

MACCY BIOCHAR MEMBER BULLETIN

No. 20 - May 2021

Maccy Biochar is a Task Group of the Macclesfield Community Association Inc.

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HELLO ALL.

Welcome to our 20th Member Bulletin.

In this Bulletin we cover affiliation & insurance cover; May production; volunteer teams; and more.

AFFILIATION & INSURANCE

We are now officially a part of the Macclesfield Community Association (a Task Group) following a resolution at the MCA committee meeting of 17 May 2021. I think this further demonstrates endorsement by the local community of our objectives and recognition of the community service we provide. It also serves to clarify our cover for volunteer insurance and public liability insurance under the terms of the Mount Barker District Council insurance policies taken out on behalf of the MCA and other community groups. Notwithstanding this we have also taken out separate volunteer insurance cover in our name through AON Insurance.

MAY PRODUCTION

Biochar production in May was 2160 litres.

Carbon captured was 288 kg.

CO₂ avoided was 925 kg.

Electricity offset was 2.2 MWHrs.



Dean quenches; Buster waits to pounce; and Kelvin and Brian ponder the future. *Photo courtesy Tony Huppatz.*

TOTAL PRODUCTION SUMMARY

The latest summary of our production and carbon capture as at 30 May 2021 is shown below based on:

Dry bulk density of our biochar = 189 kg/m³.

Carbon content of our biochar = 84.3%.

SA emissions factor = 0.43 kgCO₂/kWhr.

| MACCYBIOCHAR SCOREBOARD at 30/05/21 | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| YEAR | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | TOTAL | Units |
| BIOCHAR PRODUCED | 1720 | 18451 ² | 2160 | 22331 | Litres |
| CARBON CAPTURED | 222 ¹ | 2939 ³ | 288 | 3449 | Kg |
| NET CO2 AVOIDED | 0.775 | 10.048 | 0.925 | 11.748 | Tonnes |
| ELECTRICITY OFFSET | 1.520 | 23.369 ⁴ | 2.2 | 27.089 | MWHR |

1. Re-calculated based on 3rd party biochar analysis dated 19/4/20

2. Includes 3180L from members.

3. Re-calculated based on 3rd party biochar analysis dated 28/1/21

4. Re-calculated based on Australian National Greenhouse Accounts Factors Oct. 2020 (SA: 0.43 kgCO₂/kWh)

VOLUNTEER TEAMS

If you do not have the time or the ability to physically help with our biochar production program please do **NOT** feel bad. We value your support through your membership. However we do need more volunteers to step up to help if we are to increase our production. So.....

Wood collection team:



This team collects woody matter from around Macclesfield and takes it to our site on Shadygrove road where they unload it and trim it to fit the kilns. Geoff Brockhouse is the team leader.



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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We currently have 13 members registered with this team as volunteers but of course other commitments usually means only a fraction of those turn up on the day. So more would be nice. If you would like to volunteer to help with wood collection please call Geoff on mob: 0418 800 691.

Biochar production teams:



Wednesdays: This team makes biochar each Wednesday (weather permitting) at Shadygrove road. If you would like to volunteer to help make biochar on Wednesdays please call Brian on mob: 041 148 0935.

Saturdays - proposed new team: If you normally work on weekdays but would like to volunteer to help make biochar on Saturdays please call Brian on mob: 041 148 0935.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to new member Tom Rice, a horticulture student interested in soil biology, making better compost and improving his vegetable garden.

DONATION TO BIGGEST MORNING TEA

We donated 90 litres of our biochar to the **Macclesfield Biggest Morning Tea** with proceeds of the Tea and Auction all going to Cancer Research. The biochar was enriched by **Black Diamond Biochar** and packaged into 6 x 15 litre bags that normally retail for \$22/bag. All the bags were sold for a total of \$145. So that was good news for all involved and we must share the kudos with **Black Diamond Biochar**.

INSTITUTE WALL DISPLAY

Our new wall display has been printed and will soon be mounted in the Macclesfield Institute foyer to promote our activities.

BIOCHAR DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOP

The Workshop convened by the Normanville Natural Resource Centre on 8 May was held at a property just outside Yankalilla town. At 9am there were reports of heavy rain at Yank but by 10am it was clear and we enjoyed 2 hours of perfect weather with around 20 participants. Many thanks to Maddie Maguire for arranging this and for her faith in the BOM website.



BIOCHAR NEWS FROM UK

<https://www.bioenergy-news.com/news/bioenergy-projects-chosen-for-uks-ghg-removal-programme/>

The above link summarises a number of bioenergy projects chosen for the UK's Green House Gas removal programme. The projects include:

Biowaste to biochar via HTC

Mersey Biochar: carbon negative community energy

The BioChar Network: a road to demonstration and beyond

BIOCCUS

Circular GGR solution utilising biochar produced from low-grade biomass

COMMITTEE MEMBERS at present are:

Brian Lewis – Chairman & Treasurer.

Kelvin Williams – Deputy Chair.

Fiona Williams – Membership Secretary.

Geoff Brockhouse – Wood collection Team Leader.

John Agnew – Schools Liaison.

Stephen Heading, Ivars Eglitis and Dean Hewlett.

EX-OFFICIO ADVISORS are:

Greg Marlu – Operations

Meegan Semple – Horticulture.

Tony Huppertz – Carbon credits.

Meetings are normally held on the 2nd Monday of the month (public holidays excepted) at 7:30 pm. Financial members are welcome to attend.

Enquiries: Brian Lewis Mob: 041 148 0935

*Making Maccy Carbon Neutral
Making Biochar for carbon capture and soil improvement*