

Monty Matters

**JANUARY
2018**

Next Food Swap,

Sunday 3

**4th February, from 10:30am
to 11:30am
in Were St**



Steering Group

Convenor:

Katherine Barling

Co-convenor:

Claire Holm

Treasurer: Ross Woodham

Secretary:

Alan Cuthbertson

Minute Taker:

Margaret O'Dowd

Editor:

Alan Cuthbertson

Ordinary members:

Jennifer Helmich

Pam Rowley

Vicki Jordan

Julie French

NEXT Meeting:

Wed 7th February

For info, contact:

email:

montymoves@gmail.com

Mob:

Katherine - 0413 941 170

Website:

www.transitionmonty.org

FaceBook:

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

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

Araluen Power Generation

	December	Since Installation
Power generated	3.6 Mwh	15.2 Mwh
CO2 avoided	1.1 tonne	6 tonne
Savings	\$700	\$3,600

What's on

- **Sat 3rd Feb**—Friends of Monty Bushlands (See below)
- **Sun 4th Feb**—Food swap—Were st
- **Sun 4th Mar**—Nest Box making—(pg 4)

Welcome back and a happy New Year!

Friends of Montmorency Bushlands

Come along to help us restore a local nature reserve

Working bee - Saturday February 3rd

10am-12 noon

At Belmont Reserve- meet at the top of the hill

Seed Collection and Handweeding

Melways Map 21, F,6

AGM

The Monty Community Group held it's AGM in late November and it was a great night. We started with a shared meal which allowed us to sample some of the culinary delights from other member fo the community.

The Meeting itself was quite brief with all positions filled unopposed. The positions were:

Convenor:	Katherine Barling	Co-convenor:	To be filled
Treasurer:	Ross Woodham	Minute taker:	Margaret O'Dowd
Secretary/Editor:	Alan Cuthbertson		
General members:	Claire Holm, Jennifer Helmich, Pam Rowley, Julie French and Vicki Jordan.		

We are pleased to welcome back old members and to welcome our two new committee members, Julie and Vicki.

Convener's report:

Katherine Barling noted that this is MCG's 8th AGM, and thanked the steering group for enabling projects to proceed. Activities have included tree-climbing training to install and keep check on sugar glider boxes, of which there are 100 with another 35 planned, bush dance, Clean up Australia day, Volunteer Week stall with a survey of volunteering hours and activities, food swaps, tomato and marmalade taste-off. The solar project at Araluen was successfully launched, thanks to Alan, who has also been active in the Stop Adani campaign. 20 energy assessments have been completed. Partnerships with other transition communities has been established and a new grant has been obtained from Banyule Council to establish the new project, Walks in Montmorency.

Jane Oldfield reported on the activities of the biodiversity group and showed a map indicating the sugar glider box locations. An audit of numbers of sugar gliders using the boxes will be conducted on the evening of 26th Nov.

Katherine thanked the last year's committee and everyone who contributed to our local community activities.

The Meeting was followed by a presentation by Richard Francis on the environmental health and activities on the Banyule area. The success of the sugar glider project indicates that the local habitat is functional. The vegetation overlay created by Banyule Council is designed to provide protection for the local native fauna.

Successful Food Drive

MASSG would like to thank everyone who contributed to their Festive Food Drive held just before Christmas. Over \$1400 worth of non-perishable food was donated by residents of Monty and nearby suburbs. A wonderful result. Thanks to Jocelyn for delivering all of this to the ASRC, where over 600 individuals and families rely on the food bank for their groceries.

If you or someone you know would like to help organise a food drive in 2018, just contact us and we'll give you the details you need.

Pam

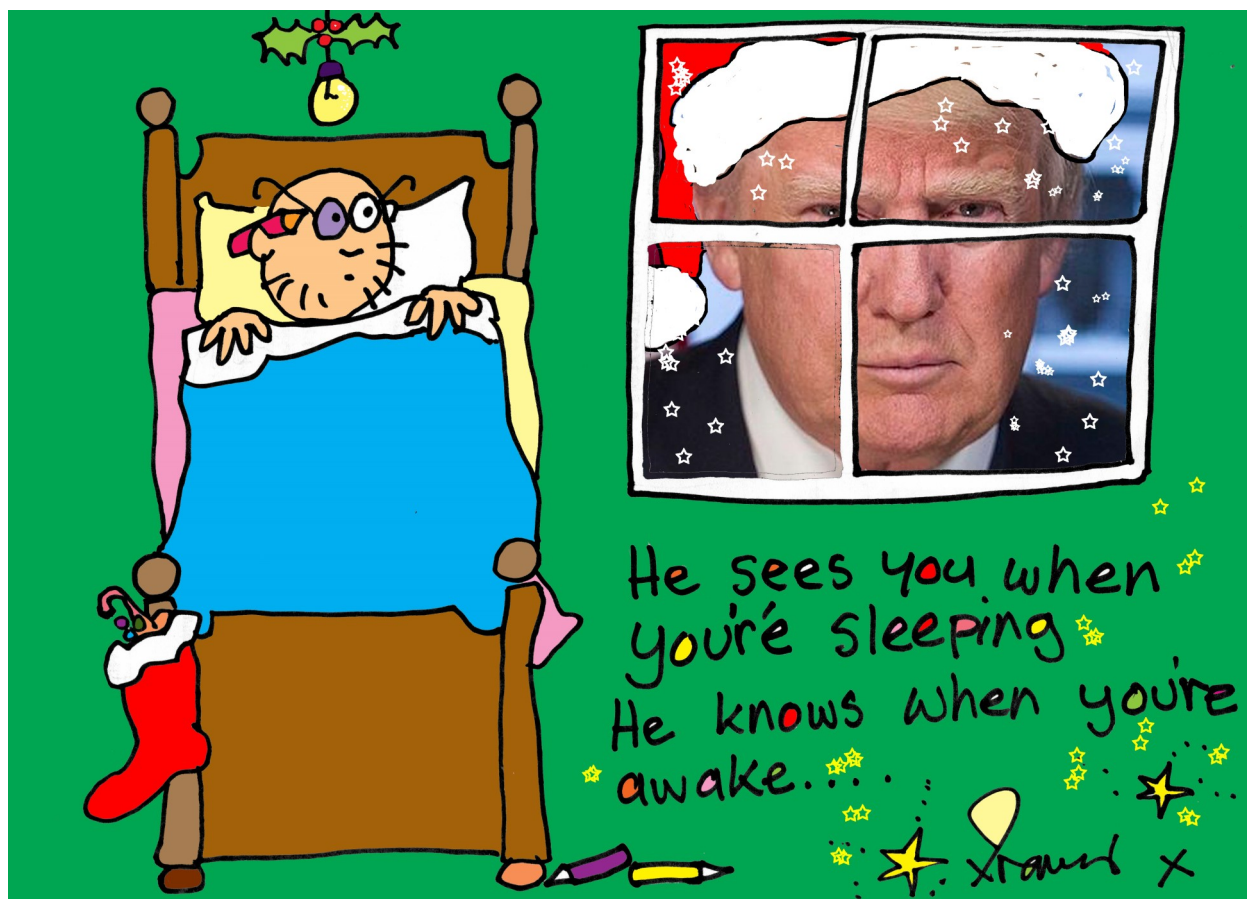
Petty's Orchard

This week, I attended a very interesting tour of Petty's Orchard. Just 13 minutes from Monty, this impressive orchard is 40 hectares in size and grows 300 varieties of apple trees and a small number of pears. Originally a private orchard, it was purchased by Melbourne Parks and Waterways in the 1980's. It is now leased out and one provision of the lease is to provide opportunities for the public to learn about growing heritage apples.

The aim of the orchard is to preserve the genetic diversity of apple trees. The fruit from these trees is known for its delicious taste and distinctive characteristics which make each one suitable for different purposes, such as cooking, eating fresh and making apple cider. On the tour, we learnt about methods of pruning, shaping and watering the trees and how to deter birds, insect pests and even kangaroos!

We also had the opportunity to taste several types of apple. *My favourite was the Prima apple.* I will be returning in April when the fruit will be ready for selling.

Pam



Franciscus Henri's Christmas contribution

Nest- box making in Monty on Sat 3rd March

With so many nesting opportunities for wildlife being lost from the destruction of native vegetation across our suburbs, the FOMB (Friends of Montmorency Bushlands) are helping our indigenous birds and animals to survive and thrive by providing artificial accommodation. We are holding our next box- making session on Saturday 3rd March as part of their programme of monthly activities. There will be various box designs, depending on the bird or animal we wish to attract.

Would you like to help by constructing your own nesting box for wildlife? You can learn how to make one and take it home to install in your garden - or if you don't have a suitable location, you can donate your box to be installed in a public reserve.

No cost involved, just let us know you are coming. All materials and tools provided by Banyule Council.

WOULD YOU LIKE SOME HELP IN THE GARDEN?

Please help a newcomer to Australia to become part of the community.

An honest and trustworthy man called Jafar is looking for casual work helping in the garden. He can do a range of jobs, especially, pruning, planting and weeding.

He has a temporary protection visa. In his native country, he was an electrician, but he is now looking for work in gardening.

Pam from the Montmorency Asylum Seeker Support Group has employed Jafar for a few hours a week helping her tidy and improve her garden. She was very pleased with his work and would like to help him find more work. Jafar doesn't expect to be paid a lot, he just wants to keep busy and know he is contributing to the community.

Work conditions:

- You will need to provide the gardening tools as Jafar will come to your place by public transport
- Jafar can work for a single day or on a regular basis
- He can do a range of jobs, especially pruning, planting and weeding.

You can pay Jafar an hourly rate and also provide some afternoon tea

Jafar can be contacted by ringing Pam Rowley 94391853 / 0417110837.



Frontline Action against Adani



Adani Equipment with our banner

I write this article for the newsletter with the full support of the committee. However I accept that my actions will be considered inappropriate by some. I believe history will treat my actions kindly.

The Adani Coal mine has become a litmus test of Australia's commitment to the Paris Accord on Climate change. We either pay lip service to the accord and allow the mine to proceed, or we say we meant what we said in Paris and stop this mine. To keep global temperature rise below 2 degrees, 80% of all known fossil fuel reserves must be left in the ground. We as Australians must decide what will be the 80% that we leave in the ground.

In early December, I joined with 60 other concerned citizens in a camp in central Qld just out of Bowen. We spent 2 days planning our action against Adani and at midnight we started off on a 5 hour drive to the site where Adani was starting to build their railway line to ship coal from their proposed mine to the coast. There was one security guard on the gate who retreated as 15 of us entered the site and walked the 500 metres to the machinery housed at the site.

We spent an hour taking some amazing photos in the morning light and discussing issues with the security guard. He was very professional and quite enjoyed the distraction from his normal routine of standing alone protecting the front gate. We returned to the front gate where 4 police had arrived to support the security guard. We were all immediately arrested and charged with trespass and received fines of \$280. The police then asked us to leave the site or we would be further charged. For various reasons, I was unable to vacate the site and was charged with obstructing police.



Frontline Action against Adani (Cont)

Some protesters were transferred to the Clermont police station a further 2 hours drive away. Having collected them at 5:00 pm we then had a 7 hour drive back to camp. The whole operation took 24 hours and is equivalent to a Melbourne based group driving to Mildura for a protest then driving back to Melbourne.

The following day I had to present myself to the Bowen police to be finger printed and photographed. I need to answer the charges in court on 9th of April. I will most likely plead guilty since I can do so without attending court. I will then receive a \$400 fine and a criminal record.

12 months ago, I would never have thought I would be in this position. However, I am convinced this mine is morally wrong and I feel I have no option other than to take whatever actions I can to stop it.

I recently became a grandfather. In 20 years' time when granddaughter asks me "what did you stop Climate Change?" I can at least say "I did everything I could".

I have organised a crowd funder to help pay the fines of myself and others involved. If you would like to financially support me and others fighting this mine, you can do so at :

<https://chuffed.org/project/fund-alans-week-of-action-in-qld-against-adani>

I am also organising a group of grandparents to visit the site. Interested in joining me?

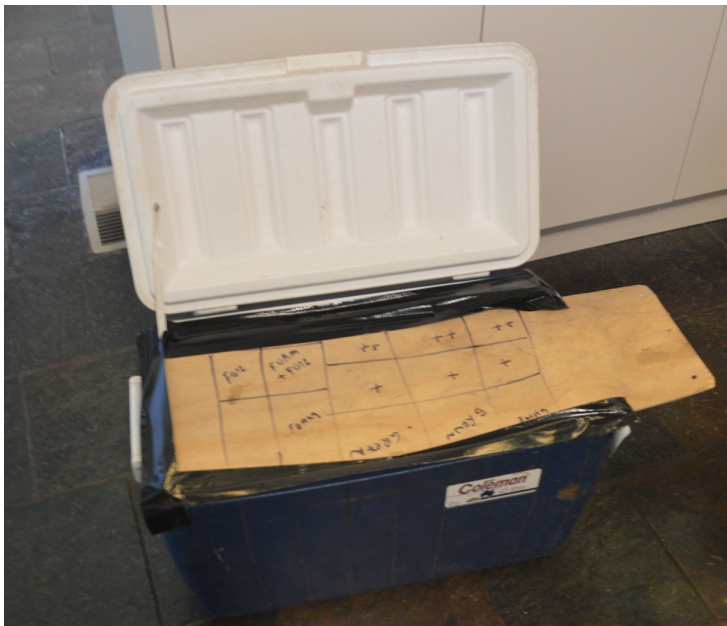
Alan Cuthbertson.



The moment I got a police record



3 ply with paint and insulation



3 ply as lid for Esky

Insulating Paint

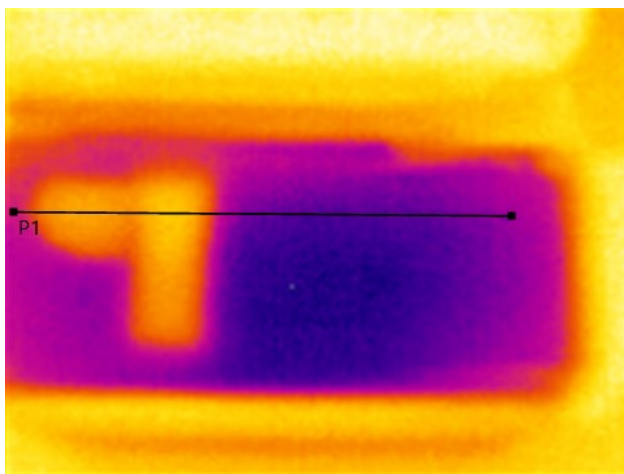
A customer was recently extolling the value of some paint additive called Insuladd. It is a small granulated material that you add to the paint which is supposed to increase the insulating properties of the paint. I was sceptical, so I got some from him.

I used a piece of 3 ply and used 3 different coloured paint, white, brown and green. The bottom section in the diagram has no additive, the middle section has some additive and the top area has more additive.

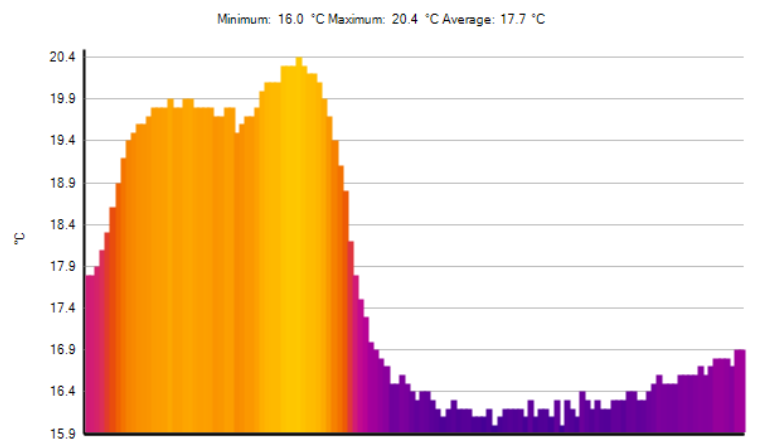
In addition I attached a piece of foam (half covered with foil) plus just piece of foil. I then placed some ice in the esky and placed the 3-ply on top.

I then used the thermal camera to look at the back of the 3 ply. Poorly insulated areas would look cold, well insulated areas would look warm. (Note that the image is backwards because the thermal camera is looking at the back of the wood).

Cont over page ..



Thermal Image



Thermal profile along black line

Insulating Paint (cont)

The thermal profile along the black line shows that the insulating material does in fact insulate while the painted area has minimal insulation. The paint with the granular material shows minimal difference to the normal paint. It seems it is a failure!

The interesting thing is that the aluminium foil area is warm, suggesting well insulated. In fact this is not the case. Aluminium is not a good insulator. But it does reflect heat really well. In this case, it is reflecting the radiant coldness from the ice keeping the 3 ply warmer! This is why the cooler bags you buy have an aluminium lining. Pretty cool hey!

The next thing I tried was to take the 3 ply outside in the direct sunlight and again look at the temperature on the back of the wood. This measures how good the paint/insulator is at reflecting the radiant heat from the sun.

This is interesting, but not surprising. The white paint on the right is coolest, indicating the paint is reflecting most of the sun.

The green is slightly better at reflecting than the brown.

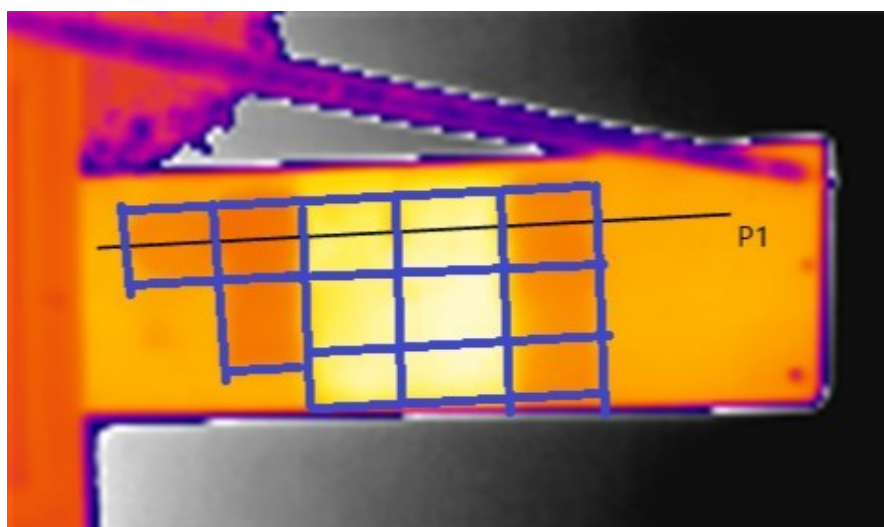
There is no difference between the treated and untreated paint (fail again).

The insulated area is cooler than the white paint. Not only does it reflect the solar radiation, but it also stops it reaching the wood.

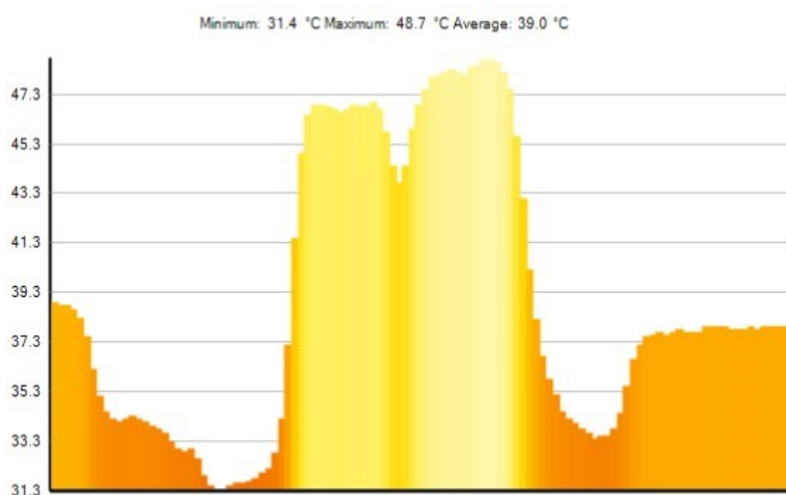
Again the aluminium is pretty good, similar to the white paint. It is really good at reflecting the radiant heat. This is why we put sisalation in rooves and walls.

So, go out and paint your roofing tiles white rather than leave them dark coloured - or cover them with alfoil!

Alan Cuthbertson



Thermal image - 3 ply facing the sun



Thermal profile along black line

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 and send a copy to the Editor 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

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Montmorency Community Group Inc. Membership Form 2016–2017

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