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Sustainability Newsletter



OCTOBER EDITION.

We hope you have been keeping well over the past month, with the end of the semester drawing to a close and spring in full swing there is a buzz of excitement in the air (hopefully from the bees!). This months edition is full of juicy sustainability content, so sit back, relax and enjoy. Stay tuned for future editions to keep up to date with upcoming events and opportunities to learn and get involved in Sustainability at RMIT.



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RMIT Ride 2 Uni Day - 17th October 2018

On your bike! Roll on down to the RMIT Bike Hub in building 51 **tomorrow morning** to celebrate Ride 2 Work day from **8am-10am**. All RMIT students and staff welcome.

- Meet other members of the RMIT Community.
- Refuel with FREE **Crumpets** and **Coffee**.
- Get your hands on other fab freebies
- See how much your commute **saved in CO2** emissions- there are prizes!
- Chat to **Bicycle Network**
- Blend your own **smoothie** if you haven't already pedalled enough!

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RMIT ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY SHOWCASE

The Annual **Sustainability Showcase** was an action packed event aimed at raising awareness of RMIT's sustainability initiatives for the wider community. The day also coincided with **National Green Campus Day**, a day where educational institutions across Australia open their doors to the public for sustainable events and tours.

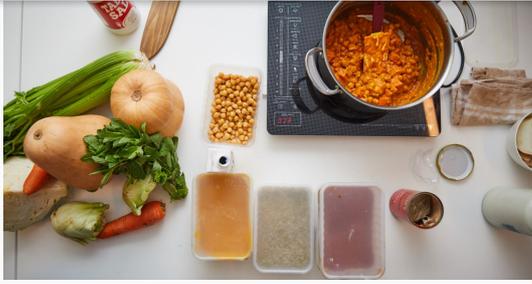
This year we focused on **awakening the senses** with a series of workshops to **Taste, Transform, Talk and Tour** all things sustainability. This included campus tours, a Chef's Guide to Sustainable Food, hearing from the Future Business Council, talking Sustainable Development Goals and networking nibbles and drinks wrapped up an action packed day.

A **special thank you** to all those those that came along, and to the speakers who provided engaging and inspiring content.

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Chef Ben McMenamin from **The Social Food Project** (and founder of Greening RMIT) hosted a delicious cooking demonstration centred around eating ethical, affordable, seasonal produce. The recipe Ben cooked was a delicious **Vegan Pumpkin & Chickpea Curry** that everyone got to enjoy.

We are also proud to share that this event had **ZERO WASTE**. We utilised **re-usable** cutlery and crockery and did the dishes together in the break, any **leftovers** were taken home- which wasn't much! Visit the [Social Food Project](#) to find out more and [Click HERE for the recipe](#).



The Sustainability Team conducted '**Hidden Sustainability**' Tours around the campus as part of Green Campus Day, exploring the built environment.

Hidden highlights included visiting the **solar panels** on the rooftop of Building 56 as well as the refurbished Francis Ormond Building (Building 1) and Building 11 (Old Melbourne Gaol).



There were also talks on how to impact change in the workplace delivered by the **Future Business Council**. To find out more about their amazing work to deliver a resilient economy, click [HERE](#).

RMIT's dedicated SDG expert also shared how the University is mapping current strategies and policies to the **Sustainable Development Goals** and how they will be integral to reporting moving forward.



[RMIT Activator](#)'s panel session on *Creating A Sustainable Future* unlocked great discussion surrounding **green initiatives** including sustainable pet food, waste management innovation, eco-centric furniture, and bamboo toys. Hearing about the journey these entrepreneurs have ventured on and the support they have had from RMIT Activator was truly inspirational and a great note to end on.

RMIT GREEN IMPACT PROGRAM

Well done!

The Green Impact Program is drawing to a close after a successful first year!

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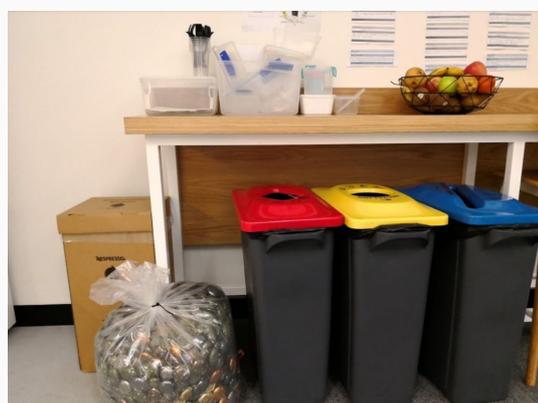
The Program has been delivered by the Sustainability Team, supported by RMIT University and ACTS (Australian Campus' Towards Sustainability).

Green Impact is a **change and engagement** program to help people understand sustainability, social responsibility and shows them what they can do to make a difference.

The Program is delivered through an online Toolkit for Staff Teams, and in collaboration with Student Auditors who assess the Staff Teams progress towards these KPIs. Together this creates a community of people working towards **common, agreed and sustainable goals** can be achieved.

This year we had **10 Teams** across the **Melbourne & Vietnam Campuses**, **58 Participants** and **12 Student Auditors**. Their achievements will be recognised at a Morning Tea Awards Ceremony in November.

Please **see below** for actions teams have been pursuing.



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Sustainable Landmark

RMIT Architecture Students have proposed a new sustainable landmark on a Melbourne beach that is both public art and a power plant. The landmark is called “**Light Up**,” the proposal is the winner of a contest sponsored by the Land Art Generator Initiative (LAGI), an organization whose goal is to “accelerate the transition to post-carbon economies by providing models of **renewable energy infrastructure** that add value to public space, inspire + educate.”



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RMIT CARBON NEUTRAL 2030



Carbon Neutral
2030

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RMIT University aims to model institutional-wide excellence and take an influential role in helping shape a sustainable future.

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RMIT has committed to **reduce** its building emissions to a **net zero position by 2030**. As a minimum, half of the emissions reductions required to meet this commitment are to come from on-site initiatives, with the remaining emissions reductions to be sourced from **offsetting activities**.

This commitment builds on the previous emissions reduction target to reduce RMIT's emissions by 25% by 2020, this target was **achieved four years ahead of schedule** in 2016.

Our **new windfarm** is in construction outside Ararat, purchasing **8GWh** as a partner in the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project. Click this link to read more about [MREP](#). By the **end of 2018** we will have installed solar **590kW** on our campuses.



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