



BIEDO Clean and Clever Inland Newsletter

Issue Five, December 2011

Welcome to our Christmas edition of our Clean and Clever Inland Newsletter.

Not only do we have some great tips on having an 'eco-friendly' Christmas, but we're also featuring some terrific outcomes for the Clean and Clever project, including BIEDO's facilitation of important meetings between waste management representatives from our local Councils (South, North, Gympie and Cherbourg). See our story on Page 2 for more details. We believe the meetings will lead to greater collaboration and innovative strategies for the use of all types of waste generated by our region.

I'd also encourage you to contact our Clean and Clever Coordinator, Tameka Gogerly if you'd like to get your business involved in Clean and Clever Business 'Clusters' (see story page 2) currently being set up around the region.

Please call her on 0400 723 0700 to find out how you can get involved.

Linda Silburn,
CEO, BIEDO



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Sustainable Business Profile

Australian FIRST for Kingaroy's SKYShades!

Locally based Kingaroy business, SKYShades Qld South West, has installed the very first set of 'thin film' lightweight silicon solar electricity generation cells on a commercial rural property in Australia, right here in the Inland Burnett.

The 20KW cells were installed on a farm shed for G. Crumpton and Son at Crawford, well known local peanut processors, and will generate electricity for the processing shed as well as feed power back into the grid.

Bob Weller of SKYShades says it's terrific to achieve this first for our region and shows that primary producers and local business in the Inland Burnett are keen to use the latest technology to reduce their carbon footprint, as well as reduce their electricity costs.

"The system we installed on the Crumpton's processing shed is lightweight and flexible, making it a perfect match for structures such as farm sheds, which aren't often strong enough to carry traditional solar panels," Bob said.

"It is an amorphous silicon technology which converts light into electricity. This means the system doesn't require 'angling' to the sun and can be installed flat, reducing the likelihood of wind damage to both the cells and the roof," he said.

"When the system was fully installed it was fantastic to see the metre spinning backwards, even when all the machinery in the shed was turned on. We hope even more businesses in the Inland take up this amazing technology," Bob said.

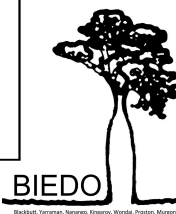
For further information about thin film flexible PV solar cells, please contact Bob Weller at SKYShades at bobandrobyn@skyshades.com.au or phone 4162 5138.



Above: The flexible, lightweight silicon cells are unpacked, ready for installation.
Below: The SKYShades solar cell installation will power machinery in the Crumpton's peanut processing shed as well as feed electricity back into the grid.



 <p>Go Green Generation 27 Alford Street, KINGAROY Q 4610 P 4162 8336 F 4162 3631 M 0412 779 122 gogreengeneration@me.com gogreengeneration.com ABN 855 206 148 33</p>	 <p>Clean Energy Council ACCREDITED</p> <p>Greg Taffe BCSE Accreditation - P2280 Electrical Contractors License - 60117 Dean Price BCSE Accreditation - P2553 Electrical Workers License - 105836 Kelly Taffe Home Sustainability Assessor - HO51688</p>			
				



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BIEDO Clean and Clever Inland - For Business

Councils working together to tackle Waste

Through our *Clean and Clever Project*, BIEDO is facilitating discussions between Councils of the Inland Burnett and Gympie region to tackle recycling strategies for the region. Working together are the North Burnett Regional Council, South Burnett Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council and Gympie Regional Council.

To date, two meetings have been held, with more planned for 2012. Key discussion topics have included sharing information on current practices, future targets, the introduction of the Commercial Waste Levy by the Qld Government (1st Dec 2011), and the feasibility for various waste diversion opportunities within the regions. BIEDO is looking forward to helping the Council's continue their planning sessions and identifying future positive opportunities for our region.



Working together to find strategic solutions for waste in our region were from l to r (at front) Tanya Allen and Ian Wolff (Gympie Regional Council), Sue Paul (North Burnett Regional Council), Ian Coulson (South Burnett Regional Council), Andrew Beckett and Percy Stewart (Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council) and (at back) Tameka Gogerly (BIEDO Clean and Clever Officer), Sean Nicholson (Cherbourg ASC), Phil Harding (SBRC) and Peter Fletcher (Cherbourg ASC)

South Burnett Community Plan aims for Clean and Clever

The South Burnett community have really gotten behind "Clean and Clever" with the program adopted as an Key 'Action' in the region's Community Plan. Under

Goal 2.2.1 (Educate and promote to residents on how to be sustainable), Clean and Clever is listed as a Long Term Goal, which aims to ensure the region is widely known as being "Clean and Clever"! To read the plan, visit

www.southburnett.qld.gov.au



Get Involved in Clean and Clever

There are so many ways your business or group can be involved in "Clean and Clever". Here's some ideas:

- 1) Participate in a "Clean and Clever Business Assessment".** Tameka Gogerly can provide a consultation, site assessment and full report outlining achievements, practical solutions to current practices and potential costs savings (where applicable). The first hour is free (\$55/hour to complete the report and any necessary research). We already have ten businesses lined up for the New Year... why don't you make a booking too!
- 2) Business Toolkits.** BIEDO will soon have DIY toolkits for sale to help your reduce resource use, reduce costs and increase profits. Toolkits are tailored for specific industries including Hospitality and Tourism, Manufacturing, Retail and Offices, Personal Service (hair and beauty) and Primary Production.
- 3) Join a Business 'Cluster'.** We need businesses who are willing to form small clusters (3-5 per cluster) to work together (through a toolkit) to reduce their water, waste and energy use. Clusters can be arranged to suit locality, size or industry. BIEDO is hoping to kick-start the Clusters in the New Year.
- 4) Tell us about your eco-friendly goods.** BIEDO is putting together a "Clean and Clever' Business Directory. If you sell or supply 'environmentally friendly' goods or services in the Inland Burnett we can advertise your business in our on-line Clean and Clever Business Directory... **Free** for the first 12 months!



Blackbutt, Yarraman, Narengo, Kingaroy, Wondai, Preston, Murgon, Cherbourg, Coonamb, Kilbourn, Biggenden, Mt Perry, Grenada, Mundubberri, Eidsvold, Monto and districts

Expression of Interest... Would your group or business like to know more about being 'Clean and Clever'. Why not hold an information session, workshop or coffee table talk with BIEDO's Clean and Clever Officer, Tameka Gogerly. Tameka can come to your office or next meeting to tell you more about the project and how to better manage your resources (water, waste and energy). She can even conduct an audit of your current usage to help you reduce costs and increase profits.

Just give Tameka a call on 0400 723 070 or email biedocleanandclever@burnett.net.au

Save money and get Clean and Clever at Home

An Eco-friendly Christmas!

Christmas isn't usually known as an eco-friendly occasion with masses of Christmas paper, Christmas cards, ribbons, boxes and quite often, presents that are discarded after one use. Here are some tips to make your Christmas a little more mindful of the environment:



- Reuse your wrapping paper, boxes and ribbon. Save it for the following year and reduce the amount that ends up in landfill.
- Reuse your Christmas cards by creating new 'handmade' ones from the old. Try eco-cards made from recycled materials, or send an electronic card
- Buy a gift that you know is needed or maybe buy a gift voucher from a local service provider (such as a painter or mechanic) if you know the recipient needs that service.
- Think about buying a gift that will help reduce resource use and costs. For example, a 'SmartSwitch' which plugs into your appliance and power point and switches off when the appliance hasn't been used for a set period. Or, how about a flow restrictor showerhead.
- Think about buying ethical gifts, such as fair-trade products, or products that empower diverse groups of people. Or purchase gifts from organisations such as Oxfam or give donations in honour of your loved ones.
- Combine your budget with other people and purchase one larger present together rather than many smaller gifts.
- Look for local products and services. Gift baskets, accommodation vouchers, tickets to the movies, and other local activities that bring enjoyment.
- Eliminate secret Santa activities or adjust the tradition. What about a secret Santa raffle where everyone puts money towards the intended present (money, service, gift certificate etc.) and then the person who has the correct raffle number receives the gift. Saves the hassle of buying something for someone you don't know and reduces the amount of 'unwanted' gifts.
- Don't let your excess food go to waste. Invite your friends around and have a left-over meal



How about an Eco-friendly Christmas Holiday!

Have you ever considered your environmental footprint when you choose a holiday destination? While the ideal solution would involve finding a destination not too far from home, which support neighbouring businesses and lowers your carbon miles (transportation), you may decide to travel further afield. When you're planning your adventure, why not consider becoming an eco-tourist!

The definition of ecotourism adopted by Ecotourism Australia is:

"Ecotourism is ecologically sustainable tourism with a primary focus on experiencing natural areas that fosters environmental and cultural understanding, appreciation and conservation".

There are a range of 'green' hotels, motels, cabins, and backpacker accommodation around Australia and overseas to suit different budgets and occasions. These facilities offer accommodation with environmental sustainability as their main focus. It may be in the form of sustainable building materials, reduced water, waste or energy, or perhaps other methods of lessening their impact on the environment.

See the websites below for ideas on eco-friendly holidays:

www.ecotourism.org.au

www.ecohotel.com.au

Tell us about the foods you produce...

To help us understand more about food production in our region, BIEDO is conducting a 'Regional Audit of Food Production and Processing' - looking at everything from what we grow in our backyard veggie patches to food produced by our major primary producers. The aim of the Food Audit is to identify where food is currently being grown and processed (this type of information is currently not available). We hope it will uncover what we already believe is a wide scope of food production in our region. Information gathered will help to:

- 1) Protect food supply in our region— highlighted by the floods, and isolation experienced by some communities—the audit will help us be more informed during times of natural disasters, and assist SES and other emergency services to deliver of food.
- 2) Identify if this region could be a 'food basket' - the information may provide opportunities to expand food production in the region.

BIEDO has been actively promoting and distributing the survey at 'Growing the Burnett Inc' Fresh Food Forums.

Contact Tameka Gogerly on 0400 723 070 if you'd like to be involved or have any questions.



Tameka Gogerly, BIEDO's Clean and Clever Officer, helps Tracy Rockemer of Boobyjan with her Food Audit.



BIEDO
Biodiversity, Inclusion, Education, Outreach, Research, Monitoring, Reporting, and
Communication

BIEDO Clean and Clever Inland - Garden News

Focus on Biggenden State School's Permaculture Garden

The staff and students at Biggenden State School really do love their permaculture garden! The garden has literally 'grown' beyond belief and this year, they also won a Stephan Alexander grant to extend the garden and build a kitchen. Another innovative outcome is the sale of parsley to the local Biggenden Butcher. What a great idea!



Above: The Biggenden garden when it first began several years ago. Below and left: And today! Look how it's grown!



Quesadillas

Ingredients

- 400g can red kidney beans
- 6x 20cm round flour tortillas (high fibre)
- 1 cup low fat cheese or mozzarella
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1 teaspoon lime juice
- 2 tbsp chopped coriander leaves
- 2 tomatoes diced
- 1/4 cup salsa
- 1 avocado

Method

1. Place kidney beans in a bowl and mash with a fork. Stir through salsa, salt and pepper.
2. To make quesadilla, lay a tortilla flat. Spread with a little of the bean mixture, some cheese and green onion. Repeat process with another tortilla and place on top of the first. Top with another tortilla to form a stack. Repeat.
3. Mix together avocado, chilli, coriander and lime juice in a small bowl and set aside.
4. Heat large non-stick frying pan over a medium heat. Place one quesadilla in the pan, making sure it remains flat. Cook for 4-5 minutes. Gently slide out of the pan and turn over. Cook for a further 4-5 minutes until golden and crisp around the edges.
5. Cut into wedges and serve with avocado mixture. Serves 4.

News from Pound Street Community Garden, Kingaroy

An enthusiastic group of supporters attended the second 'Open Day' at the Pound Street Community Garden on Saturday 19th November. Representatives from Stanwell, RHealth, BIEDO and the South Burnett Regional Council came along to help spread the word about the garden and how the community can get involved. Many thanks to Kingaroy Rotary for cooking up a very yummy, healthy breakfast! If you'd like more information about the Kingaroy Community Garden, how you can get involved, or how you can organise your own plot, please contact Berneice at RHealth on 4162 5230.



Above: Getting ready to plant out some gardens were Nicole Connolly (Stanwell), Grace Gibson (BIEDO) and Kerrie & Mitchell Zeller (RHealth).

Right: Damien Tessman and Karen Baron of Kingaroy Rotary cooked up the healthy food at the Pound Street Open Day on 19th November.

