

NEWS

Tyre oil coming to make into fuel

BY DAINA OLIVER

RECYCLED oil from old car tyres could be on its way to a local oil refining company to be made into fuel.

Tyres from cars and trucks that have reached the end of their life are being used to produce oil, which will be sent to Southern Oil for refining into oil-based products such as diesel or petrol.

Green Distillation Technologies chief operating officer Trevor Bayley confirmed the agreement with the Wagga-based oil refinery, saying the two companies have been waiting for an opportunity to arise where its oil could fit in suitably.

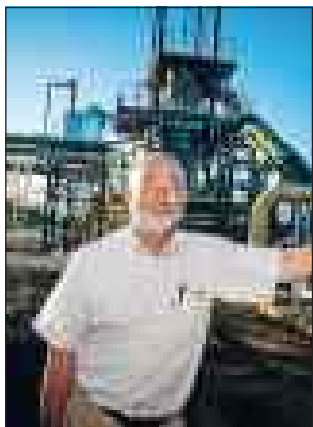
The Australian start-up company recycles old tyres into oil, carbon and steel, which Mr Bayley said is the first-of-its-kind.

"We started working with Southern Oil right at the beginning of our journey, trying to see where we could fit in," Mr Bayley said.

"Southern Oil has broadened their horizon to look at fuel and our oil fits nicely into this package.

"It is renewable and an easy drop-in replacement in diesel fuel."

Mr Bayley said the refinery is set to take all oil produced by Green Distillation Technologies - and with the development, increase the volume because its oil is similar to a light crude, being low



Trevor Bayley

in sulphur and easy to refine.

Green Distillation Technologies has plans to build more infrastructure that will have the capacity to process about 700,000 old tyres each year into eight million litres of oil for refining, as well as 7700 tonnes of carbon black and 2000 tonnes of steel.

Mr Bayley said these numbers represents about 4 per cent of the end-of-life tyres that are generated in the country every year.

"The capacity to convert (the oil into other oil-based products beside from diesel) is there, but the oil is mostly used for diesel," he said.

"The quality is really good. If we had been early to the marketplace, our oil would have fit right into the market, but with regulations it needs to keep up."

Mr Bayley hopes the agreement could "grow something of note" as the partnership progresses.



READY TO BE HEARD: Clementine Ford is ready to share her strong views on women's rights, equality and domestic violence with Wagga.

Controversial feminist to make waves through city

WOMEN'S rights activist Clementine Ford will share her controversial views with the city this morning at an event organised by the Wagga Women's Health Centre.

The centre's Julie Mecham said now was the time to make noise around the topic, locally and globally.

"We need to look at the overall picture of domestic violence in our community,

and domestic violence starts with gender inequality," she said.

Ms Mecham said perpetuating these ideas, intentionally or not, was where the issue lay.

"It can start with something as simple as calling a sexist joke 'not funny'. Don't laugh along," she said.

Ford has been labelled as an "extremist", but Ms Me-

cham said these comments overlooked her underlying message.

"There is resistance from a few in the community saying you can't label 'all men like that', but we don't, and Clementine doesn't either - what she says is that all men play a role in changing how gender stereotypes and rigid views of gender make our community narrower,"

she said.

Ms Mecham said she hoped the appearance of Ford would spark a movement for the better.

"We have to challenge the small things so having her come and talk will hopefully push that conversation, and really, any resistance to that will still stimulate the conversation," she said.

- JESSICA MCLAUGHLIN

Family helps Joan to celebrate 100th

JOAN Lewis has now walked the earth for a century.

The Wagga local, who was born Joan Driscoll, turned 100 on Wednesday, after spending the weekend celebrating her imminent milestone in the presence of generations in the family.

It was a trifecta weekend though, with two other members of the family also celebrating big birthdays in close proximity.

"Her sister is turning 90, and my oldest sister is turning 80, and it was all on the

Queen's birthday," said son Simon Lewis.

"The Queen, the prime minister, the premier and the local member all wrote to congratulate her."

"She was more concerned with her family all being there."

With three generations represented in the room, it was a reunion.

Described as a 'country girl at heart', Ms Lewis' family owned and operated a small farm in the town, but she later moved to Wagga.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Joan Lewis shares a laugh with family members, who gathered to celebrate her 100th birthday. Picture: Supplied

PITCHFEST TO HEAT UP

INNOVATORS and entrepreneurs will show off their next big ideas at the local heat of the Regional Pitchfest on Thursday. There are six entrants vying for the spot that will send them to a three-day bootcamp in Sydney. The Wagga representative will then take on the other heat winners throughout the state in hopes of gaining one of the five positions in the state final in September. The local heat at the Romano Hotel will start at 6.30pm.