

## Newsfeed

■ Unilever's environmental credentials are improving – last year the company raised its sourcing of sustainable palm oil to 64 per cent, and 100 per cent of energy purchased in Europe comes from renewable sources.

■ Setting a precedent for a federal listing, the NSW Government has listed two hammerhead shark species as threatened, so they can no longer be fished in NSW waters for their fins.

■ A joint report from CARE International, Germanwatch, ActionAid Australia and WWF Australia, says gains in developing countries will be lost and global poverty will drastically increase unless immediate action is taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

■ The Premier of Queensland has pledged \$40 million to dredge a mangrove-lined inlet in Cairns to make way for cruise ships.

■ Eucalyptus is the most farmed plantation tree in the world and one species, flooded gum (*Eucalyptus grandis*), has had its genome mapped, opening the way for new breeding, biofuel and conservation opportunities.

■ SodaStream have refused to give into legal threats from Coca-Cola after using their cans and bottles in advertisements to show the significant reduction a carbonating machine can make to the huge volumes of packaging waste from soft drinks.

*Resources are being used at a rate that would take up to 1.5 planets to sustainably support. Currently, we're on track to require two planets well before the middle of this century.*



### PICK ME!

#### Natural candles

Burning candles is great for people with allergies as it removes pollen, mould spores, and dust from the air. However, the paraffin in most conventional candles is a by-product of petroleum. Plus, the fumes from chemical perfumes used to add scent are noxious, as well as the lead that most wicks are dipped in. Look for 100 per cent natural, biodegradable ingredients such as soy (try [www.wickedwix.com.au](http://www.wickedwix.com.au)) or beeswax (we love [www.poppysheoney.com.au](http://www.poppysheoney.com.au) and [www.queenb.com.au](http://www.queenb.com.au)) and, if desired, scents from natural ingredients such as essential oils or herbs. Choose wicks made from 100 per cent lead-free cotton.



### INSTANT EXPERT

#### Stronger Futures Policy

For decades, there have been severe health and social problems in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. The government intends to address these problems through Stronger Futures, but the policy has suffered intense criticism from Aboriginal Australians, and even from Amnesty International, describing the policy as inhumane and an extension of John Howard's questionable Emergency Response interventions from 2007. Indigenous groups say the policy not only discounts the sharing of valuable traditional knowledge, it also neglects their basic human rights – specifically freedom – and they should be consulted and extensively involved in the creation of new

policies that will affect them. Previous experience shows that projects developed in partnership with and owned by indigenous communities work better. The Stand For Freedom campaign ([www.standforfreedom.org.au](http://www.standforfreedom.org.au)) is building a national movement to put a stop to the policy and support Aboriginal people's right to self-determination. Its petition has been signed by more than 42,000 people so far. The bill passed the Senate at the end of June. "Not everyone will agree with what the government is doing," says Minister Jenny Macklin, who remains committed to the legislation she introduced late last year.

#### Essential kit

#### REUSABLE PRODUCE BAGS

Go one step further in your quest to ditch plastic and paper bags at the shops with reusable fruit and veggie bags. With so many different styles on the market, there are no excuses now! Try [www.onyabags.com.au](http://www.onyabags.com.au), [www.getrealbags.com.au](http://www.getrealbags.com.au), [www.obsidianstar.com.au](http://www.obsidianstar.com.au) or [www.greensacks.com.au](http://www.greensacks.com.au)



#### Campaign corner



PHOTOGRAPHY BY SINEM SABAN

#### LIFEuphoria

**ARE YOU LIVING IN THE MOMENT?** Four cyclists, Nick Scaife (GB), Tommy Gurr (GB), Jimmy McGee (US) and Markus Schorn (DE) are, by completing the trip of a lifetime, cycling 18,000 km around Australia. "Riding under the banner of LIFE (Living In Full Euphoria) reflects what this project is about," says Scaife. "It is about living a life that we all love, living in the moment and doing so on two wheels. Living in full euphoria and, more importantly, helping the planet to share that full euphoria." They'll be raising money for environmental charity Greenfleet, aiming to raise \$35,000; enough to plant 8,000 native trees to create a biodiverse, self-sustaining native forest in Gippsland, Victoria. Join the trip for free, for as far as you want to go, and help raise funds. Or you can donate at [www.lifeuphoria.com](http://www.lifeuphoria.com) >>