

HOPE News --- May 2018

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (Australia) is pleased to support BirdLife Australia's (<https://www.actforbirds.org/>) national roadshow tour – "Act for Birds, Act for Nature" ... Advocating for a New Generation of National Environmental Laws.

A series of community meetings will be held in capital cities and some regional centres throughout Australia to discuss shortcomings of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999; and to proffer suggestions to improve and strengthen our national environmental protection laws.

Information on dates and locations of BirdLife Australia's roadshow events may be found at <https://www.actforbirds.org/events> .

BirdLife Australia believes that "the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 is neither protecting the environment nor conserving biodiversity. Together with the Places You Love Alliance (<http://www.placesyoulove.org/>) and guided by the work of the Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law (<http://apeel.org.au/>), BirdLife Australia is calling for a new generation of national environmental framework with four key elements:

1. National environment laws that genuinely protect Australia's natural & cultural heritage
2. An independent National Sustainability Commission
3. An independent National Environmental Protection Authority
4. Guaranteed community rights & participation in environmental decision making

The Toowoomba leg of BirdLife Australia's national Roadshow program is being held on Tuesday 8 May, from 7pm to 9pm, at Laurel Bank Park Hall, 50 Hill St, Toowoomba. This event is hosted by Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (www.hopeaustralia.org.au) with logistical support provided by Amaroo Environmental Education Centre (<https://amarooeec.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx>).

Bookings are essential. Online registration for the Toowoomba event can be made at <https://www.actforbirds.org/community-forum-toowoomba> .

"Restoring soil health - from backyards to farm yards - can help the environment" is the theme of HOPE's second community forum for the month of May.

Mr Colin Johnson from Earthlife Pty Ltd (<http://earthlife.com.au/>) will address topics including the relevance of soil mineral depletion; the adverse effect of survival plant growth on the environment; inefficient fertilisers; and the re-creation of healthy and fertile soils.

The forum is being held at the Toowoomba City Library, Tuesday 22 May, from 7pm until 9pm.

Bookings are essential. Please RSVP by phoning the HOPE office on 07 4639 2135 or by email to office@hopeaustralia.org.au . Entry by gold coin donation.

HOPE's proposed U3A Toowoomba course for term 2 **"Sustainability made Simple: exploring the local to global connections between people, planet and prosperity"** did not proceed, due to insufficient registrations for the 10week course.

Thanks to Andrew for developing the course and we are hopeful of presenting the course later in the year.

Date Claimers

Community Forum: BirdLife Australia's National Roadshow --- Act for Birds, Act for Nature "Advocating for a New Generation of Environmental Laws to Protect our Environment"

Tuesday 8th May 2018 | 7pm to 9pm | Laurel Bank Park Hall, 50 Hill St, Toowoomba



Join BirdLife in Toowoomba this May to hear about how nature laws are failing our birds and what we can do to help our feathered friends.

BirdLife Australia is calling for stronger nature laws that genuinely protect our wonderful birds and their precious habitats. Our [Act for Birds campaign is live](#), our [report just launched](#), and across the environmental movement as a whole we're starting to see the [extinction crisis getting the national media attention it deserves](#).

But our real power to secure stronger nature laws – and better outcomes for birds - lies in the stories and voices of local bird-lovers from around the country. So, BirdLife will be hosting 8 public community forums across the country!

This series of community forums will bring together people who care about birds and nature to share knowledge and take action. Attendees will get the chance to improve their understanding of this national issue, why it's important and how it relates to you. We'll talk through exactly how the current system of nature laws is fundamentally broken and offer practical ways to take action about the local issues that matter to you.

This will be a great opportunity for passionate nature lovers (like you!) to connect with one another, come up with ideas of your own, and take action together for the places and birds you love!

Thanks to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary (<https://currumbinsanctuary.com.au/>) for donating a family pass as a lucky door prize.

Bookings essential. Refreshments provided.

RSVP via <https://www.actforbirds.org/community-forum-toowoomba>

Community Forum: "Restoring soil health – from backyards to farm-yards - can help the environment" Tuesday 22 May 2018 | 7pm – 9pm | Toowoomba City Library



"How restoring your soil's health - from backyards to farm-yards - can help the environment" is the theme of HOPE's second community forum for the month of May.

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. is hosting a community forum on good soil management practices on Tuesday, 22 May 2018 at 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm at the Toowoomba City Library (155 Herries St, Toowoomba City QLD 4350).

Mr Colin Johnson from Earthlife Pty Ltd (<http://earthlife.com.au/>) will address topics such as the relevance of soil mineral depletion; the adverse effect of survival plant growth on the environment; inefficient fertilisers; and the re-creation of healthy and fertile soils.

Bookings are essential. Please RSVP by 18 May to the HOPE office on 07 4639 2135 or by email to office@hopeaustralia.org.au . Entry by gold coin donation.
