

Double Glaze Matters

JULY 2020

Alan Cuthbertson
alan@diydoublinglaze.com.au

PickMyProject Solar Panels

Some of you may remember the project I started 2 years ago to install solar panels via the PickMyProject. This was a government program which people voted for suggested projects.

My project was to install \$110K worth of solar panels on buildings owned by Not For Profit groups.

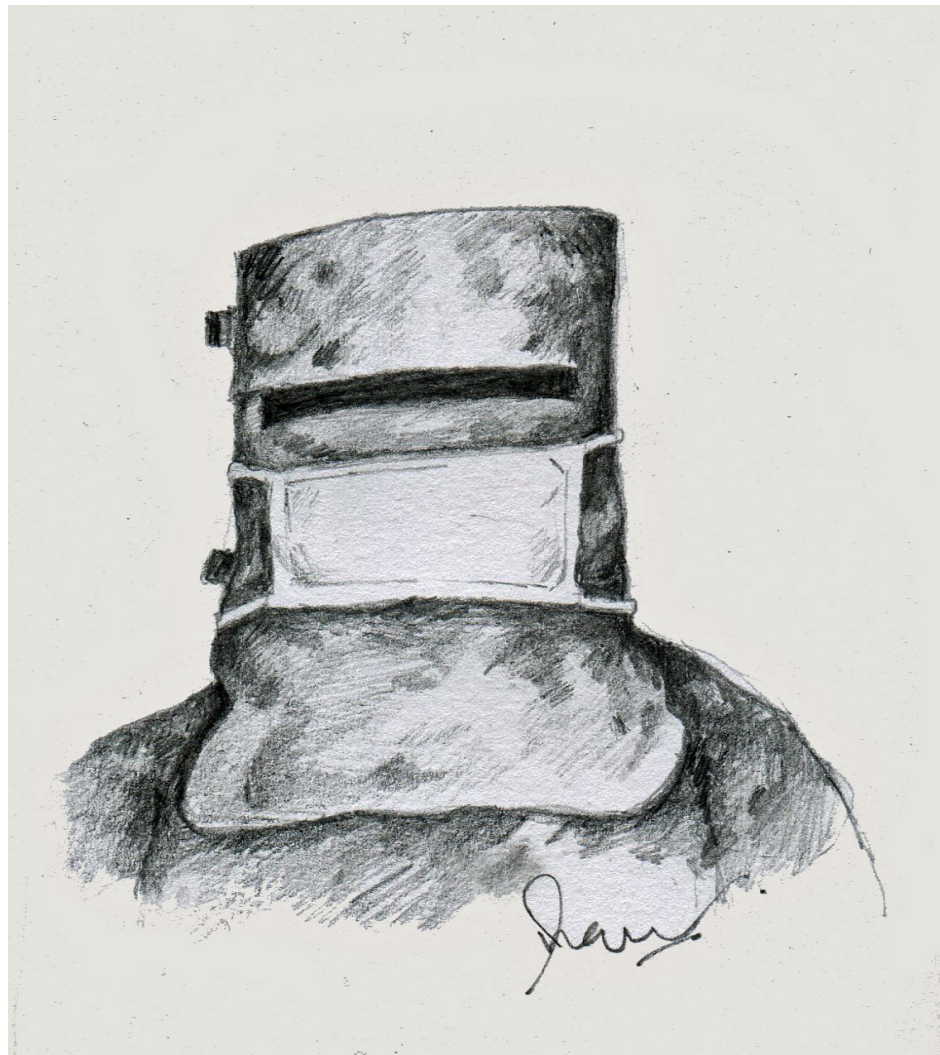
Araluen Solar Panels

Energy This Month = .8 Mwh = \$150

Total Energy = 86 Mwh = \$13,190

Many of my readers voted for my project and we won a \$110,000 grant. We have finally completed the first half of the project, installing 88 kw of solar panels for 10 different organisations.

They will repay the panels over 10 years, and we will use that money to install even more panels!



Covid 19 and the Flu

There are a lot of theories and observations about the virus and its impact. Here are a couple of aspects that you may not have thought about.

Firstly, Australian deaths so far from Covid is around 160. The deaths from flu in Australia so far this year is 36. This compares to 430 deaths for the same period last year.

The reason for the dramatic drop in deaths is three fold. The first is obvious. Because we are self isolating, wearing masks and not going to work when sick, the flu is not spreading.

So too is the second, more people have taken the flu shot this year.

The third is less obvious. Since there is far less air travel, people are not bringing the latest strain of the flu from the northern hemisphere.

So, the total deaths from flu and the virus this year is around half the number of deaths last year. This is not to say that the virus is not as deadly as the flu, rather that because it is so deadly, we have taken extreme steps to stop it, and it has worked.

If we hadn't taken the dramatic steps the deaths would have been in the tens of thousands.

But it does raise an interesting thought for future years. Should we wear face masks and stay home when we are sick to stop the spread of the flu?

And there is one other thing that has become clear which I hadn't thought of before. It was always argued that you either protected the people by closing everything down or you protected the economy by not closing everything down.

It has become clear that the latter does not work. If you don't close everything down, the virus spreads so rapidly that everything closes down anyway and destroys the economy. Close down everything you protect the people and protect some of the economy.

And finally I am so heartened to see how quickly people have accepted masks. I thought it would be a much lower take up. Not sure if it is the \$200 fine, or just that people (well most people) actually get it.

