

*How a group of committed  
community members  
started to change the  
City of Whitehorse*



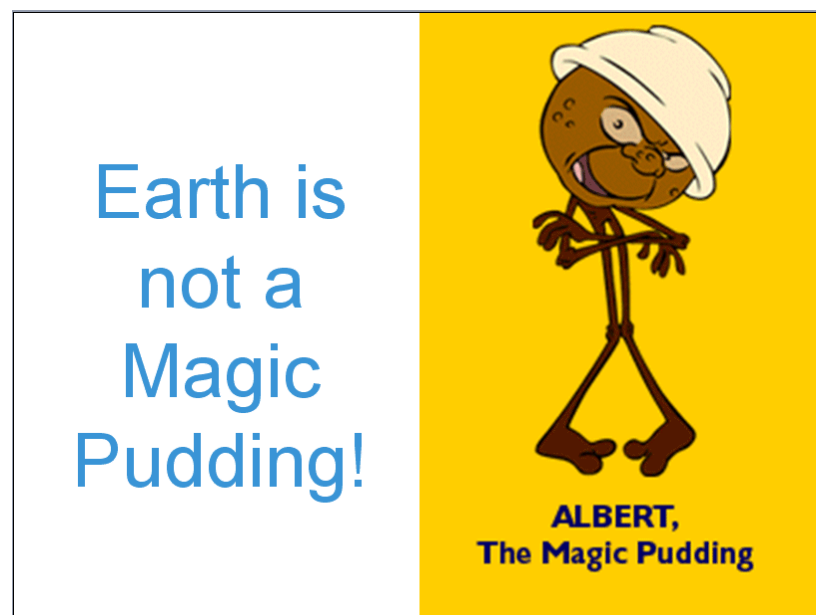
# Mal's Whitehorse Freecycle Project

Mal Boyd set up a community based online gifting system, Whitehorse Freecycle, enabling the Whitehorse community to offer to others items they no longer require. Mal has recruited over 150 members to join the group and over 70 items have been offered to date, hence reduced waste going to landfill and making some happy new owners!



# ***Dean's Organic Waste Reduction Project at Blackburn Lake Primary School***

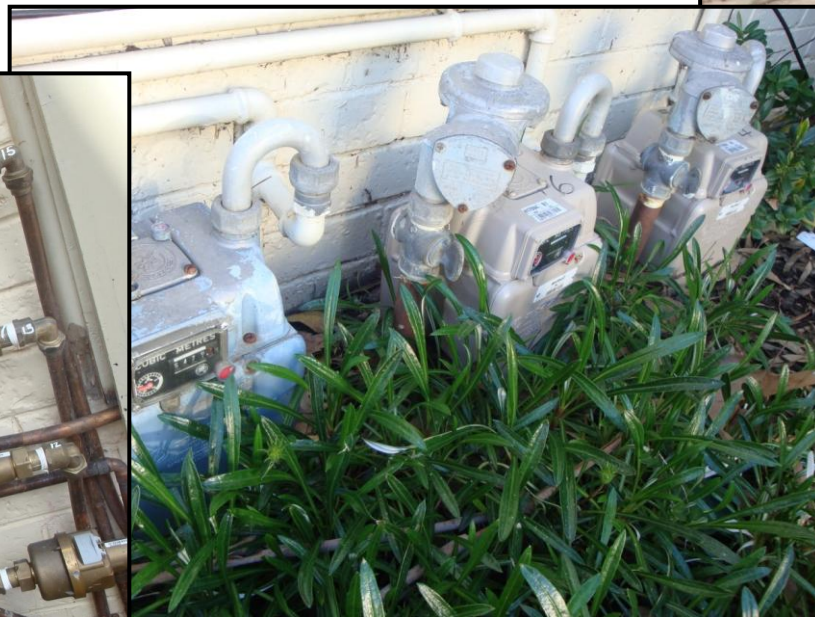
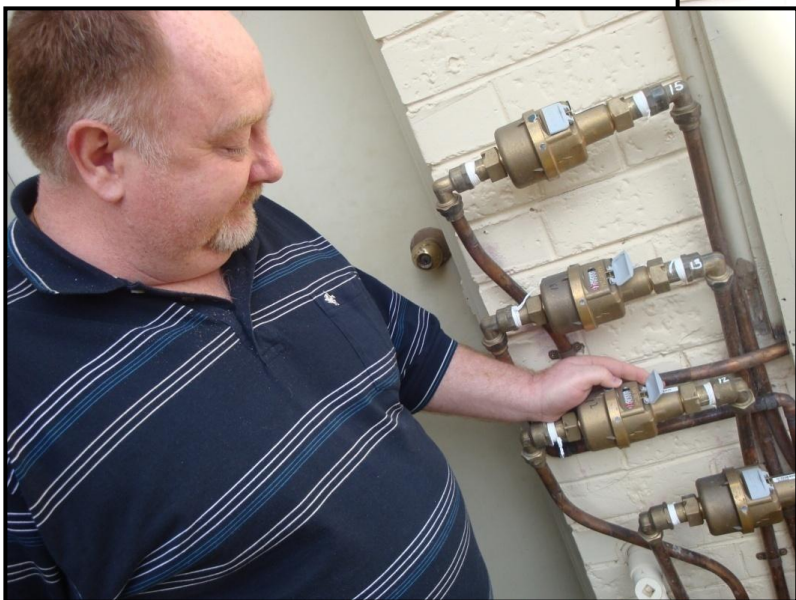
Dean Collins worked with the Blackburn Lake Primary School community to set up a worm farm to reduce the amount of organic waste going to landfill. In addition, Dean spoke to the students about the importance of waste reduction, sustainable living and climate change, and produced creative awareness raising posters for the school.





# ***John's Operation Water Saving Project***

John Jones reduced water wastage in his apartment building through coordinating the implementation of individual water meters for each apartment. John worked with his body corporate, Yarra Valley Water and a local plumber, and successfully helped to raise awareness about water conservation and reduce the overall water use in the apartment complex.



# ***Liz and Liz's Neighbourhood Waste Removal Project***

Liz Stinson and Liz Hooper built connections with their neighbours and assisted them to reduce the waste in their street. They researched local solutions for waste removal, invited neighbours to their house to discuss the plan, and with their support built a community neighbourhood network of collectors and drivers for disposing of waste such as batteries, paint tins and smoke detectors.



Liz & Liz provided afternoon tea to entice the neighbours to join!

Person	Item	Frequency
Liz & Liz	Paint tins	6 monthly
Murray & Keryn	Toner cartridges	Continuous
Stan & Joan	Batteries	Annually
Phil & Wendy	Smoke detectors	Annually
Andrea	Tyres	Annually



# ***Kathy, Peter and Rohan's Retrofitting at Forest Hills Retirement Village Project***

Kathy, Peter worked with their son Rohan, and together they retrofitted Kathy's mother's unit at a local retirement village to be more energy and water efficient. They inspired residents of the village to embrace a more sustainable lifestyle through hosting an open day for all to attend and learn more about how they too can retrofit their homes.



# *Louise's Rangeview Shopping Centre Sustainable Business Project*

Louise Helmot encouraged a diverse range of businesses at Rangeview Shopping Centre to share sustainability tips and commit to taking on new sustainability practices within their business. Louise successfully recruited 11 businesses to take part in the project, organised a free water audit for each business through Yarra Valley Water, and with Louise's support the businesses significantly increased their number of overall sustainable business practices and plan to continue the practices into the future.

## Solutions for meeting the objectives of the project

- Norms — sharing current practice information with each other & the public

Newspaper articles -  
Whitehorse Leader &  
Whitehorse News  
(pending)



## Measurement Tools & Evaluation

- Number of sustainable business practices after project – 90 – an increase of 28!





# *Mary's Mitcham Community House Composting Project*

Mary Blain worked with Mitcham Community House to encourage people within the house to compost their waste, and hence reduce organic waste going to landfill. Mary's project also led on to lunchtime talks on sustainability issues, regular sustainability items in the newsletter and raised an interest in green cleaning at the house.

## Mitcham Community House



***"People did swap readily to the new system. Very worthwhile in terms of awareness raising"***

***Anne Kean – Community Development & Volunteer Coordinator***





# ***Ben & Niloo's Blackburn Sustainability Street Project***

Niloo Barmanray and Ben Leeman involved the local community in sharing ideas on sustainable living when they formed a local Sustainability Street group. Together they visited homes close to Ben's house and spoke to their neighbours about sustainability and joining the group, and hosted an successful first meeting.



**SUSTAINABILITY ST.**  
**IT'S A VILLAGE OUT THERE**

# ***Lisa's Recycling at Whitehorse Community Health Services Project***

Lisa Edwards worked with the Whitehorse Community Health Services to improve their recycling at the centre through education, clear signage, pledges by 55 staff to recycle correctly and discussions during staff meetings. The project lead to a significant increase in items being recycled correctly instead of being sent to landfill, and Lisa is now known around the office as the sustainability guru!



*“There’s definitely been a change. Before there was real confusion. Every single person now sorts the recyclables from the rubbish” - Staff member*