



# ROUND-UP

The very latest news & reviews from Kurrajong Recyclers



Issue Four

October 2004

## FSC's 10th Anniversary

The FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organisation based in Bonn, Germany, that provides standard setting, trademark assurance and accreditation services for companies and organisations interested in responsible forestry.

FSC's mission is to promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests.

Over the past 10 years, 42 million hectares in more than 60 countries have been certified according to FSC standards while several thousand products are produced using FSC certified wood and carrying the FSC trademark (pictured above).

Hancock Victorian Plantations (HVP), Australia's largest private forest plantation owner, has become one of only two

Australian companies to be awarded FSC certification. The other is a small-scale farm-forestry operation in Tasmania.

HVP who own 245,000 ha of plantations across Victoria, has undergone the inspection and evaluation to comply with an internationally agreed set of strict environmental, social and economic standards to enable them to achieve certification.

In attaining FSC accreditation, HVP has implemented standards of forest management that have included protecting 32,000 ha of the forests in the Strzelecki ranges as custodial lands (forests which will be managed for their biodiversity values). FSC certification has required HVP to set high standards of pesticide management including a phase-out of the use of simazine, which is particularly important as many plantations are located

in water supply catchments.

"Consumers increasingly want to know about the environmental and social 'footprint' of the timber and other forest products they buy. FSC certification provides credible assurance of good performance, including the protection of native vegetation and the proper management of chemicals ... Badly managed forestry is one of the greatest threats to forest-dwelling species. In Australia, some states such as Tasmania still permit environmentally destructive forestry practices such as logging of high conservation value forests, and the conversion of native forest to plantations. David Butcher CEO, WWF Aust.

Bunnings and IKEA only use FSC certified timber. As consumers we have the power to save the environment by making the right decisions about the products we buy and use.

## Griffith Council News

Kurrajong Recyclers participated as a stakeholder in an EPA funded Solid Waste Minimisation project. The project ran for 18 months and was co-ordinated by the Griffith City Council with specialist advice from CSU School of Wine and Food Science, Griffith Recycling, Kurrajong

Recyclers and Riverina FARM.

The purpose of the project was to identify the volumes of organic and inorganic wastes generated by food processing in the Griffith Region. With the impact of the drought in the survey period, almost all of the

organic waste was used as stock feed in one form or another. By identifying the inorganic wastes and consulting with the recycling companies the final report was able to identify strategies to ensure that more of the wastes were recycled rather than landfilled.

### Are you buying environmentally friendly paper products?

Spare a thought for the environment next time you purchase A4 copy paper for the home or office.

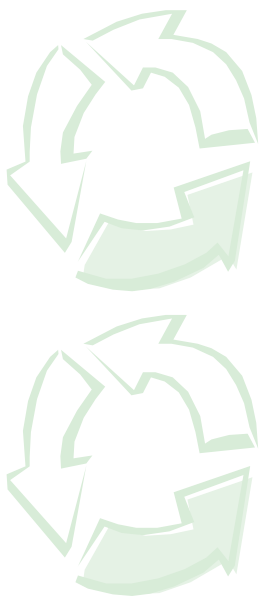
Ask if the paper is sourced from manufacturers with FSC or ISO 14000 approved standards.

ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) is a worldwide federation concentrated on reducing the environmental impact of product manufacturing.

Use your consumer dollar wisely and save our environment ensuring a better future for everyone.

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## Geoff's News



We all know the great benefits of the recycling effort that stems from Kurrajong Recyclers. But

we can do better. Each day I watch the waste bins fill up with materials that could be recycled – if we had enough of the item.

The current buzz in the waste industry is AWT (Alternative Waste Technology). The biggest and best of the AWT's is the new plant opened on the 8<sup>th</sup> September by Global Renewables at Eastern Creek in Sydney to take one sixth of Sydney's Municipal Solid Wastes and produce separated recycled materials, gas for power generation (and use to run the factory) and an organic compost. The plant

is expected to divert over 80% of the original material from landfill.

By combining a number of existing technologies in the one plant Global Renewables will have a sophisticated new system with hopefully few difficulties by using proven technology. When at maximum capacity the plant will remove the equivalent emissions of 50,000 cars each year. Global Renewables have been able to on sell the carbon credits.

Of the 3 billion aluminium cans sold in Australia each year close to 70% are recycled!

## Depot News

### Congratulations

### Michael Eggleton

In September Kurrajong Recyclers employee Michael Eggleton was successful in gaining his truck license.

### NEW SITE FOR RECYCLERS

A new depot for Kurrajong Recyclers is now a step closer to reality with the purchase of land.

The property is currently leased with residents in the house and race horses relaxing in the paddock.

Steve Davis married his long time fiancé Donna in September

*Congratulations!*



## RECYCLE ME - Aluminium Cans & Foil



Aluminium is extracted from the ore BAUXITE where it exists as the compound Aluminium Hydroxide.

The ore must be refined to separate it from the other compounds. The ALUMINA is then smelted by electrolysis to produce molten aluminium which is cast into ingots for rolling.

Once in the metallic form, an Aluminium can, can be easily remelted over and over again using a small amount of the energy required to produce new aluminium.

Almost all aluminium is

produced in alloy form with up to 15 per cent of other elements to modify its properties of strength, hardness, weldability and machinability.

It is important that only aluminium cans and CLEAN foil be placed together for recycling as these items were produced from the same alloy.

Australia is a world leader in the recycling of aluminium cans. Over 60 per cent of aluminium cans sold are returned for recycling into new aluminium cans.

Aluminium cans have a

number of advantages:

- A longer shelf life for the contents (with no taste imparted from can to beverage).
- Light weight container being cheaper and easier to transport and handle.
- Quick to chill due to its high thermal conductivity.
- Better surface quality for printing.
- High value metal - aluminium cans comprise a very small percentage of any litter surveys.

## Meet your friendly recycler – Tony Arrowsmith

- How long have you worked at Recyclers?

13 years, a total of 26 years with Kurrajong Waratah

- What do you like best about your job?

Driving the bobcat

- What don't you like?

Too much cardboard!

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

Go to The Oasis

- What's the last movie you watched?

Spiderman 2

- What's your favourite TV shows?

The Nanny and The Comedy Company on Pay TV

- What's your favourite footy team?

Parramatta

- Do you have any pets?

No

- What have you got planned for your next holiday?

I'm going to Gosford to play bowls and stay with my sister in November



## City to Soil

Queenbeyan have just conducted a trial to assess the market potential for composted household organics. Organics from the City taken to improve the Soil on farms.

From previous attitude surveys it was identified that the general community were passionate about the environment. However they are disengaged from the process when technologically complex systems of waste disposal are employed.

The City to Soil project set out to educate and engage

the community in the issues for improving the quality of organics collected from households. A series of newsletters served to present information to residents. A contamination audit system was instituted and a reward system was implemented and promoted.

The community attitude was sampled at the end of the project and the reward system was identified as impacting positively on household behaviour. The data revealed a 64% lower contamination rate by volume

in the trial collection area.

The benefits of low contamination composted organics in soil conditioning are: Composted greenwaste modifies the temperature of the soil under frost. Composted greenwaste has a significant impact on nutrients and salts which increase soil fertility and reduces acidity. Modified soil nutrients translates into significantly increased plant vigour, strength, and higher fruit yield. Soil moisture content is increased under greenwaste mulch, particularly when regularly applied.

### DID YOU KNOW?

*A one litre milk carton can produce between 5 and 7 sheets of A4 paper.*

## Sharps Stickers

In our first issue we reported the forming of a committee to address the hazard of sharps in the community. The committee have successfully launched an 'info line' and a sticker with the aim of reducing dangerous needle-stick injuries.

Skills Options will be working with Kurrajong Recyclers to place the stickers on residential recycling bins in Wagga Wagga.

Due to the high amount of needles we regularly see in the recycling stream we are hopeful that the stickers will raise public awareness of the correct way to dispose of needles.

Disposal containers have also been located at local pharmacies and council toilet blocks in the main street, Collins Park and the Botanic Gardens.





## Recyclers Social Club

Each payweek Friday we have a barbeque at Recyclers run by the social club.

There's a change of menu each time with great food like, chicken burgers, hotdogs, mixed grills, hamburgers and chicken & chips.

We try to cover costs with the emphasis being on having a good time and socialising.

The social club owns the drink machine at our depot and the money is banked and goes towards functions and trips away.

Over the years we've enjoyed trips to the snow, the coast and an inland lakeside resort. We've enjoyed a club dinner and most importantly we fund our work Christmas party at

the end of each year.

Our end of year function is open to partners and parents and we use this opportunity to give out employee achievement awards for their good work during the year.

We hope to make this year the best ever!

### Kurrajong Recyclers

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### CULINARY CAPERS



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Ph: 6925 3422

### Kurrajong Waratah ART UNION

**First Prize - your choice of Toyota vehicle/s to the value of \$60,000 from Thomas Bros**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

outside MYER or phone (02) 6925 5002  
Permit No. AU045-04/0268

### Kurrajong Waratah



**Christmas Shopping Fair**

9am to 4pm  
Sunday 21st November  
at  
Kyeamba Smith Hall

## Disability Information - Down Syndrome

Down syndrome affects people of all ages, races and economic levels. It is one of the most frequently occurring chromosomal anomalies found in humans and represents about 350 births in Australia each year. It is one of the most common known causes of intellectual disability.

Down syndrome is caused by an extra copy of chromosome 21 inside each of the body's cells. It is a chromosomal accident, not caused by anything the parents may have done before or during pregnancy. Down syndrome is recognisable at birth because of some typical characteristics and diagnosis will be confirmed by chromosome

analysis.

While people with Down syndrome do have features in common, they will also closely resemble their parents and family. Many characteristics are attributed to Down syndrome, but any one person will have only some of them. Each person is an individual, with a unique appearance, personality and set of abilities. The extent to which each person shows the physical characteristics of the syndrome is no indication of his or her intellectual capacity.

Most people with Down syndrome fall in the mild to moderate range of intellectual disability. Children with Down syndrome can definitely learn,

and educators and researchers are still discovering the full educational potential of people with Down syndrome.

Source [www.dsnsw.org.au](http://www.dsnsw.org.au)

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After you've read it of course

