

# International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Green Library Award Application 2021

Hobsons Bay City Council acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of these Municipal lands and waterways, and pays respect to all Elders, past present and emerging.

[libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](http://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)



Melissa Brown

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- Situated at the Altona Library, the EnviroCentre is a central location for sustainability and environmental information.
- It strives to provide the community with resources in the form of a selectively curated collection (books, DVDs, magazine, e-resources and equipment), local environmental information on an interactive screen and recycling initiatives.
- An active events calendar empowers and inspires community to be engaged sustainable citizens.



Located across the road from Altona Beach and Logan Reserve, a popular community park, and within walking distance from the train and bus station. Only moments away from shopping and cafes, and on the bike track, the EnviroCentre is perfectly situated for community access.



# UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Identified the following contribution to the SDGs within the EnviroCentre



# Background to Hobsons Bay

- Hobsons Bay's is a municipality in the Western suburbs of Melbourne, Australia. Its rich natural environment is one of its greatest assets. Open space contributes significantly to the quality of life in Hobsons Bay, occupying 24 per cent of the municipality's land area.
- Hobsons Bay also has more than 20 kilometres of beaches and foreshore areas and is home to significant coastal wetlands, five creek systems, remnant native grasslands and important flora and fauna habitats.

# Background to Hobsons Bay

- In 2016 (time of the last Australian Census), Hobsons Bay had an estimated resident population of 95,046 people.
- By 2030, the Hobsons Bay population is forecast to increase by 10 per cent (or 10,770 people) at an average of 0.74 per cent per year (or 770 people). This is considered relatively average growth for an inner metropolitan Melbourne municipality.
- Thirty-one per cent of Hobsons Bay residents were born overseas; 23 per cent born in non-English speaking countries, with over 100 languages spoken across the municipality.

# Environmental sustainability

- Hobsons Bay faces significant risks from climate change, such as an increasing number of hot days, flooding from sea level rise and storm surges. These risks also have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities.
- Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision was developed by the community for the community and will guide Council's work until 2030, underpinned by six priorities:
  - Priority one: Visionary, vibrant, accountable urban planning
  - Priority two: Community wellbeing and inter-connection
  - Priority three: Growth through innovation, access to local jobs, technology and education
  - Priority four: Proactive enrichment, expansion and conservation of the natural and urban environment
  - Priority five: Activate sustainable practices
  - Priority six: An accessible and connected community

# The EnviroCentre – the building

	Year	Description and Capacity	Cost (\$AUD)	Estimated GHG emissions saving (t/yr)
Library staff workroom HVAC (heating, ventilation, air-conditioning)	2013-14		\$92,000	5
Library staff workroom LED lighting	2013-14		\$32,000	1.8
HVAC upgrade renewal in public area	2014-15		\$405,000	21.7
Altona library lighting renewal in stack area	2015-16		\$93,000	21.2
Altona Library natural ventilation in public area	2015-16		\$250,000	19.2
Solar power installation	2015-16	63kW solar, 218 panels	\$101,000	104
LED lighting upgrade	~October 2018	161 lights replaced with 117 LED lights	\$95,000	14.2
Solar energy battery	May 2019	2 x Tesla batteries (26.4 kWh capacity)	\$29,000	4.9

Since 2013, work has been undertaken to increase the energy efficiency of the Altona Library. This has included extensive heating, natural ventilation through louvers and air-conditioning (HVAC), and LED light replacement work across the site. More recent additions have seen 62kW of solar panels and two Tesla batteries added to the site.

This has resulted in a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

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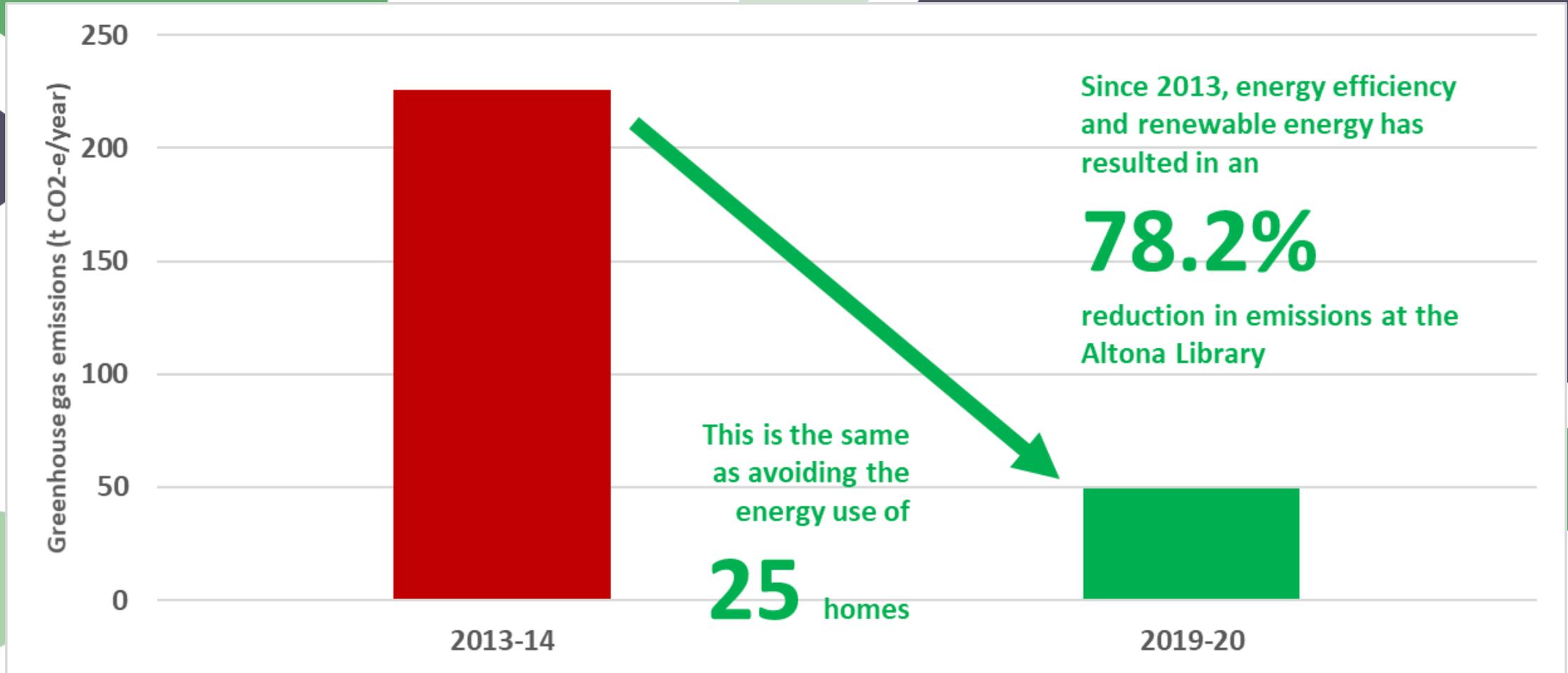


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# The EnviroCentre – community engagement

Just a snapshot of our events held over the years...

- Zero waste
- Nature and conservation
- Nature journaling
- DIY workshops – beauty, natural therapies
- Indigenous flavours for cooking
- Organic gardening
- Mending and repair
- Indigenous meditation
- Ethical investing
- Climate change
- Author talks
- Slow fashion
- Food security
- Energy efficiency



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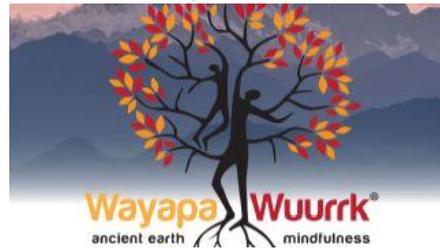
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# The EnviroCentre – community engagement

- Mindfulness
- Indoor plants
- Ethical consumerism
- Forest therapy
- Foraging
- Alternative transport
- Seaweed
- Habitat gardens
- Permaculture
- Sustainable housing
- School incursions/excursions
- Local teacher networks
- Seniors groups
- Festivals and expos

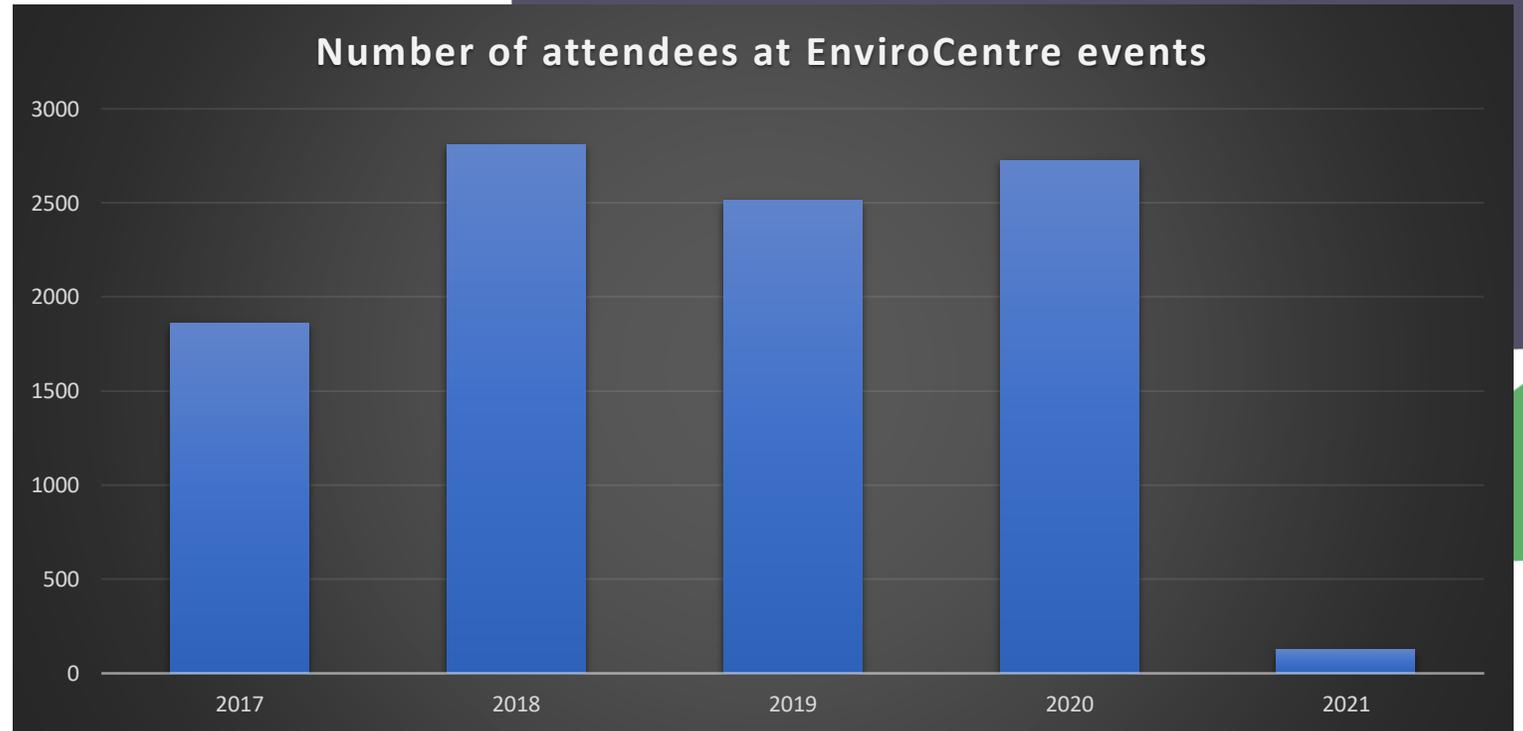


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# The EnviroCentre – community engagement

Consistently engage with approximately 2000 people per year in a face to face capacity through the variety of events that are run. From March 2020 through to February 2021, all EnviroCentre events were run online due to Covid 19 restrictions and closures, with minimal reduction in attendance.



# The EnviroCentre – the physical collection

- Books
- Magazine
- DVDs
- Field guides
- ID charts
- Energy meters
- Thermal cameras



- Junior non fiction
- Junior picture books
- Binoculars and spotting scopes
- Environmental card games
- Locally produced content
- Taxidermy animals of local species



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Our interactive hub allows residents to obtain local government and industry reports, find out about community groups and plays videos and sound recordings of local wildlife species, that they can see in our taxidermy collection.

Note: Flora and Fauna permit number 10008020  
Live wildlife must not be taken from the wild.

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# The EnviroCentre – the physical collection



The EnviroCentre is consistently in the top three most borrowed adult collections, with loans increasing over the last few years due to strong curation. There is a strong suggested purchase record for the EnviroCentre where community request the resources they want.

Note: from March 2020 to January 2021, the EnviroCentre was closed or on reduced hours due to Government restrictions surrounding Covid 19.

# The EnviroCentre – the e-collections

Access to an extraordinary collection of award winning and popular environmental and sustainability documentaries



Access to Full-text newspaper, magazine and encyclopedia articles focusing on Australian issues.



Access to an extensive collection of e-books, e-audiobooks and e-magazines from anywhere in the world through a variety of applications



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# Recycling and other initiatives

- Provide recycling programs for hard to recycle items for our community.



- Showerhead exchange program – in partnership with our local water provider, we provide water saving showerhead exchanges to assist our community in reducing their water use.



# Our electric bike

- Our electric bike is available for all staff for use during work hours, whether it's commuting between sites, or heading to off-site meetings, we can go green on our travels with a carry tray for storing books and other items.



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A woman with glasses and a backpack is sitting on a wooden deck, reading a book. To her left is a stack of several books. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a railing.

# Thank you

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