

# CANWin E-Bulletin April 2009

Editor: [menteith@bigpond.net.au](mailto:menteith@bigpond.net.au)

For more information see the CANWin website [www.canwin.org.au](http://www.canwin.org.au).

If you do not want to receive our bi-monthly e-bulletin please advise [gmbyrne@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gmbyrne@bigpond.net.au)

## CONTENTS:

### 1) CANWin MEETINGS AND EVENTS

i) **Transition Shire Wingecarribee meeting: 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 11 Charlton Close, Bowral.**

Contact Maree Byrne [gmbyrne@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gmbyrne@bigpond.net.au) if you'd like to know more about this group.

ii) **CANWin Management Committee Meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> April (and 28<sup>th</sup> May) 4.30pm**

Members are welcome to attend these meetings, but do not have voting rights. Contact David Tranter [secretary@canwin.org.au](mailto:secretary@canwin.org.au)

iii) **Screening 'Power of Community' Bundanoon, 10<sup>th</sup> May 5pm with Pot-luck tea.**

iv) **CANWin quarterly lecture series: Prof. Bob Douglas OA, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

### 2) CANWin REPORTS AND INFORMATION

i) **AGM**

ii) **Advocacy**

iii) **Transition Shire Wingecarribee**

### CANWin MEETINGS AND EVENTS details

**Screening of "Power of Community"** - an inspiring story about the collective mobilisation of an entire community to meet an enormous challenge: how to feed the population and create a new low-energy society. **10<sup>th</sup> May, 5pm at the Bundanoon Community Hall**, including a Pot-luck tea with discussion on local food-security. More details contact Sandra on 48837687 or [menteith@bigpond.net.au](mailto:menteith@bigpond.net.au)

### CANWin Quarterly Lecture Series

**Emeritus Professor Bob Douglas AO will present "People responding to the social, environmental and economic challenges of 2009" on Friday 15 May 2009, 7.30 pm at Wingecarribee Council Theatre, Moss Vale. \$5 non-members, gold coin member.**

Bob is the Chair of SEE-Change, an ACT group working to create "healthy people on a healthy planet". SEE-Change presents workshops, festivals, talks, meetings, picnics among a dozen other monthly activities, all based on these principles:

**Information:** How do we provide the facts about our future as humans on this planet?

**Inclusion:** How do we build a group that includes every member of the broader community?

**Improvement:** How can we create the chance for people and the community to change things for the better?

**Inspiration:** How can we have fun as individuals, families and a community?

**Come along to hear how, as Wingecarribee residents, we can do the same!**

Bob Douglas' 40-year career in medicine included stints in Papua New Guinea, dean of a medical school, and leadership of national and international health organisations. In 1990, he became an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his contributions to medicine. In 2008, he was named a "supreme green hero" by the Conservation Council for the ACT Region.

## Pre-lecture discussion group: "What constitutes human health?"

A small group discussion in the lead up to Bob Douglas' lecture on May 15<sup>th</sup> is being offered by Sheila Ring to stimulate thought on the topic, and enrich the discussion after the talk. Prof. Douglas' 2006 book "SEE-Change Centres, Grey Power and Hope", which emerged from his experiences as Chair of the Australia 21 think tank, was the stimulus for starting the SEE-Change group, with four centres now established in Canberra. (See <http://www.see-change.org.au/> where his book is available for download). Sheila proposes that the discussion group explore the questions laid out in the itemised points of the lecture, and how these might link to the Transition Towns concept.

The topic proposed for the first meeting of the discussion group is: "Healthy People ? Are you healthy? What about all other Australians? What do we need to be really healthy?" Sheila will provide an excerpt from "People and Nature: The Big Picture" Nature and Society Forum 2005 (Stephen Boyden), on both the intangible and the biophysical needs of the human species, as a discussion starter for the first group. Further topics leading up to the lecture could be based on the SEE-change principles/questions listed on the lecture series poster (Information, Inclusion, Improvement, Inspiration) and will be negotiated by the group, as will the starting date, time and location. For more information, and to join the group, please contact Sheila at [sheilaring@bigpond.com](mailto:sheilaring@bigpond.com) (or phone: 4862 2402 ), providing your name and contact details indicating which days/times would suit you.

Days you could be available? ----- What time would suit? AM, lunchtime, PM? -----  
What time in the evening if it is after work? -----.

## Call for discussion leaders/topics for 2009

CANWin invites anyone who would like to lead a discussion group later in the year on a topic of interest to the membership to contact [secretary@canwin.org.au](mailto:secretary@canwin.org.au).

## Related events

**Schools Environment Fair.** An enthusiastic CANWin team, led by Bob Thomas, will offer an activity "Tap into water saving in a changing climate" at the 2009 Wingecarribee Schools Environment Fair in Corbett Gardens 7<sup>th</sup> April 2.30pm.

**Autumn Seedsaving Day of the Local Seed Network is Sunday 19th April, 2009 at Harmony Community Farm, Canyonleigh .** Contact Jill Cockram for details at [jilleroo53@hotmail.com](mailto:jilleroo53@hotmail.com). For discussion on the day - **Climate Change implications for Seedsaving and Food Crops.**

**"Beekeeping in the Southern Highlands"** Harmony Community Farm is hosting a half-day workshop on facilitated by experienced apiarist, Sylvia Cornwell on Sunday 26th, April (weather permitting) 8.30am till 1.00pm. Cost: \$40 (morning tea provided on site)

## Sunday 26 April at 2pm -"Grow ItalianVegetables - Eat with Gusto".

Slow Food Southern Highlands has a Transition related event on at Howards Lane vineyard. Cost: \$20 members of Slow Food. \$30 non members. RSVP to Jill Dyson on 4872 4884 or [info@slowfoodsouthernhighlands.com](mailto:info@slowfoodsouthernhighlands.com)

**Dr John Kaye, MLC , Friday 8<sup>TH</sup> May, 7.30 pm** in the Henrietta Room (in front of the Bowral Library). Want to get a better *understanding* of the Government's proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS)? How come **nobody** seems happy with it? Would a carbon tax be

better? The challenge of alleviating dangerous Climate Change is growing daily, and many of us feel confused and unable to contribute to the debate or the solutions due to the complexity of the subject. Come and listen to **John Kaye** who will clearly explain the various political proposals, followed by discussion and supper. Entry by donation.

### **Design + Construct with Solar Energy Sat 16 - Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May 2009** □

Learn the basic theory & gain practical design knowledge of solar technology through participation in the construction a solar device. One night accommodation. \*10 CPD points for architects and designers. Facilitator Mark Shakeshaft. For more information see [www.gudhara.org.au](http://www.gudhara.org.au) or phone (02) 4884 4467 / 0403 203 963.

## **2. REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

### **i) Office Bearers and Committee for 2009.**

**At the CANWin AGM 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 the following members were elected:**

Convenor	Maree Byrne
Deputy Convenor	Bob Thomas
Secretary	David Tranter
Treasurer	Sussana Pearson
Committee:	Miles Lochhead
	Andy Carnahan
	Faye Horne
	Georgie Friday
	Nina D'Arcy
	Lou Flower

### **ii) Advocacy Report**

Earlier this year, several CANWin members attended the **Climate Action Summit** at the Australian National University, followed by a Rally around Parliament House, to urge Government to amend its proposed “carbon pollution reduction” legislation. The following flaws in the legislation were identified:

- Excessive compensation to the biggest polluters, which would grow over time, rather than shrink.
- Free permits for the main polluters for five years (as property rights ) which would lead to compensation should future emissions need to be cut more quickly than anticipated.
- A price cap that places an artificial limit on pollution cost.
- Unlimited international outsourcing that would allow “business as usual” in Australia.
- Discouraging voluntary initiatives that would free more permits for heavy industry

This led CANWin to support an initiative by the summit organisers to put those objections in writing to Minister Penny Wong and the Prime Minister. CANWin members can keep in touch via Google with continuing climate advocacy initiatives by Climate Action Network, Australia. (CANA).

**CANWin has endorsed the Climate Action Groups (CAG) magnificent submission to the current Senate Inquiry on Climate Policy**, which now includes a CANWin amendment drafted by Susanna Pearson.

### ***Submission on Exposure Draft CPRS Legislation (by CAG) - Executive Summary***

The Climate Action Groups signing this submission believe that the current form of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) is fundamentally flawed and that it will hinder both Australia's and, indeed, the planet's capacity to reduce emissions and avoid dangerous climate change.

- The high level of compromise in this Scheme renders it virtually incapable of delivering any reductions in Australia's actual emissions and will, in our view, fail to create an investment pathway for the development of an emissions-free economy in Australia.
- Climate change is the most important issue of our time - perhaps the most important issue that humanity has ever faced. We cannot and should not put all of our eggs into a highly flawed CPRS.
- It is in this context, that the many Groups signing this submission have decided to OPPOSE the Exposure Draft of the CPRS legislation.
- We have prepared 22 major recommendations to reform the Scheme, which we believe will facilitate Australia's transition to an emissions-free economy. These changes address the fundamental flaws in the Scheme and, if adopted globally, would help to avoid dangerous climate change.

- David Tranter

### **iii) Transition Shire Wingecarribee**

#### **Meetings**

The TSW group continues to meet on Wednesdays at 7pm every four weeks, alternating between Bundanoon (Sandy & Bob's place) and Bowral (Maree & Geoff's place). The next meeting is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> April at Bowral, and 20<sup>th</sup> May at Bundanoon. Please contact Maree [gmbyrne@bigond.net.au](mailto:gmbyrne@bigond.net.au) for venue details and agenda.

#### **Transition Training**

TSW led its first local Training for Transition this past weekend in Bowral. Participants included several local people who are keen to become actively involved in 'Transition', as well as those hoping to seed Transition initiatives in Singleton, Kiama and Lake Macquarie. Sandra and Bob facilitated this workshop, with Maree ensuring that all the participants (and the trainers) were well catered for as they worked intensively over the two days. The workshop offered plenty of opportunity for the participants to share information, ask questions and practice skills and was rated by the participants as informative, relevant, inspiring and enjoyable.

**Advance notice:** The dates for the next Training for Transition workshop have been tentatively set for 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June – so mark up your diaries now and register your interest ( [menteith@bigpond.net.au](mailto:menteith@bigpond.net.au) ).

#### **Networking with Southern Highlands Slow Food Group**

Jill Dyson (Slow Food Southern Highlands) and Nick Padol (Slow Food Australia) attended our March TSW meeting to discuss possible joint projects. It was decided that we would organize a joint event to celebrate Local Food Producers in the Southern Highlands in Autumn next year.

#### **Transition Bundanoon**

The first meeting of Transition Bundanoon drew together local people linked to a variety of local organisations/groups in a stimulating discussion on how we could work together towards Transition in the southern villages.

The theme of the **March issue *Jordan's Crossing Gazette (JCG)*** was **'A Growing Trend: Backyard Food Production,'** which featured articles from several TSW members from Bundanoon and the southern villages. Many thanks to Peter Lach-Newinsky, who organised and coordinated this well-received edition which raises the profile of Transition in the southern villages.

The next event will be held Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 5pm at the Bundanoon Community Hall: a screening of **"Power of Community"** with a Pot-luck supper followed by food security discussion. If you are interested in joining the initiating group for Transition Bundanoon please contact Peter Lach-Newinsky [pln@digisurf.com.au](mailto:pln@digisurf.com.au) or Sandra [menteith@bigpond.net.au](mailto:menteith@bigpond.net.au) or phone 48837687.

### **Transition Village Exeter**

Progress is being made with providing a bicycle rack in Exeter. The TVE Group has met with Frank Perger from Council to discuss location, risk assessment etc. This is a good small project with which to begin the cooperation process with Council.

### **Transition Town Bowral**

There has been some initial discussion re the possibility of helping to establish a food garden at Bowral Primary School. **Does anyone have contacts with keen teachers or parents to liaise with on this?** This project would fit in well with a regular stall at the Bowral Markets, composting vegetable waste from stalls or feeding worms. Anyone interested in forming a small group to take this idea forward? (Maree [gmbyrne@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gmbyrne@bigpond.net.au)) The Slow Food people advised they have a template for such projects, and that funding is also available.

### **Library Donation**

Kathy Biddlecombe organized the following books and DVD's to be donated to the library:

#### ***Books:***

*Power Down* by Richard Heinberg

*Beyond Oil* by Kenneth Deffeyes

*Twilight in the Desert* by Matthew R Simmons

*Storey's Guide to Raising Sheep* by Paula Simmons and Carol Ekarius

*The new complete guide to Beekeeping* by Roger A Morse

*The Farmer's Wife guide to Fabulous Fruits and Berries* by Barbara Doyen

*The Farmer's Wife Guide to Growing a Great Garden and Eating from it too* by Barbara Doyen

*Herbally yours* by Penny C. Royal

*Nuclear Power is not the answer* by Helen Caldicott

*Six modern plagues and how we are causing them* by Mark Jerome Walters

*Starting a Nursery or herb farm* by John Mason

*Small-scale Poultry keeping* by Ray Feltwell

#### ***DVD's:***

*The Power of Community*

*Australia Pumping Empty*

*The End of Suburbia*

*Relocalisation: How Peak Oil can lead to Permaculture* by David Holmgren

*Think Global: eat local: a diet for a sustainable society* by Morag Gamble & Evan Raymond

*Crude Impact*

*Money as Debt*

*One man, one cow, one planet*

*The story of Stuff*

Many thanks to Kathy & friends for their generosity in making these resources available for the community.