NOVEMBER 2022

## THE SPARK



SHASA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Eurobodalla EV update

SHASA and Council have been making EV inroads! Since the SHASA EV Day: Electrify Everything held in October in Batehaven, four people have ordered the MG SUV EV and 27 people have registered their interest in the Good Car Company/SHASA EV deal (offering used EVs at great rates).

The NSW Government has announced fastcharging stations (at least four) for Batemans Bay and Narooma. And the first destination charger has been installed at the Adelaide Hotel in Moruya (a 22kW charger).

Phil Stubbs, Eurobodalla Shire Council Sustainability Supervisor

- has secured NSW government funding for an ultra-fast charger at Narooma It will be 175kw and 360kw (doesn't get much bigger!). The next stage is an MoU with the charging provider Evie.
- is pursuing destination chargers at council sites. The Botanic Gardens are keen to get one, but the site has some issues, including with 4G connectivity.
- is following SHASA's lead and reaching out to business chambers to encourage them to apply for the second round of destination-charger funding in April 2023.
- followed up with NRMA about Bay Pavilion charger malfunctioning.
- reached out to Ampol to find out plans for Ampcharge in the regions. While awaiting a response, independent Ampol station owners can install their own chargers.

IN THIS MONTH'S SHASA NEWS

Repurposing for Resilience solar waste recycling Good Budget news for the Eurobodalla



# SHASA'S WORK RECOGNISED IN PARLIAMENT

Member for Bega, Dr Michael Holland, formally recognised SHASA's work, with these kind words to NSW Parliament (Legislative Assembly Hansard, 11 October 2022):

I would like to recognise on behalf of the Bega Electorate the Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance and congratulate them on their successful Electric Vehicle Expo that was recently held in Batehaven on October 1.

As part of their Electrify Everything campaign to help reach net zero emissions by eliminating household use of fossil fuels, this South Coast first was a roaring success with an estimated 800 to 1000 people in attendance, some even coming from as far away as Bega, the Shoalhaven and Canberra. The Expo brought together several vendors and local EV owners to give residents and visitors an opportunity to learn more about electric vehicles – cars, scooters and bikes, as well as lawn mowers and outboard motors.

I would like to thank SHASA for organising this fantastic event and for engaging with community service providers and residents to help educate and increase the uptake of electric vehicles in our region. Congratulations on a fantastic Expo and I hope to see this great event return in the future.



#### SHASA + NCC PICNIC A SUCCESS

Despite the wet weather, 35 people attended the Eurobodalla Picnic for Nature, representing a range of environmental groups from Eurobodalla and beyond. There was wonderful food to share and great conversations. Thank you to all!

#### HORIZON BANK GREEN CAR LOANS

#### **Green Car Loans**

With rising fuel prices and an increased focus on sustainability, have you considered an electric or hybrid vehicle? We are excited to announce that Horizon Bank is now offering new and used Green Car Loans!



Did you know that electric and hybrid cars can produce significantly less emissions that traditional petrol and diesel vehicles? If you're looking to reduce your carbon footprint and save at the petrol pump, a green car could be a great way to do it! Our Green Car Loans offer a full percentage interest rate saving to help you on your way. Check out our latest blog to learn about some of the benefits of a green car:



Repower Shoalhaven and SHASA have been working with Horizon Bank on how they can support the big switch to all-electric households, so residents can save money and reduce emissions. Horizon Bank has announced a Green Car Loan.

LOAN PURPOSE	Electric or hybrid vehicle	
ELIGIBILITY	New or used vehicles up to 3 years old	
MIN LOAN AMOUNT	\$5,000	
REPAYMENT TERM	Maximum of 5 years	
REPAYMENT TYPE	Principal & interest	
FEES	\$150 establishment fee, no annual or monthly fees	
	NEW	USED (UP TO 5 YEARS OLD)
INTEREST TYPE	Fixed	Variable
INTEREST RATE DISCOUNT	1.00% off existing new car rate	1.00% off existing used car rate
INTEREST RATE	4.99% p.a.	6.99% p.a.



#### Put to re-use: a 'solar table'

# Making good use of second-hand solar panels

Repurposing for Resilience Eurobodalla [RfR] was established as a not-for-profit Incorporated Association in May of this year. A grant-assisted pilot project to prove feasibility for the reuse and repurposing of solar waste in our region is now moving ahead. Ultimately, a sustainable social enterprise is anticipated.

Used solar panels and associated solar waste will be collected and sorted into the following streams:

- 1. **Resale or reuse:** equipment that's still fit for its original purpose will be put back into stream with test results and limited warranty, negating the risk associated with secondhand purchases. Work will also continue to assist bushfire-affected households with small off-grid systems suitable for residential and agricultural needs.
- 2. Repurposing or up-cycling: equipment that is still functional and safe but no longer fit for its original purpose will be repurposed into items such as coffee tables, outdoor furniture, dog kennels, cladding etc. RfR is currently building a power tool trailer and coffee cart using discarded panels and solar waste. A local silversmith has also come on board making jewellery out of reclaimed waste. These goods will be on display and available for sale from both the facility and via an online shop on the RfR website.
- 3. **Recycling:** equipment that has reached its end of life and is not suitable for repurposing will be partially deconstructed for example, scrapping of aluminium and transport to materials-recycling depots. RfR intends to work toward developing a containerised small-scale pyrolysis process for small batch recovery of raw materials from end-of-life panels.

An offsite training facility will be established, which will run much-needed vocational and nationally recognised courses in the Eurobodalla region, including WHS inductions, working at heights, test and tag, electrical apprenticeship training and PV solar & storage courses.

#### What we need now

We need more people to volunteer, to purchase \$5 memberships (giving access to discounted products) and to start spreading the word! Volunteers can help with marketing & promotions, accounts, administration, website & social media, processing work and sales. A part time position will also be advertised shortly. Visit www.rfreurobodalla.com.au or find us on Facebook @RfReurobodalla.

GOOD NEWS IN OCTOBER
FEDERAL BUDGET

There was good news for the regions and for climate and resilience initiatives in the October federal budget.

#### Initiatives included:

- \$1.9b Powering the Regions Fund to support emission cuts in regional areas
- \$224.3m over four years for 400 community batteries across Australia, to lower bills, cut emissions and reduce pressure on the electricity grid, by allowing households to store and use excess power they produce.
- An investment of \$102.2 million over four years to establish a Community Solar Banks program for the deployment of community-scale solar and clean energy technologies. This funding will improve access to clean energy technologies in regional communities, social housing, apartments, rental accommodation and households that are traditionally unable to access rooftop solar.
- The establishment of the Driving the Nation Fund, with \$275.4 million to be used to invest in cheaper and cleaner transport including electric and zero-emission vehicle charging.
- The development of Australia's seaweed farming, which will see \$8.1 million invested over three years to support the commercialisation of seaweed as a low-emissions feed.
- \$20 billion in funding to establish 'Rewiring the Nation', to expand and modernise Australia's electricity grids at lowest cost, unlocking new renewables and storage capacity and driving down power prices.
- Provision of \$45.8 million to 'restore Australia's reputation' and 'increase international engagement on climate change and energy transformation issues'.
- \$83.8 million has been allocated to develop and deploy microgrid technology across First Nations communities, to increase access to cheaper, cleaner and more reliable energy.

### Upcoming events...



Visit the SHASA stall to learn more about our great work...





For more: www.shasa.com.au



Southcoast Health & Sustainability Alliance