

## BCCAN MISSION

A community based network of organisations and individuals that work together to promote action on climate change & equitable & sustainable development.

## BCCAN AIMS

To involve the Bathurst Community & liaise & communicate on their behalf with Council.

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Achieve sustainable & equitable development in the Bathurst Region

Adoption of renewable energy technologies throughout the Bathurst region

Bio-sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>

Raise public awareness of associated problems



## this issue

Changes at the helm of BCCAN **P.1**

BCCAN pays tribute to Sr Pat **P.1**

Upcoming Events **P.2**

BCCAN's CVR Project **P.2**

Council's Elm Leaf Beetle control program **P.2**

Seeking community Input & useful links **P.3**

A Climate Update **P.4**

The adventures of Wom Wom **P.4**

## Changes at the helm of BCCAN

During the BCCAN Annual General Meeting in October, the members present at the meeting elected the new BCCAN board. Some of the faces are familiar and some are new to the positions. The new board is Tracy Sorensen as President, Marianne Larsen as Vice President, Sally Neaves as Secretary, Maria Liu as Treasurer, Jock Roxborough as Public Officer and Laurana Smith as Publicity Officer. We welcome Tracy, Marianne and Sally in their new roles, they bring new energy and enthusiasm to the positions. We also wish to thank the outgoing members of the board Tracey Carpenter, Bob Hill and Keith Hungerford for all the time and energy they dedicated to BCCAN and to the community through their roles.

## BCCAN pays tribute to Sr Pat

Bathurst Community Climate Action Network pays tribute to Sr Pat Linnane who passed away on Sunday 20 November. Sr Pat was a tireless advocate of the marginalised and voiceless in our community, including the natural environment that nourishes us all. We pay tribute to her work among Aboriginal people, refugees and those with mental illnesses as well as her work in the environmental movement. Vale Sr Pat.



This picture shows Sr Pat (with walking stick, centre) flanked by Sr Patricia Powell to the left and BCCAN President Tracey Carpenter to the right, during the campaign to save the Macquarie/Wambool River from the Regis gold mine on February 17, 2017

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Green Drinks

Friday 25 November  
2016

At 5:30pm at Rahamim  
34 Busby St Bathurst

Speakers **Tim Malfroy**  
and **Megan Halcroft**

Leading educators on  
bee health

Bookings: 63329950

### Bathurst Farmers Markets

Saturday 26 November  
2016

8am to noon

Bathurst Showground

### Organic Vegetable Gardening workshop

Saturday 10 December  
10am-12noon

at Rahamim

34 Busby St Bathurst

Cost \$50 includes a

manual and seedlings

bookings@rahamim.org.  
au

### Next BCCAN steering committee Meeting

20 December, 2016

Bathurst Information and  
Neighbourhood Centre,  
(BINC) Russell Street at  
4:30 for 5pm start

## BCCAN's Conservation Voltage Reduction Project

In 2015 BCCAN received an Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) a \$33,000 funding grant to trial a Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR) project.

The project was based on the theory that if the voltage of the electric current run through a transformer is set at a lower level, the appliances would still function well, but less energy would be required by some appliances resulting in energy savings.

Potentially this would result in the twin benefits of lower electricity costs and, from an environmental point of view, lower CO2 emissions.

The aim of the project was to see whether the theory could be practically applied and to quantify the potential benefits by conducting a trial.

As part of this trial BCCAN partnered up with Charles Sturt University (CSU) and the site for the trial was the CSU campus at Bathurst. Chris Halliday of Power Logic was employed as a consultant for this project.

The Project was conceived by Chris Dalitz an electrical engineer working with Essential Energy and Grant Christopherson, a clean energy consultant with the Office of Environment and Heritage.

BCCAN members Bob Hill and Branka Krivokapic-skoko, who also work at CSU, worked on this project as well BCCAN treasurer Maria Liu, and the very helpful people at CSU Green, Essential Energy and OEH.

The trial ran for a six-month period from February to July 2016. For the project itself, twelve electrical transformers supplying the Bathurst campus were assessed for a reduction in voltage and based on technical consideration eight sub-transformers were able to have their voltage lowered from 240 volt to 230 volt.

As a result of the trial the energy savings were better than expected. Demand savings were also better than expected and were estimated at \$2,220 for the three-month period from February to April 2016. CO2 savings calculated were better than expected as the energy savings were better than expected. These savings were calculated at approximately 170 tonnes/year or equivalent to taking 38 cars off the road.

In conclusion the trial demonstrated that Conservation Voltage Reduction (CVR) can result in significant energy, demand and maintenance savings but this is dependent on the size of the installation, the type of installed electrical equipment and the existing voltage levels. The data showed that just by tapping those 8 sub-transformers at the Bathurst campus alone CSU could save about \$20,000 worth of energy annually through the project.

This project also demonstrates how a community group like BCCAN can link up with large energy users such as organisations and enterprises and work with them in CVR projects. The question now is what other projects CVR or otherwise can BCCAN be involved in.

Many thanks to all those who worked on this very worthy project.

For more information on the CVR project please contact Bob Hill at [i.bhill2@bigpond.com](mailto:i.bhill2@bigpond.com)

## Bathurst Council's Elm Leaf Beetle control program

Like the cane toads in northern Australia, elm beetles are marching across the landscape. Infestations have been noted in urban trees across the country, including Bathurst. The reasons for this are complex but one theory is that with climate change, longer periods of hotter weather are allowing their numbers to climb.

Elm beetles are tiny, barely noticeable, but they cause much damage to Elm trees.

They lay eggs on the back of spring leaves and while the bugs thrive the trees do not, as they become vulnerable to other diseases and infestations.

Bathurst council has been chemically treating Elms on council owned land, with workers going around giving the trees injections. However, Elm trees on private land will need to be treated by landowners themselves. Bathurst Regional Council has

(cont.)

brochures giving information about how to do this.

Here is Bathurst Council's media release about the Elm Beetle control program dated 14 October 2016

### **Council commences Elm Leaf Beetle control program**

Bathurst Regional Council will treat selected trees within the Bathurst CBD as part of an Elm Leaf Beetle Control Program which is being introduced to control future outbreaks of Elm Leaf Beetle.

Several hundred Elm Trees within a two kilometre radius of the Bathurst CBD, Post Office and Howick Street will benefit from a stem injection treatment to protect against damage and defoliation that is caused by Elm Leaf Beetle.

Mayor Gary Rush said Council noticed a significant infestation of the Elm Leaf Beetle earlier this year in many of Bathurst's Elm Trees.

"It is anticipated that a continued large scale outbreak will occur later this year as we move into the spring and summer months. As a result, Council has commenced an ongoing Elm Leaf Beetle control program within Bathurst to help protect the city's Elms.

"The program will include the treatment of trees within road reserves, parks and other land owned by Council. A single treatment is anticipated to provide protection to treated trees for up to three years.

"Council also encourages property owners with Elm Trees to seek the services of professional companies, who can advise on suitable control options. This will also help to reduce the population of the Elm Leaf Beetle throughout Bathurst," Cr Rush said.

The tree injection method is the most environmentally friendly approach to controlling the Elm Leaf Beetle delivering pesticide directly into the tree. Elm trees within the Bathurst region will require ongoing monitoring and treatment to ensure effective control of the Elm Leaf Beetle.

The work is scheduled to start later this month.

More information: Therese Ryan, Media & Communication Officer P: 02 6333 6202 M: 0437 958 478

F: 02 6331 7211 E: [therese.ryan@bathurst.nsw.gov.au](mailto:therese.ryan@bathurst.nsw.gov.au)

The above article contains extracts from BCCAN president Tracy Sorensen's article on the Western Advocate in November 2016

## **Seeking Community input and some useful links**

The NSW Government is inviting members of the public to make submission on the NSW Government's Draft Climate Change plan. Responses must be made by 12 December 2016, for information go to <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/climate-change/policy-framework>

More information can be obtained at:

BOM State of the climate <http://www.bom.gov.au/state-of-the-climate/>

Climate Council report on increased storms

<http://www.climatecouncil.org.au/uploads/840648121f5e9a0c6ad7ab862e25e8.pdf>

Also for those who are interested there is a Planning Assessment Commission enquiry in Mudgee on 29 November 2016 regarding the Wilpinjong coal mine extension. Written submissions have to be made by 5 December. For information go to

<http://www.pac.nsw.gov.au/projects/2016/02/blank-please-use-for-next-review>

For those interested clean energy jobs there is an ACTU /ACF report - Jobs in the Clean Energy Future

[https://d3n8a8pro7vmtx.cloudfront.net/auscon/pages/1435/attachments/original/1477355385/ACF\\_Jobs\\_in\\_a\\_clean\\_energy\\_future.Web.pdf](https://d3n8a8pro7vmtx.cloudfront.net/auscon/pages/1435/attachments/original/1477355385/ACF_Jobs_in_a_clean_energy_future.Web.pdf)

## A Climate Change update

The UN Climate Change talks wrapped up in Morocco on Friday 18 November where almost 200 nations were discussing ways to implement the Paris Agreement of 2015. The climate pact, which came into force on November 4, aims to shift the world economy away from fossil fuels towards renewable energy.

The accord seeks to limit rising temperatures which have been linked to increasing economic damage from desertification, species extinction, heat waves, floods and rising sea levels.

Whilst the world feels uncertain about the newly elected US president Donald Trump's position on Climate Change, given his rhetoric during the election campaign, his recent statements indicating that he has an 'open mind' about the issue are certainly more promising.

Irrespective of the US's position many nations remain committed to the climate pact, European nations and China among them. To date the agreement has been formally ratified by 109 countries representing 76 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. Here in Australia, though the bill has bi-partisan support in parliament, our country has yet to ratify the agreement.

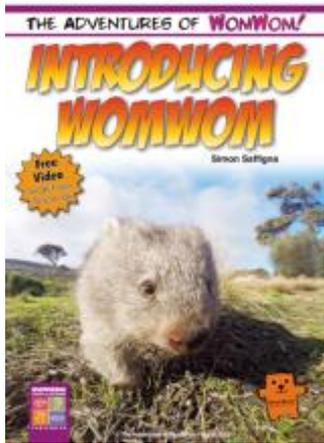
The aims of the historic climate deal were to

- limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees C,
- have greenhouse gas emissions peak as soon as possible,
- eliminate the use of fossil fuels
- replace fossil fuels with solar and wind power
- and provide financial assistance to developing countries

Meanwhile, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) declared that 2016 would be the hottest year on record, - even though the year is not yet over - with average surface temperatures 1.2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times. To note, 16 of the 17 hottest years recorded have been this century.

2016 has seen record breaking melting of the Greenland ice sheet and damaging coral bleaching in the Great Barrier Reef.

## The Adventures of Wom Wom



Simon Saffigna is an Australian surfer film-maker who has witnessed first hand the degradation of the environment, especially the oceans and waterways. Simon decided to make a free 6 minute environmental movie for young children about a little Wombat called Wom Wom to help educate the next generation on the importance of caring for the environment, their health, the animals and each other.

The movie is called *The Adventures of Wom Wom* Simon has written to BCCAN asking for support in promoting his project.

Here is the link to view the free film on you tube <http://youtu.be/4UdeZTZ92Ec> . The movie and other information is also available for free on the following website [www.theadventuresofwomwom.com](http://www.theadventuresofwomwom.com). There is also a book that accompanies the film called "Introducing WomWom". In addition there are 10 science readers

written to the Australian curriculum (ACARA). These were recently released into the primary schools in Australia through educational publisher Scholastic and the publisher [www.kbs.com.au](http://www.kbs.com.au).

For more information about the adventures of Wom Wom contact Simon Saffigna on Facebook – TheAdventuresofWomWom or 0408976761.



### Contact BCCAN

Website:

[www.bccan.org.au](http://www.bccan.org.au)

e-mail address:

[bxclimateaction@gmail.com](mailto:bxclimateaction@gmail.com)

**BCCAN President**

**Name: Tracy Sorensen**

**Email:**

[tsoren@tpg.com.au](mailto:tsoren@tpg.com.au)

**BCCAN Vice President**

**Name: Marianne Larsen**

**Email:**

[bxclimateaction@gmail.com](mailto:bxclimateaction@gmail.com)

**BCCAN Secretary**

**Name: Sally Neaves**

**Email:**

[educator@rahamim.org.au](mailto:educator@rahamim.org.au)

**BCCAN Treasurer**

**Name: Maria Liu**

**Email: [meilin@hotmail.com](mailto:meilin@hotmail.com)**

**BCCAN Public Officer**

**Name: Jock Roxborough**

**Email:**

[jro02437@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jro02437@bigpond.net.au)

**BCCAN Newsletter Editor**

**Name: Laurana Smith**

**Email:**

[davidlaurana@gmail.com](mailto:davidlaurana@gmail.com)