

HOPE e:news bulletin – 29 April 2008

Hello and welcome everyone to HOPE's new e:News bulletin service. Every fortnight we will keep you informed about the latest goings-on. Feel free to make any contribution to the bulletin by emailing the office. Let us know what you think! We value your input.

Miriam Sharp, Secretary, hopequeensland@yahoo.com.au

Office news

Give-aways! We have several thousand used plastic garden pots of various sizes to give away. Do you know of anyone who may be interested in taking some of these pots? Then please contact the office.

"Help us help the environment – Volunteer today". Check out www.volqld.org.au or www.volunteringaustralia.org. HOPE has FREE membership!

Our next social get-together / general meeting will be held on **Sunday June 1**. We will have two guest speakers who will talk about their environment work. More about this closer to the date.

General

Why don't you have a look at what you can do to make a positive contribution to the environment? Go ahead and **Measure Your Own Ecological Footprint!** Identify the things you do that contribute to global warming and look for ways to reduce your impact. Go to www.myfootprint.org.

REROC website lists free, unwanted goods-- A website listing unwanted, free goods has been set up by the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC). The Yours2Take website was launched to increase recycling and reuse. It works in a similar way to eBay – users register details about the items they want to give away and then an email is sent to this person if a request for the item is placed. There is potential for all regions throughout Australia to participate in Yours2Take and offer the service to their own regions.

Caring for our Country - better land management, less red tape

The Federal Government will invest \$2.25 billion over five years on a new program to restore the health of Australia's environment and build on improved land management practices. The *Caring for our Country* program will deliver funding to local communities through a simple, 'one-stop shop' covering the Natural Heritage Trust and the National Landcare, Environmental Stewardship and Working on Country programs. The \$2.25 billion package represents a new, coordinated approach to environmental management in Australia built on transparent and consistent national targets. It recognises that the previous system was not working efficiently, with funding scattered across the country to individual projects, often working in isolation from each other.

For more information see www.nrm.gov.au – or ring the hotline on 1800 552 008.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/garrett/2008/pubs/mr20080314.pdf>

Updates on upcoming events

From Earthlink we have received the following events notices. Visit their website for more information on these great workshops:

<http://www.earth-link.org.au/>

- o **Women and Earth Retreat Day - Saturday, 10 May, 10am-3pm**

at Phoenix Sculpture Garden, Mt Glorious. This retreat will be facilitated by Earth Link personnel. Cost is \$45/\$40conc, BYO food to share Tea and coffee provided. RSVP Friday, 2 May.

- o **Vegetables and Permaculture - Saturday, 17 May, 8am-2pm**

The workshop will cover all you need to know if you are starting or upgrading your vegetable garden. Held at 'the Four Winds'. Cost \$20/\$15 conc includes morning tea. BYO lunch.

The Caboolture Region Environment Education Centre (CREEC) is holding

The Sustainable Living Expo - 17 May 2008, 10am-3pm at the Centre at 150 Rowley Rd Burpengary. Topics include recycling, water conservation, energy efficiency and caring for the catchment. Visit Friends of CREEC website for more information www.creec.org.au

Nicholas Bonnitcha, a 9 year old from Tasmania, wants to help the Tassie Devil. He would like to promote a **National Black and White Day** on Friday **16 May 2008** to raise funds to find a cure for the disease that is affecting a significant share of the population of this unique creature.

Your school or business can dress in black and white, purchase an armband or even a sticker and help! It only takes a gold coin donation. Register by email to: lindaknights@austarnet.com.au

Join the **Australian Association for Environmental Education International Conference** in Darwin **9-12 July 2008**. For information check www.aee.org.au.

News from our Mutual Support Partners

The revitalised *Queensland Conservation Council* has just 'gone live' so please visit www.qccqld.org.au to take a look. It contains a great new events calendar. If you have an upcoming event, or there's a consultation or conference in your area let them know on admin@qccqld.org.au so that it can be included.

Information for Action is a free automated lobbying service for a better environment. Visit www.informaction.org NOW!

Office hours

The office and library are open on the following days:

Mondays, 1pm - 5pm Wednesdays, 9am - 1pm Fridays, 1pm - 5pm
or by appointment.

Thanks to:

HOPE would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to:

- a) Joyclyn Orme for all the signs
 - b) those organisations who regularly supply us with good quantities of literature which we distribute through our permanent information displays and at events we attend in the district
 - c) local State and Federal politicians who assist us by providing free photocopying.
- Much appreciated!

Remember, you CAN make a difference!

Think before you print! 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4 kg CO₂ in the atmosphere; 3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

If you do not wish to receive this fortnightly bulletin please email 'unsubscribe enews' to hopequeensland@yahoo.com.au