

Sustainable House Day

2025

*Empowering households
to tackle climate change
through peer-to-peer
knowledge sharing
since 1980*

Community Partnership Opportunities

Presented by
renew.

Kyneton, VIC



renew.

Leading sustainable living

Renew is a national, not-for-profit membership organisation working to transform Australian homes for climate and energy resilience.

Renew engages with thousands of people each year around Australia and beyond. Our network of active members' branches across the country engage with the community on a wide range of sustainability topics. Our community of change includes readers of our two market-leading sustainability magazines *Renew* and *Sanctuary*, attendees of our expert event series and Sustainable House Day, users of our online resources and calculators, people contacting us for advice, and our research and advocacy partners.

Renew advocates for policies that promote renewable energy and cut emissions, make our homes healthier, more affordable and climate resilient, and protect consumer rights in our rapidly changing energy markets.

You and SHD 2025

Sustainable House Day is a key opportunity for Councils, community groups and individual homeowners to tap into a national network to drive forward the efficiency and comfort of homes in their own neighbourhoods.

Your organisation can directly support knowledge sharing across the community. Empower homeowners to access the best technologies, materials, design and tools available in Australia as well as discover the local businesses supplying them.

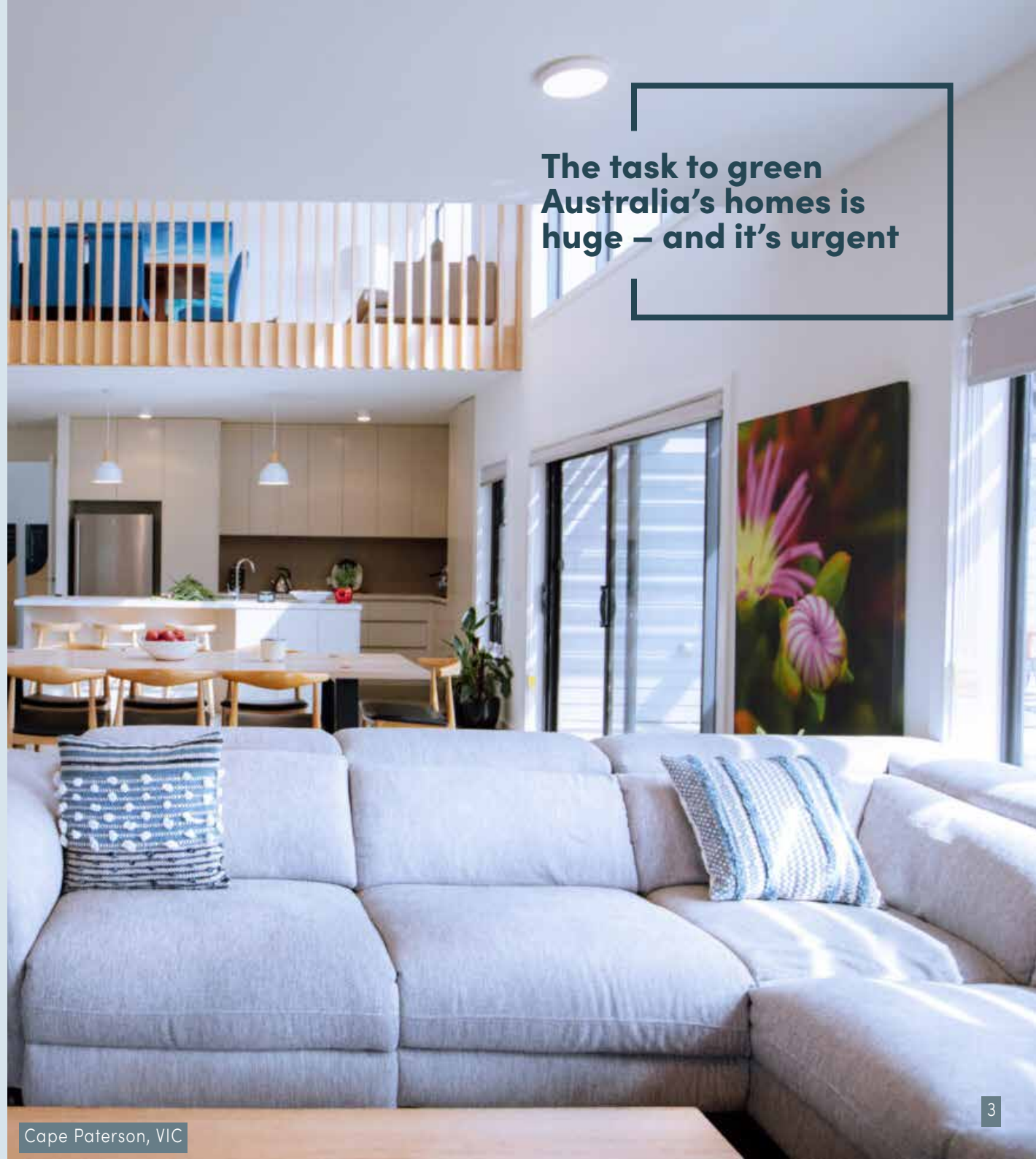
Sustainable homes are critical for the future of the planet

Every year, the impacts of climate change are becoming more severe and devastating. Households generate at least one fifth of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions, and energy prices only ever seem to increase. The task to green Australia's buildings is huge and urgent.

Many homeowners lack funds or do not know where to start. Apartment buildings are complex. Landlords are often reluctant to invest, and renters fear being left behind with rising energy bills.

Upgrading Australia's millions of existing homes, whether free-standing or in multi-unit buildings, requires collaboration between homeowners, landlords, strata managers, architects, building trade experts, technology suppliers, research institutions, and trusted independent organisations like Renew that provide actionable advice about efficient buildings and sustainable lifestyles. Governments must ensure social equity underpins all policies.

The task to green Australia's homes is huge – and it's urgent





Sustainable House Day empowers

For decades, Renew's Sustainable House Day has enabled the public to explore some of Australia's most unique and inspiring homes, and learn from the people who designed them, built them, and live in them.

With a community of over 52,000 people, this major annual event is a trusted source of expert advice about building, retrofitting and renovating sustainably.

Sustainable House Day mobilises peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and insight to inspire, educate and empower the community to make their homes healthier and more sustainable.

Appetite for improvement is growing

The National Construction Code now requires new buildings to achieve 7-Star energy efficiency. The ACT and Victorian Governments plus many local councils across the country are phasing out use of fossil gas in buildings, and the movement to electrify is growing. Electric vehicle sales are accelerating.

The products, technologies and knowledge to make our homes and personal transport greener already exist, so reducing carbon emissions from

households is a key opportunity to cut Australia's total emissions and reduce demand for polluting fossil fuel energy.

Reducing the carbon intensity of our houses has the added benefits of making homes healthier and more comfortable to live in, and reducing energy costs for residents.

**Low-carbon homes
are the forerunners
driving interest in
housing sustainability**



Flinders, VIC



Beulah Park, SA



Kaleen, ACT



Strathfield South, NSW



Carina Heights, QLD



Mount Lawley, WA



Clifton Hill, VIC



Ironbank, SA



Lyneham, ACT



Moore Creek, NSW



Pirates Bay, TAS



Fremantle, WA

Looking back at Sustainable House Day 2024

Our flagship event, Sustainable House Day, took place on 21 April 2024, opening the doors—physical and virtual—to Australia's most energy-efficient and eco-friendly homes. In addition, the SHD2024 program included community partner events around the country, online house tours, and a series of online information-sharing sessions featuring experts and homeowners.

162
participating
homes

Featuring:

- 88 new builds
- 36 renovations/retrofits
- 92 all-electric homes
- 44 Passive Houses
- 29 with battery/solar systems
- 39 built with natural materials



Geographic spread:

9 ACT, 33 NSW, 1 NT, 10 QLD,
18 SA, 14 TAS, 57 VIC, 20 WA.

103
Open
Homes

3,077
in-person
visitors

2,168
online event
attendees

22,000
house
tour video
viewings

23
community
partner
events

7
major
sponsors

5
council
partners

Sustainable House Day 2025

The Sustainable House Day program continues to evolve. After a successful pivot to an online event in 2020, by 2024 SHD was running as a hybrid event - in person and online. In 2025, we want more homes across the country to be open to enable the peer-to-peer information sharing that makes Sustainable House Day so special and valuable.

**Nothing beats the
experience of visiting
these homes in person**

Alongside these in-person events, we will deliver a comprehensive program of online events, offering a deep-dive into a range of sustainability topics led by experts, architects and tradespeople.

Key dates

Sunday 4 May 2025

On this day, private homes around the country will be open to the public. Participants will be able to book into one of several tour times at each home, with 15 to 30 people in each tour. Each home will also have an online profile and video house tour to reach a wider audience.

Community groups, like yours, are invited to host parallel events across the country that focus on home sustainability.

May 2025

Renew will host a month of live online extension sessions with experts. Recordings of these sessions will become available later in 2025.

Community Partner events can continue around the country to provide more in-person and online ways for participants to engage with the Sustainable House Day program.





Renew's vision for SHD 2025

In 2025, Renew wants to expand the scope and reach of Sustainable House Day, pushing into new regions and bringing more local climate and sustainability community groups, councils and businesses into the event.

Renew will zero in on the retrofit and electrification agenda that sits at the heart of Australia's energy transition by recruiting comfortable, energy-efficient homes that demonstrate attainable improvements and lifestyle changes that ordinary homeowners and renters can achieve.

Get involved

No one knows your neighbourhood better than you! We want to work with you to find those exemplary homeowners and invite them to offer their homes as Open Homes on Sustainable House Day, allowing more people to visit more homes and enrich their sustainability knowledge. We will connect them and your group with your local Council, strengthening your local sustainability network. Your group can leverage Renew's annual national Sustainable House Day to reach a wider audience for your sustainability objectives.

Community Partners organise events, such as a panel discussion, demonstration or workshop, in their region in the month of May 2025. These events are key to the impact of this grassroots event and will be promoted as part of the Sustainable House Day calendar Australia-wide.

Tap into this respected national grassroots event

Some groups have a long history of holding these events with Renew, and we are looking forward to hearing about your plans for 2025.

Even if you have never held a Sustainable House Day event before, we encourage proposals for innovative and impactful events in your community or online.

Your organisation can tailor the suggestions on the next page to align your objectives with the needs and priorities of your community and local businesses that work to transform Australian homes for climate and energy resilience.

Sustainable House Day 2025 Community Partner event suggestions

Identify homes for Sustainable House Day

We know that your community group is well networked, and you likely know many people who have made their home more sustainable through efficiency upgrades and electrification. SHD 2025 is a great chance for those people to share that journey with their community, allowing people to see and hear more about the technologies, the challenges and the solutions!

Work with Renew to identify interested homeowners and register them on the SHD website. Use our communication materials to draw on your membership or contact lists to identify possible participants. Then we handle the process from there with homeowners.

Promote local Open Homes

Promote SHD in your newsletters and social media by featuring local homes from the SHD website. Help more people in your community to visit them by creating a downloadable map or list for your area with public transport information. You might help homeowners host their Open Home tours and provide information about your local programs to participants.

Webinars and virtual events

Host an online event featuring homeowners or sustainability experts from your community. We recommend checking against the SHD Extension Sessions program (which will be published on the SHD website) to ensure the topic and timing of the event doesn't clash with our webinar program.

Panel discussions

Organise a panel discussion at a public venue on a sustainable housing topic with local homeowners, businesses and/or sustainability experts. For example, batteries and electric vehicles are very popular topics right now!

Demonstrations

Team up with a local business, expert or homeowner to host a demonstration of a sustainable technology. This might be a tour of a local renewable energy project, a demonstration of a sustainable product or material like hempcrete, or an academic project.

We are always keen to hear other ideas for partnership events

Workshops

Collaborate with local training or education providers to host a workshop or deep-dive class into a practical action that homeowners can implement for themselves, such as draughtproofing or window shadings.

Market or fair

Collaborate with local business and other community groups to hold a market day of sustainable living products and information, or host a community lunch with locally grown produce.



Our partnership principles

Renew is proud of its independence and Sustainable House Day's identity as a grassroots event supported by a diverse collection of homeowners and community partners across Australia.

Our partners share our values of sustainability and social justice, and build relationships that are mutually beneficial.

Get in touch

To start planning an event for Sustainable House Day 2025, please contact us for a conversation.

Email shd@renew.org.au
with the subject line
"SHD 2025 Community Partnership"

Support from Renew for Community Partner events

- You will have the use of the Sustainable House Day name and branding, including logos and communication materials to promote your local events within the national SHD program
- Your event will be listed on the SHD website and promoted via our social media channels, magazines and email lists
- We would like to work with you to identify homeowners to list their homes in your area, and can connect you with homeowner participants in your community if needed, and provide homeowner resources.
- The Renew team will do its best to support SHD Partners, however, offerings are subject to change due to technical or operational reasons.

**You create it,
we'll promote it!**

Partnership terms

- All events must be held between 4 May and 1 June 2025.
- Access to Open Homes should conform to Renew's national approach to ensure coherent communication about SHD.
- An agreement detailing any event for SHD 2025 must be signed by both Renew and your organisation before organising efforts begin.
- Your organisation will be solely responsible for organising and funding your events, providing insurance, and will assume all risks from cancellation for any reason. (Open Homes that are signed up via the SHD program will be covered by Renew's insurance.)



Kaleen, ACT

"We are committed to raising awareness of sustainable housing and helping the broader community. We do that locally in various ways but SHD allows us to extend that reach to a national audience. It is fabulous!"

**Light House ArchiScience
Bronze Sponsor**



Lyonville, VIC



Kew, VIC



Coorparoo, QLD



Coburg, VIC

"SHD is a great opportunity to learn more about local climate action and the changes big and small you can make to your home to live more sustainably."

Banyule City Council

"Envirotexture has been a proud supporter and contributor of Sustainable House Day since it first started in Australia – with our clients regularly opening their homes, and our directors sharing knowledge in SHD sessions. We are also now a proud sponsor of this national event to help the advocacy, education and inspiration spread to a wider audience!"

Envirotexture, Bronze Sponsor



Mittagong, NSW



Wilyabrup, WA



Fitzroy North, VIC

"It was wonderful to have so many curious and passionate people attend the Sustainable House Day Tour this year! I enjoyed ... the wonderful visitors who showed such a genuine interest."

Open House homeowner



Fitzroy North, VIC

"First time hosts and overall had a great day and great experience – a credit to SHD organisation and planning. Made it very easy."

Open House homeowner



South Hobart, TAS



Dulwich Hill, NSW

"I think the day went really well, the website and listing were great and I think many people were inspired and will feel motivated to work to retrofit their own homes."

Open House homeowner



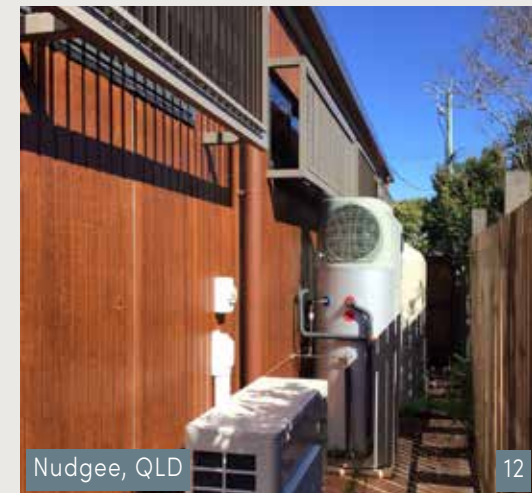
Blackburn North, VIC

"It was extremely affirming after all the research, hard work, blood, sweat and tears that went into our home to hear so many lovely things from visitors who understand better than most about your vision and the result. So many people were very outwardly thankful in a very genuine way and it just left us feeling grateful that the world might improve slightly from our small act."

Open House homeowner



Moore Creek, NSW



Nudgee, QLD