

Media Release

6 November 2024

Yackandandah, Victoria

For immediate release

TOTALLY RENEWABLE YACKANDANDAH CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF COMMUNITY-LED RENEWABLE ENERGY SUCCESS

Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY) is proud to mark a decade of achievements with a special 10th anniversary celebration on Saturday, 16th November 2024, at the Yackandandah Public Hall, 6 PM to 10 PM. The event will honour the community's journey towards 100% renewable energy and reflect on the region's progress in building a local, resilient, sustainable energy future.

Themed "Head, Hands & Heart," the event will draw together thought leaders, musicians, and community members for an evening of reflection and inspiration. Guest speaker Tim Hollo, Executive Director of The Green Institute and a visiting fellow at the Australian National University, will share his expertise on the intersection of democracy, renewable energy and community-led change. Hollo's work as a policy analyst and author makes him a strong advocate for the role of local action in addressing climate challenges.

Australian music legend Shane Howard and his band will provide an evocative performance, alongside a musical Acknowledgment of Country by local musician Sal Kimber. The evening will also feature reflections from Dr. Helen Haines MP, who has long championed regional energy solutions, and the Victorian Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Action, Sheena Watt MLC, on the Victorian government's support for nation-leading climate action.

Prior to the evening event, afternoon tours by Yackandandah locals will showcase the town's pioneering renewable energy projects and ongoing efforts to foster a sustainable future.

TRY President Matt Charles-Jones said, "The evening will be a celebration of the power in community!"

"Folks in communities across Australia are recognising the urgency of reducing carbon emissions, the economic opportunity of clean local power and the assurance of resilience from backup power. And when we draw people together on focused tasks, great things are achieved. TRY is truly grateful for the support received from all levels of government, community, philanthropy and everyday people hungering to realise a just renewable energy future."

In ten years, TRY has made significant strides in renewable energy innovation and local energy security with support from the Victorian Government and Minister for Climate Action, Lily d'Ambrosio. This includes a community battery at the disused town sawmill, and a second battery set for construction at the Yackandandah Sports Park. TRY has also pioneered a community virtual power plant with 251 participants, rolled out emergency preparedness projects to strengthen energy resilience, and installed an electric vehicle (EV) charger to support the transition to cleaner transport. The group has focused on building energy resilience, strengthening the local economy and reducing carbon emissions.

Tickets for the main event online via www.trybooking.com/CSKJU.

For more information about TRY and its projects, visit www.totallyrenewableyack.org.au.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Contact: Dr Juliette Milbank
Totally Renewable Yackandandah
Mobile: 0439 637 115
Email: juliette@milbank.com.au

