



The Bullroarer - Friday 31st October 2008

Posted by [aeldric](#) on October 30, 2008 - 7:49pm in [The Oil Drum: Australia/New Zealand](#)

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

TV NZ - [Carparks see return of bus users](#)

With the cost of oil down, the price of parking has fallen - a move which may persuade motorists to ditch public transport and get back into their cars.

However hard Aucklanders try to use the alternatives, it is estimated that 80% still drive to work.

Many say that is mainly because they find public transport inconvenient or because the buses do not cover their area.

SMH - [Households shielded from rising energy costs](#)

The rise in the cost of petrol will be masked for the initial years of the trading scheme because the Federal Government has promised to drop the fuel excise as a way of softening the blow for consumers.

The Australian - [Methane emissions on the rise](#)

Scientists have warned climbing methane levels may speed up global warming.

Levels of methane, the second-worst greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide, had plateaued but recently started to rise again.

Dr Paul Fraser from the CSIRO said increasing methane levels appeared to be caused by the melting of Arctic ice, which was opening up more wetlands to the sky.

ABC - [Green group happy with shale oil ban](#)

"In our view the Government should also be banning other technologies that will increase greenhouse gas emissions.

"So things like under the ground coal gasification and processes such as turning coal into fuel should also be banned because they will be adding extra greenhouse gas emissions

Stuff.co.nz - [NZ Refining sees profit of up to \\$125m](#)

The New Zealand Refining Company says it expects annual net profit of between \$115 million and \$125 million for the 2008 year.

National Business Review NZ - [Aquaflow signs up to use US biofuel technology](#)

Algae biofuel company Aquaflow Bionomic has joined forces with a division of US conglomerate Honeywell to work on converting algae into fuel products.

Processes developed by Honeywell refining company UOP will be used to convert algae into fuel products that meet international standards.

Aquaflow has already succeeded in producing its first batch of green crude oil.

SMH - [Green-collar army recruits for the solar boom](#)

LEAH CALLON-BUTLER gave up a career in fashion last year to become a solar panel saleswoman, joining a surge towards green jobs predicted by the Federal Government.

The Australian - [Construction costs set to soar, builders warn](#)

MAJOR infrastructure projects across the country are facing a dramatic spike in costs as leading builders warn they will be forced to pass on big increases in the price of materials and fuel.

ABC - [Govt to crack down on mine water disposal](#)

"I'm a firm believer that using modern technology such as reverse osmosis treatment plants to clean the CSG [coal seam gas] water will allow for more environmentally friendly disposal and provide a valuable new source of water."

The Australian - [BG edges closer as QGC chiefs sell](#)

BG Group edged closer to gaining control of Queensland Gas Co in its \$5.2 billion bid yesterday as chief executive Richard Cottey and chairman Robert Bryan sold some shares into the deal.

The British gas giant now has about 44 per cent of coal seam gas producer QGC and will

move to 66 per cent if AGL Energy sells its stake.

National Business Review NZ - [Bad weather hampers Tui oil production](#)

New Zealand Oil and Gas has reported a decrease in production from the Tui oilfield in its latest quarterly report, while announcing an investment in an offshore drilling project in the Canterbury Basin.

Radio NZ - [Nauru, Tuvalu and Cook Islands commit to bulk fuel buying plan](#)

Three Pacific Islands Forum countries have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the bulk procurement of fuel.

[.....]

The Ministers say there's much more potential for Pacific countries to expand their domestic food production to counter the high cost of imports.

The Age - [Origin seals \\$9.6bn LNG joint venture](#)

ORIGIN Energy has completed its liquefied natural gas joint venture with ConocoPhillips to form Australia Pacific LNG, having received \$US5 billion (\$A7.3 billion) in advance from the US energy giant.

The \$9.6 billion, 50-50 joint venture, announced last month, will create Australia's largest producer of liquefied natural gas from coal seam gas.



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