



THE COLONG BULLETIN

Bulletin 182

THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS LTD

September 2000

PROTECTING WILDERNESS AND NATIONAL PARKS

2/362 KENT STREET SYDNEY 2000 (ABN 84 001 112 143). TELEPHONE 02 9299 7341 FAX: 02 9299 5713 ISSN 1325-3336

EMAIL: foundation@colongwilderness.org.au WEBSITE: www.colongwilderness.org.au

In this issue...

Liberating Our Environment . . . 1	Upper Blue Mountains
Fighting for the Forests 3	Sewerage Debate 8
Meeting Dates 3	Students and Sustainability
There are Votes in Greenery . . . 4	Conference 10
Forestry Reform 5	The Colong Bulletin 10
The Wollemi Pine 6	North East Wilderness
Public Support for Forest	Inspection 11
Protection 7	The Burning Season 12

I want the world to love Australia. But I also want the world to understand it. One thing that's misunderstood is our bigness. We're huge, but don't let the size mislead you. The fact is we already have too many people in Australia. This country can only support 13 million comfortably.

**Bob Carr, quoted
in the July issue of the
National Geographic Traveller**

Liberating our Environment

*— a draft discussion paper by Peta Seaton,
Shadow Minister for the Environment*

Commentary by Keith Muir

IN a broad ranging Liberal Party strategy paper the Shadow Environment Minister, Peta Seaton, argues that nature needs to be "liberated". In particular, Ms Seaton claims that since World War 2 national parks have been quarantined under a sort of green apartheid created by the environmental extremists.

The Liberal Party would review the wilderness lands and national parks created by Bob Carr. Ms Seaton wants the Liberal Party to be a scion of the Access for All lobby, to blast

"ideological" holes in the borders of national parks to let the people in and wildlife out; to liberate the environment! But this rally cry is at odds with the facts and public opinion.

More than 2,500 kilometres of all purpose public roads provide vehicle access to national parks, 1,334 kilometres of walking tracks are in use, 158 camping grounds, 400 picnic areas, 115 lookouts and 57 visitors centres are open for all to enjoy (1998 figures). In 1994 there were 22 million visits to parks in NSW and by 2005 it is conservatively estimated

that this will reach 28 million visits a year.

There is no need for more access to parks, only the 4WD lobby really clamour for park management tracks to be opened. Yet such tracks have been opened to the 4WD users and these have fragmented or reduced the size of most of the "protected" wilderness declared under the Wilderness Act. More access concessions have been granted to the National Bicentennial (horse) Trail (BNT) that bisects EVERY "protected" wilderness

continued on page 2

THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS

PATRON: The Hon. Dr. Neville K. Wran, A.C., Q.C.

DIRECTORS: Pat Thompson, L.C.P. (Chairman); Jim Somerville, A.M., A.S.A. (Vice-Chairman); Alex Colley, O.A.M., B.Ec., H.D.A. (Hon. Secretary); Albert Renshaw (Hon. Treasurer); Tim Cadman B.A. (Hons), M.A. (Cantab.); Guy Dunphy;

Peter Maslen, B.Sc.(Eng), B.Sc.(Botany); Peter Princeas, B.A., LL.B.; Jeff Rigby; John Sinclair, O.A.M.; Henry Gold.

DIRECTOR: Keith Muir, B. Nat. Res. (Hons.) ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Tom Widdup, B. Com. CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR: Noel Plumb

HON. PHOTOGRAPHER: Henry Gold HON. MAPPING DRAFTSMAN: George Elliott

HON. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Shirley Dean

HON. AUDITOR: Arthur Andersen & Co.

BULLETIN DESIGN & TYPESETTING: Bungoon Technologies Pty. Ltd. Ph: (02) 9542 5544

Liberating our Environment

continued on page 1

though which it passes. The BNT, unlike the compromised wilderness, was imposed upon national parks without any public consultation. Yet Ms Seaton sees a danger and will look at enshrining this Trail and 4WD access in resource security-like deals to provide privileged access to national parks. The three Government inquiries into off road vehicles that confirmed the damage 4WD vehicles cause when used off road or on management tracks must be wrong.

Liberals wilderness supporters ignored

This liberation politics overlooks the public opinion surveys showing consistent, broad and very strong support for wilderness protection of which more or less half are Liberal voters. Would many of these Liberal wilderness stalwarts vote to stop the loss of wilderness at the next election? I hope that Ms Seaton is not like Shakespeare's Macbeth, too far steeped in wilderness blood to go back and talk with the true believers about wilderness and national parks. For wilderness lovers the choice at the next election is becoming very clear.

Ms Seaton's strategy gambles that groups such as The Wilderness Society, Total Environment Centre, and wildlife carers and nature lovers generally won't realise by the next election that if the Liberals are elected national parks and wildlife will be under attack. The strategy can only really succeed if voting for conservation is a "Sophie's choice" between the major parties. For example, if Labor weakens its credentials by allowing native forests to be burnt for charcoal and electricity, and opening up national parks to more off road 4WD use.

Wildlife for sale

Ms Seaton believes putting wildlife up for sale as pets, gourmet restaurants and pet food will increase wildlife survival. Such natural capitalism will not work for Australia's wildlife, as it has failed the whales, our fisheries and native forests. Jeff Angel, Director of Total Environment Centre fears that

"Every Tom, Dick and Harry will be raiding National Parks, State Forests and other public or private lands to find Sugar Gliders for sale as pocket pets, platypus for sale to Japanese aquariums or to trap kangaroos or possums for pet food or restaurants".

"Every Tom, Dick and Harry will be raiding National Parks, State Forests and other public or private lands to find Sugar Gliders for sale as pocket pets, platypus for sale to Japanese aquariums or to trap kangaroos or possums for pet food or restaurants". ... "While keeping a threatened Yellow Bellied Glider in a cage might bestow a feeling of having "saved" an endangered species, unless all effort is made to protect diverse breeding populations in the wild the animal is as good as dead", he said.

Ms Seaton obtains her nature conservation advice from scientists Dr Mike Archer and Dr John Wamsley, both experts who cast aspersions against our publicly managed and protected national parks. These experts see national parks as death traps for wildlife - "the land of the living dead". Such suggestions are complete nonsense as national parks are the bastions of nature being the most intact pieces of the original environment left. Science has yet to develop the ability to replant ecosystems, and trees planted on farms are no substitute mammal habitat.

Ms Seaton's agenda of making national park boundaries permeable to wildlife must first penetrate the long-standing National Party agenda of fencing off national parks from adjoining farmlands. The strategy does not detail how the wildlife corridors will be created so that animals can cross fences, farms and roads. Nor is it explained how Dr Wamsley's approach of impenetrable fences fits into this making national parks permeable theory.

"Liberating" parks and catchments

National Parks need to be protected from the spoiling forces of modern society. Times have changed since World War 2. Vehicles can travel just about anywhere within parks, which is why park management rules

restrict vehicles to public roads, just like other managers do (see "Farmers send 4WDs Packing" on page 8 in this edition). National parks and Sydney's water catchments are some of the most sensitive lands in NSW, and should not be opened up to off road vehicle access, regardless of whether such damaging access ensures the political support of the Outdoor Recreation Party.

Ms Seaton's vision splendid is the creation of new park categories that will permit nature conservation and natural resource exploitation, so as to create huge parks. While such an approach may be appropriate for our State Forests, creating Orwellian, green magic pudding parks defeats the purpose of setting lands aside from development for nature.

Wild-life, the very reason for creating parks in the first place, however, will be unrepresented on the park-governing stakeholder committees for these parks. Some sections of the community (alias stakeholders) are powerful vested interests, like tour companies, who if given decision making power by Ms Seaton will demand and get value for money expressed as more access and facilities at the expense of funding the environment - (why should ski resort operators be the only ones with subsidised profits?).

To save the bush, it is also proposed that farmers be paid not to clear land. Such a scheme over large areas of NSW could only be achieved if uncleared bushland is put to profitable use (eg. forestry and encouragement of "sustainably" stripping the bush of saleable "products", including orchids and grass trees).

Deregulate the damagers

Ms Seaton's environmental strategy launches a broad attack on government agencies that protect natural

continued on page 3

Fighting for the Forests

EVER since 1788 forests have been under attack. During the 19th century they were destroyed by fires and the axe. As Myles Dunphy wrote in 1934: "There were no half measures about the way our forefathers dealt with the landcover or the creatures thereof. Progress here had been built on ten million log fires, half a million bright edged axes and a continuity of steady effort." In the 20th century chain saws superseded the axe and bulldozers and chain linked tractors superseded ringbarking. Increased population and advertising created a greatly increased demand for construction timber and paper. It was accepted that land should be cleared for rural use and that forests with economic value should be cut down.

The first major campaign to save native forests was launched by the Colong Committee. At a supporters' meeting held on 23rd February 1970 Milo Dunphy moved: "That this meeting of representatives of the 90 public bodies supporting the aims and objectives of the Colong Committee believes both the Colong Caves Reserve and the Boyd Tableland to be essential parts of the Kanangra Boyd National Park. It deplores the actions

and the principles of the New South Wales Government in usurping existing Reserves and Crown lands at Mt. Armour and on the Boyd and for the use, in both cases of a single private company." The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Elenius, carried unanimously and became the policy of the Colong Committee. Seven years later the Boyd Plateau was added to the Kanangra Boyd National Park and in 1999 was included in the Blue Mountains World Heritage nomination. In March 1975 the Committee, having won the Boyd Campaign, adopted as its no. 1 objective the saving of the Border Ranges rainforest. The campaign escalated to cover the State's major rainforests. They became national parks in 1982 and shortly afterwards gained World Heritage listing. In the 90s a substantial area of forests have been conserved in national parks and wilderness areas.

Today the significance of forest cover has gained widespread recognition. Although preservation is opposed by logging, woodchipping, silicon and rural interests, the importance of forests in protecting catchments, reducing salinity and absorbing green house emissions is beyond question. ■

Parks Not for Rubbishing

In nature conservation, national parks, for all their problems, are the strong points... Scientific support for 'multiple use' is music to the ears of all the arrayed forces who oppose the allocation of land for nature – components of the rural lobby, the right-wing access and gun lobby and some of the mining, oil and commercial fishing industries. These are the forces most likely to use any chink in strict protection, not the environmentally benign interests envisioned by (Professor) Archer ... conservation should move out from parks, not multiple use move in! I hope Michael Archer will use his influence to help the community see our national parks not as 'environmental leper colonies' but as 'bastions of biodiversity' and 'refugia for regeneration.'

Penny Figgis AM in August 2000
issue of 'National Parks Journal'.

MEETING DATES

*Meetings will be
held on September
21st, October 5th
and 19th, and
November 2nd
and 16th.*

Liberating our Environment

continued on page 2

resources. For example, the Sydney Catchment Authority will be stripped of its powers. Without effective supervision powers and development control, catchment degradation will accelerate through inappropriate use and agricultural development. This is the wrong policy response to a recent damning independent audit of Sydney Water by the Licence Regulator. The Sydney Morning Herald (23/8/00) found that last year Sydney Water reported 48 "significant" water quality problems to the Health Department, after detecting giardia, cryptosporidium, arsenic, E. coli bac-

teria, faecal coliform, Gordian worms or other contaminants in water samples.

Ms Seaton also favours Liberating Sydney's "protected" water catchments. Catchment managers will be required to "scientifically" demonstrate why the catchments should not be opened up to 4WDs, horseriders and graziers. Such review would further increase pollution and the risks to water consumers.

Another huge agenda item is the creation of a natural resources mega-department that would operate on social and economic objectives, as well as conservation ones. Multi-objective planning would cripple conservation initiatives with inte-

grated resource management strategies. Management will be monitored against complex departmental objectives rather than through effective regulation of potentially damaging activities. Industry and farmers will be allowed work out land management details so that complex problems of catchment, native vegetation clearance and water management will be "solved" efficiently by private interests (you bet). Such a regime would neuter the current environmental powers and make them subservient to the National Party controlled natural resource portfolios, while reducing community consultation. ■

There Are Votes in Greenery ...But Not in Taxation

by Alex Colley

SUCCESSIVE polls have recorded strong support for the conservation of natural areas, of which wilderness is the most pristine (see "Public Support for Forest Protection" page 8 in this edition).

No doubt the strong support for the NSW Labor Government owes much to its parks and wilderness policy. The overthrow of the Kennet Government in Victoria may well have been due to the Bracks Government's promise to restore flows to the Snowy River and restore Mount Mackay to the Alpine National Park. The message has even reached W.A. where Labor and Liberals are competing in greenery. The Court Liberal Government has ended logging in many karri-tingle forests and harvesting will cease in 2003. Logging in jarrah forests will be reduced and 90,000 ha. will be added to three national parks. Labor's policy is to put an immediate moratorium on all old growth forests by 2003 and create a Walpole Wilderness of 330,000 ha.

The NSW Liberal Party, after 5 years in opposition, has published a Draft Discussion Paper on conservation issues in which it calls for up to 20% of the State to be in national parks and protected areas. If national parks continue to exclude grazing, logging, mining, resort development, off road driving and horseriding any considerable extension of the system would be impossible in the face of National Party opposition. The extensions would therefore be "multiple use" so called parks allowing these activities. The frequent reference to the needs of stakeholders (horseriders, 4Wdrivers, fishermen etc.) and the use of their terminology, e.g. the need for access, leaves

no doubt that a Liberal Government would favour "multiple use" in existing and new national parks.

The Party was advised by Dr. Walmesley and Professor Archer. Dr. Walmesley is a declared opponent of national parks. Professor Archer describes them as "environmental leper colonies." He believes that national parks are too small to enable most Australian mammals to move between them. He might have added that fences and domestic and feral animals prevent movement of little but bird life. His solution is the creation of five reserve areas of about 300,000 sq. km. each. Such areas would of course embrace many rural properties. The areas that might be conserved on these properties would, like small national parks, benefit little but bird life. Only the large natural areas, i.e. wilderness, could provide habitat for most native animals. The reservation of 300,000 sq. km. reserves is totally impractical. The best thing that we can do is to preserve existing wilderness.

The Liberal Party advocates the keeping of native fauna as pets, reducing the powers of the Sydney Catchment Authority and advocates the extension of agriculture in the catchment. There is no mention of any consultation with environmental organisations or of the two main factors causing environmental degradation - increase in population and consumption.

Although three state governments have favoured conservation, the Federal Government continues to declare surpluses while the environment deteriorates. Land clearing continues, salinity spreads, rivers dry up and carbon emissions increase. The declaration of surpluses while natural assets are lost is the equivalent of a company declaring dividends without providing for depreciation. A report prepared for the ACF and the Farmers Federation estimates that over \$6 billion a year is required to achieve "sustainable resource management." Present annual expenditure of \$11 billion

on defence is to be increased. This should secure Australia against invasion, since the cost to the aggressor of attacking a nation well equipped with modern weapons is so great that invasion is unlikely. It is however certain that continued depletion of our natural resources will lead to environmental and economic disaster, perhaps greater than that inflicted by invasion.

Our national leaders show no concern about the environment. This contrasts with some U.S. leaders. Bill Clinton has said "Protecting the environment is today a bedrock American value, as important to us as safe neighbourhoods and good schools." (Time magazine Earth Day issue). In his book "Earth in the Balance," Al Gore writes, "It is now all too easy to regard the earth as a collection of 'resources' having no intrinsic value other than their usefulness at the moment." He proposes a global Marshall Plan to provide the resources needed for environmental restoration.

Economists have for long ignored the depletion and degradation of natural resources. Ross Gittins writes, in the *SMH* of July 12th. "Our production and consumption of goods and services - the economy - occurs on the basis of the natural environment." He quotes Ted Evans, Secretary of the Treasury, as saying "Governments are increasingly obliged to look at a range of issues to do with the quality of our natural resources. We can't exist without both, and there is feedback between the two." Ted Evans also points out that ensuring a sustainable resource base costs money and "governments only have taxpayers money. So, in the end it comes down to people like us." Would the voters support a government that increased taxes by over \$6 billion a year? Not b— likely! But there is an alternative. If the planned surpluses of \$8.8 and \$14.4 billion were instead devoted to environmental restoration there would be no need for increased taxation. ■

GREEN REPRESENTATION GROWING IN THE U.S.

In 1996 the Greens had 43 elected officials in 13 states. This year the figure is 78 in 19 states

The Economist 1/7/2000

Forestry Reform

For the last two years State Forests of NSW have produced an Environmental and Social Values Report in addition to their regular conventional financial report.

IRONICALLY this commendable development came at the very time when the finalisation of the Comprehensive Regional Assessments (CRA) under the Resource and Conservation Assessment Council (RACAC) process resulted in a very large chunk of their estate. 435,000 ha. in the north east, being transferred to NPWS, and a further 320,000 ha. of state forest in the south east. It will be reserved shortly (see "Southern Forest Decision" in Bulletin 181).

Although the report is designed to document performance in the maintenance of forest diversity and sustainability, it is short on specifics in the sustainability area. In the 1995 Five Year Plan the stated objective was for harvesting in all their forests to be on sustained yield by 2000. Now that the year has arrived, the necessary data, long considered a vital element in responsible forest practice, is mentioned only as a desirable objective without any factual information. While it is agreed that "corrective action to change or correct past management can take decades to implement or to have effect," it would be nice to know if current harvesting is being undertaken "in a manner which provides for a projected supply of forest products in line with community expectations" (In other words, logged in an environmentally sustainable manner so that forest resources, including timber yields, do not decline through time).

The Carr Government followed the Wran Governments in forcing State Forests to be both environmentally and financially responsible. In 1988/9 net operating profit (before income tax equivalent) was \$13 million on assets of \$1,600 million - an unsatisfactory return of less than 1% on equity. Operating as a commercial

enterprise, State Forests then paid a \$6 million dividend to the State Government. Practically all the profit came from the softwoods plantations - the native forests being in a break even situation.

The long standing policy of growing only plantation softwoods has changed in recent years with more emphasis on growing hardwoods. Last year 5,000 ha. of softwoods was planted compared to 4,000 ha. of hardwoods. The total plantation softwoods (primarily *pinus radiata*) is now 208,000 ha. valued at one billion dollars. So much pine has been planted world wide that an over supply has developed.

Regrettably the pre-election Carr Government promise to end wood chipping in NSW was just that - an empty promise. Admittedly native forest hardwood pulpwood has declined from almost one million tonnes to less than half a million over the last five years but this decline has been due to the depressed international pulp and paper trade.

Back in the 1970s and 1980s, the Forestry Commission, as a result of legal and political decisions, as well as public opinion, was forced to act more responsibly. Most of the credit for the turnaround must go the Labor Governments (1976-1988). Every progressive move was the result of conservation group pressure and bitterly opposed by the Coalition parties in opposition, but when they finally regained power their threats to de-gazette national parks and log the rainforest were never carried out because of the change in public opinion. Regrettably the Forestry Commission was not listening when Neville Wran, the then Opposition leader, said at the beginning of the rainforest campaign that the forests of NSW had values other than timber. ■

Trees as Carbon Sinks

In its booklet *An Opportunity to Invest in Growth*, State Forests writes that the biomass of trees is approximately 50% composed of carbon, and as trees grow they store carbon in roots, leaves, branches and stems. Estimates indicate that planted forests may absorb up to 30 tonnes of carbon dioxide per hectare per year from the atmosphere.

In 1999 State Forests planted 5,000 ha. of softwoods and 4,000 ha. of hardwoods, bringing its total plantations to 255,000 ha. - 208,000 ha. of softwoods and 47,000 ha. of hardwoods. It is gratifying to Colong that the hardwood plantations are expanding. We have for long advocated the planting of hardwoods, one of the fastest growing varieties of trees, much favoured in overseas forestry.

In the *SMH* of August 1st. Greg Roberts wrote: "According to the best available figures, including the satellite data from Queensland, and assuming an average 200 trees per hectare of native vegetation, something like 100 million trees were bulldozed nationally in 1998. In that year, about 1.2 million trees were planted under Bushcare projects. On these figures State Forests plantings represented about 1.2% of the trees bulldozed nationally and even less if trees woodchipped or logged are added.

The green benefit of tree planting in NSW as a carbon sink diminishes mathematically toward zero when the provisions of the new Plantation and Reafforestation Act are considered. This new plantation law effectively abolishes the policy that prevented bushlands from being cleared for plantations. The legislation "accredits" (read exempts) commercial plantations from environmental planning laws, including the Native Vegetation Conservation Act. This means that native forest can be bulldozed for plantations, subject to a currently non-existent code of practice. Long term Colong members will recall the Boyd Plateau decision of 1975 led to Wran banning the establishment of pine plantations on clear-felled native forest. ■

The Wollemi Pine

The Wollemi Pine
The incredible discovery
of a living fossil from
the age of the Dinosaurs
by James Woodford, Text
Publishing

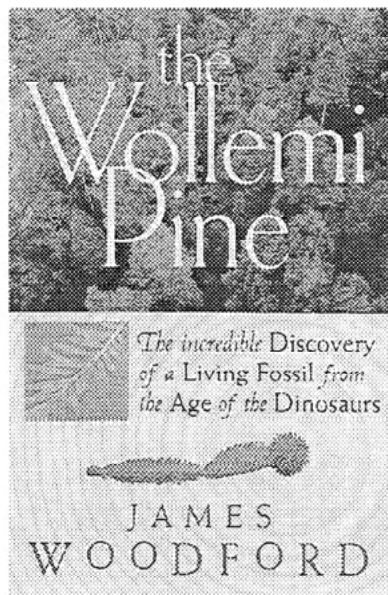
Review by Keith Muir

THE first time I had anything to do with James Woodford, he pressed a story into my hands he'd written for a forest conservation newsletter. I wasn't impressed, which just goes to show that to pick a writer requires a writer's talent, for it was not long afterwards he started with the Sydney Morning Herald.

The Wollemi Pine goes beyond journalism, it's a best seller, and a science and adventure thriller. It is also a novella, a story length more suited to most readers' time compressed lifestyles. But be warned, you could miss your bus stop once you enter the Wollemi pine discovery trail.

I love this book about the 'pinosaur'. Each person's contribution to the story is presented in a positive way. This is the reverse of what's expected from the run-of-the-mill journo turned writer going for the cynical king hit. This book will inspire teenagers into pursuing a career in natural sciences and win support for wilderness protection. The book also describes how the pines have survived the ravages of fire and the freezing desertification of climate change through the millennia only because of the nurturing Wollemi wilderness from which it takes its name.

The Blue Mountains geology and geomorphology combine to create a Gondwanic time capsule. The significance of the canyon labyrinth of the Wollemi wilderness is described as resembling an ecosystem that was once extensive 90 million years ago, when the pine survived at Antarctic latitudes enjoying two metre annual rainfall and frost free warmth. At this time the Earth was experiencing a full blown greenhouse event with its sea level 250 metres higher than at present, putting the arch of the Sydney



Harbour bridge 120 metres under that sea!

James' empathy with those he writes about is a by-product of placing the reader in centre stage. You are there with Dave Noble discovering the first grove of 23 mature wollemi pine trees and then in later chapters you are among some of Australia's down to earth scientists, catching those first waves of insight into what the pine may mean to science. It is the only survivor of new genus of ancient pines Wollemia. It is a Gondwanic relic, a member of those vast forests that once covered this lost super continent. The pines' pollen is discovered to be one of the Dilwynites, a group of pollen micro-fossil indicators used to flag the oil-bearing rock strata underneath Bass Strait. Then in the penultimate chapter of the book comes the big one. The Wollemi Pine throws light on the theory of evolution, for no genetic variation has been detected in the pine's DNA.

Darwin's "survival of the fittest" theory requires genetic variation within populations so that life's challenges can weed out the weaklings. The Wollemi Pine apparently has gone for one size fits all DNA model and has survived 100 million years of climate change. If the third popula-

tion found in the Wollemi wilderness (announced on August 12 in the Herald) is genetically identical to the other two populations, then a neo-Darwinian evolutionary theory will be needed to explain the situation!!

James brings science to life by using his journalistic skills of making a complex stories relevant to people. Hence the work of plant geneticist Rod Peakall on rare plants is described as follows ... "Most of the plants that he and his team study are refugees: their homes have been destroyed, their families have been blown apart and nobody is exactly sure what to do with them. Many are among the last few dozen of their species. ..."

Getting close to Wollemi's subject matter was dangerous. James was involved in a near collision between an observing helicopter and an air-tractor (crop duster) dive bombing a wild fire with water in order to develop strategies that would protect the Wollemi wilderness and its pines. Three other near miss situations involving helicopters are also described in the book. One where James jumps out of a hovering helicopter onto a sandstone ledge and the tea towel blind folds he has tucked up his jumper are blown skywards by the tremendous down draft. These pieces of fabric spin harmlessly away but it was also possible that they could have been sucked into the intake manifold of the chopper, putting paid to the Wollemi pines and the investigation party with a fire ball.

But the most amazing statement in the book must surely go to Dr Michael Archer, director of the Australian Museum, for his reference to elephant fossils in Australia as an example from geological history of freak events and miraculous survivors.

Without intending to, the Wollemi Pine is a story that explains just one reason why the Blue Mountains

continued on page 7

Public support for Forest Protection

PUBLIC opinion surveys over the last two decades have consistently shown strong support for forest protection. A Newspoll commissioned last month by the North Coast Environment Council has again demonstrated that the citizens from city and country NSW support the protection of all old growth forests. The survey revealed that 78.3 per cent of respondents believe all old growth forests should be legally protected from logging and clearing. Less than ten per cent of respondents were opposed to full protection.

In 1997 Newspoll found that only 3 per cent of people agreed that timber should come primarily from native forests. Again in 1996, another Newspoll found that 79 per cent of respondents want logging stopped in NSW forests that are likely to be needed for a reserve system.

These findings confirm surveys by commissioned by the Australian Heritage Commission in 1996 of 1,059 respondents. That survey found that 99 per cent of people believe that wilderness should be conserved and 87 per cent believe that wilderness should be conserved for its own sake. Only 39 per cent of people thought that wilderness should be made more easily accessible.

In 1994 a Saulwick poll of 1,000 people for the Sydney Morning Herald found that four in every five people agreed that forests should be preserved wherever possible and 70 per cent considered preservation of forests were more important than the jobs of timber workers, while support for environmental protection generally was double that for economic growth.

A 1986 REARK Research Poll conducted in 1986 found that eighty per cent of the sample wanted legislation to prevent wilderness areas from being logged, mined or affected in any way showing that there is a trend favouring wilderness support. Sixty eight per cent of people in that sample agreed the Government should spend \$10 per person to preserve wilderness areas. Only 20 per cent of people were against spending \$10 per person on wilderness. The remainder had no opinion.

Other polls conducted by the Sydney Morning Herald over the last ten years have shown that the majority of people put the environment before the economy, although the actual proportion varies over time.

Given this tremendous support for the forests, the Carr Government's endorsement of the burning of a million tons of forest timber would erode its public support. The proposals include a Gunnedah charcoal plant burning 230,000 tonnes of native old growth hardwood a year for the Lithow silicon smelter scheme and a further 800,000 tonnes of forest timbers are planned to be thrown into new, expensive, mini power plants. No plantations exist to supply the wood for these schemes. If these projects are approved, there will be extensive, new heavy logging of native woodland and forests, despite Government assurances. Its back to conservation versus slash and burn forestry of the 1970s with a vengeance. So much for sustainable forestry and industry reform though the regional forest agreements! ■

Farmers Send 4WDs Packing

The *Daily Telegraph* recently reported that the burgeoning number of four-wheel drive vehicles sold and the increase in available leisure time has meant that these metal monsters are invading farms. But "Their patience is running out with stock losses and property damage and station and farm tracks needing more maintenance to cope with the increased traffic", the report says.

Insurers are insisting that risks be minimised or premiums raised to cover the risk, and that costs the farmer money. The 4WD lobby is developing a National Access Strategy that "will set in place a protocol for access to those properties that have taken action to exclude four-wheel drivers from historical 4WD station tracks or station tracks used to access tracks and destinations on public reserves." The deal aims to get privileged access for 4WD clubs and offer farmers insurance for the idiots that turn farm roads to muddy slush when it rains and the tough bush drivers immediately come home instead of waiting for the tracks to dry out.

No doubt the National Access Strategy advances more nonsense about "historical" fire trails built in the 1960s and 70s through national parks. The Strategy will not be paying for any maintenance of those tracks, especially since the 4WD club members love pitting their mighty machines against ruined roads and mud. ■

The Wollemi Pine

continued on page 6

should be placed on the World Heritage list of properties. The pine has helped the international science community understand the world we live. It is of great significance in understanding the evolutionary history of the Southern Hemisphere. It is so

important that Environment Australia has agreed to provide copies of the book to the World Heritage Committee in an attempt to convince them of the international significance of the Mountains. One day the world will appreciate the significance the Blue Mountains wilderness but only if the full story can be told. As the scientific

community has largely ignored Geoff Mosley's book *Blue Mountains for World Heritage*, Australia's World Heritage nomination report is narrowly focused on eucalypts. Australia will restate the case for the Mountains again. But this time we have the romance of the Wollemi Pine to support our case. ■

Upper Blue Mountains Sewage Debate "Clarified"

THE Blue Mountains Conservation Society has fought for decades to defeat over development and pollution of the Upper Mountains. So why should does Con. Soc. reject connection of the Upper Blue Mountains towns to the Winmalee sewage scheme which avoids pollution of the Grose River with sewage effluent? Ross Coster of Water Cycle Sub-Committee of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society and a Colong Foundation Member gives the case for on-site treatment below:

For some years members of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society Water Cycle Sub-Committee have been working with Sydney Water and other stakeholders on plans to upgrade sewerage infrastructure in the townships of Medlow Bath, Blackheath and Mt Victoria.

At present Medlow Bath has no reticulated sewerage system, relying instead on Septic and pump-out systems. Blackheath is served by an ageing and under-designed Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) that at present discharges very poor quality effluent to Hat Hill Creek and on to the Grose River. Mt Victoria is served by a recently upgraded STP that discharges high quality effluent to Fairy Dell Creek and Coss River.

Sydney Water initially wanted to connect all three townships to the Sewage Transfer Tunnel at Katoomba for transfer to Winmalee, and then decommission the STP's at Blackheath and Mt Victoria.

To the surprise of Sydney Water (and myself initially) community workshops selected a preferred option of local treatment and discharge to local streams, after thoroughly studying a range of alternate options.

The preferred option includes a pipeline to Blackheath from a new pumping station at Medlow Bath, sewer mains in most areas of Medlow Bath and Blackheath that are currently without reticulated sewerage,

and a completely rebuilt Blackheath STP, using the latest in nutrient removal and disinfection technologies.

The effluent from the upgraded plant will cause less pollution than the background stormwater flow!

The main reasons for this community preference are:

- The townships are self-contained in their water harvesting through the dams at Medlow Bath and want to remain self-contained
- Residents want to take responsibility for their own pollution, not just export it to Winmalee
- Local treatment and discharge leave open the future option of direct or indirect re-use of the effluent locally (This is a highly important consideration. Future options, which may include potable reuse, are greatly compromised when high quality effluent is mixed with industrial waste.)
- Effluent from the upper mtns townships is primarily domestic (not mixed with industrial discharges and of high quality.)
- Connection to the tunnel to Winmalee is seen as an open-ended solution that may allow, or even stimulate, development in the townships
- Effluent treated to an acceptable level for discharge to Hat Hill Creek (and Fairy Dell Creek) will be of extremely high quality from the use of latest technologies, and is seen as a way to push Sydney Water to greater measures
- Drilling of a tunnel to North Katoomba (where the Winmalee Tunnel currently starts) risks massive impact on ground water
- Removal of about 3.5 million litres per day from the Grose River Catchment is against the principles of Total Catchment Management and would rob the Grose of vital flow
- The tunnel option would cost \$14 million more, money that could be better spent on improving stormwater quality

Sydney Water have agreed to pursue this preferred option and have prepared and exhibited an Environmental Impact Statement over 18 months ago. The EPA have accepted the preferred solution.

Unfortunately the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Colong Foundation for Wilderness, and the Total Environment Centre still prefer the Tunnel option.

A preference for removal of ANY discharge from the National Park and wilderness areas is very understandable and as a simplistic view is valid.

However people already live in the middle of this environment. It is necessary to deal with the consequences and responsibility that go with the privilege of living here. Pumping to a tunnel does not constitute best practice and will stymie future options.

We need to break this stalemate and get on with the project! Septic leakage in Medlow Bath is polluting the Grose right now, as is poor quality effluent from Blackheath STP. When STP Upgrades are completed the primary pollutant source will be stormwater, which we need to target through community education and stormwater treatment.

Grose Pollution

Keith Muir, argues that the Grose River should be restored to a wild river condition by connection of Blackheath and Medlow Bath villages to the Blue Mountains sewage tunnel by a sewage pipeline (and not a tunnel extension):

A sewage pipeline from Blackheath to the sewage tunnel at North Katoomba would close yet another major point source of pollution in the headwaters of the Blue Mountains National Park, bringing to nine the number of sewage plants decommissioned in the Mountains. The transfer scheme has already ensured that the Kedumba River is clean enough for

continued on page 9

Sewage Debate

continued on page 8

swimming once more and many other areas have benefited.

The transfer option also completes the sewage transfer scheme and further addresses the concerns of the World Heritage Committee regarding the integrity of the Blue Mountains World Heritage nomination that will come before that Committee for ultimate decision at the end of November.

On the other hand, if the local Blackheath plant is to be supported, the question that must be answered is will the effluent be highly treated so that it can be reused or just discharged to the Grose River? The local community say they want effluent water reused. The only long term reuse option is for drinking water, as duplication of the water mains to existing urban areas would be an enormous expense and there are no areas of farm land nearby suitable for irrigation. Drinking water reuse, however, can not occur in the foreseeable future, as the NSW Department of Health does not permit the human consumption of treated effluent.

NSW Health has advised that reclaimed water cannot be used for potable water supplies either with direct discharge to the town supply or with indirect discharge (i.e. discharge to a river upstream of an intake for drinking water). In addition to NSW Health veto, Sydney Water's track record also indicates it will not pursue even a trial of drinking water reuse for this community, especially since many residents were extremely hostile toward the drinking water fluoridation treatment only a few years ago.

Sydney Water and the Blue Mountains Conservation Society must convert Blue Mountains' residents to drinking a shandy of treated clean and reused water and foster research into water reuse so as to reverse the current advice of health experts. The Coffs Harbour Council has recently undertaken extensive resident surveys into the reuse of reclaimed water following the rejection of the ocean outfall option. It found that while there is general support for

"reclaimed" water reuse, opposition occurred from those immediately affected whenever specific purposes or areas were suggested. For example, a proposal to recycle highly treated water via the Orara River was strongly opposed by residents in the Orara Valley. Coffs Harbour Council came to the conclusion that a lot more work on experimentation and community education was needed to "sell" the specific benefits of reuse of reclaimed water so that the general support for the idea could be translated to actual acceptance.

Whilst the alternative of diluting of treated sewage effluent by disposal to the Nepean River is not a complete solution, it is certainly far better than discharging treated sewage to the tiny Gross River via a small headwater creek where its full impact on the national park will be felt.

The proposal for an expanded Blackheath sewage plant will not meet the given pollution standards for discharges entering a national park. The plant's design "targets" (note that word) are not adequate and unlikely to become realities given past experience with sewage plants. The promise is for phosphorous loads to decrease to less than 20 per cent of current levels (p. 5-40 of the EIS). As these current levels are 30 times the upper ANZECC (1992) guideline (p. 5-14), the new plant's effluent will be six times above this phosphorous guideline. And there will be a lot more effluent, up to 3.5 million litres per day. However, while this is a lot of effluent, it comes from less than 5 per cent of the catchment of the Grose River. So with water coming from the other 95 per cent of the catchment the Grose will not be starved of water if the effluent goes to Winallee for treatment and discharge to the Nepean.

The Blackheath sewage upgrade option risks turning the river bed of the Grose into a weed filled ditch. This disaster has happened to many urban streams where almost overnight, the stream bed becomes full of weeds. Once this happens, there is no going back. Will the Grose stand up to another twenty years of sewage pollution?

As for the claim that an upgraded plant will limit urban expansion, this

is highly unlikely. Sydney Water Corporation does not operate as a defacto planning authority but provides for urban expansion areas as required. There will be expansion capacity built into the proposed Blackheath upgrade, so there would be no curb to urban expansion through the plant upgrade option. This strategic consideration has mislead many in the community into support for the on-site discharge option.

Effluent reuse from the Winallee sewage plant, on the other hand is a potential replacement for farm irrigation water used on the floodplain that is currently extracted from the Nepean River. This strategy would enable environmental flows for the river.

The Blue Mountains sewage transfer scheme if completed will protect the Grose using a pipeline to Blackheath. What a shame to leave it fatally flawed by allowing sewage pollution from Blackheath to continue. Sydney Water has spent at least \$250 million on the tunnel servicing the Blue Mountains towns. If local sewerage plant option was considered unsatisfactory for eight Mountains communities, why is it supported for in the ninth case for Upper Mountains now? ■

Our Soils Need the Forest Waste

For soil to grow anything (from crops to timber) on a sustainable basis, it must contain a proportion of organic matter, without which it is simply crushed rock. In this country our soils have among the lowest organic matter content of any in the world, and this has roughly halved since modern agriculture was introduced. Clearly, a more environmentally sound way of "seeing this (organic farm waste) put to commercial use" (than burning it in a furnace for electricity) is to compost it with other wastes, such as sewerage sludge, and sell it for application to productive land, as is the trend in most developed nations.

James Kater SMH 12-8-2000

Students and Sustainability Conference

Griffith University, Brisbane July 1-7 2000

by Tom Widdup, Assistant Director

Students and sustainability is the longest running and best-attended environment conference for youth in Australia. The conference is traditionally attended by over 500 students from right around the country and over the past 5 years a small contingent of students from Papua New Guinea.

The conference discusses current environmental issues and campaigns in plenaries, forums and workshops. I attended the conference on behalf of the Colong Foundation and spoke at a forum titled "Which way forward for the Australian forest campaign". The forum was a broad discussion of the challenges and opportunities for the forest movement and covered specific topics ranging across wilderness protection, native forest biomass, sexism and racism in the movement and strategies for future campaigns.

The term, "Wilderness" was robustly debated in the forum and was a source of considerable discussion. Victor Hart, Aboriginal academic working with the Queensland University of Technology and originating from Cape York drew upon the dictionary definition of wilderness to illustrate the historical problems that many indigenous Australians have with the concept. The connection that his people have with land is ongoing and involves activities such as hunting of native wildlife. This debate was a valuable one and led to a lengthy discussion of wilderness issues. After all was said and done there was a lot of support for wilderness protection, particularly among those students who are involved or have been involved in forest activism.

An important point arising from the forum and one that continues to arise in the environmental movement is that of "alliance politics". How can we work with groups whose position differs from ours on significant points? Victor conceded that despite his animosity towards the term wilderness, it is a valuable and emotive term for many Australians. Recognising and accepting the dichotomy is a valuable first step to being able to truly work together with indigenous people on environmental issues.

As well as presenting information in forums the Colong Foundation had an information stall set up each lunchtime, offering students the opportunity to discuss wilderness issues further and pick up brochures to take back to their universities. Thanks to Jenny Ellis who was an enormous help throughout the week.

For many students at the conference the forests forum was their first real exposure to the issues surrounding wilderness protection. Some of the positive spin offs of the conference have been an increase in the number of younger volunteers in the Colong Foundation and a number of forest and biomass information evenings at universities around Sydney.

On the return trip from Brisbane I made contact with a number of regional environment groups on the North Coast to discuss the progress of the Wilderness 2000 campaign. The response from regional groups to the campaign so far was extremely positive with a number of groups committing to run wilderness stalls through the all-important wilderness exhibition process. ■

The Colong Bulletin

This is the 182nd issue of the Bulletin. It is produced in the same form as Bulletin no 1, except that we now use A4 instead of foolscap sheets. Printing has evolved over the years from the typewritten stencils of the old Gestetner machine to the master copies copied on the modern machine. Presentation and layout has been vastly improved and we believe it is now very effective.

We have stayed with the original form of the old stapled sheets because of the economy of this format. Thanks to the Sydney Bush Walkers we have been able to print free of charge with their modern Gestetner machine, using their paper and materials, and it is collated by a group of bushwalkers.

There is no cover sheet or packaging and no advertising. The printing is large enough to provide easy reading (considerably larger than the revamped SMH), but small enough to carry about 1,000 words per page.

The only costs Colong has to meet are postage, typesetting (by Jenni Gormley) and reproduction of photographs.

Circulation is not great, but it goes to the people who matter - our generous supporters, the media and the parliamentarians. We believe it has played a vital role in wilderness conservation.

North East Wilderness Inspection



Noel Plumb (and Henry Gold) examine past logging in Chealundi State Forest.
PHOTOGRAPH BY HENRY GOLD

report from Noel Plumb

HENRY Gold and I carried out a second inspection over 8 days at the end of July of the potential North East wilderness areas that are expected to be placed on public exhibition in October 2000 and to be incorporated in the environment groups' Wilderness 2000 Protection Plan.

The time permitted inspection of only two substantial proposals, Chandelers Creek (including key parts of the Chaelundi State Forest) about 40 kilometres south of Grafton and Stockyard Creek (including the Carrai State Forest) about 50 kilometres north west of Kempsey. Conditions were generally clear and sunny with very cold nights. We encountered very strong winds on the first day and some showers and sleet on another day or two.

We were disappointed but not sur-

prised to discover that almost all areas we surveyed had evidence of logging to some extent. However, with the exception of minor areas, we gener-

ally formed the view that the forests within the potential wilderness were of good quality, relatively isolated and were suitable for wilderness identification and declaration.

Among the issues identified were:

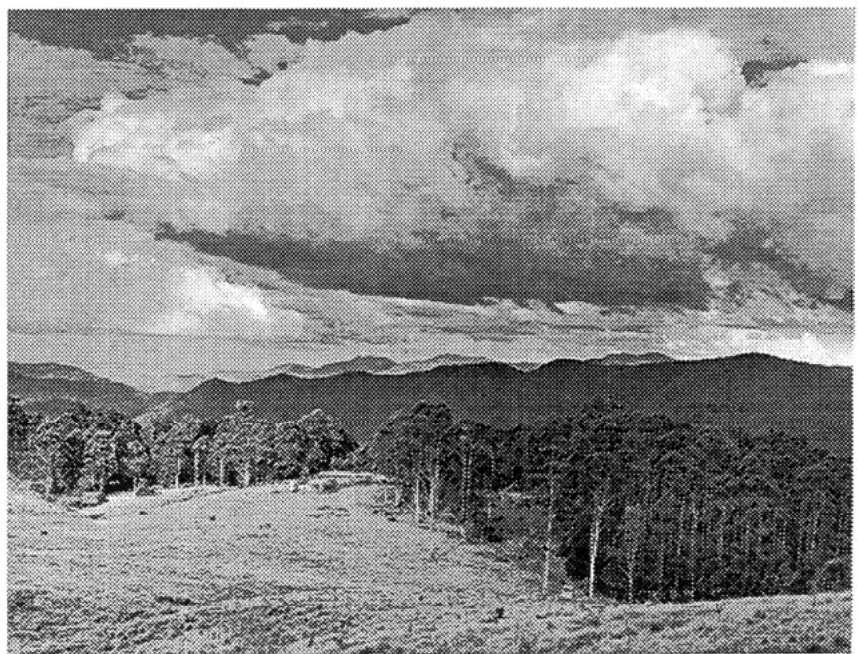
Chandelers Creek - to maintain State Forests' access to a relatively small 'productive forest' area within Marara State Forest, the NPWS has cut off some 4,000 hectares of National Park from the wilderness, and to the south 1,300 hectares of a State Forest informal reserve could be omitted from the proposal;

Stockyard Creek - to maintain access to a very small production area at the southern tip, the Government may exclude about 1,100 hectares of very high quality state forest that is part

continued on page 12

View into the proposed Stockyard Creek Wilderness looking east from Daisy Plains

PHOTOGRAPH BY HENRY GOLD



The Burning Season

by Tom Widdup, Assistant Director

THE forests of NSW are under siege. A raft of proposals to burn forest "waste" has gone before the government. In recent times the Colong Bulletin has reported on new developments affecting the precious nature and wilderness of NSW. These have included plans to burn western woodlands for charcoal (later

amended to include burning the forests of southern and northern NSW for charcoal) and co-firing of native forest woodchips in coal power plants to produce so-called "renewable" electricity.

The latest proposal to burn forests for electricity comes from the newly formed "Clean Green Energy Company". The "Clean Green Energy Company" is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Forest Products Association (FPA),

the industry association that represents the interests of logging companies in NSW.

The FPA have tabled a proposal to construct three new stand-alone biomass powered power stations in NSW, each with a 30 Megawatt capacity. The three power stations are to be situated close to large areas of native forests (Grafton, Bulahdelah and Moruya), a move that can only reinforce fears that the plan will lead to increases in native forest logging.

The FPA claims that the feedstock for their power stations will be sourced entirely from existing forestry waste. At best this demonstrates the inefficient nature of native forest logging in NSW. For over two million tonnes of so-called waste to be produced from forestry operations highlights the wasteful practices of industry. Recovery rates from sawlogs can be as low as 25%, leaving 75 % to be chipped or dumped. At worst the proposed FPA power stations will simply lead to an increase in native forest logging in NSW. The same language is being used to justify forest logging for the pulp woodchip industry.

Claims that proposals such as these will utilize forest "waste" that currently go to landfill will sound familiar to many people. It raises the question that if the massive woodchipping industry is supposed to exist on sawmill waste and silvicultural thinnings, how is there enough waste to feed another huge industry.

Currently the Liddell Power station sources about 1% of their power from NSW's forests, approximately 170,000 tonnes per annum. The company has considered increasing this proportion to 5%, (allowed under the Natural Resources Amendment Act, passed in late 1999) which would mean burning approximately 800,000 tonnes per annum. In addition to this, another 230,000 tonnes of NSW's forests could go up in smoke for the production of Charcoal for a Silicon smelter. When one starts to add up the various quantities of wood destined for the furnace a very stark picture arises. It is worth remembering through all of this that what the logging industry calls forest wastes is in fact living trees that should be left as forests. ■

North-East Wilderness

continued on page 11

of the range leading up to the Carrai Plateau. Excluding this area (which is still being examined as a conservation area) would leave one of the most picturesque areas of the wilderness, including a Falls Lookout area, in State Forests control. The short track in from Carrai Road to the Lookout

would also make an ideal interpretative walk as it passes through rainforest and old growth wet eucalypt forest of great beauty. ■

(A detailed report of the North East Wilderness Areas will be published in the November Bulletin).

Ancient Spotted Gum in the proposed Chandlers Creek Wilderness
PHOTOGRAPH BY , HENRY GOLD



SUPPORT THE COLONG FOUNDATION!

To: The Treasurer, Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd.
Level 2, 362 Kent 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 2001
(NB Membership application covers Bulletin subscription)
- ☐ Colong Bulletin Subscription (\$11) to 31 December 2001
- ☐ Membership renewal to 31 December 2001 (\$25) ☐ Life Membership (\$550)
- ☐ Tax deductible donation of \$_____ to the Colong Wilderness Fund (cheques to be made payable to the Fund)
- ☐ PLUS \$_____ being for publications as indicated on the reverse side of this form.

NAME (Mr, Ms, Mrs, Miss)

ADDRESS

.....P/CODEDATE

SIGNEDAMOUNT

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

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 of Wilderness Ltd.

shall be complete discharge to my executors in respect of any sum paid to the Colong Foundation for Wilderness Ltd."



PROGRESS OF THE FOUNDATION

The Colong Foundation is the longest-serving community advocate for wilderness in Australia. It has initiated or been part of Campaigns that have secured over a million hectares of national parkland, most of which is wilderness. But a further million hectares of wilderness in eastern NSW is still not reserved under the Wilderness Act, although much of the area is now in national parks.

Now more than ever the Colong Foundation needs your support. Well financed anti-conservation lobbies, representing resource development, 4WD enthusiasts, equestrian and commercial tourism interests, have greatly increased development pressures on wild places.

The Foundation originated as the Colong Committee which was appointed in 1968 by a meeting of conservation societies to prevent quarrying of Colong Caves. Shortly afterwards the committee extended its objective to cover the saving of the Boyd Plateau from becoming the site of a 15,000 acre pine plantation. Both objectives had been achieved by 1975 when three new objectives were adopted. The first of these was the creation of a Border Ranges National Park, an objective which escalated to become the rainforest campaign. The other objectives were the creation of a Greater Blue Mountains National Park and a Kakadu National Park. The rainforest parts and Kakadu are now World Heritage Areas. The Greater Blue Mountains Park is in being in fact, though not in name.

Recent campaigns for the Gardens of Stone and Nattai National Park have been successful. The Foundation's proposal for a Wilderness Act was accepted in 1987. It has been supplemented by the Red Index of Wilderness now being up-dated and extended to other states. It has successfully campaigned for the nomination of the Blue Mountains for World Heritage listing.

It is at present working for the protection of threatened wilderness in NSW, for the preservation of national parks from commercial development and damaging use, and for the preservation of old growth forests.

THE COLONG FOUNDATION

SENDER: THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS
Level 2, 362 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000



PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE COLONG FOUNDATION

WILD PLACES

The meticulously researched, beautifully written book on wilderness by Peter Prineas with photographs by Henry Gold (285pp)

Price Posted
27.50 ☐

BLUE MOUNTAINS FOR WORLD HERITAGE 17.60 ☐

Geoff Mosley provides a comprehensive explanation of the wealth of heritage values in the Blue Mountains (135pp)

THE COLONG STORY (42pp) 9.00 ☐

HOW THE RAINFOREST WAS SAVED (59pp) 9.00 ☐

PARK OR PINES - The Battle for the Boyd (42pp) 9.00 ☐

THE BATTLE FOR THE BUSH 27.50 ☐

Geoff Mosley's account of the genesis of the nature conservation movement and saving of the Blue Mountains environment (174pp)

MYLES AND MILO 27.50 ☐

A biography, written by Peter Meredith, of The Colong Committee's Patron, Myles Dunphy OBE, and its founder, Milo Dunphy AM D.Sc. (376pp)

THE BAREFOOT BUSHWALKER 27.50 ☐

by Dorothy Butler, Australian Geographic award winner. A story of a lifetime of adventure in wilderness and high mountains (292pp)

CLASSIC BUSHWALKING MAPS by Myles Dunphy (Gangerang and Kowmung Maps) 6.00ea ☐

WILDERNESS RED INDEX - complete \$110 ☐

The Index describes the land ownership, values, history and threats to NSW wild places

- Summary brochures \$2.20 ☐

- Listing of individual areas \$5.50 ☐