



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.
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HOPE E-news Bulletin 2012 #9 --- 26 November 2012

The following items have been gleaned from various e: newsletters received by HOPE in recent times; and/or prepared specifically by HOPE members and supporters. If you have any news to contribute, please forward to office@hopeaustralia.org.au . Deadline for articles is 15th day of the month.

Hello,

Welcome to another mixed bag of news items from the office, member groups and supporters.

I draw your attention to our Strategic Planning meeting being held on Saturday 1 December (see Office News section) and the Feature Articles section. Enjoy the reading!

Miriam Sharp, office@hopeaustralia.org.au

Calendar of Upcoming Events

December

- 3 - [International Day of People with Disability](#)
- 3-9 - [Coastcare Week](#)
- 5 - [International Volunteer Day](#)
- 10 - [Human Rights Day](#)
- 11 - [International Mountain Day](#)

Date Claimers:

1 Dec 2012 HOPE Strategic Planning Meeting – 2pm sharp!; 22 Vacy St, Toowoomba. Please RSVP to office on ph 4639 2135 or email office@hopeaustralia.org.au for catering and seating arrangements.

February 2013

- 25-26 – Two-day Soil and Agronomy School with Dr Arden Andersen entitled '[Soil to Plate to Health](#)' at Toowoomba Motel and Events Centre. Dr Arden Andersen is a soil scientist, agricultural consultant and a physician. He specialises in the management of soils, crops and animals in productive, profitable and environmentally sustainable way. He is a consultant on education, product formulation and market development, and a world authority in biological agriculture. With his dairy farming background, Dr Andersen has a unique insight into how the food farmers grow influence the health of those who consume it.
- 27 Feb-1 March – Second Australian [Summer Study on Energy Efficiency and Decentralised Energy](#) at Novotel Sydney Brighton Beach

April 2013

- Felton Food Festival, 14 April 2013 – www.feltonfoodfestival.org.au

Office Hours

HOPE's office is open every Monday from 9am to 5pm; with the library resources available at the same time. Other times can be arranged through the office.

Office News

A big thanks to office staff and management committee members for their assistance over the past 5 or so weeks with general admin work and preparations for the AGM and 1st Ordinary Meeting of new term. All was *smooth sailing* except for the news that our Environmental Information Display located at the Toowoomba City Library (for over 10 years) was to be discontinued due to a shortage of space.

Welcome to Tia Rennie, our new admin assistant. Tia's first assignment is to review the existing office procedures and administrative policies with a view of "updating instructions where need be and filling in the gaps".

Other office highlights include:

- 3/11 Attended Friends of Felton AGM and dinner
- 10/11 HOPE AGM, followed by 1st Ordinary Meeting of new term
- 12/11 Acquitted TRC Community Cultural & Arts Support Funding grant
- 14/11 Endorsement of NGO/CSO Global Common Statement for a Toxics-Free Future
- 14/11 Joined the Qld Protect the Bush Alliance
- Received a \$1,000 fuel grant from the federal Volunteer Grants program
- 23/11 QCC (Queensland Conservation Council) will now manage the establishment process of the Regional Conservation Council (RCC) for the Toowoomba area. A more detailed report will be available soon to existing Environmental Networking Partnership (ENP) members and supporters.)

Date claimer:

1/12 Strategic Planning Meeting - 2pm at HOPE office, 22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba
Items for discussion include: - development of business & operational plan; sponsorship prospectus; possible projects, events & activities for 2012-2013; and an update on the establishment process of Regional Conservation Council. *Please RSVP to office on 4639 2135 (or by return email) to assist with seating & catering arrangements.*

Survey Questions

1. What is your current understanding of HOPE and its activities?
2. What do you want HOPE to look like in 12 months' time, 5 years, 10 years' time? (Be descriptive – detailed; how will it be functioning as an organisation? E.g. Business structure – Incorporated Association; Management Team – Roles & Responsibilities)
3. Describe your ideas for the following: what avenues and pathways, circumstances / opportunities we have to create; the organisational resources required to achieve this (people, business systems, facilities, the skills, the staff, networks, equipment); the product/s (merchandise, alliances, commercialise Intellectual property for an innovation) and the marketing (where we make \$ - corporate trust fund, sales). What is our reputation?
4. Why are you a member / supporter of HOPE? How do you want to feel most of the time being involved with HOPE? What drives you to be involved? Why is this group so important to you?

Frank Ondrus, acting Office Manager; ph 07 4639 2135

Volunteers needed

More active volunteers – both local and remote via email – are required to help us keep the machinery of operation going. We are currently looking for a secretary/minutes-taker, media officer, admin assistants; as well as on-ground helpers to assist with staffing information displays, and helping out at events.

Please contact the office on 07 4639 2135 or email office@hopeaustralia.org.au to offer your assistance.

A fair portion of the above work would ideally be done by locals (i.e. in the Toowoomba area) because the HOPE office is in Toowoomba. However, quite a bit of the literature review, research, media and publications activity can be done via email. If you have a little bit of time to help us in any way, then contact the HOPE office on email office@hopeaustralia.org.au or phone (07) 4639 2135.

Pathways to Sustainability Expo 2012

"The film record of the second 'Pathways to Sustainability' Expo facilitated by HOPE in Toowoomba in October 2012 is now available on HOPE's You Tube Channel at [HOPEAUSTRALIAFILMS](#) and Vimeo Channel at HOPE ENVIRONMENT FILMS. As with the first Expo in 2011, the main aim of this event was to showcase a range of services, ideas and processes that can assist community members to discover pathways to a more ecologically sustainable lifestyle.

The first part of the film, therefore, contains a number of short speeches and interviews with a range of celebrities, local politicians, presenters and stall holders: all talking about their perspectives on a range of pro-sustainability initiatives, or ways in which community members can reduce their environmental impacts. The subject areas covered were diverse. From opportunities to volunteer as a 'Green Nomad' for Landcare remediation work whilst on touring holidays, to the environmental and health benefits of riding a bicycle. From the enjoyment of learning about the natural environment from field naturalist and bird watching enthusiasts, to the value of informal round table conversation in helping bring about individual and community behavioural change for the environment.

The last section of the film contains an extract of such a 'World Café' type conversation held between participants at the Expo and facilitated by Howard Nielsen – founder of the Green Street community sustainability program at Samford near Brisbane.

There was something for everyone at this Expo – and HOPE looks forward to the possibility that viewers of this video may have already or will now consider taking up one or more of the pathways to sustainability outlined in the film –either within the Toowoomba region or further afield in Australia. And as always, we would love to receive any feedback you might have to offer after watching the film. Contact details for HOPE are listed on the website."

2012 AGM Summary

Firstly, thanks to our guest speaker Ms Dory Russell, Waste Educator with Toowoomba Regional Council , for explaining her role with council and providing information waste management and recycling strategies and statistics for our region, the State of Queensland and some Victorian examples.

Copies of the President's Report; Pathways to Sustainability Expo report & summary of Income & Expenses; and other project account summaries were tabled.

Treasurer's report – 2011-2012 audited accounts; summaries of income-expenses for various project/events; YTD transaction list (1 Nov 2011 – 31 Oct 2012) still pending; and summary accounts report for 1/7/12 – 31/10/12.

Election of Office Bearers for 2012-2013:

Management Committee

President - Frank Ondrus

Vice-President - Ngaire Winwood

Secretary - Kerry Kruger

Treasurer - Joy van der Wyk

Newsletter Editor - Miriam Sharp

Admin Support Staff

Acting Office Manager - Frank Ondrus

Admin assistant - Tia Rennie

Media Officer - Jeff Poole (part time & paid position) – plus voluntary Facebook Administrator

Website Manager - Kerry Kruger

IT Advisor - David Shipp

- With Ngaire also expressing an interest in advocacy work on climate change & policy development; and possibly assisting with library work
- Vacancies – Membership Officer and Librarian

Feature Articles



Edible School Gardens

by Leonie Shanahan; Photographer: Di Harris

People often ask me why I started Edible School Gardens. I was at my young daughters' school when the students came out for their lunch break and inside those lunchboxes were brightly coloured food that came in plastic, this food was mostly made in laboratories and manipulated to look and taste like food..... I was horrified ... where was the fresh food the real food that was going to support their growing bodies, minds, immunity and wellbeing. It was that moment I knew I needed to go into schools and teach children about growing organic food and let children experience food bursting with flavour and freshness. I had studied horticulture , permaculture and organics. That was 10 years ago now and I have had the pleasure of implementing the edible school gardens program into over 20 schools and changing the eating habits of thousands of students.

The program is kid focussed, every steps of the process must involve them – it's going to be their garden, not mine. Ownership. More than ever we need to empower students with information about growing food for their own life skills and to teach their parents. The students learn about garden design and they come up with the design they want as their edible garden. We source as much materials required second hand and locally to support our community. Our design is brought to life with a school community set up day where parents/grandparents come along and make the garden with the students, in these designs we will have several different shaped gardens, herb spirals, worm farms/baths, compost systems, arches and more. I am passionate about soils – not any soil but soil that is bursting with life, we do no dig gardens and all our garden beds have minerals and microbes added to them. Healthy soil- healthy food- healthy YOU.

Then its all about learning the magic of growing food from seed, seedling, plants, cuttings etc, watching how they grow and how long it takes, and of course, eating food from our much loved garden. Food that is wholesome, healthy & fresh. Students Love their garden, its not a chore, its a learning experience with fun attached to it which connects them back to nature and health. Feed your heart, mind, body and spirit eating food that is going to nourish you.

Nothing gives me more pleasure than to drive into a school yard and see students eating the snow peas before school. Growing food with children is so very important for their wellbeing, start today no matter whether in a pot or in a garden.

Leonie is also the author of ***Eat Your Garden Organic Gardening for Home and Schools*** with easy to follow, clear steps on all aspects of organic growing based on the work she does in schools. Just released is her first DVD ***Edible School Gardens***, a film company followed Leonie around and recorded her successful 12 month program Edible School Gardens.

For more information: www.EdibleSchoolGardens.com.au
fb: <http://www.facebook.com/Edible.School.Gardens>



The Climate Reality Project

24 Hours of Reality: The Dirty Weather Report was an unprecedented live broadcast about the reality of climate change. It received more than 16 million views and ignited a call to action for climate solutions worldwide. Millions of people learned the truth: Dirty Energy leads to Dirty Weather, and we need firm and decisive leadership on clean energy solutions now.

Now, I need you to help spread the truth about climate change and what we can do solve it. Here are three simple things you can do right now:

- [Sign our pledge](#) asking the leaders of the world to move us toward a clean energy future.
- [Watch our 24 Hours of Reality videos](#) right on our website. Don't miss our hosts like Sam Champion of ABC News or Vanessa Hauc of Telemundo; and 24 segments featuring captivating panels, perspectives, and solutions from around the world.
- **Share the videos from 24 Hours of Reality** that you liked with your friends and social networks. Here are some of our favorites:
 - [Symphony of Science](#): See Chairman Al Gore's message auto-tuned.
 - [Science Girl](#): The science girl takes a comedic look at the differences between climate and weather.
 - [Hurricane Sandy: The Truth](#): In "An Inconvenient Truth" Al Gore talked about how a major storm surge would flood lower Manhattan and other parts of the New York and New Jersey coasts. Now we see the reality of Superstorm Sandy hitting the region.
 - [Kids Can See It, Why Can't We](#): Why kids can see the effects of global climate change when adults can't.

Thank you for watching, spreading the word, and taking part in this extraordinary effort.

Sincerely, Maggie L. Fox - President and CEO

Mobile Muster

MobileMuster is the mobile phone industry's official product stewardship program. Its promise is to keep old mobiles out of landfill and to recycle them in a safe secure and ethical way. This free recycling service is available to everyone and you can recycle any brand of mobile phones plus their batteries, chargers and accessories at any one of the 4,500 [public drop off points](#) across Australia or [post them in](#).

The program is operated on a not-for-profit mobile basis and funded by the companies who make and sell mobile phones (Nokia, Samsung, LG, HTC, Hauwei, ZTE, Force Technology, Telstra, Optus, Vodafone and Virgin Mobile).

Since 1999 MobileMuster has recycled over 886 tonnes of mobile phones and accessories and 6.34 million handsets and batteries. Keeping old mobile phones out of landfill is important two-fold. Firstly, over 90% of the materials in them such as glass, plastic and precious metals can be recovered and put back into the resource stream to make new products. Secondly, there are potentially harmful materials such as lead and cadmium in the handsets and some batteries, which should never end up in landfill and need to be recycled properly.

By recycling your old mobiles and accessories and keeping them out of landfill you will be helping to protect our environment, avoid greenhouse gases, save energy and conserve scarce natural resources. Any data left on mobiles will also be destroyed during the [process](#). To explain the recycling process simply, MobileMuster has created a video called [The Promise](#). The Promise is simple – MobileMuster promises to keep your old mobiles out of landfill, if you promise to recycle them with MobileMuster.

MobileMuster is currently running a great campaign called [The Memory Muster](#), where they are rewarding people for recycling by giving them 6 prints of their favourite photos when they recycle their old mobile phone. Participating is really simple just upload your photos to [mobilemuster.com.au](#), recycle your phone by dropping it off or posting it in and MobileMuster will post out your 6 photos as beautiful postcards. You can also enter your photos in The Memory Muster competition when you upload them with the winning photos being published in a magazine and exhibited and the photographer receiving tickets to the gala event!

World Pro surfer Laura Enever, actor Gyton Grantly and singer Lisa Mitchell have all got behind the Memory Muster by uploading and sharing some of their favourite photographic memories online and will also be helping to judge the best images in The Memory Muster.

You can find more information about MobileMuster and follow them on your favourite social network at:

Website - www.mobilemuster.com.au
Facebook – facebook.com/mobilemuster
Twitter - @mobilemuster1
Instagram - #memorymuster
Pinterest – pinterest.com/Mobilemuster

Carbon Market Pty Ltd

Carbon Market Pty Ltd is an online-display advertising and media content company that's gaining market share. Growth opportunities, including new advertising markets, increased subscribers, white labeling and our being embedded into smart TVs will add to significant value enhancement.

Our publications:

- **Eco Voice** is one of the leading environmental news platforms in Australia, with circa 28,000 subscribers receiving the monthly newsletter (ecovoice.com.au).
- **Eco News** has been developed to complement our monthly e-Magazine Eco Voice. Eco News, with circa 13,000 subscribers, provides 'as it happens' news articles, from an Australian perspective, (econews.com.au).
- **Eco TV** (www.ecotv.com.au), with circa 23,000 subscribers, is a digital media platform offering content from a diverse range of sources – including our network partners (such as Keep Australia Beautiful, The Banksia Foundation and Conservation Volunteers Australia). Providing viewers with the latest environmental news headlines, sustainable lifestyle tips and interviews with industry thought leaders and eco-minded celebrities. Eco TV aims to engage, educate and entertain viewers on all things green. Social networks are experiencing rapid growth (via Facebook, Twitter etc.) and Eco Voice, Eco News & Eco TV are perfectly positioned as an eco social networking platform. Each publication is supported by an EDM (email direct marketing) - connecting directly with the subscribers daily, weekly and monthly.



Demographic: education / all levels of government / farmers / building / health & lifestyle / NGOs - Australian focused.

Distribution: Internet, Email, IPTV, Facebook, Twitter & Network Partners. Carbon Market signs global TV deal with GoConnect - <http://econews.com.au/news-to-sustain-our-world/carbon-market-signs-global-tv-deal-with-goconnect/>

Unbiased: Our publications are targeted at a mainstream audience and are not a platform for the left or the right. We offer a voice to all sides of politics, industry associations and NGOs.

Native Growth - Native plants, seeds and more delivered to your door.



Queensland News

Congratulations to Condamine Alliance for winning another award

Condamine Alliance is celebrating its second major environmental award in as many weeks. It was awarded the 2012 Banksia Award for Water at a special gala function in Melbourne last Friday night.

Killarney biodiversity weekend a hit

Killarney Bushcare Group hosted an inspiring event recently to highlight the importance of biodiversity. In its third year, the event was hosted by Killarney Bushcare with the support of Condamine Alliance and other partners. The event was officially opened by Condamine Alliance chair, John Herbert, who highlighted the importance of Killarney as a biodiversity hotspot. Condamine Alliance's Community Partnership Officer, Alex Kennedy, partnered with Killarney State School Science Team to facilitate learning about river health, promoting the special environment found at the headwaters of the Condamine River at Killarney to the students and community. The Water Team, Carl Mitchell and Kevin Graham, presented the concept of developing a new Demonstration Reach in the area to build on the success of the Dewfish Demonstration Reach. It is proposed that it be known as the Nikki Long Cod Reach.

Qld Protect the Bush Alliance

An alliance of organisations, businesses and individuals that endorse these aims:

- to advocate the protection of areas of High Conservation Value
- to identify and encourage activities that improves understanding of their biodiversity and other environmental values.

High Conservation Value Areas include:

- Areas containing globally, nationally or regionally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia).
- Globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape-level areas where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- Areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
- Areas that provide basic ecosystem services in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).

HCV areas include properties in the National Reserve System and Important Bird Areas.

Membership is open to any organisation, business or individual that endorses the aims of the PTBA. It is expected that members will have a wide range of views on other issues, but will work together to achieve the aims of the Alliance. There is no membership fee.

For more information and a membership prospectus, see <http://ptba.org.au/>

Adopt a KABQ Program & help your Group Project



Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland's (KABQ's) "Adopt A Road/Adopt A Park/Adopt A Creek" program is growing across the State!

The "Adopt A..." program is a safe, enjoyable and educational program that mobilises an army of community-focussed organisations and individuals, and gives local communities the opportunity to contribute to a healthier and cleaner environment,

KABQ provides all clean-up materials/vests etc., as well as insurance, whilst doing clean ups.

Since many of our Landcare members and groups are doing local clean-up projects, what better way to advance your project than to merge with KABQ, and enter their "Adopt A..." program. So support KABQ's "[Adopt A...](#)" program – sign up today; and bring all the benefits of their support to your group project!



National News

Organics, booming \$1.27 Billion industry

Organics is one of Australia's top 5 growth industries, becoming mainstream. Supermarkets are fast embracing organics, with growth propelled by the average Australian.

Ecoswitch® to provide 1200 Monash University office work stations with annual energy savings of around 30%

Monash University Clayton Campus in Victoria recently conducted a two month pilot study to determine the financial benefits of installing the Australian designed EcoSwitch® throughout the university's office workstations. The EcoSwitch® is an energy saving device that cuts out standby power used by equipment and appliances.

Rail Freight: a clean energy initiative that's building speed

Railway freight haulage is not a sector that springs to mind when one stops to consider industries that will benefit in the transition to a low carbon economy. However, if it was added that moving freight over long distances by rail rather than road is three times more fuel and emissions efficient, then the proposition changes significantly.

New direction needed for tourism

Australia should focus on developing a more profitable tourism industry based on attracting high-value visitors with high quality, truly sustainable experiences rather than an endless pursuit for growth in visitor numbers, according to Kym Cheatham, Chief Executive of Ecotourism Australia.

Working towards more sustainable seafood

The Northern Prawn Fishery (NPF), [Australia's largest and most valuable prawn fishery](#), has been certified as sustainable against the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) global environmental standard. This is the latest success in moves to make Australia's seafood industry more sustainable. This is critical. Our oceans are NOT an inexhaustible supply of food and resources so WWF is working towards improving sustainability across Australian industries.

[REPORT – Our Uncashed Dividend: The Health Benefits of Climate Action](#)

The Climate and Health Alliance and [The Climate Institute](#) have released a joint report: "[Our Uncashed Dividend](#)" on the health benefits of climate action.

This report draws together a large and growing body of evidence from health and medical research showing substantial health benefits linked to measures to cut emissions. It demonstrates that actions that cut greenhouse gas emissions can improve Australians' health and could save billions of dollars for health care budgets and save thousands of lives each year.

Watch [a YouTube video here of the launch of this report at the Canberra Hospital](#) featuring Fiona Armstrong – Convenor of the Climate and Health Alliance (and report author); Professor Tony McMichael OA – National Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health; Professor Tony Capon – Head of Public Health, Faculty of Health – University of Canberra; Michael Moore – CEO, Public Health Association of Australia; Dr Steve Hambleton – President, Australian Medical Association; and John Connor – CEO, The Climate Institute.



Resources

Report Shows Households Can Save Money on Energy Bills While Reducing Their Impact on the Environment

A practical guide on how Australian households can save money on their energy bills while simultaneously reducing their impact on the environment was released today by ClimateWorks. The [Low Carbon Lifestyles report](#) commissioned by Origin Energy and prepared by ClimateWorks and CSIRO identifies different actions householders can take right now to reduce their energy use or switch to cleaner energy solutions.

BirdLife Australia's NEW Online Supporter Network

BirdLife Australia is launching a new supporter network aspect to our website at support.birdlife.org.au. As part of an on-going process of development, the new section incorporates a [login area](#) for BirdLife Australia supporters, and it contains all you need to stay connected. You'll be able to renew your membership, update your details online, give a gift membership and register for events. The login will allow you to access the 'BirdLife Australia Supporter Network' where you can tailor your privacy and communications settings and let us know your areas of interest. You can even support our vital conservation work by making a donation [online](#). If your email address is registered with us you will be receiving (or may already have) an email from BirdLife Australia with your User Name and Password. You can also easily register online [here](#). Please have a look around the site and let us know what you think. We appreciate your [feedback](#). We look forward to keeping you in touch and up to date with the latest news, events, special offers and competitions.

World Energy Outlook 2012 - [Executive Summary](#)

The 2012 edition of the World Energy Outlook was released on 12 November 2012. Drawing on the latest data and policy developments the report presents analytical insights into trends in energy markets and what they mean for energy security, environmental protection and economic development. It sets out updated projections of energy demand, production, trade, investment and carbon-dioxide emissions, broken down by country, fuel and sector, to 2035.

IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) is pleased to inform you of the launching of the IRENA Portal for Studies on Renewable Energy Potential.

This portal provides access to over 10,000 existing references of studies on renewable resources and potentials available worldwide. The information on this portal is presented using interactive flash maps with color codes that indicate the number of references available by country. Renewable energy resources considered include biomass, geothermal energy, hydropower, marine, solar and wind energy.

The references cover different sources of information from GIS-based maps to research reports, conference proceedings, journals, presentations, and other gray literature providing information on renewable energy potentials. Also, references with scopes beyond the national coverage are displayed using special links on the portal.

Some of the key benefits of the portal include:

- Interactive and user friendly flash map interface
- Comprehensive contributions from a variety of relevant professionals and expert organizations
- Identifies areas sparsely studied
- Serves as a repository to facilitate research, market analysis and policy development.

Kindly explore the portal at: http://www.irena.org/potential_studies . Feedback messages from end users are also welcome through our email: potentials@irena.org.

AusGeo News journal

The AusGeo News *journal* is published quarterly by Geoscience Australia and can be found at www.ga.gov.au .Geoscience Australia is a prescribed agency within the Resources, Energy and Tourism portfolio, and the Minister is The Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP.

The journal combines the Earth's history with the future, evolution and even includes leading information on our solar system. The journal reveals our influence on the climate, landscapes, oceans and atmosphere. Geoscience covers the latest field work, models and theoretical work. It entails a wide range of geological disciplines, these include but are not limited to: climate science, geology, paleontology, hydrology, mineralogy, planetary and seismology as well as space physics and oceanography. The journal's papers are subject to rigorous peer review by full time professional editors who are leading experts in many geological

disciplines such as: climate science, environmental change, palaeoceanography, micropalaeontology, Paleozoic, evolution, thermochronology, sedimentology, Earth and atmospheric physics and seismology. Over the last year the journal has delved into popular topics like man-made causes to earthquakes (underground water consumption), glacier retreat, ice sheet melting, permafrost thawing and its implications for carbon release, marine carbon sequestration, methane emissions and global warming.

For further information about Geoscience Australia and its publication, go to www.ga.gov.au.

Book reviews:

Sustainable Table is thrilled to announce the forthcoming publication of [Seasonal Regional](#) by Sarah Robins, due for **release 1 December 2012**. A passionate local food advocate, Sarah has traversed Victoria to meet the people who produce our food and explore the challenges and joys of making a living from the land. This celebration of our food landscape takes in farmers' markets, cellar doors, free range and rare breed meat producers, farm-gates, heirloom fruit and vegetables, organics, biodynamics, pick-your-own farms and includes 80 seasonal recipes by home cooks and celebrated chefs alike, including Michael Ryan, Matt Wilkinson, Dan Hunter, Paul Wilson, Rosa Mitchell and Jan Waddington.

[Bankrupting Nature: Denying Our Planetary Boundaries](#)

By [Anders Wijkman](#) and [Johan Rockström](#)

A Report to the Club of Rome

This powerful book shows us that we are in deep denial about the magnitude of the global environmental challenges and resource constraints facing the world. Despite growing scientific consensus on major environmental threats as well as resource depletion, societies are largely continuing with business as usual, at best attempting to tinker at the margins of the problems. The authors argue that regardless of whether governments respond to the economic crisis through additional stimulus packages or reduced government spending, environmental and resource constraints will remain. The crisis will be exacerbated by the combination of climate change, ecosystem decline and resource scarcity, in particular crude oil. The concept of Planetary Boundaries is introduced as a powerful explanation of the limits of the biosphere to sustain continued conventional growth.

The book breaks the long silence on population, criticizing donor countries for not doing enough to support the education of girls and reproductive health services. It is shown that an economy built on the continuous expansion of material consumption is not sustainable. De-growth, however, is no solution either. The growth dilemma can only be addressed through a transformation of the economic system. A strong plea is made for abandoning GDP growth as the key objective for development. The focus should instead be on a limited number of welfare indicators. The trickle-down concept is seriously questioned, to be replaced by one of sufficiency. Rich countries are called upon to hold back their material growth to leave room for a rising living standard among the poor. Alternative business models are presented, such as moving from products to services or towards a circular economy based on re-use, reconditioning and recycling – all with the aim of facilitating sustainable development.

Remember, you CAN make a difference!

Think before you print! 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4 kg CO₂ in the atmosphere; 3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

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