



# SUSTAINABILITY IN THE GAP

## Newsletter 8—Air-pollution and Waste



### COMMUNITY SEMINAR SERIES

7.30 PM @ TAYLOR RANGE COUNTRY CLUB

28 Greenlanes Rd, Ashgrove QLD 4060

Last Wednesday, **Prof Morawska from QUT** gave a most insightful presentation about air pollution. She explained that air pollution in the troposphere contributes to Smog (air pollution consisting of smoke and fog), while air pollution in the stratosphere contributes to global warming and climate change. Air pollution consists of many components, with fine particles or PM<sub>2.5</sub>, thought to be the [most detrimental to human health](#), capable of harming nearly every organ in the body. Fine particles are emitted from many sources, such as construction sites, roads, or fires, but the majority form in the atmosphere as a result of complex reactions of chemicals pollutants emitted from power plants, factories, car and aeroplane traffic. Prof Morawska referred us to detailed documents by the [World Health Organisation](#) for ideas on what to do, and was confident that change was possible, as many countries in the world are already making great progress in accurately measuring, determining the sources and reducing air pollution. Air pollution is measured in [Brisbane](#) (not at the Gap) and across Queensland, averaged over an hourly basis. Prof Morawska and her team at QUT, have developed a low-cost air quality sensor called KOALA (Knowing Our Ambient Air Quality) and several [KOALA](#) monitors have been deployed in Cannon Hill, Gold Coast, Adelaide, Blue Mountains and Port of Melbourne. Prof Morawska then shared some knowledge about indoor air pollution and stressed the importance of good air circulation not only to keep the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration low, but also to avoid transmission of airborne viruses such as COVID-19.

On Saturday, it was great to see so many people turn out for Jonty Bush's ECO forum at The Gap State School, with [many](#) inspirational [speakers](#), and local exhibitors such as [SOWN](#) and [Boomerang Bags](#).

Due to the Ekka show holiday, our next seminar will be in September. It again focusses on waste reduction. We are very excited to be welcoming the Federal Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management **Trevor Evans, MP**. He was critically involved in the 2020 Recycling and Waste Reduction Bill and will explain the impact of this new legislation to us. Please come along on Wednesday the 8th September **starting at 7.30 pm to hear Mr Evans speak**.

Stay informed by liking us on [Facebook](#). We hope to see you at the seminar on the 8th September.

Yours sincerely,

**The Gap Sustainability Initiative**

### What is next?

Next seminar on the  
**8th September 2021,**  
7.30pm

**Taylor Range Club**

Please spread the word  
Invite your friends and  
neighbours to join us!!

### Purpose?

Did you know that the Waste Reduction Bill led to the stop of export of waste glass, mixed plastics, whole tyres and contaminated paper and cardboard from Australia to other countries? What happens to these materials now?

### Actions?

Please [email](#) us your questions about waste reduction topics you would like the Minister to talk about so that we can have a great discussion about waste minimisation on the night of the 8th.

**For interesting news and resources, please visit our website: [thegapsustainability.org](http://thegapsustainability.org)**