



SUSTAINABLE TIMES

NOVEMBER 2005

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF THE SOUTH EAST REGION AND CANBERRA

IS THE CAT IN THE BAG?

ADRIAN WHITEHEAD, PROJECT OFFICER

After a two year campaign to reduce the impact of cats on our nature reserves and wildlife, in the ACT we are close to achieving the adoption of another key element of a workable solution.

This November, the ACT Government is presenting new legislation to the Assembly, which will add to the existing *Domestic Animals Act (2000)*. This will allow the management of certain areas where cats are not allowed to roam outside and must be kept indoors or in outdoor enclosures, such as in the suburbs of Forde and Bonner which abut the important conservation reserve of Mulligan's Flat.

The Bill will also seek to strengthen issues surrounding the identification of cats, but fails to deal with the issue of the number of cats that should be kept on any one property.

The Conservation Council, while supportive of cat containment, advocated a higher level of protection, a cat-free zone in the suburbs around the reserves, as this afforded the greatest degree of protection for native wildlife.

There are significant welfare benefits for domestic cats which are contained within their owners' properties:

- less risk of harm, particularly from motor vehicles
- greater protection from potentially fatal attacks by other animals and/or diseases
- and for their owners, lower veterinary costs as a likely result.

Evidence suggests contained cats live much longer and their quality of life is not impeded, enhancing their value as pet companions.

The measures proposed are a small price to pay for the benefits of having biodiversity at the community's doorstep. The impacts of not containing cats are large.

Around 68% of households own at least one cat (RSPCA estimate) which means there are around 70,000 domestic cats in Canberra, most of which have the potential to significantly impact on native wildlife (about 90% of cats are fit enough to hunt).

In Australia, cats are known to feed on more than 347 native species: that's 186 species of birds, 64 mammals, 86 reptiles, at least 10 amphibians and numerous invertebrates. We know that feral cats are a problem but there is little point in targeting feral cats and leaving domestic cats uncontrolled. A domestic cat will hunt and kill no matter how well fed it is. One study estimated that on average each pet cat kills 32 vertebrates each year. It is estimated that there are 3-million pet cats in Australia. This adds up to a total of 96-million birds, mammals and reptiles killed each year by domestic cats alone.¹

Confining cats also has the benefit of reducing instances of toxoplasmosis in humans. Up to 60% of all domestic cats harbour *Toxoplasma* in their

cont. page 3

CONTENTS

| |
|--|
| IS THE CAT IN THE BAG?—PAGE 1 |
| PRESIDENT'S REPORT—PAGE 2 |
| NAMADGI UPDATE—PAGE 4 |
| THE SEARCH FOR THE SMALL PURPLE PEA —PAGE 5 |
| CAMPAIGNS UPDATE—PAGE 6 |
| VALE ROBYN STELLER—PAGE 7 |

| |
|--|
| UPDATE BY ERIKA STELLER ON <i>MONGA INTACTA</i> —PAGE 8 |
| WALK AGAINST WARMING—PAGE 8 |
| DRAGWAYAWAY—PAGE 9 |
| WELCOME TO OUR NEW MONEY MANAGER— PAGE 10 |
| CONSERVATION OVER COCKTAILS—PAGE 10 |
| WHAT'S ON—PAGE 11 |
| LARK HILL WINE OFFER—PAGE 12 |
| BACK PAGE—JOIN AND DONATE |

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

GEOFF ROBERTSON

In recent years the Council has undergone major transition and is now a stronger organisation, with members, councillors, staff and volunteers all rising to the challenge.

- Member groups and councillors are more aware of the Council's purpose and role, and participate more in Council's efforts.
- Executive members are focused on their role of developing policy, providing guidance, taking on individual portfolios, and mucking in.
- Staff are highly focused, skilled and effective, and secure for now.
- A wide variety of people are I-members and involved, and the Council has attracted volunteers who work in many and varied capacities.

And plans, policies and programs are in place, including:

- A well developed strategic plan and set of policies but, more importantly, many people participate in research and policy development through campaign, working, and ad hoc groups
- A strong understanding of the issues (biodiversity, planning, greenhouse, transport, water, etc) and their interconnectedness, and a good grasp of stakeholders' visions and objectives and good working relations with them
- A training program for staff and executive members to fit their roles
- A sound financial position, using reserves to develop new areas of policy opportunity and innovative fundraising
- An underpinning by good governance and respect for different values, styles and points of view—in fact it is healthy when dissent is expressed within Council.

We can improve and I hope in particular that Council will work towards assisting member groups to establish better governance models.

This flowering of Council results from the vision and commitment of Nicky Davies, Kathryn Maxwell, Rod Griffiths, John Avery, Ian Falconer, Jenny Bounds, and many others, who were here before I became president two and a half years ago. They have continued to provide their valuable insights and leadership, and have been joined by Clare Henderson and Trish Harrup who share the vision and commitment. My job as president has largely been one of ensuring everyone keeps their eye on the ball and works together. While the task has been very demanding at times, more recently, in the

cont. page 3



CONSERVATION COUNCIL

GPO Box 1875 CANBERRA
ACT 2601

Tel: +61 2 6247 7808

Fax: +61 2 6248 5343

www.ecoaction.net.au

ccserac@ecoaction.net.au

Executive

President: Geoff Robertson

Vice Presidents: Ian Falconer,
Jenny Bounds

Treasurer: John Avery

Secretary: Bren Weatherstone

Committee: Giff Jones, Rod
Griffiths, Clare Henderson, Liz
Pye, Paul Magerey

Staff

Director: Trish Harrup

Finance Manager: Mark Simpson

Water Campaign: Adrian White-
head

Natural Heritage Project Officer:
Erika Steller

Sustainable Times

Sustainable Times is published quarterly on the website of the Conservation Council of the South East Region & Canberra. It is also produced in hard copy for those who do not have internet access. Contact the office to get on the list.

Editor: Anne Rawson

rawson@home.netspeed.com.au

Deadline for February 2006 issue:

Friday 27 January 2006

environment ACT
PART OF THE ACT GOVERNMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF URBAN SERVICES



The Conservation Council of the
SE Region & Canberra gratefully
acknowledges the financial
support of Environment ACT.

IS THE CAT IN THE BAG? (CONT.)



Kimba, Ayesha, and Felix cats in their Catopia Home. Photo Catopia.

body and they can pass this disease on to humans and other animals through their faecal matter during the initial 20 days of infection. Humans also can get infected through eating the under cooked meat of infected animals. The disease is rather mild but can cause serious problems for people with immunodeficiency conditions or under going pregnancy where miscarriage and severe birth defects can result.

Cat containment or cat-free zones should apply in environmentally sensitive areas, such as new housing developments abutting nature reserves or areas with high conserva-

tion values, rural villages, and developments around riverine and wildlife corridors such as the Molonglo Valley

Responsible cat owners should consider having a cat enclosure for their cats regardless of the zoning of the suburb. Check out the following suppliers: Catopia at catopia.homemail.com.au and Catmax at www.catmax.com.au.

1. Sue Taylor, The Effect of Domestic Cats on Australian Wildlife, Ockham's Razor, ABC Radio National, Broadcast Sunday 7 November 1999 with Robyn Williams

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONT.)

good hands of Trish, Adrian, Erika, and now Mark Simpson (who takes over as office manager), it has been much less so.

As I will not be seeking re-election, I would like to thank all the people mentioned above, and in my previous reports, and members of the executive (Bren Wetherstone, Paul Magarey, and Giff Jones), plus the many leaders in our member and allied groups. In the wider community I thank the members of the ACT government and Legislative Assembly, many people in the ACT bureaucracy, especially Environment ACT, Urban Services and ACTPLA, and simi-

lar stakeholders across the border, who have taken me into their counsel, offered support and sometimes criticism, who have lightened the load, become friends, and without whom the Council would not be the organisation it is. I have felt very honoured and rewarded to be president in such an exciting time.

Finally, to Laraine Frawley, who has resigned as office manager, and John Avery, the Council's treasurer who is also standing down, both after many years, thank you both for your efforts, tolerance, insights, direction, friendship, and personal support.

NAMADGI UPDATE

ADRIAN WHITEHEAD, PROJECT OFFICER

The Namadgi National Park Draft Management Plan has had its period of public comment extended to 30 November.

Submissions can be sent to:

EnvironmentAct@act.gov.au

or posted to:

PO Box 144 Lyneham ACT 2602.

A copy of the Plan is available at:

www.environment.act.gov.au/bushparksandreserves/namadginationalparksmanagementplan.html

The National Parks Association (ACT) will be preparing a detailed submission which other groups may like to consider endorsing. A draft will be available on the NPA website at www.npaact.org.au.

The Conservation Council hosted a round table session attended by member groups with an active interest in Namadgi, and as an outcome of that meeting we have identified a number of key issues, which we will address in our submission and which we encourage others to consider.

Fire

Strongly oppose new fire trails in the wilderness areas, including the proposed upgrade of Cotter Road. Strongly oppose float standard fire trails in Blue Gum and Stockyard Spur

Support a stronger focus on working with neighbours for fire protection (i.e. off reserve fuel management—mandate fuel management plans for rural lessees) on long term, low impact hazard reduction and more aerial (helicopter) focused fire fighting.

Recreation

The key issue here is that Namadgi is a relatively small park facing many pressures, including fire recovery and climate change, and recreational use of the park should be in keeping with the core purpose of national parks. biological diversity conservation.

Support the continued use of Namadgi for low impact recreation activities. Provision

should be made for high-impact recreation activities outside of the national park and nature park estate. Particularly concerned with impact of large groups, off-road driving, horse riding.

Wilderness

Expand defined wilderness area to include Zone 1B and Blue Gum creek area to create a contiguous wilderness area.

Research

Need funding for research, to enable informed management. Key areas include climate change, fire management, feral and weed control.

Conservator of Flora and Fauna

The Plan places heavy reliance on the Conservator to make key decisions, therefore the Conservator position should be separate from park management. For good environmental legislation we argue that certain principles are needed, including independent decision-making.

Climate change

Climate change is expected to have a severe impact on alpine ecosystems. The management plan should specifically address management actions over the next decade that will help to improve ecosystem resilience and adaptive capacity.

Once adopted, the Plan will determine the management of the national park for the next decade.

Please consider preparing a submission to the draft Plan; this can be as simple as a letter outlining a few key points of concern.

Booroomba
Rocks
Photo Adrian
Whitehead



THE SEARCH FOR THE SMALL PURPLE PEA

NATURAL HERITAGE SERIES BY ERIKA STELLER



Small Purple Pea, P.Ormay Environment ACT

The Small Purple Pea (*Swainsona recta*) is a declared endangered plant species in the ACT. It has also been declared as endangered in NSW and Victoria and by the Commonwealth. It is a slender, erect, perennial plant called a forb—meaning it is a non-woody plant that is not a grass, sedge or rush. It grows up to 30cm high and has attractive purple flowers between 5-6mm long, borne in racemes (or spikes).

The Small Purple Pea is one of the endangered plants that the Conservation Council has nominated to the ACT Heritage Register, with the aim of protecting the sites where it is found as part of our natural heritage work and assisting the long term survival of this little pea.

Once relatively widespread, the Small Purple Pea spanned from north-eastern Victoria to central-western NSW, but its known range and numbers are now dramatically reduced and it is at risk of premature extinction. There are now only two population clusters—one in central eastern NSW and one nearby, which stretches along the Tralee/Williamsdale railway and road easement, along the NSW/ACT border, in NSW. This is the largest known population with about 3400 plants.

The Small Purple Pea populations found in the ACT are relatively small, but are important remnant populations. These are found in grassy woodland habitat at Mount Taylor, Kambah and Aranda. Last recorded numbers of plants at these sites found approximately 160 plants at Mt Taylor, 10 in Kambah and 3 at Aranda.

The search for the Small Purple Pea shows us that we have islands of habitat for this plant in the ACT. It is a reminder of the broader disturbance to the ecological balance of our natural areas and that this plant needs some special attention to protect its survival for the future.

The populations of this plant are small and fragmented and are highly vulnerable to site disturbance, so careful and appropriate conservation management is necessary to protect this species. If the areas of remaining Small Purple Pea habitat are successfully listed as heritage sites, these areas will have a further level of protection that will require land management to be consistent with maintaining, and hopefully improving, the viability of these populations.

This project was assisted through funding made available by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

CONSERVATION COUNCIL XMAS CELEBRATION

The Conservation Council warmly invites you to our annual Xmas party to celebrate our efforts for the environment in 2005

Please join us for drinks and nibbles on:
Wednesday 21 December
4pm to 6.30pm at the Council Offices
The ROCKS, Kingsley Street, Acton

Rsvp ph: 6247 7808
email: ccserac@ecoaction.net.au

CAMPAIGNS UPDATE

Save The Ridge

STR has decided not to pursue a High Court challenge to the adverse decision of the Federal Court. This means that there are no further legal obstacles to building the GDE.

STR president Alan Lohe states in their press release of 14 October: 'The Government has blamed STR for wasting public money by opposing the GDE. This overlooks the simple fact that STR was able to wage such a long campaign only because the government did not follow proper process in dealing with environmental and planning issues concerning the GDE. It remains a fact that there was never an environmental assessment done for the GDE. Had a proper environmental impact study been done in the first place, none of this expensive litigation would have been necessary and sensible alternatives could have been pursued. The level of public support for our cause has been enormous and we thank our members and supporters for all their help'.

STR is now focusing on the Belconnen to Civic Busway and ensuring the proposed route does not further impact on the natural areas of Bruce and O'Connor ridges.

Climate Change

Trish Harrup and Adrian Whitehead have attend two key conferences on climate change. The first was run by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and was focused on biodiversity impacts of climate change. The second was the Climate Action Network Australia. Both conferences were important, the first because of the recognition of the dire impacts climate change will have on most global ecosystems, the second because significant steps forward were made in creating an effective national campaign on climate change.

One of the first concrete outcomes from the national campaign is the Walk Against Warming on Saturday 3 December as part of a national day of action, in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Canberra.

Locally, the event starts at 11am in Garema Place, and will include a colourful walk

through the Civic mall, speakers and bands. It would be great to see as many of you there as possible with your family and friends. Climate change is simply too important to ignore for too much longer.

For more information, or to get involved with the organising, please ring or email Adrian on adrian@ecoaction.net.au or phone 6247 7808.

Water

The ACT government has just announced permanent stage-one water restrictions with the aim of an annual 8% reduction in Canberra's water use. The Conservation Council is very supportive of this proposal.

The proposal is open for comment via the ACTEW website at www.actew.com.au or through the Water Restrictions Hot Line on 6248 3131. You can also book a briefing for your group by ringing the hot line.

Transport

An exciting new campaign is being developed to bring light rail to Canberra. The campaign will unite environmentalists, the community sector and business behind a proposal which will see light rail installed in the centre of Canberra as a first step of developing a comprehensive light rail system.

The system would incorporate:

- high frequency
- multimodal ticketing
- multimodal coordination
- mix of station and stop types
- traffic priority
- fulfilment of Griffin's original vision
- linking business and residential areas to Civic
- the foundation for a system that can grow.

A briefing document on a Canberra light rail proposal is being developed. This document will be used to gather support from the business and community sectors to encourage a broad community campaign for a light rail system for Canberra.

VALE ROBYN STELLER

THANKS FOR YOUR LIFE AND LEGACIES

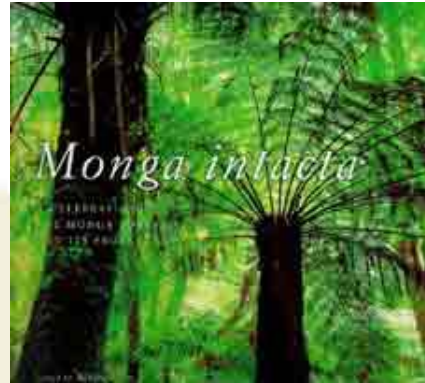
DIERK VON BEHRENS

We mourn the loss of a modest, warm-hearted, committed and deeply dedicated champion of her family and friends, of people in crisis and of our natural heritage—the Australian environment. We celebrate her rich and memorable life; one lived with enthusiasm, love, compassion and forgiveness. Her lasting legacies, apart from her three children and personal influence on family and friends, is Monga National Park, and the record and celebration of its protection—generations will cherish.

Monga intacta: celebration of Monga Forest and its protection, compiled, edited and published by Robyn Steller, will remain a beautiful, enduring keepsake to her and the fierce battles waged for the permanent protection of this magical and diverse remnant of our Australian bush, so much of which has been cleared or clear-felled forever. It shows her 'wonderful writing, so clean, so clear and full of heart and truth' as fellow campaigner, Michael Gill, has described it. The book is dedicated to Peter Herbst, emeritus professor of philosophy at the Australian National University, a long-term, dedicated conservationist and humanist, who introduced her to the magic of Monga.

Her first edition—sponsored by the Braidwood Greens, the Wilderness Society, the ACT National Parks Association, the Eastern Capital City Region Council and Friends of the Mongarlowe River—sold out rapidly. Sadly, I missed out. I have ordered copies of the next print-run from Erika, her daughter, who is maintaining the family's commitment in her work for the Conservation Council of Canberra and the South East Region. That council is one of many organisations whose Commonwealth funding has just been terminated because they speak up for issues and environments at risk.

Robyn fought directly against logging of Monga, which adjoined the family's country property east of Braidwood, and fiercely against a charcoal plant being set up on the



See a review of *Monga Intacta* in May issue of *Sustainable Times*

Nature Coast, one that would lead to intensification of demands for forests to exploit. The book documents one part of those battles, campaigns that, fortunately, were won and resulted in a marvellous extension of our National Park estate.

Tributes have poured in from those for whom Robyn, the trained psychologist, provided professional help: 'Robyn was truly one of the most giving and caring people I have ever met', wrote Jenny French and continued: 'Nothing was ever too much trouble for her. She gave so much love to people, you instantly felt better. Robyn had a unique way of encouraging you to do better, without ever telling you what to do. Just her being there and her uncanny way of knowing what to say had instant results.' Her friend, Marjorie Kobolt, explained her lasting impact thus: 'Robyn, in her work, always set store in the value of every individual and always believed that, as a professional, one could learn something from every person encountered—you just had to spend the time and listen very carefully'.

Robyn died after her horse slipped on a steep downhill section and catapulted her out of the saddle. Thus died her loyalty, her strength and sensitivity, her joy and energy, her artistic and analytic talents.

May the memories of Robyn Steller and her work live on to inspire and empower us all now and into the future.

See next page

UPDATE BY ERIKA STELLER ON *MONGA INTACTA*

After a very long wait we have received the second print run of our Mum's inspiring book. As Bob Brown said, 'What a joyous book. This is a brilliant celebration of both the beautiful Monga forest in New South Wales and the people who rescued it from the teeth of the chainsaws. Inspiring in every way!' The way that Mum saw it, the book was a collaboration, with so many people contributing to make the book come together, she saw her part as co-ordinator and celebrated the communal effort and result.

Monga Intacta is currently available at Mooble, organic and re-cycled products shop in Bailey's Arcade, for those of you who have been patiently waiting for your copy. There will also be copies available at the Conservation Council AGM and website launch on the 16 November. We hope to find other outlets to stock the book when time allows us to further investigate the possibilities.

Shortly we will have a website up and running to promote the book and also to take orders and we hope to be able to link our site to other environment organisations' websites.

In memory of our Mum, Robyn, and her passion for protecting our native forests, the family has set up a Foundation that will receive all money from book sales and will make small grants available for forest conservation projects in south-east NSW. Consideration of the grants process and applications will happen in about a year's time, after assessment of book sales. So we will keep all interested parties informed.

WANT TO RETIRE TO THE BUSH?

On the banks of the Bombala River?
And take up farming in a small way? Or just explore the local history? Or study the local wildflowers?

See a beautiful property at
www.hotproperties.com.au/9558

WALK AGAINST WARMING DECEMBER 3

Climate Change the single most important issue facing our society and our environment.

If left unchecked will result in massive global extinctions and ecosystem collapse, frequent catastrophic weather events, hundreds of thousands dead and millions more on the move as climate refugees

Isn't it about time all the people who are concerned about climate change got together and did something? Well here's your chance!

Call on our governments to act immediately to stop dangerous climate change. Join the rest of the world in demanding that Australia and the US ratify the Kyoto protocol and commit to a clean energy future.

Where: Garema Place

When: Saturday 3 December at 11am.

What: Colourful march up and down the mall, followed by signing the Kyoto scroll some short speeches and a couple of groovy bands.

Bring: Family, friends, kids, bikes, placards, sunflowers (symbols for solar and bio energy)

Weekly planning meetings will be held at the Conservation Council's officers each Thursday from 5.30pm till 6.30pm.

To get involved contact Adrian Whitehead at adrian@ecoaction.net.au or phone:6247 7808.

www.walkagainstawarming.org



DRAGWAYAWAY

JENNI SAVIGNY

The ACT government's search for a dragway site within the ACT's boundaries bears all the signs of desperation leading to dumb planning. The options are now reduced to one—block 51 in the Majura Valley. This site was soundly rejected by an Interdepartmental Working Group as unsuitable only 12 months ago. Its *Dragway Options Paper 2004* alerts us to the general nature of the 'constraints' of block 51. It describes the land as:

...improved pasture, with an amount of open woodland containing Yellow Box/Red Gum with minor Scribbly Gum, Red Spotted Gum and Candelbark tress located over about 50% of the block. The woodland acts as a wildlife habitat and links for the movement of wildlife (particularly birds)...

More specifically, block 51 is broadly within part of one of the most important woodland/wildlife corridors in the ACT, according to Jenny Bounds of Canberra Ornithologists Group (COG). This corridor extends from Hall in the north, through northern Gungahlin and the Mulligan's Flat/Goorooyarroo reserve complex, through Mt Majura/Mt Ainslie and the Majura Field Firing Range and finally to the Newline Woodlands and the Molonglo River. This woodland corridor supports habitat for:

- eight threatened bird species
- another four bird species of concern, and
- other rare or uncommon woodland birds.

These bird species require large and well connected woodland patches.

Two vulnerable species, the Hooded Robin and Brown Treecreeper, are expressly mentioned in the *Options Paper*, with further fragmentation of their habitat making block 51 unsuitable as a dragway site. Bird surveys have not yet been done on block 51, but both birds are known to be resident in the adjacent Majura Field Firing Range where COG conducts regular bird surveys.

The case against block 51 is strong. A dragway would pose a serious threat to important flora and fauna, threaten the destruction of Aboriginal and historic sites, and generate significant noise pollution impacting on residences in the Majura Valley

and in suburban areas less than 3 km away in Watson, Hackett, Ainslie and Campbell. Those feeling the squeeze on the environmental budget might be interested to know that \$8 million of ACT public money has already been allocated to the dragway. However, a cost benefit analysis, outlined in the *Options Paper*, indicates that the true cost of the dragway will at least double and that it will need annual operating subsidies of up to \$141,000.

Opponents of locating the dragway in the Majura Valley were stunned earlier this year when block 51 returned from the dead as the government's preferred site. There is widespread concern amongst community groups that the serious problems raised by the *Options Paper* about this site will not be addressed. The Chief Minister's Dragway Advisory Committee has failed to identify flora and fauna issues as a threshold issue for its investigation, and has ignored a petition signed by over 1500 inner north residents requesting consideration of the environmental and recreational values of the Mt Majura and Mt Ainslie Nature Reserves.

A new community group, *Dragwayaway*, has organised two public events to inform the community and raise awareness:

- A public meeting for residents of Watson, Hackett, Ainslie and Campbell and the Majura Valley. Representatives of the Labor Party and Liberal Party and the ACT Greens have been invited to speak. Wednesday 30 November, 6.00–7.30 pm, ACT Legislative Assembly's Reception Room
- An open day at block 51, Majura Valley with talks and tours addressing Aboriginal, ecological, noise and heritage issues. Sunday morning 11 December (time to be confirmed)

For further information contact Jenni at dragwayaway@yahoo.com.au

Breaking News - A threatened bird, the White-winged Triller was recorded on block 51 by Jenny Bounds on the 10 November 2005.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MONEY MANAGER

Welcome to our new finance manager Mark Simpson. Mark has some big shoes to fill, replacing Laraine Frawley, who managed the Conservation Council's office and finances for over ten years.

We have asked Mark to take a moment to introduce himself.

I moved to Canberra twenty years ago to study, and never left. After acquiring a degree in music—playing the tuba—I worked in staff development in the Commonwealth public service, retail management, and for the past five years as Business Manager for Canberra Youth Music. I seem to have more talent with numbers than notes. Taking the position with CCSERAC is quite a change from the arts and will make an interesting new challenge.



When not shuffling papers and finances you'll find me shuffling in my garden or my kitchen or shuffling in the trees on the golf course.

Conservation over Cocktails

at Tilley's Devine Café Gallery

Wattle St, Lyneham

Monday 28th November,
2005



Join our Key Speakers –

Sen. Christine Milne
and
Anthony Albanese MP

from 6 pm for champagne and canapés

Climate change is recognised as the greatest challenge humanity faces—our speakers will outline their vision of federal leadership on climate change

Conservation Council
OF THE SOUTH EAST REGION & CANBERRA

COUNCIL WEBSITE LAUNCH AND AGM

The Conservation Council of the South East Region and Canberra
invites you to attend the launch of our new website
by the Chief Minister of the ACT, Mr Jon Stanhope, MLA

Wednesday 16 November 2005

6.15pm (pre-launch drinks and nibbles)

6.45pm Launch by the Chief Minister, Mr Jon Stanhope

Exhibition Room, first floor, Legislative Assembly Building
London Circuit, Civic

Following the Website Launch

the Annual General Meeting of the Conservation Council

will be held in the Exhibition Room, commencing at 7.30pm to 9pm

There will be a display, stall, wine tasting of our Special Lark Hill Wine Offer for members and friends, as well as sales of the books 'Monga Intacta' (Robyn Steller) and 'Living in the Hothouse' (Ian Lowe)

Please RSVP for catering purposes to: ph 6247 7808 or email ccserac@ecoaction.net.au

WHAT'S ON...

CATHOLIC EARTH CARE AUSTRALIA

CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

18-20 November
Canberra Southern Cross Club
02 4655 4855

MIRACLE OR MELTDOWN? THE NUCLEAR DEBATE

Tuesday 29 November 12:20pm- 2pm,
Room 1S4 Parliament House Canberra
Presented by the Medical Association for Prevention of
War and the Parliamentarians for a Nuclear Free
Future.

CONSERVATION OVER COCKTAILS

Monday 28 November
see invite on page 10

WALK AGAINST WARMING NATIONAL DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION

Saturday 3 December from 11.00 am till 1.30 pm
Garema Place Civic
see page 8 for details

COUNCIL XMAS CELEBRATION

Wednesday 21 December from 4pm-6.30pm
see page 5 for details



The Lark Hill Wine Co.

**521 BUNGENDORE ROAD
BUNGENDORE NSW 2621
ph/fax 02 6238 1393
email: larkhill@larkhillwine.com.au
www.larkhillwine.com.au**

*Cool climate wines of distinction
from the Canberra Wine District*

Special wine offer for members and friends of the Conservation Council. Buy a presentation pack of six premium local wines from Lark Hill Wine Co and they will give \$37.50 to the Conservation Council.

The six wonderful wines include:

- the 2004 Riesling, winner of the Chief Ministers Trophy for Best Canberra District Riesling at the 2004 National Riesling Challenge
- the 2004 Fledgling, a delicious Sauvignon Blanc Chardonnay blend, placed in Australia's Top 12 Releases by Gourmet Wine Traveller
- the iconic 2004 Chardonnay, Gold Medal Rated (the Lark Hill Chardonnay flies Qantas Business International)
- the 2004 Rose, the perfect Christmas luncheon wine
- the 2001 Cabernet Merlot, multiple Silver Medalist
- the Museum Release of the 1998 Cabernet Merlot, a Gold Medal winner from a warm year.

Total price, including freight, is \$150.00, and for every purchase Lark Hill will donate \$37.50 to the Conservation Council. Freight is included for mainland Australia only; please ring winery 02 6238 1393 for freight rates for Tasmania.

I enclose a cheque for \$.....

Name

Address.....

.....

Or charge Bankcard Mastercard Visa card AMEX

Card no Expires.....

Signed Phone.....

Phone or Fax credit card order on 02-6238 1393 or email larkhill@larkhillwine.com.au or post to above address

Join the Conservation Council

Member Groups

Community organisations whose primary activities include conservation or environment protection can be a member group

I-Members

Individuals and families who care for the environment and want to make a real difference in creating a healthy Canberra environment can become I-Members

There are many reasons to become an I-Member

- * To know that you have made a real difference for Canberra's environment
- * To have opportunity to attend forums and events
- * To learn more about our environment and up-to-date issues through regular newsletters

What membership gives you

- * A new member kit
- * Our quarterly newsletter Sustainable Times
- * supporter discounts with your membership card
- * stickers to display your support for the environment

See www.ecoaction.net.au for more information

I DO care about the environment...

Given name: Family name:

Postal address:

State: Postcode: Phone no: (bh) (ah)

Email:

I want to be INVOLVED, by becoming an I-MEMBER:

- Individual \$40
 Household \$55
 Concession \$25 (student, pensioner, unsalaried)
- Membership is on a financial year basis

I would like to receive a hard copy of the quarterly *Sustainable Times*

- Non member \$20 p/a*
 I-Member \$15 p/a* * includes postage and handling

I want to SUPPORT the Conservation Council by making a tax-deductible donation:

My one-off donation is: \$10 \$20 \$50 Other:

I would like to make a periodic donation—please send me the necessary forms

Please send me information on how to include the Conservation Council in my will

My payment is by: Cheque / Money order made payable to The Bogong Fund is enclosed

Visa Bankcard Mastercard

Card No:

Expiry date: / Name on card:

Signature:

Total amount: \$.....