

HOPE e:news bulletin - Tuesday, 12 August 2008

Hello everyone,

The next few months will be very busy for HOPE. There are lots of things coming up, like Ian Simons' talk on permaculture chicken farming at our meeting / social on 6 September; and a number of information displays during August and September (and colouring competition) promoting International Year of the Reef, Landcare Week, Biodiversity Month and Threatened Species Day. We are also looking at what projects we can do next year and we need to start making preparations, so we are asking for **your** input **now!**

I hope all of you are enjoying the Olympics, and are cheering for your fellow countrymen and women.

Miriam Sharp, HOPE secretary, hopequeensland@yahoo.com.au

Office news

HOPE is looking to update our children's **Ecology Audit booklet** with a section on Climate Change; and also develop a range of information sheets and booklets. If you would like to assist with our publications activities, please contact the HOPE office.

We held a successful information display at the **Toowoomba Languages & Cultural Festival** on Sunday 10 August. The whole event was enjoyable and a good crowd attended.

As the management committee is now starting to think about activities for 2009 and beyond, it is timely for us to review our list of outstanding and/or lapsed project proposals to ascertain what can realistically be undertaken over the next few years (some suggestions include expos on Organics and Sustainable Living; and an Earth Charter Forum). If you have any suggestions for an event, or if you can help us with some of the proposed projects please contact the HOPE office.

General

A 1% "**green levy**" on ratepayers has been approved by Adelaide City Council to help fund some \$17 million worth of projects centred on climate change and sustainability. Would you support such a levy in your city / town?

SA is phasing out plastic shopping bags!

The South Australian Government has followed through on its promise to outlaw plastic bags, introducing legislation to phase in a ban from January 2009. What a great example for the rest of the country! Check out the latest on this issue at

<http://www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au/>

Resources

Find the best **GreenPower products** in your State at www.greenelectricitywatch.org.au.

Home EnergyWise Kit (Queensland only)

The Home EnergyWise Kit demonstrates just how easy it is to do your part in helping to battle climate change and save money on energy bills. We can all be smarter about how and when we use energy in the home. Home EnergyWise Kits contain energy efficiency information and do-it-yourself auditing tools to help you identify energy use patterns in your home and take positive steps to reduce your energy consumption and lower your energy bills. The kit contains no-cost, low-cost and added-cost energy saving ideas grouped according to how and where energy is used in the home:

- Keeping cool and keeping warm
- Lighting
- Kitchen, bathroom and laundry
- Outdoors
- Standby power.

Fill out the [online request form](#) and the Department of Mines and Energy will post you a free Home EnergyWise Kit. Please allow two weeks to receive your kit. Or phone (07) 3224 7527 to order your copy.

Updates on upcoming events

Queensland Coastal Conference 2009

SEQ Catchments is presenting the second Queensland Coastal Conference on the Gold Coast from **13-15 May 2009**. Entitled 'Waves of Change' the conference is an opportunity to broaden your understanding of how management and planning of the Queensland Coast is evolving. For more information on registration and submissions have a look at

<http://www.iceaustralia.com/qldcoast09> .

Glossy Black-Cockatoo information workshops

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo Conservancy is running information workshops between **19-28 August** to assist interested people in developing the skills and knowledge to identify

Glossy Black-Cockatoos and their habitat. Each workshop comprises a theory and field component. All workshops run 9am-1pm and include morning tea and lunch, and will be followed by a field trip. For more information contact Liz Gould on Ph: (07) 3816 9723 or check the website: <http://www.glossyblack.org.au/index.html>

Threatened Species Week community presentations at the EcoCentre at Griffith University

Besides the Threatened Species Day Community Expo on **7 September** there is a series of community presentations. There are 3 sessions scheduled:

- 'Urban Wildlife Conservation' by A/Prof Darryl Jones on Monday **8 September** 5-6 pm
- 'Bats in the Suburbs' by Louise Saunders on Tuesday **9 September** 5-6.30 pm
- 'Funghi: ecosystem function and conservation' by Sapphire McMullan-Fisher on Thursday **11 September** 5-6.30 pm.

Please RSVP for individual sessions to the EcoCentre; Telephone: 07 3735 7992 or email R.Chamberlain@griffith.edu.au

Library and Office hours

HOPE's library resources are available:

- Monday, 1pm-5pm
- Wednesday, 9am-1pm
- Friday, 1pm-5pm
- or by appointment.

The library hours have been extended to facilitate access to these resources, and we would like to invite anyone to make use of this service. Teachers in particular may find this useful. There are books, journals, magazines, videos and CDs - a full list of titles is available by emailing the HOPE office at hopequeensland@yahoo.com.au .

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

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