

Thursday 25 March 2010

Macedon Ranges community groups to go green following funding announcement

Children of the Macedon Ranges are set to go green with four early education centres being announced among the recipients of gas distributor SP AusNet's Macedon Ranges Shire Community Development Fund.

SP AusNet Gas Operations Support Manager Rob McDougall said the seven successful community groups represented the Macedon Ranges Shire's strong passion for sustainability as well as community involvement.

"It was exciting to see so many passionate community groups wanting to make a difference to the Macedon Ranges region," Mr McDougall said.

"SP AusNet received some really interesting applications for its first ever Community Development Fund offered in our gas distribution area," Mr McDougall said.

With a total pool of \$15,000 available solely for the Macedon Ranges Shire, SP AusNet received more than thirty applications, with twelve of these progressing through for assessment by the SP AusNet Community Development Fund Committee, made up of members from SP AusNet and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor Cr Rob Guthrie said the Council was very happy to partner with SP AusNet for the Community Development Fund.

"This initiative from SP AusNet has provided a great opportunity for seven of our local groups to obtain funding for key projects, which they may not have otherwise received," Cr Guthrie said.

With cheques to be sent in the coming weeks, Mr McDougall said SP AusNet also hoped to build stronger relationships with the successful fund recipients.

"We look forward to working with each of the SP AusNet Community Development Fund recipients and promoting their successes as their ideas come to fruition," Mr McDougall said.

The SP AusNet Community Development Fund recipients:

Recipient	Submission	Allocated
Lancefield CFA	Funding towards the purchase of personal lighting equipment.	\$1,500
Macedon Kindergarten	Funding towards their H2O to Grow project, a self-sufficient Eco-garden	\$3,000
Romsey Kindergarten	Purchasing water regulators for taps to reduce water consumption.	\$1,000
Riddells Creek Lions Club	Purchasing a water tank and other equipment for the Riddell's Creek Primary School's sustainable garden.	\$3,000
Woodend District Netball Club	Purchasing portable gazebo and safety equipment for travel to competitions	\$1,685
New Gisborne Playgroup	Plants and equipment for the centre's sustainable garden	\$3,000
Macedon Cats Netball Club	Funding towards the club's Open Day, aimed at promoting social interaction within the community.	\$1,500

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