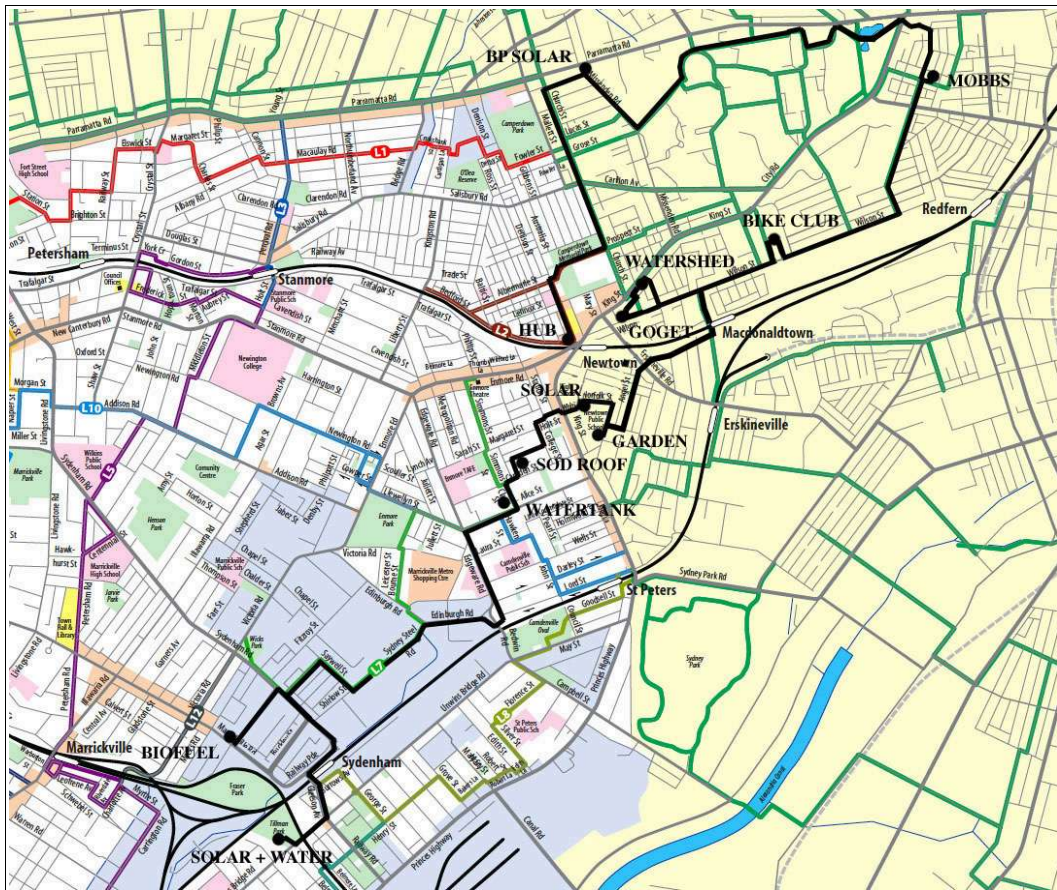


## SUSTAINABLE CITIES - NEWTOWN JUNE 2007 - MASSBUG (www.massbug.org.au)



### SATURDAY 30 JUNE

15km easy, on road (N.B. Watershed closed Sun)

Meet 9:45am Newtown Hub cnr Australia St (depart 10:00am)

A relaxed look at the sustainable technology already in the Newtown and surrounding area.

Contact: John C or Gilbert at [massbug@massbug.org.au](mailto:massbug@massbug.org.au)

10:00am Depart Newtown Neighbourhood Centre.

10:15am BPConnect Parramatta Rd Camperdown. Dep 10:20

10:30am Michael Mobbs house Myrtle St Chippendale. Dep 10:45

11:00am Watershed via Wilson St – via Eveleigh Yards (10 min) and Bike Club. Dep 11:30am

11:45am Newtown High School (15 min). Dep 12:00

12:05pm Kent St - “funky” house. Dep 12:15

12:20pm John Caley (rainwater tank). Dep 12:40

1:00pm Biofuel Station (Morris Lyda). Dep 1:15

1:25pm Tillman Park, Sydenham - Solar Panels and Water Capture and storage. Landscape.

1:30pm Finish, return via Sydenham Station, or road.

### BP Connect – Solar Panels

“Camperdown = 16.2kWp (216 monocrystalline panels) generating approximately 20,000kWh of electricity pa preventing approximately 20t CO2 from entering the atmosphere each year...”

From: “Taylor, Laura (BP Solar)”

### Michael Mobbs – Sustainable House

“Michael designed the systems, obtained approvals for, and project managed the renovation of Sydney’s Sustainable House, a nineteenth century inner Sydney terrace which since 1996 has provided all its own water, sewage and energy needs...” (58 Myrtle St Chippendale)

<http://www.sustainablehouse.com.au/>

### Sliver Panels

“Unfortunately no SLIVER panels are commercially available - in Australia or overseas - and we are not running any external tests. We are probably at least 2 years off producing panels for retail sale... Once larger watt SLIVER panels are produced and released (at least 75W but hopefully up to 150W), they will be on sale in Australia through Origin’s solar retail business. (And no, they will not be leased, just sold)... The potential is there for them to one day be cheaper and high efficiency but this could be 5 or 10 years away - who knows at this stage!”

Natali Bennett - Marketing & Communications Advisor, Origin Energy Limited

### Sun King pours energy into hunt for bright sparks

“THE search for the next Sun King has begun. The first, a former Sydney scientist, Zhengrong Shi, earned the title after founding a solar cell company in China that rapidly made him Australia’s fifth wealthiest man and China’s third... Dr Shi said Australia should emulate countries such as Germany, which has stimulated solar energy use with a feed-in tariff scheme, where a higher price is paid for renewable energy supplied back to the electricity grid. The Howard Government, however, used its majority in the Senate last week to reject a call from the Greens for a senate committee to investigate such a scheme... The university’s range of groundbreaking solar technology is being commercialised by Suntech as well as other companies in China, Germany, Spain and Taiwan.”

<http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2007/06/24/1182623748450.html>

### Energy delivery

“8.26 The PIA suggests that the old centralised forms of energy supply systems must be re-thought:

"While our large, hierarchical energy supply systems have made sense over the past 60 years, as society has developed rapidly using crude and inefficient technologies (which use energy very wastefully), we now know that the impacts of our present fossil fuel-based, centralised energy supply systems are unsustainable..."

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia-Sustainable Cities  
<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/enviro/cities/report/fullreport.pdf>

#### **Watershed – One stop shop**

##### **EcoLEDs Announces Brightest Commercial LED Light Bulb Yet**

"...There's enough mercury in a single CFL to contaminate 7,000 gallons of fresh water, and if Americans continue to purchase CFLs -- then throw them away in local landfills -- the United States will soon be facing an unprecedented burden of toxic mercury in rivers, streams, croplands and oceans... Consumers running on solar (or considering installing solar) will see enormous cost savings almost immediately, since LED lights are 300% more energy efficient than even compact fluorescent lights. And because they produce no UV radiation or IR rays, they're perfect for use in museums, offices and homes..."

[http://www.energy-daily.com/reports/EcoLEDs\\_Announces\\_Brightest\\_Commercial\\_LED\\_Light\\_Bulb\\_Yet\\_999.html](http://www.energy-daily.com/reports/EcoLEDs_Announces_Brightest_Commercial_LED_Light_Bulb_Yet_999.html)

#### **Angel St - Community Garden**

##### **Top Chef Warns Of Environmental Impact Of Fine Dining**

"One of the world's top chefs has warned that environmental degradation and an explosion in fine dining restaurants worldwide is set to have a drastic impact on the food trade. Habitats are being destroyed, killing off wild fish stocks and making some vegetables and fruits so scarce that a number of dishes will have to be dropped and restaurants will be forced to close, warns Pierre Gagnaire... as the number of restaurants soars, demand for produce will rise, forcing up the price of dwindling stocks of good quality food and sending menu prices sky-high... "The everyday food that people eat these days is worrying," he said. "It's a problem that affects the whole world." ... "You shouldn't have to go to a three-star restaurant to get good food. There are some alarm bells going off."

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Top\\_Chef\\_Warns\\_Of\\_Environmental\\_Impact\\_Of\\_Fine\\_Dining\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Top_Chef_Warns_Of_Environmental_Impact_Of_Fine_Dining_999.html)

#### **Newtown Public School – Solar PV Array**

##### **Kent St, Enmore – green roof**

##### **Build Parks To Climate Proof Our Cities**

"...Urban areas can be up to 12C warmer than more rural surroundings due to the heat given off by buildings, roads and traffic, as well as reduced evaporative cooling, in what is commonly referred to as an 'urban heat island'," said Dr Ennos... "We discovered that a modest increase of 10% green space reduced surface temperatures in the urban environment by 4C, which would overcome temperature rises caused by global warming over the next 75 years, effectively 'climate proofing' our cities... "Such a reduction has important implications for human comfort and health within urban areas and opportunities need to be taken to increase green space cover wherever structural changes are occurring within urban areas, as well as planting street trees or developing green roofs..."

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Build\\_Parks\\_To\\_Climate\\_Proof\\_Our\\_Cities\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Build_Parks_To_Climate_Proof_Our_Cities_999.html)

#### **Clara St – Water tanks**

##### **World Rivers Sound Warning On Climate Change**

"...By 2030 rainfall on the major capitals (except Hobart) could drop by 15 per cent. According to the 2001 report, Climate Change Projections for Australia, Perth could lose up to 20 per cent of its rainfall. At the same time, rising temperatures will increase evaporation, further reducing water supplies in dams, rivers and reservoirs... The 2006 report, *Without Water: The economics of supplying water to 5 million more Australians*, says if governments do not act to expand water trading and access to "new" sources of water such as building desalination plants, establishing large sewage recycling schemes and making use of storm water, the price of water would increase by between five and ten times in large cities to manage demand..."

Climate Change Chronicle  
<http://www.climatechange.com.au/>

##### **Cost of rolling out rainwater tanks**

"...there is scope to expand the number of existing households with rainwater tanks... assuming a capital cost of \$2,500-3,500 per rainwater tank and an average yield of 70kL/a, roll-out would extend annually to:

- over 80,540 households in Sydney at an annual capital cost of \$200-\$280 million, saving 3.8-8.5 GL/year per 5 per cent of houses; and
- 55,232 households in South East Queensland at an annual capital cost of \$140- \$200m, saving 2.3-5.5 GL/year per 5 per cent of houses..."

pps 31 – 32 Marsden Jacobs and Associates 2007

[http://www.nccnsw.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=429](http://www.nccnsw.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=429)

##### **\$10,000 For Greener Homes**

"...One of the first steps of a Rudd Labor Government will be to offer Australian household loans of up to \$10,000 to help make existing homes greener and more water efficient..."

Grayndler Gazette – Anthony Albanese

#### **Marrickville Rd – Bio Fuel Station**

##### **Virgin Launches First Bio-Diesel Train For Europe**

"Europe's first train powered by bio-diesel went into service here Thursday... the Virgin Voyager... has been modified to run on a blended fuel which is 20 percent environmentally-friendly bio-diesel... Virgin Trains hopes to convert its entire fleet to run on bio-diesel if a six-month trial proves successful..."

[http://www.solardaily.com/reports/Virgin\\_Launches\\_First\\_Bio\\_Diesel\\_Train\\_For\\_Europe\\_999.html](http://www.solardaily.com/reports/Virgin_Launches_First_Bio_Diesel_Train_For_Europe_999.html)

##### **Are Shorter Work Hours Good For the Environment: A comparison of US and European energy consumption.**

"... there is political pressure within European countries to adopt a more American labor model. If Europeans did in fact give up their shorter work weeks and longer vacations, they would consume some additional 25 percent more energy. Translated into carbon emissions, this would have enormous consequences for those countries that have signed and ratified the Kyoto Protocol... if EU-15 workers had consumed 25 percent more energy and consequently emitted 25 percent more carbon dioxide in 2002, they would have had to cut emissions by more than one-third from that level to meet their commitments to Kyoto... The American model is still portrayed in the international business press as the one to emulate. The environmental consequences of developing countries choices could be very serious."

[http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/energy\\_2006\\_12.pdf](http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/energy_2006_12.pdf)

##### **Silicon Valley Rebounds, led by Green Technology**

"After five years of job losses, Silicon Valley is hiring again. The turnaround coincides with a huge increase of investment in the emerging category of clean environment technology..."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/29/technology/29valley.html?ex=1327726800&en=1fb690beb9ee5a0e&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss>

#### **Tillman Park - Childcare Centre**

##### **Solar Panel Enquiry similar to the Marsden Jacobs and Associates water tank enquiry**

From: Owen Pascoe Nature Conservation Council

"...Unfortunately we are not able to commission such a report at the moment due to a lack of funds and resources, however it would definitely be an interesting topic..."

**See also: Four Corners** <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/content/2007/s1961230.htm>

MASSBUG <http://www.massbug.org.au>