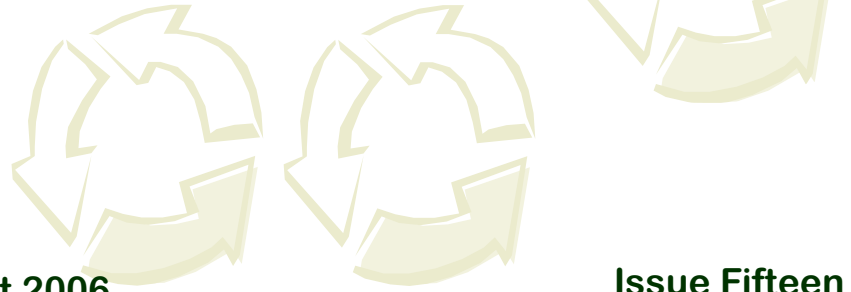




ROUND-UP

The very latest news & reviews from Kurrajong Recyclers



August 2006

Issue Fifteen

SPOT A TOSSER

1. Local window cleaner seen emptying the contents of his car ashtray into the gutter of the main street
2. Cleaner at the local court office sweeping a plastic bottle and waste filled plastic bag into the street

Between common sense and media information you would like to think that people are aware of the effects of waste in the storm water system - the effects on our water ways can be devastating

REPORT A TOSSER

Email Round-Up
recyclers@kurrajongwaratah.org.au

Gregadoo Waste Transfer Station

Kurrajong Recyclers have supplied recycling bins to Wagga City Council's new transfer station to assist in diverting approximately 200 tonnes of material from landfill each year.

Previously Recyclers only had bins placed at Aussie Junk for Wagga residents wishing to recycle before entering the landfill.

The new facility allows for the inclusion of plastic bag recycling as well as the usual containers and cardboard to be diverted resulting in an increase of more than double the amount collected previously.

Although the introduction of the new waste transfer system had a few teething problems initially, WWCC staff are now organised and trained up on the various materials that can be recycled here in Wagga Wagga.

Unlike other transfer stations where you can drop-off recyclables prior to entering the landfill, the Wagga transfer station requires public to enter over the weighbridge beforehand so that you actually have to pay for the materials you are diverting from landfill as well as the waste you are

dropping off.

Given the expense of recycling at the transfer station members of the public should keep in mind that Kurrajong Recyclers still maintain drop-off bins at Aussie Junk and at our Chaston Street depot where you can leave recyclable materials free of charge.

New waste disposal cells are costly to the public to construct so the more material we can divert from landfill the longer the life of the waste cells.

Inside this issue:

- Geoff's Desk 2
- New Tipper 2
- Meet - Jeff Doherty 3
- Visy Night Out 3
- Regional Recycling 3
- Recycling Figures 4
- Disability Info 4



↑ One of the cardboard recycling bins at the Gregadoo Transfer Station

→ One of the container recycling bins at the Gregadoo Transfer Station



↑ Contamination at the transfer station is still an issue, pictured here: timber, plastic film, cardboard and strapping found in the Garden Waste bin



From Geoff's desk



In July I travelled with our CEO Steve Jaques to visit a number of recycling facilities that are significant or new and thus could represent the style of processing that we anticipate for our new site.

The first site was the JR Richards facility at Orange. This facility has only been operating since the beginning of the year and is located

at the Orange Landfill. Materials are brought to the site from as far away as Forbes and Parkes and could potentially come from Bathurst also. The facility processes 13,000 tonnes annually (we processed over 10,000 tonnes in 2004/5). The Orange facility receives 50 tonne per day yet is able to process this material over only 3 days of work due to the mechanisation of the sorting process. The Orange plant was built in only 2 months due to the start of a new contract.

We were able to discuss with the manager any aspects of the development that he felt could be improved given the rushed installation.

The second site was the facility Earth Care which services the Gosford area. This facility processes over 350 tonnes per day and has onsite colour sorting of all their glass. This process only requires one manual

sorter/supervisor. The glass is then graded and prepared for a number of different markets.

The Earth Care facility had been built and managed for the last 5 years by Daniel Waddington of the Australian Bale Press Company (ABPC). Following our evening tour of the plant we met with Daniel for breakfast the next morning and discussed issues regarding the supply and installation of a cardboard press and full sorting plants. ABPC also designed and installed the Orange facility.

The last tour for our trip was the Visy facility at Smithfield. This was commissioned two weeks before our visit and processes material from the local area and as far away as Blacktown. This material is transported in walking floor semi trailers. The Visy plant requires 8 manual sorters and is projected to process around 200,000 tonnes annually and had been run at 65 tonnes an hour prior to our visit.

Bottled or Tap?

Australians consumed around 550 megalitres of bottled water in 2004-2005

More than 900 millions drink bottles were generated with 60 per cent littered or landfilled

Each litre of bottled water uses 2-3 litres of raw water, plus fossil fuels for packaging

Depot News

Congratulations

Cathy Boyton

Cathy completed a four day course in OH&S consultation and can now represent recyclers on the OH&S committee

NEW EQUIPMENT

Our new cardboard conveyor has proved so efficient that we are looking to order a cardboard press to go with it, we hope to have it installed before the Christmas rush around the same time as we expect the arrival of the new replacement bobcat!

Waterless Urinals

Our Chaston Street depot is now even more environmentally friendly with the installation of two waterless urinals saving up to 100,000 litres of water a year

Info: www.lwgemmel.com.au

New Tipper Truck



Pictured: Paul Webber, Supervisor Tony Luff & Lincoln Donohoo

Recyclers received delivery of our replacement Tipper truck in July with Iveco being the brand that best fit in with our requirements.

When the old Isuzu Tipper reached 100,000 kms we decided to conduct a more in depth investigation to find a vehicle that not only did the required work but was in line with our business philosophy.

With environmental conservation in mind we selected a vehicle that boasted the best fuel efficiency in

the range therefore also cutting emissions by a significant amount. The new Iveco requires servicing at 30,000 km intervals meaning waste generated such as oil and filters is also significantly reduced. Add to this superior driver comfort and vehicle performance and you get a truck that out-matches any in it's class.

All we need to do now is settle the fight over who gets to drive it!

Meet your friendly recycler – Jeff Doherty

- How long have you worked at Recyclers

Since January 1985

- What do you like best about your job?

Working on the trucks

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

Go on weekend outings, taking walks and watching DVDs

- What's your favourite TV show?

The Simpsons & Neighbours. I also like watching Collingwood play footy

- What sort of music do you listen to?

All sorts, my favourite singer is Bruce Springsteen, I also like The Spice Girls and Michael Jackson



Night Out on VISY

As reported in Round-up Issue 13 Kurrajong Recyclers received a \$1000 bonus from Visy Recyclers. The bonus was awarded due to superior cardboard quantities sent to Visy's Smithfield plant during the last quarter of 2005.

Visy Recyclers intended the bonus to be spent on a function to be enjoyed by the

Recycler's workers.

On Saturday 15th July we got together for a dinner at The Red Steer.

Around 60 people attended the dinner. It was a great opportunity to get to know each other better especially our newer Recycler's workers, family members, partners,

carers and friends.

Special thanks to Dave Stewart who kindly volunteered to drive the Kurrajong bus around Wagga picking everyone up and later dropping everyone at home.

Requests have been received at the Recyclers office to make this a monthly event - we wish!

Regional Recycling

GRIFFITH

Kurrajong Recyclers were invited to Griffith on the 20th July to make a presentation of our capabilities to a committee of RIVROC regarding their request for expressions of interest for kerbside collections and waste processing. The presentation went well and we may be selected to prepare a full tender based on the deliberations of the committee.

NARRANDERA

Cypress Centre Recycling in Narrandera is now up and running with nearly a full semi-trailer load of cardboard pressed to date. Next activities are a tree planting exercise to improve the landscaping and screening of the site and a local marketing exercise to promote collections to the local businesses.

GREATER HUME SHIRE

This shire has recently released a tender for the collection of garbage and recyclables with some innovative requirements.

As much as we advocate the use of recycled material it is sometimes difficult to ensure that the small additional cost is valued by our customers. In this instance the council has specified in the tender documents that all MGBs provided have a minimum post consumer Australian plastic content of 30%, that all printed matter stock contain a minimum of 50% recycled content and that the successful contractor join and comply with the standards of the Clean Fleet Program for diesel vehicle maintenance, a real win for the environment and the promotion of recycling.

WEST WYALONG

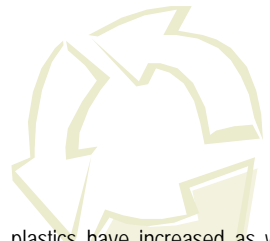
SPINS staff have been trying to clear a backlog of material but are restricted due to the state of the surface. To establish a site in West Wyalong we were forced to move the press to leased premises in an unserved area of the town. The recent rain has hampered the smooth running of pressing cardboard. We are urgently considering options for suitable shed facilities.

Environmental News

The proportion of four cylinder passenger cars used by government agencies in Australia rose from 33 per cent prior to 2005 to 44 per cent at the end of May this year.

This has cut CO2 emissions by over 1,000 tonnes a year and generated fleet cost savings of \$2.26 million

2005-2006 Recycling Figures



Cardboard	7176 Tonne
White Paper	182 Tonne
Aluminium	44 Tonne
Steel	90 Tonne
PET	132 Tonne
HDPE	86 Tonne
HDPE/PP	129 Tonne
PVC	12 Tonne
LDPE	106 Tonne
Glass	1241 Tonne
Binder Glass	668 Tonne

While the total tonnage is down on last year these figures are skewed because of timing. The sending of loads and accumulation of stock at our site can affect the annual totals – it just depends how long it takes to make a load.

While the effect of the drought has had an impact in this regional area we can assume that some lack of disposable income means less consumption of luxuries meaning less bottles, cans and the cardboard that contained them.

In this year only coloured plastics and glass have shown any increase. Coloured mixed

plastics have increased as we include more materials in the product lineup. Items such as old wheelie bins, truck mudguards, broken milk crates and other large plastic items have resulted in an increase of 60% in one year. Again we need to consider that some of this may be related to end of year stock carry over.

It is difficult to pinpoint a single reason for the increase in glass volumes of over 8% in one year. One reason could be the increasing packaging of mixer drinks in glass and a move to a consumer preference for glass packaging of soft drink and other food items.

Do not miss this year's IMPOSSIBLE SPECTACULAR!

Highlight your year by seeing "The Impossible Spectacular 2006" at the Riverina Playhouse, Wagga Wagga.

"The Impossible Spectacular 2006" will showcase the talents of artists with a disability from Wagga Wagga, Leeton and Tumut. This production will be great family entertainment with film, music, dance and performance for the audience to take delight in.

Saturday 23rd September at 6.30pm & Sunday 24th September at 2.00pm

Tickets: \$17.00 Adults

\$ 6.50 Children, Pensioners and Students

Bookings can be made through the Civic Theatre

Book your tickets early and don't miss out on getting a seat to such a terrific and inspiring show



Michelle Anderson plays Bertha in "Bertha and the Silver Suit"

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Intellectual Disability

Around one percent of Australia's population has an intellectual disability, three quarters will have a mild disability and the remainder will be affected either moderately, severely or profoundly.

People with an intellectual disability will have a significantly below average intelligence and experience difficulties with the personal skills needed for everyday living.

Most cases of intellectual disability have no known cause however measures taken before and during pregnancy as well as after birth can assist in preventing and identifying cases such as:

- Rubella vaccination for schoolgirls
- Identifying special education needs
- Good care during pregnancy,

labour and soon after birth

- Screening tests for newborn babies
- Early detection of 'high risk' pregnancies
- Early detection of sight and hearing problems
- Regular visits to Maternal and Child health services.

Known causes of intellectual disabilities include:

- Brain injury or infection before, during or after birth
- Growth or nutrition problems, poor diet and health care
- Abnormalities of chromosomes and genes
- Babies born extremely premature
- Drug misuse during pregnancy including alcohol intake and smoking

People with an intellectual disability still experience and feel

emotions like joy, hurt, pride, jealousy and anger. They also want to experience the same life opportunities as everyone else.

Early detection, intervention and ongoing support can assist people to develop skills to enrich their lives working and living in the community.

Source: www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Please dispose of this newsletter thoughtfully
After you've read it of course

