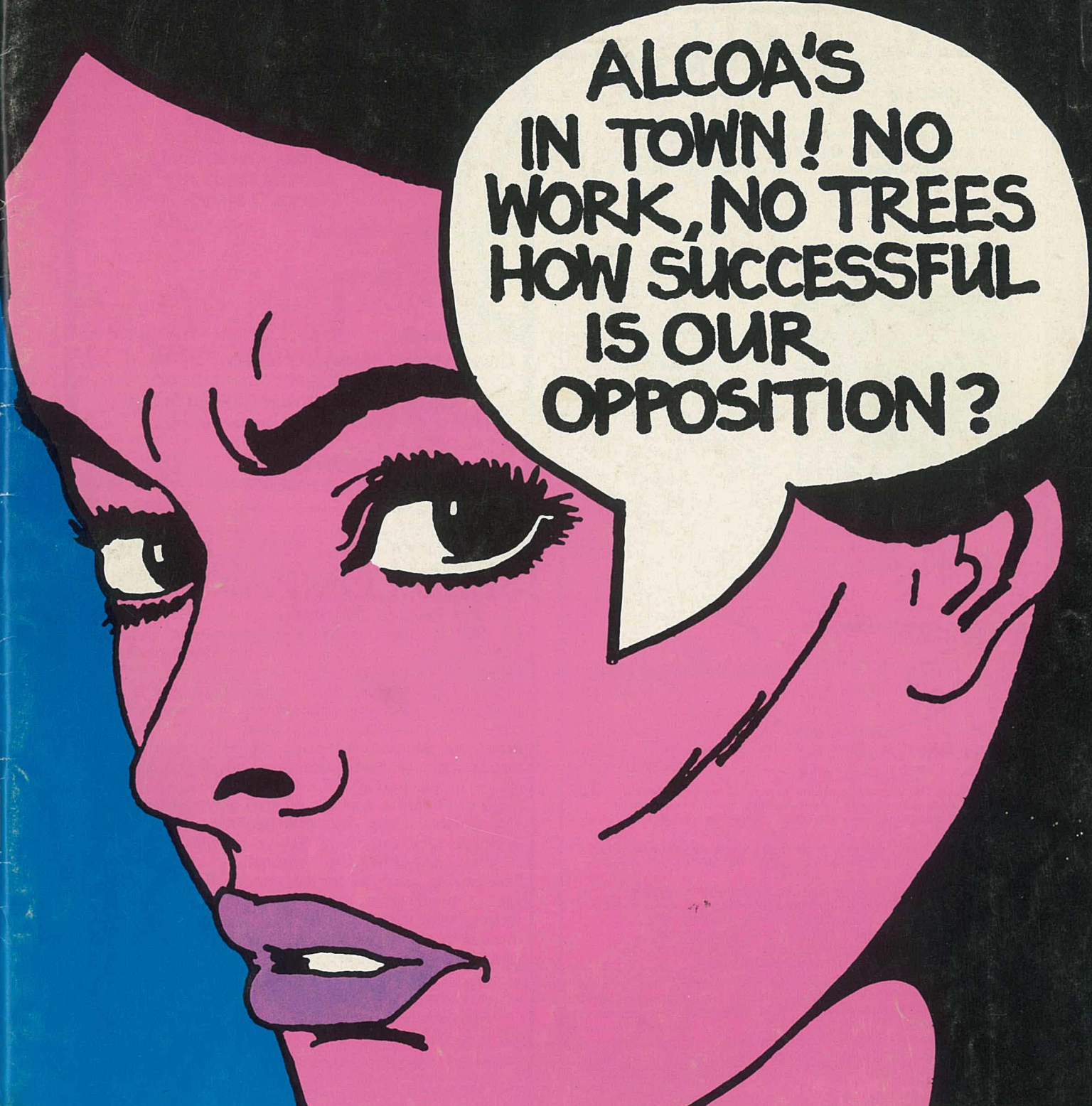


Chain Reaction

Friends of the Earth Australia

Number 24 Winter 1981 \$1.50*



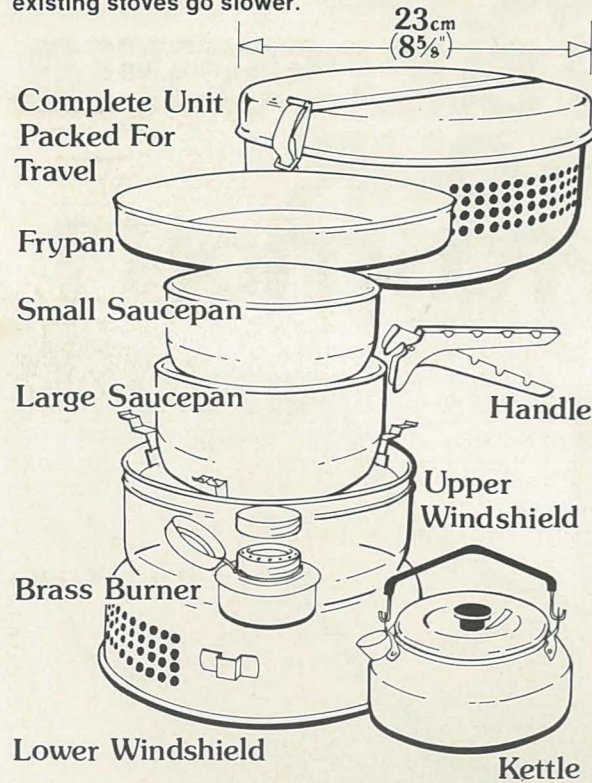
ALCOA'S
IN TOWN! NO
WORK, NO TREES
HOW SUCCESSFUL
IS OUR
OPPOSITION?

Lead free petrol success • Directory of Activist Groups
Environment Department decline

TRANGIA

ALL-WEATHER COMPLETE COOKING SYSTEM

Made in Sweden from high quality materials, the Trangia stove is a complete cooking system suitable for indoor or outdoor use. Its unique design makes it ideal for outdoor use even in the worst weather conditions: it goes *faster* outside: all other existing stoves go slower.



- Being fueled by Methylated Spirits there is no need for priming — hence faster starting and minimal cleaning/maintenance. Meths on hands cleans them — unlike other fuels which are often unpleasant
- Assembly is fast and simple. Wilderness travellers have no need to fear parts failures or the lack of spares. Trangia has almost no moving parts.
- The Trangia cooking system is extremely stable. Because the main saucepans, or kettle, sit so low inside the stove, it is possible to move to different positions with little risk of spillage. It is impossible (almost) to kick over — great for youth groups!
- Being both lightweight and compact, the Trangia stove is a most practical choice for all outdoor recreational uses.

Note: There are four Trangia models, reference numbers 25, 25K (with kettle), 27 and 27K (with kettle). Model 25K is illustrated.

Dimensions: Models 25 & 25K: 23 cm x 11 cm.
Models 27 & 27K: 19 cm x 10 cm.

OUTDOOR AGENCIES. PTY. LTD.
148 Queen Street,
Alexandria, N.S.W. 2015.
Phone: (02) 699-7698, 698-3860.
For further details, contact Dept. T.



tr 1.

WALKING HOLIDAYS WORLDWIDE



Quality, expertly led, small group walking holidays to the world's greatest mountain ranges. Nepal, New Zealand, the Andes, Kenya, Tibet, Kashmir, Papua New Guinea, Alaska, Thailand.

Graded to suit all levels of fitness. For free 48 page colour catalogue contact us soon:
AUSTRALIAN HIMALAYAN EXPEDITIONS
3rd Floor, 28-34 O'Connell Street SYDNEY N.S.W. 2000
Phone (02) 233 7033 (Mon-Fri) Lic. B.950

SELF RELIANCE SEED COMPANY

The Self Reliance Seed Company was organized early in 1980 in direct response to government and seed industry plans to introduce Plant Breeders Rights legislation. Our catalogue contains articles on the Plant Breeders' Rights legislation, the increase of transnational corporate power, the third world, seed saving skills, regional self-sufficiency, and other subjects. We have listed the addresses of many groups opposed to the introduction of plant patenting and of those groups active in promoting self-sufficiency. We also have a range of literature available on seed growing and saving. The catalogue lists over 300 varieties of non-hybrid vegetable seed and many tree seeds, with growing instructions and other useful information. Seed saving must surely be one of the most "grass roots" of all causes and it certainly involves looking to your own back yard first. We hope to foster a keen interest in the preservation of endangered seed varieties amongst Australian gardeners.

From SELF RELIANCE SEED CO., PO Box 96,
Stanley, Tasmania, 7331. (004) 58 1142.

Our mail order catalogue is \$2.00 (includes postage)

Name _____
Address _____
State _____ Post Code _____



Chain Reaction

Established in 1975
Number 24
Winter 1981
Publisher
Friends of the Earth (Australia)
Editors
Mark Carter, Leigh Holloway
Letters
Tim Darling
Earth News
Richard Shelton, Linnell
Secomb
Action Guide
Sally Gilbert
Photographs
Michael Wheeler
Editorial
Michelle Alchin, Karen Alexander, Brian Appleford, Anne Ash, Jeff Atkinson, Karen Bloomberg, Bob Brown, Anne Carson, Mark Cole, Mark Delmeze, Michael Gordon, John Hallam, Geoff Hamley, Carol Hannaford, Chris Hattersley, Philomena Horsley, Margie Kaye, Andrew Kelly, Wayne Kelly, Pat Lowther, Luisa Macmillan, Alex Megroz, Christina Melaluka, Peter Muldoon, Frank Muller, Peter Orchard, Connie Pantazopolous, Jasmine Payget, Angela Pugsley, Patrick Roche, Glenys Romanes, June Russell, Bess Secomb, Peter Singer, Jenny Skempton, Lindy Stacker, Debby Walton, Margaret Williamson, Sonya Webb, Marcia Wood, Dave Worth, Helen Rosenberg, Simon Balderstone
Art
George Bernard, Peter Browne, Daryl Dellora, Jane Elliot, Penny Farrar, Fiona Kyle, Colin Totterdall, Kim Windsor, Ben Witham, Betty Witham, Robyn Cowcher
Thanks
to *Catalyst* (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology students' newspaper), and the National Parks Association of New South Wales (State Council).
Accountant
Candy Strahan
Distribution
Bruce Scates
Subscriptions
Robyn Carter
Advertising
Leigh Holloway (Telephone 03 419 8700 for rates and bookings)
Reprographics
Melbourne Media Services
Typesetting
Pam Typesetting
Printing
Waterwheel Press,
159-165 High Street,
Shepparton, Victoria.
All correspondence & enquiries
Chain Reaction, 366 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria Australia, 3066. Telephone (03) 419 8700.

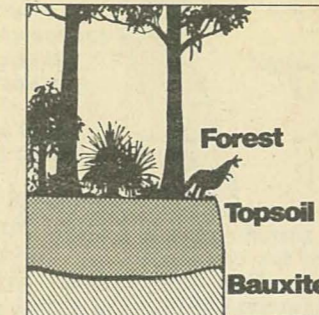
CONTENTS

FIGHTING LEAD TO WIN

Environmental and health pressure groups move Australia's governments to a ban on lead in petrol.

10

ALCOA



CLEARING THE JARRAH
Western Australian conservationists take the Aluminium Company of America and Reynolds Metals back home, to court. Here's why.

12

BUYING PORTLAND
How that good corporate citizen Alcoa moved into their new neighbourhood in Victoria.

16

Cover design: Mark Carter

*\$1.50 recommended retail price. Registered for posting as a periodical — Category B. ISSN 0312-1372. All material in *Chain Reaction* is copyright. © *Chain Reaction* for the authors, designers, photographers and illustrators. All rights reserved. For permission to reprint articles or graphics please write to the Editors. We will give you all the assistance possible.

Contributions to *Chain Reaction* are invited. Please try to send items typed, on one side of the page, double spaced and with wide margins. Keep a copy for yourself. We do not have sufficient resources and people to return manuscripts. These few guidelines are to help in bringing out the magazine better and faster. The Spring edition will appear in early September, 1981.

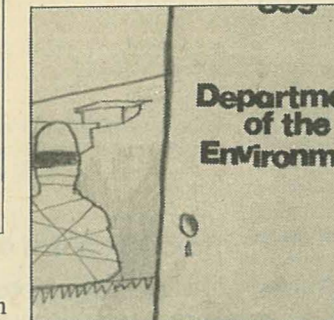
Chain Reaction is supplied to all members of Friends of the Earth in Australia (except in NSW) as part of their membership. For lists of state and territory groups and membership details see page 40. FOE (NSW) members are invited to become subscribers. Subscription details are on page 29.

THE COST OF DIAMONDS

How to "shape a social and political environment" to avoid the probable ultimate success of the Aboriginal Land Rights movement.

21

THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING DEPARTMENT



An explanation of the federal government's administration of environmental affairs.

22

SCHOOL'S OUT

Positive action on tertiary environment education in Tasmania.

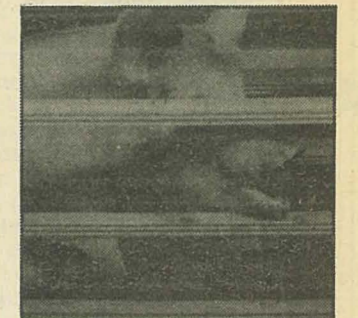
26

PASSING THE BUCK ON DES

Australian health authorities disinterest and inaction over the diverse and continuing effects of an artificial hormone prescribed by doctors.

27

PIGS AND PENS



Interview with Animal Liberation activist and writer Christine Townend.

31

LETTERS	3
EARTH NEWS	5
BACKSTAGE	9
REMS	30
REVIEWS	33
ACTION GUIDE	39
FOE GROUPS	40

Like the orange-bellied parrot,



Chain Reaction, is one of an endangered species.

While Rupert Murdoch can afford to buy television stations and 'The Times', we have great trouble even letting people know that we exist. Readers look to Friends of the Earth and Chain Reaction for an honest, critical line on issues. Our integrity rests on this radical approach. But, it both makes it difficult to find suitable advertising and yet crucial that we keep the subscription price low.

This magazine is not published for the usual reasons — to make profits and to reinforce present social values. Chain Reaction aims to encourage people to become politically active in their community. We are not asking for swanky office furniture and fabulous salaries. Just the bare essentials to survive. There is no way around the need for major financial support, which can only come from the donations of many people.

It is a challenge to produce a good magazine . . . for us and for you.

Chain Reaction
366 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066.

YES! I support Chain Reaction.

- Here's a \$ _____ donation.
 Send me details for tax-deductible donations.
 I can join the work. Phone me on (_____)
 Send me _____ subscription leaflets for friends, relatives, libraries, schools, etc.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

WHALING HARPOONED

I have been a supporter of Friends of the Earth for years, and regard myself as an active conservationist.

I was absolutely disgusted to read John Morieson's article in *Chain Reaction* No. 23 (entitled "A Case for Whaling"), and I wonder why space is wasted on such a report.

All this business about Indians and Aborigines and Eskimoes has nothing to do with the issue of whaling.

There is still extensive whaling being carried out, particularly by Japan and Russia, and 8 out of 10 species of great whales are either decimated or facing extinction. The beautiful Bowhead whales number no more than one or two hundred.

If the Eskimoes were living a tribal life, they might have a case to argue, but they are not. They are not killing the Bowhead, with spears, as their ancestors did, but with modern long-range rifles.

15,000 great whales will die this season. The slaughter just goes on and on.

Yes, I sympathize with the Eskimoes, but hasn't their culture been irrevocably tainted with European technology?

Jennifer Talbot
former coordinator of Project Jonah
Brighton, Vic.

CROPS FOR FUEL

I read with interest Ben Witham's article 'Food for People or Cars' (*Chain Reaction* No. 22). While I share his concern on the use of wheat for making fuel alcohol, I feel that not enough was written about the use of non-food crops.

While conservation of energy — by the use of public transport, walking, cycling, and railways to transport goods — is of great importance, it is nevertheless necessary to find a substitute for oil, and in the long term, for coal. For a comfortable and safe lifestyle with present-day populations, some powered transport is necessary.

Plant hydro-carbons have the advantage that they can be grown in semi-arid areas that cannot be used to grow traditional food crops. In particular *Euphorbia lathyris*, a wild plant of South West America, is estimated to be able to yield oil at between ten to thirty barrels per acre. (*Chemical Week* 12 December 1979).

In the long term, solar and wind derived electricity could power transport, both by running electric vehicles and because their energy can be stored as hydrogen, useable as transport fuel.

The fact that these ways of fuelling

transport have their limitations and will take time to develop, should not deter Friends of the Earth from pressing for research and development, as well as very necessary conservation measures which will still be necessary even when new fuels are available.

Margaret Dingle
Adelaide

PRAISE AND PAYMENTS

Congratulations on the article on rain-forests of New South Wales (*Chain Reaction* No 23) — we were very impressed. It was unemotional and to the point. In fact I've arranged to have copies made of it to distribute to our members — hoping it will inspire them to write letters.

Virginia Wilson
Native Forests Action Council
Canberra

I recently received my first *Chain Reaction* having joined Friends of the Earth and was very pleased with the magazine (No. 23).

The Letters and Earth News sections were extremely interesting, and I found the Reviews section was very useful for additional information sources.

Living in an isolated place such as Kambalda, I find there's not a real lot of active support I can give Friends of the Earth, except inform myself, alert my friends to issues, and write letters to the various responsible Ministers and Parliamentarians. With respect to the latter, I find the "What you can do" sections at the end of each article very useful, and commend your habit of including pictures of the relevant politicians. They are a good and fitting focal point of protest, as they are the peoples' representatives (theoretically!).

I have propounded the merits of FOE and *Chain Reaction* to many of my like-minded friends, but they never seem to get around to doing anything constructive. To help them get on the right track, would you please send gift subscriptions of CR to the following five people . . .

Martin Lennard
Kambalda West, W.A.

The Australian conservation movement urgently needs a hardhitting weekly magazine. Only a weekly can keep abreast of the cut and thrust of the

LETTERS

conservation/development debate. Only a weekly can provide the degree of exposure appropriate to rapacious developers and complaisant politicians. A national weekly could quickly unite conservation groups on complex policy issues. It could see a much more informed level of debate in the media as a whole.

Several existing conservation magazines are slowly moving towards this goal. They are the Australian Conservation Foundation's *Habitat*, the *National Parks Journal* of New South Wales, and *Chain Reaction*: of these the leading contender for the role outlined above is *Chain Reaction*.

Two thousand environment groups in Australia publish hundreds of magazines, newsletters and journals. Much of the material is repetitious and poorly written and presented. It drains off too much of the energies of the movement. Only a few of these publications approach the quality of the three major magazines quoted above, or are as useful as say *Bogong*, the journal of the Canberra and South East Region Environment Centre, or *Operculum*, published by the Australian Littoral Society.

"Surely the time has come for many of the societies to distribute *Chain Reaction*, *Habitat* or *National Parks Journal* to their members with a simple local news sheet insert. This would upgrade their members' understanding of, and involvement in, the big issues. It would also bring *Chain Reaction* closer to the position where it can publish weekly. I sent off my subscription today. Why don't you?"

Milo Dunphy
Director
Total Environment Centre
Vice President
Australian Conservation Foundation
Sydney

LETTERS

You are invited to write letters to *Chain Reaction* with your comments and criticisms of articles or on other issues of interest to you. We are more able to publish your letter if it is under 250 words. Write today to the Editors *Chain Reaction*, 366 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066, Australia.

JARRAH CLASS ACTION



HOPE FOR THE JARRAH FOREST

HISTORIC LEGAL ACTION

Western Australian conservationists have launched an historic legal action in the United States to save the unique Jarrah forests of Western Australia from destruction by bauxite mining and to control pollution associated with the aluminium industry. The class action began on the 24th February 1981 with a complaint filed in a Federal Court in the United States by the Conservation Council of Western Australia and the Campaign to Save Native Forests (W.A.) against the Aluminium Company of America (ALCOA) and Reynolds Metals Co. This is the first time Australian conservationists have sought the protection of U.S. courts against the actions of American companies abroad.

THE LEGAL COMPLAINT

The complaint is based on the equitable trust doctrine, the principle of which is that the resources of the nation are held in trust for the public by the sovereign and that no parliament can legislative away the right of public appeal against the misuse or abuse of those resources.

The complaint also seeks action against Alcoa under U.S. Anti-Trust laws for the dissemination of false and misleading information to Western Australians.

WHY IS THE ACTION NECESSARY?

The northern Jarrah forest near Perth is already the site of the largest bauxite mining operations in the world. Alcoa plans to expand its operations with a third alumina refinery at Wagerup. A Reynolds Metals led consortium is joining the onslaught with a new refinery at Worsley.

The strip mining operations will destroy the 784,000 hectare northern Jarrah forest unless they are brought under control. The mining operations also threaten to increase the salinity of Perth's water supply, already the worst of any Australian capital. Pollution from the aluminium industry could also damage prime rural land.

JARRAH CLASS ACTION FUND

AN INTERNATIONAL APPEAL TO RAISE \$100,000 — THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE LEGAL ACTION — HAS BEEN LAUNCHED.

If 1000 Australians donate \$100 each, then the \$100,000 target will be reached. You can also become a nominal class member for \$100, or what you can afford.

Donations to the Jarrah Class Action Fund are urgently required.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

P/CODE

Nominal membership Yes/No
DONATIONS TO:

THE JARRAH CLASS ACTION FUND

Conservation Council of W.A. 537 Wellington Street, Perth. 6000.

Phone (09) 321 4507

JOIN THE CLASS · SAVE THE JARRAH



Seeds For the Taking, Mark Cole & Tony Belcher Food Justice Centre \$1.00

the case against seed patenting in Australia. We have a number of books on seeds and food justice. Write to us for a catalogue.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH BOOK SHOP

366 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD, VICTORIA, 3066

RARE RECORDS
From Rock to Roots.
AND
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
MUSIC BOOKS
CLOTHING
IDEAS
REAL MUSIC!

THE MOST INTERESTING MUSIC STORE IN AUSTRALIA!

* OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Till 9pm at night.

Folkways MUSIC

Telephone: 333 980
282 Oxford Street, Paddington

MAIL ORDERS TOO!

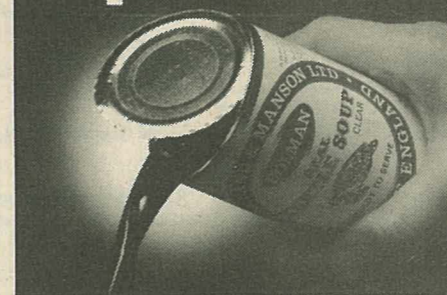
EARTH NEWS

Endangered species campaign



**Like the coat?
The last owner
was killed in it.**

**Every year
300,000
turtles are
liquidated.**



**The birth of
a handbag.**



New posters from Friends of the Earth's endangered species campaign in Britain for a boycott of retailers and manufacturers, including Harrods, Fortnum and Masons and Selfridges. Among handy products to do without: crocodile watchstraps, ostrich skin belts, elephant flasks, turtle handbags, snake-skin shoes, fur of lynx, ocelot, otter, seal, bobcat, jaguar, margay ...

Nixon backtracks

On 7 May the Federal Minister for Primary Industry, Peter Nixon, introduced the *Plant Variety Rights Bill* into the Federal Parliament. The Bill, if passed, will allow the seeds of new plants to be patented. The government has moved quickly and taken the bill through to a second reading. Debate has been adjourned till the budget session. Nixon has quite clearly broken his earlier promises that the bill would lie on the table for six months to allow public debate.

Labor State Ministers of Agriculture have insisted on six months public debate and this will be a hot point of contention when state ministers meet with Nixon at the Agricultural Council Meeting on 9 July.

The Federal government circulated a draft bill in May 1979 to a limited number of

industry and state government representatives. The bill now before parliament is substantially different to the earlier draft. For example, wheat, oats, barley, rye, oilseeds and other field crops are excluded from the scheme. Patents can be withdrawn by a court decision if patented seeds are not sold at reasonable prices and if patent holders seek to withhold supply. Such changes are significant and are a direct result of campaigns waged by groups such as the Food Justice Centre of Friends of the Earth.

Overseas, such legislation has led to the monopolisation of the Seed industry by petrochemical corporations who market crop chemicals and seeds; and to the breeding of plants on a narrow genetic base which has led to widespread disease epidemics.

Disabled Feminists

Disabled Feminists is a new Melbourne group established to challenge generally accepted notions of worth and beauty. At the first public meeting of the group on 24 May future action was discussed. Possibilities for action include starting a consciousness raising group for dis-

abled feminists; speaking on behalf of disabled women, writing articles for feminist magazines and student papers; lobbying for recognition of, and action on, the needs of disabled women; and liaising with already established overseas and interstate groups.

Contact: Disabled Feminists, 38 Larnook Street, Prahran, Victoria 3181. Phone (03) 529 5280.



Cover-up job

The Australian Atomic Energy Commission has finally agreed to cover radioactive tailings at Port Pirie after years of agitation by residents. However, Friends of the Earth (Port Pirie) have demanded that the AAEC carry out a thorough investigation of the health of the Port Pirie population.

EARTH NEWS

WNS needs women

Women's News Service needs women's skills, energy and labour to produce an improved magazine this year. The new format will include national and international news, features, services, coming events and sport, all presented with a feminist perspective. The WNS collective is convinced of the need for a national, informative feminist magazine which appears regularly and at accessible outlets.

Subscription is \$10 for individuals and \$20 for groups and institutions.

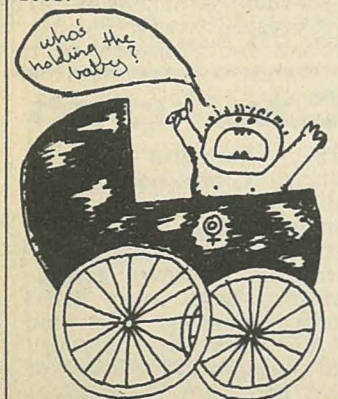
Contact: Women's News Service, C/- Women's Department, 1st Floor, 207 Lygon Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053.

Child care

The Women's Electoral Lobby is campaigning for tax deductions for the cost of child care. Their latest action is public support for a legal challenge being brought by a single parent who has an excellent case for creating a precedent on tax deductions for child care.

\$10,000 is needed to fund the case.

Contact: Child Care Appeal, Women's Electoral Lobby, 3 Lobelia Street, O'Connor, ACT, 2601.



Bottle babies

An International Code of Marketing of Infant Formula was debated by representatives of 155 countries at the World Health Assembly, in Geneva, on 18 May 1981.

Infant formula companies have been lobbying for the past eighteen months for the Code to be passed as a weak recommendation rather than a binding regulation. Concerned non-government organisations and community groups feel that a binding regulation is the only possible effective first step in ensuring that companies comply with the Code.

In October 1979 infant formula companies agreed to a voluntary code restricting marketing and promotion of infant formulas and breast milk substitutes in the Third World. Since then community groups have documented over 800 violations of this voluntary code.

Bottle feeding in developing countries has increased infant malnutrition, disease and death.

Contacts: Community Aid Abroad (03) 419 7055, (09) 321 5043 or Baby Food Action Group (08) 272 3219.

FREE DUMEX FEEDING BOTTLE

Buy two tins of Dumex Baby Food and get a FREE Feeding bottle now!

Dear Dumex Mothers and Babies,

Buy two tins of Dumex Baby Food and send the paper stubs from inside the tin to me and I will send you a 200 ml feeding bottle specially made for members of the Dumex Baby Food Union.

Join the Babes Union now by feeding your baby with Dumex Baby Food so they will grow big and strong.

Baby D
2nd President

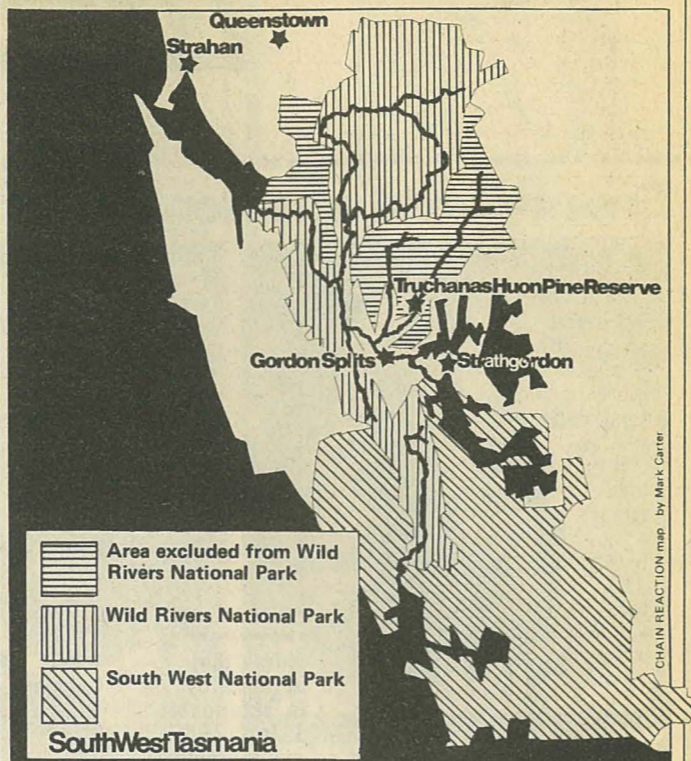
BARB D
2nd President

Infant formula advertisement used in Third World countries during the early 1970's.

Mitterrand nuclear policy

The election of Francois Mitterrand as President of France greatly increases the possibility of an end to France's nuclear development programme and opens up the chance of independence for New Caledonia and perhaps 'French' Polynesia.

Deadlock halts flood



The deadlock between Tasmania's Houses of Parliament continues. The government's bill for the Gordon-above-Olga dam continues to be rejected by the arch-conservative Upper House majority - now called the 'gang of 13' by the Tasmanian press - the thirteen members back the Hydro-Electric Commission's favoured Gordon-below-Franklin dam. The government may include its power scheme as part of the coming state budget. If the Legislative Council rejected the budget it would probably lead to a double dissolution.

On 1 May Premier Doug Lowe proclaimed boundaries of Tasmania's Wild Rivers National Park - the park has been cut by one third

in size since it was first approved in July 1980. The mining and forestry interests have gone for overkill and managed to have nearly 100,000 hectares withdrawn from the park, although very little of this area has any known mineral or forest resources.

Left out of the park are: the Sprent River Valley and Rocky Sprent Falls, the Prince of Wales Range and Diamond Peak, the Upper Maxwell and Denison Valleys including the Truchanas Huon Pine Reserve and the Spiers Range and Lake Curley. The spectacular Gordon Splits - Australia's most awesome river chasm - is not in the park proposal as the government's dam would flood the area.

to go ahead with the neutron bomb.

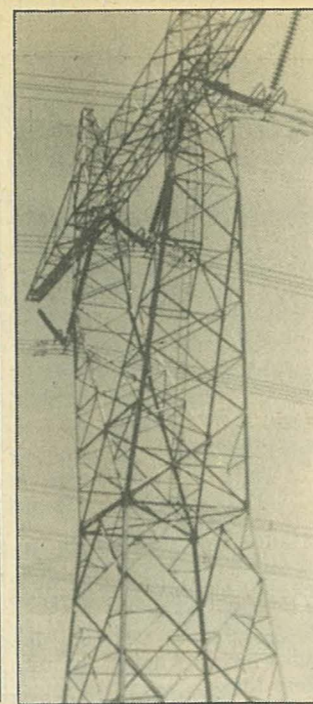
French anti-nuclear groups, who have suffered extreme government repression, now have an effective ally in strongly anti-nuclear sections of the Socialist Party.

Power link cut

Near the French town of Genissiat on Sunday 8 February an explosion demolished a 100 tonne, 65 metre high tension powerline pylon. This cut the two 400,000 volt power lines recently opened linking a hydro-electric plant at Genissiat with the nuclear power plant at Bugey.

The lines are due to be extended to supply current to the first big French Fast Breeder reactor at Greys-Malville. The Agence France Press reported that an anonymous phone caller had claimed responsibility on behalf of 'some ecological friends'.

As it fell, the pylon also brought down another 225,000 volt line and some local distribution cables.



PET bottles



The unique Beverage Containers Act of South Australia is at the moment under considerable threat from the two litre PET soft drink bottle. PET (polyethylene terephthalate) is a new high tensile plastic made from fossil fuels. The Act pro-

vides that all beverages as defined by the Act be sold in refundable containers. On 1 July 1980 the SA Government yielded to lobbying by soft drink manufacturers and packaging companies to allow the PET to be exempt from the provisions of the Act for a twelve month trial period. This is to test for the appearance of the PET bottle in the litter stream. Companies with vested interests have launched an advertising campaign for PET bottles as novelty items. This campaign has kept the bottles out of the litter stream throughout the testing period. One major soft drink manufacturer instructed its employees to pick up any empty PET bottles they might find.

If the PET bottle lobby succeeds in getting it introduced permanently in SA the Beverage Containers Act will be severely weakened.

Action: There is not much time before the end of the trial period, 31 June 1981. Donations are welcome to help fight the vested interests organising to defeat the Beverage Containers Act of SA. Send to FOE Adelaide, 310 Angus Street, Adelaide South Australia 5000.

FOE Adelaide have regular open meetings for all interested in working on such issues. Every second Monday of each month at 8 pm at the above address. Telephone (08) 223 6917.

Transition

World Information Service on Energy has changed address. The new headquarters in Amsterdam is: WISE, Blaiusstraat 90, 1091 CW Amsterdam - The Netherlands. Telephone (20) 924264.

WISE's relay in Australia is at PO Box 1875, Canberra City, ACT 2601.

Pine Gap - where's it at?

Some 60 delegates representing as many organisations took part in a conference on the so-called 'joint' Australian - United States of America military bases over the Easter weekend in April. On the first day speakers laid the information base for the conference: the history of setting up and operation of the bases, the secrecy involved, the effect on Australia's defence.

Professor Tachibana of the Nagasaki Institute of Applied Science described the use of Japan for USA military bases. Japan has 119 such bases occupying some 500,000 square kilometres with some 46,000 USA military personnel.

An unfinished version of the film *Home on the Range* which reveals the extent of CIA involvement in USA bases in Australia was screened. The final version of this movie should be available within a few months.

The conference expressed concern at the changing nuclear war strategies and the consequent upgrading of USA military bases. The presence

of USA bases in Australia used to be justified by those who supported the 'global balance of terror' concept. Now the doctrines of 'limited' and 'first strike' nuclear war have emerged accompanied by developments in technology and weapons systems.

The conference expressed support for groups working for nuclear disarmament. Among them, the peoples of the Pacific and their struggle to win a nuclear free Pacific.



Demonstrators outside Pine Gap

Deadly dumps

In the horticultural area between The Hague and Rotterdam, the toxic substance, methyl bromide, has been found in drinking water. Methyl bromide is used by market gardeners to disinfect soil and it seems it seeped into PVC tubes used for water distribution. This incident is just the latest in a series of chemical waste exposures in the Netherlands.

A marshy area only 8 kilometres from the centre of Amsterdam has been found to contain 10,000 drums of chemical waste from a now defunct 2, 4, 5-T factory. The factory itself was dismantled and dumped in the Atlantic! The waste however remains and the cases to date of cattle infertility and dead birds serve as a reminder of its continued potency. Elsewhere, in Lekkerkerk, a village not far from the heavy industrialised Rotterdam, 300 houses have been evacuated

and 150,000 tonnes of polluted soil removed from a former chemical waste dump site.

Pollution scandals such as these have prompted a national inventory of chemical waste in the Netherlands. So far 3,000 dumps containing chemical waste have been found, 500 of them a recognised danger to public health. The cost to clear these dumps is estimated to be \$A750 million. Presumably the Dutch taxpayer will now have to pay for the years of free use/abuse of the environment by industrialists and chemical companies.

Closer to home, it is worth considering what has happened to the waste from the Australian factories which once produced 2, 4, 5-T. 2, 4, 5-T is no longer made in Australia, but is the waste still sitting in someone's backyard?

EARTH NEWS

Power struggle

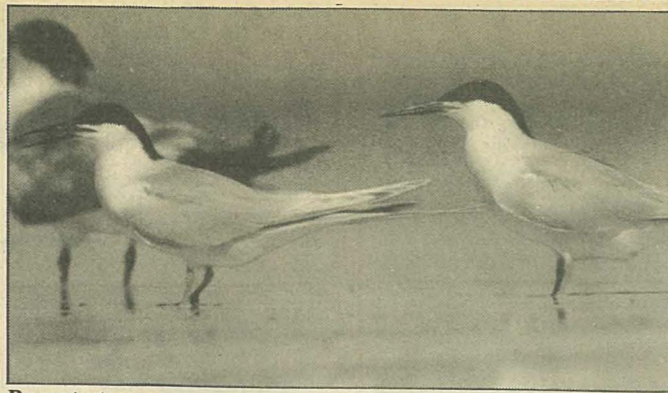
100 local groups, in the Netherlands, are participating in an action to convince electricity companies to relinquish their interests in the Dutch nuclear industry. Electricity users are urged to pay their bills in two parts or in cash via a special postal account system. This causes great confusion in the computer based administration of the Dutch electricity companies.

One company tried to intimidate people involved in the action by cutting off their electricity supply. Protesters were proven to be within their legal rights however and even received damages from the company for their day without electricity.

In Scotland 60 households are withholding the nuclear portion of their electricity bills (20%) and paying it into a Trust Fund. The electricity board has threatened to disconnect households involved in the action. This will be challenged in court and some households are prepared to be disconnected. Similar actions will soon begin in England and Wales.

Uranium bans spread

In the USA, towns in New Jersey, Vermont and New York have passed resolutions or ordinances banning uranium mining, milling and exploration. In other states, Montana has banned uranium mining and milling by state-wide referendum, Wisconsin has submitted a bill to its legislature calling for a seven year moratorium on all uranium mining and milling, and Virginia is conducting hearings on a bill to study uranium mining and milling.



Roseate terns

Development means destruction

The impact of tourist resort development can be as massive as that of industrial development. So why were P&O Australia Limited allowed to appropriate Wilson Island off the coast of Gladstone, Queensland, for the purpose of building a resort without producing an environmental impact statement? Wilson Island is an area of 4.9 hectares. Even a small resort will involve the destruction of the island's ecology.

P&O's proposal was only made public at the final stages of negotiation of the lease with the Queensland Government.

Wilson Island is listed among the nine most im-

portant seabird colonies on the Great Barrier Reef. The rare *Roseate tern* has nesting colonies on the island.

Recently on Heron Island near Wilson Island, where there is a resort owned by a subsidiary of P&O, 500 to 600 wedgetail shearwater chicks were killed. While making an extension to the resort a trench was dug and later filled in and compacted in a section of the shearwater colony. The shearwaters nest in sandy burrows. Mr Paul Fisk an ornithologist who observed the incident and asked P&O to ensure that it did not happen again was barred from the resort area.

Tigers vs people

When Project Tiger was launched in 1973, in India, eight reserves were established. All forestry operations and human interference were banned or regulated. While this may have benefited the tigers, the many villagers living within reserves have suffered.

"We have nothing against the tiger project but we want employment," say Munda villagers, in the Palamau reserve in Bihar. But timber extraction, which used to provide jobs, is no longer allowed in the reserve.

In Ramandag, a forest village in the Palamau reserve, life is even harder. Grazing is severely restricted and fields are subject to damage by wild animals. The Ramandag villagers used to kill boar and chital (deer) for food, farm, collect minor forest produce and work as labourers. Today the wild animals are protected. They, and other poverty-stricken forest villagers in the tiger reserves, derive no economic benefit from the preservation of wildlife. The director of the Palamau reserve suggests "Transport all the forest people to the cities, and there let them survive or die."

Resource boom

There is a 'resources boom' on in Australia, so the mining companies and the government through their media mouthpieces keep telling us. No involved analysis has been made of the possible social effects that this so-called 'boom' will incur. A conference to be held in Canberra in October may go some way to providing a forum for a socialist analysis of the so-called 'boom'. The conference sets out to develop strategies from such analyses. It will be held in Canberra on 17-18 October.

Contact: For more information on the conference write to Hugh Saddler, Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Australian National University, Post Office Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2600.



Spy exposed

In the USA criminal charges against fifteen Clamshell Alliance anti-nuclear activists were dropped in court early this year when the court discovered one of the defendants was a police spy.

The police agent 'Lucas MacDonald', had been active with the police and Clam-

shell since October 1979. He participated in actions and provoked police.

Clamshell's lawyer, and a civil liberties group, are now planning to sue all responsible parties for conspiring to violate the civil rights of these activists.

Women's Reaction

Chain Reaction policy decisions are often difficult to formulate, agree on and achieve.

One policy which we are attempting to implement is to involve more women in each area of the magazine's production and to present women more positively and more frequently in the text and graphics.

Since the relaunching of *CR* (four issues ago) men have written three times as many articles as women, twice as many men as women have designed and illustrated the magazine and male images have appeared two to three times more frequently than female images. Women who are working regularly on the magazine are working in areas such as subscriptions and accounts. Only one woman has had any editorial responsibility. Generally, women working on the magazine perform the usual support and service roles.

Women working on the magazine want to end this discrimination and we want other women to join and support us. We see this as a small step in ending the oppression of women by men as well as creating a better work environment.

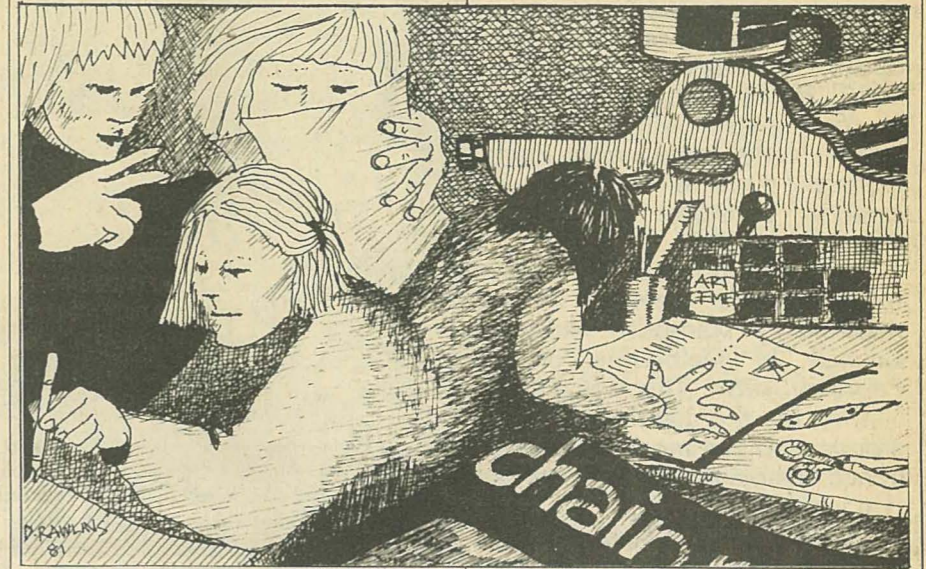
However, as both editors and the majority of the people working on the magazine are male, women are discouraged from becoming involved. Feminists usually do not work in environment groups as our first priority is to stop the oppression of women by men. Women who are involved in environment groups tend to do administrative and organisational tasks rather than writing, designing, illustrating and editing type work. So it is difficult to involve women in all areas of the production of *CR*. When women have undertaken writing, researching and interviewing, men have at times either been unco-operative or have even sabotaged their work.

It is difficult to portray women more frequently and more positively in the magazine because the issues we cover are often dominated by men. Males have almost exclusive control of parliamentary politics. Men own and control multinational corporations. Men also dominate in leadership and public positions within environment organisations. Women make up the majority of the hard workers in environment groups but are not seen as spokespeople. In the Movement Against Uranium Mining (Victoria) local groups, for instance, most of the organisational and activist work is

done by women, but when it comes to dealing with the media it's the male 'experts' who are sought out by the media and pushed forward by the group.

Discussions continue in the *Chain Reaction* Collective on how we can best continue to implement the decision to present women more fre-

BACKSTAGE



quently and involve more women in the magazine.

We hope to employ another editor — a woman — soon. A submission to raise funding for this is now being drafted. Recently the collective decided to devote 20% of its features space to non-environment/energy issues such as sexism, racism, unemployment and other social justice issues. It is important to recognise the relationship between these issues and environment issues — the ultimate goal is a sustainable society in which resources are equitably distributed and the rights of all people are recognized.

This decision will enable increased coverage of issues which directly affect women, involve more women in producing the magazine and increase the positive portrayal of women in the magazine.

In this issue, for instance, there is an article on DES and the work of DES Action (pages 27-28), and a story

on mammography; the X-ray screening procedure used to detect breast cancer in women in the USA (p.30). There are also stories covering women's issues in *Earth News*. All of these stories have been researched and written by women.

Environment groups are patriarchal in structure, strategy, analysis and organisation. Women in *CR* are working to change this. Ultimately we cannot eliminate discrimination against women totally in *CR* until, throughout the community, women are no longer oppressed by men. We can, however, most effectively work against this discrimination if women become involved in the production of the magazine.

You are urged to donate money so we can employ a woman editor. Women are urged to become involved. Contact the *Chain Reaction* Collective at 366 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria 3066.

Linnell Secomb

Sydney

Chain Reaction's Sydney Collective first meeting is to be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 17 October 1981 at Friends of the Earth, 101 Cleveland Street, Chippendale. Telephone (02) 698 4114. Contact — Lorraine Jones or Jasmine Payget.

Next edition

Deadline for Spring *Chain Reaction*

For both editorial and advertising please send material to *Chain Reaction* by 10 July 1981. Enquiries: Telephone Melbourne 03 419 8700 or Sydney 02 698 4114.

Fighting lead to win

Lead free petrol is to be introduced in Australia from July 1985. In addition the lead levels in super petrol will be reduced at an 'early' date, with tighter emission controls based on the catalytic converter being introduced from 1986.

This decision was announced following the meeting of the Australian Transport Advisory Council in Melbourne on 20 February 1981. This was a major victory for the community based groups who had mounted a determined campaign over the previous two years.

In this article *Chain Reaction* examines the various elements of the campaign to assess the lessons for other environment groups.

This article has been compiled by **Jeanette Cameron** from reports filed by **Lorraine Jones** and **Jeff Angel** in Sydney, **Nola Tudball** and **Andrew Herington** in Melbourne, and **Rick Grounds** in Perth.

Air pollution is a visible and immediate problem in all our cities. It has been an issue throughout the 70's. Stricter vehicle emission controls were introduced in 1976 and from 1973 lead levels in petrol have been reduced, as a result of public pressure. Two opinion surveys (1970 and 1980) showed a large majority of the Australian population supported air pollution controls, even if it cost the consumer more in petrol and car prices.

Environment groups were aided by the fact that air pollution was already an issue. It was back in 1976 that Australian Design Rule 27A (ADR 27A) - the country's first significant pollution control measures were introduced by the Federal Government to industry complaints that they would result in increased fuel consumption.

Through the campaign environment groups have vastly improved their lobbying and community organisation skills. With a budget of \$12,000 per year they have been able to defeat a lavish campaign by the oil companies



Rally held outside Transport Ministers Meeting Windsor Hotel, Melbourne 20 February 1981

and their allies (the Australian Institute of Petroleum, the Australian Lead Development Association, the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries and the Australian Automobile Association), who spent \$250,000 in the last three months alone. Industry was unsuccessful at adopting community organising techniques used by environmentalists as their money and vested interests were too visible.

New South Wales and Victoria dominate the petrol and motor vehicle markets so most of the campaign occurred in these states. Other capital cities have air pollution problems but did not attract the same heated debate. In these states campaigning was generally done through the local Friends of the Earth group or Environment Centre.

At the outset groups established goals and tailored campaigning to achieve them. The broad goals of the campaign were:

- To reduce exposure of the community to levels of lead dangerous to their health.
- To drastically reduce the contribution of motor vehicles to urban air pollution.

From mid-1979 there was evidence that 5-20% of children of inner-urban areas exceeded the USA standard for lead levels in blood. Lead in petrol is the most easily removed source of lead in the environment, contributing

over 95% to lead pollution. So the objectives of the campaign became:

- To ensure early introduction of lead free petrol and the eventual elimination of all leaded petrol.
- To obtain significant reductions in the permitted lead content of petrol.
- To seek the introduction of catalytic converter technology (which increases fuel efficiency and only operates with lead free petrol) to reduce vehicle emissions.

Campaign strategies were based on public education and political lobbying through personal contact, rallies, simple literature and careful use of the media. A direct confrontation with the oil companies developed as they opposed any reduction in the lead content of petrol.

In Victoria the Parents and Citizens Clubs Federation was particularly effective. In Victoria and NSW local municipal councils were vital in providing support and a voice of authority. In Sydney some twenty councils backed the issue, whilst in Melbourne eleven made financial contributions to promote the campaign.

"Collingwood Council is very concerned about the increasing traffic and pollution in the inner city and we feel we have an obligation to ratepayers to take up issues that the State Government is ignoring." With these words Councillor Solange Shapiro, the Mayor of Collingwood, one of Melbourne's inner city councils, is echoing the sentiments of many progressive councillors.

Collingwood's involvement started as a result of the campaign to stop the opening of the 10 lane Eastern Freeway in 1977. Cr. Shapiro explained - "We were promised amongst other things that air pollution from the freeway would be monitored by the Country Roads Board. In fact it took them 18 months to set up the station and when the first results showed pollution was three times greater than the maximum health standard the CRB promptly closed the station. The State Government refused to re-open the station so the Council commissioned its own study of the problem and actively promoted the campaign to have lead removed. With a significant proportion of children being affected simply because they lived in Collingwood we had no option but to put our full weight into the campaign."

"In this case our Children's Services Officer, Brenda Forbath, and the

staff of the Collingwood Community Health Centre were instrumental in establishing comparative studies of lead in the air and in children's blood and teeth. This information was published and had an important effect on politicians. The fact we had to carry out these studies shows the State Government was negligent in meeting its responsibilities to protect the environment and people's health. They seem more concerned about protecting industry."

The campaign began with environmental groups and local government and went on to reach many other organisations whose people would be effected - creches, schools, community health centres, etc. - to generate widespread public interest, especially in inner urban areas.

Having begun with the groups most likely to be interested, the campaign spread to a wider population using all the networks developed during other environmental campaigns.

In Sydney the strong stand taken by the State Government including the announcement in July 1980 that petrol stations in NSW would be required to sell one grade of lead-free petrol from July 1984, ensured the issue got detailed media attention and the task of the Clean Air for Children Campaign, launched from the Total Environment Centre in Sydney in April 1979, was to mobilize the public in support of the Government's stand.

Campaign organisation was implemented through committees of volunteers meeting regularly to develop tactics and activities.



Mayor of Collingwood City Council, Melbourne. Solange Shapiro

In Melbourne the groups were able to employ one person full time for eighteen months and another for three. The meetings were run on a consensus basis and the committees used only the minimum degree of formal structure. They relied on the few existing environmental resource centres - in this case the Total Environment Centre, Sydney and Friends of the Earth, Melbourne.

Activities were structured to ensure all interested people had a chance to participate. Regular newsletters were

produced and widely circulated to ensure that supporters were kept up to date with developments and campaign activities and that the media, politicians and other interest groups were educated to understand a complex issue. The production of materials took about half the budget with the remainder going to pay for a co-ordinator and office expenses. Efforts were made to provide sympathetic community newspapers and organisation magazines with suitable short material including graphics, for reprinting. Funding was by donations. Most decisions were made, in principle, at meetings with specific implementation and "on the spot" decisions being made by phone consultation. Having a co-ordinator meant the campaign could run at a higher pitch with volunteers being given assistance and time deadlines to work.

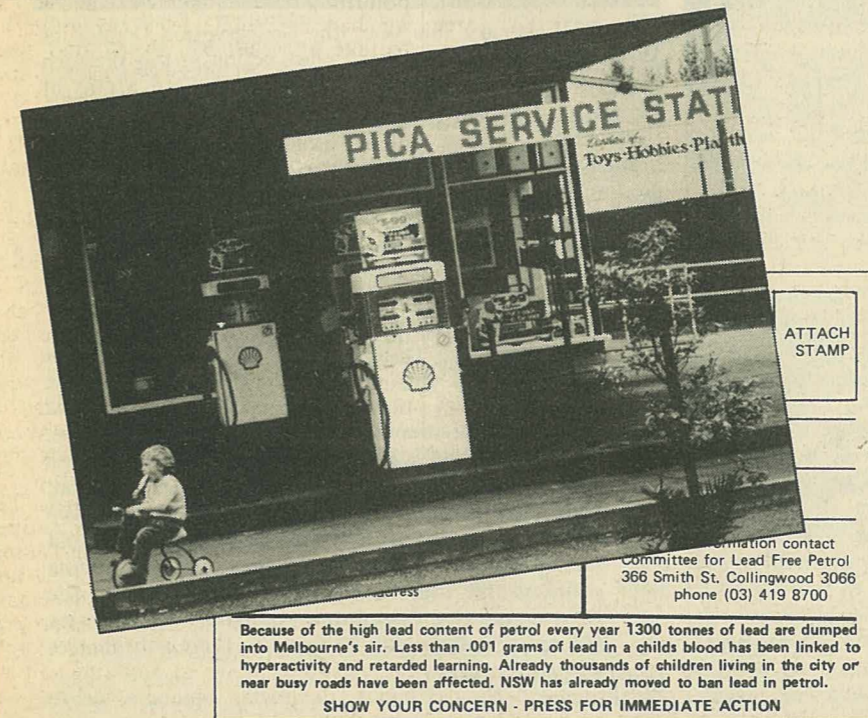
The active States directed efforts at getting interest in other States and provided initial material for local groups. Good contacts were developed with FOE groups in New Zealand, Britain and Canada to ensure experiences were shared and available information was immediately passed on to other countries. This became increasingly important in the latter stages of the campaign as the oil industry used its enormous international networks to dig up new information and pressure tactics.

The Transport Ministers' decision has given the environmental lobby a major victory, although the real fruits are disappointingly far into the future. Governments are becoming adept at reaching decisions on environmental matters which take the steam out of a situation, appearing to give a major concession to environmental interests and at the same time not threatening the essential interests of the industry group affected.

The environmental lobby groups are reorienting their campaigns to new targets. A vigilant watch will be required to ensure the oil industry does not succeed in delaying the introduction, or forcing up the price, of lead free petrol.

In Melbourne the Committee for Lead Free Petrol, formed in August 1979, is looking at lead in tinned baby food (the second most important source for children), at occupational exposure to lead and a number of general air pollution issues. In this way members of the committee are encouraged to follow up their interests and the associated groups maintain their interest in environmental matters.

Action: Further information is available from, and financial support can be given to the Committee for Lead Free Petrol, Friends of the Earth, 366 Smith Street, Collingwood, 3066 or the Clean Air for Children Campaign, Total Environment Centre, 18 Argyle Street, Sydney, 2000.



Because of the high lead content of petrol every year 1300 tonnes of lead are dumped into Melbourne's air. Less than .001 grams of lead in a child's blood has been linked to hyperactivity and retarded learning. Already thousands of children living in the city or near busy roads have been affected. NSW has already moved to ban lead in petrol.

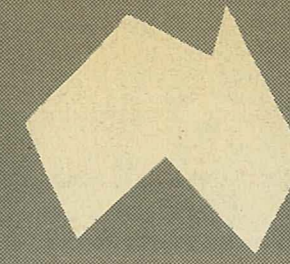
SHOW YOUR CONCERN - PRESS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Postcard's produced by the Committee for Lead Free Petrol in November 1980 for mailing to politicians and the media during January and February 1981

MICHAEL WHEELER

MELBOURNE TIMES

KEVIN WOOD



CLEARING THE JARRAH



A bauxite minesite being cleared for blasting at Jarrahdale

The Aluminium Company of America (Alcoa) and Reynolds Metals Company are being taken home, to court. Western Australian conservationists have taken out a class action suit over Alcoa's clearing of Jarrah Forest for bauxite mining. The case resumes in Pennsylvania on 16 June.

A class action is a legal suit where people with a common grievance join together to seek justice through the courts. Such actions (or virtually any form of action to try and protect the forests) are not possible in Australia — hence the need to use the USA courts.

\$43,000 in donations has poured in to the Conservation Council of Western Australia's appeal for the action. But the action could cost \$80,000 — \$100,000.

Jane Hutchinson and Bill Hare, of the Campaign to Save Native Forests, present this account on the background to the problems in WA.

And in the following story *Chain Reaction* looks at the politics of Alcoa's moves to establish an aluminium smelter at Portland, Victoria. Alcoa is an interesting example of one of the big aluminium companies operating in Australia.

On 24 February this year, the Conservation Council of Western Australia initiated a class action in the Western District Court of Pennsylvania in the United States of America. This action, taken to prevent the further destruction of the Northern Jarrah Forest by the aluminium industry, has become known as the Jarrah Class Action. In this historic and unprecedented move, the Conservation Council has sought to restrain the operations of Alcoa and Reynolds Metals Companies by seeking an injunction against their operations.

Amongst other important claims, the affidavit filed in the USA District Court is,

"Declaring the rights of the people of Western Australia, not only of this generation, but of those generations yet unborn, to the full benefit, use and enjoyment of the resources of the hydrosphere, atmosphere, lithosphere and biosphere associated with... (the Darling Range)... and the natural, economic, social and societal system operative therein and thereupon, without degradation and damage attributable to the bauxite mining, alumina refining and aluminium smelting operations of the defendants the Aluminium Company of America (Alcoa) and Reynolds Metals Co, their subsidiaries and co-venturers."

Furthermore, the affidavit demands, amongst other judgements, the

"Restraining (of) the multi-national trans-national, conglomerate, corporate defendants... from any further bauxite mining, alumina refining and

aluminium smelting operations in State Forest... unless and until... it can be established that such... operations will not damage or degrade the Darling Range Regional Ecological System of (Western Australia)."

By world and Australian standards Western Australia is deficient in forests. Only 3.1 million hectares (1.2 per cent) of its 252.2 million ha area is forested, of which approximately 1.9 million ha is vested in the control of the Forest Department with the Jarrah type constituting 74 per cent of this area. The Northern Jarrah Forest (see map) extends in a belt 50 kilometres wide from the Helena Valley catchment east of Perth, along the Darling Scarp to Collie, about 180 km to the south. The total area is about 780,000 ha.

Unfortunately, the Jarrah Forest has been heavily logged and subjected to an artificial fire regime of 'prescribed burns' on a four to six year rotational basis. As a result, the ecological structure of the forest has been changed at a particularly rapid rate over the last twenty years. The fire and logging regimes have eliminated many of the native legumes in the understorey and have promoted the growth of certain species of banksia. Also the canopy has become more sparse thereby increasing the solar radiation penetrating to the forest floor. This has resulted in an increase in the average soil moisture and temperature levels.

The ecological changes brought about by these forest management techniques have had profound and unfortunate ramifications for the Jarrah Forest. On the balance of evidence, they appear to have made the forest more susceptible to the fungus disease, Jarrah Dieback. Jarrah Dieback occurs throughout 10—20 per cent of the total area of Jarrah forest. This is by no means a static figure as the occurrence of Dieback is increasing by approximately 1 per cent but within this area not every single tree will die per annum. Not all of the Jarrah forest has a uniform susceptibility to dieback. The crucial physical variables are topography, canopy cover and litter layer density. In the undisturbed forest, the upper and mid slopes are least likely to be infected. Fortunately, these are also the areas corresponding to the areas of highest quality Jarrah.

Although the spread of the disease is at present out of control, forestry researchers in the field feel that the problem can ultimately be solved. Dr Syd Shea of the WA Forest Department, concluded in a 1975 research bulletin that, "although the fungus has the ability to devastate upland forest, minor changes in the environment of this forest could be sufficient, if not to eliminate their susceptibility to the disease, at least to reduce it markedly".

Bauxite mining enters this troubled ecological scene as a major vector of dieback and destroyer of high quality forest. The mining of alumina rich bauxitic laterite in the Northern Jarrah Forest entails the complete removal of the forest cover and the strip mining of the bauxite ore to a depth of 4—5m. Bauxite mining results in the rapid spread of the disease through the forest. Independent scientific

research indicates that for every hectare mined or cleared for the purposes of the bauxite industry, three to five ha are infected with dieback.

Dr Barry Carbon, Alcoa's Environmental Manager, said in 1979, whilst working for the CSIRO, that "bauxite mining will change most of the Northern Jarrah Forest of the Darling Range" and that, "In summary, the bauxite mining industry will be catalytic in removing the Jarrah Forest from the Darling Range, and it will become unnecessary to manage the area as a Jarrah Forest".

Thus, clearly the chips are down for the Jarrah Forest — the only one in the world. How did this situation arise?

The relatively high alumina content of the lateritic soils of the Darling Range was recognised in 1912, investigated briefly during World War II and examined in detail in 1957. Western Mining Corporation outlined the commercial deposits and in 1958 joined with Broken Hill South Ltd and North Broken Hill Ltd to form Western Aluminium No Liability. In 1961 the Alumina Refinery Agreement Act was passed in the State Parliament, ratifying an agreement between the State and the company for the granting of the bauxite leases and the construction of an alumina refinery at Kwinana with a minimum capacity of 120,000 tonnes per annum. Construction of the refinery began in November 1961 with production beginning in October 1963, at a rate of 210,000 tonnes per annum.

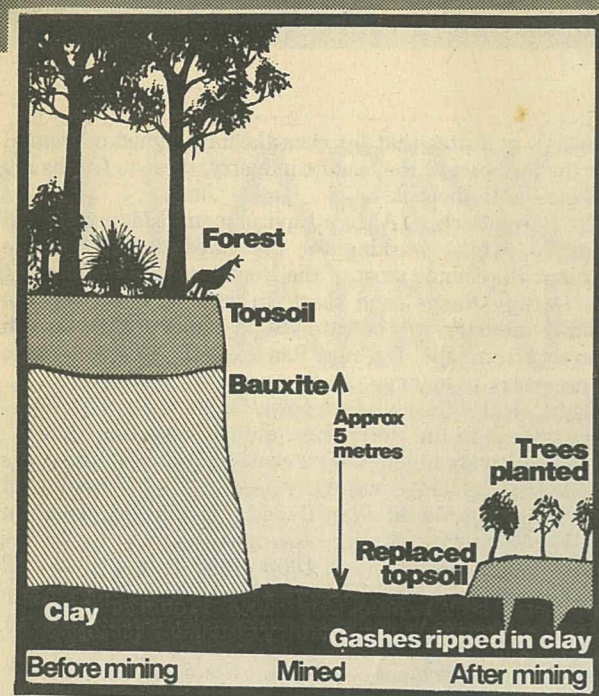
The Aluminium Company of America, Alcoa, joined the venture in 1962, obtaining a 51 per cent equity interest by supplying technology and finance. When the 1961 Alumina Refinery Agreement Act was passed there was a degree of disquiet expressed over the possible impact of the industry on the Jarrah Forest. The fears of a few were laid to rest by Minister for Industrial Development Charles Court who assured the Parliament of Western Australia that,

"... the total clearing for the first year would be... 30 acres (12 ha) and for subsequent years, so long as the company was producing 550,000 tons (550,000 tonnes) per annum, 25 acres (10 ha). I stress these acreages because I think it has been conveyed in the public mind that huge areas will be involved all the time and we will have ugly scars all over the place..."

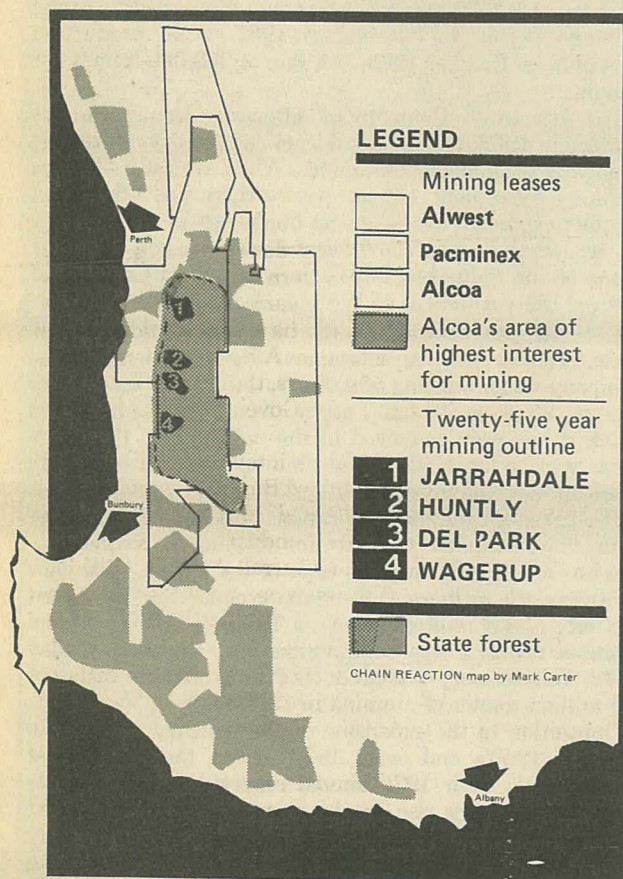
In retrospect, the early operations of Alcoa mining of ore from the Jarrahdale minesite for refining at Kwinana — can be seen as only the thin edge of the wedge. With new contracts, the refinery at Kwinana expanded to its present capacity of 1.4 million tonnes in 1978—9. Alcoa's second alumina refinery was commissioned at Pinjarra in May 1972. This refinery was producing its maximum rating of 2.5 million tonnes of alumina in 1979—80.

Opposition to the expansion of the industry emerged in the late 1960's and early 1970's from the WA Forest Department. Their 1970 annual report described bauxite mining as "giving rise to the greatest threat the forest estate has ever experienced"! However, the industry continued to expand unchecked. The rate of forest clearing had expanded more than twenty fold in fifteen years to 250 ha per annum.

In 1978 proposals to massively expand the alumina



Bauxite mining and the landscape



State forest in south western Australia in relation to mining leases and mining plans

industry began to come to fruition. Alcoa and the Worsley Consortium sought to expand production by the construction of two new refineries at Wagerup and at Worsley (see map).

The enabling legislation for Alcoa's Wagerup refinery was passed through Parliament prior to the Environmental Review and Management Programme being made public. The furore that surrounded the passage of this legislation marked the start for an intensified struggle to save the Jarrah. The Campaign to Save Native Forests concentrated its total attention on the bauxite issue and a strong and vigorous campaign was commenced to have the expansion plans shelved.

Research was beginning to expose a multitude of environmental risks and problems associated with the industry. Apart from the direct destruction of the forest ecosystems and the resulting spread of dieback, at least five more major issues emerged and remain current today.

1. Bauxite mining through its removal of the unique Jarrah Forest, upsets the hydrological balance, often leading to an increase in salinity levels in surface soils and catchment waters.

The consequent threatened salinization of Perth's water supply could pose a serious public health risk. Methods of de-salination are extremely expensive and problematic on such a large scale.

2. The disposal of the refinery by-product, caustic or red mud, presents another problem, both at the proposed and the existing refineries. Alcoa pipes its red mud into huge 10m high, earth-walled disposal ponds. The Kwinana refinery disposal ponds are known to be leaking into the groundwater system and pose a serious threat to one of Perth's major underground water resources.

The caustic mud disposal method for the Worsley refinery will consist of the damming of 500 ha of a stream valley. Failure of the mud pond would spell a major disaster for the river and its associated wetlands, dairy pastures and estuarine waters on the Swan Coastal Plain.

3. In 1978, Campaign to Save Native Forests' research revealed that the bauxite-alumina industry consumed about 16 per cent of the total primary energy demand in the State whilst employing only 0.5 per cent of the workforce. Sixty percent of the State's indigenous natural gas reserves are being supplied to the industry at a tenth of the cost to the domestic and light industrial users.

In addition to the expansion of alumina capacity, proposals for two 240,000 tonne per annum aluminium smelters are being examined by the Government. Thus, by 1998, it is possible that the total demand for coal will exceed 13.5 million tonnes, of which 40 per cent would be earmarked for the alumina refineries and aluminium smelters. Associated with this situation is a proposal by Alcoa to establish a chlor-alkali industry to produce the 650,000 tonnes of caustic soda that will be required for the industry in the south-west. This is a very energy intensive industry which is likely to use very large amounts of electricity generating capacity.

Within a decade, all known fossil fuel reserves in WA will be committed to the aluminium industry, the State Energy

Commission, and other industrial users. The State Government proposed to fill the anticipated 'energy gap' arising in the mid-1990's with a nuclear power plant. The spectre of a nuclear future for WA is therefore intrinsically linked to the energy needs of the aluminium industry.

4. Royalties paid by Alcoa to the WA Government are very low, both by national and international standards, when compared with those received from other mineral companies in WA such as the iron-ore industry. From 1964 to 1974, Alcoa produced alumina conservatively valued by the WA Mines Department at \$1,987 million, but at the same time, paid only \$9.1 million in royalties. In 1979 the then Minister for Mines, Fuel and Energy, Mr Mensaros, stated, "I am proud to say that we are not greedy for large amounts of royalties or other taxation receipts. In fact we have the lowest royalty rate in Australia, and I believe, the world".

5. Though a state of secrecy hides most of the economic data of the industry, it is obvious that the subsidy provided by the State is massive. There is evidence that Alcoa receives considerable subsidies for rail freight relative to other users of the Westrail State Government rail service. If Alcoa had paid the same freight rate as the State Electricity Commission in 1980, the freight charges would have been \$18.64 million. Rather, Alcoa in that period, paid only \$10.75 million, which amounts to a direct subsidy of \$7.89 million relative to the SEC.

From 1964-1978 Alcoa paid no tax on a net profit of \$226 million. Furthermore, there is strong evidence to suggest that the company is engaging in some transfer pricing arrangements as long term alumina contract prices are very low by world standards.

Despite the sustained public protest over these and related issues, Alcoa has been given Governmental approval for the new Wagerup refinery, to a maximum of two million tonnes per annum capacity. The Environment Protection Authority received 63 public submissions on the Wagerup Environmental Review and Management Programme - none were in favour. Of the fifteen government agencies and departments who made submissions, only two were in favour of the project proceeding.

The Kwinana and Pinjarra refineries were also given approval to expand to 1.5 to 2.5 million tonnes per annum respectively. Because of concern about the impact of bauxite mining on the water salinity in the eastern drier areas of the Darling Range, mining has been limited for the next twenty to thirty years to the western high rainfall zone of the Northern Jarrah Forest. Unfortunately for the survival of the Jarrah Forest, the western high rainfall zone is where the best quality Jarrah grows. The clearing of the forest will be particularly intensive in this region with 20-30 per cent being cleared. The subsequent spreading of dieback will result in degradation of the whole of the western zone of the Northern Jarrah Forest (i.e. 25-30 per cent of the whole of the Northern Jarrah Forest).

As the bauxite battle entered a new stage, the Campaign to Save Native Forests staged two non-violent occupations

of the Wagerup refinery site during February and May 1979. Subsequently, 34 people were arrested and charged under Section 67 of the Police Act which makes it an offence to obstruct an industry approved by Government.

The Government reacted strongly to the occupations and to the acquittal of all of the occupiers in the Supreme Court in November 1979. During the following month, the Government passed the Government Agreement Act which carried a \$5,000 fine or five years imprisonment for persons obstructing a Government ratified project.

Whilst the occupations were focusing attention on the Alcoa operations at Wagerup, the Environmental Protection Agency was considering the Worsley Consortium's Environmental Review and Management Programme for the proposed Worsley refinery. In early 1980 the Premier, Sir Charles Court, announced the go-ahead for the project, stating that environmental approval had been granted by both the State and Federal authorities. A fierce media campaign ensued, based upon several leaked documents which indicated the Premier's statement was untrue. The EPA has not given approval for the project.

In mid-1980 the Government announced moves to water down the EPA Act and to dismember the EPA. The move was widely seen as the Government's response to the Authority's refusal to grant approval to the Worsley project.

With all proposals receiving the go-ahead, the prospect looms for clearing rates of around 750 ha per annum, at a combined production level of 8 million tonnes of alumina per annum. The total area mined, cleared and affected by dieback as a result would be of the order of 3,000 ha per annum.

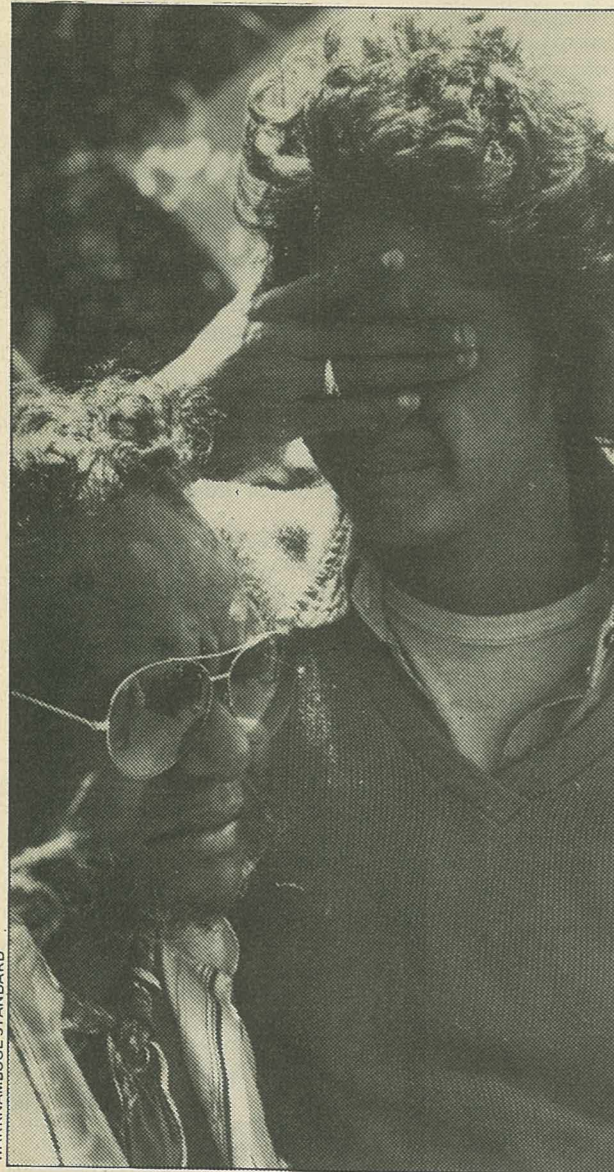
Faced with this prospect, the Conservation Council of WA in June 1980, put forward a detailed proposal for a 77,000 ha reserve in the Northern Jarrah Forest. The existing reserves in the Northern Jarrah Forest total only 3,445 ha compared with the 2,400 ha allocated out of State Forest for the Worsley refinery site. Although this proposal received the support of among others, the former Governor-General, Sir Paul Hasluck, the Government rejected it immediately.

The present Government seems intent on transforming the coastal plain between Perth and Bunbury into the scene of the world's largest integrated aluminium industry complex. The resource base of this industry will be the very soil upon which the world's only Jarrah Forest grows. The situation appears perilously close to one which is impossible to reverse, with the economy of the south-west of WA inextricably linked to the fortunes, or misfortunes, of the aluminium industry. If these proposals proceed to fruition it will be impossible for any future Government to control this juggernaut industry.

The Jarrah Class Action should be seen as a brave and daring initiative by a strong but beleaguered environment movement to elevate the save the Jarrah struggle to a level where victory is imaginable and possible. Public support for the action is unprecedented. Donations have poured into the Jarrah Class Action Fund from its launching on 4 March in the Perth Town Hall, at first at \$1,000 a day.

ALCOA

BUYING PORTLAND



Zac Martin and Maree Williams on the day of the heathland burning at Point Danger.

16 Chain Reaction

The large resource projects planned or underway across Australia are bringing local groups face to face with wealthy and sophisticated international companies. Campaigns aimed at Councils, or even state governments, appear futile when such large investments are at stake. How successful can any challenge be?

Alcoa of Australia Ltd's billion dollar aluminium smelter being built just south of Portland, Victoria, is one project that has been challenged. It has attracted considerable attention and debate over electric power pricing, public subsidies, the use of Victoria's brown coal, and secrecy in decision-making.

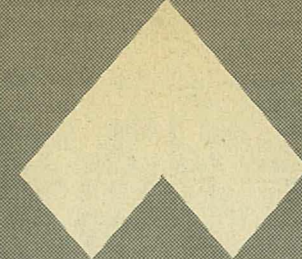
This *Chain Reaction* report goes behind the issues and to what has happened in Portland itself. Written by Chris Smyth and Don Siemon, who have been following events over the past two years, it is a tale of local business euphoria, broadening criticism, Victorian government deception, and Aboriginal resurgence. It ends with the destruction of an important piece of coastal heathland, with continuing legal and welfare struggles, and with Portland moving into its new future — as the industrial slum of Western Victoria in the short term, and the likely site of the state's first nuclear power plant in the long term.

For years the leading citizens of Portland have dreamt of their town becoming a major industrial centre. Its growth should be assured, they reasoned, by the fine natural deep water harbour, matched in Victoria only by Port Phillip. But although Portland has become an important loading point for wool, wheat, meat and sheep from the productive Western District, it has been too remote from the industrial heartland of the state for the harbour's charms to divert big ventures away from Geelong and Melbourne.

Frustrated dreams have turned to bitterness towards outsiders who are seen as inhibiting progress to the town. Bill Amor, former head of the Portland Development Committee, has stated:

"this town has been subjected to a totally uphill struggle to establish the natural assets with which we have been blessed. History shows that government decisions as well as lack of decisions for nearly a century and a half severely impeded this district's and port's development . . . We have too often been thwarted by decisions from vocal groups outside our town. Now is the time to take advantage of our assets . . . and to hell with outside influence."

Chris Smyth was convenor of the Alcoa Action Group in Portland in 1979 and 1980. Don Siemon works with International Development Action in Melbourne.



Not that everyone minded when Portland was bypassed by big investors. Many were happy with Portland as it was. Some families had been there for generations; others had consciously chosen the quiet, rural atmosphere. But for men of influence like Amor, such stagnation in the very breeding ground of Australia's aristocracy was a scandal.

Small wonder that such a Liberal Party stronghold (the local MHR is Malcolm Fraser) emerged as a focus for the Victorian government's decentralization policy. A joint Victoria-South Australia study into the growth prospects of the "green triangle" of south-western Victoria and south-eastern SA was commissioned. At the same time as Victoria's Minister for Decentralisation, State Development and Tourism Digby Crozier, Member of the Legislative Council, received the report he was also actively negotiating for an aluminium smelter for Portland.

While the bureaucrats had been casting around for ideas for the region's development, at least two offshoots of major international aluminium companies had designated Portland a prime smelter site. Alcoa, the better-connected and more anxious to proceed, gained rights to the site and a block of SEC power.

When Alcoa announced its decision to build a four-stage 528,000 tonne per annum smelter at Portland, it had already ensured that few obstacles would be put in its path. It had sent "tourists" to check out the town years before. It had judged the populace as conservative and anxious for investment. Most importantly, it had great support within the Hamer Cabinet from both the proponents of Portland such as Crozier and other members who jumped at the opportunity to announce a large investment just before a state election. The Victorian government was committed not only to assist with infrastructure such as the 500KV powerline, but to minimise any possible planning delays.

When Alcoa's plans were unveiled in June 1979, Portland's public reaction was overwhelming. Mayor David Dunlop pronounced the idea "the realization of our just dreams" in a special edition of *Portland Observer* (then Portland's only paper) which greeted the announcement.

The special edition, a *de facto* Alcoa advertising feature filled with photos and stories from the company, was a fine example of local cooperation with the town's newest resident. Shortly afterwards the editor took up Alcoa's kind offer of a trip to Western Australia; he returned the company's courtesy by writing a three-part eulogy to Alcoa's handling of its environmental problems there.

That certainly fitted Alcoa's image-building plans. In July the Alcoa publicity machine hit town. Thoughtfully adopting *The Observer* headline *ALCOA...IT'S A GOER* as its slogan, the multimedia presentation came complete with giveaway stickers and aluminium medallions for the thousands of schoolchildren and adults from the regions who tramped through. Its message was simple: Alcoa is coming. We're big. We're environmentally responsible. We're a good corporate citizen.

This message was echoed in the approach of the Alcoa staff who appeared in the town. They attended relevant meetings, sought out individuals, visited schools, ever seeking to impress, ever helpful, willing to discuss any

issues, calm any fears that local people might have. No expense was spared to project an image of corporate accessibility and concern: Environmental Engineer Don Willoughby chartered a plane from Geelong to Hamilton and back just to speak with High School students.

Links to prominent Portland citizens were made via Alcoa's excellent Liberal Party connections, typified by corporate affairs chief John Ridley, formerly secretary to Andrew Peacock and before that in the Australian Security Intelligence Service. Not that the town fathers needed much enticing. It was only natural that they should go out of their way to be helpful: witness the glimpse of the future one Portland resident got shortly after the June announcement. Sitting in the Town Clerk's office, feet on the Town Clerk's desk, using the Town Clerk's phone, was an Alcoa employee.

As for the Harbour Trust - well, the smelter meshed with its ideas perfectly. And local business had few qualms: real estate would boom. The local cinema reopened. An upsurge in building began. New shops were planned. Several solicitors opened branch offices.

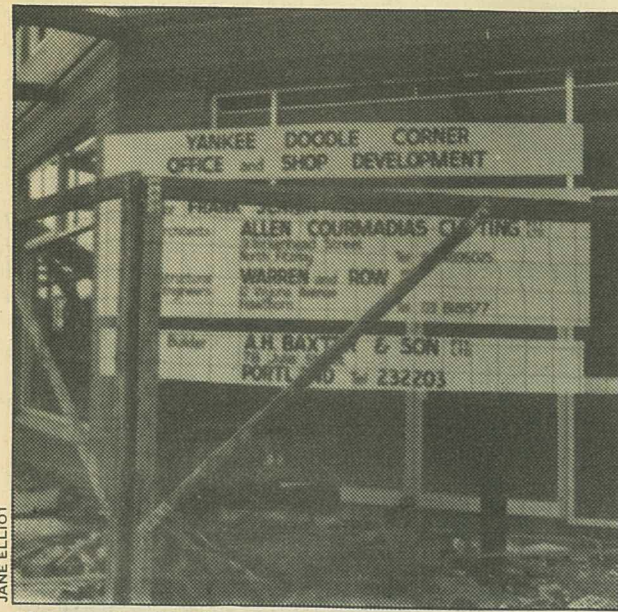
Alcoa was aware, however, that even in a conservative town public opinion will change. Clive Hildebrand, Project Manager and the major Alcoa face in Portland, later revealed in an unguarded moment that the company expected the initial euphoria to be succeeded by public questioning, disillusion, and blame. Alcoa sought to manage public opinion, to ride out criticism, and to eventually turn the blame for any ill-effects onto others - its opponents, its friends, the government.

This prediction of public response reveals a level of sophistication requiring the monitoring of public opinion. In August 1979 Quantum Market Research began interviewing the public and "opinion leaders". The detailed surveys allowed Alcoa to follow public attitudes and understanding in the different social strata of the district.

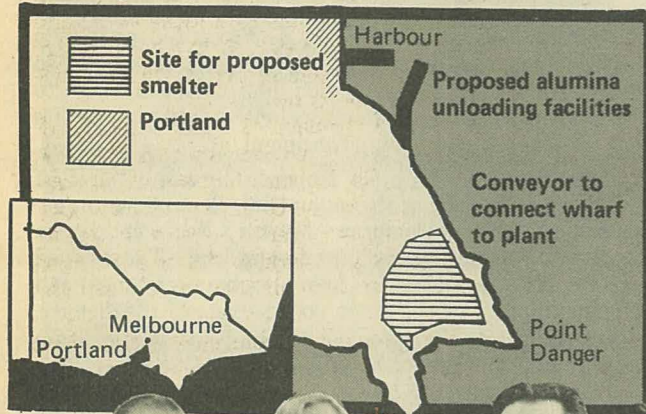
After weeks of PR barrage, it was quite certain that opinion (though in fact little formed) would favour the smelter. That 87 percent of respondents favoured Alcoa coming was a handy "fact" to trot out as people began to question the plan. A year later, when the survey was repeated (with the inducement of a free Tatts ticket to those completing the form), Alcoa chose not to publicize the result.

Portland has a surprisingly large and active population of wildlife enthusiasts. A string of organizations from native plant growers to native plant watchers were unhappy to find that Alcoa proposed to build to the south of the town at the extreme end of the land owned by the Harbour Trust. Included was not only farmland and part of the airport, but also almost all of the coastal heathland of Point Danger, land which had only four months earlier been classified by the National Trust.

When news of Alcoa's site came out, Portland conservationists organised a public meeting. On finding the meeting advertised, Alcoa moved rapidly to pre-empt it, and soon arranged a meeting with representatives of



Yankee Doodle Corner office and shop development, Portland



Rupert Hamer, Premier of Victoria, Mayor Dunlop of Portland and Sir Arvi Parbo, Chairman of Alcoa Australia

several groups the Monday before the public meeting. It was an indication of how seriously Alcoa took environmental opposition.

Before Alcoa could build, they had certain "planning" hurdles to pass - even though the Hamer government had guaranteed to avoid delays. Part of the Alcoa site had to be rezoned, the transmission line approved, the airport relocated, and an Environmental Effects Statement (EES) prepared. All were channels for public debate.

Alcoa was in a hurry. With the government, it set out to narrow these channels to stem the tide of public influence on the smelter decisions.

Its tactic on the heathland was obvious, yet subtle. Since conservationists were asking that Alcoa not build on the heathland, Alcoa staff held out the prospect of doing just that: building inland instead, on the western end of its site.

As Alcoa and its consultants, Kinhill Planners, went to work producing the EES, they claimed that no decision had been made as to where on the site the smelter would be built. Kinhill and Alcoa staff were in constant contact with the groups, and chose to actually employ one of Portland's (and Victoria's) most respected field naturalists, Cliff Beaglehole, to carry out the botanical survey. As the EES neared completion, Beaglehole and others gained a clear impression that the inland location would be chosen and the importance of the coastal environment recognised.

Only the most cynical suspected Alcoa of duplicity. Confident that reason would prevail, the company's only dangerous critics saw little reason to organise more seriously against the smelter, and were tied into a *de facto* acceptance of Alcoa coming to Portland. In the face of the pressure on the public to welcome the plant, to appear "anti-development" would have been to lose all credibility.

Unemployment in Portland was running at 9 percent. The mildest criticism of Alcoa was thus readily deflected with a reference to kids and jobs...and this attitude permeated both ALP and unions. Alcoa was seen as a chance for ordinary people as well as the wealthy.

In the euphoria after the June announcement, much was made of the numbers of jobs to come to Portland. Alcoa had no need to overstate its case, however. It let its local allies do that, realizing that when the community was later disappointed (as it must be, for smelting provides relatively few jobs that the Portland unemployed could fill) extravagant claims could rebound against the company.

Alcoa was guilty of minor exaggeration on job creation, giving the number of permanent jobs at first as 600, but later dropping the figure to 450. Mostly, however, it was just two-faced. To local employers fearful of an exodus of workers and wage rises, Alcoa was reassuring: contrary to what the public was told, most employees would be imported to the area.

Symbolic action, too, was useful. An apprenticeship scheme took ten Portland lads to Alcoa's Point Henry, Geelong, plant. And was it mere coincidence that Alcoa set up an office opposite the Commonwealth Employment Service? The CES, for its part, found unemployment rising, not falling. An influx of job-seekers had followed

Alcoa to Portland. A memo went out to other CES branches: stop them, please.

Stories of people arriving penniless in search of non-existent work confirmed the fears of Labor Party members and welfare workers. Portland's social services were already inadequate. How could they cope with the flood of people to come?

While publicly playing down the social problems, Alcoa staff privately conceded that there would be real "growing pains" and sought to keep on good terms with potential critics. Alcoa was represented on the "Task Group" set up to examine the town's needs, and Hildebrand lent his name to an appeal to the government for more funds.

Once again, Alcoa had contained a threat. By distancing itself from the government, it had preempted any demand that Alcoa pay for social costs. And those people concerned with welfare were oriented towards researching a case to be included in Alcoa's EES, hoping that the government would be persuaded to recognise the town's needs.

Alcoa's strategy to delay opposition emerging was not completely successful. In late 1979 the Alcoa Action Group was formed, bringing together conservationists and people anxious over social impacts. The group was small, however, and its public ties to activists in other centres allowed men like Amor and Dunlop to dismiss it as "outsiders" and therefore anti-Portland.

Alcoa delayed releasing the EES, knowing that its decision on the heathland would fuel the growth of organised opposition. Even the confidential handful of copies of the EES draft contained no hint of the chosen location. The EES finally appeared in early January, timed to once more frustrate opposition. Right on the heels of the impressive document came yet another Alcoa audio-visual, this time a display of the EES conclusions.

The display and the new round of pro-Alcoa publicity served to cover up the distortions and backtracking in the EES. Social impacts were sharply underplayed. The real shock was Alcoa's cynical decision to put its corporate interests before the heathland. Reasoning that a gradually degrading heathland would be a festering sore in relations with the town, Alcoa chose to destroy it quickly and ride out the inevitable attacks, knowing that within a couple of years the heathland would be forgotten.

Attacks from the Alcoa Action Group mounted. Speakers from Portland and Melbourne criticized the EES at a public meeting of over 100 in March 1980. Submissions went to the Ministry for Conservation (MinCon). Leaflets, stickers, and posters appeared. A little space was won in the local press, and Ballarat and Melbourne TV took up the issues.

Because public opinion was changing, the Action Group attracted a reaction out of all proportion to its size and influence. Councillors, politicians such as Crozier, business leaders like Amor all piled hysterical (and sometimes libellous) abuse on the group: "Dissidents...reactionaries...nit-pickers".

Great stuff for the newspapers, which gave much more space to such opinions than to the detailed arguments of

the Action Group and other critics. Bias was revealed not only in editorial line, but in coverage and placement of stories. *The Western Advertiser* backed down on agreeing to carry a poster insert when it realised that the money chasers (advertisers) could have been offended.

Real estate was booming, of course. House prices had leapt, flats were impossible to get. Alcoa had snapped up nearly a million dollars in land at the end of 1979.

The Mayor David Dunlop, must have seen the real potential in Portland's growth. He became a real estate agent during his term in office.

It was the Town Council which was becoming the focus of the action. In deciding on the rezoning of Alcoa's land - Amendment 22 to the Portland planning scheme - the Council had to consider the EES and MinCon's evaluation of it.

The Ministry for Conservation had duly accepted all the submissions critical of the EES, duly ignored them, and even reversed its own officers' assessment of the evidence, coming out instead in support of Alcoa's plan to destroy the heathland. It argued that building on the coast would reduce pollution of the town by Alcoa's fluoride emissions.

It was spurious argument. Even on Alcoa's carefully presented projections, the difference in fluoride fallout between the two choices was minimal, and Alcoa were quite insistent that there was no health risk. It was nevertheless a clever tactic, for it turned one of the Action Group's strongest weapons back upon its owners.

The Action Group had demolished Alcoa's facade of environmental responsibility by pointing out that this USA company was about to emit considerably more fluorides than it would be allowed to in the USA. The charge stuck - too well, for the public concern over fluorides was used by some councillors and the Town Clerk, Phillip Shanahan, to justify a quick decision, on clean air grounds, against the heathland.

Councillors were ill-equipped to comprehend, let alone counter, this argument - with the exception of Jim Patterson, who, having been to the USA, was sceptical of Alcoa's statements. Shanahan kept Council aware that the government could overrule them if they tarried, and in the end the Council even dropped its demands for USA emission standards in favour of a mild letter to the Minister for Conservation.

Over the same period Council debated Alcoa zoning approval, Portland residents were embroiled in a bitter argument over the rates which should be levied on the smelter. Alcoa proposed a half rate, arguing that it was far bigger than any other property owner. Its supporters, fearing to offend the company, justified the rate cut by the threat that the company would withdraw. The government, it was rumoured, would in any case simply cut funding to the town if the Council was "unreasonable" in rating Alcoa.

This was too much for even some supporters of Alcoa. The company could afford to contribute to the town's infrastructure costs. Community outrage grew: why should

Alcoa get a deal no one else, including businesses, was entitled to?

A Portland Ratepayers and Residents Association was formed to pressure Council for a public vote on the matter. The feeling was so strong that the Council reluctantly agreed to a "forum" to discuss the issues, but then insisted that no motions could be put to the gathering, which looked to be against the proposed deal.

Debate was getting out of hand. The defunct Chamber of Commerce was hastily reformed to counter PRRA and rally its members. It badgered, harassed and intimidated with little success: some shopkeepers were unwilling to openly support Alcoa lest they lost custom.

After several weeks campaigning, the PRRA and the ALP had been able to force Council to call a meeting of residents and ratepayers to vote on the deal. The Chamber of Commerce campaigned heavily, but in spite of its money and pressure the meeting (closed to non-Portland journalists) was evenly divided: a mere fifteen vote majority in favour, at a meeting of more than 350.

It was a sobering sight to see the alleged leaders of the town jeering and shouting abuse at the meeting. But insult and innuendo had become acceptable tactics for a group whose credibility and future wealth was at risk. The mounting public hostility towards Alcoa would inevitably affect their careers much more directly than it ever would Alcoa.

For the Council and Mayor, the vote was a grave embarrassment. When the rates deal was finally closed (a 25 percent cut escalating to 50 percent on the fourth stage of the plant) the real problems were, with Alcoa's construction crew, only about to start.

The Alcoa Action Group was as exhausted as the proper channels it had used. With Alcoa waiting only on the passing of enabling legislation, there was time only for a last-ditch effort to save the heathland.

Alcoa had responded to earlier concern over the heathland with proposals for seed collection and propagation; now it met the public ill-feeling by unveiling a scheme to transplant 30 ha entirely.

Melbourne conservation groups joined the bitter laughter at this transparent publicity stunt. Groups such as Friends of the Earth and the Conservation Council of Victoria had been interested in the Portland scene throughout, but now a new, more interventionist city group emerged - Portland Action.

Expecting the Alcoa Bill to go quickly through the State Parliament, Portland Action was willing to confront Alcoa's progress with non-violent direct action if necessary. A short occupation of the site took place until the Bill was held over. The Alcoa Action Group supported the protest, but the general Portland response was bemusement - a shift, at least, from the anti-outsider sentiment so useful to Alcoa earlier. The company itself took no action, having its hands full with another group using the site: local Aborigines.

Aboriginal people had been anxious to protect various archeological and religious sites on both the heathland and the cleared areas of Alcoa's lease. Following criticism of

the archeological work done for the EES, Alcoa agreed to cooperate in a new survey of the land, but once that ended no further progress could be made in negotiations. The Aboriginal people, organised as the *Mara*, initiated a legal challenge which took them all the way to the High Court. They also took over the occupation of the site.

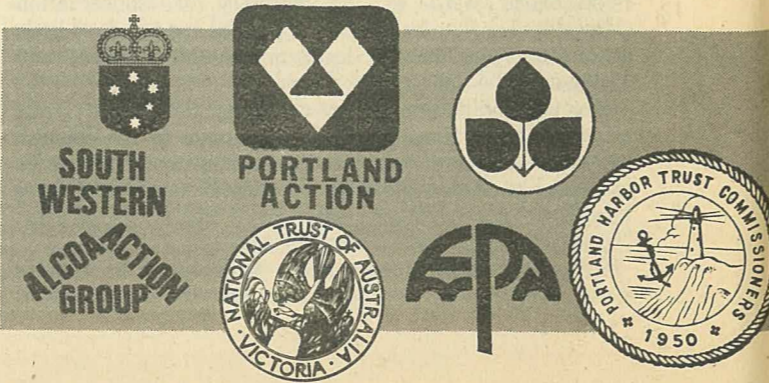
One Alcoa action which had hardened *Mara* opposition was the company's attempt to buy into the controversial Aurukun bauxite field in north Queensland. The spectre of Aboriginal land mined to supply a smelter built on a spot viewed by the *Mara* as a last touchstone for their own independent culture was enough to ensure Alcoa just the embarrassment it didn't want.

The occupation thus continued. White Australians joined black for the inevitable confrontation between bulldozers and people, quite a story in itself. Alcoa ordered the arrest of several of those on the site, and the site works began.

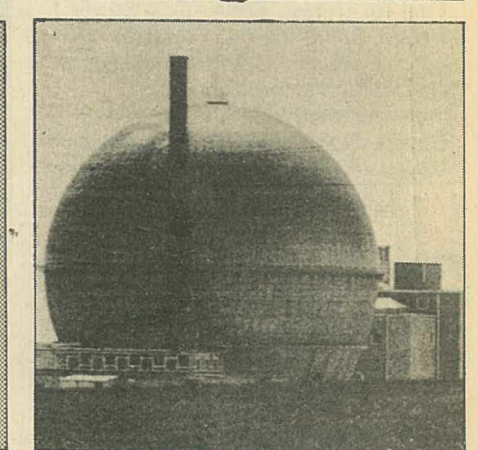
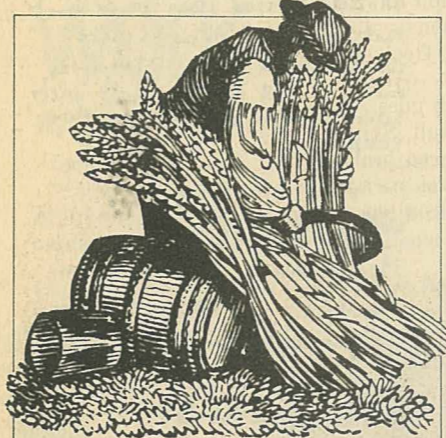
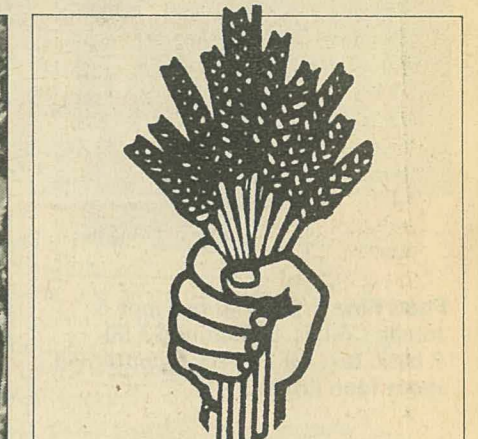
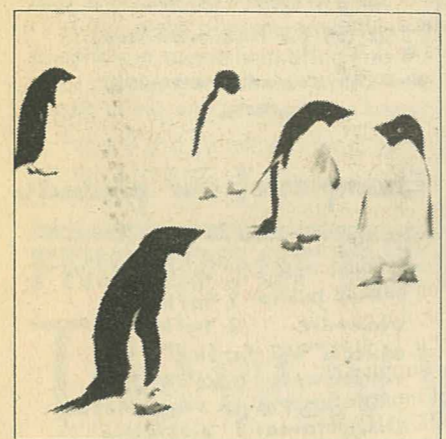
Those charged were much later found not guilty of trespass. They were, as their lawyer had pointed out to the police, on a public road at the time. The police seem not to share the general public disillusionment with Alcoa. When it was reported to them that Alcoa had been burning off the heathland on a day of total fire ban, the police were singularly unhelpful.

Few other people in Portland have many illusions left about Alcoa. They have seen the company mislead, seen the ruthlessness behind the facade of openness, and now are seeing the unpleasant changes the Alcoa Action Group predicted: evictions, busy streets, quarry trucks, school crowding. Local tradespeople have mostly gone on the Alcoa payroll, as have at least two dentists who no longer accept new customers. Fisherfolk fear a reduced crayfish catch and the Council is worried about Alcoa polluting town water supplies. Still the expected Alcoa public largesse has not emerged.

Perhaps now it will. If, as Hildebrand said, Alcoa expected public reaction to swing this far, then the grand public-spirited donations will not be far off. In Alcoa's other smelting town, Geelong, the company's generosity brings a rich return. Alcoa's name is everywhere the Geelong Football Club goes. Alcoa's name is everywhere the Geelong Basketball Skills School goes - including Portland, to which Alcoa brought it in April. In a sport-mad town, such gestures are a first step towards rebuilding public confidence. Alcoa has only one way to get friends now: that is to buy them.



FRIENDS OF THE EARTH



366 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD 3066 (03) 419 8700

David Weir and Mark Schapiro

Circle of Poison



Pesticides and People in a Hungry World

Circle of Poison David Weir & Mark Schapiro, I.F.D.P. \$5.00 looks at the worldwide scandal of international marketing of restricted pesticides that leave a globe-circling trail of sickness and death.



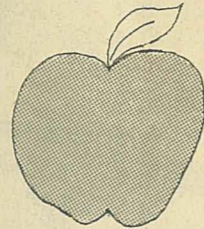
Food First Francis Moorelappe & Joseph Collins, Ballantine \$3.50 A basic text for all people concerned about food justice.

Fuel for Unrest, Brown Coal Study Group, \$3.00 the first comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and economic problems that will result from the Government's plans for the Latrobe Valley and elsewhere.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH BOOK SHOP

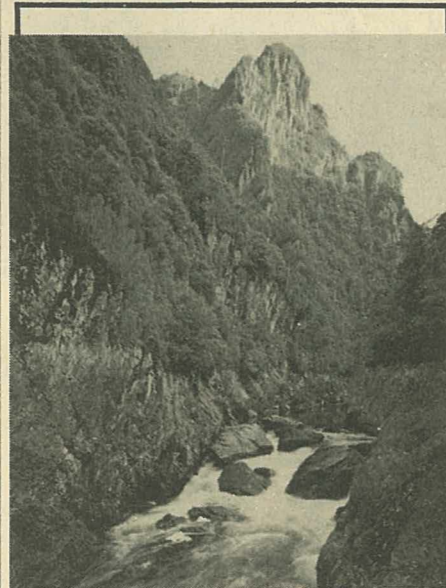
366 SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD, VICTORIA, 3066

SUNSHINE & HEALTH IN BONEIDAH'S PURE APPLE JUICE



NO PRESERVATIVE ADDED
AVAILABLE IN 2.27 LITRE
FLAGONS

F.&R. GOETZE, GEMBROOK
RD, PAKENHAM UPPER.
TEL. (059) 42 7225



The Cauldron, a mighty rapid in the Great Ravine, Franklin River, South West Tasmania. Photo: Peter Dombrovskis

Full colour poster (60 cm x 85 cm) for \$4 (post paid). Send money to

Tasmanian Wilderness Society
2nd Floor, 419 Lonsdale Street,
Melbourne. Phone (03) 602 4877

We have a

FOOD CO-OP

at

Friends of the Earth



offering you in a cosy, friendly environment, wholesome, cheap, bulk foods with minimum packaging (bring own containers), and with an awareness of the politics of food.

Membership is \$7.50 (\$5 for F.O.E. members) and \$5 annual renewal.

Examples of our products:

- honey 1.20/kg
- tahini 3.29/kg
- peanut butter 2.90/kg
- vegemite 2.70/kg
- muesli 2.40/kg
- rolled oats 0.70/kg
- whole unsprayed rice 0.90/kg
- soy (tamari) 2.08/litre
- oil (cold pressed olive 2.40/litre)
- nuts, seeds, herbs, spices,
- whole grain flour, legumes,
- miso, dried fruits, fruit juices,
- some fresh organic produce,
- soap.

We are open

Mon - Thurs 12 → 6 pm.
Friday 10.30 → 7 pm.
Saturday 10.30 → 1 pm.

366 SMITH ST.,
COLLINGWOOD
phone: 419 8700

INTRODUCTION

Friends of the Earth's entire existence rests upon getting convincing, well researched ideas to as many people as possible.

To do that, FOE needs people and resources. You are invited to join us directly in this work, and to give financial support — by becoming active, joining up as a FOE member and urging others to generously support the organisation.

One of the best things about Friends of the Earth is its unending sense of optimism. It approaches issues from as positive an angle as possible. It confronts and seeks solutions to what are literally some of the most daunting environmental, social and political threats faced by human beings.

Friends of the Earth in Victoria is currently faced by a severe financial crisis. It could be forced to bring into operation a 'razor-gang-style slash of important activities. Many of our hopes are pinned on this major effort to encourage more people to join FOE, to pay up \$15, and to give time and/or money to maintain and boost the work.

This booklet — a special supplement to our magazine *Chain Reaction* — presents a report on what FOE has been doing and where we are going. It chronicles an impressive set of achievements and at least as impressive a range of goals.

If you think this is worthwhile work and want it to continue, please help bring into the organisation more people. Let us know what you think of what we are doing, and how you can become part of it.

Pages 9 and 16 tell you more about how you can become involved.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

The way we work

By Leigh Holloway

Friends of the Earth is a very unusual group.

Outwardly, it takes a strong line on a diverse array of important energy and environmental issues. It has produced best selling books, organised countless

Leigh Holloway/
Chain Reaction

Helen Rosenberg/Office
Co-ordinator



demonstrations, appeared at innumerable enquiries, established excellent links with community groups, unions and the media, and amongst the public FOE enjoys a very favourable reputation. FOE has also maintained the confidence of many people who have been in positions where they could release information via this organisation.

One of the most distinctive and commendable features of Friends of the Earth has been its tendency to raise issues before they become popular causes. FOE has been right at the forefront of the efforts to stop uranium mining, to support Aboriginal Land Rights, to stop French and other bomb tests in the Pacific, to save the Whales and raw food issues.

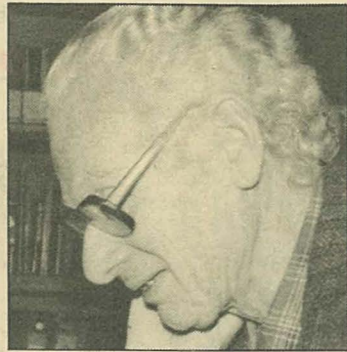
FOE chooses to work on certain energy and environment issues, and in that scope we now include — indeed as our biggest project area — food issues. The Food Justice Centre at FOE works on the seeds patenting issue, pesticide dumping in the Third World, junk food and international food trade and justice. In Victoria, uranium remains a major interest, as do air pollution (especially the successful campaign to remove lead from petrol), alternative technology, and several energy projects in Victoria from coal liquefaction to burning brown coal in the La Trobe Valley. On other major issues FOE tends to give support to the groups who are fighting the battles: for the forests, the Great Barrier Reef and South West Tasmanian wilderness, for example. *Chain Reaction*, FOE's national magazine,

covers the whole range of energy and environment subjects, whether or not FOE is itself deeply involved in the campaign.

Inwardly, it often seems to those working here at FOE that the group is in a constant state of chaos, with politics and ideology needing much more thought and development. We are a radical group, not just on energy and environment in a narrow sense, but also with firm opinions on related social and political issues: especially sexism and racism. After all the same economic order which has given rise to the ecological crisis has also



Sylvie Schneider/
Food Co-operative



John Graf/FOE Treasurer

given rise to gross social inequalities.

The Friends of the Earth office in Collingwood can be a frustrating place to work. It is large but scruffy and ill-equipped given the work we set ourselves. We are grossly understaffed, yet the FOE Collingwood offices are still one of the biggest and most effective of such environment group offices in this country.

As FOE launches its current membership drive and appeal for donations, discussions are under way to work out the structure we want for the 80's in Victoria. On the need for more members and for funds we are, however, unanimously enthusiastic.

Friends of the Earth is not a place where people get paid well or even fairly. It is more the case of the occasional honourarium or, to be more accurate, pittance. The reward comes in the satisfaction of doing an important job effectively, often in outrageous and unconventional ways. Besides which we have a jolly good time. People put in an impressive, often exhausting, voluntary effort. There is considerable freedom for work, though the group at the FOE Collingwood office do accept the overall review power of the whole group, in the form of weekly Strategy Meetings. These also provide a forum for sharing of knowledge and power.

It is not unusual that some people in FOE have greater access to information about numerous important matters relevant to FOE and it is not surprising that other people in the group turn to those 'key' individuals for leadership. The difference between FOE and many other progressive and conservative community groups, is that we challenge monopolisation of information and power, and attention is frequently addressed to these touchy questions. Through honest self criticism of our structure and programmes FOE aims at developing a collective democratic approach which does not rely on formal or informal hierarchies to direct its operations.

We have a range of films, videos, slide and audio-visual kits obtainable for sale or hire. An up-to-date

catalogue covering these is available from FOE for \$1.45 (posted).

The resource library includes books, periodicals, government reports and extensive files or newspaper clippings.

Our office assists with advice and information to people wishing to take action on environmental issues.

NATIONAL MAGAZINE

Chain Reaction

The national magazine of Friends of the Earth is produced in Melbourne and sent free to all members.

Chain Reaction is a quarterly reporting environmental, energy and food issues. It covers not only the work and issues FOE is working on, but a wide range of concerns of similar activist groups.

In the Winter 1981 edition *Chain Reaction* gives two extensive reports on the aluminium industry - including



Richard Shelton and Linnell Secomb/*Chain Reaction*

the only public analysis of Alcoa's strategy to take-over Portland in Victoria. In the previous edition *CR* presented the most extensive reports available in Australia on the Pacific people's efforts to restrict nuclear developments. When the Tasmanian Government last year decided to flood more of the South West wilderness Australia's daily newspapers gave the quite false impression that the wilderness had been saved. *Chain Reaction* was first to tell what was really going on, with a specially commissioned detailed report, maps and photographs.

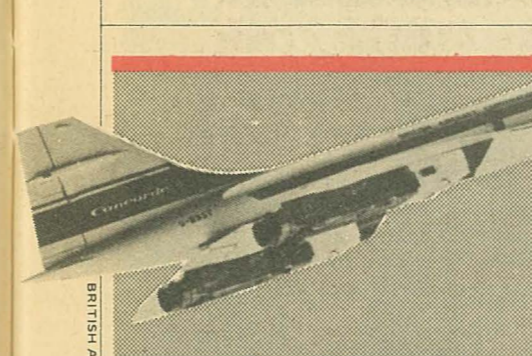
CR seeks to present in a high quality, but inexpensive, format information not otherwise readily obtainable.

The Collective who produce the magazine is always looking for new people to join in the work. Prior experience is not necessary - just time (say half a day a week would be wonderful) and enthusiasm. It is a case of 'on the job' training.

A big project currently underway is a national subscriptions drive and fund raising appeal. Individuals, schools, libraries and community groups are being sent letters inviting them to make use of the magazine, to subscribe and to give money for promotions and research.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Some past successes

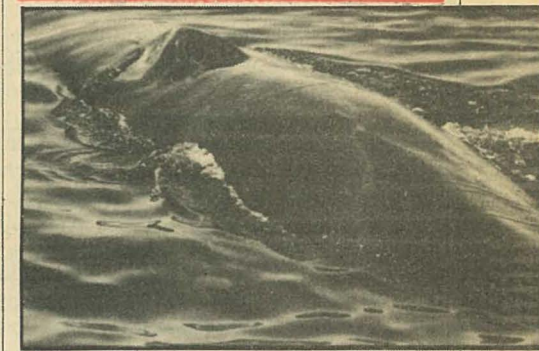


BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORP.

1973 F.O.E. DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL + ECONOMIC HAZARDS OF THE CONCORDE.

1976 VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY DALE BRIDENBAUGH, WHO HAD RESIGNED FROM THE POSITION OF MANAGER, PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT AT GENERAL ELECTRIC, TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN OVER NUCLEAR SAFETY.

PUBLISHED BY F.O.E., SELLING OVER 30,000 COPIES.

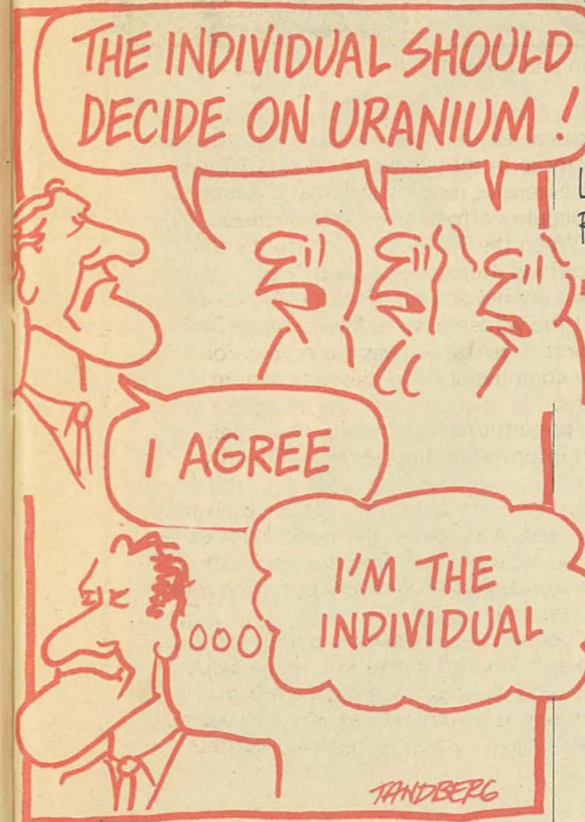


1975-6 REPRESENTATIVES OF F.O.E. ARGUE A CONVINCING ANTI-URANIUM CASE BEFORE THE RANGER INQUIRY.



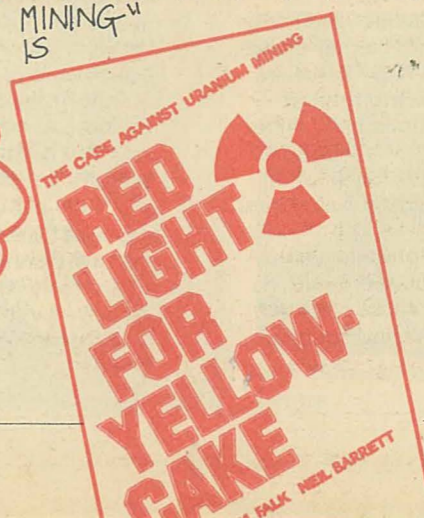
1976 FRIENDS OF THE EARTH DROP A BOMB ON THE MINERS

1979 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PLACES TOTAL BAN ON WHALING IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS, AFTER INTENSIVE CAMPAIGNING BY F.O.E. AND ASSOCIATED GROUPS.



1976 CONTROVERSIAL DOCUMENTS ON URANIUM CONTRACTS ARE LEAKED VIA F.O.E. TO THE RANGER INQUIRY.

1977 "RED LIGHT FOR YELLOW CAKE: THE CASE AGAINST URANIUM MINING" IS



1980 RALPH NADER RETURNS TO MELBOURNE, SPONSORED BY A TOUR COMMITTEE BASED AT F.O.E.

1981 COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN SPEAR-HEADED BY F.O.E. LEADS TO GOVERNMENT DECISION TO PHASE IN LEAD-FREE PETROL.

BACKGROUND

Environment and the economy

By Anne Carson and Mark Carter

Friends of the Earth began on 11th July 1969 in San Francisco. Its initiator David Brower envisaged an internationally aggressive environmental organisation, committed to the rational use of the Earth's resources, their restoration and conservation. FOE Australia was subsequently established in 1972 and is now one of 22 national FOE groups.

FOE has proliferated throughout Australia to now include 8 capital city groups and various regional and affiliated bodies. Liaison between these groups is encouraged at all levels, but the effectiveness of FOE is achieved primarily, through the autonomy of each individual group.

In the 1980's we see Australia increasingly involved in the demands of the industrialised world's 'economic order'. The subordination of the community to the needs of the economic system, heavy industrialisation and excessive consumption of resources are hallmarks of this economic order. An order implicitly reliant on growth. This growth has necessarily involved the expropriation of power and land from working people and traditional communities the world over. It has necessarily denied women control of their lives and futures through discriminatory educational, social and employment opportunities. It has necessarily involved the destruction of the world of living things through the dictates of economic imperatives.

Governments and media tend to deal with individual issues when crises arise. We see this as a fragmented approach and believe that such issues as apartheid, oppression of women, Land Rights and uranium for example should be seen in an overall perspective, each has specific facets of an economic and social system that we seek to change. Friends of the Earth has developed a broad analysis of environmental issues which is reflected in our research and campaign work.

The alternative we seek to implement is a sustainable society. This involves a reliance on the use of renewable resources which are equitably distributed. It involves the recognition that there is an inextricable link between people and the environment.

FOE recognises that organised resistance and action are necessary catalysts for economic and social change. Such action is essential if we are to achieve a sustainable society based on the equitable distribution of resources and power and the recognition of the rights of all people.

To achieve these ends Friends of the Earth is committed to a set of principals which guide our activities.

These include:

to recognise sexism by adopting a positive employment policy that guarantees at least 55% of positions are taken by women and further that these positions include those of a decision-making nature.

to remain non-partisan so that we will not be identifiable with any particular political party and can work to influence all political parties.

to encourage the autonomy of local groups so that they themselves can establish appropriate local campaigns, what positions they will take on the issues and how they will fight them. Friends of the Earth (Collingwood) acts as a resource centre for these groups.

FOE relies largely on a voluntary pool of helpers who contribute to all aspects of the work. Our full and regular part-time workers number about 50. Services are also provided by other sympathetic organisations.



Anne Carson/Membership Co-ordinator

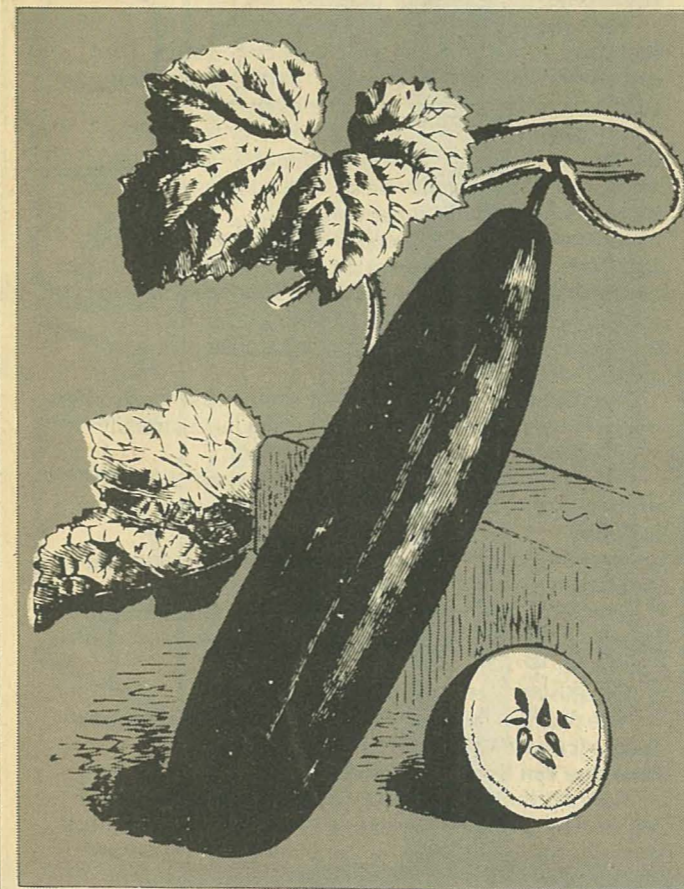
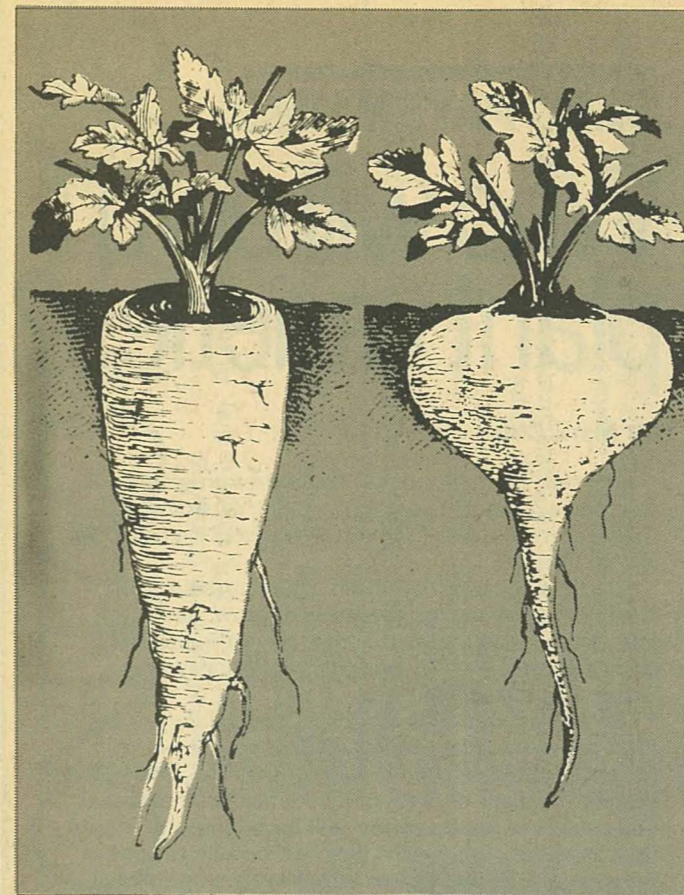


Mark Carter/Chain Reaction Co-ordinator

Friends of the Earth are also involved in a wide range of joint activities with other community groups. As different issues arise FOE becomes involved where there are opportunities to promote the concept of a sustainable 'conservative society' and to promote peoples involvement in campaigning for social change.

Several state groups for example, were involved in the mid 1980 tour by Ralph Nader, the consumer and environmental campaigner. Very successful public meetings were held in all capital cities. Nader repeatedly stressed the dangers of nuclear power, the greed of multinational aluminium companies, the need for community action groups to become more outspoken, and a mass of other environmental issues. In Perth he recorded a community service announcement promoting Friends of the Earth.

New issues constantly need to be monitored as they arise. Researchers are needed to look into problems raised by people who contact FOE for assistance. Other areas FOE has worked on include climate modification, toxic chemicals, Freedom of Information, Public Transport and Planning. Friends of the Earth continues to work closely with organisations such as the Conservation Council of Victoria and the Movement Against Uranium Mining on energy issues.



SELF-RELIANCE SEED CO.

FOOD

Democratic control of the world's food

By Ben Witham

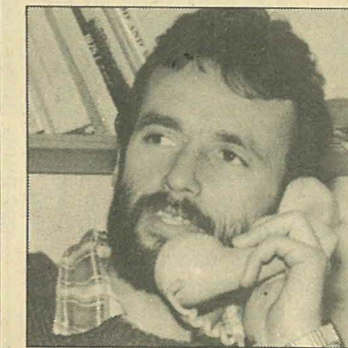
The FOE Food Justice Centre's activities aim to promote the democratic control of national and international food systems. Our belief is that societies everywhere should be working towards people's participation in deciding how food is produced, processed, marketed and consumed.

Objectives

- To raise awareness of how vested interests use food systems largely or solely for profit and the destructive effects of this.
- To show the link between national and global food justice issues.
- To encourage research into the above.
- To use food as a perspective for analysing unjust social structures and as a rallying point for social justice activism.
- To promote and work with other organisations which have a connection with 'food justice' in Australia and overseas, such as Community Aid Abroad, Australian Freedom From Hunger Campaign, the Australian Consumers' Association, Asia Bureau Australia, the Consumers' Association of South Australia, Action for World Development, the International Organisation of Consumer Unions (Malaysia), food unions, The Institute for Food and Development policy (USA), food co-operatives, etc.
- To expose and oppose the marketing or dumping of banned, restricted and/or generally hazardous pesticides in Third World countries.

The issues

- Monopolisation trends in Australia's food industry.



Ben Witham/Food Justice Centre

- The role of multi-national corporations in food systems.
- Food 'aid' as a political weapon.
- Women's role in food production, preparation and consumption.
- Agriculture and monopolisation of land.
- The conditions of workers in food industries.
- The intrusion into national fishing resources by foreign countries and companies.
- Malnutrition in Australia.
- Repression of peasants and rural workers in Third World countries.
- The attack on peoples' health by the proliferation of junk food.
- Consequences of infant food formula promotion in the Third World.

Past Activities

Two national conferences, lots of public meetings, film showings, an adult education course, production and distribution of information on the politics of food and the threat of plant patenting, and the production of two newsletters (*Food Justice News* and *National Seeds Bulletin*) have been some of the activities from the Centre.

Activities for 1981

- Continuation of past programmes, plus:
- Development of an anti-pesticide dumping campaign.
- A one day film festival for food justice.
- A series of booklets on food issues.
- Several one day seminars.
- Production of an audio-visual education kit.
- A major educational exercise centred around the first World Food Day, Friday 16 October 1981 (as



Tony Belcher/ Mark Cole/Food Justice Centre

designated by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation).

Workers

A small collective of three full-time and several part-time staff. New collective members are most welcome.

Help Needed

Organisers, researchers, writers, typists, clerical activities, sub-editors lay-out and graphic artists. Work can be done both on and off the premises.

Resources Available

A bi-monthly newsletter, extensive files on food issues, politics of food books booklets, badges and stickers (contact FOE Bookshop), speakers on various issues, food justice audio-visuals, advice, plus information regarding other resources, video tapes and film. A referral service to other organisations and individuals working in the food area.

SEED PATENTING

Who will own plant varieties?

By Mark Cole

A vital part of the Food Justice Centres programme is the campaign to halt seed patenting in Australia. The Free Access to Seeds Committee is a working collective within the FJC.

Up till now seeds have been a public resource in Australia — anyone has been able to grow, multiply, sell, exchange, export and import any variety of seed or cutting they wish (quarantine regulations aside). Seed patenting will end this.

In the Autumn 1981 session of Federal Parliament, a bill called the 'Plant Variety Rights (PVR) Act' will be tabled, to be debated in six months time. This bill enables the seeds of new plant varieties to be patented. The owners of plant patents will have 'property' rights over the seeds. This means they will be able to control the sales of seed and charge farmers and growers a royalty fee for the use of the seed.

PVR legislation gives plant breeding firms the authority to say who can sell the patented seed. This effectively allows those firms to tightly control seed production. In countries which already have PVR type legislation, plant breeding firms control tightly all aspects of plant breeding, seed multiplication and sales. This has led to a wave of seed company takeovers by petrochemical corporations.

The relationship between crop chemical companies, seed firms, and plant patenting is such that it encourages concentration within the industry. This could well lead to oligopoly pricing and the likelihood that narrow economic self-interests would be a priority over agricultural diversity.

The 'Seeds Group' at FOE has been in the forefront of the campaign to stop seed patenting in Australia.

The successes the group can claim are:
Responsibility for the Bill being substantially re-drafted so that a number of major plant species are not included.

Responsibility for alerting the media and providing much background information, speakers etc.

The production of a 32 page booklet, *Seeds for the Taking*, on the issues, as well as smaller pamphlets and handouts.

Organising numerous public meetings.
The publication of a regular newsletter *The National Seeds Action Bulletin*. (Over 700 subscribers).

How you can become involved

Contact the Food Justice Centre or come along and see us. The group meets fortnightly. There are a number of major projects still to be completed. Your time and energy would be most appreciated.

**JOIN US!
THE EARTH
NEEDS FRIENDS**

YOU CAN HELP

By becoming a member

By becoming a member of Friends of the Earth you help keep us active fighting campaigns, lobbying, researching and producing new publications to communicate with the public. We urge you to become a member.

By making a gift membership

You may already be a member of Friends of the Earth but by giving a gift membership to friends and relatives you can help make FOE stronger and more effective. We urge you to make gift memberships.

By becoming involved

There are four suburban groups and two FOE campus groups who work on regional campaigns. Membership can be made to any of these or to our main Collingwood branch. You and your friends are needed in all aspects of FOE's work — on roster in the food co-op., bookshop or the office, or through direct involvement in any of the campaigns.

By making a donation

Besides notifying people of the work of Friends of the Earth (Victoria) and encouraging readers to involve themselves in that work, this brochure has another task — that of a fund raiser.

**Membership: \$15/year
(\$7.50 concession)**

Dear Friends of the Earth

Please find enclosed my membership fee of \$

Name

Address

Postcode

Please find enclosed my gift membership fee of \$ for:

Name

Address

Postcode

NB: Chain Reaction is sent free to all members of FOE. Make cheques payable to Friends of the Earth. Send to 366 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066. Contact us for details of tax deductible contributions. Telephone (03) 419 8700.

LEAD

Major success for Friends of the Earth

By Andrew Herington

The campaign to stop the addition of lead to Australian petrol has been a major success for Friends of the Earth and its style of campaigning. In the space of two years the community campaign, spearheaded by FOE and funded by local government, managed to completely reverse the situation. Despite extravagant lobbying by the oil and lead industries, environmentalists managed to stir public concern and persuade the federal and state governments to adopt a programme involving the reduction of lead levels and the introduction of lead free petrol in mid 1985.

Friends of the Earth played a major role in co-ordinating the campaign nationally and producing educational materials for distribution. Stickers, booklets and multilingual leaflets were produced and widely distributed to child care organisations, local councils, government bodies and the general public. A regular newsletter played an important role in keeping inter-



LIZ HONEY

ted people informed of the latest developments in what turned out to be a very complex debate. FOE's ability to mobilise people to organise meetings, demonstrations and street stalls was very important in mounting a continuing campaign. The skills picked up by campaigners on previous issues were vital to the success of the efforts to convey the anti lead message in the mass media.

The air pollution group are now re-assessing the extent of the victory scored and developing their objectives for the next year. Issues to be tackled include lead in baby food, industrial pollution, indoor air pollution, occupational exposure to lead and the need for quick action on the reduction of lead levels.

ENERGY

By Stephanie Bunbury

FOE's interest in energy has led it to be closely involved with the Keep Victoria Nuclear Free campaign. It has also supported the campaign organised by Portland Action against the establishment of an energy wasteful aluminium smelter at Portland.

The next step in Victoria's energy debate will be over the proposed Driffield 4,000 megawatt power station in the Latrobe Valley and the establishment of up to five oil from coal plants. FOE has started early by establishing a campaign and seeking sponsors. Research has been initiated on a wide range of air, water and land pollution problems and on analysing the energy consequences of rapid exploitation of our brown coal reserves. We are now looking for interested people to help produce materials (to expand on the recently published book *Fuel for Unrest*) and to organise general campaign activities.

On a more general front, FOE has worked to help co-ordinate energy groups to ensure that all areas of these issues are being covered. To this end we produced a broadsheet *Who's doing what on energy?* which lists the contacts for all the major energy groups in Victoria and describes their activities.

URANIUM

By Pat Lowther

Since Friends of the Earth was formed in Melbourne back in 1972 we have always worked against the mining of uranium.

For several years it was impossible to gain much media coverage for the issue. In July 1975 the Labor Cabinet ordered that the mining proposals of Ranger Uranium Mines Ltd in the Northern Territory be subject

to a public environmental inquiry. FOE played a significant role in the inquiry, organizing much of the evidence opposing the Ranger proposal, uranium mining in general and the entire nuclear fuel cycle. FOE presented key witnesses from industry, unions, community groups, from physicists, botanists and environmentalists.

While the Ranger Inquiry Commissioners were taking evidence around the country FOE in Melbourne was publishing *Uranium Deadline* a six-weekly, 32 page, Australia-wide resume of nuclear news and campaign activities.

FOE brought further public attention with its *Rides Against Uranium* to Canberra in 1975, 1976 and 1977. In 1975 FOE brought Amory Lovins, noted nuclear critic and advocate of 'soft energy options', to Australia. In Melbourne he gave substantial evidence before the Ranger Inquiry and spoke at public meetings organized by FOE. Toward the end of the Inquiry's public hearings in mid 1976 we submitted Conzinc Riotinto/Mary Kathleen Uranium Ltd documents leaked to our office confirming the existence of world uranium price fixing by a cartel of companies including the Australian uranium miners.

The impact of these documents is still being felt around the world, as it brought on a major clash between Westinghouse (reactor manufacturers) and the uranium suppliers. The Australian companies and Westinghouse have only recently reached an out of court settlement — and not without special legislation outlawing further international exposure of the companies dealings.

In Melbourne, in March 1977 FOE released *Red Light for Yellowcake*. The book was the first comprehensive public statement by the anti-uranium movement in Australia. Over 30,000 copies have been sold.

Since 1977 FOE has produced literature covering all aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle from *Ground for Concern* published by Penguin and edited by Mary Elliot for FOE in Sydney to the familiar red and yellow *Stop Uranium Mining* car sticker produced in Melbourne with over 100,000 sales so far.

Continued on next page.



Stephanie Bunbury/Brown Coal Study Group, and Michael Harris/Alternative Technology



Pat Lowther/Uranium Collective



John Hallam/Uranium Collective

Melbourne's
Development
and
Planning

Clive S. Beed

Melbourne's Development and Planning

by
Clive S Beed, Department of Regional and Urban
Economic Studies, University of Melbourne

Chapters on transport, pollution, land use,
suburbanization and the inner city.

330 pages, including 46 diagrams, maps and tables.
Recommended price \$15 paperback,
plus postage \$1.30.

Publisher: Clewara Press, P.O. Box 182, Parkville
3052

URANIUM *from page 11*

FOE is an affiliate of the Movement Against Uranium Mining. With them we meet as a liaison group with officials from a number of trade unions. While ACTU policy is stronger than ever before, it is important to remember that unions are geared by the support of workers and the general community.

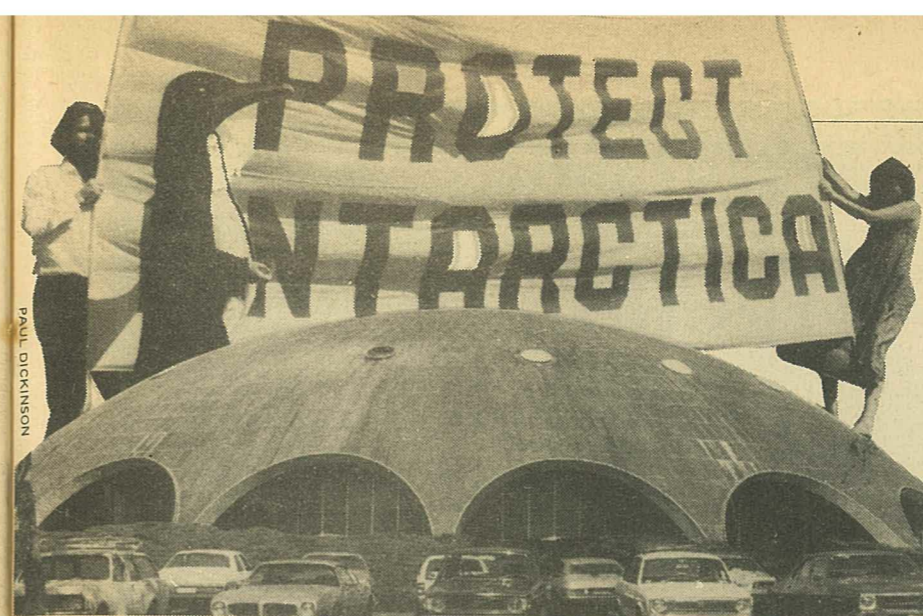
For four years FOE in Melbourne has challenged through representations of Shareholders for Social Responsibility uranium mining companies CRA, WMC, EZ and Northern Mining at their Annual General Meetings to make themselves accountable to the public. We are always keen to hear from people interested in corporate responsibility or those who wish to attend meetings as proxies.

In 1977 in Melbourne following receipt of a generous donation FOE established the Uranium Fighting Fund. \$10,000 has been given by one person each year to support effective projects across Australia opposing uranium mining and in support of Aboriginal land rights. So far over 60 projects have been funded.

FOE established Musicians United for Safe Energy Options in Melbourne. Now, with MAUM and musicians regular concerts are being organized to spread the anti-nuclear message to music lovers.

Throughout Australia women opposed to nuclear power are organizing groups to inform themselves and other women of the effects of the nuclear fuel cycle on them. We welcome new women to work with us.

To join the campaign contact Pat Lowther at FOE.



FOE lobbyists at the Special Antarctic Consultative Meeting held in Canberra in March 1978.

OCEANS/ ANTARCTICA The last great wilderness

By Brian Appleford

For several years the protection of ocean and Antarctic life has been a matter of concern to Friends of the Earth in Australia. The most notable campaign was that to have whaling outlawed: the success of FOE and other groups on this issue is well known.

However, less well known have been the efforts of FOE to prevent the exploitation of Antarctica and its surrounding sea-life. Recognising the dangers of planned exploitation. Friends of the Earth initiated an Antarctic campaign in 1977.

Although not generally known by the public this campaign was successful in focusing government attention on the risks of 'utilizing' Antarctic resources.

Unfortunately the Antarctic issue has not been won yet and a great deal of work remains to alert the world to the threats facing this last great wilderness.

Work is being done on other important issues related to the seas. But much more needs to be done. The implications for the marine environment of deep sea mining for minerals are not fully known or understood. The alarming incidence of super-tanker accidents continues to result in enormous oil spills. Over fishing, pollution, Law of the Seas and the destruction of sea-life such as seals, whales, dugongs and turtles are only a few of the problems.

It is important to realise that seas are an integral part of the world ecological balance, and to maintain that balance work needs to be done to protect and restore the natural environment. FOE can provide the opportunities for you to join such efforts.

Energy to burn?

A guide to saving energy and money around the home.

An Australian book which brings together the scattered information on how to save both energy and money in and around your home.

Written and published by the Conservation Council of Victoria, a non-government, non-profit organisation as a positive contribution to energy conservation and environmental protection in Australia.

\$3 (\$3.50 posted)

Available now from:

419 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3000,
P.O. Box 845J, Melbourne, 3001. Phone: 602 4877.



ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Positive, sound alternatives

By Michael Harris

The Alternative Technology Association was started when a number of people from FOE Collingwood decided that a group was needed for people interested in the practical side of alternative technology. They were concerned about the environmentally damaging methods of energy production being used and planned for the future, and wanted to promote a positive, environmentally sound alternative.

Since its formation a number of developments have taken place. The group operates independently from FOE with separate subscriptions and membership, but works from the same building and maintains close liaison with FOE.

The ATA is comprised of people from a large variety of backgrounds who are interested and involved in the use and promotion of alternative technology in its widest sense. Areas of common interest include wind

power, solar energy, crop fuels, methane digestion, alternative transport, building etc. The group organises and carries out a range of activities including regular meetings, field trips and work shops. A newsletter is published with information about meetings and other activities as well as news items of current alternative technology interest. All members of the group receive *Soft Technology*, the Association's magazine on alternative technology. It gives particular emphasis to the practical aspects of developments.

Perhaps the most useful function of the group is its provision of a contact point for people interested in alternative technology making it possible for those people to meet and exchange ideas and information.

Anyone interested in getting in touch with the group should write to the ATA c/- FOE Collingwood. Planning is carried out by committee meetings held once every two months.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Local groups

There are approximately 30 local and campus Friends of the Earth groups throughout Australia of which six are based in Victoria. These groups vary in size, character, organisation and the areas to which they address themselves. Two years ago in Victoria it was agreed that local group decision making should rest largely with these local groups. This decentralisation programme has enabled the local groups to more effectively determine the nature and the scope of their activities. They are now autonomous groups who adopt the general philosophy and aims of FOE, but who adapt these to the specific requirements of their local area. The scope of their activities however, is restricted by limited finances. Membership fees and donations comprise the bulk of local group funding, and determine the extent of their involvement in environmental issues. Despite these constraints the local groups have effectively isolated and tackled many areas of concern.

Eltham Friends of the Earth

Eltham FOE was established four years ago after a well attended inaugural meeting organised by Fred Baker of Movement Against Uranium Mining (MAUM) and FOE. Monthly meetings are held at Eltham High School, with visiting speakers or members informing us on a wide range of environmental issues. We have held cake-stalls in local shopping centres, markets and fairs. Relevant booklets, badges, car stickers are sold and free pamphlets disseminated whenever possible.

All our members receive monthly newsletters keeping us in touch with environmental action all over Melbourne. Financial members also receive copies of *Chain Reaction*.

Two and a half years ago we held a most successful Alternative Energy Festival in the Eltham Town Park. Many interested groups prepared displays including alternative technology (solar panels and windmills) green houses, mud-brick making, anti-whaling and 3CR Community Radio.

Over the last year we have held meetings about threats to the Great Barrier Reef and East Gippsland, on problems inherent in nuclear energy production and the use of 2,4,5-T and low energy housing.

We feel we have played a real if limited part in raising community awareness over the issues of whaling and leaded petrol in particular, both of which are being successfully resolved.

Our future direction will be less speaker-orientated. We will be becoming more active in local community affairs, especially the threat to our railway due to the Lonie Report. We will be advertising our activities more via local press and displaying posters and infor-

mation in local meeting places. We plan to phone or visit our 'invisible' members to renew their earlier enthusiasm. Via letter writing campaigns we hope to become fearsome foes of the Earth's exploiters. We will be saturating our local area with letter-boxed information on issues such as the proposed Seeds Varieties Bill to mobilise actions from other concerned citizens.

Contact: John and Judy Blyth, Telephone (03) 435 9160

Oakleigh District Environment Group

Last year the Movement Against Uranium Mining accumulated names and addresses of people interested in supporting the anti-nuclear cause and we found there were over 60 people in the Oakleigh area. So along with people on the FOE files in our area Tony Collins of MAUM and I organised a meeting in February to see if there was any interest in Oakleigh for an environmental group — there was! So we are away, with some high energy input from 'new' people and some 'old workers' who have been active over the last few years.

An aim we agreed on was to try to involve as many people as possible, so in addition to the FOE and MAUM members/supporters we have contacted the Australian Conservation Foundation and the Native Forests Action Council for more 'greenies' and we have called the group Oakleigh District Environment Group. We hope to thus have at least one or two activists on each major issue — Food Justice, anti-nuclear, bikes/public transport, forests etc. who can call on the others for support in a street stall, meeting or whatever.

There are many projects to look into in our area — What local factories do with their chemical wastes? Are they using radioactive isotopes? If so, where do they dispose of them? Paths and facilities at shopping centres and public transport stations for bikes are needed, as is support for local park development and much more.

Contact: Cath McCarthy, 1/7 Monash Street, South Oakleigh.

Other local groups

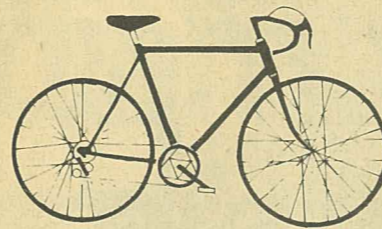
LaTrobe University: Richard Watts, (03) 489 9278

Mitcham: Kevin Smith (03) 874 6049

Monash University: Julie Millard,
Community Research Action Centre, Union (03)
541 0811 ext. 3141 or 3125.

TOP QUALITY BICYCLES & REPAIRS

DIRECT FROM
"THE BEST LITTLE BIKE
FACTORY IN MELBOURNE"



Repairs, re-conditioning, trade-ins, custom building, BMX from \$139, Exercycles from \$65, 10 speed from \$169, 5 yr warranty, 1 free service, lay-by, Bankcard, top tradesperson, touring gear, safety gear.

MELBOURNE BICYCLE CENTRE

37 QUEENS PARADE
CLIFTON HILL

489 5569

GOING SOLAR

320 Victoria Street
North Melbourne 3051
PHONE 03 328 4123

Mon-Fri 9:00 to 5:30
Sat. 9:00 to 1:00

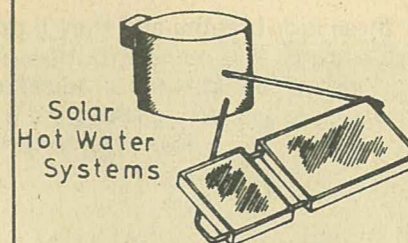
NEW SHOP



AGRICULTURE

SEEDS
VEGETABLE
HERB & FLOWER
TOOLS
For Gardening

STAINLESS STEEL
MUD BRICK MOULDS



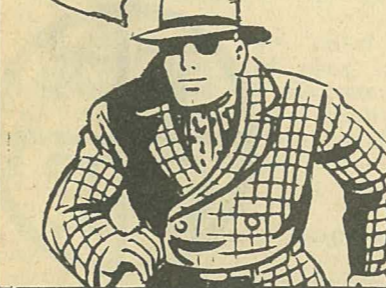
CRAFTS FOOD.

SPINNING WHEELS
BOOKS & MAGAZINES
Grinders, Fowlers, Preserving, Storage Jars, Driers.

SOUND ADVICE #1.



GO SEE WALKER*
PRESS ABOUT PRINTING IT.



WALKER* PRESS ph.4195152.
23 SMITH STREET FITZROY.
Cheap rates for impoverished groups.

NATURAL HEALTH SUPPLIES

Wholesale and retail

Organic food supplies

Fruit, vegetables, nuts and wholegrains. Naturally grown in healthy soil, poison free — properly ripened.

LIFE & VISION PUBLICATIONS

Health & Vision

Australian Vegetarian Magazine Subscriptions in advance \$2.50 plus 40c posting.

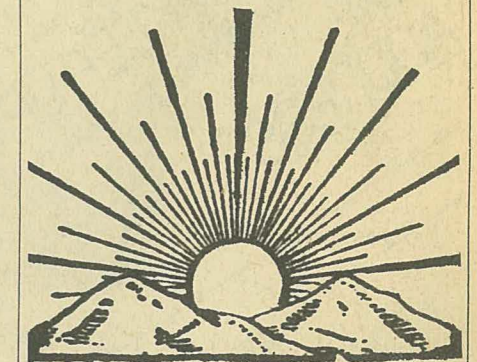
The Vegetarian Society of Australasia Inc.

Free list of magazines and books on request.

Phototypesetting
Professional Artwork/Layout/Design
Printed — offset litho
Specialising Magazine Publications

NATURAL HEALTH SUPPLIES

78 Ormond Road
Elwood, Victoria, 3184
Telephone (03) 531 7577





LEARNING EXCHANGE

SERVE UP A BETTER FUTURE

We are getting lead out of the air these kids breathe and they'll probably still see whales when they're older. We're working hard towards a fairer distribution of the world's food and an end to the nuclear madness. Friends of the Earth is a radical activist group — that means we don't avoid controversy. We are raising issues for today and tomorrow. We need money now to continue our work. Please give generously.

HERE'S \$
NAME
ADDRESS

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK



Friends of the Earth,
366 Smith St,
Collingwood, 3066, Vic.
Phone: (03) 419 8700.

Send me details for making a tax-deductable donation
Post Code

The cost of diamonds

A leak to *Chain Reaction* tells how Kimberley Diamond Mines Pty Ltd seek to "shape a social and political environment favourable to the establishment of an Australian diamond mining industry." Leigh Holloway reports.

"IPR... believe that those dedicated to securing a larger share of mining revenues for Aborigines will ultimately succeed and that our best policy is to position ourselves to conduct these negotiations. This is a fundamental difference of view — and IPR is to be commended for its candour. However, given this view, it is difficult to see how that Agency could effectively work towards objectives which it does not believe are attainable."

This is a key reason why Eric White Associates beat International Public Relations to get Kimberley Diamond Mines public relations account.

Kimberley Diamond Mines Pty Limited are the managers of the Joint Ashton Venture in north-west Western Australia. Venture partners are CRA (56.8%), Ashton Mining (38.2%) and Northern Mining (5%).

They want a "strong and positive image" showing how they are "socially responsive and a good employer".

They asked Eric White Associates and International Public Relations, the two largest and "most respected" PR consultants in Australia, for some ideas.

Ever enthusiastic EWA called it "one of the most challenging and exciting public relations prospects in the history of consulting in Australia", while IPR merely settled for describing it as "extraordinarily exciting".

The forecast for 1981 PR expenditure is at least \$374,000.

The public relations programme primarily had to

- sustain the Argyle Agreement signed with the Glen Hill Aboriginal community and "isolate this agreement from the general debate on Aboriginal Land Rights."
- lobby "State and Federal Govern-

ment Ministers, Members of Parliament and appropriate members of the Public Service to counter efforts... unfavourable to the company." This includes countering "pressure for the early establishment of an Australian diamond cutting industry, subsidised by mine earnings."

- initiate or develop activities aimed at the Media, Government or community.

To meet "the threat" posed by these issues the company was advised by its own PR department that "the path to success is not via high profile participation in the broadscale public debating of the Aboriginal Land Rights issue". The message was to be aimed at "key decision makers".

A worry is that "those parties seeking the establishment of a subsidised Australian cutting industry have political connections in Canberra."

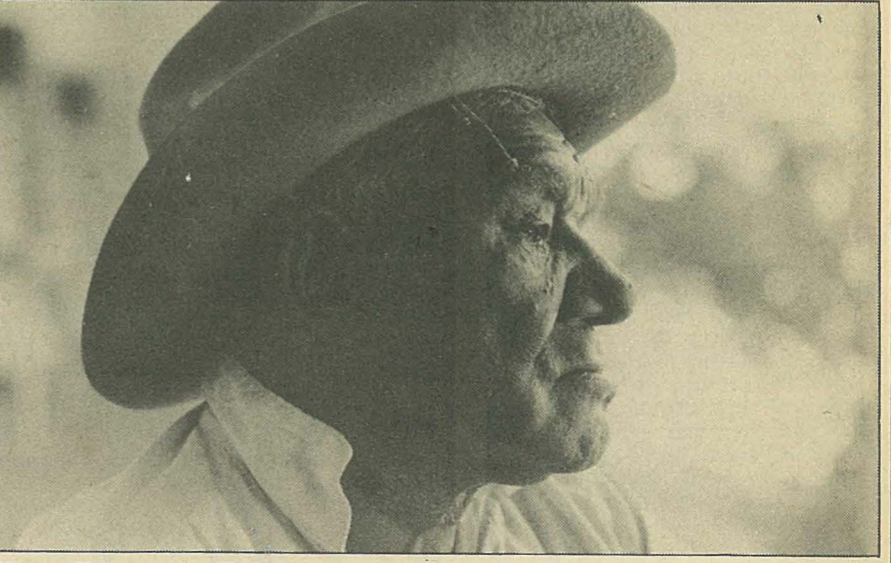
The Kimberley miners are spending \$35,000 on the consultants, \$40,000 on a "prestige" Annual Report style document, \$15,000 on a "relatively cheap production" white paper explaining the company's policy towards its Aboriginal "neighbours" and the benefits of their "Good Neighbour

Programme", \$120,000 on two films (one "primarily for use in taking our case to Government"), \$15,000 audio-visuals, \$25,000 photography, \$25,000 media relations, \$15,000 government relations and \$15,000 community relations.

Kimberley Diamond Mines looked at what other mining companies spend on PR. Alcoa — \$1 million plus, with a public relations staff of 26. Amax, operators of the Noonkanbah Oil Exploration Project — \$200,000. BHP — \$3 million plus, including sponsorship of *60 Minutes* and the lavish *BHP Journal*. Comalco — \$900,000 with \$100,000 on internal public relations. CRA — \$3 million plus, with a staff of 24. MIM — \$500,000. Utah — \$100,000 on direct PR, \$500,000 to \$1.5 million on the Utah Foundation. Western Mining Corporation — \$100,000.

Aboriginal Land Rights organisations, environmentalists and their supporters do not spend like amounts. Indeed many have trouble paying their telephone bills, let alone staff salaries.

Work is due to have restarted on the Ashton project by June. The extent of big companies' concern, cynical calculations and might should be remembered, especially by making donations to Aboriginal Land Councils.



Nipper Tabagee, Co-Chairperson of the Kimberley Land Council

LYN MCLEAVY

The Incredible Shrinking Department

Since its heyday as the Department of Environment and Conservation under Senior Labor Government ministers, the people who handle environmental affairs in the federal bureaucracy have been shuffled between departments and deprived of power and staff. Finally, buffeted and

bruised, they find themselves under the most junior federal minister, with little influence in the process of government.

On these pages, three *Chain Reaction* contributors examine the changing fortunes of environmental affairs in the Federal arena.

States take over environment

By David Allworth

In the last few weeks the issue of Commonwealth/State relations has blown up in the Federal Government's face, fuelling dissension on the back bench. But in at least one area the Government's policy of handing responsibility to State Governments has created little controversy. Environmental affairs, under a series of agreements dating back to Kevin Newman's term as Minister, are now in many critical areas under the control of the states. The 'razor gang's' recommendation that the states be given 'responsibility for the regulation and control of nuclear activities in Australia . . .' is the culmination of this process.

Under the Federal Government's current policies, the critical area of assessing the environmental impact of large-scale resource projects has suffered most significantly. The terms of

David Allworth works with the Community Research and Action Centre at Monash University. He was manager of the Canberra and South East Region Environment Centre, 1978-80.

the *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974* are very broad. They give the Governor-General in Council, acting on the advice of the Minister, important power in deciding the application of the Act. Their discretionary power extends to areas such as the roles of State and Federal Governments in environmental impact assessment, and the nature of public inquiries into specific projects.

Under the Liberal Government, environmental assessments by the Environmental Impact Assessments Branch have increasingly consisted of tagging along with state assessments. Western Australia provides a graphic example of the basis on which some state assessments are being made. It is governed by a Liberal-National Country Party government whose stated intention is to extract mineral resources at any cost. Consequently, the question addressed by the government is not whether a project should go ahead, but how. In some cases, this attitude has meant that the WA Environment Protection Authority recommendations have been suppressed by the Court Government.

With many of the major resources extraction projects likely to occur in the conservatively governed states of Queensland and Western Australia, the Federal Government's transfer of power is not simply an application of the 'new federalism'. It contains a real policy decision - that the mining of Australian minerals should take place without any critical examination of the environmental consequences.

These events coincide with a continued downgrading of the environment within the federal bureaucracy. The former Department of Environment and Conservation has lost power in favour of the Departments of Primary

GOVERNMENT

Industry, Trade and Resources, and the Treasury in matters of proposed resource development.

Treasury's attitude is summed up in documents leaked to the press as long ago as 1976, when J M Wark, first Assistant Secretary, wrote "Decisions of physical and economic measures must often be taken quickly so that there would be insufficient time for compliance with Environment Impact Statement procedures". After discussions with the Treasurer in 1978, J. Belshaw of the Treasury wrote 'He [Mr Howard] did not like Environment, Housing and Community Development having independent discussions with parties on foreign investment matters'.

While Treasury has refused to cooperate with the House of Representatives inquiry into the *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act*, it continues behind the scenes, to push for changes to that Act.

Although the staff in the present Environment Division of Home Affairs and the Environment are generally extremely helpful and responsive to public concerns, the continued decline in their numbers further hinders their effectiveness. The information section once had a staff of 26. Now, two people have the responsibility of studying the impact of aluminium projects across Australia. The Department of Home Affairs and Environment is now expected to eliminate a further 45 jobs under the recommendations of the 'razor gang.'

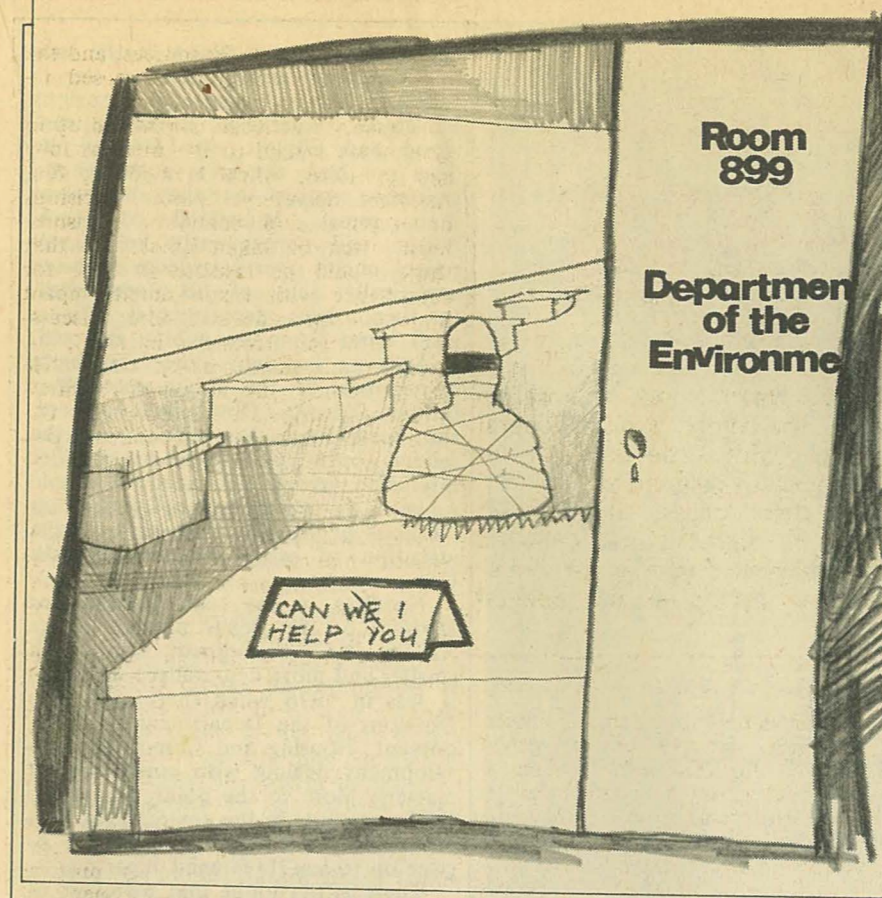
Department with no clout

By Joe Cannata

I was first asked in February to provide information on the effects of the transfer of federal government administration of the environment from Science and the Environment to Home Affairs and the Environment. Bob Ellicott was Minister. Two months have passed, and so have two more Environment Ministers. That's about the measure of the priority the Federal Government has given the environment in recent years.

Since 1972, the portfolio has passed through the hands of no less than six-

Joe Cannata is a keen observer of federal environmental affairs.



teen Ministers and one acting Minister. We are now on the tenth Minister since the Liberal-National Country Parties Government came to power in 1975. The complete list since Peter Howson became the first Federal Minister with environmental responsibilities is shown in the box on this page.

With this kind of record, on our computing Ian Wilson should have

the portfolio for a little over six months!

Apart from the ill-fated Ivor Greenwood - who died in office - and Bob Ellicott, the Ministerial ranking of environment Ministers has never been higher than 20 out of 27 or 28. Mr Wilson is number 28. The 'clout' of the environment department in the Federal bureaucracy is correspondingly low. Little is on the parliamentary record

Environment ministers

MINISTER	PERIOD OF HOLDING PORTFOLIO	PORTFOLIOS NAME
P. HOWSON	31-5-1971 to 5-12-1972	Environment, Aborigines and the Arts
E. G. WHITLAM	5-12-1972 to 19-12-1972	" " " "
M. H. CASS	19-12-1972 to 21-4-1975	Environment & Conservation
M. H. CASS	21-4-1975 to 6-6-1975	Environment
J. F. CAIRNS	6-6-1975 to 2-7-1975	Environment
E. G. WHITLAM	2-7-1975 to 14-7-1975	Environment
J. M. BERINSON	14-7-1975 to 11-11-1975	Environment
A. S. PEACOCK	12-11-1975 to 22-12-1975	Environment
I. J. GREENWOOD	22-12-1975 to 8-7-1976	Environment, Housing & Community Development
M. J. R. MacKELLAR	(Acted during Greenwood's illness April-July)	" " " "
K. E. NEWMAN	8-7-1976 to 20-12-1977	" " " "
R. J. GROOM	20-12-1977 to 11-12-1978	" " " "
J. J. WEBSTER	11-12-1978 to 7-12-1979	Science and the Environment
D. S. THOMSON	7-12-1979 to 3-11-1980	" " " "
R. J. ELLICOTT	3-11-1980 to 17-2-1981	Home Affairs & Environment
M. J. R. MacKELLAR	17-2-1981 to 19-3-1981	" " " "
I. B. C. WILSON	19-3-1981	" " " "

which would indicate Mr Wilson's basic views on environmental matters. Since his re-election in 1972 for the South Australian seat of Sturt, he has made relatively few speeches in the House. Of these, only one - a rather non-descript discourse on the Great Barrier Reef - dealt with environmental matters.

However, unlike any of his predecessors in the portfolio under Prime Minister Fraser, Wilson does have some background in environmental affairs, having been a member of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment for a total of about 28 months from 1974 to 1977. This committee has, on the whole, developed a deservedly good reputation for the thoroughness of its investigations and generally progressive recommen-

Environment Division branches

Environment Strategy Branch: responsible for developing policy initiatives, co-ordinating policy advice and developing the National Conservation Strategy. Branch Head: Bob Mills.

Impact Assessment Branch: administers the *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act*. Branch Head: Eric Anderson.

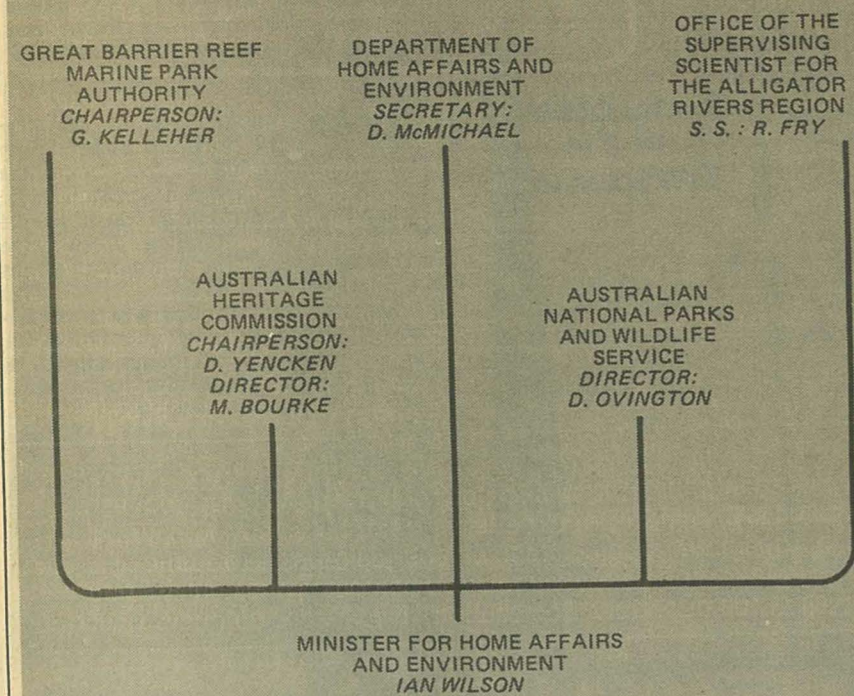
Environment Assessment Branch: administers the *Environment Protection (Nuclear Codes) Act*, and is responsible for assessment and policy advice on hazardous chemicals, nuclear activities and air quality. Branch Head: Digby Gascoine.

Environment Programmes Branch: administers grants (not those to conservation bodies), provides support to the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the Office of the Supervisory Scientist, provides the secretariat to the Australian Environment Council (Commonwealth and State Environment Ministers), the Council of Nature Conservation Ministers and the Australian Ionising Radiation Advisory Committee. Branch Head: John Sands.

Environment Studies Branch: undertakes supporting studies and deals with environmental economics and statistics. Branch Head: Don Machae.

The Division also contains the Bureau of Fauna and Flora which has responsibility for the national programme to collect, describe and classify Australian plants and animals. Acting Director: Alison McCusker.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS
AND THE ENVIRONMENT
AND ASSOCIATED BODIES.**



dations, sometimes flying in the face of current government policy.

Wilson has, of course, no previous Ministerial experience. Unlike Greenwood and Ellicott, also lawyers, he does not have the great authority on legislative matters that they did among their senior Ministerial colleagues. Wilson will consequently be heavily reliant on his own knowledge or more specifically that of his department. In turn, these departmental officers need input from the public, and will, I believe, become more responsive if members of the public make their interest known. Obviously, however, the departments low ranking in the federal bureaucracy will mean that interested groups will need to couple pressure on the department with other methods of bringing their views to the attention of senior members of the Government.

Needless to say, the Environment Division of the Department of Home Affairs and Environment is a much smaller and more demoralised unit than it was in 1976 when there were two Divisions of the Department of Environment, Housing and Community Development dealing with environmental matters. More to the point, many key public servants in the environment area have either left the Public Service or gone on to less threatened departments. There is no doubt that members of

the Environment Division were overjoyed at leaving the Department of Science, which meticulously scrutinised all paperwork being forwarded to the Ministers at that time (Webster and Thomson). The other reason for relief was to be back in a department where Dr Don McMichael was Permanent Head. Dr McMichael, former Director of the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, was the head of the Department of Environment under the Labor Government. In 1976 he was Director of Environment in Environment, Housing and Community Development (which had swallowed a number of Labor-formed departments) until he became Head of the newly created department of Home Affairs in 1977. Recently he was elected Chairperson of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Environment Committee.

While McMichael undoubtedly has an impeccable knowledge of environmental matters, there has always been some doubt about his willingness to fight for the issues his officers consider to be important. It has been widely rumoured in Canberra that McMichael has been biding his time in the hope of an appointment to one of the international environment agencies such as the United Nations Environment Programme or the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. In the meantime it can be expected that he may indulge in a reported penchant for overseas trips and not rock any boats.

The head of the Environment Division is Ken Thompson, who is not known as a tough public service fighter, making a new emergence of environmental activity unlikely.

Within the Department, the emphasis is likely to be on developing co-operation with the States (which will be difficult in the case of Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia) and improving liaison with industry.

Two particular areas which are likely to receive most attention are the development of a National Conservation Strategy and increased emphasis on the control of hazardous chemicals. The former has the backing of no less a luminary than Malcolm Fraser, and the latter is becoming of greater importance as new chemical disasters and threats become a weekly occurrence throughout the world.

In the meantime, the effects of the single major piece of Federal environmental legislation, the *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974* has become almost negligible. In 1975-76, the first year of the Act's operation, 5,000 proposals were considered and 55 Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) were either received or directed. In 1976-77 918 proposals were examined, eight EIS released and

Current Environmental Impact Statements

Below is a list of Environmental Impact Statements currently being prepared by the Department of Home Affairs and Environment, but not yet at the final statement stage.

Copies of EIS are required to be lodged by the companies involved at environment centres around Australia (eg. Queensland Conservation Council or the Environment Action Centre in Melbourne) and may be read by interested people at these centres. The *Administrative Procedures - Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974* requires a minimum of 28 days public review before a final report is produced, a minimum which is "generally adhered to", according to the Department.

PROPOSAL	DATE DIRECTED	PROGRESS
Mereenie Oil/Gas Project, NT (Oilmin/Magellan)	16 April 80	Draft EIS Gazetted for Public Review 24/2/81.
TV Translator Facility, North Head, Sydney Harbour, NSW	9 June 1980	Draft E.I.S. Gazetted for Public Review 7/10/80.
Proposed Aerial Gondola, Black Mountain, A.C.T.	17 June 1980	Draft EIS Gazetted for Public Review 24/2/81.
Aluminium Smelter, Goodwood Qld. (Alcan)	15 Aug 1980	Draft E.I.S. Gazetted for Public Review 31/3/81.
Ben Lomond Uranium Project, Townsville, Qld. (Minatome Australia Pty. Ltd.)	25 Nov. 1980	
Lake Way Uranium Project, W.A. (Delphi International Oil Corp.)	2 April 1981	

eight directed to be prepared. The trend continued: in 1978-80, three EIS were released and eleven directed. There have been only two public inquiries under the Act - Ranger uranium and Fraser Island sand-mining.

There is clearly much to be done at the national level. Whether or not it is done will be partly a question of ministerial ability and bureaucratic will. Both are presently unknown quantities. But one factor which remains constant is the Government's resistance to init-

atives from the Environment Division which conflict with policies from other, more senior Departments (and there are 27 of them). So, while individuals in the Division are potentially responsive to input from environmental organisations and the public, the issues with which we feel the Government should be concerned need also to be pushed into the public forum so they are not lost behind the closed doors of Government decision-making.

Heritage's future

The Australian Heritage Commission's staff of seventeen may be further reduced, following the Razor Gang's order of a 6% cut in the Department of Home Affairs and Environment.

But fear of a strong electoral reaction prevents the Government from going further.

It is not going to be a good year for opponents of the Commission. In June there will be a new Senate, of which a majority could be expected to support retaining the Commission and the legislation which gives it considerable autonomy from political directives. In August the AHC and Macmillan's will release a 1,200 page book, with 600 photos, documenting Aus-

tralia's valuable cultural and natural heritage. In October the World Heritage Committee meets in Sydney. Each of these developments will enhance the Commission's public standing.

The Government's key opportunity to either damage or support the Commission is when David Yencken's period as Chairperson of the Australian Heritage Commission finishes on 22 July 1981. The choice of his successor is of enormous importance to the continued effective existence of the Commission. In every year since it was established, over 5 years ago, it has faced the possibility of, and narrowly escaped extinction.

FORUMS ON LOCAL PLANNING FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION

One effective way of encouraging energy conservation involves the introduction of planning measures at the local government level. These measures often have beneficial effects on local communities in addition to their role in saving energy.

These forums will enable local and regional planners, members of local councils, building inspectors, engineers, architects and concerned citizens:

- to evaluate planning initiatives already taken in the United States and Australia;
- to formulate recommendations for actions which should be taken at local, State and Federal levels;
- to form working parties to encourage and assist the implementation of the recommendations.

Guest speaker: JAMES RIDGEWAY

Writer on energy issues and founder of the Public Resource Center in Washington, D.C.: author of the recently-published book *Energy-Efficient Community Planning*.

Other speakers and resource persons will include representatives of local, State and Federal governments, planners and professional consultants.

Forum locations, dates and information contacts:

BRISBANE:	4 June	I. Lowe	(07) 275 7610
MELBOURNE:	10 June	D. Crossley	(03) 541 3837
HOBART:	12 June	R. Jones	(002) 23 0561
CANBERRA:	15 June	H. Saddler	(062) 49 2635
SYDNEY:	18 June	R. Waddell	(02) 662 2261



"Wildlife in Australia" is a 32-page colour magazine printed in Queensland and published quarterly by the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland. This outstanding magazine deals with wildlife conservation issues from all Australian States with regular features including "Teachers' Page", "Around the States" and "Along the Nature Trail".

Annual subscription to "Wildlife in Australia" is \$8.00 for four issues, including postage. An overseas subscription makes a superb gift from Australia at \$10.00 for four issues, including postage.

Single Membership of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland is available for \$7.50 annually; joint membership \$9.00.

Magazine Subscription is \$8.00 per annum; \$7.50 for members.

Write now to:

**Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland,
8 Clifton Street,
Petrie Terrace Qld 4000**

School's out

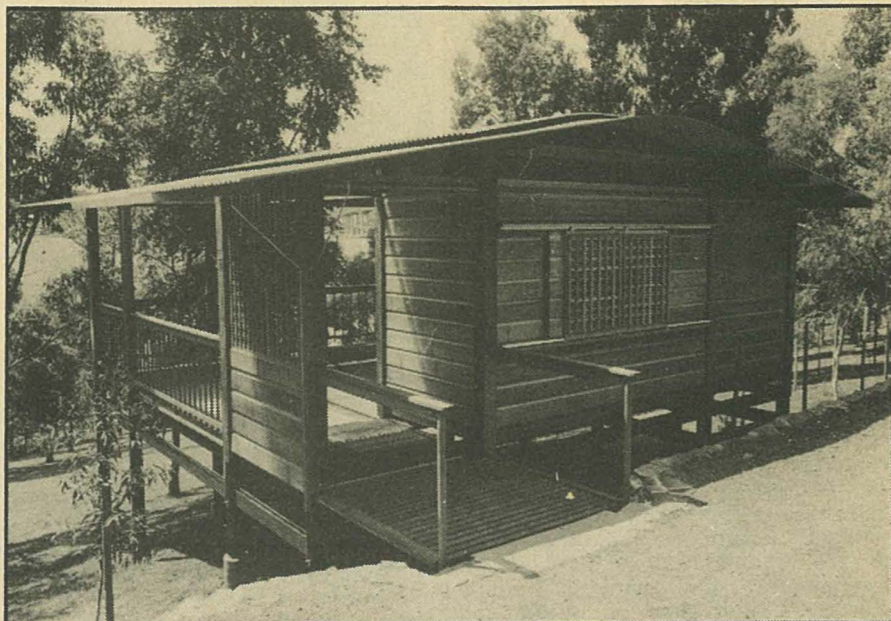
When the State and Federal Governments demolished the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education's School of Environmental Design, the response was as creative as the course had been. Students, teachers and practitioners set up their own Hobart Architectural Co-operative.

This first article in *Chain Reaction's* series on environment education is by Leigh Woolley.

Tasmania has seen some remarkable fluctuations in recent decades. Ten years ago in Hobart saw the first intake in a unique environmental education programme. The new School of Environmental Design, was part of the recently constituted Tasmanian College of Advanced Education.

With prospects nurtured by full employment the advanced education mandate was to produce practically oriented graduates capable of filling the growing gaps in a work-force not being catered for by established university education.

The School of Environmental Design chose to provide courses concerned with the built, natural and social environment which not only addressed pertinent environmental issues but which offered a unique educational experience for staff and students alike. Self assessment was the norm, lectures were anathema to individuals searching for practical approaches to problems confronting their lives, the formation and programming of activities was by mutual consent, administration and management was a community responsibility. Whilst the professional courses being offered (in Environmental Design, Architecture, Urban Planning, Landscape and Building) were forever under scrutiny, both locally and by national accreditation boards, there was agreement that graduates were at least as technically capable as those from previous systems. In terms of community involvement, individual motivation and influence on other interstate courses (especially architecture), there had been no comparison. Education was again regarded, in the classical sense, as a cultural life force rather than an institutional period of



The powerful educational tool — "learning by doing" is the basis of a commonsense approach to design education. This award-winning pavillion (a prototype of a timber building system) was built by students, in an apprenticeship situation.

ones life. An education in 'Environmental Design' ideally was not so much a discipline as an attitude towards ones own environment, built from the individuals knowledge of oneself, and their capacity to deal with problems and issues confronting them.

Whilst Tasmania may have benefited by the practical orientation of the school, short-term political expediency and the inevitable funding repercussions of conservatives have assisted in the institutional demise of the Hobart campus of the college. The rivalry evident between the larger states of the nation and its principal cities is paralleled more vehemently with a parochial north/south equivalent in Tasmania. To disadvantage one sector over the other has come to represent both a state (and federal) electoral nightmare.

By the mid seventies, business interests in the north of the state, a compliant State government and a southern based university threatened by declining numbers, saw the stage set for the demise of the first fully designed College of Advanced Education in the country, and the intent of many of its courses.

A core group of staff, students (and practitioners) mostly from the previous School of Environmental De-

sign have subsequently undertaken to begin an independent institution based on the educational principles outlined. Their Hobart Architectural Co-operative is determined not to be shackled by the mediocrity and short-term political decision-making characterised by the state and federally-funded education sector.

Work themes being considered this year include an "appreciation of the urban environment as the most fertile and creative human domain", the political economy of housing (including a review of housing issues in Southern Tasmania) and development of timber building techniques for system building and export (including a study visit to Japan).

Membership fees have been set at \$25 a year (subscription) or \$130 per semester and \$250 per year for active membership.

The prospectus declares "there are no arbitrary distinctions between members, depending on the issue being tackled and the skills and insights being developed."

Contact: The 1981 Prospectus, which includes a poster, is available from the Hobart Architectural Co-operative Constitution Dock, 1 Argyle Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7000. Telephone (002) 34 3618.

LEIGH WOOLLEY

Passing the buck on DES

Women and men have often suffered at the hands of the male dominated medical profession. In this article Donna Rawlins, a DES daughter, explains the tragic after effects of exposure to DES, the synthetic sex hormone which was prescribed to pregnant women from the 1940's to the 1970's. She outlines the disinterest and inaction of the Australian health authorities.

The 1940's saw the introduction of a medical procedure that was to become a medical nightmare. Smith and associates^{1,2,3} recommended the administration of diethylstilboestrol (or DES) to pregnant women to prevent repeated miscarriages and other complications of pregnancy. As with many drugs in use today, there was little research into the long term effects of its use. The Smith studies were poorly done and no controls were used. Unfortunately as Smith was the Head of the Harvard University Medical School, his reports were very influential and resulted in the widespread use of DES.

Some clinicians tested the hypothesis more rigorously. In one such study Dieckmann and associates compared DES with a placebo in some 2000 pregnant women who had the misfortune to enrol in the University of Chicago's pre-natal clinic during 1950-52. Half were given DES and half received a placebo in a double-blind trial. Dieckmann concluded that DES did not effect pregnancy one way or the other. Despite this many doctors continued to prescribe DES. Part of the tragedy of the DES story is that the Dieckmann study conclusion, that DES had no effect on pregnancy, was in fact wrong.

Dieckmann's data has been re-analysed and clearly shows that DES significantly increased abortions, neonatal deaths and premature births⁴.

In 1971 (30 years after the introduction of the drug) Herbst and associates⁵ reported that a previously

desPLEX
to prevent ABORTION, MISCARRIAGE and PREMATURE LABOR

recommended for routine use in ALL pregnancies...

96 per cent live delivery with desPLEX in one series of 1200 patients⁴ — bigger and stronger babies, too!¹¹

No gastric or other side effects with desPLEX — in either high or low dosage^{2,4,5}

(Each desPLEX tablet starts with 25 mg. of diethylstilboestrol, U.S.P., which is then ultramicrotonized to smooth and accelerate absorption and activity. A portion of this ultramicrotonized diethylstilboestrol is even included in the tablet coating to assure prompt help in emergencies. desPLEX tablets also contain vitamin C and certain members of the vitamin B complex to aid detoxification in pregnancy and the effectuation of estrogen.)

For further data and a generous trial supply of desPLEX, write to: Medical Director

REFERENCES

1. Conner, E. M., et al. *Am. J. Obst. & Gynec.* 65:1298, 1952.
2. Gilman, I. and Kaplowitz, A. N. Y. *St. J. Med.* 50:2823, 1950.
3. Karnaky, K. J. *South. M. J.* 45:1166, 1952.
4. Penn, E. E. *Med. Times* 32:921, 1954. *Am. J. Surg.* 97:95, 1954.
5. Ross, J. W. *J. Nat. M. A.* 43:70, 1951; 45:223, 1953.

GRANT CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC., Brooklyn 26, N.Y.

rare cancer, clear cell adenocarcinoma of the vagina and cervix, was being seen with unusual frequency in young women aged between fifteen and twenty-two years of age. The common denominator was exposure of the foetus to DES. Herbst was able to demonstrate the association of maternal use of DES during pregnancy with the development of clear cell adeno-

carcinoma of the vagina and cervix in female offspring.

In 1971, in the United States of America, Herbst established the 'Registry of Clear Cell Adenocarcinoma of the genital tract in young females' to study the relationship between exposure of the foetus to DES and the development of adenocarcinoma of the vagina and cervix.

DES ACTION

However, as cases were recorded it became evident that genital cancers were also present in patients exposed to progestins and steroidal estrogen. Thus some new questions regarding the carcinogenic properties of prenatally administered sex hormones have arisen. As a result the register was later changed to the 'Register of Research on Hormonal Transplacental carcinogenesis' as it now includes "... all cases of genital cancer (vulva, vagina, cervix, endometrium, tube and ovary) in any female with a reasonable possibility of exposure in utero to any exogenous sex hormone, including steroidal estrogens and progestins."

Other than the risks of cancer which occur in only one in 1000 of those exposed as fetuses, the more common side effects have been upper genital tract malformations in the cervix, uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries. (This is due to exposure to the drug between the eighth and eighteenth week of pregnancy when the genitals of the fetus are forming). It should be noted that many DES sons also suffer from malformed genitalia, undescended testes, etc.

These malformations often lead to infertility and pregnancy difficulties in the daughters. The chances of having an ectopic pregnancy (life threatening in itself) are greatly multiplied and because of the frequently mis-shapen uterus there are often complications when pregnancy reaches five to six months.

In 1971 when the USA Government put an emergency suspension on the drug, a concerted effort was made to reach the public with details of the drug and its effects. Since some six million women in the USA had taken the drug, prescribed under at least 200 different brand names, the campaign was huge. Publicity urged all those born after 1941 to check with their mothers or family doctors and present themselves for the correct screening procedures.

In Australia, where the number of those exposed is still unknown, no action whatsoever was taken until 1980. (DES is still not banned in Australia but is not recommended for use during pregnancy). It took nine frustrating years for a small number of people who knew the situation to persuade the Victorian Health Department to acknowledge that the drug was used in this state. On 6 September 1979 the Melbourne Age carried a front page article on DES. The State Government in reply stated that only twelve Victorian women were prescribed the drug. It was also claimed that all these women had been notified and the correct measures had been taken to ensure their safety (and presumably the safety of their offspring).

An article by Nancy Dexter in the Melbourne Age, 14 April 1980, re-

vealed quite a different story. As a result the DES Action Group received in excess of 100 phone queries and many women callers could definitely remember taking the drug (or a similar injectable progesterone drug Pro luton - now under scrutiny in the USA). Many of these women had actually kept copies of their prescriptions and the pill bottles. None of the women had previously heard of the risks of the drug and none of them had been notified by the Health Department or their doctors.

When a deputation of four members of DES Action met the Minister for Health, Mr Bill Borthwick, on 13 February 1980, they presented him with a submission of demands regarding the institution of a DES Register and a screening clinic. The submission included a twenty page fact sheet of information culled from the research of USA scientists and clinicians. Borthwick's reply, which finally came one month later on 14 March, cited nineteen references from sources used in compiling the fact sheet and noted that he was directing the submission to "... people with the proper expertise ...". No research on DES was being done in Australia. The sources used in the fact sheet were from the government sponsored research that the USA Government used to substantiate the ban of the drug.

Dealings with the Minister and Department of Health were difficult. Almost as difficult as finding a sympathetic and informed doctor. Many women were placated and told not to worry as the drug was completely harmless, a hard fact to chew since several young women in Australia had died from the cancer. With USA statistics showing a cancer rate of one in 1000, in exposed women, the previously given official figure of twelve DES mothers in Victoria was difficult to believe.

Members of DES Action presented copies of the fact sheet to their doctors and repeatedly got the same sort of replies. Doctors had often not even heard of the after effects of the drug. Contrary to the opinion of most doctors commenting on screening procedures, a normal Pap Smear Test will not reveal the abnormal cells present in the vaginas of exposed women.

Searches for doctors specialising in Colposcopy (viewing the vagina and cervix through a colposcope, a binocular like device) found only two who knew the syndrome and would regularly screen the women affected. Since adenocarcinoma is essentially symptomless, it is crucial that DES daughters are carefully screened. In women who have pre-cancer cells present, this screening procedure must be carried out at least every six months as the cancer is quick to develop once the cells begin to change.

In December 1980 the Health Department announced the opening of a new clinic at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne to screen DES exposed daughters. This is the only such clinic in Australia.

However, the Health Department has forgotten something; male foetuses have also been exposed to DES.

In the USA particular care is being paid to the possible relationship between the increasing incidence of testicular cancer and exposure to DES. The infertility rate is very high among exposed men, and other complications are also being investigated.

Contention still abounds within the Australian medical profession regarding the side effects on the women who actually took the drug during pregnancy even though USA research suggests definite dangers to their health also.

The story of DES Action is a long one. It has been complicated by the attitudes of the medical profession which have been positively discouraging. When it comes to dealing with a mistake made by the scientific, pharmaceutical and medical professions the buck is passed around like a hot potato.

DES Action can be contacted for further information at PO Box 282, Camberwell, Victoria 3124. Fact sheets and leaflets are available, outlining in more detail the DES case.

GLOSSARY

Ectopic pregnancy: one located away from the usual place e.g. in the fallopian tubes or ovary.

Transplacental: a substance which crosses the placenta and reaches the foetus.

Placebo: dummy tablet, usually made of sugar.

Double blind: the testing of a drug where neither the recipient or administrator of the medication knows whether the drug or a placebo is being given.

1. Smith O.W., Smith G.V.S. and Hurwitz D. Increased excretion of pregnanediol in pregnancy from diethylstilbestrol with special reference to the prevention of late pregnancy accidents. "American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology 51"; 411 (1946)

2. Smith O.W. Diethylstilbestrol in the prevention and treatment of complications of pregnancy. "American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology 56"; 821 (1948)

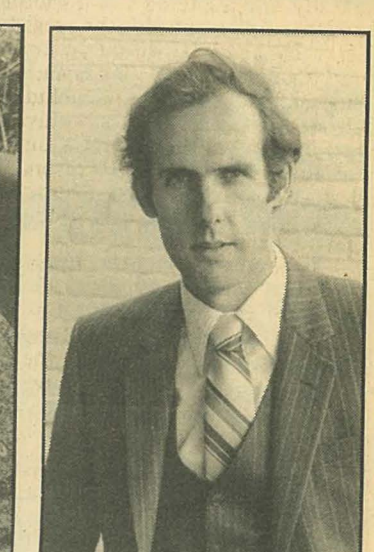
3. Smith O.W. and Smith G.V.S. The influence of diethylstilbestrol on the progress and outcome of pregnancy as based on a comparison of treated with untreated primigravidas. American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology 58"; 994 (1949)

4. Brackbill Y. and Berendes H.W. Dangers of diethylstilbestrol: Review of a 1953 paper. In Letters to the Editor "The Lancet" Sept. 2 (1978)

5. Herbst A.L., Ulfelder J. and Poskanzer D.C. Adenocarcinoma of the vagina: Association of maternal stilbestrol therapy with tumour appearance in young women. "New England Journal of Medicine 284": 878 (1971)

"I sent off my subscription today. Why don't you?"

Milo Dunphy



"The environmental movement is frequently accused of wasting trees. Chain Reaction is something they would be proud to be a part of."

Vivien Dews, of Fremantle, anti-nuclear activist.

"Chain Reaction is the only national Australian conservation magazine with a crusading outlook and the professionalism to reveal the importance and urgency of conservation issues. It provides the best exposure of politicians, the best level of book reviewing, the best layout. It is the best early warning system for the Australian environment."

Milo Dunphy, of Sydney, Director of Total Environment Centre and Vice-President of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

"Chain Reaction should have a much wider readership than it does now. Some English journalist recently described the Australian newspaper as a 'mass of grey pulp' useful as a substitute pillow but nearly useless as information. Chain Reaction and other independent journals could do a lot to inform those who want to know about the real issues of our time. (Do any such non-robots still exist?)"

Judith Wright-McKinney, of Mangarlowe, poet and conservationist.

"While the nation's press buries its head, Chain Reaction gets stuck into the real issues of the '80s. Often startling, but with a merciful dash of humour, it is Australia's best new read."

Bob Brown, of Hobart, Director of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society.

Chain Reaction Reports the real world

Dear friends,

I wish to subscribe to Chain Reaction at a rate per 4 editions of \$5.00 individuals; \$7.50 non-profit groups, educational institutions; \$20 commercial bodies, corporations.

Overseas subscriptions: by sea mail at above rates; by airmail double rates.

I also enclose \$ as a donation to Chain Reaction.

Please send me details on tax-deductible donations.

Name

Address

. Postcode

I enclose \$ as cheque/postal order for my subscription.

I also enclose \$ for a gift subscription at the above rates to

Name

Address

. Postcode

Return to Chain Reaction, 366 Smith Street, Collingwood

REMS

Breast cancer and x-rays

The average woman has a one in fourteen chance of developing breast cancer at some stage in her life.

More women die of breast cancer than any other cancer.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of death of women aged between 39 and 44 years.

Such dismal statistics regarding the high rate of breast cancer among women led to the setting up of The National Breast Cancer Demonstration project in the United States of America in 1972. This project provided for free examination for women over 35 years of age. Three methods of examination were used: breast palpation, mammography, and thermography.

The second method, mammography, is the medical term for a breast x-ray. It is a high-dose examination, involving more than 125 millirads. This brings it into the same category as other high-dose examinations such as spinal x-rays and barium enemas.

Between 1972 and 1976, 250,000 symptom-free women were screened for breast cancer. The screening programme assumed that early detection of breast cancer using mammography would result in a reduction of breast cancer deaths. However, it was not taken into account that because the female breast is so susceptible to cancer, it is also more susceptible to radiation-induced cancers.

It is possible that a mammogram can detect a small breast tumour marginally before it would be discovered by palpation. However, a woman who has a mammogram runs the risk of developing a radiation-induced cancer between 15 and 30 years after she has the x-ray.

In 1976 the USA National Cancer Institute recommended that routine annual mammographic examination for women under 50 years should be abolished. This was promptly done after the results of a risk-benefit analysis conducted by the Bureau of Radiological Health were released. They found that most women do not develop

breast cancer until after menopause, and women in their 50s are not likely to live long enough to die of radiation-induced breast cancer. Thus women over the age of 50 may conceivably benefit from an annual mammogram.

However, it was also found that for women under 50 years the risks of developing cancer from the radiation absorbed during an annual mammogram outweigh the benefits of detecting cancers that may already be present.

There are strong doubts among physicians about the value of mammographic screening for women of any age. There has never been any evidence to prove that such screening has resulted in reduced breast cancer mortality. Instead, most physicians would recommend monthly breast self-examination (palpation) as the safest and most effective means of early detection.

(Reference: Priscilla Laws, *X-Rays: More Harm Than Good?*, Rodale Press, 1977).

Judy Wilks

The Rems column is a project of Friends of the Earth/Doctors Reform Society Radiation Working Group. This Chain Reaction series aims to give information on how radiation and x-rays affect our everyday lives and health.

Pigs and pens

Animal Liberation is part of a world-wide movement struggling to establish the rights of non-human animals. It began in Australia two years ago and has already enlisted the active support of over two thousand members. Amongst them are farmers committed to finding alternative modes of food production. In this *Chain Reaction* interview, Christine Townend, of Animal Liberation, Sydney, environmental activist and the author of *In Defence of Living Things* and *A Voice for the Animals* talks with Bruce Scates and Leigh Holloway. The interview was transcribed by Fairlie Arthur, of Animal Liberation, Melbourne.

So would you see Animal Liberation as complementary to the fights for rights of women or ethnic minorities?

Yes, I think it is and that's why Peter Singer called it Animal Liberation because a liberation movement is a movement towards recognizing the needs of the oppressed.

How do you think farmers could go about getting out of the present system of factory farming into more liberated systems?

Well with egg production the easiest way is probably not to go back to labour intensive systems. If we're going to be practical we've got to find ways of automated egg production where hens can run free range. The only expense is going to be in the change over of equipment. As battery cages have only a ten year life if we allowed a sort of phasing out period of ten years it won't cause any chaos in the intensive industry at all.

Could you say something about the conditions for the birds in the batteries?

Each bird has about a quarto page of space on which it lives virtually its entire life. The floor of the cage is sloping wire. The claws of the hens grow through the wire so that they're long and curved and that when they stand on top of each other, they scratch and draw blood. They can't scratch in the dirt. They can't even scratch their wings fully. None of the behavioural needs of an animal can be fulfilled in a battery cage.

And the same applies to pig farming also, does it?

In the very intensive systems the pigs are kept indoors usually on concrete or slated floors, crowded together. They eat each other because they are so bored and frustrated. They have to have their tails cut off to stop



Christine Townend



Australia and I suppose that about half of these would be reared intensively. Large multi-national companies run the whole thing so efficiently without any consideration at all of the animals needs. Small farmers just can't compete.

This is going to apply to cattle farming also is it?

It could. I think we're moving toward food lotting of cattle. They'll be fed grain which really should be going to the Third World countries. Some of the fishmeal and products that go into feeding our animals come from underdeveloped countries.

Animal Lib. has done a great deal on the transportation of animals. Do you want to say something about that?

The whole transport scene is really distressing. Animals go for twenty-four hours or more, without food or water, squashed in trucks. They are bruised and injured. In sale yards they can stand up to two days in the sun without food and water before they are sold and then they are transported for another day before they reach their destination. Even the farmers are really concerned about it.

People often say the slaughter of animals is merciful. Is it?

Absolutely not, because animals smell the blood and anticipate what is going to happen to them. Studies done overseas have found that the captive bolt pistol which is meant to pre-stun the animals does not always knock them unconscious before their throat is cut and they are hoisted up on to the machinery. I doubt very much whether there is a humane way of killing mass numbers of animals. I have also seen Kosher killing. At Homebush Abattoir they had a big steel box and the animal was turned upside down in this box absolutely kicking and heaving with

them nibbling at each other. Again, all their behavioural needs are denied. The most basic thing to pigs is to be able to root in the soil and when they can't use the nose and the rooting disc they become utterly frustrated. In an intensive piggery I think the only thing those pigs have for amusement is about ten minutes a day when they eat.

What percentage of pigs in Australia would be farmed in that extremely intensive manner?

I think we've got about two and a half million pigs in

A NEW

SAFE-T-SHINE

PRODUCT

Incorporating SCOTCHLITE BRAND REFLECTIVE MATERIALS

AS SIMPLE AS IRONING A SHIRT
NO FUSS — APPLY DIRECT

IRON-ON ELASTOMATIC REFLECTIVITY

- ★ LAUNDERS & DRY CLEANS
- ★ RETAINS 60% REFLECTIVITY IN HEAVY RAIN
- ★ FULLY RECOVERS ON DRYING

TO EXISTING CLOTHING, CAPES,
SADDLE BAGS, SHOES AND A WIDE
RANGE OF FABRICS & PLASTICS

SAFETY
THE ANSWER IS PRESSING

Bright silver, rated **4** times brighter than GIVE-WAY signs.

MASCOT MERCHANDISE MAILING SERVICE
Box 125, P.O., MASCOT, N.S.W., 2020

Price per metre				
18mm	24mm	50mm	70mm	100mm
\$1.80	\$2.20	\$3.40	\$4.50	\$6.20

Send stamped self addressed envelope for full listing of SAFE-T-SHINE products

Please type or print

MAIL TO.....

.....Postcode

Mtrs..... width Iron-on Safety
per metre = \$

at..... per metre = \$

Postage & packing \$ 1.20

Cheque/Money Order Total..... \$

terror. His legs were chained and his throat was cut by someone with a knife. It took a few seconds for him to stop living.

What sort of research involving the use of animals do you oppose?

We are opposed to all animal experiments which cause pain.

Does that include use of animals to research, say, drugs for humans?

I think there are other ways to find out whether drugs are safe or not. In fact, drug companies themselves in Great Britain say that the results are too unreliable and that some other way has got to be found of doing it. This is why we are hearing of scares about drugs that cause cancer or blindness. Although these drugs have been tested so thoroughly on animals they still cause danger to man. Scientists are beginning to investigate alternatives like using computers, mass spectrometry, even simple things like holding the drug in the mouth for a moment to see how much is absorbed.

And a great deal of experimentation is for purely commercial purposes?

The two main commercial uses of animals are for make-up. One is the Draize test which involves dropping concentrated solutions of the substance to be tested into rabbits eyes. The eye often actually disintegrates while the animal is still conscious. The other is the LD50 test used for drugs, cosmetics, weedicides and household detergents. When 50% of the population dies from the dosage you have given it, that's the lethal dose. If the drug you are testing is very lethal the animal might die after a couple of hours, but if it is something like lipstick the scientist might have to force feed so much into the animal's stomach that the stomach ruptures. It's utterly inaccurate and quite useless. Curare is a South American drug which paralyzes animals but they remain fully conscious. I saw such an experiment at Sydney University. The purpose of the experiment was to find out

how a single cell in the brain reacted to visual stimulus. It is a very esoteric and a somewhat useless exercise but it caused a cat enormous suffering. This cat was impaled on machinery and attached to computers and breathing apparatus and although it was only very lightly anaesthetised the scientists went away overnight and left this cat alive on the machinery with electrodes in its brain and genitals in plastic bags. It is forbidden to use curare in the United Kingdom.

Is there any sort of supervision of scientists' experiments on animals in Australia?

Only a peer review system. An 'animal care committee' is set up which consists of scientists who are responsible for deciding whether an animal experiment should be done or not. They are hardly going to criticise their colleagues. The public has no access to these 'animal care committees'.

And you have commented elsewhere about the priorities of western medicine

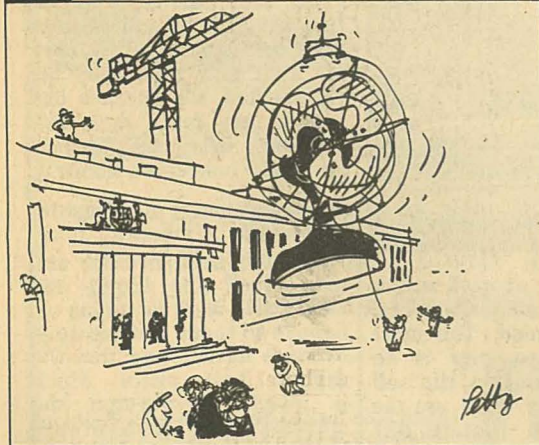
committing so much money into researching something like cancer when there are quite curable diseases raging in the Third World.

We are so wrong. I think we should be working on the preventative side, trying to bring more hygiene and all the basic nutritional requirements to these countries. Finally, how do you see Animal Liberation in relation to the environment movement generally?

I think they are very closely related. Probably the animal rights movement is somewhere about where the conservation movement was ten or fifteen years ago. The other point to make is that these intensive systems of animal production are destructive to the environment. These systems are very high on the use of fossil fuels and create an enormous effluent problem.

Contact: Christine Townend, Secretary, Australian Federation of Animal Societies, c/- Total Environment Centre, 18 Argyle Street, Sydney, New South Wales, 2000. Telephone (02) 27 4714.

When it hits the fan...



let us take the blame

Chain Reaction guarantees anonymity and the utmost discretion to those in the Public Service and industry wishing to pass on information in the public interest.

Our address is Chain Reaction 366 Smith Street, Collingwood 3066 and our telephone (03) 419 8700

Your community group can support her struggle for justice by distributing World Development Tea.



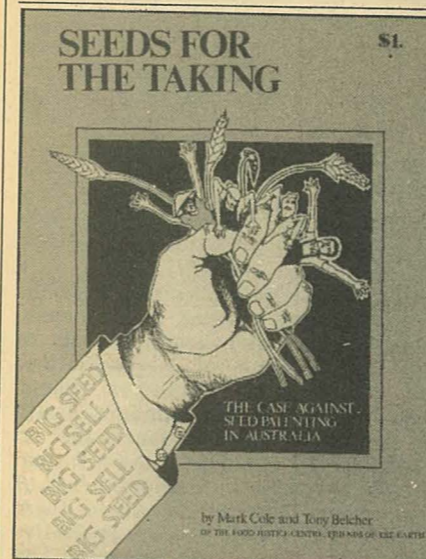
For further information contact
WORLD DEVELOPMENT
TEA:

NSW: 262 Pitt Street, Sydney 2000
VIC: 85 Helene St, Bulleen 3105
QLD: 39 Fleetway St, Morningside 4170
SA: 59 Park Ave, Roslyn Park 5072
WA: 306 Murray St, Perth
TAS: Third World Shop, Centraway Arcade, Launceston 7250
ACT: 17 de Burgh St, Lyneham 2602

REVIEWS

Books

Seeds For The Taking. The case against seed patenting in Australia by Mark Cole and Tony Belcher. Food Justice Centre, Friends of the Earth, Melbourne, 1981, 32 pages, \$1.00 (soft cover).



"The control of seeds, because it implies also the control of food production, and indeed of life itself, should not be appropriated to itself by any company or nation." This statement by Catholic Church bishops of mid-western USA voices the current international concern about the Plant Variety Rights Legislation.

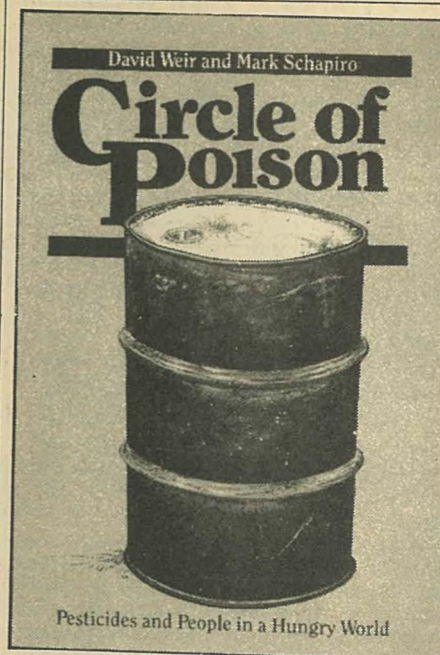
Seeds For The Taking presents the case against seed patenting. The benefits which supporters of the PVR legislation are claiming are exposed as "myths" and the real issue is shown to be one of public versus private rights. Once seeds are patented they become a profitable commodity within agribusiness and the multinational chemical corporations. Free exchange of seed and scientific information is blocked. Plant-breeding becomes increasingly commercial with the emphasis on "cosmetic" breeding, while breeding for disease resistance is curtailed. Hence PVR threatens the vulnerable genetic resources of our food crops.

The book concludes with practical strategies for individual and group

action towards stopping plant patenting, which at this stage is crucial as the Parliamentary bill will be tabled for public debate for a few months only. *Seeds For The Taking* is carefully researched, and a book you cannot afford to ignore. Give one to a friend and share the debate.

Annabelle Andrews

Circle of Poison, Pesticides and People in a Hungry World by David Weir and Mark Schapiro. Institute for Food and Development Policy, San Francisco, 1981, \$USA3.95 (soft cover).



"The story told here is intended not merely to shock and to outrage. Its purpose is to mobilize concerned people everywhere to halt the needless suffering caused by pesticides' circle of poison."

Circle of Poison focuses long overdue attention on the misuse of pesticides in Third World countries. The authors skilfully link the network of imported food contamination in "rich countries", the exposure of workers and farmers at all stages of production and usage, the question of food production for whom?, and the involvement of governments, international aid agencies and multinational corporations.

The list of corporations involved is becoming familiar: ICI, Ciba-Geigy,

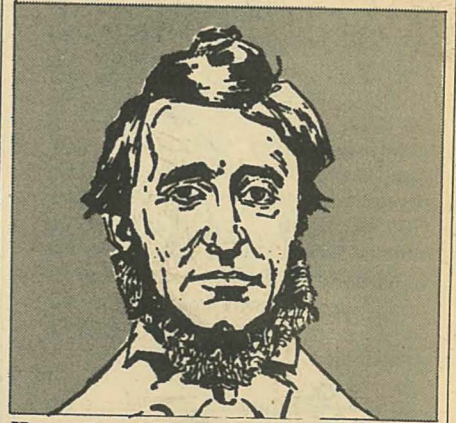
Monsanto, Shell, Union Carbide, etc. Their ability to by-pass nation state regulations is alarming, as in the case of AMVAC which continues to produce and export 1,2-Dibromo-3-Chloropropane despite its Environmental Protection Authority suspension due to its cancer and sterility causing effects.

"According to the World Health Organisations, someone in the underdeveloped countries is poisoned by pesticides every minute." Add to this all the workers and consumers unknowingly poisoned in the developed countries and the human statistics are immense.

The final paragraph sums up the situation: "This book is but a beginning. It will only be of value if your actions give it the power to help break the pesticide circle of poison."

John Smith

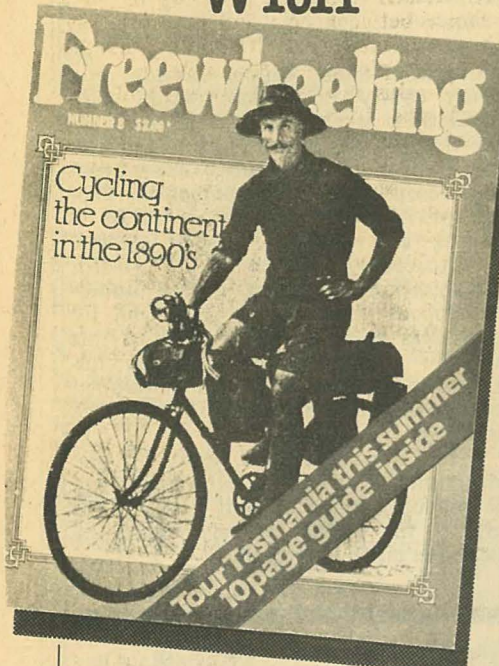
The Wilderness Reader edited by Frank Bergon. Mentor New American Library, New York, (Australian distributor: Eyre Methuen), 372 pages, \$5.50 (soft cover).



Henry David Thoreau

The 'reader' to whom this collection is addressed is American - no other countries and no other authors are represented. He/she is probably also more an admirer of colourful prose in short doses than a practical activist. The blurb tells you that the book will bring you into 'direct confrontation with nature in all its beauty and power' and that it is a plea for the preservation of wilderness. The first claim is obviously untrue - words are not nature; the second is dubious; there are plenty of accounts of exploration, hunting and mountain-climbing, very little hard

Discover Australia with



Lots of people are rediscovering the bicycle as a means of transport and recreation. And, they're finding new places and adventure in their own country as a result. Let *Freewheeling* magazine aid your enjoyment of cycling and Australia by keeping you informed on cycle touring, bicycle trails, urban planning, history, maintenance and camping info. *Freewheeling* presents its information in a clear concise form which doesn't go stale so our back issues are always in demand. Subscribe at the special price on the form below as sometimes we're a little hard to find in newsagents.

name _____
 address _____
 postcode _____

I enclose \$6 for four issues starting with the current one.

Send to:
 Freewheeling Australia Publications,
 PO Box 57, Broadway 2007

(CR)

REVIEWS

argument. Experience of frontier America and the rather florid tradition of a romanticism degenerated since Thoreau's day predominate in these twenty-nine extracts from the work of twenty-five authors. It's a scrappy, choosy, rhetorical book.

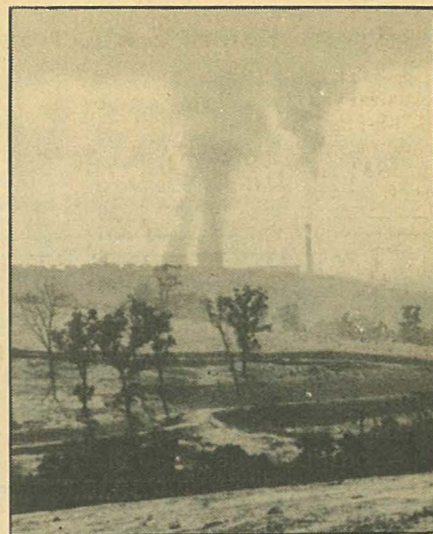
The most intelligent of these providers of grist to the mill of the editor (a professor of English, predictably) is Aldo Leopold, whose *A Sand Country Almanac*, (with other essays) is available in the same New American Library series, and whose highly important contributions to ecological thinking are poorly represented here. The book has little relevance to Australian issues, unless you are in search of stores of florid adjectives and models for exuberant descriptions. Better to read Leopold in full. In any case, what we need now is not more eloquent prose — which fails to convince the materialist bent on profit — but a study of the 'ecology of mind', which might provide more insight into the reasons why ignorance, naive greed, and mistaken self-interest continue to dominate a world now awake to its own likely end. Understanding is the outcome of hard thinking, not of purple prose.

Judith Wright

Fuel for Unrest: People, Power and Planning in the Latrobe Valley by the Brown Coal Study Group. Conservation Council of Victoria, Melbourne, 1981, 88 pages, \$3 (soft cover).

This timely book presents the other side of the "Jobs from Growth" story which we do not get to hear from its proponents in the Hamer Government and Victoria's Department of Economic Development. That policy rests almost entirely on a massive rate of increase in the exploitation of the brown coal resources of Central Gippsland, to supply the voracious appetites for cheap electricity of international metals companies and feedstocks for the proposed oil-from-coal conversion plants. Until this book came along, there had been little public discussion of the effects such developments will have on the communities hosting this increased activity.

The book covers a wide gambit of issues related to energy development, including economic assessments of coal reserves, electricity prices, coal conversion costs, employment prospects, and the current state development



Latrobe Valley

strategy; social impacts on the local community; and pollution/conservation aspects. It finishes by proposing an alternative development strategy based on renewable resources which could avoid the frightening scenarios painted in earlier chapters.

One theme emerges time and time again from the scenarios in the book. This relates to the almost total lack of information available to the public to enable them to assess the economic, environmental, and health aspects of rapid development of power stations and oil-from-coal conversion plants. Claims of endangered community health are simply met with assurances that no problems exist or will arise in the future. The book rightly emphasises the lack of any serious attempt to assess these claims and to install effective protective equipment where found necessary. The developments are implemented before any assessment of their likely impacts on the community is undertaken. Conflicts between technical efficiency or low industrial costs and human needs or community interests are always resolved in the interests of the former.

It is worth remembering that most of the developments proposed for Gippsland have not yet been implemented and so many of the scenarios outlined in the book have not yet become firm policy. They can be changed by strong public opposition. There is nothing surer however, than that they will be the future of the area if nothing is done to change them.

The book is recommended to the people of Victoria and to the people of Central Gippsland in particular, as a broad overview of the implications of the type of economic development being planned for the State. From this perspective they can better decide if this is the future they wish to live in.

Ann Hodgkinson

Spoils and Spoilers

Australians Make Their Environment 1788-1980 by Geoffrey Botton. George Allen and Unwin, Sydney, for release in 1981, 256 pages approx. \$7.95 (soft cover), \$17.95 (hard cover).

SPOILS AND SPOILERS



This book offers a detailed and comprehensive account of white Australian attitudes and concepts on the environment and its management.

The earlier chapters discuss the impact of early British settlement which aimed to "transform the environment into greater productivity". To quote the author,

"One view of the environmental history of Australia is to see it as a conflict between those who exploit the country to serve pre-conceived economic goals and imported attitudes of mind, and those who sought to create a civilization where human use of resources was compatible with a sense of identity with the land."

The failure to resolve this conflict has resulted in the destruction of the original land and its culture by the impact of gold mining, pastoralists, urban development, and so on.

The later chapters concern themselves with "Planners, Improvers, and The Affluent Society", and distinguish between the forces of progress and improvisation, and the growth over the years of a social consciousness which questions blind progress.

The author, in his concluding remarks, abandons the role of an objective researcher to make a direct plea for change and a return to the Aboriginal past of close identity and respect for the land.

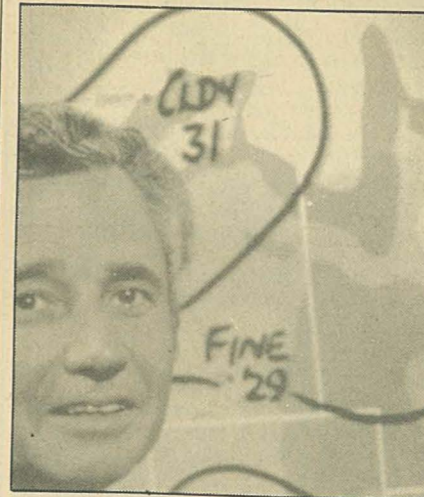
Patrika Sheehan

Air in Danger: Ecological Perspectives of the Atmosphere by Georg Breuer. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1980, 169 pages, \$29.00 (hard cover), \$10.00 (paperback).

Want an injection of global anxiety to boost your paranoia to more socially acceptable levels? Try a return to the old favourite; fear about our air.

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is slowly accumulating in the air. It may mean that the famous "greenhouse effect" — a gradual heating of the Earth — will bring profound changes in climate and thus to agriculture and living patterns. Other contaminants (nitrous oxides and halocarbons) threaten the ozone layer which screens out lethal ultraviolet radiation...

For a detailed and readable introduction to these problems, try Georg Breuer's valuable *Air in Danger*. It is well translated from German: the



book has three strengths which make it stand out from the usual discussions of the atmosphere.

First: it is not hysterical, yet Breuer is genuinely concerned with the human consequences of the CO₂ and ozone problems. Any climatic change could aggravate the disastrous conditions under which many people already live.

Second: the book assumes little background knowledge. It includes basic material on the nature of the air and a fascinating diversion into the history of the atmosphere.

Third: Breuer writes as a journalist rather than a scientist. He combines data and explanation with stories of the researchers, their projects, gatherings, and differences. People can understand scientific debate and progress more clearly when this human dimension is added.

These strengths allow *Air in Danger* to put the debate over the atmosphere in the context of the debate over energy. If "living conditions that are

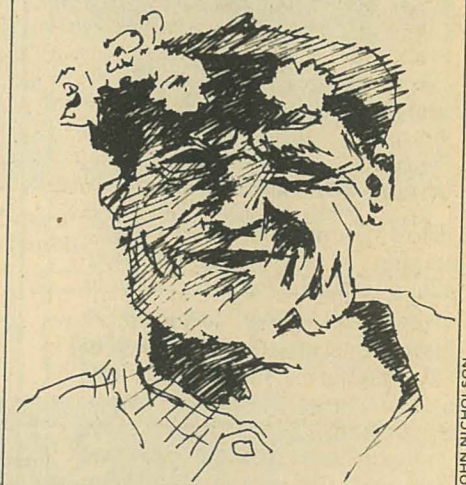
somewhat dignified" are to be provided for all the earth's people, world energy use will — Breuer predicts — grow enormously (irrespective of serious energy conservation programmes in the wealthy countries). Since much will be for electricity, there is going to be a choice between coal and nuclear fuels, between mounting CO₂ levels and the risks of a plutonium economy.

For this reason the nuclear and coal industries have vested interests in maximising or minimising public attention to the CO₂ problem. We have already seen uranium miners hypocritically proclaiming their concern for the Third World; watch their anxiety over the atmosphere increase too.

Breuer points to one little hopeful sign in the horrible (if still very uncertain and confused) dilemma. CO₂ does not just come from burning fossil fuels. Almost as much (perhaps) comes from the clearing of forests and destruction of humus, particularly in the tropics. A massive reforestation programme would not only counteract the gradual growth in CO₂ levels but would have other useful effects, on employment and agriculture particularly.

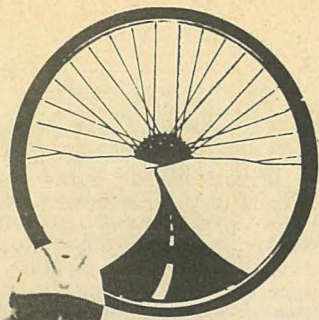
Don Siemon

For the Patriarch by Angelo Loukakis. University of Queensland Press, Brisbane, 1981. 191 pages, \$10.95 (hard cover), \$6.95 (soft cover).



In *For the Patriarch* Angelo Loukakis characterises well people, most of whom came from Greece many years ago.

It tells us how different are the cultures of Greece and Australia and how the Greeks find it difficult to settle down in a new country like Australia. A lot of Greek people come here leaving their country for a better living and a better future for their children. Unfortunately, for the old people it is something very hard, especially when they cannot speak the



Our stocklist is your checklist

At Inner City Cycles you will find a wide range of equipment for bicycle touring and light-weight camping. In fact, just about everything you need to ensure that your touring is an enjoyable experience.

Here is a small sample of some of the things to be found in our two shops in Glebe: Tents, Sleeping Bags, Sleeping mats, Lightweight stoves, Fuel and Cook gear, Camping accessories, Pannier bags, Handle bar bags, Small back packs, Stuff sacs, Racks, Cycle Shoes, Wool-len riding clothes, Rain capes and parkas, Tools (full range), Safety helmets, Spare bicycle parts and accessories Our own range of *Cycle Tour* custom-built touring bicycles.

INNER CITY CYCLES
29 Glebe Pt Rd GLEBE 2037
Telephone 02 660 6605

JUST TRAVEL

Not all travel is JUST travel
Most travel in the Third World creates

- greater dependency and poverty
- loss of cultural identity
- environmental deterioration

JUST TRAVEL is a co-operative offering limited holiday experiences in the Third World which are responsive to the needs and aspirations of the host communities.

JUST TRAVEL is currently preparing its 1982 and 1983 programme of tours for the sensitive traveller to Asia and the Pacific.

Send coupon or write for further information to JUST TRAVEL c/- 18 Westall Street, Hyde Park, South Australia 5061 (Phone 08 271 0232).



Just Travel
18 Westall Street,
Hyde Park, 5061.

Please send me further information about Just Travel

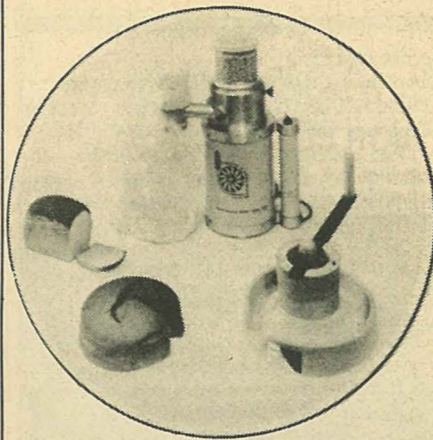
I am interested in travelling to

Please put me on your mailing list

Name

Address

..... Telephone



TASTE THE DIFFERENCE!

Our superb SAMAP *Naxos natural-stone flour mills will turn any grain into superfine, fine, medium or coarse 100 per cent wholemeal flour — and crack wheat too for your healthful cakes, buns, scones, pies, sponges, breads, desserts, invalid, pet & animal food. Also dried beans, peas, lentils, etc. for delicious soups & meat substitutes.

Independent tests in Germany confirm a 20 per cent saving on the weekly food bill by including a reasonable amount of the healthy grains into your diet.

*Naxos stone is the hardest & most suitable stone in the world according to French geologists, and has been mined in Greece since Roman times, just one reason why Swiss & other European naturopaths & dieticians prefer SAMAP. Remember, only natural stone gives you trace minerals (1.5 — 2.0 per cent) as a by-product!

Send 2 stamps today to Nature & Health Products, 29 Melville Ave., Strathfield, N.S.W. 2135 for our informative & pictorial mill catalogue called "Home Flour Mills & the Milling of Flour" with Price List. Dealerships available now for these splendid mills.

Included with our catalogue is an Australia-wide list of health food shops selling the SAMAP mills — or you may buy direct from us per Mail Order — your choice. Also included is a list of suppliers and farmers selling Organically-grown and bio-dynamically-grown grains, vegetables & fruits, hand juicers for grasses & vegetables, water distillers, hand juice presses, butter churns and separators.

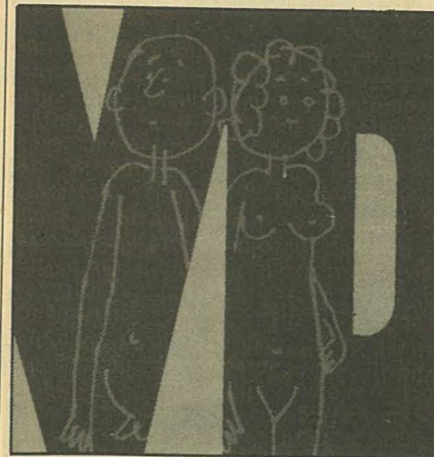
English language and they have to work in the factories to earn money and to support their family. These are the kinds of lives the book explores and I found most of it quite realistic.

Greek people who are now migrants in Australia always try to keep their customs and culture and to pass them on to their children in the hope of helping them to cope with adjusting to the Australian culture and being proud of their Greek nationality.

I think the stories contained in the book portray the characters well. A lot of it I, as a Greek woman, could relate to and I would recommend it as reading to anyone interested in Greek culture.

Nola Petrides

VD in Australia by David Bradford, Melbourne University Press, 1981, 216 pages, \$4.60 (soft cover).



Every time you fuck, no matter who with, you risk catching a venereal disease. VD is common and need not be alarming as long as you know when and where to get treatment and what this involves.

David Bradford's new book, in simple language with clear illustrations, de-mystifies both the diseases and treatment, and unlike most doctors the author is making the facts as available as possible. By publishing it in cheap paperback form he has made the book accessible to the group most likely to contract VD — young people.

Bruce Parnell

Other books worth mention:

The Open Air Museum by D N Jeans and P Spearritt. George Allen and Unwin, Sydney, 1981, 154 pages, (hard cover).

Making Your Own Motor Fuel by Fred Stetson. Garden Way Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont, 1980. (Australian distributor: ANZ Book Co.). 186 pages, \$10.95 (soft cover).

Film

We are the Guinea Pigs, directed by Joan Harvey. 1980, 16mm, colour, 90 minutes. Available from Universal Cinema, 13 Victoria Street, Fitzroy, Victoria, 3066.

We Are The Guinea Pigs is a very powerful film consisting mostly of interviews with the residents, farmers, and parents who lived through the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident.

It conveys the horror of the people and their violent awakening to the facts of life in a 'nuclear age'. We see children playing in the local river where about 182,000 litres of radioactive water has just been released. Statements

by official industry spokespeople are cut directly against counter statements and rebuttals by a formidable array of antinuclear authorities. We learn the facts of nuclear power, the history of cover-ups, and the role of the military industrial complex in promoting nuclear energy.

The 'clean up' is still continuing: there are almost 2.75 million litres of radioactive water in the crippled reactor which are constantly leaching out into the environment. Last year several million curies of Krypton and Strontium 90 were released into the air and water. The solution to this waste problem is as yet still unsolved.

The film concludes by showing the connection between the civilian nuclear industry, profit, and nuclear war. It leaves one feeling angry and crystallizes the need for action by everyone.

Pat Lowther



Farmer Jane Lee discussing animal symptoms after the Three Mile Island catastrophe with Dr Danial Pisello and Director, Joan Harvey.

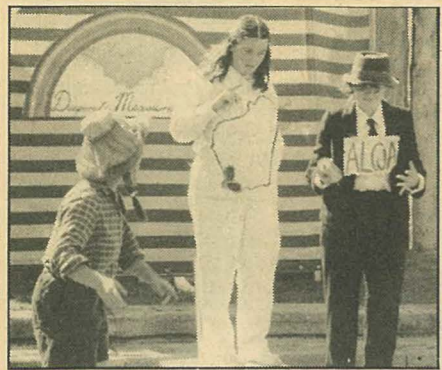
Chain Reaction needs people



In Melbourne or Sydney you can join in the work on *Chain Reaction*. With a few hours a week lots can be done. Research, writing, photography, finding graphics, chasing other information... being persistent. Prior experience is not necessary, you will get plenty with us. It is an excellent opportunity to use and learn skills. Phone (02) 698 4114 or (03) 419 8700.

REVIEWS

Wagerup Weekend, directed and produced by David Noakes and Bryan McLellan. Australian Film Commission, 1981, 16mm, colour/black and white, 46 minutes.



Desperate Measures *Native Forests Show*

Wagerup Weekend effectively portrays the battle of Campaign to Save Native Forests' supporters against Alcoa and the State Government of Western Australia over the construction of a bauxite refinery at Wagerup, 100 kilometres south of Perth.

Scenes of two occupations on the construction site in 1979 depict the protestors in role-playing workshops which anticipate their inevitable arrest. Their strategy is one of non-violent civil disobedience. Juxtaposed with these scenes are sequences from the witty and informative *Native Forests Show*, performed by the Desperate Measures Street theatre company. They portray the tight-lipped and evasive Alcoa and state government officials.

The CSNF claim that their occupation is the tip of an iceberg of massive public support, and demand a full scale federal inquiry. The construction workers are anxious to get on with the job. When the occupiers eventually succeed in halting work, Alcoa's security supervisor calls in the police. The following 'real-life' arrest scenes are an orderly anticlimax: the occupiers are loaded onto a bus and taken to the police station.

The film presents a wealth of fleeting images: forests, die-back, caustic mud lakes, desecrated landscapes, and a monstrous refinery complex. The images transmute into each other to reveal a wholesale selling out of our resources and our jobs. We are left with a vivid insight into a powerful multinational which acts beyond our control to affect the lives of us all.

Vivien Dews

Australian Wild

bushwalking, skitouring
canoeing and climbing magazine

The new Australian magazine for people who like the adventure of wild places.

Featuring pictures, personalities and information on the rucksack sports... a quality magazine, every season.

On sale where outdoor magazines are sold or **subscribe now** and be sure to get your copy posted to you four times a year. **Save 10% or 15%** off the cover price.

Send your name and address (please print) and **\$6.95** for one year (4 issues), or **\$13.25** for two years (8 issues) (cheque or money order in Australian currency or equivalent; add \$A1.80 for each 4 issues to overseas addresses, including NZ).

If paying by **Bankcard** please write 1. your card's no, 2. its expiry date, 3. amount to be charged, 4. your signature, and 5. date.

Post today to Wild Publications Pty Ltd PO Box 415, Prahran, Victoria 3181 Australia.

Chain Reaction COMING SOON

Two controversial reports
HARRY BUTLER



Our bulging file has gone off to Western Australia for the write-up - at last!

VITAMINS

Is the Government's restrictive legislation a good thing? Who can you trust? Anyone?

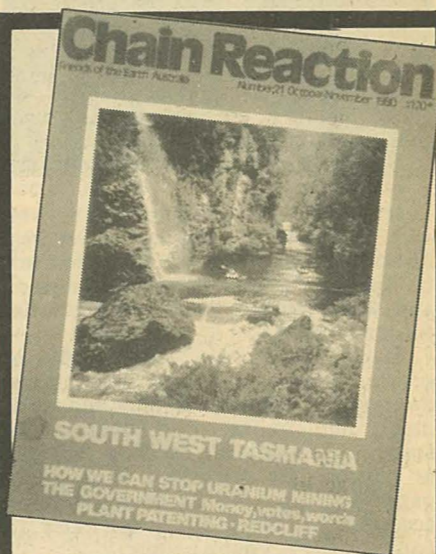
STILL AFRAID TO GO BACK INTO THE WATER?

Then sit on the beach and read

A COASTAL RETREAT

270 pages jam packed with photos, cartoons and great information on coastal landforms, flora and fauna, history, sociology, planning and management problems and solutions plus more for the Torquay-Port Campbell coast and the Cape Paterson-Shallow Inlet coast. Its a must for anyone interested in the coastal environment.

Now available from: PIRG, 4 Lanoma Crt., Mulgrave, Vic. 3170.
For only: \$6.60 (posted in Vic.), \$7.80 (posted in ACT, NSW, SA, TAS), \$8.20 (posted in NT, QLD, WA).



Chain Reaction is available for sale in bookshops, newsagencies, health food stores and community centres.

Can you encourage one of these places to send us an order for copies?

Write to Bruce Scates, Distribution, **Chain Reaction**, 366 Smith Street, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066.



Total Environment Centre
18 Argyle Street
Sydney
New South Wales 2000
Telephone (02) 27 4714

Current objectives

To provide campaign assistance, organisation and advice and environmental information on urban and natural environmental issues. Currently involved in campaigns on stopping rainforest logging in New South Wales, preventing alienation of urban parkland, control and environmental assessment of the Hunter Valley development, and opposition to a state government proposal to allow underground coal mining in national parks and nature reserves.

Methods

First, research into the facts. Second, distribution of this information in a coherent form to community groups, the media and the public generally, by pamphlets, press conferences, public meetings etc. Third, encouragement and assistance in the formation of local groups and lobbying of politicians, ensuring verbal written contact with their voters.

Help needed

People needed to join our committees (Forestry, Toxic substances, Plant Variety Rights, Clean Air, Endangered Species, Energy, Bushfire), to help research issues or day-to-day administration, or by becoming a donor.

Resources available

A large library, irregular newsletter, bookshop, environmental consultancy, office space. At present the Colong Committee, Animal Liberation, Australian Conservation Foundation and Rainforest Action Centre are in the TEC.



World Workshop Resource Centre
1st Floor, 155 Pirie Street,
Adelaide, 5000.
Telephone (08) 223 5795

Current objectives

The World Workshop is a volunteer-run resource centre which aims to raise awareness on Third World and Australian issues such as social justice, Aboriginal land rights, uranium mining and multinational interests.

Methods

Maintenance and development of an extensive library of resources open to the public. Provision of workshops for schools, churches and community groups. Making the Workshop a meeting place for action groups.

Past activities

The Workshop has been a meeting place and resource centre for the Seeds Action Group, Chilean Solidarity Group, Pacific Solidarity Group, East Timor Campaign, as well as the office for the Development Education Group.

Future plans

Extension and updating of all resource materials in the library, wide publicity for the Workshop, co-organizing a film showing on El Salvador with two other groups.

Help needed

More voluntary workers, donations to enable the upkeep and extension of facilities, more users of its loan and hire resources, more people wanting to study/discuss/act on various issues relating to justice in Australia and the Third World, donation of books, journals and photocopies of articles relevant to the Workshop.

Resources available

Films, simulation games, books, up to date journals, slide sets and discussion kits are available for loan, hire or sale.

ACTION GUIDE

I D A

International Development Action
73 Little George Street
Fitzroy,
Victoria, 3065
Telephone (03) 41 6898

Current objectives

To support native peoples (particularly in the Pacific) in struggles for political and economic independence, to research and document Australian Government and industry intervention in Third World communities.

Methods

Projects are undertaken at the direction of Third World peoples and to achieve their perceived aims. Research, production and distribution of publications and ongoing monitoring of particular industries are priorities.

Past activities

Support of the Mapoon people in their fight to regain their land by, in part, producing three educational booklets documenting their eviction. Work with Purari Valley people in Papua New Guinea opposing massive hydro-electric and industrial development scheme. Project included dissemination of information to Purari people and documentation of effects of the proposed development

Future plans

Books on the New Caledonian Independence Movement and on Australian political and economic domination of Vanuatu will be published soon. Other projects include investigation of Levers Pacific Timbers logging operation in the Solomon Islands and support for opposition from traditional land owners; investigation of the effects of JANT on PNG villagers and research and action on the effects of imperialism on women.

Help needed

Researchers, writers, fund raisers, French speakers, activists. People with a specific interest in the Pacific or development issues.

Resources available

Small library of periodicals and books on Pacific development issues. Publications for sale. Speakers available.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dear Friends of the Earth

Please find enclosed my membership fee of \$..... (as per rates below).

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Please find enclosed my gift membership fee of \$.....

The gift membership subscription is for:

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Membership fees: **Victoria** \$15 (or \$7.50 students, unemployed and pensioners). **Other States and Territories** \$10 or what you can afford. Donations are very welcome.

Make cheques payable to Friends of the Earth. Return membership fee to State group listed at right. Contact us for details of tax deductible contributions.

Chain Reaction is included in FOE membership fees (except in NSW — for subscription details see page 29).

WHO CARES

ABOUT

Seed Patenting

ENDANGERED SPECIES

HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

YOU

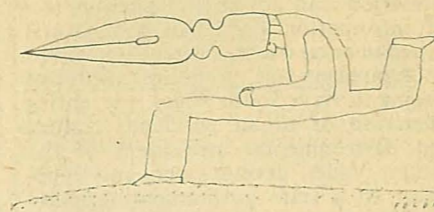
CAN HELP

MAKE A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION

You may already be a member of Friends of the Earth, but why not make a gift membership subscription for some of your like minded friends? A larger membership makes for a stronger Friends of the Earth!

DONATE

By becoming a member or making a donation you help keep Friends of the Earth active fighting campaigns, lobbying, researching, and producing new publications to communicate to the public. Contact us for information on tax deductibility of donations.



BE INVOLVED

Join a local group near you, or come in one day a week and work in the office, the bookshop or on a campaign.

CAMPAIGN IDEAS

Become involved in a campaign of your own. This is how Friends of the Earth grows. We can help with resources.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

CANBERRA: PO Box 1875, Canberra City 2601. Telephone: (062) 47 3064.

NEW SOUTH WALES

SYDNEY: PO Box A474, Sydney South 2000. 101 Cleveland Street, Chippendale 2008. Telephone: (02) 698 4114.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

DARWIN: PO Box 2120, Darwin 5794. Telephone: (089) 816222.

QUEENSLAND

BRISBANE: PO Box 667, South Brisbane, 4101. Telephone: (07) 44 1766.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ADELAIDE: 310 Angas Street, Adelaide 5000. Telephone: (08) 223 6917.

TASMANIA

HOBART: C/- The Environment Centre, 102 Bathurst Street, Hobart 7000. Telephone (002) 345566

VICTORIA

VICTORIAN RESOURCE CENTRE
366 Smith Street, Collingwood 3066.
Telephone: (03) 419 8700.

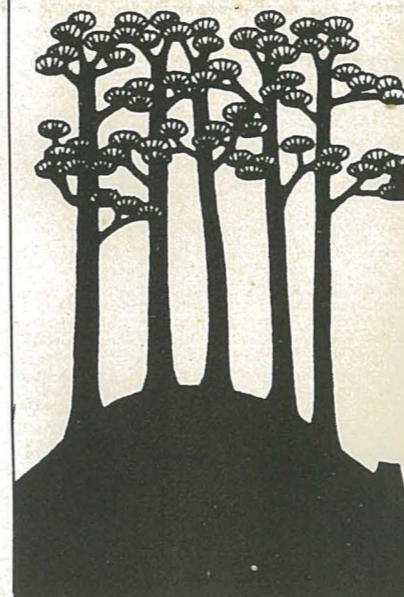
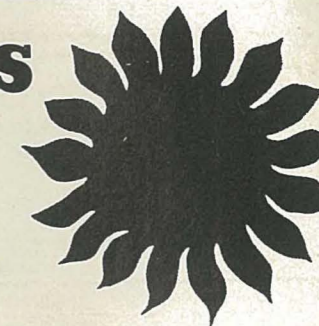
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PERTH: C/- Environment Centre,
537 Wellington Street, Perth 6000.
Telephone: (09) 321 5942. 321 2269.

Contact your state group about your closest local FOE group.

Self Sufficiency Supplies

256 Darby Street, Newcastle, 2300
Telephone (049) 23 999



Items we carry are:

- Household electric supply from solar and wind with batteries, inverters, 12 Volt lights, electric fences etc.
- Hot water systems from solar and wood
- Househeating systems from solar and wood including hot water radiators
- Solar pool heating systems and pool covers
- Large range of wood-fired cooking stoves, heating stoves and fire-places
- Hydraulic rams, windpumps and electric pumps for household water supply
- "Cinva-Ram" Earth block presses and adobe moulds
- Composting toilets ["Ecolet" and "Biolo"]
- Organic gardening supplies and natural pest controls
- Push mowers, battery mowers, compost tumblers
- Flour and grain mills (hand operated or electric) plus hand operated mincers and juicers
- Preserving outfits, bread tins, baby food grinders
- Huge range of books on self sufficiency and natural living (Mail order book catalogue available for 5 x 22c. stamps)

CYCLE TOURING PANNIERS



Iberian Panniers. The largest in the range, these panniers have many special features including an extension on the main compartment in 4-oz. nylon (155 g.s.m.) which completely closes with a drawcord for increased capacity and/or improved weather resistance. The flap is elasticated and fastens with straps and Simploc buckles.

KARRIMOR have a superb range of cycle touring panniers

karrimor



For product brochure write to: Cycle Dept., Outdoor Agencies Pty Ltd, P O Box 135, Beaconsfield, NSW 2015.

Help

**us to help those
who cannot
speak for
themselves**

The Humane Society believes that good looks and health need not cost the lives of millions of animals. If you would like to support the Society in its efforts to stop cruelty to animals including circuses, intensive farming, vivisection, etc. please contact us at:

P.O. Box 38,
Elsternwick. 3185.

