

ON THE RISE – ASCENT MONTHLY BULLETIN
May 2008

Hey ASCENTers!

It is an exciting time for ASCENT as we have begun a great new climate messenger training program partnering with the Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) for new presenters in Victorian schools. In addition, ASCENT is also getting involved with the Centre for Sustainability Leadership workshop for high school students. For more information and how to be involved see below for details...

In other news we say farewell to 'Cam the Bulletin Guy' who has worked so hard for us and done such a great job keeping the bulletin entertaining and a little bit left of everything. We wish him good luck on his travels!

Direct any questions and feedback to contactascent@gmail.com

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1. AYCC and ASCENT: YOUTH CLIMATE MESSENGER TRAINING

This year will mark a turning point in Australia's response to the greatest issue facing our generation: the climate crisis. Young people can play - and are already playing - a huge role in building a movement loud and strong enough to make sure our governments take climate change seriously.

Youth Climate messengers are high school, Uni & TAFE students trained to deliver youth-created presentations and workshops about climate change at schools in their local area. It's peer-to-peer education about climate change in a way that engages young people.

The training will include:

- . presentation and public speaking skills
- . communicating information about climate change in interesting ways
- . how to answer the tough questions

A follow up session and on going support and resources is provided.

For more information and to participate in climate messenger trainings in Melbourne contact Damien at damien_irving@yahoo.com.au

For more info on the Australian Youth Climate Coalition and other trainings around Australia go to www.youthclimatecoalition.org

2. CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP: Free Sustainability Leadership Workshop

Today everyone is talking about sustainability. In schools, boardrooms, cabinet rooms and even in the Vatican. The problem is turning talk into reality. We still have a long way to go. Australia needs a new generation of leaders to make this happen, and it starts with you, in high school. We want to set you on the road to becoming a climate change and sustainability champion.

Applications are open online at www.csl.org.au/workshop08

Places are limited, and application close on the 1st June, 2008.

You will work with the Centre for Sustainability Leadership and the Australian Climate Change Education Network, in a one-day intensive workshop following World Environment Day, on Saturday 7th June. Meeting other young leaders, you will expand your network within the sustainability arena, while gaining access to expertise you help you on the path to leadership. We will give you a politician-style briefing on climate change and sustainability, and work with you to create a leadership speech to inspire your school and community, and write a plan to become personally sustainable.

To prepare, we'd like you to write a three-minute speech and prepare a one-page fact sheet on an area of sustainability you want to champion.

Applications are open online at www.csl.org.au/workshop08

Contact info@csl.org.au with any questions.

3. Green Left WEEKLY COMEDY DEBATE 2008

Should we always look on the bright side of life?

Climate change and war are serious stuff, but we wouldn't still be trying to change the world, if we didn't have a sense of humour to boot! Join the comedy

ringmaster Rod Quantock and his mighty team of comedians in the ultimate political comedy battle.

Catherine Deveny (The Age columnist and author of 'It's Not My Fault They Print Them')

Nelly Thomas ('Nelly Thomas is not a Yummy Mummy', Melbourne International Comedy Festival 2008)

Courteney Hocking ('Mixing Pop and Politics', MICF 2008)

Wendy Little ('Helmet Hair', Melbourne Fringe Festival 2007, The Sheryls)

Shiralee Hood (joint runner-up of 'Deadly Funny 2008')

Adrian Whitehead (co-founder of the Zero Emissions Network)

7:30pm Friday 16 May.

Doors open 7pm

Brunswick Town Hall, Melbourne (cnr Sydney & Glenlyon Rds, Brunswick)

Entry: \$10 unwaged, \$20 waged, \$30 solidarity

Delicious food and drink available for purchase.

Bookings essential as seats are limited.

Ring 9639 8622 or 0433 695 693

www.greenleft.org.au

4. CLIMATE CAMP 08

Mid way through this year there will be a massive convergence of people from all over Australia taking part in activities, workshops and direct action to halt the expansion of Australia's biggest coal port! **Newcastle, 10 - 15 July, 2008.**

<http://www.climatecamp.org.au/>