

EUREKA'S FUTURE - CO-OPERATIVE

NEW BOARD OF EUREKA'S FUTURE GETS TO WORK

"Green manufacturing jobs, in green factories owned by the community, in a greening Latrobe Valley."

These are words we do not often see in association, at least in the capital cities. Professor Peter Fairbrother, the Secretary of the interim board of the new Eureka's Future, uses them to describe the exciting new direction for Gippsland, paralleling other industries in the region.

Peter is a "Valley boy", growing up around Morwell. He stresses that five of the other six board members share that privilege with him

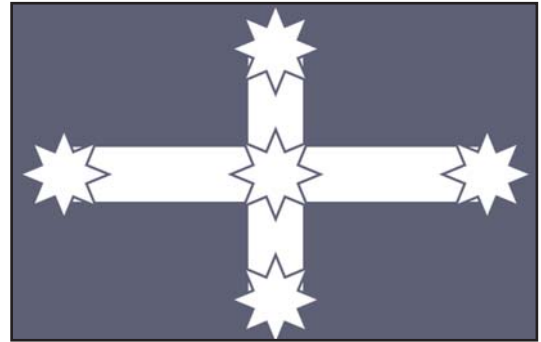
Peter went on to say: "Our Latrobe Valley communities have been hearing about Eureka's Future for some time. We will be manufacturing solar hot water units in the Latrobe Valley.

"Now that, on the 16th UN International Day of Cooperatives, 3 July 2010, we have established our board, we are already seeking small contracts with a range of businesses and communities, to begin to build Eureka's Future which will employ Gippsland workers.

"It is the right time to inform the general Gippsland community that we are here. The role of the board is to recruit and train the workforce, establishing them in the new enterprise and to insure they are fit to run a successful business.

"With our private partners, Everlast and Douglas Solar, our plan is to provide work quite soon installing the units manufactured by our partners, and to initiate the skills training.

"This approach provides us with a practical, experienced-based pathway into the establishment of a



productive factory in Morwell by the start of 2011.... we are on track."

Vice President of the new board, John Parker, stressed that across 2011 Eureka's Future will manufacture more of the componentry attached to the tank, as they recruit more workers and train them with assistance from their partners:

"It is important that we begin with small, realisable steps. So while we are organising to recruit the actual community of people who will run the social enterprise, and move them into their factory, we will begin to gain experience through installation of the existing Everlast and Douglas Solar Hot Water System.

"The board recently established is an extremely dynamic group of business, local government, academic and trades experts. Their role is to lay the foundations necessary to create a successful co-operative.

"The co-operative will combine a quality product, strict quality-control, rapid servicing of the 10 year warranty when that is required, with green collar jobs which never leave the Valley and which lay the basis for more manufacturing plants and employment in the future."

Continued on Page 2.....



EUREKA FUTURE'S BOARD MEMBERS

Peter Fairbrother, Professor Management Studies, RMIT.

John Parker, Secretary Gippsland Trades and Labour Council.

Keith Hamilton, current Chair Gippsland Climate Change Network and ex-State Member of the Parliament of Victoria:

"Gippsland Climate Change Network represents all the Shire Councils across the region, businesses, unions and community organisations. Eureka's Future will be an important outcome for the Network and the entire region."

Luke van der Meulen, President, CFMEU Mining and Energy Division:

"At average age 55 years brown coal jobs will see most of our members retire, with natural attrition. Gas however is a jobs poor future for our members' children and the children of the region. That is why my union has placed significant resources towards Eureka's Future. We will continue to support this direction of jobs as the answer to climate change."

Maree MacPherson, Director, Victorian Local Governance Association:

"Local Government is already playing a primary role in addressing climate change, especially the regional Councils. The assistance provided by Latrobe City and its participation on the Project Management Team for Eureka's Future is evidence of that. Long-term, manufacturing jobs which are retained in the regional Shires through the use of social enterprises, is an important component of sound regional economics within today's global economy."

Brian Boyd, Secretary Victorian Trades Hall Council:

"Eureka's Future is an exciting new development for Australian unions. To provide the opportunity to members, their families and friends to use the social weight of our communities to collectively purchase Australian made, community-owned goods and services is also an exciting new direction for the Australian economy. As the education program we are about to embark upon around Eureka's Future develops across the union movement, the opportunity is there for us to prove that we are committed to a strong Australian component of the economy, and importantly, to the provision of manufacturing jobs linked to strong social enterprises as one means of achieving that."

Mark Wakeham, Director Environment Victoria:

"Environment Victoria is supporting Eureka's Future and the strategy of the Earthworker Social Enterprise Association. Green-collar manufacturing jobs, in strong social enterprises such as Eureka's Future, offer Australian workers, and especially workers in the Latrobe Valley under this strategy, one strong component of a Just Transition away from coal dependent jobs. The movement towards Gas as an alternative to brown coal is not as jobs-rich. Eureka's Future and the social enterprise factories to come after that will be one important solution."

Tackling homophobia in sport

Wednesday 28 July

Underground talk

Come out and play.

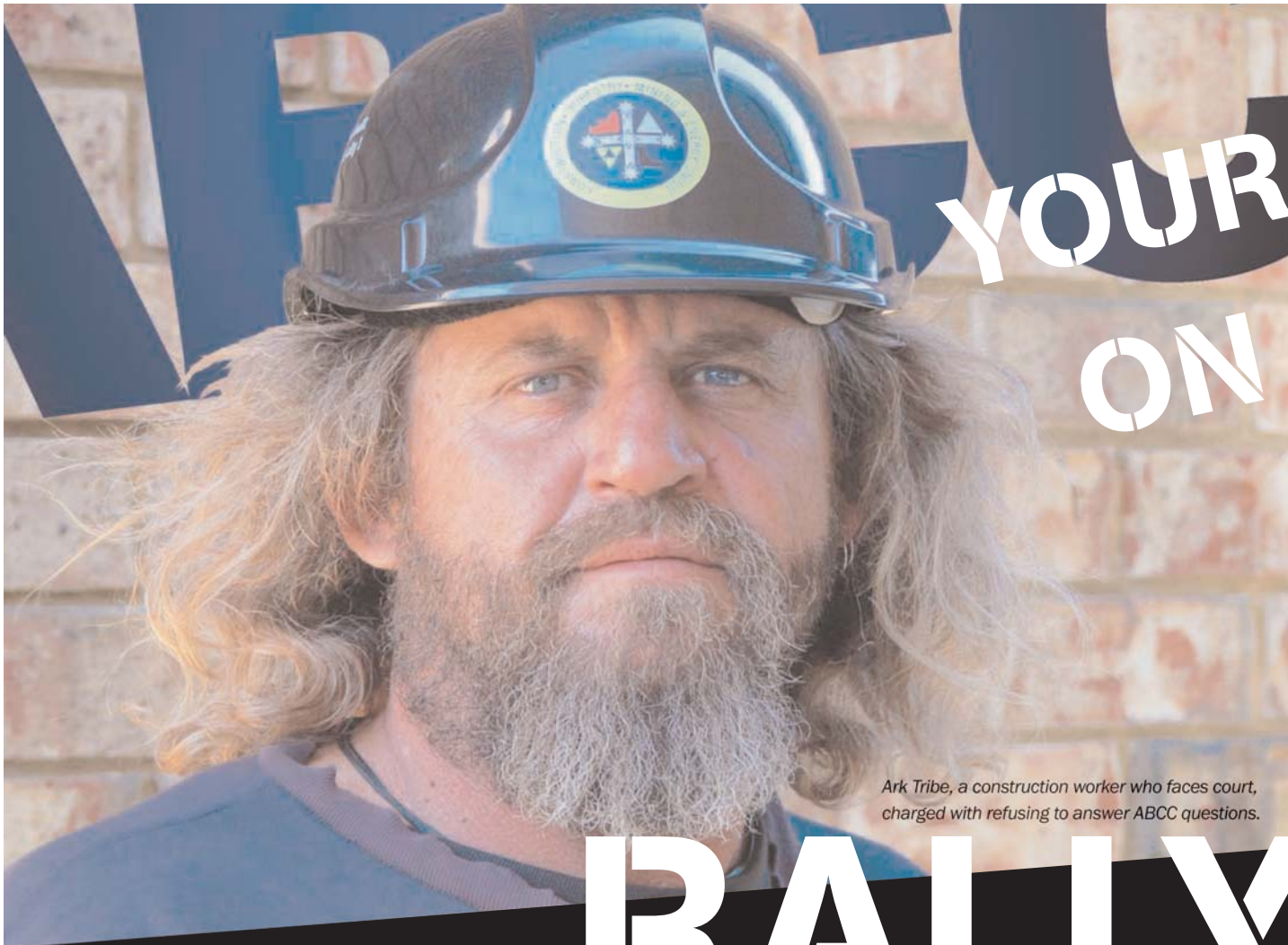
When footballer Jason Akermanis advised gay players to stay in the closet, former Olympic Daniel Kowalski, who had himself come out only recently, wrote of his disappointment and anger. For this special forum, join Daniel and Caroline Symons, the lead author of VicHealth's recent come Out and Play report, for a highly topical discussion on how to best tackle homophobia in elite-level and community sport alike. 6.30pm. New International Bookshop, Trades Hall. \$5/\$2. For further information Tel: 9662 3744

Fighting for peace

Thursday 29 July

Victorian women peace activists in World War 1. Writer and journalist Margaret Geddes explores the part played by religion, politics, class and personality in women's peace and anti-conscription organisations in Victoria during WW1. She will discuss women activists such as renowned feminist campaigner Vida Goldstein, who formed the Women's Peace Army in 1915, and pacifist Eleanor Moore, who established the Sisterhood for International Peace. 6.00pm, Experimendia, State Library main entry, Swanston St, City. Bookings:

Tel: 8664 7099



Ark Tribe, a construction worker who faces court, charged with refusing to answer ABCC questions.

**YOUR RIGHTS
ON TRIAL**

20, 21, 22 JULY

Jail Ark?

No Way!

RALLY

Wednesday 21 July: 1.30pm

Assemble: Rotary Park, Murray Street, Wonthaggi

ABCC vs ARKTRIBE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, MBA &
GREEDY CONSTRUCTION BOSSES

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS &
AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE CIVIL RIGHTS

Who is Ark Tribe?

Ark is a rigger and rank and file CFMEU member from Adelaide

Why is he on trial?

Because he didn't turn up for questioning by the Australian Building and Construction Commission over a 2008 safety dispute.

Under the anti-worker laws that the Liberals introduced, the ABCC can coerce anyone to turn informer.

Why did the ABCC target this case?

Because workers took action to protect their own safety and the ABCC wants this to stop.

What happens if Ark is found guilty?

He faces up to six months in jail and a \$22,000 fine.

Facts

- SafeWork SA backed up the workers on Ark's site, issuing notices against the builder.
- The United Nations has found the ABCC to be biased and condemned it seven times.
- Construction fatality rates have risen since the ABCC began its attack on unions in the industry.

Don't let Ark go down for standing up for his rights ... be there on July 21 2010

MORE INFO WWW.RIGHTSONSITE.ORG.AU

Gippsland Trades & Labour Council Inc



JAIL ARK? NO WAY!
ROUND 2 20 JULY

Rally!

Assemble 9.30am Tuesday 20 July
Cnr. St Kilda and Toorak Roads
March to ABCC offices
553 St Kilda Road

Endorsed by:



Develop Your Career

JOBSKILLS *Expo*

Tuesday 27th July
Lardner Park
Warragul
9.00am - 2.30pm

The JobSkills Expo is a hands on Expo attracting employment agencies, peak bodies, training and community organisations in Latrobe City, West Gippsland, South Gippsland and Bass Coast regions.

It will engage people with “hands on” activities, advice and information about the various skills, jobs, pathways and industries that make up our regional workforce.

As well as static displays the JobSkills Expo will have a range of short seminars providing practical information and advice.

Information will be available on:

- Workplace Rights and Responsibilities
- Industry Super Funds
- Unions
- WorkSafe Victoria

Plus more

The JobSkills Expo is also attended by almost 3,000 Secondary School students

For further information contact:

Val at GTLC on (03) 5133-7684

Email: gvlc@wideband.net.au

**GIPPSLAND TRADES
& LABOUR COUNCIL INC**

Supporting Workers & Their Communities



www.incolink.org.au
Telephone (03) 0630 3000
Toll Free 1800 337 789 (regional areas)



OH&S Forum

WORKING WITH ASBESTOS

ON BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION SITES

IN THE WORKPLACE

HOME RENOVATIONS

Wednesday 11 August 2010

1pm - 5pm

Daker Centre

Cnr Smith & Watt Street

LEONGATHA

Presentations from

Gippsland Trades & Labour Council Inc

**Gippsland Asbestos Related Diseases Support
(GARDS)**

WorkSafe Victoria will be in attendance

Bookings and Enquiries
Tel GTLC on 03 5133 7684
Email: gtlc@wideband.net.au
Book Early: Places Limited.



Geelong Women Unionists Network & GTLC WAC

A meeting was arranged between the Geelong Women Unionists Network and the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council's Women's Action Coalition for lunch on Wednesday 7th July 2010 at the offices of GTLC. The meeting was attended by three members of the Geelong group and four members of GTLC WAC. The purpose of the meeting was for information sharing and for GTLC WAC to receive information and ideas from a group that has been active for a long period of time. The Geelong group has been active for approximately 10 years whilst GTLC WAC has only been formed since late 2009 and active since February 2010.

The meeting was extremely productive. There was a wonderful exchange of ideas and thoughts and Geelong conveyed where and how they have been able to get across broad workplace arenas and engage women in their area. Geelong talked about the ways they engage women and how the unions in the Geelong area supported them to hold different events. Geelong held such events as:

- International Women's Day breakfast where the male unionists did all the work.
- Training days/events specifically designed for women in the workplace
- Trades Hall dinner with an emphasis on attendance by women
- Red Day and the promotion of the theme.

One of the major talking points was the push by the union movement to include 'Domestic Violence Leave' in EBAs. There was a general lack of knowledge as to how this would be included and what it would actually be called in an EBA but the thought was that the recognition of this was vital to be put forward as a specific part of future EBA negotiations.

The Geelong group also discussed the training that they provided including their two day weekend retreat for women. This retreat covered a number of issues with training and practice in an environment that was open and encouraging.

We would like to thank the Geelong group for their time and sharing their experiences.

If anyone is interested in joining WAC please contact the GTLC Office by email at gvlc@wideband.net.au to request a membership application form.

Anne Murphy.

2010 Diary

20 July Jail Ark? No Way!
Rally! Melbourne -
See page 5 for more Information

21 July Your Rights on Trial
Rally! Wonthaggi
See page 3 for more Information

27 July JobSkills Expo,
9.30am - 2.30pm.
Lardner Park, Warragul.

10 August GTLC General Meeting
5.30pm at the GTLC office.



11 August OH&S Forum: Working With
Asbestos: Daker Centre,
Leongatha

14 September GTLC General Meeting & AGM
5.30pm at the GTLC office.

12 October GTLC General Meeting
5.30pm at the GTLC office. **8**



COMMUNITY LINK

Getting the message out



G.A.R.D.S.

GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES SUPPORT INC.

Provides support & information to asbestos sufferers, their families & carers.

41 Monash Road, Newborough, Vic. 3825

Phone: 5127 7744

Fax: 5126 0354

Mobile: 0407 274 173

Email: info@gards.org

Web: www.gards.org

Call in for a chat and a cuppa



Victorian Trades Hall Council

Occupational Health and Safety Training Centre

HAVE SCHEDULED A
5-DAY INITIAL COURSE
FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

On: 20-24 September 2010

**Venue: ETU
42 Buckley Street
Morwell**

Telephone: 5134 3847

For Further Information contact:

VTHC

Occupational Health & Safety Training
Centre

Tel: 9659 3511 or 9663 5460

Fax: 9639 0408

Women's Action Coalition

The Women's Action Coalition (WAC) is a sub-committee of the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council.

Its purpose is to provide a forum for issues related to women.

WAC will address these issues through political and social activism and working cooperatively with both men and women.

If anyone is interested in joining WAC please contact the GTLC Office by email at gtlc@wideband.net.au to request a membership application form or ring Val on 5133 7682

If you would like assistance in getting your message out, just give us your details and we will endeavour to help

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Gippsland Trades & Labour Council Inc

Tel: 03 5133 7684

Fax: 03 5133 3313

PO Box 240, Morwell

Email: gtlc@wideband.net.au

Website: gippslandtgc.com.au

HELP BUILD A BETTER TOMORROW TODAY!

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY
ACTION WORKSHOP

Wednesday 21 July 2010

9.30am - 1.00pm

Leongatha Memorial Hall

Your are invited to contribute to Council's last feedback forum for the South Gippsland Sustainability Strategy

Guest Speaker: Professor Peter Fairbrother
RSVP on 5662 9319

Proudly supported by

