



## RAW Energy update – November 2017

Hello everyone,

There is a lot happening in the community energy sector at the moment, much of which is local. This is really exciting! We know we say it every time but with reason.

We would like to draw your attention to a couple of key events in November involving RAW Energy. The first is the **Sustainable Living Festival on November 18<sup>th</sup>**. Secondly, we have partnered with **Thurgoona Community Action Group** to hold a community forum on **30<sup>th</sup> November** to look at community energy. Further details of both important events are to be found below.

### What's on?

#### **Albury-Wodonga Sustainable Living Fair, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 9am - 1pm, Junction Square, Wodonga**

We are at the pointy end of our business case and there is increasingly the possibility of a large scale solar installation in Wodonga. You can read more about this in a recent newspaper article in the Border Mail - see below for the link.

So now is when we need to hear from the community. Come and say hello to us at the joint RAW and Moreland Energy Foundation MEFL stall. Let us know if you support the idea or if you have concerns. And feel free to ask us questions.

Details here: <http://ecoportal.net.au/event/albury-wodonga-sustainable-living-fair/>

#### **Community Forum on Renewable Energy for Thurgoona, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Thurgoona Golf Club**

This is the chance for members of the Thurgoona Community to hear firsthand what is happening with renewable energy in the Albury, Wodonga and Yackandandah areas and to explore if they as a community wish to be participants in a renewable energy project based at Thurgoona. The joint hosts are TCAG (Thurgoona Community Action Group) and Albury City Council.

#### **Guest speakers**

- Bobbi McKibbin – RAW Energy (Renewable Albury Wodonga Energy)

- Matthew Charles-Jones – TRY (Totally Renewable Yackandandah)
- Mark Judd – Ausnet Services and Mondo Power

If you are someone who already has installed solar PVs then this forum is still for you. We will be discussing what the future of our energy may look like including information on batteries and mini grids. Please use this link to RSVP: [www.OurThurgoona.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.OurThurgoona.eventbrite.com.au)

More details here: <http://ecoportal.net.au/event/community-forum-on-renewable-energy-for-thurgoona/>

## Wodonga Community Solar Project

### Business case for large-scale Wodonga solar farm to be released

Exciting times for us! Here's an excerpt from an article published in the Border Mail on 2<sup>nd</sup> November:

'Wodonga residents who rent or can't afford renewable energy alternatives would benefit from a community-developer solar farm, under a proposal being developed by council and Renewable Albury-Wodonga. The Moreland Energy Foundation has completed a solar feasibility study with council funding and a state government grant, [committed last year](#). The project team are now finalising a business case, and Wodonga Council environment and community protection manager Mark Verbaken said it would be presented before the year ends.' Read the rest of the article here: <http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5027346/business-case-for-large-scale-wodonga-solar-farm-to-be-released/?cs=11>

What concerns us is the fact that Wodonga has one of the highest disconnection rates. We are now hearing terms like energy poverty so wouldn't it be great if we could be part of the solution! It certainly seems likely that a large scale solar installation is a real possibility. So if you want to investigate how you might be able to invest then please make contact now.

## News from Yackandandah

### Totally Renewable Yackandandah TRY takes out a Banksia award in Sydney

Some excellent news here. Well done to all concerned!

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/story/5030402/north-east-sustainable-town-wins-national-environment-award/?cs=11>

### Yack Festival of Dangerous Ideas, Friday 1st December, 12 - 3.30 pm, Yackandandah Public Hall, 36 High Street, Yackandandah:

Members of Totally Renewable Yackandandah are convening this timely forum to discuss and share knowledge of developments and opportunities for community renewable energy. Leading keynote speakers include Dr John Hewson (past Leader of the Federal Liberal Party); Dr Kate Auty (past Victorian Government Environment Commissioner, and current Commissioner in the ACT); and Dan

Cass (The Australia Institute Energy Expert). Join in more in-depth discussion groups immediately after the forum. And after that, you are welcome to join our annual street party - with music, food and cultural and activities. For more details and to register go to <https://www.trybooking.com/322586> For further information contact Denis Ginnivan, Committee Event Coordinator, 0412 503 498

## **Stay in touch!**

**Contact us at:** [renewablealburywodonga@gmail.com](mailto:renewablealburywodonga@gmail.com)

**RAW website:** [www.renewablealburywodonga.com.au](http://www.renewablealburywodonga.com.au)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Renewable-Albury-Wodonga-RAW-Energy-1628745107358278/>

**Warm regards**

**From the RAW Energy committee**

**November 2017**