings.
    - \* \$600,000 for fleet efficiency (i.e. electric vehicles and bikes)
    - \* \$600,000 to create 10 'Green Collar' internships for the next three years in partnership with other agencies.
    - \* Up to \$200,000 for a business case(s) on long-term abatement initiatives (i.e. a solar farm, wind farm, energy retailing, PPAs, street lights on major roads).
    - \* \$100,000 to increase the environmental grants by \$50,000 p.a. over the next two years. The increase in



## Banyule's Climate Urgency Report (Cont)

grants will support local community organisations with education and engagement initiatives. The Council Executive is asked to consider the structure of the grants process to ensure the process is flexible and nimble, in line with community needs, and is also aligned with Council's environmental strategic objectives.

- \* \$75,000 for a Climate Change Mitigation Strategy using the C40 framework (International climate action planning framework for cities) as set-out below.
- Receive, consider and include long term carbon abatement actions and pathways available to Council through a C40 analysis to be delivered in early 2019. Council will also use the C40 framework to guide its governance and delivery of environmental initiatives going forward, as well as to investigate and implement best practice initiatives for helping the community to reach carbon neutrality.
- Receive the three draft strategic plans for the areas of Water, Stewardship and Biodiversity and endorses their release for publication. These strategies sit within the C40 framework and form a part of Council's overarching environmental strategic framework.
- Authorises the CEO to seek carbon neutral certification of Council operations with the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy against the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS). This will independently establish Council's baseline level of carbon emissions.
- Receives an annual delivery implementation update on the anniversary of the adoption of this report on progress to achieving carbon neutrality by 2028.
- Identify Council's emissions profiles dating back to 1997 alongside key events that have impacted our emission profile.
- Thanks all participants in the Climate Forum held on 21 September 2018 and notifies them of the outcomes of this report. Council commits to continue to proactively engage with the community on ideas and opportunities to drive climate change action going forward as well as to investigate and implement best practice initiatives for helping the community to reduce carbon emissions.
- Publishes the Climate Change Action Package, current abatement initiatives and all related plans and strategies on the Banyule City Council Climate Change Action web page. The web page is to include data and information on Council's environmental targets and KPIs. The community is to be engaged in the design of the web page to ensure it meets community needs.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** to our newsletter are welcome. Please send articles of interest to the newsletter coordinator by the 10th of each month. The newsletter is issued on the 15th of the month.

Please email to [montymoves@gmail.com](mailto:montymoves@gmail.com) and send a copy to the Editor [alan@diydoublinglaze.com.au](mailto:alan@diydoublinglaze.com.au) .

Please use the subject line "Newsletter - (then add anything else after that)

**ADVERTISING**

Advertising is \$10 per quarter page but must be in line with the MCG ideals of community and sustainability.

Newsletter coordinator is Alan Cuthbertson

Email: [alan@diydoublinglaze.com.au](mailto:alan@diydoublinglaze.com.au)

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## **Montmorency Community Group Inc. Membership Form 2018–2019**

You are invited to become a financial member of the Monty Community Group, by filling out this form and posting it (with your membership fee if you would like to pay by cheque) to the Monty Community Group at the address below.  
Your membership will help to support initiatives of the Monty Community Group and our Transition Town program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fee: \$10 per individual/household, \$5 concession, \$25 per business.

Payment Methods: Bank Deposit: Receipt Provided No. \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Account: Montmorency Community Group

BSB: 633 000

Account No: 140371089

**When making a bank transfer, please ensure your name is noted so we can reconcile your payment with your application.**

Payment by Cheque: Payment Enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to: Montmorency Community Group  
PO Box 87 Montmorency 3094