

# Media Release for Launch of



## *Newstead Resource Centre GreenPower Project*

The Newstead Resource Centre (NRC) is the management group for the Newstead Rural Transaction Centre (NRTC). We are an innovative community group, with a vision for environmental sustainability. We are undertaking a broad-ranging project with the goal of reducing our carbon footprint. Ours is a practical response reflecting local community and local council (Mount Alexander Shire) support for the concept of environmental sustainability.

Mount Alexander Sustainability Group (MASG) approached us in conjunction with Origin Energy to install Solar Panels at the RTC. We engaged Wendy French, from Maldon, to conduct an energy audit on the whole operation of the NRTC (which offers a wide range of community services in the building). She help us to identify seven main actions which would help to reduce our greenhouse emissions.

The first of these to be achieved is the 2 kilowatt Solar Power system, developed with the help of MASG, Origin Energy, the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage & the Arts (Australian Government) and Sustainability Victoria.

We are installing a 12 panel Solar Energy System as a first step in our GreenPower Project and have chosen to launch both the Panels and the Project on Friday May 29, 2009.

***We will conduct the launch at 10:30 a.m., at the Newstead Rural Transaction Centre at 45 Lyons Street, Newstead (in what was previously the Newstead Council building ). Refreshments will be provided.***

Future initiatives include:

- double glazing windows
- replacing insulation
- purchasing water tanks
- placing sun screens and shade cloth around the building
- planting trees and
- installing a Split system for heating/cooling.

We are asking media outlets for their support in promoting the launch on 29 May and hope that representatives can attend the celebration.

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