



ROUND-UP

The very latest news & reviews from Kurrajong Recyclers



When asked
'what do you do
to help the
environment?'

**%95 of people
responded with
'RECYCLING'**

Roy Morgan
Research survey
Aug 2004

April 2005

Issue Seven

Kangaroos for lunch!

At the beginning of February Kurrajong Recyclers were fortunate to have some players from the Kangaroos AFL Club join us for lunch.

The players were in Wagga Wagga for a week attending various coaching clinics, social events and schools.

Among the Kangaroo players who visited was Kangaroos captain Adam Simpson, Nathan Thompson, Brent Harvey and Corey McKernan.

The players spoke with us about the importance of eating and drinking healthy food and beverages as well as exercising regularly and about the advantages of having a fit and healthy body.

Michael Irons from Development Services organised a terrific lunch for us. We had some yummy salad rolls that Culinary Capers had whipped up as well as yoghurt, flavoured milk, juice and fruit.

During lunch we were able to talk with the players about our favourite footy teams, the upcoming season, sport injuries and life as a footy player.

The players were only too happy to sign autographs and pose for some good photos with the guys.

It was a special opportunity and we all had a great time - thanks to Michael for his hard work organising such a special treat.

Go the Roos!

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From Geoff's desk



Time has flown since our first newsletter – March 2004. In the first newsletter I spoke about our anticipated move to a new site. It seems I have been talking about this

forever.

Recently Kurrajong Waratah made a representation to Wagga Wagga City Council to advise them of our interest in purchasing the old gasworks site in Chaston St to construct a new Recycling depot. We are now awaiting their consideration of our offer.

Our steel scrap that is sent to BHP has produced some problems for them. We were allowed to include burnt, automotive engine oil filters in the stream with our pressed cans. This has now been banned by BHP due to site issues at their end.

While all the strapping, wire, filters and general scrap all can be converted to a quality finished product their inclusion with pressed, tin plate cans

makes the whole load difficult to process through their metal shredder.

We will now have to find a different way of processing the strapping and send it and the burnt filters as a separate load meaning more storage space and more logistics issues for Jeremy.

Other good news is that we have been advised of our success in our application for funding to the Department of Environment and Conservation. We applied for funding to conduct research into the types and quantities of plastics in the region. This knowledge will then be used to conduct a business plan and feasibility for a plant to convert waste plastics to a low sulphur diesel fuel.



By the year 2006, all cars made in Europe must be taken back free of charge by their producers, and 80% of the vehicle must be re-used or recycled.

Depot News

Congratulations

Steven Foy

&

Jeff Potts

Kurrajong Recyclers
representatives for the
Worker's Committee
in 2005

Congratulations

Jeremy & Jenny

welcome to our
newest little
recycler

'Evangeline'

31st March



RECYCLE ME - White Paper

Kurrajong Recyclers supply an Office Paper collection service to businesses in Wagga on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Customers are supplied with specially printed office boxes to place at their desks or around their office. These are then emptied into a Blue MGB for collection.

In 2004, Kurrajong Recyclers processed 217 Tonnes of white paper for recycling. This white paper was sourced from

local and Riverina businesses through our Office Paper and Security Shredding collections.

The white paper is sent to Encore Tissue in Melbourne where it is recycled into environmentally friendly tissue products like napkins, toilet paper, hand towel and tissues.

Recycling paper saves trees and our environment. It is also more energy efficient as well as cost effective.

Interesting Fact: Kurrajong Recyclers are supplied with hand paper, toilet paper and tissues from Encore Tissue!



Meet your friendly recycler – Stephen Holmes

- How long have you worked at Recyclers?

Since 1986

- What do you like best about your job?

Working with Bob and Jeffery on the compactor truck

- What don't you like?

I like everything, I'm happy to be working at Recyclers helping everyone

- What do you like to do in your spare time?

Playing netball and

volleyball, watching the footy

- What's your favourite movie?

Die Hard 1 2 & 3 - I like Bruce Willis

What's your favourite TV show?

Blue Heelers

- What's your favourite footy team?

Essendon



Mildura Bottle Exchange

Recently Geoff travelled to Mildura to inspect the new sorting plant established by Mildura Bottle Exchange (MBE) to sort the kerbside collected materials in Mildura.

Mildura Bottle Exchange have been operating in Mildura for over 20 years and sort material collected from around 20,000 house-

holds – similar to Wagga Wagga collections.

The new plant had been in operation for only two weeks of the new contract and still had some teething problems.

The materials collected are fully co-mingled – with the paper and cardboard in the one bin with the bottles and cans.

The collections are performed by Cleanaway who won the collection contract.

Interestingly, Cleanaway had the cheaper bid for the sorting of the materials but the council was determined to keep the jobs and profits local by giving the sorting contract to Mildura Bottle Exchange at a higher cost.



There are over 26 cars recycled every minute across the United States of America

Clean Up Australia Day success

The 2005 Clean Up Australia day involved more than 670,000 volunteers working at 7,000 sites across Australia recovering 8,450 Tonnes of rubbish.

The most common items of rubbish found were plastic and glass bottles, chip and confectionery packets, plastic bags and cigarette butts.

“Sadly these rubbish items continue to end up in the

environment when plastic containers should be recycled, cigarette butts should be binned and we should all be saying no to plastic bags.” - Mr Ian Keirnan AO, chairman and founder of Clean Up Australia.

Compared to a paper recycling rate in Australia of 80% the 20% for plastic packaging needs to be improved.

Australia's most polluted sites were it's roadways followed by parks, waterfronts and coastal areas.

Source: www.cleanup.com.au



Ground Power Unit

For some time we have been investigating a means of assisting our drivers to more easily move our large cardboard collection bins.

Since introducing these bins 10 years ago we now have over 300 bins with various customers around Wagga Wagga.

At some locations the bins are placed on dirt or out of direct access for the collection truck – necessitating moving the bin. Moving becomes more difficult when dirt turns to mud or the

bins are very heavy.

Following a long process of investigation we have now located some small electric motors that can be used to drive a small “trolley” to assist in moving the bins. The complete unit has to be designed and built from scratch as there is no similar unit available.

The unit will be powered by the truck electric and will be light and easy to use by the staff and employees working on the truck.

New Shredder

We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new shredder. The unit will replace the large shredder that we currently use.

The new shredder has a greatly expanded capacity being able to process over 700kg an hour when set for fast processing. A series of screens can be fitted to the machine to reduce the size of the paper particles produced, this reduces the production rate

but is a service required by some customers.

This shredder is also able to shred plastics, wood and tyres, not that we plan to use it for this purpose extensively. It will however be able to capably shred video and audio tapes and x-ray film which we do need to process from time to time for some customers.



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Cash-for-Cans

Kurrajong Recyclers are the regional recycling centre for ALCOA Aluminium Products

Recycle your cans



and get

\$0.85/kg

Disability Information - Autism

Autism is a dysfunction of some parts of the central nervous system that affect the way an individual stores information in the brain taken in through the senses. It is how we understand the world and what happens around us.

Autism is a complex, life-long developmental disability resulting in problems with social interaction, communication difficulties, and restrictive or repetitive interests and behaviours.

There is no single known cause of autism, evidence suggest a biological/neurological basis. Factors relating to potential causes

are;

- exposure to viral diseases and infection
- physical trauma (eg. birth injury)
- metabolic disorders
- genetic factors

Boys are three to four times more likely to be affected by autism than girls. Autism occurs in all racial, ethnic and social groups.

There is no cure for autism though changes in ability and behaviour occur over time and improvement through their lives can be remarkable.

There is no medical test to diagnose autism, instead

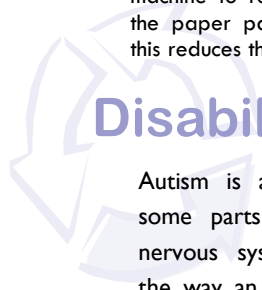
doctors and psychologists identify patterns of behaviour consistent with the *Triad of Impairments*:

- Impairment of Communication
- Impairment of Social Relating
- Repetitive, stereotyped and restricted interests and behaviours

These are the core features of autism and can range from mild to severe, not every characteristic is evident in every person.

Autism Awareness Week is being launched May 9th.

Source: www.autism.com.au



Please dispose of this newsletter thoughtfully

After you've read it of course

