

ASEN NEWSLETTER

after the asen kids got together for SoS and climate camp, they went home to all their different collec-

august - september 08

tives ... starting up campaigns, sharing experiences and engaging new students. so now lets hear from the kids themselves what they've been doing!

campaigning (climate)

ASEN Climate Working Group prioritised direct action, coal campaigning and creating a sense of urgency at our brief planning sesh at SoS. Because it's hard to get together often nationally, state contacts have been established in Qld, WA and NSW, and we plan to have monthly PLUs to converge ideas, energy and direction. We're still looking for contact points for Vic and SA!!

Qld kids have been super busy bees! They are getting right stuck into coal strategy (Qld being the largest coal exporting state) and are planning a coal roadtrip, actions for the last week of september and beyond, becoming involved in grassroots summit organising, heaps of amazing things, etc! :)

Climate working group in NSW recently had a planning weekend where we prioritised work on the SEAN roadtrip, building climate action skills and networks, rolling action in the first week of november, the grassroots climate summit in February and the office occupations in March 2009. We wanted to do workshops at powershift also. People have been going to planning meetings for these events and we are meeting again next sunday. Feedback from the planning weekend was good especially the use of new ways of planning eg drawing and watching movies and eating popcorn as an alternative to formal meeting procedure. New people came. wooo wooo.

Indigenous solidarity

Interested kids organised a PLU

Got together resources on how to learn the language of different areas

And now they are going to wait till after convergence to see what people want to do

state by state

high schools

Highschools:

Hot!

4 convenors in 4 states

Lisa NSW, Sam, VIC, Jo WA, Shani QLD

Working closely with AYCC, planning schools conferenes, planning support for school students

Lots of oportunities to get involved, as mentors, in going to conferences etc

email jarra@asen.org.au

QEAN (qld)

had its first phone link up (ever!) It rocked; had folk from Brissie, Toowoomba and Cairns on the line! We plan to hold state-wide phone link ups every 2 months the next one is 7th October 6-7pm.

QEAN now has a wiki! Visit <http://qean.pbwiki.com> to explore and ADD what you're group has done/is up to. It includes an online calendar to keep up-dated about each groups' events and avoid unnecessary over-lap.

Skill-shares: had an amazing Activist Education weekend workshop; 9 peeps participated in an 'educating the educator' stream and facilitated workshops the next day for 23 participants! Lotsa learning's

from this we've formed a 'Qld activist ed' and 'Qld facilitators' network/e-lists

held a Climate Camp fundraising gig in Brisbane to help cover the arrestees fines

hot as ever on the coal trail banding together with the Brisbane Activist Centre/Resistance and FoE to help make Sept week of actions happen - <http://climateemergencyqueensland.blogspot.com>

We're having regular monthly gatherings in the park; a break from the order and structure of meetings; getting to know who's in the network better

AYCC recently acquired a space at the rad youth centre 'Visible Ink' in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane. We helped paint it and are looking forward to making use of it.

qean cont

First coal infrastructure project (Waratah Coal) was shut down in Qld this week!!! (by Peter Garrett who once upon a time campaigned on the very same spot against sand-mining). ASENers did a submission against the project. Heaps of community actions/efforts and media coverage made this possible

Some ASEN facilitators helped the Change Agency to facilitate a meeting with 30-40 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and Traditional Owners to assess and input into the SEQld Regional Plan.

QEAN people went to support the Mary River anti-Dam convergence in Qld, which coincided with GetUp climate torch relay

Qld Indigenous solidarity crew have been getting Qld folk to Alice Convergence

(for whats been happening check out the wiki, for links and pictures of all these things!! ASEN Fundraiser! 17th or 18th October, Brisbane: Kristy, Merinda & Clare are organizing a three-course thriller ASEN fundraiser dinner for October. Aim is to raise \$3000! To get involved contact Merinda (mindaflower@hotmail.com)

QEAN 'gig', date:tbc (proposed Sat 20th September, 10-3pm), venue: tbc. This will involve planning time for collectives, working groups, actions and a wicked Theories of Change workshop, plus lunch.

QEAN folk are helping to organise a Qld climate movement community summit; date tba, so far looks like late-October, perhaps the 19th, 25th or 26th.

Coal communities listening tour in November (period tbc) traveling in buses to central and coastal Qld to meet with (very) coal-dependent communities and Indigenous peoples, researching, running workshops, sharing stories from climate camp, visit key coal infrastructure sites, and build for a post-coal economy. Visit <http://cclt.wetpaint.com>

GreenFest: ASEN will have a stall at GreenFest from 10th-12th October, at SouthBank. Brisbane. "Greenfest is a place for full community participation in creative energy to win the race against climate change". www.greenfest.com.au

Flix-on-Fridays: Held every second Friday night of each month at 10 Laura St, Highgate Hill home of the butter-cup mobility Co-operative. Starts at 6:30pm. Range of activist films shown. Next one is on Friday 19th Sep.

sean (nsw)

We recently held an Education day in Newcastle to fulfil the final requirements for the Myer grant, with workshops on Creative Engagement and Oppression. Now we just have to sort out some paperwork and then we will get some money for the network, hurrah!

Plans are also well underfoot for the SEAN road trip happening throughout the end of October and the first week in November. At the moment, it's looking like we'll have a series of smaller trips, making it to Bathurst for their Enviro week, then moving on to Albury, and from there Wollongong, and then Armidale and Lismore! Woohoo, so this is very exciting, but support with fundraising for transport and cars and drivers would be helpful.

Convergence is also fast approaching, so a lot of work is being put into helping people get there and organise transport.

ccen (victoria)

trying to do a train station campaign

getting a community garden of the ground

organizing around election week

Mel uni? negotiating for cleaner energy on campus

RMIT furniture recycling

Making worm farms

coal stuff!

tasmania

collective at uni is really struggling

- food coop project is going really well

(WA) SEN

UWA: just had State elections, strong swing towards Liberal

Has started up Uranium debate

Climate building workshop (reps from 10 groups); 4 workshops being held at UWA in September

Couple of forest campaigns we're getting involved in Looking into having a fundraiser soon

Murdoch enviro week

Enviro week UWA

South Australia

- doing lots of stuff around NT intervention

- started food not-bombs group

- Arms fair cancelled!

and a closer look at some cool collectives . . .

UQ enviro collective

active around the campaign against the NT Intervention (stalls, film screenings, a speak-out against the Intervention with Walter Shaw, speakers from Nuclear Free Alliance fundraising to send collective members to Alice for convergence focused on the coal industry expansion in Queensland and picketed Anna Bligh the United Nations Association of Australia National Conference. Attention on 3 proposed coal mines and the Shoal Water Bay port
planning a campus action for Sept week of actions against 'clean' coal research at QUT

UQ Climate For Change

submitted a recommendations paper to the VC
collaborating with uni depts and staff to map university progress/initiatives on climate change then will take steps to fill the gaps with uni admin
will have meeting with QLD Climate Change Minister Policy advisor soon
have affiliated to the AYCC woot! Jessica Walsh is the delegate (s4099680@student.uq.edu.au)

Griffith Food Coop

have had to do lots more paper work and make sure we're in line with the new food business license.
Try to get Sudanese kitchen people to do a cook-up (migrant community from Annerley)
Company Trumps sells new dry goods, so we've switched whole-sale provider, so we're sourcing stuff more locally
Hooke up with CPCI Centre for Public and Cultural Ideas (Griffith) study of sustainability movement among youth (gave \$900 to go to SoS in July)

Ecobug (UQ Food Coop)

settled comfortably and happily into their new home
Membership numbers are growing, including a fresh batch of active vollies which is wonderful though we still need more if we are to stay open as often as we'd like
New projects on the boil include fresh salads from My Heart Garden which hopefully we will be selling from Monday (8th Sept)
looking into such exciting possibilities as a worm farm for compost and a solar oven
The recent full Moon Fiesta was a huge success and we look forward to many more.

sydney uni

Working on enviro week - lots of workshops, 3 forums
- nukes,
renewables and the Greenpaper/ETS
Sustainable campus campaign - writing a report on what the Uni is doing, and what we would like them to do on diff issues of sustainability, e.g. research, clean energy. We're launching the report at enviro week!
Liaising with uni staff in facilities and in the new sustainable institute
Working with new kids
Doing kool stuff with the food co-op
Working with enviro clubs on camous, like the new guerrilla gardeing club and veggie soc
Meeting the new VC to chat about sustainable campus campaign!

UTS collective (sydney)

UTS Enviro collective currently has about 6-8 regulars who come to meetings, and our e-list is about 180 people. Members lately have been involved in SOS, Climate Camp, organising the Climate Leaders Training in partnership with the Institute for Sustainable Futures and AYCC. The weekend long training was held a couple of weeks ago and was attended by about 20 students (mostly UTS, but a few from other unis). It went AMAZINGLY with very good feedback from both participants and organisers. In the next few months we're working on UTS Green Week, sponsoring a member to go to the Sustainable Building conference in Melbourne, a sustainability breakfast with UTS leaders, fundraising for the Alice Springs Convergence and developing closer ties with members of the Environmental Sustainability Initiative - a sustainability framework within which we have submitted greenpower and UTS community garden proposals. Personally, I feel the collective has been well supported by both SEAN and ASEN conveners, and all in all we're going along pretty well :)

finance

Things I've been doing

- paying people, you know who you are :)
- amending the ASEN tax guide for sole traders
- opening a high interest earning account in our current bank account - still in process of.
- Researching more ethical banking options
- Finalising the finances for the Myer Grant acquital
- Trying to find an auditor to work pro bono.

Things I'm going to do

- Register for GST & work out what that means..
- Hopefully find an auditor!
- Helping with the ASEN fundraiser in Qld

Financial Snapshot

[1st July - 9th Sept]

Money In \$13,875.26

Money Out -\$17,864.90

Money in the bank \$39,324.01

Tied money

Seed fund -\$25,000.00

National/State Conveners Pay -\$23,532.00

National travel -\$1,798.00

Training Camp -\$15,000.00

Admin -\$4,811.00

National & State Phones -\$10,374.00

Miscellaneous -\$1,767.68

Projects (Myer & climate camp) -\$12,436.78
-\$94,719.46

Money in the bank - tied money =

Amount to fundraise -\$55,395.45

macquarie

-We've been liaising with the uni Sustainability Office regarding green energy - we may have 20 in near future (fingers crossed)!!

-Working with student association on sustainability fair, fair trade coffee, better recycling procedures.

- Looking into Clothing Co-op, Food Co-op (too few people, lacking support and time at the moment to work on these ideas properly)

-Organising an Enviro Week with workshops, speakers, stalls and a film screening (Anyone from the network interested in contributing?? It's in Week 9)

-Working on getting better paper procedures and procurement policies happening (new tender about to occur - trying to influence that with general hounding the uni and complaining and talking to big wigs - don't quote me on that one)

- We'd love to affiliate with ASEN (We'll get there)

membership

We had a great boost in membership from SoS with 110 ASEN members!!! YAY! We had 53 ASEN members attend the EGM on 9th July and 13 non-members which is an awesome turn out! My goal is to get 15 collectives per session to become ASEN affiliates however, I'm struggling to have the time to get support to support other collectives :P. If anyone would like to do a ring around with me I'd love the help :).

And how can I make membership an easier yet important and meaningful process?

Does bringing it up at collective, filling out the form together and getting the money to Kristy make you feel like the national network became more legitimate because of the mutual support and relationship collectives have with each other? (I don't know if that was a weird questions, in short I'd like your feedback on ASEN membership please :D)

Thanks to all those collectives and people for becoming a member of ASEN :)!

