

ECCO GENERAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2011

Present: Norm Barnes, Peter Barner, Mary North, Brian North, Neil Barlow, Don Saville, Colin Foster, Sue Rolf, Don Edwards, Doreen Edwards, Michael Middleton, Rodney Moscrop, Brad Jessup, Peter West, Yvette Black, Adrian Acheson, Cilla Kinross, Nick King, Johuand Jews, Jann Porges, Phil Stephenson, Jane Paul, Susan Sanders, Trevor Gazzard, Janet Dunlop, Greg Foley, Jennifer Smith, Tony Smith, Tina Howie, Bec Walsh, Glen Pearson, Graham Thwaite, Steohen Nugent, Cheryl Engsmey, Phillip Schwebel, Alison Ford, Dorothy Hoye, Bob Hoye, Pat Gersbach, Ros Valentine, Bruce Valentine, Colin Young

Apologies: Brian Phillips, Simon Wright

Guest Presentation: The subject of the February ECCO general meeting was constructed wetlands. ECCO was fortunate to obtain as a guest speaker for the occasion Mr Martin Haege, Director of Geolyse, environmental consultants.

Mr. Haege was introduced by President, Neil Jones.

Mr. Haege gave those present an excellent overview of the design and management of constructed wetlands, with particular reference to the constructed wetlands in Ploughman's Valley, Seymour Park and the constructed wetland behind Brooklands Estate.

Points of interest included:

- Constructed wetlands provide the same functions as natural wetlands.
- They are currently the most popular method of addressing stormwater runoff and pollution.
- They are multi functional in that they combine the roles of ecological habitat aesthetic enhancement, enhancement of water quality and stormwater control.
- They employ physical, chemical and biological processes to enhance the quality of the water which pass through them.
- Constructed wetlands are divided into zones which have different depths and different functions within the wetland. The abovementioned wetlands were of similar design. Anyone interested in obtaining further information on constructed wetlands, please contact Geolyse

After the presentation, Mr. Haege took questions from the audience. For those who require further information about the constructed wetlands of Orange, contact Geolyse at PO Box 1963 Orange NSW 2800, phone: 63 93 5000 or email orange@geolyse.com

General Business: The meeting was resumed after a brief adjournment when the following general business was discussed.

Daybreak Rotary Experience Orange Expo, Sunday, February 27: Neil briefly discussed the arrangements for ECCO's involvement. Volunteers were invited to attend the stall on the day, from 9am to 4pm.

Parks submissions: Submissions on parks, Ploughman's Valley, Bloomfield Bushland completed and lodged with Council. Submissions to be emailed to

members. Copies available on request for those who are not on email. (saves paper.)
There will be a public hearing on a date to be advised.

All Orange City councillors to be emailed requesting their response to the parks issue.
Councillors' responses to be communicated to the membership.

Clean up Australia Day: Peter West addressed the meeting concerning the organization of Clean up Australia Day. A group from Cadia Mines will also be joining ECCO at clean up sites. Clean up Australia Day is on Sunday, March 6. All members encouraged to participate and bring their friends.

Clean up sites:

Morning: 9am to 12 noon

Moulder Park-Anson Street

Elephant Park- Woodward Road

Hill Park-Jilba Street

There will be a free barbecue for participants from 12 noon at Elephant Park.

Afternoon: 1pm-3pm

Somerset Park-near Robin Hood

Coogal Park-Glendale Crescent

Please bring gloves and wear sturdy footwear.

For more information contact Peter West on 0404 186 374 or the Visitor Information centre on 63 93 8226.

100% renewable energy campaign: Orange Climate Action Now (OCAN) to join with Bathurst Community Climate Action Network in a campaign to engage the community on the subject of renewable energy through conducting a survey and engaging the media. Members interested in participating in this campaign contact Nick on nking126@gmail.com or ring 63626827. This is a national campaign involving grassroots climate action groups.

Future Dates for your diary:

Clean up Australia Day this coming Sunday, March 6.

March committee meeting March 11. 7.30 Pasadena Place. All welcome.

General meeting March 23. Topic-the Macquarie River pipeline.

Earth Hour March 26. Picnic under the stars Rotary Park on Mount Lindsay.

April general meeting April 27 Renewable energy in the Central West

Nick King Secretary.