

ESsential News July 2021

E&S Committee:

Co Chairs:

Fabienne Nichola, RC Camberwell
d9800env.sust@gmail.com

John McCaskill, RC Canterbury
d9800env.sust@gmail.com

Peter Berg, RC Melbourne

David Dippie, RC Keilor

Donna Martin, RC Bacchus Marsh

Lesley McCarthy, RC Flemington
Kensington

Ted Waghorne, RC Canterbury
ESRAG ANZPI Chair

Dates for your calendar:

ESRAG BioDiversity Taskforce
Wednesday 28 July 1.00pm UTC
[Global Footprint APP seminar](#)

ESRAG ANZPI Chapter Meeting

Tuesday 17 August 2021: 7.30pm AEDT
Project Drawdown
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81226035339>

Sunday 1 August
[National Tree Day](#)

Tuesday 10 August 6.00pm AEST UTC+10
Climate and Peace Forum
<https://climateandpeace.com.au>

14-22 August 2021 [National Science Week](#)

Saturday 11—Sunday 12 September
[Virtual Rotary Zone 8 Conference](#)
“Learning, Leading, Action”
[Register](#)

31 October—12 November 2021
UN Climate Change Conference Glasgow
<https://UKCOP26>

Join ESRAG:

[https://www.esrag.org/
membership-form](https://www.esrag.org/membership-form)

US\$30 per year or

US\$125 for 5 years.

Just US\$15 per year for ages 17-25.

From our District Co Chairs:

We hope you've stayed safe during the COVID lockdown.

Donations in Kind continues to be the District's key long established recycling and repurposing establishment while supporting disadvantage local and International communities. DiK relies on Clubs for financial support. Please consider contributing to this and other recycling activities to enable their great work to continue.

Please register for a major Zone 8 event taking place on 11-12 September, 2021. Led by Zone 8 Chair, PDG Jesse Harman, the conference will feature outstanding guest speakers and will include a breakout session on 'Preserving our Environment—Sustaining Our Planet' which will showcase some of the exciting environmental projects in our zone.



Happy reading of other environment related topics in this Newsletter.

[District 9800 Environment page](#)

[Like the ESRAG LinkedIn page](#)

[Like the ESRAG Facebook page](#)

Co-Chairs, Environmental Sustainability Committee
Fabienne Nichola John McCaskill

Donations in Kind receives commercial quantities of hospital and medical equipment, educational furniture, books and supplies and clothing as well as accepting mobility aids, computers and associated goods. These are available for all clubs to send to disadvantaged countries/communities as well as for support in local projects. Clubs pay to ship hired or purchased containers but the operating costs of DiK are borne by the member clubs.

Did you know that DiK West Footscray relies on the support from just 23 clubs?

That is 20 clubs in District 9800 and 1 each in 3 other Victorian Districts. There are many more clubs than that which use DiK for their international and local projects.

We know that there are many clubs “doing it tough” due to fundraising restrictions in the last 18 months, however, if your club has utilised DiK for a container or a project, why not join as a member or make a donation; and truly contribute to the work of this amazing and relatively unknown Rotary recycling success story?

Contact [Bob Glindemann](#) to discuss how your club can contribute.

On behalf of us all, sending the very best “get well soon” wishes to DiK Manager, Laurie Fisher following his recent surgery. He will be missed at the store in coming months.



Expanding the Circular Economy

At the recent ESRA ANZPI Chapter meeting, David Dippie from the Rotary Club of Keilor East, Donations in Kind Project monitor and RAWCS Southern District Representative reported on how the Circular Economy is working in our Zone.



Refuse: say no to plastic and paper bags, plastic cutlery and plates, go paper free on bills, use shredded paper or cardboard in lieu of plastic bubble wrap in packing, avoid cleansers containing microbeads. Plastic Free July.

Rethink: eat less meat and dairy, use re-useable cups and drink bottles, use a water efficient showerhead, buy local and reduce transport miles, walk, cycle or use public transport when possible.

Reduce: reduce your carbon footprint, avoid food waste, choose energy efficient appliances, install solar panels.

Repair: find a Men's Shed or a Council Community Repair Hub, fix it don't throw it, repair clothes.

Reuse: wheelchairs and mobility aids are collected at DiK and Op Shops, take your batteries, mobile phones, x-ray films and electronic goods to a collection hub. Metal/minerals can be extracted and reused, use glass bottles and jars for storage.

Repurpose: Mobile Muster, Planet Ark, compost your vegetable and plant scraps

Recycle: collect and donate plastic bread tags, bottle caps, hearing aids, spectacles, books, computers.

Move towards zero waste.

* Western Emergency Relief Network and Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network distribute household goods to people in need. Working with local social service agencies who sponsors clients, WERN and RIMERN are able to provide furniture, whitegoods, manchester, crockery, cutlery, pots and pans and limited electrical items.

Consider donating to them when you replace or downsize.

WERN: PDG Ross Butterworth, Rotary Caroline Springs

RIMERN: [Susie Cole, Rotary Prahran](#) [Facebook](#)

* Rotary Toorak operates [Recycled Sound](#) which accepts, repairs and donates hearing aids.

* Rotary Glen Eira is one of many groups collecting [plastic bread tags](#). These are then recycled and used to make wheelchairs.

* There are several Rotary Op Shops which accept donations and then sell them raising funds for community projects. Flemington, Kew, Box Hill, Surrey Hills amongst others.

* Planet Ark collects and recycles a range of items including printer cartridges, mobile phones, x-rays, batteries. [These are then remanufactured into hundreds of items.](#) Could your club set up a collection point?

* Many councils now have collection points for these items. Does your council?

* [REDCycle](#) collects soft plastics such as biscuits packets, plastic bread bags, cellophane, produce bags, frozen vegetable bags, plastic shopping bags and more ... where it is remanufactured by Replas into furniture, bollards, fencing, decking. Most major supermarkets have a collection bin.

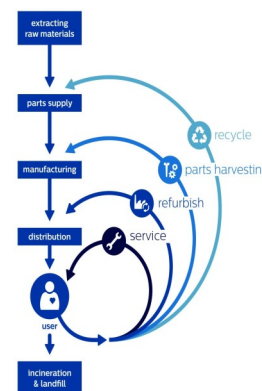


David also spoke about the amazing work being done through Donations in Kind and Rotary Australia World Community Service in supporting disadvantaged countries with hospital, medical and educational equipment and supplies.

In the last 12 months, despite COVID and the interruptions to shipping, 26 x 20' containers were sent to Timor Leste, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Somaliland, Solomon Islands by clubs with another 32 x 20' containers sent by the store to Timor Leste and the Congo. There are also another 11 containers waiting shipping berths.

Recycling success!

So, the questions remains. What could your club/members do to expand and promote the circular economy? Is there an innovative recycling or repurposing idea that you could pursue? Contact David to discuss.



the
circular
economy

Melbourne Pollinator Corridor

A group of Rotary Clubs have been invited to collaborate and create an 8-kilometre Melbourne Pollinator Corridor (MPC) from the Botanical Gardens to Port Melbourne. This initiative is inspired by Emma Cutting who has led a street garden project in the very densely populated urban area of South Melbourne. For more details see the [The Heart Gardening](#) website and Emma's Instagram page.

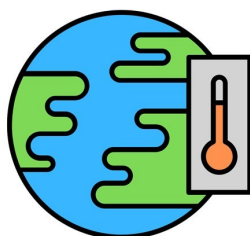
We are encouraging each Rotary Club to ultimately contribute to the Melbourne Pollinator Corridor in their local area by filling any undervalued and undemourished public space such as nature strips, lane ways, dedicated garden areas and any available land with green, bio-diverse, pollinator-friendly plants.

Plans are in place to start a 'prototype' street garden which forms part of the MPC by the Rotary Club of Melbourne South. Surrounding Clubs will be invited to share in the Project journey and assist with the hands on planting in the next few weeks for learnings for their own project.

To assist clubs build their knowledge and understanding a street garden walk to view the Emma's achievements was planned but has had to be cancelled (twice) due to the COVID lockdown. We intend to reschedule a new date subject to lifting of restrictions. Participating in the Pollinator Corridor is the most significant street garden environmental project to be undertaken by Rotary District 9800 and we hope it becomes the model for other high density urban areas throughout Victoria and Australia.

For more information, please email Peter Berg pberg8@bigpond.net.au

Fabienne Nichola, District 9800 Environmental Sustainability Committee
in collaboration with Rotarian for Bees



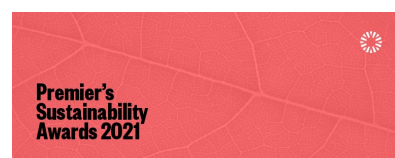
National Science Week— 14-22 August—Innovating for the Future.

As part of Inspiring Victoria's ACCLIMATISE program for National Science Week, Museums Victoria is inviting families to build their understanding of climate science through a series of webinars. This is an exciting opportunity for families to deepen their understanding of climate science and our changing world, as they discuss climate action and work together as a family to create a climate pledge.

The webinar will begin by unpacking the science behind why our climate is changing. Participants will engage with information from the latest reports as they learn about how climate change is specifically affecting us here in Victoria. [Read more about the webinar](#) [National Science Week events](#)

The 2021 Premier's Sustainability Awards

The Premier's Sustainability Award categories have been revamped this year to reflect the current focus of sustainability activity in Victoria and align with global best practice.



The 6 categories represent exceptional sustainability outcomes that can be delivered by projects and initiatives, and link to the globally-accepted [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Entries for the 2021 Premier's Sustainability Awards close on Friday 30 July.
[Premier's Sustainability Awards | Sustainability Victoria](#)

Quick links:

<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/sitepage/environment-sustainability>

The District Conference video

<https://vimeo.com/542061915>

Webinar recordings:

[Powerful Pollinator Planting guides](#)

[Victorian Indigenous Nursery Co-Op](#)

View the ESRAG ANZPI video created by Rob Anderson for RICON, [MD Environment Video.mp4 on Vimeo](#)

<https://www.esrag.org/esrag-unep-handbook>

Environmental News from around the world:

[Our addiction to plastic—the story](#)

[100% Renewables by 2025: Grid Operator pushes Clean Energy Revolution.](#)

Australian Energy Market Operator new chief executive, Daniel Westerman, will use his first public address to outline the goal for a big increase in investment and collaboration to wean the power market further away from coal and prepare for a clean energy revolution.

[Professor Lesley Hughes on the UNESCO Report on the Great Barrier Reef.](#)

World-leading environmental scientists, including Australia's pre-eminent coral reef experts, have publicly praised UNESCO's decision to recommend the Great Barrier Reef be rated "in danger", a move that was slammed by the federal government.

[Sir David Attenborough named People's Advocate at the UN Climate Change Conference COP26.](#)

The renowned natural historian will put forward the compelling case to leaders, key decision makers and the public for why climate action matters, to evidence the progress underway, and to highlight the actions decision makers will need to take ahead of and at COP26.

[Sydney students turn brewery wastewater into energy](#)

Australian start up switch2 Engineering has developed a technology that can convert brewery wastewater into hydrogen, a clean burning fuel. By doing so, breweries are able to repurpose the hydrogen as a fuel for heating, transportation and electricity. Using this technology, breweries can not only save costs on utility bills, but do so sustainably, according to the founders.



The Climate and Peace Forums are an initiative of the Rotary Clubs of Sydney and bring you world leading voices in climate and peace. <https://climateandpeace.com.au>

What are our Security Risks in the Climate Crisis — Defence, Energy & Food?

With Australia's top retired defence planner Cheryl Durrant; an expert in dispatchable energy storage Professor Lachlan Blackhall and a fiery campaigner for farming reform Anika Molesworth, you will truly hear why climate & peace have to be considered together. Register now for 10 August. <https://climateandpeace.com.au>



Join Us on Zoom Tuesday August 7:30pm AEST for the ESRAG ANZPI Monthly Chapter Meeting

Book your attendance <https://events.humanitix.com/anzpi>

to receive the meeting zoom link

Rob Anderson is this month's guest speaker.

You may have seen Rob at previous meetings with his involvement in the ANZPI/Oceania Chapter team and his work with websites.

Rob is also the global co-chair of ESRAG's Climate Solutions Task Force which uses the Project Drawdown Framework of Climate Solutions including Food Waste, Plant Rich Diet, Cleaner Cookstoves and Renewable Energy. He will be sharing some Climate Optimism about ESRAG's opportunity to make a difference.



<https://events.humanitix.com/anzpi>

[Project Drawdown](#)

Former Chair of ESRAG ANZPI, Pat Armstrong will join a panel presentation focussing on Preserving our Environment—Sustaining Our Planet. She will also showcase some of the exciting environmental projects taking place across the zone.

[Register for this exciting 2 day virtual conference here.](#)



The Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games collected more than 32kg of gold, 3,500kg of silver and 2,200kg of bronze during its Tokyo 2020 Medal Project, which was designed to recycle precious metals from electronic devices and turn them into medals for the athletes.

[Olympic medals made from recycled metals](#)



Victoria's Big Build *Recycled First* policy.

The world's first noise walls made from 75 per cent recycled plastic have been put into place along the new Mordialloc Freeway in Victoria.

The panels are made using 570 tonnes of plastic waste: around the same amount collected kerbside from 25,000 Victorian households in a year.

This is due to a new technology developed by the Pact Group.



[Inside Waste](#)

[PKN News](#)