

colong bulletin

No. 226 | May 2008



Rainforest mist – Washpool National Park. PHOTO: HENRY GOLD

Washpool milestone

JANET CAVANAUGH

THE iconic rainforest wilderness of Washpool National Park is now 25 years old. Washpool's birthday is actually 22 April, the day that the *Forestry Revocation and National Parks Reservation Act 1983* put into force some of the promised outcomes of the Wran Government's Rainforest Decision announced in October 1982. This legislation also

Lying on a rock in the middle of Washpool Creek, in a new national park was a magic moment... We still belong to the wilderness. We can find the closeness if we try. Even if we don't we still have some lingering feeling that wilderness is important. We have to cherish what we have, not just for ourselves, and not just for our children...

For the magic... PETER MORGAN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE NPA

created Nightcap National Park (the site of the famous Terania Creek protests), and extended Border Ranges and New England national parks. Washpool contains NSW's largest continuous areas of unlogged rainforest present in

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Meeting Dates

Level 2, Fortuna House, 332 Pitt Street, at 2.00pm on the second Thursday of the month: May 8, June 12, and July 10.

the Willowie Scrub and Viper Scrub. It had been identified in the Helman report as the

A word from the Chair...

WE live in times that the Chinese ominously term "interesting". The signs of global warming became more obvious during the year and more demanding of an urgent response, but when the governments of the world met at Bali they disappointed us by deciding to defer for another two years the urgent business of setting global carbon emission targets. With the change to a Rudd ALP Government, Australia has at least signed the Kyoto Protocol and ceased to be a climate change pariah. Recent statements by presidential hopefuls, and carbon price movements on the Chicago Climate Exchange, suggest that the issue is at last being taken seriously in the USA.

Another sign of these "interesting times" is the highly controversial mining of coal under Sydney's water catchment areas. The total extraction of coal seams using longwall mining methods causes subsidence of the overlying strata. This results in cliff collapses and draining of swamps. Cracks have opened up in stream beds into which the water flows, and where it goes nobody knows. Apart from widespread damage to our natural heritage, the day may come when one of the water supply reservoirs behind Wollongong is seriously compromised. Special Inquiries have been established to investigate such issues in the Southern Coalfield and on the Central Coast, and the Colong Foundation will examine their reports with interest.

The year just ended marked

It is certainly an achievement that the area of land reserved under the NSW Wilderness Act is now approaching two million hectares.

20 years of the NSW Wilderness Act. The Colong Foundation celebrated this anniversary with a dinner and an address by the former Premier, Bob Carr. The celebration brought together many of the people - foremost among them, Mr Carr - who played a part in the enactment of Australia's first wilderness legislation, and allowed a brief glow of satisfaction at what has been achieved. Particular thanks are due to our Hon Secretary, Elizabeth Elenius, and our Honorary Photographer, Henry Gold, for their contributions to this event.

It is certainly an achievement that the area of land reserved under the NSW Wilderness Act is now approaching two million hectares. However, when the Colong Foundation met the new Environment Minister, Phil Koperberg, we passed quickly from congratulations to a discussion of some serious concerns: subsequent enactments have seriously limited the operation of the Wilderness Act; the Act's administration receives few resources within the DECC bureaucracy; wilderness policy and direction have been neglected. The declaration of the Yengo Wilderness Area is now many years overdue and threatens to deliver a "decapitated" wilderness area,

minus its major landmark, Mount Yengo. It is regrettable that Minister Koperberg was not able to remain in the portfolio long enough to deal with these and other concerns, however, the Colong Foundation will be taking them up with the new Minister, Verity Firth, later this year.

The Colong Foundation is not aligned with any political party. We also met during the year with the Coalition spokesperson on the Environment, Pru Goward, and with the Greens MP, Ian Cohen. We appreciate the attention these politicians have each given to the issue of coal mining impacts on the environment, especially in Sydney's water catchment areas.

During the past year the Foundation engaged John Macris to write a report on recreational use issues arising in wilderness areas in the south-east region of NSW. The handling by DECC of wilderness nominations in this region has been the subject of recommendations by the NSW Ombudsman. The Colong Foundation hopes that the report prepared by John Macris will contribute to improving wilderness administration and nomination outcomes in the future.

There are many other issues that have come before the

Board of the Colong Foundation during the year. They have included the problem of feral horses in plague numbers in Kosciuszko National Park; the predicament of the dingo which is seen by government and the community as both a vulnerable native animal to be conserved and a pest to be eradicated; the use of national parks as the venues for competitive sports; aviation noise in wilderness areas; and of course bushfire management. National parks and wilderness areas are essentially management regimes, and it is clear that if we are to enjoy the benefits expected from their establishment, then more attention must be given to management issues.

Another issue that needs serious attention is the health of the institutions that we rely on to deliver environmental outcomes. One of the most important of these institutions, the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is currently a Division of the larger government agency called the Department of Environment and Climate Change. Few people will remember the reasons for the amalgamation of the NPWS with an agency now numbering 3,500 people, and perhaps that doesn't matter. What matters is the effect it has had on the identity and mission of the NPWS. We are now seeing in NSW the rise of a competing system of "State Parks" made up mostly of former State Recreation Areas previously administered by the NPWS. These State

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Alex Retires as Colong Director

PATRICK THOMPSON

ALEX Colley recently announced his decision not to make himself available for re-election as a director on the Colong Board. Following a serious fall in January, Alex has found it too difficult to continue attending monthly Board meetings. Alex had offered to resign previously but his fellow directors persuaded him to continue as he was still playing an active role and his wisdom and experience continued to be highly valued.

Alex this year completes his fortieth year of active duty for the Foundation, all done in an honorary capacity. He continues as honorary editor of the *Bulletin*, and I think this maybe the first issue that he has not made a direct contribution. It is not that he hasn't written something. He has, but as assistant editor I have intervened to hold it over until the next issue, and instead some of his colleagues are joining me to write a few words about Alex and what he means to us.

Example they say is the great teacher, and it is through

his example that Alex has influenced so many of us.

As a young 23-year-old I remember the deep impression Alex made when I first got to know him. He was then a senior



economist in the Department of Planning. He carried no fancy airs but was a down to earth fellow who showed me that a simple life could be a rich life.

Later I was privileged to work along side Alex for 12 years at the office. Here was a guy who got on with life and enjoyed it to its fullest. With single-

minded dedication he worked away on our campaigns.

Not that it was all work, for when Alex was absent for a time, it was likely that he was out exploring the wilderness.

For those of us who have been privileged to walk with Alex, we have enjoyed an added bonus.

Forty years of voluntary service has seen Alex act in the capacity of Director, Honorary Secretary and Editor of *The Colong Bulletin*. Although Alex, at 98 years of age, would still like to be involved in the same way he has been, and it grieves him that he cannot, he is still listening to committee members when they come to visit him and still reading and writing for the *Bulletin*.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to Alex. Not just for his dedication in protecting vast areas of wilderness from environmental destruction and exploitation but the way he has touched so many people who have had the privilege of working with him. ❖

And Geoff Mosley writes...

In the dedication section of my book *Battle for the Bush* I wrote "To Alex Colley, unflagging champion of wilderness – an example to all". 'Unflagging' was the key word, I could equally well have described him as 'marathon man'.

The reality is that while every now and again there are great conservation breakthroughs we know in our hearts that a major ingredient of the outcome was persistence in advocacy and Alex exhibits this characteristic better than anyone else I know.

Like many of us Alex gained his original inspiration from the bush. He was not slow in becoming a conservationist and by May 1939 he was the Secretary of the Federation of Bush Walking Club's Conservation Bureau.

Perhaps it was inevitable, given his background as an economist, that Alex's many decades of effort for national parks and wilderness should broaden out to the topic of our flawed relationship with the environment as exemplified by his 2006 book *Sustainability*.

Just as the bush inspired Alex so I hope the bush he saved along with his lifelong endeavour and prescient writings will encourage others to pick up the baton and run with it through thick and thin.

Working with Alex

FIONA MCCROSSIN

ALEX – reading, thinking, listening, writing. Writing articles for his beloved *Bulletin*. Alex - always there; steady as a rock.

One of the first things Alex and I spoke about was the Growth Syndrome. Colong was based at the Rocks then, first in the Argyle Arts Centre; then in Cumberland Street. I was racing around in some of the headier days of the SE forests campaign; working part time as a teacher and grappling with my first introduction to eco-

nomics at University. Growth, the dominant economic paradigm, made no sense to me – had never made any sense. Nothing substantiated its dominance. Economic growth. Well yes. But the environment, never factored into the GDP sums, was being submerged. No sustainability here. ESD with the emphasis on the D. And the economic benefits were only for some – definitely no trickle down. One day, Alex gave me his paper on the issue. Here was a man in his eighties, passionate about the negative impacts of economic growth. I never

forgot that day.

Years later, Alex and I began four years sharing an office. Colong was now in Kent Street. When I arrived, Alex was recovering from breaking his neck. One day I surveyed his walking stick. It had been his father's. A beautiful antique with a silver handle. Concerned about its stability, I managed to modernise it a little by adding a rubber tip. Another day I noticed that it wasn't quite straight. Alex informed me that it had broken and he had glued it together. Alex, a skilled craftsman, had testaments to this gift throughout the office. I really don't know where he found the time. But, he's unstoppable. At

a point I, like others, began to worry about his home swimming sessions, particularly after he collapsed one afternoon. Yet Alex is strong, really strong, both physically and mentally.

The Kosciuszko campaign was hard, really hard. But Alex kept me going. We shared the "never give up" perspective on environmental justice. Alex never gives up.

The few times I ever saw him ruffled were usually related to when the computer didn't do what it was supposed to do – a man in his mid nineties slightly ruffled by a technology that most of us end up cursing daily.

Washpool milestone

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largest rainforest wilderness in NSW. Thus, unlike most of the other battlegrounds during the rainforest campaign, the Washpool campaign focussed as much on wilderness protection as on rainforest conservation.

This article provides some of the history of that campaign.

While Terania Creek had dominated the news headlines in August and September 1979, by early 1980 its controversy had been defused through announcement of the Isaacs Inquiry. In March 1980, the public attention switched to Washpool when Don Day (the local Labor MP) stated that logging would proceed regardless of the results of an EIS – undermining the objectives of the new *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*.

The Clarence Valley Branch of the National Parks Association (NPA) was thrown into this campaign immediately on its formation in April 1980. The branch's membership included respected professionals, public servants and teachers and they worked hard to give a local voice to support the conservation of rainforests, in a close alliance with conservation groups in Sydney. Articles, postcards, posters and advertisements were printed, featuring Leo

Meier's stunning black and white photographs. Following the broadcast of the Channel 10 documentary *The Battle for Washpool* in May 1981, which featured the Colong Committee's Milo Dunphy advocating the forest's protection, Washpool was as well known as Terania as a rainforest issue.

The opposition to rainforest protection was well-organised and included local groups such as Timber Workers in Grafton (TWIG) and Ladies' Environmental Awareness of Forests (LEAF), as well as the Associated Country Sawmillers of NSW and the head of the Secretary of the NSW Trades and Labour Council, Barrie Unsworth. It was claimed that Grafton would become a ghost town if Washpool were protected. In fact, large-scale losses in timber industry jobs were already occurring (and had done so since the 1950s) due to mechanisation and consolidation of smaller mills into larger operations. Even during the height of the dispute, mills were laying off workers as equipment was upgraded.

The mood in Grafton was ugly. Despite the fact that local conservationists could not be dismissed as dole-bludging hippies or city 'blow-ins', threats of violence simmered just below the surface. Several businesses in town refused to serve those known to be members of the NPA.

The promised EIS was finally released a few days

before Christmas 1980. The 600 submissions were nine to one in favour of logging, most of them LEAF form letters. Conservationists identified many deficiencies in the EIS. The Australian Museum's submission was scathing, claiming that the EIS gave greater weighting to the Forestry Commission's commitment to Big Rivers Timbers Pty Ltd than its obligations as the steward of the forests for the people of NSW.

In response, the Government announced a separate review of the proposed logging in Washpool, to be undertaken by Forestry Technical Services of Canberra (Fortech). This action deferred both a decision on the EIS and any confrontation in the forests.

When completed, the Fortech report was leaked to the Total Environment Centre's Jeff Angel who subsequently made it public in August 1982. The report identified alternative timber sources to the forests under dispute at Washpool, which meant that no immediate job losses would result from the protection of the wilderness. This convinced much of the cabinet to support the Rainforest Decision in October.

With the declaration of Washpool National Park in 1983, programs for its management by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service were introduced. In a dramatic gesture to protect the wilderness values of the new park and with the

support of the conservationists, the access roads through its heart were permanently closed and the bridge across Coombadjha Creek was replaced with a footbridge to access a new walk-in camping area. In 1985, most of the park was declared as a wilderness area under the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act*.

In 1986, the global significance of the areas protected by the Rainforest Decision was recognised when these new and expanded parks, including Washpool National Park, were inscribed on the World Heritage list. ❖

Editors note: The Service's brave decision soon after the park's creation to demolish the Coombadjha Creek bridge and to rehabilitate the roads through the heart of the park certainly set a benchmark for wilderness protection that has rarely been matched since.

It is clear that, with the Service's current focus to deliver on the commitments in the Iemma Government's State Plan to simply increase the number of park visitors, such a management decision would not be taken today.

A detailed history of the battle for the NSW rainforests and the Wran Government's Rainforest Decision is given in the publication *How the Rainforest Was Saved* (which can be ordered from the Colong Foundation – see back page for details).

A word from the Chair

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parks are part of the Crown lands administration. A more strongly defined and confident NPWS could perhaps have countered such a development. One of the reserves in the "State Park" system is Killalea State Park a former SRA. I remember inspecting Killalea SRA in the 1980s as a member of the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council, and being impressed with the ocean views. Killalea is currently at

the centre of controversy due to the proposed alienation of a large part of the Park under long term leases.

Some new policy statements have been adopted by the Colong Foundation during the year. These address such subjects as Aboriginal interests and nature conservation, the handling of conflicts of interest within the Board of the Foundation, and bushfire management in wilderness areas.

Alex Colley, our long-time Board Member and *Bulletin* Editor, has recently decided to let his Assistant do more of the work. It is understandable that at the age of 98 and after nearly 40 years on the Colong

Board, he should come to this decision. We nevertheless hope to see Alex at future meetings.

I would also like to mention Betty Mason who has assisted as a volunteer in the Foundation's office for many years. Betty recently relinquished her duties and, on behalf of the organisation, I thank her for her contribution.

An important step was taken during the year with the launch of a new format for the "Colong Bulletin". Special thanks are due to Pat Thompson, our Vice Chairperson and now Assistant Editor of the *Bulletin*, and to Jenni Gormley for their work on the new design and production.

The Foundation will soon be applying for re-incorporation under the provisions of the NSW Associations Incorporation Act. A former member of the Board, solicitor Terry Stern, is overseeing this process.

This is no more than a glimpse at what the Colong Foundation has been up to in past year. To do our work we rely entirely on the support and contributions of our members.

I would like to thank each one of the Members of the Board, and the staff, for their efforts during the year, and I look forward to a productive year to come.

Peter Prineas
Chairperson

Bleak prospects for National Heritage protection

GEOFF MOSLEY

EVEN a casual observer can hardly fail to have noticed that the approach to national heritage protection is much weaker than it was in the seventies and eighties and that our expectations of strong action are considerably less today than they were then. Indeed, if we use the analogy of a pendulum it would be fair to say that not only has the needle been in negative territory for many years but the ambit of the swing has seriously contracted.

Whereas in the mid 1970s we could with justification hope for great things from the concept of protecting the National Estate the National Estate Register has now been consigned to the history books. While once this Register numbered over 13,000 places it has now been replaced by the National Heritage List which we are told will never number more than a few hundred places.

What is the reason for such fluctuations of interest? Is it the case that politicians take an interest only when they think it will boost the fortunes of their parties? While there are some notable examples of genuine interest (Gough Whitlam comes to mind in the federal sphere) it seems that most politicians that make bold leaps do it to cement their political positions. Malcolm Fraser resisted moves to abolish the National Heritage Commission and oversaw the nomination of the western Tasmanian national parks for the World Heritage List and Bob Hawke, with some pro-uranium export baggage to overcome, found that saving the Franklin was just the thing to give Labor an edge in 1983. Three years later, after a lacklustre performance under Environment Minister Barry Cohen, Graham Richardson and his cohorts swung the

pendulum back into positive ground by doubling the size of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (Stage Two inscription) and moving on a double extension of the Kakadu World Heritage Area.

In the mid nineties Paul Keating, with other priorities, began to push heritage protection into decidedly hostile ground, something for which John Howard, following on with similar priorities was very grateful. All Howard needed to do by way of innovation was to initiate the tokenistic National Heritage List in place of the Register of the National Estate.

So where do things stand now? Unfortunately, the signs for a recovery from over a decade of heritage aridity are not looking good. The ineptitude of Mark Latham's venture into the Tasmanian forests during the 2004 election appears to have shackled the Rudd Government's ability to make big strides. One result is that a proposal for a Stage 3 extension of the Tasmanian World Heritage Area to its full potential by renomination, first proposed in the early 1990s, appears to be still on hold. When an IUCN mission visited Tasmania in March, 2008 to investigate the World Heritage boundary issue the federal Government showed no sign of taking the approach that led to the inscription of the third stage of the Kakadu National Park World Heritage Area in 1992.

In amendments to the Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act proclaimed in February, 2007 the process for assessing nominations for the National Heritage List was euphemistically described as having been "streamlined". This has made the approach 'safer' and more minimalist than ever. If a place is already protected as

a national park the chances of its listing are greatly improved, places considered controversial are shelved. Whether or not the Rudd Government reforms the heritage provisions of the EPBC Act, including the membership of the National Heritage Council, will be a good indicator of its heritage intentions. So far the signs are not good.

Take for instance Norfolk Island which is a microcosm in its heritage opportunities of Australia as a whole. Half a dozen places on Norfolk Island originally nominated by the ACF for the Register of the National Estate in 1996/97 and most then converted into National Heritage List nominations are still awaiting assessment. They include: the Norfolk Island National Park; other vital rainforest remnants identified as being of national environmental significance by official reviewers; areas of rural countryside, the first in Australia to be farmed; and the Norfolk Island coastline, the first area in Australia of any size to be set aside as a protected area (in 1794). The only part of the Territory to be placed on the National Heritage List is the Kingston Arthurs Vale Heritage Area (KAVHA) and this has resulted from its inclusion in an Australian Convict Sites World Heritage nomination. Significantly, the area nominated excludes the setting of KAVHA the protection of which all of the Conservation Management Plans for the place have declared to be essential but whose inclusion the Norfolk Island Government would most likely have objected to. In a further bad omen the Minister for Home Affairs, Bob Debus, has paved the way for the Crown leasehold land on the site to be converted to terms of 99 years. The Howard Government

had kept these areas on 28 year terms to facilitate their purchase for addition to the public reserve. The most likely consequence of these two moves is that modern residential development will spread on the slopes overlooking the historic buildings, something prevented by a policy which has been applied since 1980.

So, with two and a half years until the next federal election things are looking bleak for a swing of the pendulum back into positive heritage country. That is, unless the federal opposition can reinvent itself. ❖

Working with Alex

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Last week my school hosted a visit from New Delhi Public School. Both schools had worked on a project called Global Communities for Sustainability. While North Sydney Boys had worked on a School Environmental Management Plan, the students from India had arranged for the local council to collect rubbish from, and disinfect, a local village.

I had great pleasure in giving our Indian colleagues a copy of *Blue Mountains World Heritage*. The teacher was quite stunned, overwhelmed, in fact, by the beauty of the book.

I showed her Alex's picture on the back cover; talked about Henry Gold. Both held Order of Australia Medals, I said with pride. I became teary.

I miss Alex and our days in the office. I talk about him often to my young students. This year will be the fourth he has shared Christmas day with me and my children. If he can't get to me, we will go to him.

We love Alex. ❖

Apathy – A Time for Action

PATRICK THOMPSON

LIKE ostriches with heads buried in the sand human kind continues to procrastinate while our planet draws closer to the great abyss.

We live in a beautiful land. For 40,000 years Aborigines have lived essentially in harmony with their environment. No doubt they brought about significant change on their arrival but an ecological balance returned. When Europeans arrived the Aboriginal people lived relatively happy and healthy lives. We changed all that for them. We also changed the land. We set about clearing the vegetation and mining the soils and minerals of our continent. It is a process that continues unabated today. Indeed it is a process that continues to accelerate.

In global terms for the first time in human history we are threatening the stability of our planet.

It is a depressing scenario. Recognition of the problem is one thing, but doing something about it is another. Currently it is business as usual. World energy needs are predicted to double in the next few decades. This is not only due to the emergence of China and India as major contributors to global output. Australia also wants to grow and double its energy use.

The problem with the modern market economy is that it works in terms of growing people's incomes. It is supposed to work also in regulating a scarcity of global resources. It is supposed to be a magic wand that as a mechanism makes all things 'sustainable'. But, of course, it doesn't.

The market economy does not work as a mechanism to sustain the atmosphere and the oceans. True the price of fish will increase as they become scarce, as will other natural resources, but this does not lead to sustainability. It is a cursed word. It has been abused and misused.

Who then will save us? Who then will take responsibility and force change?

The vast majority of human kind continue to live relatively simple lives and their ecological imprint is only slight. Then there is the 10% of the world who enjoy incomes that allow us to do as we please. Then lastly, there is the 1%. They have most to loose, and are going to be the hardest to shift.

None of this is to say there is no hope. There is hope. To achieve big reductions in

carbon emissions, our leaders must act.

Carbon trading will work as a mechanism and the market economy will bring about the adjustments needed. It will lead to a greatly changed world.

Our younger generation must be equipped for it. It means more than a computer for every child. The classroom and the family will undergo a philosophical shift, one based on humanity's place in the natural world.

And what of Aboriginal people, they have much to teach us. We can learn from them the trick of 'living ecologically'. We can live in a sustainable and beautiful world but to achieve these ends there can be no room for apathy. We the people must apply the pressure from the grassroots up, if the changes from the top down are to occur. We all have a part to play. ❖

Dorothy Butler 1911- 2008

Shirley Dean

Dorothy Butler always said: "When I die I would like my ashes scattered from Crater Bluff in the Warrumbungles."

On Easter Sunday Iluna Bluewater, (her surviving daughter), and family and friends honoured her wish. (see photo).

In 1936 she climbed Crater Bluff with Dr. Eric Dark, a first.

Dot had many accolades: Honorary Member of the Sydney Bushwalkers, Honorary member of the New Zealand Alpine Club, and active Member of the Colong Foundation for Wilderness

In 1956 Dorothy was the prime mover in the establishment of the Australian Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club and initiated the mountaineering training courses for Australia and New Zealand. There are many young people who benefitted from Dorothy's enthusiasm, encouragement and personality

who have great memories of those days.

The Sydney Bushwalking Club is grateful for the fact that she cajoled and persuaded them to purchase, in 1969, land on the Kangaroo River, thus setting up a conservation reserve.

Dorothy was a close friend of Marie Byles from the time she became a member of SBW in 1932. She helped Myles Dunphy set up the Garrawarra National Park as part of the National Parks and Primitive Areas Council, and also helped celebrate another major victory with the declaration of the Tallowa Primitive Reserve.

The Colong Committee which was formed in 1968, (later the Colong Foundation for Wilderness) saved Colong Caves and prevented massive damage to the Kowmung river as well as saving the Boyd Plateau, she also worked for Myles Dunphy's vision of a Greater Blue Mountains National Park. Dorothy was actively involved



in all of these campaigns which culminated in the dedication and celebration of the listing of the Blue Mountains World Heritage area in 2001.

Colin Putt's foreword in the *Barefoot Bushwalker* stated that "she involves, encourages and teaches others, who, but for her leadership, might never get into

adventuring at all, and leaves them, scores or hundreds of them, capable and innovative adventurers in their own right. She has made us what we are."

We will miss Dorothy.

ABOVE: Dorothy's ashes are scattered at Crater Bluff

PHOTO SPIRO HAGINIKITAS

SUPPORT THE COLONG FOUNDATION!

To: The Treasurer, Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd.
 Level 2, 332 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

The enclosed remittance or advice covers the item(s) indicated by a tick. (One cheque is sufficient to cover subscription and donation.)

- Membership application (\$25) to 31 December 2008
 (NB Membership application covers Bulletin subscription)
 - Colong Bulletin Subscription (\$11) to 31 December 2008 (non members only)
 - Membership renewal to 31 December 2008 (\$25) Life Membership (\$550)
 - Tax deductible donation of \$____ to the Colong Wilderness Fund
 - PLUS \$____ being for publications as indicated on the reverse side of this form.
- NAME (Mr, Ms, Mrs, Miss)
- ADDRESS
- P/CODE DATE
- PHONE EMAIL:
- SIGNED AMOUNT
- Payment by credit card. Mastercard Visa Bankcard Expiry date ____ ____
- Card # _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Why not join or invite a friend to join?

Yes, I wish to become a member of the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd. I subscribe to the Foundation's aim of preserving Australia's wilderness remnants. I accept the liability provided in the Colong Foundation's Articles of Association to guarantee \$20 should it be needed in the event of the winding up of the Foundation. Signed

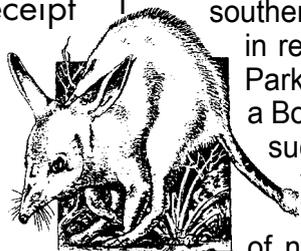
Bulletin back page_7, 05.06.07



A BEQUEST

Please remember us in your Will.

The Law Society of NSW recommends the following wording... "I bequeath the sum of \$... to the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd. for its general purposes and declare that the receipt of the treasurer for the time being of the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd. shall be complete discharge to my executors in respect of any sum paid to the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd."



ABOUT THE COLONG FOUNDATION

The Colong Foundation, the successor to Myles Dunphy's National Parks and Primitive Areas Council, is Australia's longest-serving community advocate for wilderness. Its proposal for a *Wilderness Act* was accepted in 1987. To supplement this legislation, our Red Index, audits NSW wilderness areas, identifies threats and formulates site specific protection remedies. There are now 1,836,000 ha of protected wilderness in NSW. However, many beautiful and environmentally highly significant wilderness areas are not protected, such as the 13,000 ha Green Gully in the Macleay Gorges, Pilliga and Goonoo on the north west slopes, Yengo in the Blue Mountains, the Deua Valley on the South Coast and the Tabletop and Main Range in the Snowy Mountains.

The Colong Foundation for Wilderness has had a long and successful history. From its foundation in 1968 until 1975 it was the fighting force that prevented limestone mining and the destruction of native forest for pine plantations in the southern Blue Mountains. The Foundation not only played a leading role in realising Myles Dunphy's plan for a Greater Blue Mountains National Park, it pushed for its World Heritage listing, as well as the reservation of a Border Ranges National Park and Kakadu National Park. It has initiated successful campaigns for the protection of over a million hectares of wilderness in NSW.

The realisation of Myles Dunphy's vision of a comprehensive system of national parks with protected wilderness areas remains the primary objective of the Colong Foundation.

Now, more than ever, the Foundation needs your support. Well financed and powerful rural interests, miners, loggers, resort developers, as well as four wheel drive enthusiasts, horse riders and others, have greatly increased the threats facing Australia's wild places.

Only with your help, through continued membership and donations, can the Foundation continue its campaigns for the preservation of the natural environment and effective nature-based national park management, and by concentrating on wilderness, these rare areas can be kept safe from development and misuse.

THE COLONG FOUNDATION

SENDER: THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS
Level 2, 332 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000



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