



# ROUND-UP

The very latest news & reviews from Kurrajong Recyclers



Issue Five

December 2004

## Polypropylene Recycling

Recycling of polypropylene fibre commences at Kurrajong Recyclers.

Kurrajong Recyclers has found a market for yet another waste plastic – polypropylene fibre.

Polyprop fibre is found as flat strapping (typically blue or white), hay bale twine, rope or as woven bags often used for stockfeed, fertilisers, vegetables and bulk chemical packaging

with a polyethylene liner.

Polypropylene is manufactured as either a homopolymer or copolymer with a small percentage of polyethylene for particular uses. Additional complex technology has been required to provide UV stability for some applications. All forms are composed of a wide range of molecular weights. The most useful parameter to

describe any sample of polypropylene is the “melt index”.

Kurrajong Recyclers will be placing bale and frame collection systems at businesses for collection of this material. This will include wrap from steel packs, stock feed and clean fertiliser bags. The material will be checked and baled in our woolpress ready for dispatch and sale to Sims Plastics in Sydney.




**Kurrajong Recyclers wish you and your families all the best for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

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## Christmas & New Year Recycling Solutions

All those barbeques, parties and wrapping from presents can cause havoc when it comes to finding room in your recycling wheelie bin.

This is where Kurrajong Recyclers can help - we have a drop-off area for all your excess household recyclables over the

holiday period.

This facility is available all year round and on weekends, 24 hours a day

for your convenience.

Just drive in, unload and drive out.

Recycling made easy!





## From Geoff's desk



With the warmer weather approaching we expect to have increased volumes of recyclables to be collected

and processed. Importantly the most efficient method of collection is the quickest driven distance.

With our trucks on the road every day we plan our shortest routes between pickups and aim to collect as much as we can in each truck before returning to the depot to unload. With the increasing cost of fuel, efficient route management becomes more important in containing our costs.

We are currently looking at a software package to enhance route planning, invoicing, customer information and bin

identification.

To process large volumes of recyclable materials efficiently we need to use all the available capacity of our equipment. Recently we have trialed rotating staff break times in the cardboard processing area so that the press does not stop for smoko's and lunch breaks. This way we have been able to reduce the buildup of cardboard outside the shed, making for a much safer workplace as well as improving efficiency. The co-operation of the staff involved helps everybody.

## Depot News

**PVC was commercially developed in the 1940s when rubber supplies were restricted during the War**



### NOTICE

Due to End-Of-Year celebrations Kurrajong Recyclers will be closed Friday 17th December from 11.30am

*Congratulations*  
**David Chalmers**  
WINNER  
OF THIS YEARS  
JOHN REID  
MEMORIAL  
AWARD

### Years of Service Awards for 2004

- 20 Years**
  - Ian Fifield
- 15 Years**
  - John Howitt
  - Adrian Long
- 20 Years**
  - Jeff Doherty

## RECYCLE ME - PVC Polyvinyl Chloride



PVC bottles have a lower oxygen permeability than HDPE. The high rigidity permits the production of bottles having reduced wall thickness - 92% less weight and 20% less external volume than glass bottles of equal capacity.

PVC bottles are formulated to give high impact strength, crystal clarity and freedom from toxic hazard

when used in contact with foodstuffs.

PVC bottles are clear with moulded handles. All PVC bottles have a straight pinch mark across the base. All bottles have a 3 in the triangle symbol. PVC plastic 'whitens' when bent. PVC sinks in water.

If you are wearing Australian made shoes, chances are the soles

you're walking on are some of the 3000 tonnes of PVC that is recycled in Geelong each year using cryogenic technology. The same goes for garden hose, car mud flaps, some PVC pipe fittings and other building materials.

Kurrajong Recyclers send over 15 tonnes of PVC bottles to Cryogrind each year.

# Meet your friendly recycler – Jason Aveyard

Issue Five

- How long have you worked at Recyclers?

**7 months**

- What do you like best about your job?

**Working with everyone here**

- What don't you like?

**I like everything**

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

**Train greyhounds**

- What's your favourite movie?

**Men in Black I and II**

- What's your favourite TV shows?

**Prisoner on UK TV,**

**Blue Heelers & Medical Detectives**

- What's your favourite footy team?

**Brisbane Lions**

- Do you have any pets?

**George the parrot and 29 greyhounds, 13 of them are in training at the moment.**



## Composting at Home

A great way to reduce household waste and at the same time help your garden is to start a compost heap.

### What is composting:

Organic materials are broken down naturally by bacteria and fungi. Composting speeds up this process by providing an optimum environment for the transportation of organic wastes to the nutrient-rich end-product: humus. The whole process takes anywhere from weeks to months, depending on the composition of the pile. Composts add moisture and nutrients to your soil and improve soil structure so you will have a healthy and productive garden.

### Getting started:

You can start your compost in a heap in the corner of your yard in a well drained spot. You can also buy a compost bin or make a wooden box for the compost. Just remember to leave space

between the slats of wood for air circulation.

Alternate layers of garden waste and food scraps with a thin layer of soil. Keep it moist and stir up the compost every 1 to 3 weeks with a shovel.

The smaller the pieces of food and yard waste the faster it will decompose.

### No room for a bin:

You can start a compost wherever you are with a garbage bag. Compost made in a plastic bag will be more moist than outdoor piles and will therefore decompose faster.

Put your small scraps of kitchen waste in a black plastic bag, try to add coffee grounds and a few cups of top soil. Tie the bag and place it outside in a sunny spot. Composting should be completed in two to three weeks.

Empty the contents of the bag in a corner of your backyard or leave the bag open, dig in some more

top soil and let the pile continue to work for a few days. You can add your compost to indoor plants, your garden or potted plants outside.

### Good materials for composting:

In general, yard wastes and organic foods are good: grass clippings (if not recently treated with chemicals), dead leaves, shredded twigs and branches, weeds (avoid the seeds), flower cuttings, pruned material, all fruits, vegetables, grains, egg shells, baked goods, tea bags, coffee grounds, manure, hay and straw, even human hair and nails.

### You should avoid:

Roots of hardy weeds, dog or cat faeces, diseased plants, meat, poultry, fish, fat or oil, dairy products, bones, highly fatty foods such as salad dressing, paper wastes, large amounts of wood ash and any toxic materials such as household cleaners.

Source: Greenpeace

## CHRISTMAS RECYCLING TIP

**Keep in mind when purchasing wrapping paper for all your Christmas gifts to buy paper products which can be recycled**



## Computer Recycling

The word is out and we're receiving more and more computers for recycling every day at our Chaston Street depot, not to mention the growing number of collections from local businesses.

E Waste@Wagga and Allambie in Leeton have teams working to strip various components

from the computers and printers.

Some of the computers have gone to group homes and people in the community.

We've been able to sell some parts of the computers such as copper wire, circuit boards, scrap aluminium and steel. Until now the plastic products

such as keyboards and casings have been piling up.

Close The Loop in Melbourne have just moved to new premises and will shortly be ready to receive not only our plastic computer products such as casings and keyboards but also perspex products.

### Kurrajong Recyclers

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Wagga Wagga

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Email:

recyclers@kurrajongwaratah.org.au



### Christmas Gifts & Cards



Chauncy Cottage have a great selection of stocking fillers and cards, all hand made and completely special

Gift wrapping also available

38 Fitzhardinge Street

### CULINARY CAPERS

Stock up your freezer with goodies for all of those unexpected Christmas guests that 'pop in'

Ph: 6925 3422

## Disability Information - Fragile X Syndrome

Fragile X syndrome is a hereditary condition which causes a wide range of mental impairment, from mild learning to severe mental disability. It is the most common cause of genetically-inherited mental impairment affecting 1 in 4,000 males and 1 in 8,000 females. It is also associated with a number of physical and behavioural characteristics.

Fragile x syndrome is caused by a mutation in a gene, called FMR-1, located on the X chromosome.

Fragile X syndrome gets its name from the appearance of the section of the X chromosome where the gene

mutation occurs. Under a microscope, the section of the chromosome looks fragile, like it's dangling from a thread.

Children and adults with fragile X syndrome have varying degrees of learning disabilities, behavioural and emotional problems, including autistic-like features. Males tend to be more severely affected than females.

While many children with fragile X syndrome do not look any different from their peers, some have subtle physical differences such as a long narrow face, large ears, a high arched palate, flat feet

and overly flexible joints. Females tend to have fewer physical signs of the disorder.

Most children with fragile X syndrome do not experience medical problems and can live a normal life span. However, 20 percent develop seizures and they may also be at an increased risk of inner ear infections, vision problems and digestive disorders.

At this time there is no cure for fragile X syndrome. An early intervention program can help children reach their full potential through speech therapy, occupational therapy, special educators and paediatric care.

Please dispose of this newsletter thoughtfully

After you've read it of course

