



Castlemaine 500 **Watt Matters Most in April 2007?**

For more information about the Castlemaine 500 project, please contact Geoff Brown on 0403 763 660 or visit our website: www.castlemaine500.org.au

To the Castlemaine 500 Community,

The State Festival is over and our project team was blown away by how busy the whole community becomes during this fortnight. Hoping you have all recovered sufficiently to scan through this Castlemaine 500 update.

1. PowerMate again available ON LOAN from the Castlemaine Library!

The *Power-Mate* measures the energy consumption of electrical appliances in your home. It helps you track down the biggest energy users or those appliances with standby loads. The *Power-Mate* device can accurately measure and calculate power, volts, amps and energy being used by an electrical appliance.

The *Power-Mate* can also measure the greenhouse gas emission created by an appliance. The highlight of the device is its ability to determine the actual running cost of an electrical appliance. The *Power Mate* is available for a 3 day loan (for FREE) at the Castlemaine Library.

2. Win a FREE CD-ROM by recruiting a new household to join C500 ... only 20 available!!

Congratulations to Susan Cooper (from Chewton) for recruiting another household to Castlemaine 500!! A CD-ROM containing great energy saving information is on it's way to you now!

To be eligible for the CD-ROM, the new recruit needs to submit their online registration survey (www.castlemaine500.org.au) AND type YOUR NAME next to the question that asks who recruited them :-)

If you do recruit someone and hear nothing from us, please send me an email directly (geoff@tangentconsulting.com.au).

3. We want to collect YOUR Energy-Smart STORY!

So far we have collected 6 stories from households who have taken action to reduce energy use at home. WE NEED MORE STORIES :-)

If your household has taken action (any action ... **BIG** or small) ... *we would like to hear from you (by replying to this email)*. By the end of the project we hope to have a collection of household stories that will inspire others to take action in their own home. We hope that some stories demonstrate action where **no \$\$money\$\$** was needed and where changes to habits have made a big difference.

We are also keen to hear from anyone who knows they have reduced their energy use. If you have proof (eg. an electricity bill from 2007) that shows a reduction from 2006, we would

love to hear from you and have a chat about what action made the difference! ***Just reply to this email to respond.***

4. Online Survey REMINDER for all households ...

If you have been involved in C500 workshops or home assessments, you may have received an email inviting you to participate in an online survey. **So far, we have had 35 completed out of 160 so we really need more people to participate.**

The survey will take you between 15 and 20 minutes and will help us to collect vital information about this exciting behaviour change pilot project. People and governments from all over Australia are lining up to learn from the project outcomes, so please take the time to complete this survey.

The online survey can be accessed directly from this link:

<http://www.keysurvey.com/survey/136843/14a4/>

Please contact me directly if you have any feedback or questions (see my details below)

5. We need more CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION forms!!! Help please!

Like point 4 above, Castlemaine 500 is pilot project and your electricity and gas data is critical to help us measure the project's impact.

If you have either:

1. Not completed and signed a Consent to Release Information form (providing your electricity/gas/water customer numbers) OR
2. Changed your Elec &/or Gas provider since joining Castlemaine 500 ...

... could you please download the Consent Form and post a signed copy back to us (C500. PO Box 288, Castlemaine 3450)

... Consent Form can be downloaded and printed here:

<http://www.castlemaine500.com.au/consent.pdf>

6. Upcoming EVENTS

1. A 3rd round of **Home Energy Assessments** and a 5th series of **Energy Smart Workshops** will be happening in July and August 2007 ... stay tuned for dates and details!
 2. In the meantime, around **18 local community members** are running their own mini-Castlemaine 500 projects! Keep an eye out for energy saving projects in your community that are being LEAD by locals :-)
 3. Remember that households can now do the whole Castlemaine 500 Project online ... look out for the banner that says "develop your own Action-Plan" and the H.E.A.T. at our website (<http://www.castlemaine500.com.au/heat.php>)
 4. You can also "register" to the Castlemaine 500 online Forums and use this space to ask questions, post interesting facts and share knowledge with others in your community. To Register click here: <http://www.castlemaine500.com.au/forum/index.php>
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If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please get back to me (Geoff Brown)

Warm Regards

Geoff Brown ... on behalf of the Castlemaine 500 Project Team

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