

HOPE e:news bulletin – Monday, 25 August 2008

Hi all,

We are moving towards spring again! A lovely time of year. The nights however can still be a bit cool. Remember to have your heater set to 18 degrees to keep your emissions to a minimum and to save some money.

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

Office news

Next HOPE social / meeting

HOPE's next scheduled social / meeting will be an afternoon tea on **Saturday 6 September**, commencing at **4.00pm** at 22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba. Ian Simons, an organic chook farmer from Helidon, will be our guest speaker. RSVP to Frank on 4639 2135 or email HOPEqueensland@yahoo.com.au by 1 September.

Colouring competition

From 1 September – 12 September there will be a colouring competition at the Toowoomba City Library. You will find the display and competition entry forms upstairs in the children's section.

General

Catchment Detox - Online catchment management competition

Please find some information below regarding a great online competition where you get to manage a catchment. Catchment Detox challenges you to repair a damaged river catchment and create a sustainable and thriving economy.

It's an online game where you're in charge of the whole catchment. You get to decide what activities you undertake - whether to plant crops, log forests, build factories or set up national parks. The aim is to fix environmental problems and provide food and wealth for the population.

Managing Australia's waterways is a huge challenge with climate change, increased demand for water and environmental problems putting our rivers under stress. Catchment Detox gives an idea of just how difficult it is to manage a river catchment.

Visit <http://www.catchmentdetox.net.au/> for more information.

The competition only runs for two weeks from 25 August. Enjoy the challenge!

Stop logging!

Experts have revealed the role Australian native forests play in storing carbon, meaning Australia can cut its greenhouse emissions by around 24% by ending the logging of our native forests. Read the full story on the ACF website: http://www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news_id=1872&eid=12131

Plastic bag charge trial in Victoria

At supermarkets in Victoria shoppers will now have to pay 10c per plastic bag at the checkouts. The trial will be assessed after four weeks.

Fix Transport!

GetUp! Action for Australia is running a campaign to convince our political leaders to do something sensible about transport problems. Support this action:

<http://www.getup.org.au/campaign/FixTransport&id=355>.

New Climate Movement website launched

The www.climatemovement.org.au website (funded by the NSW conservation council) has recently launched a new, updated, more streamlined and user-friendly version of the website for all climate action groups in Australia!

If you identify as a climate action group (CAG) and want to connect (virtually/face- to-face) with the growing number of community CAGs around Australia, you can start this by registering on the site.

Resources

Free Climate Change Action Kit

Get yourself all the info you need to become Climate savvy. The ACF has free information packs about what climate change is and what you can do to help. Check

http://www.acfonline.org.au/forms/form.asp?survey_id=14

Updates on upcoming events

Queensland Landcare Conference

The next Queensland Landcare Conference is getting closer! It will take place **21-24 September** in **Monto**. You can still get discounted tickets until 31 August. Visit

www.landcare.org.au/Conference.htm for registration packages and more information.

Climate Change Adaptation Forum

On **19 August** a Climate Change Adaptation Forum will be held at the EcoCentre at Griffith University from 3.15pm – 6.30pm. For more information and registration contact Anne-Mary McCarthy, ph (07) 3901 0730, email: plaqld@parks-leisure.com.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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