

## Green Your Home Solar Workshop

A local couple are running a "Green Your Home" workshop to encourage Beaudesert Shire residents to make more use of solar energy.

George and Trish Parrott's Mundoolun home harvests almost all its energy from the sun, through the use of solar water heating plus 10 grid-connected photovoltaic solar electric panels. The solar electric panels power all the home's lights and appliances. During the day, energy is harvested from the sun and stored in the grid without the need for batteries. This means there are no



*George and Trish Parrott*

interruptions of service at night or on cloudy days.

"Before we went solar, we used to produce 5 tons of carbon emissions each year," said George Parrott, co-owner of the home. "We wanted to do something to reduce this. We downgraded a big car for a smaller, fuel efficient car and used the money, and a government rebate, to go solar. Now we have tiny electricity bills and have reduced our home's greenhouse emissions by 90%."

The workshop will give people who are interested in going solar a chance to see the system in action, to discover some other low-cost ways to 'go green' and to ask lots of questions in an informal, friendly setting.

"We'd like to invite Shire residents to come and see how easily your home could harvest its own energy," says Trish Parrott, co-runner of the workshop. "And of course, people who attend the workshop will be treated to a cup of tea or coffee – boiled with solar energy, of course! The workshop is on Sunday 17 June from 2pm to 3.30pm. Booking is essential as places are limited. Please telephone (07) 5543 8602. There is a modest charge of \$5.00 to cover costs.