

## **News from the Jewish Ecological Coalition (JECO)**

Please join in the celebrations on Sunday 6th November as JECO officially launches our Shavu'a Tov booklet on Jewish sustainable living. If you missed a copy in the Australian Jewish News recently you can pick one up and it's a great opportunity to meet with others in our community who are involved in environmental awareness and action. See the beautiful original artwork for Shavu'a Tov, enjoy a Kosher afternoon tea and hear about the significance of Australia's first Jewish sustainable living guide from Rabbi Shamir Caplan. The launch will be followed by our AGM - more details below and attached.

### **4-6pm Sun 6th November at Port Phillip Eco Centre, St. Kilda**

4-5, Celebratory Launch of JECO's Shavu'a Tov (good week sustainable week) - see flyer attached  
5-6, JECO Annual General Meeting - all invited - see invitation and documentaion attached

### **Sun 20th November, Mitzvah Day**

There are a number of activities being planned around Melbourne. JECO is going to be involved in an "environmentally themed" clean-up of St. Kilda beach. More details to follow. Meanwhile for an uplifting introduction to Mitzvah Day see: <http://www.mitzvahday.org.uk/all-about-us/mitzvah-day-video.html>

### **How would Australia's proposed carbon tax work?**

With a vote finally being taken in Parliament today on a carbon tax it is worth (another) look at Get Up's explanation of how this will work: <http://www.getup.org.au/campaigns/climate-action-now/climate-announcement/give-facts-a-head-start?t=dXNlcmlkPTQ0MzExMixlbWFpbGlkPTE5NQ%3D%3D>

### **"Why I have six air conditioners" by Matthew Wright, executive director of Beyond Zero Emissions**

Matthew says by using reverse cycle air conditioners we can cut down total gas and electricity energy use for heating and cooling by more than 80 per cent. "The Australian test condition is 7degrees C and the best [reverse cycle] units run at 500 per cent efficiency at this temperature (and even higher efficiency at higher temperatures which are the norm in most cities most of the time). We need to take a cool headed approach and evaluate all the options and Renewable Heat using heat pumps is the biggest onsite renewable source available to all Australians especially those in high rise units who may miss out on the opportunity to install solar hot water or rooftop solar photovoltaic panels." See: <http://climatespectator.us1.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=3965871af52170b27860e0c8a&id=8ef9fb107e&e=4cd972ec1f>

### **Australia's big solar turning point by Giles Parkinson**

"The International Energy Agency is reportedly about to release a groundbreaking report on how solar will provide most of the world's power within 50 years, so it is timely that Australia should be about to break ground on its first utility-scale solar project. Verve Energy has announced the details of its 10MW solar PV project to be built at Geraldton. It will be the first utility-scale solar plant in the country when it is commissioned in the middle of next year, but is likely to be followed quickly by others." See: <http://www.climatespectator.com.au/commentary/australias-big-solar-turning-point>

### **The Living Bridge - A way of working with nature [video]**

"This living bridge will grow for 500 years. Your children will use it and your children's children." Here's one of the very few examples in the world where humans have come up with a successful and natural solution, a way of working with nature to overcome the problems a wild river can cause. See: [http://www.snotr.com/video/7331/The\\_Living\\_Bridge](http://www.snotr.com/video/7331/The_Living_Bridge)

### **The Inflatable Wind Turbine by Energy Matters**

An Israeli company called Winflex is developing inflatable wind turbines using a design they say is feasible from one hundred kilowatt units to multi-megawatt capacity models. See: [http://www.energymatters.com.au/index.php?main\\_page=news\\_article&article\\_id=1683](http://www.energymatters.com.au/index.php?main_page=news_article&article_id=1683)

**Shana Tova, Tom Osborn for the JECO Committee**

[www.jeco.org.au](http://www.jeco.org.au) / [www.jeco.com.au](http://www.jeco.com.au)

**JECO highlights the connections between Judaism & Environmentalism, providing a uniquely Jewish perspective on addressing environmental issues. We believe there is a religious as well as a moral obligation to protect the environment and that environmental responsibility can be woven into the fabric of daily Jewish life.**

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[www.jewishaustralia.com](http://www.jewishaustralia.com)