



CONSERVATION NEWS

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Some of the richest and best preserved Aboriginal galleries in the world are found in caves on the Cape York Peninsula. This example, found in the Quinkan Caves, depicts a Quinkan spirit and birds.

□ Photo by Ron Webster

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"The Aborigines regarded the land ... as inextricably bound to the people who "belonged" to it. Europeans regarded it ... as an inorganic and alien mass to be kicked into life"

Aboriginal Communities on Cape York Peninsula - full report page 4

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Population Policy ACF'S HOT POTATO

In the June edition of *Conservation News*, ACF Director, Phillip Toyne, wrote that he would be inviting some key people to contribute their thoughts on the issue of population, on both a social and ecological level, in this column. In response to this invitation, Senator John Coulter (SA Democrat) has presented the following article.

In 1972 the ACF Council chose not to take action to protect Lake Pedder because it was thought to be "too political". What happened in 1973 is now history. Since then ACF Council has not been frightened to tackle controversial issues. That is, until now, when it seems the Council has sought to distance itself from a population policy voted on by members, as it may be misunderstood as racist. I am disappointed.

ACF is the national conservation body for Australia. It should be pushing for a sustainable economy for Australia. As we would move down that road we should also have a global perspective and help other nations find their path to sustainability. Sustainability will mean lower, much lower, per capita impact on the environment and a lower population. The only evidence we have of a sustainable population for Australia is the population of Aborigines which lived in this continent for 40,000 or more years. We do not know whether the technological sophistication which underpins our particular life-style is sustainable in the long-term. That is the path we must find - what number of people we can support in this country, at what level of per capita resource consumption using what technology.

All three variables must be worked on. At present all three are increasing the total impact, for that is the official policy of both Government and Opposition.

Only the most brave, growth oriented economist will argue that a larger popula-

tion will improve the quality of the Australian environment. Yet that is what the ACF Council, charged by the membership with the task of protecting the environment, voted for at the last Council meeting (June 9-11th).

Australia now has the highest rate of population growth in the industrialised world. Over half is caused by an immigration program which has more than doubled in size since the Hawke Government's accession in 1983. This growth has not been planned, nor has the environmental impact been considered by Government; we know that from Senator Walsh's statements. The present program is costing the Australian economy \$8 to 9 billion each year. This represents, among other things, a diversion of funds away from those areas in which the conservation movement would like to see more spent. While many of our proposed energy conservation programs will save money in the long-run they often present a large capital hump to be overcome at their initiation. Every home should have a solar hot water heater - cost \$4 billion over and above the cost of an electric replacement, 200 million energy efficient light globes, another \$4 billion. Land degradation continues apace and the amount the Government has allocated is so small it will not even keep up with the rate of increase in damage. Another \$6 billion. We need to shift long distance travel and freight movement back on to rail, revamp our cities around public transport rather

than the private car. Massive up-front spending is required for each of these transitions. Agriculture must be shifted to a sustainable agriculture. Initially, production will fall. The Murray-Darling basin continues to deteriorate. Sydney needs to spend \$8 billion to clean up its sewage treatment and disposal. All these conservation tasks and many more are being made more difficult because of the press by Government, Opposition and land speculators for a larger population. Money is being diverted to provide a decaying and deficient infrastructure for this larger population. Most of us would also like to see Australia meet the UN target of 0.7 per cent of GDP on environmentally sound foreign aid programs.

Those who care to write to me may like an expansion of the following proposal. An immigration program of 50,000 per annum family reunion migrants. Absolutely no selection on grounds of race. 20,000 refugees in a separate program (this is 50 per cent larger than at present. 20,000 people permanently leave Australia each year so these figures give 50,000 net immigration.) Cut out skill and business migration. Such a program would result in an Australian population gradually asymptoting to 25 million, sixty-five years from now. Throughout the period the age structure would remain manageable. Each capital city would then be 50 per cent larger than now but we would be able to plan for this as an ultimate population. At the same time we should do everything we can to achieve a sustainable economy, and bend our efforts to helping other nations down the road to their own model of sustainability. Senator Coulter can be contacted c/- Parliament House, Canberra, 2601. □

Australian Conservation Foundation

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Contributors note that it is the policy of CONSERVATION NEWS to use non-sexist, non-racist language.

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YOUTH OZONE DELEGATION

To London, to London ...

Nine young Australians, chosen by the ACF, have set a world precedent by taking an active part at the renegotiations of the Montreal Protocol - a UN global treaty to protect the ozone layer - in London, last month. Until now only top level international negotiators have participated in the Protocol process.

Prior to their departure, the delegation, aged between 17 and 25, with representatives from each state and territory, was enthusiastically supported by the Director of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Dr Mostafa Tolba. In London they presented their own Young People's Declaration on Protecting Ozone, devised at the ACF's National Youth Ozone Videoconference on World Environment Day, on June 5th.

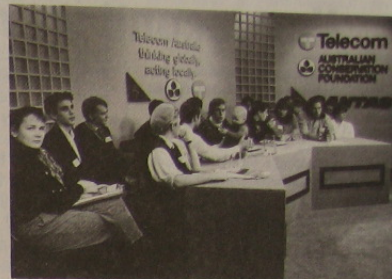
'Being 25 or under we represent half the world's population' said Sian Prior, leader of the delegation. 'It is the half that has to live with the consequences of this crucial Protocol decision, yet we have never been consulted.'

The videoconference and London delegation was the brainchild of Dallas Kinnear, ACF Ozone Project Coordinator. For over 12 months she has been relentless in her endeavours to ensure young people are given a say in determining the outcome of the Protocol - the consequences of which will ultimately effect all their lives. 'Our crops, our marine life and the lives of future generations of humans and of myriad other species are at risk' she said, prior to the London trip. 'We must get young people around the world demanding that their governments act.'

A full report of the Australian Youth Delegation to the Montreal Protocol meetings in London will be given in the August issue of *Conservation News*.



□ Cartoon courtesy of Punch



Melbourne participants in the ACF Ozone Videoconference
□ Photo: Janusz Molinski

No lolly-pops at Youth Ozone Videoconference

Nigel Smith, a year 12 student from Warragul High School was one of the five hundred young participants in ACF's Youth Ozone Videoconference. This is his report for *Conservation News*.

On World Environment Day, 5th June, over 500 young people from each of the capital cities around Australia, were brought together via video, to discuss one of the most important environmental problems facing our world - the depletion of the ozone layer. The purpose of this 'Youth Videoconference', an ACF/Telecom/Qantas initiative, was to formulate resolutions to be taken by selected delegates to the Montreal Protocol negotiations in London. Discussions were chaired by Professor Ian Lowe of Griffith University in Queensland, and hosted by Tanya Lacey.

The conference was an unprecedented event, not only because it drew so many representatives, but more importantly, because it gave young people, like myself, an opportunity to take concrete action on an issue which really concerns us. This was no lolly-pop, fully-fluffed, if-you-please-sir attempt to wring politicians' heart-strings; this was an honest effort to create the strictest, yet most realistic, policies on ozone possible and then to apply pressure to politicians who will be in London to have something very close to our proposals implemented.

We were, of course very conscious that our proposals, no matter how reasonable, were still likely to be ignored in the rough and tumble of international politics, but like Peter Garrett said, we do have power. Maybe the combined will of the youth of Australia will not be enough to shift the thinking of politicians from short term economic and political gains. However, it can't hurt world leaders to be reminded where the goalposts are, and in essence that is what the Youth Videoconference was about - giving young people a chance to articulate our aspirations for our world. □

Mark Horstman, ACF's Campaigns Coordinator for Queensland and Kevin Guy of TWS, recently returned from five weeks on Cape York Peninsula. There they visited several Aboriginal communities, with the aim of establishing and reinforcing the ties between the locals and conservationists, and to identify common goals to protect the Peninsula from large scale commercial exploitation.

CAPE YORK

the second wave of occupation

A common European perception of wilderness is of a pristine environment; an alien place we can only visit temporarily; land that relies on our very absence to retain its wilderness qualities. We often describe Cape York Peninsula as wilderness, in terms of its vast areas of land that remain relatively unchanged by the ravages of industrial "progress". Such places are all too rare in the world's tropics. But to describe the same areas to the local Aboriginal people as wilderness is to meet a cultural impasse, and to render the definition meaningless.

Aborigines and Islanders of Cape York Peninsula are intimately familiar with this humanised landscape. The non-Aboriginal idea of wilderness, as a separate entity, holds little meaning to these people. They regard the region – the rivers, the rock outcrops, the forests, the beaches, the sand dunes – as part of themselves. Upon returning after many years to their tribal lands they have expressed dismay that no-one has been 'looking after' their country.

"The Aborigines regarded the land – the actual shape of the country they lived in – as inextricably bound to the people, who "belonged" to it. Europeans on the other hand, regarded the land and associated fauna as an inorganic and alien mass to be kicked into life or destroyed at their pleasure."

R Fitzgerald, *From the Dreaming to 1915*

The ugliness of commercialism is rife in Queensland's far north. Isolated Aboriginal communities are overwhelmed by the rising wave of capital-intensive development and extractive industries poised over the Peninsula. The pre-election agreements from both the Queensland and Federal Governments to undertake a joint land-use study, emphasising the significance of the Peninsula to Aborigines and

Islander people, have faded in favour of major development proposals.

On the Peninsula's eastern coast, a community of about 450 people at Lockhart River is besieged by large-scale development proposals, such as at Lloyd Bay, where a \$400 million tourist and subdivision complex on freehold land is planned by the company Farndale. It will include three motel complexes, golf course, dude ranch, marina, and a permanent non-Aboriginal settlement of more than three hundred people. The boundary of the complex runs uncomfortably close to the bora ground, a sacred place for initiation ceremonies, and the last such active site on the eastern seaboard. Aboriginal communities have no secure tenure to their land under the inadequate land rights legislation of Queensland known as the Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT). Under this Deed the traditional owners act as caretakers to their land while the Government retains possession of it. The State Government has absolute power in determining the use and disposal of the DOGIT lands and can allow forestry, mining or other commercial purposes without the approval of the Aboriginal community.

Just north, at Temple Bay, the Cape York Space Agency proposes to construct a commercial spaceport facility involving a town, airport and up to ten launch pads, which is expected to initially attract at least half a million tourists each year.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the Lockhart River community feels acutely threatened. The community is opposed to becoming a minority in their own land, and resent the expectation from the developers that they will perform as a kind of living souvenir shop. Following an unsuccessful action in the Supreme Court, the community council has launched a High Court appeal against the rezoning of the land for tourism.

The Aurukun community, on the west-

ern coast, face comparable pressures. For over a decade this community has been battling against the incursions onto their land by the company Comalco, which owns the world's largest bauxite mine at Weipa. The company now intends to expand with the addition of an alumina refinery and will encroach further into Aurukun land. Aurukun elders recently met with the Queensland Government asking them to stop Comalco from seismic exploration on their land and to express their opposition to the refinery – but to no avail.

Another Aboriginal community, at Kowanyama, situated near the mouth of the Mitchell River, is developing a long-term strategy to empower the community in the management of their land. The

Mitchell River is one of the largest rivers in Australia and runs from east to west across the base of the Peninsula, finally draining into the south of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Goldmining, fertilisers, pesticides, grazing, planned sand-mining by Geo-Peko, recreation, and a commercial barramundi fishery all considerably effect the overall condition of the river.

The Kowanyama community depends on the Mitchell River for food, and their council is proposing that all river users cooperate in a management plan for the entire catchment to keep the river healthy. This enterprising community has been running a helicopter surveillance program to monitor commercial and recreational fishing, funded entirely from camping fees. Last

month they brought Ministers, government departments, representatives of the private sector, ACF and Aboriginal councils together to discuss a co-operative approach to land management.

Conservation policies must be developed with the involvement and advice of the Aboriginal and Islander people if they are to bear any social relevance to Cape York Peninsula. Yet pre-election commitments to a moratorium on developments until the land-use study is completed do not appear to be honoured, as detailed proposals for a RAAF base, spaceport, and alumina refinery continue to be pushed through. To the Aboriginal and Islander people of the Peninsula, the second wave of occupation is well under way. □

TASMANIAN FORESTS AND FOREST INDUSTRY STRATEGY

The next phase for Tasmania's forests

Tasmania's unprotected native forests are currently the subject of critical negotiations between an unlikely coalition of unions, government, farmers, the logging industry, the Forestry Commission and conservationists, who have gathered together to produce a Forests and Forest Industry Strategy (FFIS).

Both ACF and The Wilderness Society have been involved in these negotiations since they commenced last August, after the signing of the Salamanca Agreement. The strategy is to be completed by 1st September, this year.

In June a draft strategy setting out the principles likely to shape the final FFIS was released by the negotiating parties for public comment. Of special interest to conservationists was an agreement by all parties that 'substantial areas' of public land are to be set aside from wood production for protection under World Heritage listing and national parks.

Other key points included a transition strategy to shift logging from old growth forests to plantations and regenerated areas, and to protect other areas of significance to conservation.

Three fundamental prerequisites

made conservationists' participation in the negotiating process possible. Firstly, they received funding from the Federal Government, as part of the \$10 million grant to facilitate the process and help restructure the Tasmanian forest industries.

Secondly, a moratorium on logging was declared for all but a small area where the

case under Crown wood-supply security legislation. This will apply to most areas of plantation and regenerated forests. However, this comes with a package of management provisions that would ensure longer periods between logging of native forests, management by the State (rather than by pulp companies, as is now the case), guaranteed public access, and public participation in management plans.

Another point of concern is that the woodchip export limit on private land will be suspended once the State Government foreshadows the introduction of Land Conservation and Nature Guarantee legislation, and once management arrangements to apply to private land have been agreed.

There is still a long way to go in the negotiations before any conclusive decisions are made or secure volumes are allocated to industry. However, we need to know your views, before a final draft is drawn up. Please send your comments to the Combined Environment Groups, 132A Davey Street, Hobart, 7000. tel: (002) 23 8744.

Geoff Law
Campaigns Coordinator, Tasmania



Two Yir Yoront girls, Selina Possum and Sharima Greenwood, from the Kowanyama community.

□ Photo: Anna Reynolds

ACF Environment Manager checks how the West is run

The ACF's Environment Manager, Karen Alexander recently completed a hectic ten day tour of WA's south-west region. The aim of her trip was to examine ACF's campaigns in that State, and to discuss with ACF Branch members the implementation of the Forward Plan.

Her visit included a guided tour of the beautiful and controversial Mt Lesueur region, which is currently the hub of a lively dispute between conservationists and CRA. The company is hoping to establish an open cut coal-mine and coal-fired power station in the area, which is widely acknowledged as of world-class conservation value.

A coal-fired power station is also planned at Collie, where Karen and WA Campaigns Coordinator, Neil Blake discussed energy conservation, coal mining and rehabilitation with Hilda Turnbull, the local MP. Dr Turnbull is actively lobbying for the establishment of a second power station in the region.

Karen met with Perth Branch members, and held strategy sessions with the Lesueur Campaign Group and the Shark Bay Action Group.

The diversity of issues covered by ACF Branches was clearly illustrated in the various and energetic campaigns of the Branches in the south west of the State.

Karen flew over the region with members of the Bunbury Branch, taking in industrial waste dumping sites, an unexpected number of mineral-sands mines, a silicon smelter, coastal developments and the last substantial stand of Tuat forest.

The South Coast Branch detailed many examples of forest mismanagement by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM), in a tour of some of the southern forest region. The worst of these was an area within Shannon National Park which had been illegally logged by CALM, where a huge pile of usable logs was burning in an apparent attempt to hide the evidence.

Karen's visit concluded with the first ACF Branches Forum held in WA (for full report see Branches Page, p. 15) It was a fitting way to end a visit which demonstrated that the ACF is very much alive and well in the West.

Neil Blake
Campaigns Coordinator, WA



Burning the evidence - a pile of illegally cut logs in Shannon National Park. □ Photo: Neil Blake

What sort of green do they mean?

A growing number of companies are at last responding to consumer demand to consider the environment. Domestic products carrying an environmentally-friendly tag or similar recommendation are proliferating.

But are they all true to their green claims? Consumers are limited in how well they can measure the relative merits of competing products.

There are many factors to take into consideration. For example: What resources are used in the product and are they renewable? What are the energy and pollution implications of the manufacturing and transport process? How is the product disposed? Can it be recycled? Is it a litter problem?

The issue is complex. In Melbourne, as a gesture to World Environment Day milk cartons carried an environmental promotion despite the fact the milk carton itself is causing a major environmental problem.

A uniform national government scheme to set standards and identify environmentally safe consumer products is urgently needed. According to a Mattingly poll taken recently, 93 per cent supported such a scheme, prompting the Federal Government to commit itself to implementing a system of 'eco-labelling'. This will be in the form of a green spot endorsement and will begin with paper products and recycled plastics. Further categories will be developed as soon as possible. The scheme has not found favour with groups such as the Packaging Council of Australia

ACF is anxious to ensure the scheme is founded on a credible basis, using the best overseas ideas such as West Germany's Blue Angel and Japan's Ecomark.

In the mean time ACF urges consumers to avoid excessive packaging and disposable items. Opt for products which are reusable and recyclable and write to manufacturers and retailers telling them why you are, or are not, buying their products. They will take notice.

Peter Allan
Campaigns Coordinator, Victoria



Spindly timber for spindles and shuttles A NT logging problem

It is about twenty years since the forestry industry was significant in the Northern Territory. But now such an industry is emerging which could see portions of significant ecosystems in the region damaged or destroyed, with few people aware that it is occurring.

The proposal involves the logging of two species - lancewood (*Acacia shirleyi*) and gutta percha (*Excoecaria parvifolia*), which grow in a band across the mid-latitudes of the Territory. In what must be a highly specialised field, the company Central North Trading Pty Ltd, hopes to provide the raw material for fine veneers, spindles and shuttles for the overseas spinning industry. They maintain that the technology is available overseas for cutting very thin veneers from the short, small diameter logs from these trees, and are planning to develop a "sustainable" operation based on single-tree selective harvesting, with a minimum size limit to ensure full regeneration of the stands.

However, the proposed operation has set alarm bells ringing in conservation circles. In the Territory, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is rarely produced - and it wasn't in this case. Conservationists have only recently been privy to the Preliminary Environmental Report (PER). This is a confidential document and there is no avenue for public access or input. No adequate assessment of the impact of the proposal was made in the PER. It merely outlined the project to a certain extent. En-

vironmentalists are calling for an EIS to be prepared detailing the operation, justifying its sustainability and describing measures to protect the environmental, cultural and heritage values of the area. They also ask that this process be open for public participation. The Australian Heritage Commission has raised similar concerns, claiming that "the biological resources of the general project area appear to be very poorly documented". The Commission states that the proposal "appears to have the potential for significant environmental effects on places which may be of natural and/or Aboriginal national estate significance." They recommended that it should not proceed before detailed biological and archaeological surveys of the area are carried out. As it stands, there is no detailed information available on where the harvesting is to take place, how selective harvesting is to occur, how many trees per hectare are to be cut or what percentage of trees, and what criteria are to be used to select trees. Nor is there data on the population dynamics of the species involved.

Lancewood is a species of wattle which grows on the shallow rocky soils of the dry inland plains, and around hills and escarpments. It often grows in dense pure stands, sometimes covering large areas of such density that little grows beneath it. Rarely attaining more than eight metres, it could only just be called a tree. It is thought that the lancewood scrub provides important habitat for the rare and declining Spec-

tacled Hare Wallaby. Also, both lancewood and gutta percha are often associated with patches of vine-thicket species - the southernmost occurrence of NT "rain-forests" vegetation. Gutta percha grows on heavy, poorly drained soils, and are often inundated in the Wet Season. Again, it is a small spindly tree, or tall shrub, which forms pure stands, though not of the density of lancewood.

Information on the ecology of this region is scant and the basic biological data that could be used for assessing the environmental impact of the harvesting proposal is not available. Even so, the company maintains that both lancewood and gutta percha are widespread and regarded as useless, or even as pests, by the pastoralists. The company, and the NT Government, propose that environmental protection occur on an ad-hoc basis as the logging proceeds. The company's operation will be overseen by an officer from the Conservation Commission who will also carry out resource evaluation and ecological investigations.

The NT Environment Centre considers that basic biological surveys must be done before logging commences, and that details of the harvesting procedure and measures for environmental protection must be presented in a formal EIS. The Environment Centre is considering seeking an injunction to delay commencement of the logging, for which all the necessary licences have been granted. At the Centre's request the Resource Assessment Commission (RAC) into forestry is presently considering this issue.

Your help is needed. Members are urgently requested to write to the NT Minister for Conservation, Steve Hutton (GPO Box 3146, Darwin, 0801) and to the Federal Minister for Resources, Alan Griffiths (Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2601), calling for an EIS on the proposal to harvest lancewood and gutta percha in the Territory, and for this statement to be made available for public comment.

by Sue Jackson
NT Environment Centre

A MATTER OF SURVIVAL

Australia is probably the richest country in the Pacific and South-east Asian region. We have few mouths to feed, and an environment rich in natural resources. When we choose it, we also have the know-how and the means to protect this environment. But how are we helping our neighbours to enjoy such privilege?

Recently, the Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA) and ACF invited a contingent of twelve environmentalists from leading Non-Government Organisations in South-east Asia and the Pacific region to two weeks of workshops and networking on community and environmental issues.

Called Environment Link 1990, the visit gave those working in Australia for environment and world development a unique opportunity to meet with their Pacific and South-east Asian counterparts. In promoting the visit, Russell Rollason, from ACFOA, stressed that 'if the Australian governments and industry bodies respond to domestic environmental pressures, but ignore or resist those same concerns in our neighbouring countries, Australia is likely to be branded as hypocritical and self-interested.'

Australia's future is dependent upon the protection of the global environment. Protecting our own wild and natural areas will amount to little if major biological systems such as the world's tropical forests collapse. Taking measures to decelerate the production of greenhouse gases in the developed world will achieve nothing if poorer nations are forced to follow our current practices in industrial development.

It is vital that we substantially increase assistance to the developing world, to enable them to adopt energy and resource conservation measures and less polluting technologies. However, our own example will largely determine the success of such assistance. In defining prevailing environmental situations in their own countries the tour members criticised Australian overseas investments such as BHP in Ok Tedi

'If crops fail because of soil erosion or misuse of pesticides, then people have nothing to eat. If the forests are cut down to provide cheap timber to the rich countries, then people have no place to hunt, make their gardens or get bush materials for their houses. If mining companies pollute the river with their wastes, then the people have nothing to drink.'

Phillip Siaguru

PNG Melanesian Environment Foundation

mine and CRA in Bougainville in Papua New Guinea.

Phillip Siaguru said that in countries such as his, the people's survival depends on taking good care of the environment.'

'Everywhere in our region, companies are exploiting our forests, our lands and our seas to satisfy the demands of people in the rich countries. Australian companies are as much to blame as any - BHP is partly responsible for the environmental disaster that is Ok Tedi copper and gold mine in Papua New Guinea while the Western Australia based company, Asmus McLean, has plans to woodchip vast areas of the forests of Irian Jaya in Indonesia', he said. The group called on the Australian Government and the Australian people to ensure that our companies abide by the highest environmental standards.

However, they were surprised and disappointed to learn of operations in Australia with poor environmental standards. One visitor noted that when invited here they had felt they were 'going to the "lucky country" without problems'. As such they were particularly critical of operations which had a severe impact on Aborigines, and remarked that, despite the many problems felt by indigenous people in their own countries, 'by comparison they were far

better off!'

After meeting with Jawoyn elders at the proposed site of the Coronation Hill mine in Stage 3 of Kakadu National Park the group was moved to make a formal statement addressed to the Government and people of Australia, expressing the view that the mine is both environmentally and culturally unacceptable (see page 9).

Pinkaew Luengaramsri of Thailand's Project for Ecological Recovery (PER), said that in her country they had found that it was only when traditional landowners were given control of the forests that there was adequate protection for such vital areas. 'Indigenous people know the country well, and depend on its continued ecological integrity for their survival', she said.

The group was sympathetic to the fact that many of the problems experienced in their own countries differed from environmental problems in Australia, but stressed that 'for indigenous people control of their circumstances is all too familiar.' They called on Australia to respect the wishes of its own indigenous people in pleas such as that opposing mining at Coronation Hill.

The group commenced their Australian journey in Sydney where they met with major environmental, aid, Aboriginal and Church groups. The second leg of the journey took them to north Queensland to attend workshops on rainforests, mangrove ecosystems and management procedures for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. This aspect of the tour impressed members of the group whose governments have not yet considered the need for reef management. 'We are still fighting to protect our reefs which are threatened by mining operations for limestone, poisoning for aquarium collection or simply reef-blasting for food,' explained a representative from the Pacific. They also travelled to Melbourne, and were flown over Tasmania's south-west wilderness area. The tour was completed in Canberra where they met with the Federal Minister of Environment, Ros Kelly. □



Above: Mary Rogo, from the Solomon Islands talks at ACF with Melba Marginson from Melbourne's Philippine's Resource Centre. □ Photo: Janusz Molinski
Below: An image of Kakadu by Australian artist Penryn Charluet. Reprinted from HABITAT



- Sacred Land - A statement against mining at Coronation Hill

We, the undersigned people working actively for protection of the environment in countries throughout South-east Asia and the Pacific, having listened to the views of the Jawoyn people and inspected the site of the proposed Coronation Hill mine in Stage 3 of Kakadu National Park, believe that:

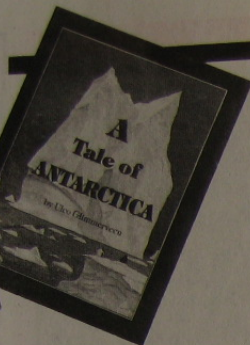
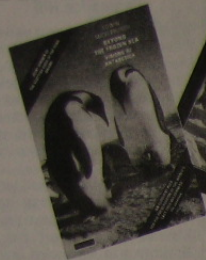
● The Bulajang or 'Sickness Country' in stage 3 of Kakadu National Park is very important to the Jawoyn people. They are very concerned that any disturbance to this sacred land by mining will have serious consequences, not only for the Jawoyn, but for all people. We understand the cultural dimension of this issue and respect this concern because indigenous people in our own countries have similarly close links with their lands.

● The location of the proposed Coronation Hill mine, in the headwaters of the South Alligator River, which flows through the heart of the Kakadu World Heritage Area, makes it very probable that any pollution from the mine would have a major adverse environmental impact. There can surely be no greater recognition of the value of an area than according it World Heritage status. If Australia permits the mining of Kakadu then it is a clear message to the world that this country believes that no land is too important to mine.

● Kakadu is an area of such significance that Australia has a responsibility to the rest of the world to care for it. If Australia, as a wealthy country, is unwilling to respect the rights of its indigenous peoples and protect internationally important conservation areas, this will make it very hard for us to convince our own governments to act responsibly in such matters.

We therefore ask the Australian Government and people not to permit mining at Coronation Hill, but to grant title to the land to the Jawoyn people and incorporate the area into Kakadu National Park. □

NEW BOOKS



Two excellent books on Antarctica, the long awaited 5th volume of the Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants (which brings the project past half-way point) and a fine book on poetry are among the new titles available this month from Conservation Books. For further enquiries please contact Gary Wardrope, ACF Books Coordinator at ACF's Melbourne Office, 340 Gore Street, Fitzroy, Victoria 3065. Tel: (03) 416 1455 (toll free (008) 338 928).

Beyond the Frozen Sea - Visions of Antarctica
E Mickleburgh, Paladin, 1990, 256pp, paperback \$12.95

An absorbing book covering the history of the Antarctic's remarkable exploration, through sealing and whaling bans, to the present day when the Antarctic Treaty is soon to be reviewed - a treaty which is often referred to as the 'model' for international co-operation and a 'blueprint' for environmental protection.

A Tale of Antarctica
U. Glimmerveen, Ashton Scholastic, 1989, 31pp, \$15.95

This poignant story speaks powerfully to even the youngest child. The battle to preserve Antarctica as a World Park will be a major task confronting the next generation. This is more than a story. It teaches us understand how we are jeopardising the natural world through our exploitation of it. We must learn to say 'no' to the further encroachment of humans, so that the wildlife of this planet may survive.

Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants; Vol 5
R. Elliot & D. Jones: Lothian, 1990, 528 pp, \$65.00

Beginning with the letters Gr to K this volume includes 1,359 species from 121 genera. Included is information on the natural habitat, specific cultivation requirements

and propagation advice, plus the horticultural and other uses of the plant. **Earth Repair - An Australian Guide Towards Better Planet Habits**
L. Egerlon: Reed, 1990, 112pp, Paperback, \$7.95

As Robyn Williams points out in the introduction, 'living lightly on the land is everyone's business. In fact... duty.' This very readable guide for both young and old shows just how this can be achieved with a sustained effort.

Aid In Action;
A Ross, Black, 1989, 64pp, \$17.95 and Animal Rights & Wrongs

L. Newson, Black, 1989, 64pp, \$17.95
Two books from the Currents series that challenges young readers to form their own conclusions about controversial issues. Each book features the attitudes and opinions of people closely involved in these debates. Background information is presented in a lively manner, suitable particularly for 8-10 year olds.

Living In The Shadow
J. McSorley, Pan, 1990, paperback, \$14.99

A book to inform but not to cheer the heart. The story of the people of Sellafeld, Britain; who live in the vicinity of one of the worlds most controversial nuclear complexes An area in which it is claimed has cancer and leukaemia victims many times the national average and which has turned the Irish Sea into the most contaminated sea on the planet. □



The Clean Dark
R Adamson, Paperback Press, 1989, 92pp, \$35.00

At Mooney there had been killing from the start, - on mudflat to creek in the name of the river spirits, it was death to the fish: so the shores are hallowed where we fought for your future through silence on deep water.

Good poetry is a rare and beautiful art-form. This volume, by one of Australia's most renowned poets, focuses on the Hawkesbury River environment at a time when development presents a major threat. □

Error

Please note an error on the "New Books" page of the June Conservation News. *Biology of Food Irradiation* and *The Return of Scarcily* were not special offers but recommended retail prices. □

To order these books, send cheque with order to ACF Conservation Books, 340 Gore Street, Fitzroy, 3065. ACF members may deduct 10% discount on books only. Discounts do not apply to other ACF products.

ORDERS	VIC	NSW/ACT/SA	QLD	NT/WA	TAS
Up to \$5.00	\$1.60	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
Over \$5.00 up to \$50	4.00	5.30	5.90	6.90	4.50
Over \$50 up to \$100	4.40	6.80	8.40	10.40	5.00
Over \$100	6.80	15.80	23.00	30.00	9.20

WATCHING BRIEF

WATCHING BRIEF is Australia's only national current affairs programme covering peace and the environment. For one hour a week on over thirty public radio stations around Australia, WATCHING BRIEF examines the issues, the campaigns and the political context of the conservation movement. If you are concerned about the environment, tune in to WATCHING BRIEF.

BROADCAST TIMES

Canberra	2XXX	Thur 10.00am
Sydney	2SER-FM	Mon 9.00am(1) Tues 9.00am(2) Fri 12.00pm
Albury/Wodonga	2REM-FM	Sun 12.00pm(r)
Bathurst	2MCE-FM	Sun 6.00pm
Bellingen	2BBB-FM	Tues 12.15pm Fri 6.00pm(r)
Lismore	2NCR-FM	Tues 2.00-4.00pm* Wed 2.30-3.00pm
Moruya	2EAR-FM	Tues 12.00pm
Newcastle	2NUR-FM	Tues 12.30pm(1) Tues 9.00pm(r) Thur 8.30pm(1) Fri 1.30pm(2)
Taree	2BOB-FM	Mon 5.30pm(2)
Wagga Wagga	2AAA-FM	check local guide
Melbourne	3RRR-FM	Mon 5.00pm(w) Mon 7.00am(1)
	3CR	Mon 5.30pm(2) Fri 12.00pm
Ballarat	3BBB-FM	Fri 12.00pm
Bendigo/Castlemaine	3CCC-FM	Mon 10.30am(1) Fri 7.00pm(2)
Inverloch	3MFM-FM	Wed 5.00-8.00pm*
Melton	3RIM-FM	Sun 9.00am Wed 9.00pm(r)
Marvell	3GGR-FM	Fri 12.30pm
Portland	3RPF-FM	Tues 1.00-2.00pm*(1) Fri 4.00-5.00pm*(2)
Adelaide	5MMM-FM	Mon 6.30-8.00pm* Sun 12.00-2.00pm*
	5UV	Fri 12.00pm
Mt Gambier	5GTR-FM	Thur 3.00pm check local guide
Perth	6NR	Fri 11.30am check local guide
Darwin	6UVS-FM	100FM
	8TOP-FM	Mon 8.30am Thur 6.00pm* Sun 9.00am*
Alice Springs	8KIN-FM	Sun 2.00pm
	8CCC-FM	Sun 7.00-9.00pm*
Hobart	7THE-FM	PMO
Launceston	7LTN-FM	Tues 9.00am(1) Wed 9.00am(2)
Brisbane	4ZTF-FM	PMO
Townsville	4TTT-FM	Mon 9.00-9.30pm*(1) Thur 3.00-3.30pm(2)

WATCHING BRIEF is one hour long, except: (1) - first half hour only (2) - second half hour only (r) - repeat - included in the local programme, PMO (Programme Material Only) material is played at unspecified times throughout day. WATCHING BRIEF can be contacted on tel: (03) 417 7304. ACF supports WATCHING BRIEF

South Australia's multi-function-fantasies

The ACF will continue to challenge the environmental consequences of the SA Government's plans to develop the State as Australia's transport and technological hub of the future. Through its involvement on the Reference Committee for the State Planning Review, ACF has been successful in ensuring that environmental, social and economic issues are integrated within the Review process.

The first public discussion paper prepared by the Reference Committee is to be released this month. The role of this document is to stimulate public debate on key planning issues, and will ask all South Australians to prepare and present a 'wish list' for their vision of the State's future.

Clearly the State government has its vision.

Local papers have been filled with elaborate government proposals such as the much touted Multi Function Polis (MFP) at Gillman, currently a waste disposal site. A new suburban subdivision is hoped for at Seaford, which would require a significant upgrading of transport access. A petro-chemical plant is being considered for the north of the State and the Government plans to promote Adelaide as the focal point of Australia's transport and technological facilities.

ACF is strongly advocating that the environmental consequences of these goals are fully considered. The ACF Forward Plan offers some broad guidelines aimed at maintaining a full range of environmental diversity and the sustainable management of the planet's resources, as well as ensuring equity and social justice throughout the community. With this in mind, ACF's representative on the Reference Committee, Jacque Gillen, will continue to challenge the Review process so that a full understanding of the public and environmental consequences of these political goals is reached.

Your participation is needed. Workshops and information seminars are being organised and members are urged to be actively involved. Please join in this process. For more information, contact Jacque Gillen at ACF's SA office. Tel: (08) 232 2566. □



□ Cartoon by Tandberg

Greenhouse is real says IPCC report

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has released a draft report on global warming which warns that by the year 2020 global mean temperature will most likely rise 1.9C above pre-industrial levels, global precipitation, evaporation could increase by 3 per cent, and sea levels could rise 20 centimetres. By 2070, sea levels could rise 45 centimetres.

The report was produced by an IPCC working group charged with preparing a review of the state of scientific knowledge of the greenhouse problem. It goes on to say that 'we calculate with confidence that to stabilise abundances of

most greenhouse gases, reductions of 50 to 80 per cent in emissions are needed. Reductions in man-made (sic) emissions will take decades or centuries to become fully effective'.

The report confirms that the Greenhouse effect is real!

The extent of global warming over the past 100 years (0.3C to 0.6C) is broadly consistent with climate models. Thus, ecosystems will be affected by climate change and by increased CO₂ as many will be 'unable to migrate fast enough and will become prone to extensive damage by exceptional events such as drought and fire'. □

NOTES



Left: Phillip Toyne greets Steve Crabb and Peter Spyer, while (below) cyclists wait outside Parliament House, Melbourne.

Photos: Janusz Molinski



Cycling and recycling easy answers for World Environment

Melbourne with no cars! It's an impossible dream. It could never happen – not in our urgent world. Except that it did. Not for long – just for a few hours on June 5th, and just in a few streets. And it will happen again next year, and the year after. World Environment Day in Melbourne was a day when we were all asked to leave our cars at home; to see what the city was like without them. And it was great! 'It's a taste of things to come', said Phillip Toyne, Director of ACF.

No snarling drivers, no fumes, no suicide dashes across Melbourne's manic mid-city streets. And hundreds of cyclists occupied the void, collecting a self-consciously stack-hatted Steve Crabb, Minister of Conservation and Environment on the way. The plan also included Peter Spyer,

Minister for Transport, but in keeping with his portfolio he was lost and late. He got there eventually, and gave a soul-stirring speech on the virtues of trams, trains, bikes and green-living.

Cycling and recycling were the themes of World Environment Day around Australia. In Sydney, Brisbane and Hobart conscientious recyclophiles laid piles and piles of their redundant newspapers at the doors of newsprint mills and newspaper offices, in an effort to bring home the recycling message.

From small beginnings such as these, World Environment Day looks to become one of the nation's festive days. Next year, it will be thousands of bikes in carless city streets, and hopefully our newsprint will be recycled as a matter of course. □

Kimberley groups tired of waiting

Ten years down the track, and the Kimberley is still waiting for EPA recommendations for reserves to be declared. A senior environment officer for the EPA, Gary Whissen, recently admitted that many of the 1980 EPA Red Book recommendations for fourteen more reserves in the Kimberley had not yet been implemented. He was speaking at the Second Kimberley Conservation Conference held recently in Derby.

David Poland, of Friends of the Kimberley told the Conference that the Kimberley wilderness areas were of world importance. He explained that they contained some of the world's least disturbed turtle populations and the bulk of the world's surviving dugong population.

However, Mr Whissen stated that it was not possible to make any formal declarations until all conflicting interests were resolved – such as those of the mining, pastoral and tourism industries.

Currently only 2.5 per cent of the Kimberley is protected and conservationists have become increasingly frustrated at the lack of progress in declaring more reserves. They consider that even the 1980 Red Book proposals barely touch what is necessary to conserve the wilderness values of the region.

The conference later called on the Federal Government to honour its pre-election commitment to undertake a Wilderness Inventory of the Kimberley, as the first step in protecting the region's world-class conservation values.

For more information about the Conference, contact The Wilderness Society (Lotteries House, 79 Stirling Street, Perth, 6000). tel: (09) 220 0667. □

To Members and Supporters

Thank you for your generous support of ACF's work. We wish to advise you that receipts for donations are now issued at the end of each month. Receipts for donations received before June 30th, 1990 will be issued immediately for end of the financial year purposes. □

ACF RAFFLE 1990

Rusli's a winner

Congratulations to Rusli Suwilo, the winner of ACF's 1990 raffle. Mr Suwilo, an optometrist from Liverpool in NSW wins a combination of Apple Macintosh computer equipment, donated by Random Access, and valued at \$10,000.

Mr Suwilo was elated at winning the much sought after equipment. 'This is the first time I have won a prize in any raffle' he said 'It will come in very handy with the running of my practice'.

Rusli Suwilo describes himself as a



'passive supporter of the ACF', but hopes to become more active on the environmental front when his studies are completed. After many years in a private practice, he has recently returned to a study biological science at Macquarie University. 'I do as much as I can to promote the good work of the Foundation' he said. His winning ticket number was 012857.

The 1990 ACF raffle reaped almost \$200,000 for ACF.

These funds will be put towards ACF campaigns around Australia. Other prize winners were – (2nd/ticket number: 118063) Sue Chick, St. Lucia, Queensland – Mountain Designs adventure kit valued at \$2,500; (3rd/009741) D. Smith of Gympie, NSW – Drover's coats and hats for a family of four; (4th/122795) G Dyston, of Cairns – Diamond back Topagna Mountain bike; (5th/143675) B.J. Smith, of City Beach, WA – \$300 worth of goods from ACF Enterprises.

The ticket-sellers prize was won by Mark David, of Mosman, NSW. He wins a five day 4WD adventure through Kakadu and Arnhemland. □

ACF CANBERRA OFFICE HAS MOVED.

The new address is Suite 17 & 18 2nd Floor City Walk Building 2 Mort Street CANBERRA CIVIC ACT, 2601

Tel: (06) 247 3013 or (06) 247 2472 FAX: (06) 247 5779

Volunteers! there is now room for you in our Canberra office – and we need your help with our campaigns and administration. Contact Denise Eastaway for further information.

Dorothy McLennan – a tragic loss –

The staff of ACF would like to express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Dorothy McLennan

who died suddenly on 26th May. Dorothy was a tireless and dedicated conservationist, and a member of numerous conservation groups. She was the Convenor of the ACF Mullum Branch for a number of years and was also very active with the MaroonDAH Branch of The Wilderness Society. Her death is a tragic loss for the environment movement. She was an inspiration to us all and will be sadly missed.

WA EPA halts land release

There will be no further land releases for agriculture in WA, the WA Environmental Protection Authority has announced.

EPA chairman, Mr Barry Carbon, said WA had reached its limit for sustainable agricultural land and in some cases had gone beyond that limit. Mr Carbon was responding to a Conservation Council of WA discussion paper, 'Towards Sustainability' released with considerable publicity last April. The EPA stand was immediately welcomed by conservationists and rejected by farmer organisations.

The WA Labor Government placed a moratorium on land releases in 1983, following earlier plans to release 100,000 ha a year of environmentally fragile mallee heathlands. The EPA's announcement comes hot on the heels of recently released figures which show that they are of previously productive farmland now affected by salinization has risen astronomically in the last decade.

The challenge now is to repair land degradation problems on cleared farmlands. Basil Schur, ACF Project Officer & Jill Reading, ACF Rural Liaison Officer, WA

LAST CHANCE TO RENEW

Have you renewed your ACF Membership?

If not, you are now overdue, and this is a bonus issue of Conservation News.

If you wish your mailings to continue without interruption, please renew now. Send us a cheque or pay by phone with credit card.

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If not, it is well worth it. Include your subscription with your renewal.

For more information, contact Trish Brown at ACF's Melbourne office. tel: (03) 416 1455 (toll free 008) 338 9281.

CONSERVATION NEWS, July, 1990 – 13

LETTERS

Low energy globes: all the better to see you with

Kathy Tyler
Kallista, Victoria

Due to rising concern about the environment my partner and I decided to try reducing our energy consumption. One of the initiatives was to try using low energy globes. We have found them to be very satisfactory and hope to encourage others along this path.

Low energy globes produce the same amount of brightness for considerably less power. For example a 20 watt low energy globe equals the brightness of a normal 100 watt globe. We began by buying one globe for the lounge and were so pleased that we have one for the kitchen, study and two reading lights, this has reduced the total wattage for these rooms from 475 watts to 72 watts.

Low energy globes are best suited to areas where the light will be left on for a considerable length of time as they take a few minutes to warm up to full brightness. We therefore left normal globes in the bedrooms, hall, toilet and bathroom. However, we found that we could reduce the wattage in these rooms. We were horrified to find a 100 watt in the toilet and changed this to 25 watt and bedrooms to 40-60.

Nature doesn't recognise State Rights

Joan Mason
New Lambton, NSW

I am shocked and saddened by the suffering of animals and loss of property in the Queensland and NSW floods, last April.

Much land in Queensland has been cleared for grazing in recent years. Did this cause the rapid entry of rains into the rivers?

Also, what of the river wetlands - marshes, swamps, billabongs - that absorb floods?

Levees are a local solution to pass the flood a kilometre or two downstream.

The lesson I would learn from this flood is that nature does not recognise 'State

Right's'. A national administration of the entire inland rivers region is needed which would:

1. revegetate river banks and catchment areas and restore wetlands.
2. control all land use to prevent over-cropping and to restore and maintain ground cover.

Low energy globes soon at ACF Enterprises

ACF Enterprises will soon be selling low energy 15 watt light globes (equivalent to 75 watt incandescent light globe) with bayonet fitting. They will be available from the end of July and will cost \$28.00. For further information contact Nicole O'Brien, at ACF's Melbourne office. tel: (03) 416 1455 (toll free: 008 338 928). □

I offer this in the hope that ACF members with more knowledge of the area may correct or elaborate on these ideas and State Governments may be moved to give up 'rights' in favour of effective planning for future heavy rains. □

The case for plastic

Dave Southgate
Torrens, ACF, 2007

Your recent correspondent, Ruby Boucher (Conservation News, April, 1990) expressed the very widely held belief that the world would be a better place if we dispensed with plastics and all reverted to using glass bottles and brown paper bags. I wish to put forward an alternative view.

Clearly plastics do create major environmental problems - particularly as litter in the marine environment. However, the use of plastics must be examined in a broad context - the environmental problems must be weighed against the environmental benefits.

Plastics have a number of very important environmental plusses. It takes very little energy and virtually no natural resources to make products out of plastics compared to other materials. Even though plastics are made from oil, much less oil is used in total by using plastics rather than other materials such as glass and paper.

No mining or forestry (and their attendant environmental problems) are involved in producing plastics. Due to their energy efficiency they generate much less air pollution than arises from using alternative materials. The energy advantages are not restricted to the manufacturing side - because of their light weight they save enormous amounts of energy when used in transport applications such as car components. For a number of reasons plastics are particularly suited to recycling.

It is not possible to go into this topic in any depth in a letter such as this, but all the information I have been able to gather on plastics leads to only one conclusion - if we are to minimise environmental degradation the use of plastics must be strongly encouraged and all efforts should be made to substitute plastics for glass, paper, metals, wool and cotton wherever possible. I believe this will save energy and other natural resources whilst reducing pollution and land degradation. □

ACF BRANCHES AND CAMPAIGN GROUPS

Of Forward Plans and Forums

ACF has been turned upside down and inside out, and finally the Forward Plan is assuming a recognisable form. In the meantime ACF Branches have been tapping their fingers waiting their turn to have it all explained. This has finally happened!

All Branches will by now have received a letter outlining their role in the Forward Plan. It covered matters relating to Branch membership and administration, funding, liaison with ACF staff and management, Branch involvement in local issues, and Branch Forums. The letter included with

an invitation to Branches to comment on the points raised in the letter.

In the meantime, the WA inaugural state forum was held in WA Dryandra State Forest, and was attended by fifty ACF members, staff, councillors, Branch representatives and supporters.

Commenting on the influence of the Branches, ACF Environment Manager, Karen Alexander, stated that ACF will, over the next few years, 'develop a much stronger grass roots base'.

Karen opened the meeting with an expla-

nation of the significance of the forum and changes that are occurring in ACF. This was followed by reports from WA staff, Executive member, David Dale and local Branches (Collie, Bunbury, South Coast and Western). Group discussions were held on communications, empowerment and networking.

Campaign issues were discussed, with particular emphasis on mineral sands, industrial development and forestry.

Overriding the weekend was a sense of common purpose and a strong commitment to better environmental planning and management and for the future well being of the planet. □

VICTORIA

Albury-Wodonga
Marty Greig (060) 215 837 (bh)
or Environment Centre (060) 212 627 (bh)

Ballarat
Barry Golding (053) 456 343 (ah)
Diamond Valley
Jann Lauri (03) 439 3460 (ah) or
Paula Stillman (03) 479 2948 (bh)

Gippsland
David Haynes (051) 955 462 (ah) or Angela
Gilbert (051) 746 037 (ah)

Mullum (Eastern suburbs, Melbourne)
Peter Caffin (03) 801 4891 (ah) or Diana
Haby (03) 890 5366 (ah)

North East Victoria
Geoff Conway (057) 221 737 (ah)

Portland
Max Phillips (055) 233 023 (ah)

Sunraysia Mallee
Stephen Page (050) 234 554

Wimmera
Daniel Waffler (053) 823 009 (ah) or
Barry Clugston (053) 582 831 (ah)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Bunbury
Adrian or Wendy Colley (097) 215 384

Collie
Paul Lavers (097) 343 512

Perth
David Bennett, (09) 387 2126
South-Coast Branch
Lawrence Emery (098) 451 042



If you are interested in joining an ACF Branch or Campaign group, contact the relevant person listed above. If you would like to start up a new Branch, contact Julia Davie, at ACF's Melbourne office. tel: (03) 416 1455 toll free: (008) 338 928

NEW SOUTH WALES

Blue Mountains
Terri Hamilton (047) 824 554

Central Coast
Greg Roberts (043) 822 483 (ah)

Hunter Region
Janet Murray (049) 690 662 (bh) or (049) 57 1126 (ah)

Illawarra
Cheryl Aldrich (042) 291 625 (ah)

Sydney
Ian Landon-Smith (02) 487 2311 (ah)

Shoalhaven
Julie Hilditch (044) 460 314

Northern Riverina
Wendy Avery (069) 723 093

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Central Australia
Matthew Guggisberg (089) 526 782 (bh)

QUEENSLAND

Atherton Tablelands
Virginia Simmons (070) 958 302 (ah)

Brisbane
Ken Perkins (07) 857 4181

Mary River
Magdalena Steffens (071) 29 2211

Gold Coast
Greg Owens (075) 386 877

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide
Nela Findlay (08) 276 8652 (ah)

ACT

Canberra
Kathryn Kelly (062) 825 366 (ah) or
(062) 893 191 (bh) or Mike McGrath
(062) 571 860 (ah) or (062) 976 144 (bh)

CAMPAIGN GROUPS

MELBOURNE

Antarctic Campaign Group -
David Westlake (03) 416 1455 (bh)

Membership Campaign Group -
Trish Brawn (03) 416 1455 (bh)

Tropical Forest Campaign Group -
Felicity Wishart (03) 416 1455 (bh)

Cape York Campaign Group -
Felicity Wishart (03) 416 1455 (bh)

BRISBANE

Cape York Campaign Group -
Mark Horstman (07) 229 7715

Coast Campaign Group -
Phillip Cosser (07) 341 4440

Greenhouse Campaign Group -
Tim Easton (07) 378 8364

SYDNEY

Atmosphere Campaign Group -
Sue Salmon (02) 247 1497 (bh)

Forest Campaign Group -
Bridget Berry (02) 247 4285

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Lasusee Campaign Group -
Colma Keating (09) 368 1562

STOP PRESS

Solution to newspaper glut

ACF welcomes the announcement by newspaper publishers that they will pay into a National Industry fund, expected to be about \$2 million per annum, to facilitate newspaper recycling.

Peter Allan, ACF Campaigns Coordinator for Victoria, said the fund would help turn around the present newspaper glut and the resulting collapse of many paper collection schemes.

As a result of the announcement ACF will not pursue its campaign to discourage people from buying their daily paper.

It is likely that assisting the export of newspapers to de-inking plants in Asia would be pursued.

The fund will run for two years as an interim measure until a newsprint de-inking and recycling plant could begin production. Publishers are presently considering ways to recover, recycle and dispose of old papers.

This announcement will help to retain a high level of community commitment to the recycling of other materials, such as aluminium, glass and plastics. □

RECYCLED PAPER FEVER AT ACF ENTERPRISES

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AS A MEMBER OF ACF YOU RECEIVE

- ▲ our monthly newsletter *CONSERVATION NEWS*, ▲ discounted subscription to *HABITAT*, our full colour, national environment magazine, ▲ voting rights in ACF Council elections, ▲ opportunity to purchase books and merchandise through ACF Enterprises, ▲ access to our extensive environmental library,
- ▲ contact with like-minded people through ACF Branches and Campaign Groups, ▲ an active role in protecting the environment, ▲ satisfaction of knowing you are part of a national body that works to protect the environment.



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Phone (ah)

(bh)

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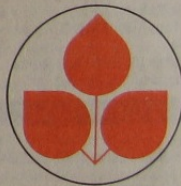
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If ringing from Melbourne (03) 416 1455

Date

Signature

expiry date



Return this form to the
Australian Conservation Foundation
340 Gore Street
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