



## Post-event information for participants

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After taking part in WWViews you may be keen to tell people about it, whether it be media, your local politician, your community or friends and family. This document provides information about some ways that you could do this, for those who want to.

### How you can help to tell people about WWViews and take personal action on climate change

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We have previously provided advice on talking to the **media**. If you are interested in the WWViews media coverage over the last couple of weeks, take a look at the WWViews website (<http://www.wwviews.org.au/in-the-news>). We update the website when we receive articles so keep checking it during the coming months. If you are interviewed for the newspaper, radio or TV, or you come across any articles about WWViews, please let us know and send us a copy if you can. We'll add it to the website.

Some participants have expressed an interest in speaking about WWViews to their local **politician** or sharing their experience with their local community e.g. as a speaker to a **local community group**. For those who are interested in this we have provided information about how to go about it, and information about some resources you can use.

A number of participants have also asked us how they can **learn more** about climate change and what they themselves can do to take action, whether it be in their personal lives or in their community. This document provides information on some of the many **books, films, websites, events and groups** that are dealing with climate change, sustainability and personal action. There is so much information out there that this list would turn into a book if we included them all! These are some suggestions about where to start, but we would encourage you to explore the internet, your libraries, bookstores and talk to other people and organisations.

We understand that these actions & resources won't be of interest to everyone, but for those who have requested extra information we hope that this helps. See also the last page for information on some of the things WWViews participants have told us they have been busy doing.

Good luck with whatever you choose to do!

The WWViews Team



## How to tell politicians about WWViews

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### What can I do?

Action in this area could include:

- A visit to the offices of your local politicians to personally discuss your participation in WWViews.
- You could discuss any elements of the WWViews experience or process that you thought were interesting; or highlight any aspects of the results and recommendations that you found particularly interesting.
- Write a letter to your local politicians to tell them about WWViews and ask what action they are taking on climate change in your local area.
- If you are dissatisfied with the local political response to climate change, you could initiate a community petition to encourage action from your MP.

### Write a letter to your local politicians

Writing a letter to your local politician can be more effective than most people believe. Most politicians take notice of letters that are written by an individual, particularly if it is in your own words and hand signed. A personal letter can have more impact than petitions.

We have drafted a letter (located on our website) that you might like to use as the basis of a letter to your local politician, or feel free to use your own words. It's best to keep letters to no more than 1 or 2 pages as this is more likely to get attention.

There are a number of websites that provide tips about writing letters to the politicians, such as:

[http://www.actnow.com.au/Tool/How\\_to\\_write\\_a\\_letter\\_to\\_a\\_politician.aspx](http://www.actnow.com.au/Tool/How_to_write_a_letter_to_a_politician.aspx)

<http://www.efa.org.au/Campaigns/lobby.html#mps>

### Who are my local politicians at the council, state and federal level?

To find out who the local Councilor, State or Federal MP is for your area or who the Ministers are for the various State, Territory and Federal Departments, visit the Australian government website. This site provides links to all State, Territory and Federal politicians throughout Australia: <http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/our-government>

To find out which electorate you live in, click on the following links:

- Federal electorates: <http://apps.aec.gov.au/eseach/>
- State electorates: <http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/our-government/government-in-australia-faq>. Scroll down to the bottom of the page to Question 4 and click on your state or territory.
- Council electorates: <http://www.australia.gov.au/topics/government-and-parliament/local-government>. Click on the link for your state or territory and search through the local government website for your local council electorate.



## How to engage your community

You may want to tell people in your local community about WWViews and what you learned through it. This could include talking to your local sporting club, rotary club, school or any other organisation you think might be interested in hearing from you.

We are in the process of preparing a powerpoint presentation, which you will be able to download from our website, which you can use to help present information. If you prefer not to or aren't able to use the powerpoint, photos from the event will also be a useful tool in showing people what you did. We added new photos to our website last week. Take a look at: <http://teknologiraad.surffoffice.eu/1/307>.

Speaking to an audience can be a little daunting if you're not used to it, so below are some tips on presentation:

- Keep presentations brief - no more than fifteen minutes - as attention spans begin to wane, and people will be keen to ask you questions.
- Give practical examples of what you did as it helps people relate to what you are saying.
- Aim for three to five main points in your talk.
- Make it personable and friendly - people will listen more readily if they feel comfortable with the speaker and can follow what you're saying.
- If you fumble at the start of your talk, smile, laugh at your nervousness and start again. Most people understand about being nervous in front of a group and it shows you are human! It is not a problem to stop, take a drink of water, take a breath and continue the presentation.
- Have some extra information available for those who would like to know more about your topic.

The links below include information and tips on some other ways to engage your community.

### *How to organise a workshop:*

[http://www.actnow.com.au/Tool/Talking\\_shop.aspx](http://www.actnow.com.au/Tool/Talking_shop.aspx)

### *Community Climate Action Kit:*

[http://www.acfonline.org.au/default.asp?section\\_id=239](http://www.acfonline.org.au/default.asp?section_id=239) and click on the tab called 'Better the Space You Occupy'. Open the document entitled 'Community Climate Action Kit' which has a comprehensive range of information and suggestions about engaging the community through media, politicians, creating a group or organising a climate change event.



There are many ways in which you can take action on climate change. It can start in your own home, it can be for yourself or for your family, or it can be as part of a local, national or international group. The following suggestions may help you to get started.

## Events

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Below is a selection of just a few of the climate change and related events across Australia and around the world within the next few months.

### Climate change

#### *Climate Conversation*

- <http://www.climateconversation.org.au/>
- “Activate” training workshop in Sydney, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2009
- Organised by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, a one-day interactive training workshop to provide people with a range of tools, skills and resources for Community Organising related to climate change.

#### *Climate Action Network Australia (CANA)*

- <http://www.cana.net.au/>
- “Countdown to Copenhagen” in Melbourne, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009
- Workshop that aims to demystify the complexity of the Copenhagen talks so that ordinary people can follow the complex processes of negotiation.
- CANA is the peak non-government body on climate change in Australia, bringing together a host of non-government organisations to build clear climate policies.

#### *350.org*

- <http://www.350.org/>
- “Global Day of Climate Action”, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009
- A world wide day of action. Take a look at the website to see if there are any events taking place near you.
- 350.org is an international campaign to unite the world around solutions to climate change using 350 parts per million of CO<sub>2</sub> as the symbol for action and unity. 350ppm was chosen due to scientists saying that this level is the safest upper limit for CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.

#### *Walk Against Warming*

- <http://www.walkagainstawarming.org/>
- National event, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009
- Australia’s largest day of community action on climate change. Walks will take place all over Australia and are designed to highlight the deep public concern about global warming. This year the walk will coincide with the mid-point of the Copenhagen summit.



## *Climate Camp Australia*

- <http://www.climatecamp.org.au/>
- Located in Western Australia, 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009
- Climate Camp runs over three days. It includes workshops, discussion, education, and revolves around the belief in direct but non-violent action on important environment and climate issues.

## *Climate Movement*

- <http://www.climatemovement.org.au/groups/>
- A list of climate action groups, some Australia wide and some for specific local areas. Take a look to see if there are groups running events near you.

## **Related topics**

### *Sustainable Living Festival, Melbourne*

- <http://festival.slf.org.au/>
- Community-run festival in Melbourne, 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> February 2010
- Brings together some of the newest and best ideas in ecological sustainability, and encourages people to incorporate these ideas into their own lives.
- Includes interactive workshops, talks, demonstrations, artworks, exhibits, films and live performances, with the Main Event taking place in Federation Square.

### *Free Council Workshops and Seminars*

Councils around Australia offer free workshops and seminars that focus on sustainable living activities in the home or local community. For example, you can do workshops on how to create your own compost, how to set up a worm farm, or you can join a tour visiting local sites showcasing water sensitive urban design features. Visit your local Council's website or ring general enquiries and ask what's on. If your Council doesn't offer these types of workshops and seminars, why not ask your council to think about putting some on? Here are some examples:

The Watershed (jointly run by Marrickville and City of Sydney Councils), NSW

- <http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/environment/thewatershed/workshops.htm>

Leichardt Council, NSW

- <http://www.leichardt.nsw.gov.au/Environmental-Seminars-.html>

Blue Mountains City Council, NSW

- <http://www.sustainablebluemountains.net.au/resources/local-sustainability-groups-and-organisations/>

Brisbane City Council, QLD

- [HTTP://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:CITY\\_SMART:1439529028:pc=PC\\_2720](HTTP://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:CITY_SMART:1439529028:pc=PC_2720)

Gold Coast City Council, QLD

- [http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/t\\_standard.aspx?PID=7016](http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/t_standard.aspx?PID=7016)



City of Melbourne Council, VIC

- <http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/info.cfm?top=23&pg=718&cat=4>

City of Perth Council, WA

- <http://www.cityofperth.wa.gov.au/web/Council/Environment/Community-Groups-and-Associations/>

City of Adelaide, SA

- <http://www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/environment/sustainability/get-involved.html>

## Reducing your carbon footprint

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There are many sources of information on how to reduce your own carbon footprint. Below is a list of tips from the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainability/takeAction.htm>), plus a selection of websites that provide more information.

**As a consumer**, you can:

- Consider the impact of products, not just when you use them, but how they have been manufactured and how they should be disposed of (reused, recycled etc)
- Become more informed about the environmental impacts of the goods and services you buy
- Reduce your own impact by buying less and buying smarter
- Actively seek out more sustainable products
- Become an avid reader of product labels and compare the attributes and claims of competing brands
- Get smart about 'green-wash' and products that claim to be more sustainable than they really are
- Lobby companies whose products are having a major impact on the environment to improve their performance and go green
- Lobby governments to improve their own performance
- Get involved in community campaigns to raise awareness of sustainability issues and the impact of over-consumption.

**As a manufacturer or supplier**, you can:

- Become more informed about the environmental impacts of the goods and services you buy to make your own products. Identify opportunities to make them more sustainable.
- Look at the whole life-cycle of your products and identify what you can save in both financial and non-financial terms.
- Incorporate sustainability considerations into your own procurement systems and work with suppliers to improve their own environmental performance



- Scope out the market for sustainable products within your market sector. Identify opportunities to increase your market share and get an edge on competitors
- Seek assistance and support from the government and industry groups to incorporate sustainability initiatives such as cleaner production into your business.

**As an institutional consumer** (buying for a government or business organisation), you can:

- Become more informed about the environmental impacts of the goods and services you buy
- Gain support of senior management to develop sustainable procurement initiatives across your organisation
- Increase the capacity of your organisation to buy green products, for example by incorporating sustainability considerations into your procurement systems
- Work with suppliers to identify, source and continuously improve the sustainability of the goods and services you purchase
- Run pilot programs to trial different types of sustainable products and services and test their effectiveness. If they work, use them and tell others about your successes
- Regularly report on and communicate your successes (and problems) to the rest of your organisation.

## Other websites

### *WWF Australia*

- <http://wwf.org.au/ourwork/climatechange/whatyoucando/>
- Tips on what you can do about climate change.

### *Clean Up Australia: Clean Up Our Climate*

- <http://www.cleanup.org.au/au/Campaigns/climateaction.html>. List of actions you can take via their Clean Up Our Climate campaign.
- <http://www.cleanup.org.au/PDF/au/envirofootprint.pdf>. Activities and worksheets about the Environmental Footprint. Aimed at students and the classroom but can easily be adapted for everyone.

### *Global Footprint Network*

- [http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/personal\\_footprint/](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/personal_footprint/)
- Not-for-profit international organisation whose aim is to achieve a sustainable economy through the use of the Ecological Footprint as a measurement and management tool. Co-ordinates research and pushes for standards to provide scientific rigor and practical application of the Ecological Footprint.
- Good footprint calculators for countries, cities, business and personally.

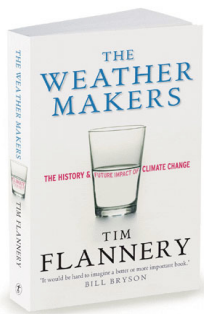


## Books, films, magazines and websites

This section includes suggestions for books, films, magazines and websites that might be useful for those who want to learn more about climate change and related topics. These are only suggestions and there are many, many more sources out there. Feel free to use these as a starting point to search for information that may be more suited to your own interests.

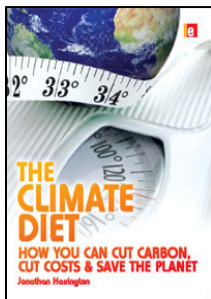
### Climate change

#### *The Weather Makers*



- <http://www.theweathermakers.org/globalwarming/>
- Website based on Tim Flannery's book "The Weather Makers" which discusses climate change science. Tim Flannery is a scientist who has written a number of books about Australia and was named Australian of the Year in 2007.
- Website has information about what things you can personally do about climate change and has good links to climate change information, scientific websites and discussions plus non-government organisations (NGO's) and community groups.

#### *The Climate Diet*



- <http://www.climatediet.com/>
- Site based on Jonathan Harrington's book 'The Climate Diet: How you can cut carbon costs and save the planet'.
- Site contains information from the book, outlining what exactly the 'climate diet' is and how it works. It also has a useful section about the environmental effects of mass consumerism and how to be a climate friendly shopper.
- You can work out your own carbon footprint and where you can improve through their 'climate diet' calculator.

#### *Six Degrees: Our Future on a Hotter Planet*



- <http://www.marklynas.org/sixdegrees>
- Website based on the book by Mark Lynas, an environmentalist and author. Lynas sifted through thousands of climate research documents to create a degree-by-degree analysis of the impact global warming will have on the world. This site contains an overview of this impact and access to archived articles written by Lynas.

#### *Heat*



- Book by journalist and academic George Monbiot, the book argues that a 90% cut in carbon emissions by 2030 is possible, without destroying civilisation. Monbiot puts forward his ideas as to how these cuts can be put in place in households as well as within existing infrastructure systems.





## *An Inconvenient Truth*



- <http://www.climatecrisis.net/>
- Website based on the 2006 film and subsequent book 'An Inconvenient Truth'. Follows Al Gore's campaign to raise awareness about the existence of climate change. This culminates in his 'travelling global warming show' which brings information to people regarding the potentially catastrophic consequences of inaction.

## *The Age of Stupid*



- <http://notstupid.org/>
- Website based on the documentary starring Oscar-nominated Pete Postlethwaite. Pete is a man who lives alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking at old footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?
- Good resources and good links to books, films, climate radio, websites, groups, campaigns and courses of action.

## *Real climate*

- <http://www.realclimate.org/>
- This is a technical science-based web forum organised by working climate scientists for those who want to delve deeper into climate change science, particularly interested public and journalists.

## *Climate Change Denial*

- <http://climatedenial.org/>
- A blog that explores the psychology of climate change denial and why people seem to be doing so little about climate change.

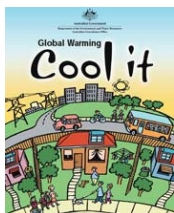
## *Victoria's Climate Change website*

- <http://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/>
- Government climate change website with a range of tips for action you can take at home, school, or your workplace.

## *Australia Conservation Foundation (ACF)*

- [http://www.acfonline.org.au/default.asp?section\\_id=205](http://www.acfonline.org.au/default.asp?section_id=205)
- Take a look their "Greenhome" and "going carbon neutral" sites which include some useful resources.

## *Cool It! Federal Government Initiative*



- <http://www.environment.gov.au/settlements/gwci/>
- Federal Government site which provides a home guide to reducing energy costs and greenhouse gases



## *Australian Religious Response to Climate Change*

- <http://www.arrcc.org.au/>
- Australian multi-faith network who work together to help take action on climate change. Has a range of activities to help take action personally and as part of a faith-based group.

## *Oxfam Australia: A Climate for Change*

- <http://www.aclimateforchange.org/page/get-active>
- Climate for Change is a community driven site developed by Oxfam Australia. It provides a space where people can share their experiences of climate change and provides a site for community social networking, events and news that focuses on climate change. It has an extensive list of events occurring around Australia.

## **Related topics**

### *Green is Good: Smart Ways to Live Well and Help the Planet*



- Book written by Rebecca Blackburn which gives tips about one-off actions and easy, cheap steps to creating change in your life.
- Focuses on the key areas in our lives that have the biggest impact on the environment: what we eat, how we travel, and the water and energy consumption of our homes and gardens.

## *Renew magazine*



- <http://www.ata.org.au/publications/renew>
- Magazine published quarterly by the ATA (Alternative Technology Association).
- The magazine features articles about the use of renewable technology, sustainable transportation, housing, conservation of resources, recycling and broader environmental issues.
- The articles are written by people who have demonstrated the real-life applications of technologies or projects and provide practical information for readers who would like to replicate the projects themselves.

## *'Your Home' Design Guides*



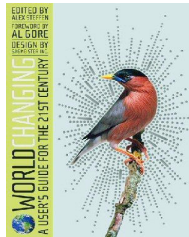
- <http://www.yourhome.gov.au/>
- A choice of consumer and technical guides and tools developed to help people with the design, construction or renovation of their homes to help them be comfortable, healthy and more environmentally sustainable.



## *The Victorian Green Renters' Guide*

- <http://www.envict.org.au/inform.php?menu=8&submenu=979&item=2035>
- Booklet by Environment Victoria providing sustainable living tips for renters, renters rights and the law, rebates, approaching your landlord and links for information on household related areas.

## *World Changing magazine*



- <http://www.worldchanging.com/>
- Online magazine covering cutting edge solutions to problems the planet is facing, from refugee aid and renewable energy to infrastructure solutions. Has a very wide scope that highlights the all-encompassing nature of climate issues.

## *Green Futures magazine*

- <http://www.forumforthefuture.org.uk/greenfutures/>
- Magazine that looks at sustainable solutions, discusses how to achieve a sustainable future and brings together the latest news, opinions, debates and stories with examples of what is happening around the world.

## *The Story of Stuff*



- <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>
- Great 20 minute video which examines the ways in which we produce and consume 'stuff' and encourages us to work together to create a more environmentally sustainable future.
- Easy to watch, entertaining and gets its point across in a fun and simple way. Good tool for education, workshops or discussions.

## *Not on the Label: What Really Goes Into the Food on Your Plate*



- Book by Felicity Lawrence, a consumer affairs journalist for the UK Guardian newspaper.
- Looks at some of the common foods we eat at home (e.g. chicken, lettuce, coffee) and what happens along the way from farmer to our plate. This includes the transportation of food across the globe, farming techniques, labour, health, social and environmental aspects of food production, marketing and the power of supermarkets.

## *Ollie's World*

- <http://www.olliesworld.com/>
- Interactive activities aimed at teaching kids about living sustainably. Provides material covering waste, water, energy, air and biodiversity as well as the 4R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink).



## What have WWViews participants been doing?

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A number of WWViews participants have told us about some of the things they are doing at home in relation to WWViews and climate change. This may give you some further ideas about what you could do yourself.

- Presentation to local toastmasters group
- Talk to local Rotary Club
- Holding a community meeting to discuss WWViews event and Copenhagen climate talks in December
- Writing to their local politicians asking what they are doing about climate change in their electorate
- Being interviewed by their local newspaper and radio station
- Assisting 'Enviroweek' (<http://www.enviroweek.org/>): this is a campaign where participants change their living habits to be more environmentally friendly for a week, and are sponsored from people within their communities. Organised by <http://www.coolaustralia.org/>
- Working with their local Landcare group