

# ATA Melbourne Branch

## Minutes of Meeting held:

**On:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 5:45 pm

**Venue:** The offices of URS, Level 6, 1 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank

1. Attendees: 88 (+ ANZES members for presentation)
2. Apologies:
  - Simon Tiller, Peter Wonfor, Steve Melzer, Herbert Wildes, Penny & Gordon Forth.
3. Minutes: Accepted
4. Business Arising:
  - Forum was demonstrated in April meeting.
  - Wiki – future use to be reviewed.
5. Past Events:
  - April Monthly Meeting “Alternative Fuels for Heating and Transport” – Convenor Peter Wonfor, 40 attendees
6. Coming Events:
  - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2009. ATA International Projects Group Information Night.
  - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009. “How to have a garden in a drought” – Convenor Lance Collins
7. Correspondence:
  - An email has been received from an ATA member regarding help with the rebuilding of the Marysville Retirement Village, which was completely burnt out in the February fires. A meeting is to be held week of 24<sup>th</sup> May 2009. An email will be sent out to ATA Melbourne Branch members with further information but contact can be made now with Lynne Stone at [lynne@bloomingthreads.info](mailto:lynne@bloomingthreads.info).
  - A contact was also received from Engineers Without Borders regarding help in providing sustainable ventures at Sages Cottage Farm. email will be circulated when further details are known.
    - Engineers Without Borders ([www.ewb.org.au](http://www.ewb.org.au)) are:
      - a group involved in sustainability projects in Australia and overseas
      - Are seeking hands on experience from ATA members

Jay Williams introduced Engineers Without Borders (EWB).

Dilan McConnell, presented the SAGES Farm Cottage Project.

Sages Cottage Farm is a project by EWB and Menzies Incorporated for children who have been exposed to family violence, abuse or neglect. It can offer animal therapy and life skills development.

They aim to build a Sustainability Centre by 2015, intended to demonstrate to the public how sustainability can be incorporated in people’s homes. Currently they’re focussing on water systems. The aim of the farm is to be water self-sustaining by 2010. They are currently trying to set-up a

rain water harvesting system currently and are in discussion with Angela Brown, from ATA. They are also looking at storm water harvesting. Renewable energy producing options are being explored too.

Further details will be circulated when they come to hand but Jai Allison of EWB may be contacted on Email: [jai.allison@gmail.com](mailto:jai.allison@gmail.com) Phone: 8417 5019 Mobile: 0439 471 749 or their website <http://www.menzies.org.au/sagesdisplay.php?p=sagescottagefarm>

8. Innovations: NIL

9. Members Forum

- Peter is seeking information on assessing embodied energy.
- Derrick is seeking information on commercially available retrofitting of insulation into walls.
- Post Meeting note: Beyond Building are offering discount PV installation (with conditions) until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009.

10. Close of meeting

11. Topic for the night:

## **“Solar Concentration with Solar PV Panels” Convenor - ANZSES**

**Speaker:** Barry Hendy – Solar Systems, Business Development Manager  
[www.solarsystems.com.au](http://www.solarsystems.com.au)

**Chair:** Dale Brown – ANZES [www.anzses.org](http://www.anzses.org)

This meeting was our first joint meeting with another group and this is with ANZSES. ANZSES are a National organisation with their head office in Sydney and are focused on “cutting edge” solar and other renewable technologies. The Melbourne branch of ANZSES joined us for this night, talking about the progress that has been made with solar power and, specifically, how the developments in the use of solar concentration are progressing.

The speaker for the evening was:

Barry Hendy of Solar Systems <http://www.solarsystems.com.au/>

*“Solar Systems is a world leader in Concentrating PV power systems. Focusing 500 sun concentration onto high efficiency PV cells delivers one of the most promising solar power solutions for utility-scale generation. With 5 operating power stations in Australia based on the CS500 Dish the company is now ramping up manufacturing and supply to meet the growing world demand. Meanwhile, Solar Systems R&D programs are developing the next-generation configurations using heliostats and towers with the world’s first grid-connected Heliostat CPV system operating at Bridgewater in central Victoria. The company plans to develop a 154MW power station in northern Victoria using the Heliostat system.*

*With a new manufacturing and office facility in Abbotsford, Solar Systems will have the capacity to deliver up to 500MW of generation per year, making it one of the largest facilities in the world.”*

Barry gave an entertaining and fascinating presentation on some of the history, technology and future of this application of solar panels.