

REPORT ON *some of the* JIGMOD EVENTS IN OZ

In **Sydney** there were several events on and around 8th April.

At the **Leichhardt** Organic market Greenpeace had a stall with petitions, sign ups and True Food Guides (TFG) to give away, plus a fiddler and Cadburys chicken laying evil eggs wandering the market. To celebrate the launch of the fourth version of the TFG we lit the candles on the huge organic GE-free chocolate birthday cake complete with bells and whistles, and gave away cake and organic juices to market goers. We screened the DVD *FUTURE of FOOD* to an audience of around forty people. Folks were inspired by the film and there was lots of interest in our campaigns.

In **Bondi Junction** there was an evening screening of the film to a full house and followed by a panel discussion. There were lots of questions and interest in the DVD.

In **Fairlight** the Manly Food Coop shared a stall at the cultural event at Narrabeen Lagoon on the Sunday 9th April. We had the opportunity to talk to quite a number of people, mostly people who are aware of the co-op's existence and got some signatures on the petition.

People are keen to know how borrow the DVD of 'The Future Food'.

Other New South Wales events

Nambucca From Kelly –NVCA: We had about 25 people at the screening, pretty good for especially with such short notice. The NVCA is going to purchase a copy so that we can do more screenings.

Our stall at the plant fair gave a good indication that people are pretty much unaware about GE. We have our work cut out for us! Nonetheless, I'm sure that we will be successful with our campaign.

Byron Bay

From Kali Wendorf. Our screening of The Future of Food WAS A Blowout! We had to turn people away at the door. A very inspiring event which we think will galvanise the community in a big way. The second Byronchild sponsored event is to be in Sydney sponsored by OTACnet (Organic Traders and Consumers Network)

Western Australia

Perth

From Janet Grogan: Here in Perth we held a stall at the Organic Farmers' markets at City Farm. The weather was perfect, and the people were great. We got letters signed and sent to companies, TFN sign-ups and Terminator signatures sent to Bob (Gene Ethics) and lots of talking!!! The new TFGs went down very well!

The film made a huge impact, in spite of the humble screening room (set between the railway lines on one side, the drumming band in practice on the other and the odd rooster thrown in!!!) In fact I have several people who want to get copies, and want to help to show it on a

grander scale, perhaps by hiring out a cinema?

Julie Newman was brilliant, as usual, and Lisa (Perth local group co-ordinator) spoke about making practical and sustainable changes within the home in regard to consumables.

Although we had a small audience of 20 it was a successful afternoon.

There was an article in the West Australian on Saturday regarding Judy Carman and WA State Government sponsored research? Very exciting!! Vanessa Errol got a letter published in *The West* yesterday in response to the article, yeah!

Victoria

From Jessica Hampson – Wonthaggi

Jo, my mum, was very pleased that 2 farmers came to her stall in Wonthaggi, after you notified them - maybe they are members of the TF network ?

I'd like to show the Future of Food locally, once you get a few copies returned. Great work, it was a big success!

Queensland

From Ruth Parnell – Maleny. Thanks for sending the material re the Day of Action. We've been distributing the new True Food Guides at the counter and on our outside petition board, and will continue to do so 'till we run out and have to order more!

Yesterday's action coincided with our final protest march and rally against Woolworths' incursion into Maleny. It took some attention away from the Day of Action, but we did get lots of signatures on petitions supplied by GeneEthics Network at the rally as well as outside the shop.

I've also given the True Food Guide a mention in the new Maple Street Co-op News in my Gene World column; we'll send you a copy early in the week.

Lorraine – Mentone

We had a good JIGMOD day. There were 5 of us outside Mentone Safeway. We wore laminated signs on our backs letting people know that today was International GM Opposition Day. We spoke to lots of people, handed out leaflets, information and True Food Guides, and we collected a lot of signatures for the petition opposing Terminator technology.

Considering the lack of info in the media about the problems with GE, a surprising number of people (even those who didn't seem to object to GE!) had heard of Terminator and seemed to oppose it. And it was great that a number of people expressed support for the work we were doing.