

# New energy forms to save the planet

## EDITORIAL

By **BENJAMIN BOYER**

THERE is a hole in the ozone layer. This is a big problem and should be dealt with very soon. There are two places of concern, over Antarctica and over Australia. The ozone layer has thinned allowing more ultraviolet (UV) rays to enter the atmosphere. This is a worry for us because of Australia's outdoor lifestyle.

We need to look towards greener solutions like solar power, wind power and water power. If we don't take action now we will destroy our environment to the point we will not be able to live here.

We could use wind to power devices. We could create wind farms using windmills as miniature wind turbines for electricity. We should turn some of our fields over for wind turbines and turn old mines into wind collection areas.

We need to invest in research to find ways to use solar power. Maybe we could power trucks by putting solar panels along their roofs. This could even be used for running cars.

We all use water every day, all

the time, so let's put it to use and create hydroelectricity. We can harness the power of the water we use at home to generate the power for our homes.

Other issues like deforestation can be prevented by lobbying governments. This will protect the habitats of animals and create more oxygen and clean the air.

When we cut down trees, we should always plant more and try and preserve the oldest of trees. Trees are a natural filtering system and necessary to protect our ozone layer.

Growing our own vegetables can also help. Limiting the amounts of pesticides we use in gardens can minimise ozone depletion. Growing our own also limits transportation usage as well as creating more oxygen.

Water quality studies of the local area have discovered that we need to make changes. We need be on the lookout for rubbish. If you see beer bottles on the streets, bin them. If you notice dog poo on the beach, pick it up.

If we all help clean up and we don't litter ourselves, our world will be much cleaner. We can start by scooping out waste from waterways and disposing of it properly.

The hole in the ozone layer is slowing but may take a long time to recover. We can all help by simply changing our habits.



Cartoon:  
Jade  
Smiles



**GOOD MESSAGE:** Swimmer Angie Bainbridge signs autographs for students.  
Picture: Sharney Disney

## Medallist now cyber-warrior

By **CLAUDIA BARWISE, SHARNEY DISNEY and BRODIE BEAME**

FOR many years people at Redhead Primary School have been trying without success to beat Angie Bainbridge's three school swimming records. Unfortunately for 13 years, no one has been successful.

However, these are not Angie's most impressive achievements – she is now an Olympic gold medallist.

She recently came back to visit Redhead Public School in her new role as a police officer to talk about cyber-bullying. Angie might have won gold at the Olympics but now she is winning gold for justice.

To become an Olympian it took a huge commitment. Angie used to

have 10 swimming lessons, two running sessions and five gym sessions every week.

"There was not much pressure when training but [my] coach pushed [me] to the limit," she said.

In 2008 Angie represented Australia at the Beijing Olympics where she received a gold medal for the 4x200-metre freestyle relay.

Now that she has achieved her sporting dreams, Angie is working on her career. She is a member of the Australian Federal Police Force and is tackling cyber-bullying with the same commitment she showed to winning gold.

Redhead students are now also guided by what she has taught them about cyber-safety.

## A future world champion rides the waves

By **CONNOR LEE and TOM CROCKETT**

SURFING has become more than just an Australian tradition. People now surf all over the world.

Connor Lee started surfing on a green mat when he was just three years old and practised and practised until he became a great surfer.

He surfs every day.

If the surf is good on the weekend he will surf all day long. Even if the surf is not good, he still surfs.

On occasions he will

ride his skateboard, but more often than not he prefers surfing.

Connor's favourite surf beach is Redhead.

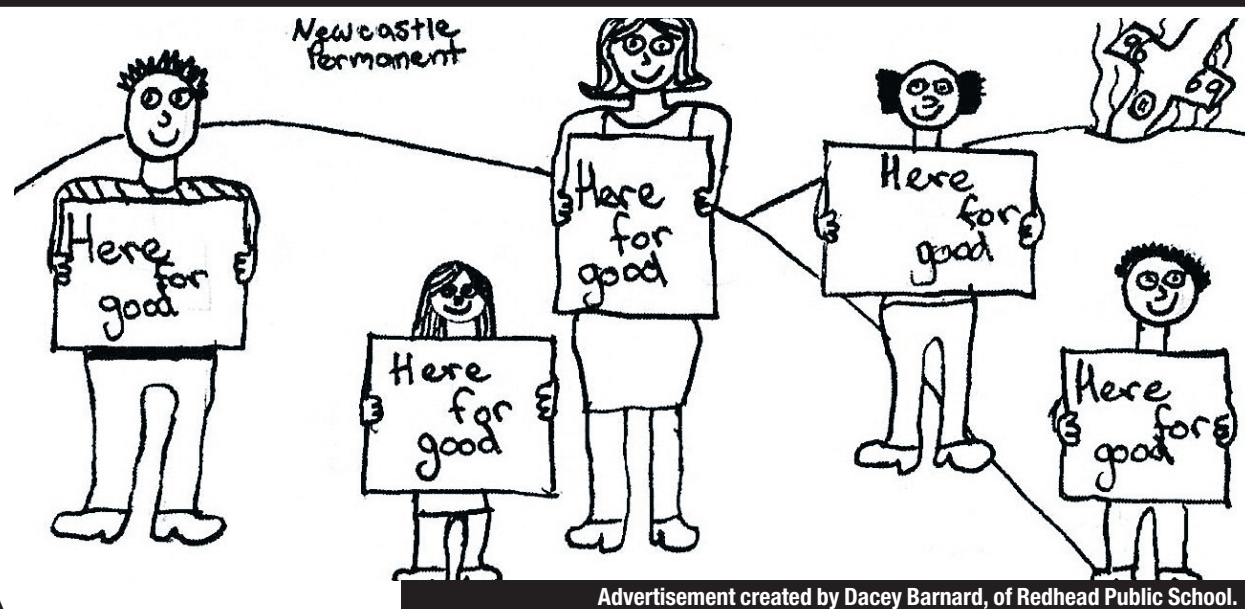
"I feel very privileged as I have surfed with professional surfers. These include Matt Banting, Kelly Slater, Mick Fanning, Jordy Smith and Creed Mectavit," he said.

"I like surfing with my dad and coach Dan Frodsham. I love to get barrelled – it's like being in a cave of water. You see a tunnel in front of you and it's a lot of fun."



**WATER BOY:** Connor Lee getting a little air on his board.  
Picture: Marli Maddison

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