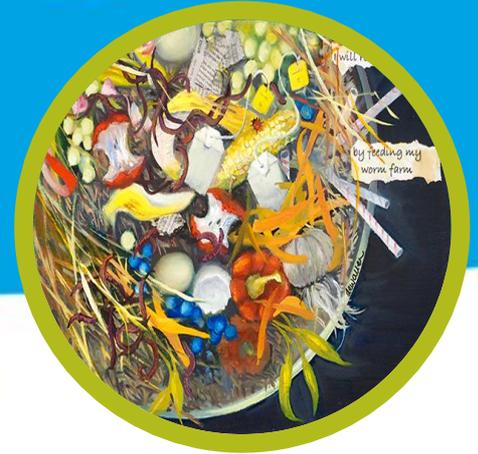


# Climate Change Focus Group



## Narrative 2

### 2025 – A new low carbon lifestyle

It all began after the COVID pandemic in 2020. Global green house gas emissions had reduced by 7% and governments around the world were eager to invest in projects to help accelerate this trajectory. Before COVID, Ravi wasn't sure that any of his friends really took much notice of the need to reduce GHG emissions. After having lived through COVID and with record low interest rates, governments seized the opportunity of investing in renewable energy to support local jobs and to help stimulate the economy.

The Australian government began by communicating a carbon reduction roadmap, and then by setting yearly carbon targets. Scientists had already stated that the global carbon budget would be used up by 2030 if serious changes weren't made. Every household was given a carbon target. Some people grumbled, but Ravi was excited to understand more about his carbon footprint, and the actions he needed to do to stay within it.

Ravi couldn't afford to buy an electric car, so instead he asked his boss if he could work from home most days, just like he had done during COVID. His boss was happy for him to stay in touch using Zoom, Skype, MS Teams and email, and Ravi didn't need to travel by air for work.

With energy, work and transport taken care of, Ravi took a closer look at the rest of this carbon impacts which mainly came from consumables - food and other products he used in his daily life. Ravi decided to sell his petrol-fuelled car since he wouldn't need it for work any more, and instead bought a bike (which was a little hard to find with the increased demand for two wheels!). He also downloaded several ride share apps in case he ever needed a car. He found it a real advantage to shop locally and on-line, and because everything he bought had a carbon footprint he chose carefully.

Without the car in the front driveway Ravi decided to remove the concrete paving and plant a veggie patch instead. This helped him lower his carbon footprint even further by growing his own food. He installed a round tank in his garage and connected all the plumbing himself using power tools loaned from a Council sponsored Tool Library. Ravi was amazed to learn how much food contributed to his carbon budget - between 3 and 5 tonnes per year - mainly because of his love for meat, dairy and some exotic food products that had huge food miles. Now he was content with local, in-season produce and shared any extra produce with his neighbours. Ravi also enrolled in Indian cooking classes to get in touch with his roots.

Ravi was amazed at the impact of the carbon target had had on his life. He now feels better about the future environment, and feels healthier and more connected with his local community.