



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue 96

December 2006

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ANOTHER FINE INNINGS COMES TO A CLOSE



Harold McKenzie

Harold Campbell McKenzie NT. passed away on Thursday 7 December 2006. Harold was an invaluable professional in the Western Australian Waste Management Industry especially from 1981 until his death. He will be greatly missed.

Harold's Life

Harold was born on the 14th October 1928 in South Yarra, Victoria.

Harold initially trained as a boilermaker but used his academic ability to become a civil engineering graduate.

Then followed jobs including overseeing construction of

the largest major items of state elevated water infrastructure, such as the tower in the Woodman Point Southern Wastewater Treatment Hemisphere at Plant, project managing the Mildura, before Joondalup Golf Course and being appointed design review of the as Manager of the Subiaco oval Mildura Water reconstruction Trust.

He accepted a move to Papua New Guinea as an engineering consultant and after several years shifted to Darwin to become manager, then Director, of the DJ Dwyer consultancy in the

Following his retirement from GHD, Harold prepared Waste Management plans for almost every Council in WA.

He was also involved in planning and design for the Eastern Metropolitan and Mindarie Regional Council until his death.

Harold is survived by his wife Norah, 5 children Katrina, Jeffrey, Christine, Ivan and Peter, 12 grand children and 6 great grand children.

"Harold earned every ounce of the respect he commanded in his field of expertise and always railed against wasting that precious gift that is time. Harold lived every one of his years to the fullest and has left a gold standard as an example for all of us to follow. Our condolences go to Harold's family and friends on their very personal loss."

Bernard Ryan, Manager, Waste & Recycling.

WORKIN BOARD PAPERS INTO SHAPE

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) will be holding two workshops in early 2007 to elicit Local Government comment on recently released papers from the Waste Management Board. Workshops are open to Local Government Officers and Elected Members.

The first workshop will be held **12 noon - 4:30pm Monday 15 January 2007**, covering:

- ◆ Household Chemical Waste Storage Design Guidelines;
- ◆ Impacts of Banning Certain Items from Landfill; and
- ◆ Draft Building Strategy.

RSVP to Rebecca Brown on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 3 or rbrown@walga.asn.au by **Monday 8 January.**

A second workshop will be held **12 noon - 4:30pm Wednesday 14 February 2007** covering:

- ◆ Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia;
- ◆ Used Glass Market Development;
- ◆ Tyres - Review of Management at Landfill;
- ◆ Technology and Market Development for Tyre Derived Products; and
- ◆ Used Tyre Stockpile Guidelines.

RSVP to Rebecca Brown on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 3 or rbrown@walga.asn.au by **Wednesday 7 February.**

The workshops will be held at Local Government House, 15 Altona Street, West Perth.

MWAC is also in the process of formulating comment on *Tyres - Banning from Landfill or Mandatory Recycling*. Any Local Government feedback on this paper should be emailed to Megan Graham on mgraham@walga.asn.au by **Friday 22 December 2006** to be considered in the drafting of the MWAC submission.



December's Nero of the Month is Bernard Ryan, the man everyone wants to rub shoulders with.

P.S. - CDS WORTH LISTENING TO

The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) Container Deposit Systems (CDS) Policy Statement has been endorsed by State Council.

The CDS Policy Statement:

- ◆ endorses the introduction of CDS to WA on the basis that it is representative of community views and values;

- ◆ will be an effective tool for increasing resource recovery and decreasing litter across the State;

- ◆ outlines guiding principles by which different system types may be judged to ensure their applicability to unique WA issues; and

- ◆ will be used to form a response to any proposed CDS systems for WA.

The Policy Statement is available at www.wastenet.net.au

In other CDS news...

A paper has been presented to the new Minister for Environment by the Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) on Container Deposit Systems. For more information on the SAG visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

MWAC TWICE THE SUBMISSION

The closing date for submissions on the *Waste Avoidance Resource Recovery Bill* (WARR) and *Waste Avoidance Resource Recovery Levy Bill* (WARRL) 2006 was 27 November 2006.

The Municipal Waste Advisory

Council (MWAC) has provided a comprehensive submission on the Bill to the Department of Environment and Conservation.

A supplementary submission has also been provided to address outstanding issues with the Bill.

The MWAC submission has been circulated to all Local Governments. MWAC submissions are available from www.wastenet.net.au and the WARR and WARRL Bills are available at www.zerowastewa.com.au

BYE BYE BERNIE

Bernard Ryan, Manager Waste & Recycling of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Executive Officer to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) will say his goodbyes to Local

Government this week. Bernard leaves to take up the position as Section Manager, Strategy and Evaluation with the Waste Management Branch of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Bernard will be sorely missed and we wish him the best of luck.



AC/DC COMING SOON

The Auditing Continuity/ Data Compilation (AC/DC) Scheme, has been launched. The Scheme aims to ensure data continuity until a replacement for the Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) is in place. The Scheme covers 1 July



2006 to December 31 2006. Application forms have been sent out to Local Governments and are due back by **4pm Wednesday 31 January 2007**.

request similar information to the RRRS, however, the funding will now be based upon the range of services provided.

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9 2 1 3 2 0 6 3 or rbrown@walga.asn.au

The AC/DC scheme will be administered by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council and

MINISTER GIVES OUT ZERO

Correspondence has been sent to all Local Governments by the Department of Environment and Conservation notifying them of the impending announcement of Zero Waste Plans (ZWP).

The development of ZWPs will consist of two phases. Phase 1 will primarily involve data-gathering to establish

baseline characteristics for all Councils across the state. This phase is intended to be completed within the first six months of 2007. Phase 2 will involve the formulation of strategies and actions.

For completing Phase 1 Councils will receive a proportion of funding allocated, with the remainder

to be paid on the completion of Phase 2. Formal announcement of the ZWPs, including the funding model, is expected to take place in early 2007.

For more information contact James Milne on 6 4 6 7 5 4 5 4 or james.milne@dec.wa.gov.au

JOINT CONTRACT TO CONTINUE

The joint ground water monitoring contract (of landfill leachates), administered by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC), currently conducted by GHD, is due to come to an end in early 2007.

The contract allows the

Municipal Waste Advisory Council to extend the contract for an additional year. In November 2006, a survey was conducted of Local Governments using the ground water monitoring service. The vast majority of respondents found the service to be adequate and intended to continue using it.

MWAC resolved on 13 December to extend the contract for an additional year.

For more information on the ground water monitoring service contact Simone Staaden (GHD) on 9 4 2 9 6 9 4 3 or sstaaden@ghd.com.au

DATING THE DEC

The Department of Environment and Conservation has made amendments to comment due dates for several of their recently released reports.

The reports and their change of comment due date are:

- ◆ **9 February 2007**- *Landfill Ban- Impacts of Banning Certain Items from landfill;*
- ◆ **16 February 2007** - *Draft Building Products Strategy;*
- ◆ **2 March 2007** - *Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia;*
- ◆ **2 March 2007** - *Used Glass Market Development;*
- ◆ **2 March 2007** - *Used Tyre Stockpile Guidelines;* and
- ◆ **2 March 2007**- *Tyres - Review of Management at Landfill.*

For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au

LAST POST FOR RRRS

Applications for the Resource Recovery Rebate Scheme (RRRS) Period 16, the last Period of the scheme, have

been processed and are now with the Waste Management Board. After this they will go to the Minister for sign off.

For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063.

Welsh confusion at what they can and can't recycle became apparent when workers in a Recycling depot in Wales found live ammunition on a conveyer belt.



(Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk>)

THE PERFECT X-MAS PRESENT

The Town of Claremont allows its residents to request an additional recycling bin for no extra charge.

As a part of their Towards Zero Waste Strategy, residents need only provide a written request to get the extra bin.

For more information contact Elizabeth French at the Town of Claremont on 9285 4300.

EMRC REPORTS

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) has released a report (conducted by project consultants, Cardno BSD/ Meinhardt JV) on Resource Recovery.

The report is based on findings from resource recovery regional workshops held early in the year. To follow up the report a market survey was conducted in May on preferred sites and technologies.



For more information visit www.rgang.org.au (Source: EMRC Newsletter, November 2006)

The average Japanese person uses 1.167kg of food a day, with 0.0473kg ending up as food waste. This is only 4.1% of food being wasted.



(Source: www.japanfs.org)

REAL BEAUTY IS NOT PLASTIC

The Shire of Esperance is the national winner of the Government Authority section of the Keep Australia Beautiful Plastic Bag Reduction Authority Awards 2006.

single-use plastic shopping bags across Australia. The Esperance Bag Smart Program has resulted in a 75% reduction in the use of plastic shopping bags within the community.

Resource, developed by Keep Australia Beautiful, has also been produced for schools as part of the Awards program.

Sponsored by Veolia, the awards recognise and reward local efforts to help eliminate

A free Plastic Bags Education

For more information visit www.kab.org.au/plasticbags or Shire of Esperance on 9 0 7 1 0 6 6 6 or shire@esperance.wa.gov.au

WMRC REDI TO RECYCLE

The Western Metropolitan Regional Council's (WMRC) contractor Brockway DiCOM Facility Pty Ltd, has secured a \$2.7 million grant from the Federal Governments Renewable Energy



Development Initiative (REDI). Anaeco Ltd, formally Organic Resource Technologies Ltd, will use the money to develop a

demonstration waste recycling plant for WMRC. For more information visit www.anaeco.com

(Source: WA Business News 7 December 2006)

ENVIRONMENT CARD RESHUFFLED

Hon. Tony McRae has replaced Mark McGowan as the new Minister for Environment. Minister McRae is also responsible for Climate Change, (a new portfolio for WA) and Disability Services.

In June 2005, Minister McRae was Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture and Forestry and given responsibility for coordinating WA's \$316 million Natural Resource Management program. In 2006, Minister McRae was also Parliamentary

Secretary to the Minister for Resources as well as assisting the Minister for State Development; Employment Protection.

For more information visit www.tonymcrae.com



JINGLE BINS



Dashing through the snow,
On a side loader collection tray,
Over the roads we go,

Collecting all the way;
The crash of steel rings,
making crushed cans tight,
What fun it is to ride and sing

A kerbside song tonight
Jingle bins, jingle bins,
jingle all the way!

DEC UPDATED (CONTAMINATED) SITE

With the commencement of the Contaminated Sites Act 2003 (CS Act) on **Friday 1 December 2006**, a number of changes were made to the Department of Environment and Conservation's (DEC's) contaminated sites web page. For more information on these updates visit www.dec.wa.gov.au/contaminatedsites

COLLABORATION FOR CHRISTMAS

The WA Collaboration has developed a list of ideas for creating a 'Sustainable Christmas'. These include:

- ◆ Make a voucher for a special skill you have, e.g. garden labor or massage or cooking or crafts;

- ◆ Write family history - write and illustrate the family history and give the result as a gift;

- ◆ A multirider to encourage the use of public transport;



- ◆ energy efficient lightglobe or water saving showerhead; or
- ◆ a local or Australian plant.

For more information visit www.wacollaboration.org.au

WASTE PRIORITISED

Australian and New Zealand Environment Ministers have agreed upon waste management as one of their top priorities for the coming year at the November meeting of the Environment Protection and Heritage Council.

Areas of focus were:

- ◆ improved handling of contaminated sites via a proposal to vary National

Environmental Protection Measure to incorporate new methodologies for assessing sites in line with technological changes;

- ◆ cigarette butt litter via a national day of enforcement action to take place in early 2007;

- ◆ implementation of a cost-effective computer recycling system in Australia as soon as possible; and

- ◆ a continued commitment to the reduction of the impacts of plastic bags. Options for phasing out plastic bags will be released in a regulatory impact statement to be released for public consultation in early 2007.

For more information visit www.ephc.gov.au

STATE OF AUSTRALIA

The Australian *State of the Environment Report 2006* has been released. The 5 yearly Report tracks changes in all areas of the environment in Australia.

Some main findings are:

- ◆ recycling is lower in regional and rural areas but reuse of waste is higher;
- ◆ almost all, or 96%, of Australia's waste ends up in landfill; and
- ◆ the amount of used oil being recycled under the Product Stewardship for Oil programme has increased dramatically. Of an

estimated 280-300 million litres of potentially recoverable used oil, more than 220 million litres were recycled and reused in 2004-05.

The report is available at www.deh.gov.au/soe/2006

BRIGHT SPARKER

Australian Industry Minister Ian Macfarlane has announced government assistance for an intelligent device that automatically charges car batteries, with no

input from the motorist. The electronics will allow faults to be recognised, prolonging the life of the battery.

\$1.6 million will be given to

Redarc Technologies Pty Ltd, of Lonsdale, South Australia to commercialise their product.

(Source: www.ausindustry.gov.au)

Increasing theft of metals in the US as metal prices soar has seen the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) team up with the National Crime Prevention Council to tackle the issue.



(Source: www.isri.org)

AUTUMN CLEAN

The next Clean Up Australia Day will be on **Sunday 4 March 2007.**



In 2006,

700,000 volunteers helped collect more than 9,000 tonnes of rubbish from over 7,527 sites nationwide. Of this, approximately 589 tonnes was collected in WA.

Continued Local Government involvement is required to organise Clean Up sites within their areas. For more information visit www.cleanup.com.au

WHAT TO DO WITH UNWANTED WOOD

A national strategy for waste timber is under development. The strategy will investigate product stewardship and extended producer

responsibility approaches for addressing timber waste. It will also explore opportunities for recycling and other alternatives to landfill.

For more information visit www.a3p.asn.au

(Source: WME, November, 2006)

CDL TO GET MAKEOVER IN SA?

The South Australian Government is seeking to increase the current 5-cent deposit on drink containers. This will be the first increase since Container Deposit Legislation was introduced nearly 31 years ago.

cents will increase recycling rates from the current 85% in SA for drink containers. The other amendments include making it an offence to present an empty container purchased interstate for refund.

on a range of refund options, including a 10c or 20c deposit or a tiered scheme based on the size of containers, has been released for public comment.



Premier Mike Rann believes an increase, to as much as 20

A draft bill containing amendments to the current act and canvassing public opinion

For more information visit www.epa.sa.gov.au

E'S ON THE INCREASE

A new report by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) shows E-waste (discarded computers and electronic goods) is growing 3 times faster than regular waste.

total of 8.7 million computers by the end of 2006. The ABS said Australians buy more than 2.4 million new computers each year and estimates Australians will replace 9 million computers, 5 million printers and 2 million scanners within the next two years.

In 2006, 1.6 million computers will be sent to landfill rubbish dumps, while a further 1.8 million would be put in storage, joining 5.3 million old computers already in storage.



Official figures estimate Australia will have discarded or stockpiled a

For more information visit www.abs.gov.au (Source: www.planetark.org)

SYDNEY REVERSES INTO RECYCLING

Sydney based waste company CBD Enviro Services has launched Australia's first rebate scheme for empty bottles and cans based on reverse vending machines.

They are trying to install the machines, which automatically scan and sort containers, into shops along the east coast.

Deposit Legislation (CDL) they are pitching it as a customer acquisition strategy.

In the absence of Container (Source: WME November 2006)

IMPRISON THE BAG

Free plastic bags will be banned in Victoria from 2009. Retailers wishing to give out

plastic bags are required to charge a minimum of 10c a bag as of 1 January 2009.

(Source: The Age, 18 July 2006)

City of York Council in the UK has refused to take away kerbside greenwaste because it is too cold. Health and safety regulations forbid the bin men from reaching into the bin and scooping out any leaves or grass that may be frozen in the bottom with their hands.



(Source: www.thisislondon.co.uk/news)

TO TREE OR NOT TO TREE

Companies in the US are debating which kind of Christmas tree is more environmentally friendly.



Artificial trees eventually end up in a landfill and are non-biodegradable,

but they are used over and over again. Live Christmas trees are chopped down and thrown out every Christmas, however, they are specifically grown for that time of year and replaced by seedlings.

One solution has been a company which delivers potted trees, and then collects them again after Christmas time.

(Source: www.nctimes.com)

JAPAN'S GLOBAL PLANS

The Japanese Ministry of the Environment has recently released a report, *Sweeping Policy Reform towards a Sound Material-Cycle Society: Starting from Japan and Spreading over the Entire Globe* as a part of their *Fundamental Law for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society*.

The Japanese Government is required to produce annual reports on the state of generation, recycling, and disposal of recyclable resources and on the policies that the government has implemented to establish a sound material-cycle society.

This is the first time the annual report has been available in an English language version.

For more information visit www.env.go.jp/en

(Source: RRF 17 November 2006)

TREADING THE WAY

From September 2006 all retreaded tyres sold in the EU must comply with the United National safety and quality standards 108 and 109.

This means the quality standard of retreaded tyres will be brought into line with that of new tyres, which will ideally result in more vehicles using

retreaded tyres.

(Source: International Waste News, October 2006)



PAPER RECYCLING IN NEW LIGHT

Xerox has developed a technology that allows paper to be re-used.

The Xerox paper is coated with a special light yellow tint. The process uses no toner and creates low resolution prints in purple ink. The system produces 'transient' documents, where the image

fades after 16 hours.

Toshiba has also unveiled the B-SX8R printer that can erase and reprint on a single sheet. The process uses a special pigment in the paper that reacts to heat.

If heated above 180 degrees centigrade the pigment turns

black, creating an image on the sheet. However, if the surface is heated to between 130 and 170 degrees the pigment reverts to white, effectively erasing the image.

(Source: www.uk.news.yahoo.com)

RR GOES GLOBAL

Global Renewables, a Manchester-based subsidiary of the Australian engineering group GRD Ltd, plans to build two waste Resource Recovery facilities in the UK. The contract is a fixed-price deal, with GRD building, owning and operating the facilities, then transferring ownership to the

councils after 25 years. (Source: www.business.guardian.co.uk)

Stats

Family recycling statistics have gone online in Powys, UK, so that people can see how much waste they recycle each week. Up to 4,500 homes will have bins with barcodes to record

their recycling rates. Powys Shire is offering prizes for individuals and communities who recycle the most. The scheme is part of a two year trial from a £700,000 grant won by the Shire.

(Source: www.news.bbc.co.uk)

Two municipal employees in Durban took the 'Reduce Reuse Recycle' slogan a bit far when they started 'recycling' municipal cemetery tombstones. They filed off the names of those already buried and then would offer the stones for resale to bereaved families.



(Source: <http://iafrica.com/news>)

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next Meeting

Date: 21 February 2007

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Local Government House

Check out the WA Local Government Association Website at www.walga.asn.au



Visit WasteNet www.wastenet.net.au

CONTACT DETAILS

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2006/2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 15 January 2007 **MWAC Workshop 1 on Waste Management Board Papers**
Local Government House, West Perth
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or rbrown@walga.asn.au
- 23-25 January 2007 **Global Plastics Recycling Conference**
Florida, US
For more information visit www.4spe.org/conf/gpec07/07gpec.php
- 14 February 2007 **MWAC Workshop 2 on Waste Management Board Papers**
WALGA, Local Government House, West Perth
For more information contact Rebecca Brown on 9213 2063 or rbrown@walagna.sn.au
- 4 March 2007 **Clean Up Australia Day**
For more information visit www.cleanup.com.au
- 6-12 May 2007 **International Compost Week**
For more information visit www.compostingcouncil.org/section.cfm?id=25
- 10-14 September 2007 **Waste & Recycle 2007 Conference**
Esplanade Hotel Fremantle
For more information visit www.wasteandrecycle.com.au

2006/2007 CALENDAR OF SUBMISSIONS

- 27 December 2006 **Comments on Investigation into the Environment, Social and Economic Impacts of a Potential Banning of Used Tyres to Landfill and of Mandatory Recycling of Used Tyres**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 February 2007 **Comments on Draft Household Chemical Waste Storage Design Guidelines**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 9 February 2007 **Comments on Landfill Ban- Impacts of a Potential Ban on the Disposal of Household Recyclable Packaging, Recyclable Building Products and Organic Waste to Landfill**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 16 February 2007 **Comments on Draft Building Products Strategy**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 March 2007 **Comments on Review of Management of Used Tyres at Landfill Sites and Review of Management and Operation of Used Tyre Stockpiles: Stockpile Guidelines**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 March 2007 **Comments on Used Industrial Plastics in Western Australia**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au
- 2 March 2007 **Comments on Market Development Study Used Glass Development**
For more information visit www.zerowastewa.com.au



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Setting the Environment Right"

WHAT IS THE MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL?



The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) is a standing committee of the Western Australian Local Government Association with delegated authority on municipal waste issues.

MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management). This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

MWAC focuses its work in three main areas:

- The proactive development of policy on priority issues;
- Comprehensive representation of Local Government views on legislation, regulations, administrative policy and related matters; and
- The delivery of grant funded programs consistent with Local Government priorities.

