

Sustainability Case Studies



Logan & Albert Hotel, Beaudesert

Finalist of the "THE BIGGEST CARBONLOSER, Scenic Rim"

a competition that engaged tourism operators in a fun way to bring about long term household carbon reduction.

Logan & Albert Hotel is situated in Brisbane Street, Beaudesert which is part of the Scenic Rim Area. The hotel had a major renovation in 2006/7 and since then the electricity accounts each month have been large – due to all the refrigeration and Poker Machines left running 24 hours a day. The Hotel has three large function rooms, restaurant, Sports Bar, Bottle Shop and Gaming area.

1. Getting started

We started the Low Carbon Workshop without any knowledge of what it was all about. We listened to what Sally MacKinnon was saying – most of it was common sense, I directed two additional staff on duty in the hotel to attend the workshop and we all took the opportunity to take a positive step and lower our carbon emissions and reduce our electricity monthly accounts at work and at home which in turn would save us all money. One of the staff members left the workshop and walked around the Hotel and made a list of things that needed to be done and equipment that should be turned off each night after trade. This was then put on the staff notice board for all the closing staff at the end of the night.



2. Major initiatives

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We started the Low Carbon Workshop which was being held in one of the Functions Rooms at the Hotel and run by Scenic Rim Escapes (LTO) without any knowledge of what it was all about. We listened to what Sally MacKinnon was saying – most of it was common sense, I directed 2 extra staff on duty in the hotel to attend the workshop and we all took the opportunity to take a positive step and lower our Carbon Emissions and reduce our electricity monthly accounts at work and at home which in turn would save us all money. One of the staff members left the workshop and walked around the Hotel and made a list of things that needed to be done and equipment that should be turned off each night after trade. This was then put on the staff notice board for all the closing staff at the end of the night.

3. Key outcomes

We waited impatiently for our next electricity account which comes monthly.

In the 3.5 weeks that we had turned off all our equipment we had saved \$502.00 and reduced our Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2.77 tonnes.

What excitement when all the staff saw the savings – one of the girls then walked around the Hotel looking for more equipment that we could turn off at the end of the night?

We had not only saved money at the Hotel my own personal electricity account had come in and due to me turning off all the electrical equipment at home - my own account was down \$80.00 for the quarter.

4. Major challenges

Our first night of instructing all the staff to turn everything off – they did!!!! They also turned off all the Poker Machines, and the next morning we could not get them up and running. Pension Day and no Poker Machines . . . we had to get technicians down from Brisbane to reset all the Gaming Machines and Loops. Two hours later – all machines were running – but we did learn a lesson never to do that again.

The Night Staff have been very good in turning most of the equipment off – and all staff wonder around turning lights off that are not needed. Everyone is aware of the Hotel trying to reduce its Carbon Emission and the reasons I give them is so that their children will enjoy life like we all have.

5. Advice to operators

I think all business in the area should get involved. Not only will it save them \$\$\$ but also reduce their Carbon Emissions.

Start with something small – turn off electrical equipment and see the difference, after your 1st monthly electricity account you will see the benefit and this will motivate you to do more.

6. Next steps

There is still a lot more we can do as a business – we have only just started.

Our Chef is sourcing local products for two vegetarian meals to be available each day -:

- A Vegetable Slice & a Vegetarian Crepe Stack have been added to the menu. The vegetables will be supplied by a local farmer at Veresdale which is 5 minutes out of town. The eggs that will form a part of the ingredients will come from a local chicken farm in Beaudesert – which will be delivered each week to the hotel.

Coldrooms have all been defrosted to ensure that they are running at a peak level

Climate Smart will be coming to change some of our light bulbs

Refrigeration behind the bars are being turned off when not in use

And all staff have been made aware at work and at home of Lowering their Carbon Emissions, a copy of the Biggest Carbonloser Challenge Menu and Low Carbon Lifestyle Tips has been made available to all the staff.

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