

# colong bulletin

No. 235 | March 2010

## Keneally Caves In On River Red Gum National Parks

**O**N the 2nd of March, Premier Keneally and her Government back-flipped on River Red Gum National Parks – ripping the heart out of the proposed reserve system through a carve up of Millewa forest, and leaving a smattering of small reserves strewn like confetti along the three major rivers.

Premier Keneally had a chance to set an environmental agenda and rescue the credibility of the NSW Government with a resounding conservation outcome in the River Red Gum. But she didn't deliver – choosing instead to turn her back on the scientific advice and letting the 'browns' in Government win the day.

She had inherited a strong commitment to create River Red Gum National Parks from former Premier Nathan Rees, who committed the NSW Government to large new protected areas, including as its centrepiece a 42,000 hectare Millewa National Park. In late



*Frank Sartor with Yorta Yorta Traditional Owners last January in the Millewa forest that remains scheduled for logging (Photo: C. Flint)*

December, the NSW Natural Resources Commission final report into the River Red Gum fully vindicated his decision. It recommended the full and immediate protection of Millewa National Park and protection of additional areas amounting to 107,000 hectares.

However, the decision shows

that the Premier Keneally does not have control of Minister Ian MacDonald, who has single-handedly manoeuvred a monumental back-down on the magnificent Millewa forest.

As a result of the decision, the Millewa National Park

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### General Meetings

will be held at our office on level 2, Fortuna House, 332 Pitt Street, at 2.00pm on Thursday April 8th, April 29th (AGM), May 13th and June 10th. Visitors welcome.

**Annual General Meeting (AGM)** is to be held April 29th, 2010 at 2.00pm and will:

- Consider the minutes of the preceding AGM and those of the extraordinary general meeting of 30th April, 2009;
- Receive and consider the report of the auditor and annual report of the Colong Foundation;
- Elect a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, including a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, a Treasurer

and an Auditor, nominations for which should be received by Thursday April 8th 2010;

- Set the annual subscription fee;
- Consider any other motion received in the hands of the Hon. Secretary by April 8th.

Ian Tanner, Hon. Secretary

## Keneally Caves In

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area has been chopped in half. The eastern half of the forest, covering some 18,000 hectares, will now remain available for logging for another five years. At the end of five years, it is supposed to 'automatically' transfer to a National Park – but most of us are experienced enough to know that, in these circumstances, there will be nothing automatic about it and that it may never be protected at all.

The eastern half of the forest is incredibly significant to conservation. It is a Ramsar site, a Living Murray Icon Site, and part of the largest River Red Gum forest in the world. It contains known habitat for 13 different threatened species including the Squirrel Glider, Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail Bat and Koala and also contains three endangered ecological communities. This area is the single most important refuge area in the entire Riverina – it is the Red Gum forest that can most easily be delivered environmental water, that already has a water allocation, and that has the best chance of surviving into the uncertain future according to the Natural Resources Commission.

There is no balance in this decision. The timber industry retains access to the entire Koondrook-Perricoota Ramsar site, which will remain as a State Forest and available for logging indefinitely, and also gets access to half of the Millewa forest as well. Therefore, 63% of the entire Central Murray Ramsar site remains available for logging.

To add insult to injury,

enormous amounts of money have been spent to deliver this weak outcome. The structural adjustment package for the timber industry is \$38 million. That amounts to a cost of \$422 paid to the timber industry per hectare of new reserve – an extraordinary cost impost that doesn't even deliver a fair conservation outcome.

This is far more than has ever been paid in any previous regional assessment in NSW – the average pay-out along the eastern seaboard and in the brigalow belt was just \$109 per hectare. Basically, the Environmental Trust is picking up the tab for the complete mismanagement of the forests by the NSW Government over the last 20 years. The buy-out is huge because the industry has been allowed to over-cut at up to four times the sustainable rate. The end result of all the money being thrown at this decision is that the taxpayers of NSW are effectively paying freehold prices to buy land they already own – and not even getting the prime real estate they were after.

We believe that the Millewa State Forest will be almost completely logged out at the volumes proposed during the so-called 'transition' period. The intensity of logging proposed is five times the rate of logging that has been occurring in Victoria Red Gum forests over the last 20 years. There will be severe environmental damage from this type of over-cutting, including the destruction of the mature age cohort which will have long-term implications for the future of the forests.

All is not lost however – the NSW Government still needs to get a Bill through Parliament and there is still time for them to fix this debacle. The

combined environment groups from across NSW and Victoria, working in solidarity with Traditional Owners, will be doing everything in their power to overturn the Millewa logging decision and instead secure the immediate protection of the entire Millewa forest in a National Park.

Here's a quick reminder of why River Red Gum National Parks are the single most important conservation priority in NSW at present and why any Government that can't protect the Millewa forest can only be described as weak and misguided:

- ❑ The Murray landscape (Murray Fans subregion) has been more than 80% cleared;
- ❑ The Riverina bioregion is less than 2% reserved;

- ❑ More than 75% of River Red Gum trees are dead or dying;
- ❑ Logging over the last 20 years has been at 2 to 4 times the sustainable rate;
- ❑ Logging has occurred illegally under State and Federal environment laws;
- ❑ More than 85% of products are low value products sold cheaply in Victoria;
- ❑ The timber industry has poor working conditions and a non-unionised workforce; and
- ❑ Investment in alternative enterprises can deliver jobs, good working conditions and environmental benefits.

Don't sit idly by. Get on the phones to your local ALP members and decision-makers. Tell them to save the Millewa forest – now, not five or ten years later. ☺

## Japanese buyers could halt old-growth logging

BY ANDREW DARBY

AFTER a generation of forest conflict in Tasmania, an end to old-growth logging could be in sight, forced by global market demand. Japanese customers have told Forestry Tasmania they want the state products they buy to have the green tick of approval from the strict Forest Stewardship Council.

The FSC requires that timber comes from existing plantations and not from high-conservation forests. It also demands community support for these operations.

Forestry Tasmania's managing director Bob Gordon said the state agency had held preliminary discussions with FSC Australia, but needed to know more before committing to the certification process.

FSC Australia's chief executive, Michael Spencer, said assuming most old-growth forests were of high conservation value, the logging of them would have to stop.

Until now Forestry Tasmania has been an advocate of the alternative Australian Forestry Standard, which has looser requirements, such as maintaining "functional forested land, biodiversity and options for future generations". Last year 2110 hectares of old-growth forest was logged in Tasmania.

*The Age*, December 22, 2009

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The Colong Bulletin • Editor: Pat Thompson; Asst. Editor: Bruce Diekman

ISSN 1325-3336 • Printed by Westonprint, Kiama

Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts provides a general purpose grant which assists in the production of this newsletter.

# Garrett Sells Out Labor's National Park Credentials

BY KEITH MUIR

IN 2004, a Colong Foundation brochure on Kosciuszko National Park claimed that the tourist industry would soon want to develop the Main Range. Critics alleged the brochure had grossly overstated the situation. Not any more...

Six years later, Peter Garrett, ex-ACF president and Midnight Oil singer, is Environment Minister. His appointment promised so much, but he has supported the worst sell out of national park principles to business interests in forty years.

At a National Parks Australia Council meeting last September, Minister Garrett said that national parks need to be less constrained by conservation. He thinks national parks need to raise more funds, rather than relying entirely on the public purse. He is equally insistent that the push to increase accommodation and infrastructure for high-end tourism is needed in national parks to help them pay their way.

In 2009 the Federal Government commissioned an entity called Australian Alps Tourism Master Plan Incorporated to prepare a report. After getting past BRAND this and BRAND that you discover that this master plan report proposes to canvas resorts on the Main Range. For Victoria there's a wilderness eco-lodge proposed for a Great Walhalla Alpine Walk and wilderness accommodation for a Wild Walk over the Cross Cut Saw.

After protesting to Minister Garrett I was informed that the master plan was available online on the Tourism Snowy Mountains, North East Victoria Tourism Inc. and Destination Gippsland Ltd websites from Friday 18 September to Monday 19 October 2009. So if you, like me, missed out on providing comment on this tourist business grab, it's your own fault, apparently.

Minister Garrett also sat on his hands while a tourism master plan for Kakadu National Park proposed several tourist developments

for that park's Stone Country wilderness. And if you read the tourist promotion supplement to the *Herald* on Saturday 23rd January, you may have noted journalist Daniel Scott's description of his favourite holiday adventure:

*"I was trekking the Jabula Trail through Nitmiluk National Park (NT) with maverick guide Mike Keighley of Far Out Adventures, and we have just arrived at our camping spot – a dramatic single drop waterfall. As I cooled off in a rockpool I heard a helicopter. It landed and out stepped Snowy, with an esky full of cold beer and hot pizzas."*

Similar helicopter flights are proposed in the Kakadu tourism master plan.

The connection between conservation and low impact park use is being overturned as some of the best bits of pristine nature within national parks are developed. Only last November seven Queensland national parks were announced for development by Premier Anna Bligh.

NSW national parks are slated to be next. There are four Federally-funded National Landscapes to promote tourism in NSW, the Blue Mountains, the Alps, the Far South Coast and the Border Ranges rainforests. Tourism master plans have been released for the Alps and the Far South Coast National Landscapes and both propose development in national parks.

The NSW Government is working on new legislation to cut the "red tape" that currently protects our national parks and a range of consultant reports to facilitate park development are in preparation.

Only your opposition can stop inappropriate national park development. Join the working group opposing national park development. Contact keith@colongwilderness.org.au

*Big Plain Peak from Mt. Jounama*  
(Photo: H. Gold).

## Board vacancies

The Colong Foundation wishes to attract new members to the Board of nine Directors from amongst our membership. We would value nominations from those with skills in areas such as:

- Governance
- Forward Planning
- Marketing
- Finance
- Administration

The role of the Board is to set priorities, oversee the direction and governance of the Foundation. Colong deals with Wilderness related environmental issues. Colong is the main voice for Wilderness preservation in NSW and beyond. Directors also support the Executive Director to implement the decisions of the Board. Currently Colong is working to keep developers out of national parks (status quo) and seek the reservation of new wilderness and further protection for the Gardens of Stone.

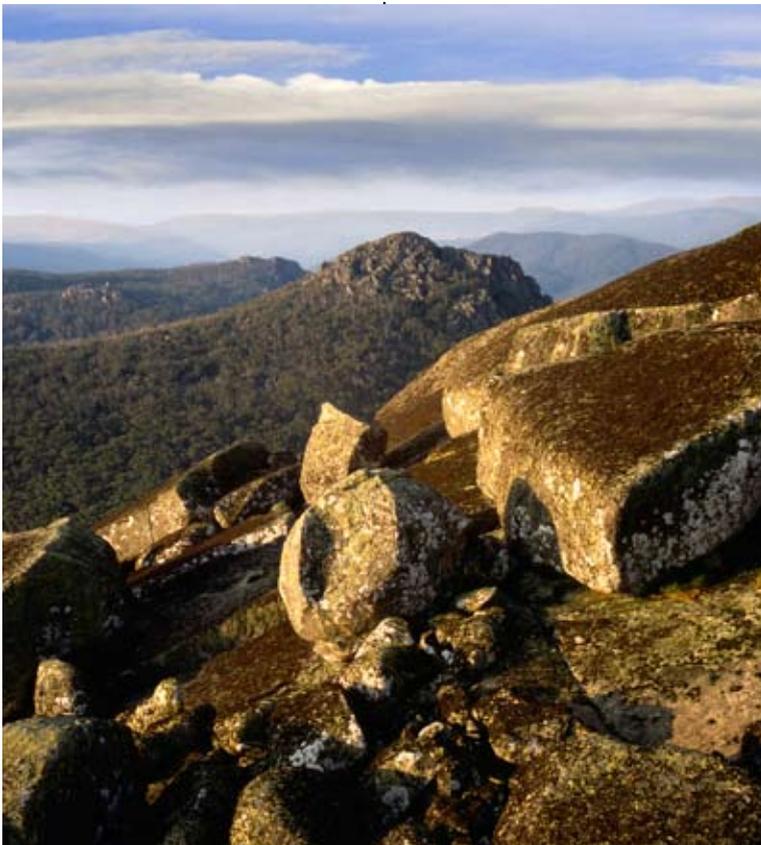
Meetings are held monthly on the second Thursday of the month at 2PM and usually take 90 minutes.

Nomination forms are available from the Office (Telephone: 9261-2400) or by email from the Hon. Secretary: itanner@ozonline.com.au. Nominations must be lodged by 2PM Thursday 8th April, 2010 which is 14 days prior to the AGM.

All Colong Board positions fall vacant at the Annual General Meeting. Whether you nominate for a Board Position or not, please come to the AGM at 2.00PM Thursday 29th April, 2010 which will be held at the Colong Office [close to Liverpool Street.]

Thank you for your continuing support of our efforts.

Ian Tanner  
Honorary Secretary



# Don't Sell Our Parks to Cut Your Deficit

BY KEITH MUIR

CITIZENS have every right to get really hot under the collar about the NSW Government's plans to develop national parks. Our national parks, the public's Crown jewels, should never be sold.

Nothing should give us more pride than standing on a wild and lonely South Coast beach or a breathtaking Mountains look-out knowing such untouched, publicly owned bushland is permanently protected in our national parks.

It may be understandable that in these rocky economic times, the Parks and Wildlife Group (formerly the NPWS) tried to cut its costs and accommodate staff wage increases with tough measures to curb fiscal blowout. The recent Parks and Wildlife restructure, which removed some of the most experienced middle management, is due to this efficiency push.

It is also understandable that developers in this economic climate might suggest to a 'fiscally challenged' Government that its contracting tax base can be supplemented by skimming off revenue from the development of new park visitor services. So it might just make sense to expand the budget of the Tourism and Partnerships Branch, for more staff and to commission expensive consultancies to implement a raft of park development schemes.

The promise of revenue from park development is, however, just developer PR spin. The sad reality is that Environment Minister Frank Sartor and his park bureaucrats are planning to develop our parks in a vain hope that it will cover or at least distract attention from their growing deficit.

## The NPWS Strategic Plan

The Tourism and Partnerships Branch has commissioned a consultant to prepare a national park Tourism Strategy. A draft of the Strategy report has been obtained by the Colong Foundation under Freedom of



A "Govett's Leap Sunset Restaurant" should never "monetize" this view (Photo: K. Muir).

Information laws.

The report reveals some very flawed thinking. Its garbled 'infospeak' is scary. Here's a small sample: "a variety of experiences at a range of different price points needs to be offered. This will provide one base from which marketing activities of parks can become relevant to a cross section of the segments, with the creation of a broader constituency through attracting new visitors to parks." Did you get that?

Here's a rough translation: In order to strip park visitors of their money, services must be provided. Many saleable and bookable facilities must be built to successfully market national parks through the usual advertising outlets. These market mechanisms are a way of giving parks a money value that everyone can understand and respond to. A wide range of park developments will ensure as many people as possible can consume what was once

conserved in national parks.

This is process is called "Monetising the Brand," and in this case it also will liquidate your grandchildren's birthright to pristine nature. The downside of the market approach is that national parks must be chopped up into bite-sized sellable commodities. Do you want to kiss wilderness goodbye, simply because it's a non-market nature-focused park management strategy? I sure don't!

On top of this, the consultant's Tourism Strategy is for throwing parks open to festivals, concerts and adventure challenges, as these events draw crowds of money spinning tourists. There is also a plan to boost national park access for every user interest group - horse riding, mountain biking and so on - activities proven to cause damage to national parks.

When the report states "A strategic approach to the delivery of a range of high-

quality accommodation to match a range of market needs across the state will achieve social, economic and environmental benefits," we have to ask, for whom? And how on earth could environmental benefits result from building in a park?

## Developments mooted

The report mentions specific accommodation proposals for the Minnamurra rainforest, Bungonia Gorge, Green Cape lighthouse, Greycliffe House and Gap Bluff. A commercial hut experience is proposed for the Main Range in Kosciuszko National Park and along the coast in Ku-ring-gai National Park with water-based access. The proposal for a "Govett's Leap Sunset Restaurant", at Blackheath would really draw political heat, especially as the sun sets in the west and Govett's Leap faces north.

Prof Ralf Buckley of the International Centre for Ecotourism Research at Griffith University said that "Proposals for upmarket exclusive tourist accommodation within NSW national parks do not fit any of the successful models. The closest analogues are historic hotels in US national parks, and recent lodges in South African national parks, and neither of these have made net contributions to conservation or park budgets.

"Examples from many other countries and other states, however, show that fixed-state private tourism developments within public protected areas do not provide either funding or political support for the parks agencies, and bring significant social, economic and environmental risks and costs.

"Parks are indeed a major attraction for tourists, both domestic and international, but the maximum contribution to regional economies is achieved by keeping the parks as natural as possible. Low key public visitor infrastructure adds value to the experience but commercial tourism

# Mining the Bulli Coal Seam

**I**N February the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) conducted a public hearing at Appin into the largest underground coal mining project yet proposed in Australia. If approved, the proposal, comprising two longwall mines, would stretch from near Picton over the Razorback Mountain, northeast to the Holsworthy Military Area, east to the Woronora and Metropolitan Catchment Areas, and the Dharawal State Conservation Area.

Forty seven rivers and streams, two hundred and twenty-six pristine swamps, six hundred and sixty one cliff lines and six hundred and twenty-three Aboriginal heritage sites are put at risk by this proposal.

Yet BHP Billiton and all government departments did not present at the Commission's public hearings. The local communities of south-west Sydney, and pristine public reserves and drinking water catchments impacted by this proposal, at least, deserve a public presentation of issues and concerns.

As some readers may know, democracy in NSW hit a political iceberg called Part 3A, a law that gave the Planning Minis-

## Don't sell our parks

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infrastructure, activities and accommodation should be kept outside park boundaries" (4 March, 2009).

Sure, picking the eyes out of national parks will make money for developers but it won't cut the National Parks and Wildlife deficit, as the profits won't flow their way. Visitors to remote resorts spend their money on-resort and not in the community. So what's bad for parks and rural towns will be good for developer profits. The Tourism and Transport Forum is a big donor to political parties, and that is why state and federal governments support park development. ☺



*O'Hares Creek, Dharawal State Conservation Area at risk from coal mining. (Photo: J. Sheppard).*

ter vastly more power. It seems that Government bureaucrats and developers were told by their political masters not to make presentations at the public hearing for the 'proletariat'; but they did have private meetings with the Commissioners.

The Commission should have rules governing its proceedings to ensure what then Planning Minister, now Premier, Kristina Keneally described in her media release as transparency, accountability and certainty, are delivered (6/11/08). Such procedures should treat all parties impartially and, in particular, ensure the Commission does not become a captive to the views of particular government agencies and developers.

## Growing opposition to intensive coal mining

The BHP-Billiton proposal seeks to resolve the difficult question of coal mining in environmentally sensitive areas by applying for approvals to increase mining intensity over a vast area. BHP-B's resource grab does come with considerable political risk, as it invites a community backlash.

Fortunately for BHP-B, government agencies, by not attending public hearings, do not hear of the growing opposition to underground coal mining by local government, community, resident and environment groups. The alarm

bells that should be ringing in Departmental and Ministerial offices have been muffled, for the moment at least.

## Taking risks with heritage

The 2008 Southern Coalfield Inquiry recommended that underground coal miners develop risk management plans for surface subsidence. The miners saw this as an invitation to consider ways to take risks with pristine nature. Risk assessments pulled the landscape apart into discrete items (swamps, cliffs, streams) that could then be selected for various levels of destruction, instead of being protected.

Mining should be risk averse in relation to properties that the NSW Parliament has set aside for conservation. Yet the BHP-B proposal does not respect the needs of future generations to enjoy an intact Dharawal reserve or the enduring benefits of pristine water catchments to collect and supply pure drinking water.

The risk assessment did not even consider the value intact environments, such as wild streams. Scarce pristine environments set aside by Parliament in reserves should receive a premium valuation. They got none.

This proposal will set precedents for how other underground coal mining is conducted in State Conservation

Areas and water catchments. So it is of great concern that the degree of environmental damage from this proposal will be significantly higher than current operations. If the damage levels are not curbed, the project's approval will have seismic ramifications for conservation.

## A good outcome is possible

Despite the fact that the government will receive large royalty payments if this massive mining expansion proceeds, the environment might just receive protection. While the NSW Government is out of money, not water, it is also out of time and credibility.

Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Frank Sartor, should be interested in the risks to communities, catchments and parks. The political danger on this issue is high. Voters in the marginal seats of Camden, Wollondilly and Menai are more likely to jump up and down on their local Labor members, than for joy over planned mining under their homes, catchments and recreation areas.

Sartor is an astute politician and he should appreciate that a grab for coal resource security (and mining royalties) should not be at the expense of public interest (and votes).

Valuable reserves and catchments should not suffer more damage or risk, while BHP-Billiton lowers its financial risk toward zero. Only mining that does not impact upon a catchment's capacity to collect and supply water, and does not cause pollution should be permitted.

Resource security should be limited to ten years maximum and restricted to less sensitive rural lands. All streams, swamps, cliff lines and Aboriginal heritage in reserves and protected catchments should be fully protected.

With a state election only 12 months away, the Government may just do the right thing for prosperity, but not without public support for the best possible environmental outcomes. ☺

## Nullarbor Wilderness Success!

THE South Australian Government recently announced protection of a vast area of the Nullarbor Plain. The Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area will cover 900,000 hectares, the same size as the famous Yellowstone National Park in the USA.

In 2005, The Wilderness Society nominated the Nullarbor Plain for protection under South Australia's Wilderness Protection Act. The nomination recognised the cultural significance of the region to its traditional owners.

Widely acclaimed for outstanding natural and cultural heritage values, the Nullarbor contains the largest semi-arid karst cave system in the world.

With this announcement the State Government has effectively doubled the size of the Wilderness Protection Area estate in South Australia.

Nullarbor is Latin for 'no trees'. The Europeans who named this place only saw what wasn't here – but the Wilderness Society is hoping new legislation will protect what is. The low saltbush and bluebush vegetation might look monotonous to the untrained eye, but among the scrub are some of Australia's most rare and endangered species.

Australia's largest population of the Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat live here. The delicately coloured pink and green Princess Parrot, listed as vulnerable, also finds a refuge. The Nullarbor Quail-thrush is a shy songbird whose habitat has

been compromised elsewhere by clearing for grazing.

Beneath the sandy soil, the endangered Southern Marsupial Mole, or 'blind sand burrower' tunnels. This eyeless, insect-eating creature is so rare that no one knows how it breeds, and so unusually built that it's hard to tell which end is which!

Riddled with caves and underground river systems, the Nullarbor is the world's largest landscape of limestone 'karst' - filled with fissures and caverns eroded by water. Conditions vary from semi-arid to arid. Temperatures are extreme, with 50 degree days the norm in summer and winter nights, which can drop below freezing.

### Whale dreamers

Cultural values also abound. Creation stories from South Australia's Mirning people, the 'whale dreamers', tell how they were born when Jiddara, the White Whale Creation Spirit, thrashed his tail, creating the jagged, dramatic coastline where the Nullarbor meets the sea.

The Mirning people still have a strong bond with the whales which regularly pass along the coastline. With the end of whaling, their numbers have recovered. The waters off the Nullarbor's stark cliffs are also home to populations of the rare and vulnerable Australian Sea Lion.

What is needed now is a commitment to ongoing management and funding for an Indigenous Ranger Program.

## The first national park

THE recent documentary on ABC television – "Yellowstone" – has spurred Geoff Mosley\* to set the record straight about the world's first national park...

Australians should be really proud that our Royal National Park was in fact *the very first* protected area anywhere in the world to be officially named as a *national park*. This moment in history is significant.

The gazettal of what was initially named 'The National Park' (the name was changed to 'Royal National Park' in 1954) took place on 26th April, 1879. It recorded that 18,000 acres had been dedicated for "the purpose of a national park". In 1880, the park was increased in size to 35,000 acres and later to 36,320 acres in 1887.

The initial gazettal - a move which had been anticipated for some time - was welcomed with pride, and the press reports of the time make interesting reading. A report in *The Sydney Morning Herald* of 29th March, 1879 headed 'A National Park' said "a better name could not be given". On the 2nd April the same paper said that the area "for extent and beauty will hardly find its parallel within the same distance of any metropolis in the world". While proximity to Sydney and to a proposed new railway was clearly important, the new park was seen as having a wider significance, affording as the newspaper said, "to the people of the whole colony (a) means of sport and recreation

not to be surpassed anywhere in the world".

As for Yellowstone, it was named The Yellowstone Public Park and was established on United States Federal land by means of the Yellowstone Act of 1st March, 1872. Its purpose was stated as being a "public park or pleasuring ground for the enjoyment of the people". Although very much larger than Australia's The National Park, both shared public recreation and reservation as their main focus and both were linked to the building of a nearby railway.

Not that a debate exists as those closest to the history of Yellowstone National Park know that the Royal was first. In fact, when Yellowstone celebrated its centenary in 1972 the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association produced a commemorative book for the occasion entitled *Yellowstone a centenary of the wilderness idea*. In the book, authors Ann and Myron Sutton state:

"...but the first time the words "national park" were used in the body of a public act was in the establishment of Royal National Park near Sydney, Australia in 1879. It was then simply called "the National Park" (the first legislative reference to Yellowstone as a national park occurred in 1883 in a bill relating to appropriations)".

*\*Dr Geoff Mosley has had a lifelong association with research and work in national parks and wilderness areas.*

## Thanks to our loyal donors

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donors who generously supported us during the last year, ensuring the continuation of our efforts to protect wilderness:**

M. & V. Atkinson, J. Atkinson, C. & C. Austin, Australian Plant Society NSW Ltd. North Shore Group, P. Barnes, M. Beal, J. Bentley, T. Bidder, R. Bilton, Birding NSW, J. Blanch, G. Boulton, M. Bouman, D. Bowskill, J. Butler, D. Byrne, P. Cannon, S. Caffin, A. Cairns, J. Cavanagh, E. Chapman-Wade, K. Clacher, Coast & Mountain Walkers of N.S.W., C. Coleman, Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW Ltd., P. Cook, A. Cooper,

A. Coote, M. Corkin, A. Correy, R. Coster, I. Cox, E. Cunningham, G. Daly, D. Dent, A. Dixon, I. B. Dodd, R. Doyle, G. Duigu, I. Edwards, S. Edwards, T. Eggins, E. Elenius, M. Ellwood, M. Esson, A. Ewald, M. Ferrie, V. Figgis, J. Fleming, I. Fretwell, G. Gates, J. Gray, C. Gibson, G. Giles, B. Gillooly, D. Gold, H. Gold, J. Greening, E. Hanvin, G. Heinsohn, T. Hobday, J. Holt, J. Horacek, J. Howell, R. Hume, S. Hunter, L. Imhof & M. Smith, G. Jones, H. Jones, L. Jones, A. Kay, A. Keen, D & J. Kelly, B. Kijurina, P. Krinks, P. Laird, J. Lawler, G. Lawrence, A. Lethlean, Literary Productions P/L, A. Macqueen, B. Magal, M. Marel, B. Marshall, B. Mason, F. Matter, G. Masterman, T. May J. Mayer,

P. McBride, W. Midson, M. Moore & D. Bush, M. Miles, M. Morison, W. Muir, B. Murphy, National Parks Assoc Sydney Branch, T. Nixon, C. Nolder, M. Nordon, Oatley Flora & Fauna Conservation Society Inc, H. O'Reilly, L. Parkhouse, R. Pearson, R. Plumb, C. Poole, M. Ryder, L. Saville, I. Sefton, A. Shilling, R & G. Smith, J. Simons, Span Outdoors Inc., S. Stevens, L. Sullivan, Sutherland Shire Environmental Centre Inc., Sydney Bushwalkers Inc., I. Tanner, The Bush Club Inc., R. Toop, B. Toovey, D. von Behrens, D. Walker, P. Walsh, T. Walsh, C. Watson, M. Weatherley, M. White, J. Whitehouse, M. Wierzbicki, E. Williams, A. Woolcott, J. Wrigley, V. Yee, R. Younger.

**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 (\$30) to 31 December 2010  
 (NB Membership application covers Bulletin subscription)
- Colong Bulletin Subscription (\$11) to 31 December 2010 (non members only)
- Membership renewal to 31 December 2010 (\$30)      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.

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**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 .....

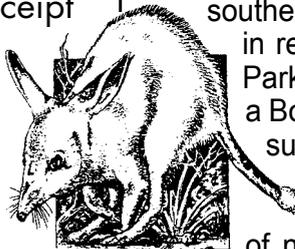
Bulletin back page, 12/09



**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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## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE COLONG FOUNDATION

	Price Posted	
<b>WILD PLACES</b> <i>The meticulously researched, beautifully written book on wilderness by Peter Prineas with photographs by Henry Gold (285pp)</i>	27.50 <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>PARK OR PINES</b> – <i>The Battle for the Boyd (42pp)</i> 9.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BLUE MOUNTAINS WORLD HERITAGE</b> <i>Alex Colley and Henry Gold's description of the 67 year campaign culminating in World Heritage listing. (136pp)</i>	50.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>THE BATTLE FOR THE BUSH</b> 27.50 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Geoff Mosley's account of the genesis of the nature conservation movement and saving of the Blue Mountains environment (174pp)</i>
<b>SUSTAINABILITY</b> <i>Alex Colley provides his vision on a sustainable future. (90pp)</i>	20.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>MYLES DUNPHY (SELECTED WRITINGS)</b> 43.95 <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>THE BAREFOOT BUSHWALKER</b> 27.50 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>by Dorothy Butler, Australian Geographic award winner. A story of a lifetime of adventure in wilderness and high mountains (292pp)</i>		<b>CLASSIC BUSHWALKING MAPS</b> by Myles Dunphy (Gangerang and Kowmung Maps) 6.00ea <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>HOW THE RAINFOREST WAS SAVED</b> (59pp) 9.00 <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>WILDERNESS RED INDEX</b> – complete \$110 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Index describes the land ownership, values, history and threats to NSW wild places</i>
		– Summary brochures \$2.20 <input type="checkbox"/>
		– Listing of individual areas \$5.50 <input type="checkbox"/>
		<b>LIVING WITH THE DINGO</b> (107pp) 19.00 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>by Adam O'Neill</i>