Double Glaze Matters

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Alan Cuthbertson

alan@diydoubleglaze.com.au

Editorial

I don't have a lot to talk about this month, so I will just ramble on a bit.

Firstly, its fortunate that it is a leap year, or else I would be one day late getting the Newsletter out.

Secondly like most of us I have been disappointed with the Kevin Rudd saga. I have supported labour over recent years as the only party likely to do anything about climate change. If it wasn't for that, I doubt that I would vote for them any more.

The only positive thing that has come out of the fight is that now the public has a better understanding of why Kevin was replaced. Perhaps now people can accept the decision to replace Kevin and move on.

I had a great 3 days at the Sustainable Living festival. Around 35 people asked for a home assessment and hopefully some of them will buy some glass so I don't go broke.

There seemed to be a lot more knowledge about double glazing and a lot more people who had actually heard of my company. Even someone who had seen the add on the back of my car and chased me to find my web address!

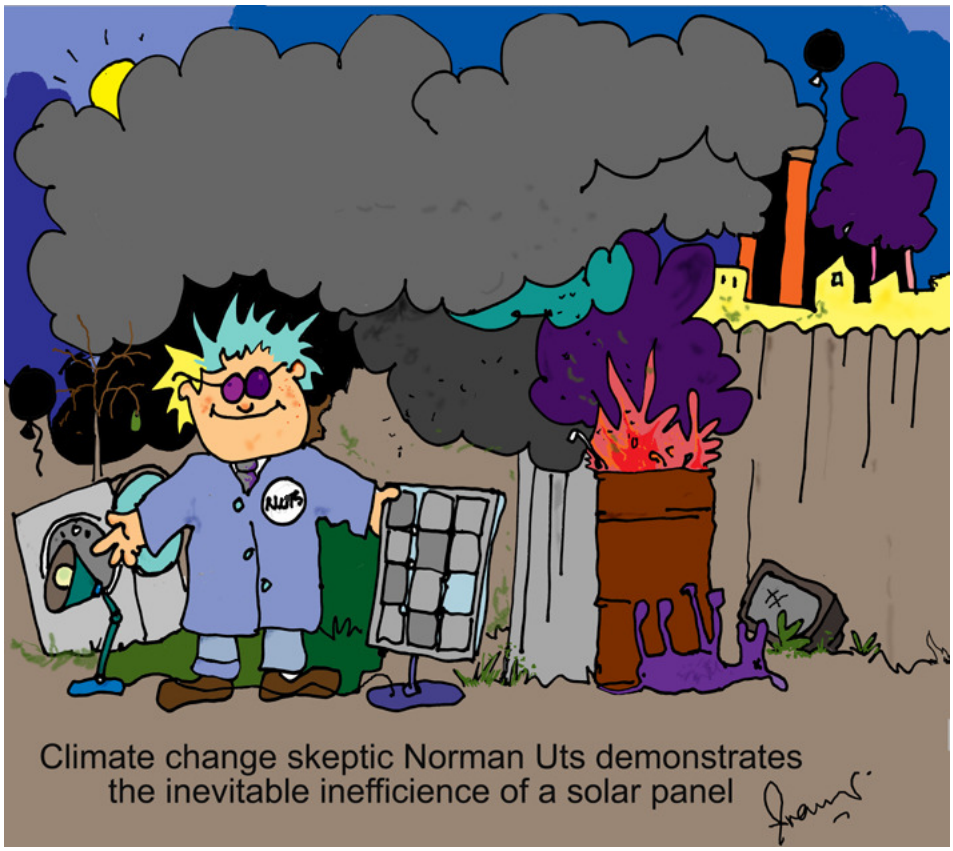
A quick reminder about my course on double glazing at Eltham. Email me if you want information

DIY Double Glazing Course

Sat Mar 21st

Eltham Living & Learning Centre

Inside this issue:



Franciscus Henri—the human race destroying itself

Microsoft Support scam

I have heard several reports from people who have almost been caught by a group ringing up to help fix your computer. It is very convincing and successful.

They introduce themselves as Microsoft Support and say that they have found unusual activity on your computer and want to help fix it.

They lead you through some logs etc and point out entries indicating you have problems. They then offer to connect to your computer to fix it for free.

They actually install a program that allows them permanent access to your computer. They can then monitor your activity, collect passwords etc.

People are convinced because they seem genuinely helpful and want to fix your computer for free.

The giveaway though is that if they know your computer is faulty, how did they get your phone number? It is very difficult to link a computer on the internet with a phone not on the internet.

The moral is, trust nobody, especially if they want to access your computer remotely.

(Impractical) ways to get free energy

I had a request from a reader abut DIY ways of creating your own power. There were 4 ideas - building your own solar panels, installing a wind turbine, driving your car on water and the Teslar Free Energy Generator.

All of them work, but none are worth the effort.

Solar Panels can be built and installed yourself, but you quickly run into the bureaucracy. You need to be a certified electrician and all equipment must be approved before connection. Basically the panels are getting so cheap, it is better to let the experts do it. I heard an add for a $950 system on the wireless which sounds to good to be true.

Wind generators are also difficult to install unless you are an electrician. More importantly, they don't need strong winds, just consistent winds. There are not many places in Melbourne that offer sustained winds. Apparently the best spot is on the top of some of our tall buildings.

The third idea involves splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen then using it to drive your car. Since it burns to give water there is no pollution. This is being done by a few companies, but the problem is creating the hydrogen. One way is to use electricity, which just creates the same pollution anyway. There are experimental projects which collect hydrogen from large vats of algae, but that is not for the DIY person.

The last idea is Tesla's Generator. I would be interested in hearing from anyone who can explain how it works. My understanding is that it extracts energy from the air, but it is at very low energy levels. You may be able to power an LED but not a house. It's a bit like the old crystal radio. You could run them without batteries, but the power was very small.