

# CONSERVATION NEWS

The Newsletter of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

February 1994, Volume 26, No.1

CoastWalk has broken the time and distance barrier with the half-way mark passed, the Victoria - New South Wales border crossed and well over half the days covered. In this time the summer hoards of holiday makers descended on the beaches, seeing sleepy coastal towns turn into centres of summer activity.

and Orbost use ocean outfalls diverted to sewage treatment plants, providing irrigation for plantation forestry. We can develop systems that support the population's needs while protecting the environment. We just need the programs in place to support such initiatives.

The Federal Government is well placed to provide that

support, with the results of the Resource Assessment Commission's Coastal Zone Inquiry before them. The Commission has recommended implementation of a National Coastal Action Program including the adoption of a Commonwealth Coastal Resource Management Act to guide national action. It appears that some of the states are fiercely opposed to the Commonwealth having a role to play and will be opposing some of the key recommendations. But as the RAC concluded, because no single sphere of government can manage the coastal zone alone, a national approach is essential. It is the only

approach is essential. It is the onl approach that will adequately address the problems.

This is a critical time for the future of Australia's coasts. We will be asking the Prime Minister to commit the Commonwealth Government to protect our coasts by the time the ACF CoastWalk arrives in Bondi on the March 13.

Two things you do this summer are:

- write a letter to the Prime Minister asking him to take firm action to protect our coasts, and
- "Count yourself in as a Coastie" by registering your support for CoastWalk by calling 0055 3 1987.

The Grand Entrance final event for CoastWalk will be held on March 13th in conjunction with the Kelloggs/Nutra Grain Surf Life Saving Carnival Challenge. The walkers are due to arrive at 11am, to be welcomed by Tricia Caswell. The Prime Minister has been invited to perform the congratulatory ceremony. Please attend this event or offer your help to collect signatures on that day by contacting the Sydney office.



## SIMMER OF COASTAL ACTION

Amid a section of exceedingly mobile sand dunes the walkers crossed over into the NSW Nadgee Nature Reserve, the only coastal area in NSW that has wilderness qualities and is currently part of controversial wilderness recommendations being considered by the NSW Government. Here they encountered rocky headlands, white beaches, estuarine lakes, sea caves, and coastal moors. They also spotted some interesting wildlife such as a kangaroo taking a dip in an estuarine pond, a family of three stingrays gliding up a coastal stream and a couple of dingoes roaming the beach.

The walkers have come across issues common to all of coastal Australia: alarming declines in water quality, loss of coastal habitats such as seagrass beds, accelerated erosion and declines in stocks of renewable resources such as fisheries. Increased demands on coastal resources due to population pressures are exacerbated by inadequate management.

The main message emerging from their travels is the need for strategic planning and integrated management. For example, areas such as Yarram, Mallacoota The Australian Conservation Foundation is a national, non-profit organisation working to achieve an ecologically sustainable society.

> President David Yencken Executive Director Tricia Caswell

#### NATIONAL OFFICES

#### Victoria

340 Gore St, Fitzroy, Victoria, 3065.
Ph: (03) 416 1166 Fax: (03) 416 0767.

New South Wales

33 George Street, Sydney, 2000
Ph: (02) 247 4285 Fax: (02) 247 1206

Canberra

1st floor, Cinema Centre, Bunda St,
Canberra, 2600

National Liaison Ph: (06) 247 3013 Energy & Transport Ph: (06) 247 2472 Fax: (06) 247 5779

#### OTHER OFFICES

Western Australia
Lotteries House, 79 Stirling St, Perth, WA, 6000
Ph: (09) 220 0669
South Australia
120 Wakefield St, Adelaide, SA, 5000.
Ph: (08) 232 2566

ACF has 29 member-run branches nationwide.

#### **CONSERVATION NEWS**

is published quarterly by Australian Conservation Foundation Inc. ARBN 007 498482 340 Gore St, Fitzroy, Victoria, 3065.

Editorial Michael Krockenberger Layout/production Louise Ray Printed by WestWeb 61 Leather St Breakwater Vic 3219 Circulation 17,000

Subscriptions are available for \$39 per annum.
The views expressed in Conservation News
are not necessarily those of ACF.

Have you considered joining ACF's new regular donation scheme, EarthFund? 650 supporters are now regular contributers.
For information phone Michael Fogarty, ACF on 03 416 1166 or 008 332 510.

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT BY TRICIA CASWELL

Two recent reports on Australia's environmental performance indicate that we rate very poorly compared with the vast majority of other OECD countries.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics Report *Cost of Environment Protection* tells us that we spend a meagre 0.9% of our GDP on environmental remediation, way below the 1.6% OECD average.

The New Economics Foundation *Green*League of Nations: relative environmental
performance in OECD countries, tells us
Australia rated a dismal 18th out of 21
OECD nations in overall environmental
performance.

At the same time, a survey by the Australian Bureau of Statistics confirms that 90% of Australians consider that the environment is at least as important as the economy.

How is it that our business magnates and politicians have done such a poor job of protecting our environment when so many of us care so passionately!

We are more and more often bringing together environment, economy and social justice issues. ACF has produced a '94/95 federal budget submission to put to the government: a big first for us! I'll be talking to Ministers about our proposals in the coming weeks.

We've also prepared submissions to Bill Kelty's Regional Taskforce Review and the Prime Minister's Employment Green Paper. Our President, Professor David Yencken, is on the Prime Minister's Urban Design Taskforce and I am a member of the Deputy Prime Minister's Urban and Regional Review Advisory Group.

Much of our hard work for 1994 will be to

make the environment a central issue in consideration of these economic, planning and employment issues.

This is not to say we are not ever so busy around the nation, fighting for the forests and all those things we hold dear.

As indicated in our Annual Report in November, hard financial times are still taking their toll. One legacy is the reduction of Conservation News to eight pages, on a temporary basis we hope. ACF Council has also decided to reallocate biodiversity work to the coasts, forests and agriculture campaign teams where possible, and for greater Councillor involvement in biodiversity issues. These measures are difficult but will ensure future financial security.

I hope to be in Melbourne much more this year, with Councillors and staff doing lots more of the travelling and representation elsewhere. Nevertheless, I'm committed to visiting ACF Branches, ensuring that no Australian environmental issue is neglected.

The Coast Walk has been a great community event, where our walkers have talked to lots and lots of coasties. If you or your community wants to work with us, please get in touch with us, we'd love to hear from you.

I see 1994 as a big challenge for the ACF. We must bring our leaders up to scratch with what's happening elsewhere environmentally. We must also make them much more responsive to the priorities of the community.

We need you to help us make the environment the agenda item it must be for all decision makers this year.

A happy, hard working New Year to all of you.

#### from Peter Garrett...

I am delighted to welcome Professor David Yencken as my successor to the position of President of the Australian Conservation Foundation. I had the opportunity to meet Professor Yencken for the first time only recently, and was greatly encouraged by the fact that somebody with such wide-ranging experience of environment issues should take up the role of President. Professor Yencken's background complements the arc of ACF's concerns. Throughout a distinguished career he has brought a deep commitment to challenging the status quo and seeking better solutions to the way in which Australians interact with their natural and built environments. I (along with all ACF staff and members) wish Professor Yencken well for his term of presidency.

#### INTRODUCING DAVID YENCKEN

#### How do you feel about the environment?

I care passionately about the environment because it is - and I am sure will be seen by historians of the future looking back on our era - one of the great issues of our times. I care because I see that we have to find ways of living and producing that combine sustainability, equity and material wellbeing: that ecological sustainability has to be linked to social justice and that both are most likely to be achieved in societies and in a global society which achieves high levels of material wellbeing. I care because I believe



that we could through these changes develop more caring, sharing communities which offer deeper emotional satisfaction for all human beings.

#### How do you think you can belp ACF protect the Australian environment?

Each President of the ACF brings a distinctive background. Peter Garrett, the last President, in addition to his other skills, brought a remarkable media profile, great energy and great generosity of spirit. To walk around the city with Peter leaves you in no doubt about the way people, particularly young people, recognise and respond to him. I am delighted that he has agreed to remain actively involved with ACF.

I have a different background which I think helps me to understand well how the private sector, government and universities work and how environmentally related change takes place. I believe that I can particularly help the ACF as a strategic thinker and environmental tactician and as someone who knows much about running organisations.

#### What are the issues you will be working on in the next few months?

I would first like to do what I can to see the Federal government develop a much broader range of environmental policies and initiatives. I would also like to contribute to change towards more sustainable practices in Australian industry. I would like to work on one or two specific new initiatives. I would, for example, like to develop a collaborative project between my Faculty of Architecture and Planning at the University of Melbourne to turn the ACF's newly acquired headquarters building into a model of energy saving and environmental responsibility for the building and development industry. I would finally like to work with Tricia Caswell to make the ACF the most professional and effective organisation possible.

### What do you think ACF's members might do in 1994 to contribute to saving to the environment?

I am greatly impressed with the range of activities with which the ACF is involved and the extent of its influence. Both fundamentally depend on its membership. Members can contribute in many ways, by simply supporting the ACF and the causes it espouses, by voluntary work or by exerting personal influence in large or small ways.

Having looked at environmental surveys for some years, I can see no evidence of any diminishment of public concern about the environment; indeed the opposite is the case. Inevitably, however, there are political cycles during which the environment waxes and wanes as a political issue. Media reporting follows these cycles. Those concerned with environmental issues need to be very aware of these cycles but not fooled by them. It is particularly during the troughs, and we are in one now, that bodies like the ACF need to be at their strongest and need the greatest amount of public support.

- · ACF Life Member.
- First official recorded involvement with the ACF was in 1967 in the form of a letter to the then Head of ACF, Sir Francis Ratcliffe, asking the Foundation to use its influence to try to prevent the development of a woodchip industry on the NSW south coast at Twofold Bay.
- Currently Elizabeth Murdoch Professor of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at the University of Melbourne.
- Head of the School of Environmental Planning at the University of Melbourne, 1989 -1993.
- Inaugural Chairman of the Australian Heritage Commission (1975-1981).
- 1965-1981, co-founder, Chairman and Managing Director of Merchant Builders Pty Ltd, a company that introduced many housing innovations and received a number of awards including 3 Victorian Architectural awards and the inaugural Robin Boyd Environmental Medal for "a decade of fine work" and for "changing the face of residential Melbourne".
- Winner of the Sidney Luker
   Memorial Medal in 1984 for a not able contribution to town and
   regional planning in Australia and
   the Sir James Barrett Award in
   1985 for a notable contribution to
   planning.
- Chief Executive of the Victorian Ministry for Planning and Environment from 1982-1987.
- Member of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO from 1977-1984.
- Represented Australia as a joint leader of Australian Delegation to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in 1980 and 1981.

## ARM ALARM

A week before Christmas Federal Cabinet met to discuss the relocation of the East Coast Armaments Complex (ECAC) from Newington in Sydney, to make way for Olympic facilities and to secure a safe and strategic long term site for arms storage.

Prior to Cabinet's decision, ACF had campaigned hard to ensure that a safer Sydney and an Olympic bid win did not come at the cost of an environmental sacrifice elsewhere.

Cabinet failed to deliver an acceptable outcome. Instead of ensuring that Jervis Bay would remain the environmental jewel of the NSW coast by striking it off the list, Cabinet left Jervis Bay as one of the two short listed sites. The other is Twofold Bay at Eden, NSW. An alarming outcome was that Gladstone in Queensland, probably the most environmentally acceptable site, was struck from the list despite an independent defence expert's advice recommending it as the best location.

Cabinet has advised that Jervis Bay and Twofold Bay will be further investigated through a behind-closed-doors process.

Another location of particular concern to ACF is Point Wilson on Port Phillip Bay in Victoria, which was not ruled out for ECAC. The Commonwealth Government is waiting for the Victorian Government to announce a timetable for the relocation of the Coode Island Chemical facility to West Point Wilson. On this basis the Federal Government has indicated its willingness to cooperate with the Victoria Government to further explore options for the site.

ACF has made the protection of Jervis Bay and the appropriate siting of the

ECAC a priority national campaign and is working with local and national groups.

Cabinet is expected to meet again in March when it will decide whether the selected sites will be subject to environmental impact assessment statements or to a public inquiry under the Federal Environment Protection (Impact Proposals) Act.

With your help ACF will continue to exert pressure to hold the Government to its 1989 commitment to hold a full public inquiry to select the ECAC site. This inquiry must exclude Jervis Bay. Its environmental and Aboriginal cultural heritage values are well established (see *Habitat*, November 1993).

#### ACF PEOPLE

#### **Australia Day Honour**

ACF Vice-President, Penny Figgis, has been awarded an AM in the Australia Day honours for her service to conservation and the environment.

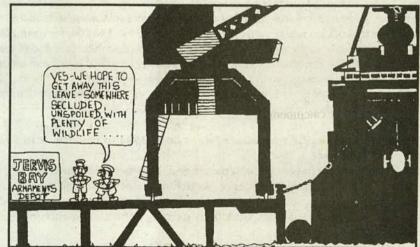
Congratulations Penny.

#### **New Marketing Manager**

ACF has a new National Marketing
Manager, Ms Gabrielle Gelly.
Gabrielle is living proof of the growing professionalism of ACF's marketing section. She was the 1993
Telecom Australian Executive
Woman of the Year. Her previous jobs include Community Relations
Manager of the largest child and family welfare agency in Victoria and Managing Editor of a chain of suburban newspapers.

Her achievements include setting up a scheme to employ out of work building trade apprentices which is now a national scheme through which more than 500 apprentices have been trained by building for not-for-profit organisations.

Welcome to ACF Gabrielle.



No Armaments Dump for Jervis Bay!

Cabinet's decision and the process it sets up must not jeopardise the reform of the chemical industry in Victoria by preventing the relocation of Coode Island. ACF is monitoring the complex situation of future land use at Point Wilson and will work hard to ensure the best environmental outcome, including protection of important bird habitat.

NSW and ACT ACF members will receive a postcard regarding Jervis Bay in this copy of Conservation News to send to the Prime Minister. Please sign it and let him know that you are opposed to the relocation of ECAC to Jervis Bay.

# Thank you to everyone who supported the East Coasts Armaments Complex November Appeal. We raised over \$70,000 on this important issue - a tremendous effort!

However, this issue is not over yet and your generosity will enable us to keep up the pressure.

#### IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF HABITAT

The latest issue of ACF's colour magazine *Habitat Australia* covers issues which are key concerns for ACF.

Carrie Sonneborn describes some of the environmentally-advanced technical solutions to ozone depletion and global warming problems caused by conventional domestic refrigeration as well as some interesting behavioural solutions. ACF's Green Fridge Quest culminated in November last year and the solutions are now before us.

Mark Diesendorf discusses major reforms in the electricity industry, currently guided not by the need to make the industry ecologically sustainable, but by an economic agenda. However, key modifications to the reforms would be of ecological and economic benefit.

Tim Fisher writes about being waterwise. For most city dwellers water simply comes out of the tap and disappears down the sink or toilet. Tim discusses supply, recycling, sewage, stormwater and how to manage catchments.

Genetic engineering has been promoted as the solution to many of the world's most pressing problems. Bob Phelps explains that in reality its development and uses have been largely determined by corporate goals. Community involvement is critical in deciding the progress of this technology.

A major project ACF has embarked upon is a national review of Aboriginal participation in the management of national parks. Melinda Nutting discusses the competing interests and common ground between conservation needs and Aboriginal aspirations.

#### FOREST PROMISES BROKEN

The Commonwealth Government promised Australians that they had solved the problems of forest protection.

- They promised us they would phase out export woodchipping by the year 2000.
- They held an inquiry into forests to end all inquiries.
- They gave us the National Forest Policy which promised to establish a comprehensive national park system to protect old growth, wilderness and other high conservation value forests and to place a moratorium on logging any forests with such potential until identification was completed. Every state except Tasmania promised to abide by this.

Every promise has been broken or looks like being broken unless we can convince the government otherwise.

All woodchip licences have been renewed, some even increased. None of the areas identified by conservationists for protection has been offered even a moratorium. More than 200,000 semi-trailor loads of woodchips will be carted from Australian forests in 1994, many from old-growth forests.

East Gippsland in Victoria, the north east and the south east forests of NSW, karri and jarrah forests in WA, even some sub-tropical rainforests in Queensland will be logged despite the National Forest Policy. And more than half of the total of 5.4 million tonnes of woodchips will come from Tasmania, which hasn't even bothered to sign to the old-growth and wilderness agreement.

ACF is still on the campaign trail. We have turned attitudes around on timber supply. There is now wide-spread recognition of the importance of establishing plantations instead of logging native forests. Even commercial markets, through plantation valuation, have been convinced. But sectors of the timber industry, keen to continue their job-shedding environment-exploiting activities, hold sway over governments.

ACF will continue to promote the ecologically and economically sensible solutions, and where necessary confront governments with the truth of their foolishness.

Please help us keep up the pressure on the Federal government. The National Forest Policy, compromised as it is, was a step forward for protection of our old growth forests and your support will help us to stop the backward slide. We have a great team of dedicated people fighting for the forests. You can help step up our efforts by giving generously to our Annual Appeal.

#### **BUSHFIRE BLAME**

This summer bushfires have raged through NSW. Surely this is a time for the community to work together, to help out and to prevent future tragedies in a country where bushfire is an inevitable environmental reality, but where its effects and its human-causes can be managed through wise planning.

However, some groups and individuals chose to find a scapegoat and push their own agenda by blaming conservationists for these fires. How wrong they are.

Any careful analysis of NSW and other states shows that national parks and wilderness areas are not key sources or vectors for bushfires that destroy property and endanger human life. ACF has always supported sensible fire management practices and has been a leading advocate of planning controls that reflect the fire-prone nature of southern Australia in particular.

Criss-crossing wild and natural places with fire-trails does not solve the problem, rather it provides access to arsonists and vectors for weed, pathogen and feral animal invasion. The fact is that the vast majority of fires are started close to roads and human settlements.

### CAMPAIGN BRIEFS

#### **Native Title**

ACF supported the passage of the Native Title Legislation and urged the ALP, the Democrats and the WA Greens to ensure the passage of the best Bill possible.

ACF Executive Director, Tricia Caswell, said in a letter to the Prime Minister, "We believe that Native Title is a priority issue for all Australians and must be resolved to the satisfaction of Aboriginal aspirations". ACF looks forward to working with Aboriginal people on issues pertaining to conservation.

#### **Green Statistics**

Despite the behaviour of some politicians indicating that environmental issues are off the agenda, no-one seems to have told the public. Two recent surveys show that the environment remains a prime community concern. A recent Newspoll shows that the environment (64%) ranks as the third most important issue in terms of voting intention, after unemployment (79%) and health (70%).

A new study by the Australian Bureau of Statistics has found that 89% of Australians believe that protection of the environment is of equal or greater importance than economic growth. Only 7% see environmental protection as less important than the economy, far fewer than the other way round.

#### **Shoalwater Bay**

ACF has played a major role in the inquiry into the future use of Shoalwater Bay, which is a magnificent area of largely undisturbed ecosystems on the central Queensland coast. ACF's presentation and submission to the inquiry concluded that sandmining should not be allowed to proceed in this important natural area.

ACF presented the Commission of Inquiry with environmental, economic and social arguments showing that low impact tourism, scientific research and conservation should be the primary uses of the area, and that these could coexist with environmentally-improved defence use. The draft conclusions of the inquiry are due out in late February.

#### Victorian Heathlands

ACF, through its representation on the Great Ocean Road Committee, has worked with other conservationists to save the Anglesea heathlands west of Geelong. This heathland area, for which urban sub-division is proposed, is one of the most floristically diverse ecosystems in Australia and indeed the world, with a particularly high representation of ground orchids.

The Committee is raising funds to purchase the land. The Commonwealth Government has already offered \$250,000. A commitment from the Victorian Government to protect the area and to match funds is now required to save the heathlands. Donations can be sent to the Victorian Conservation Trust, 49 Spring St, Melbourne.



#### **Biodiversity Strategy**

After many years and many drafts the National Biodiversity Strategy has finally been approved by Federal Cabinet. This strategy, which is in effect the domestic implementation plan for the International Biodiversity Treaty, was subject to intense pressure from industry groups whose agenda was self-protection rather than the national interest and protection of Australia's unique biological heritage.

Although the version endorsed by Cabinet was far weaker than earlier drafts, it is still a welcome plan of action. However, before implementation is possible it must be approved by state premiers, many of whom are taking a very conservative states' rights — rather than environmental rights — attitude to environmental protection.

#### **WA Greens**

Senator Christabel Chamarette, Greens (WA), addressed the November ACF Council meeting and held discussions with staff and councillors regarding the Greens' environmental agenda and their attitude to the Native Title Bill.

Senator Chamarette was strongly urged to improve and support the Native Title Bill, which she and Senator Margetts subsequently did, and to consult closely with ACF on environmental matters and utilise ACF expertise to further environmental outcomes. Although ACF works with all political parties as appropriate, it was agreed that considerable mutual benefit would be gained through close communication between the Greens and ACF.

#### **Federal Budget**

For the first time ACF has prepared a detailed submission to influence a Federal Budget. Entitled *Priorities for* the Environment and prepared for ACF by Peter Christoff with help from ACF staff, it covers topics such as agriculture, employment, environmental auditing, taxation and world heritage.

The "bottom line" of the submission is maintaining biodiversity, reducing unemployment and achieving cleaner and greener production. It is hoped that ACF will do similar on an annual basis. It is part of ACF's drive to provide the solutions. In the past ACF has concentrated mainly on analysing the budget following its presentation in parliament and commenting on its implications for the environment.

#### **ACF Council Meeting**

At the Council meeting in November ACF resolved its opposition to the proposed cable car development on Mt Wellington in Hobart and supported declaration of a Mt Wellington National Park.

ACF also called on the Federal and Queensland Governments to implement full and proper environmental impact studies on the proposed resort and marina development at Oyster Point adjacent to Hinchinbrook Island. All impacts on marine and terrestrial ecosystems within the nearby Wet Tropics and Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Areas must be prevented.

ACF also called on the Federal and Queensland governments to reaffirm their apparently flagging commitment to prepare a comprehensive land-use strategy for Cape York Peninsula to ensure protection of the environment and areas of significance to indigenous people.

#### The West does it alone?

The Western Australian government is proving itself to be a maverick not just in Aboriginal affairs but also in environmental matters. WA has resisted attempts to establish national environmental standards, especially pollution standards to be set by the proposed National Environment Protection Agency (NEPA), a forum for cooperation between the States, Territories and Commonwealth.

Tricia Caswell, on a visit to
Perth last year, held talks with the government to urge WA to cooperate. The
former head of the WA EPA, Mr Barry
Carbon, who was sacked by the Court
government, recently became head of the
Commonwealth EPA. There could be
interesting times ahead!

#### **Adelaide Transport**

The Adelaide Branch of ACF has produced a book entitled *Greening Adelaide with Public Transport*. It

shows how Adelaide's transport system can be changed to be less polluting and more sustainable and is a practical example of "thinking globally and acting locally". It proposes a tripling of public transport use and outlines how this can be done. Copies of the book are available from the Adelaide office for \$7.95.

#### Greenhouse on the World Stage

ACF was represented at the last session of the International Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change (INC 8) and has written a report on Australian involvement in international efforts to tackle the greenhouse effect.

There is concern that the Australian government's stance on the greenhouse effect is weakening at the international level. This is on top of the tardiness in implementing the National Greenhouse Response Strategy.

#### **Australian Mining in PNG**

Following ACF's report on the Ok Tedi mine, ACF is developing codes of conduct for Australian mining companies operating in Papua New Guinea. These will be developed in consultation with non-government organisations, government and university staff in PNG.

The codes will provide a check list of issues companies must respond to and to raise shareholder and community awareness of offshore activities of Australian companies. In PNG they will be used for community awareness work and educating landowners about their negotiating rights with companies.

#### Queensland Bilbies

Queensland's last viable population of bilbies, located at Davenport Downs in the far west, is threatened by continued grazing. The Queensland National Parks Service is eager to buy back the lease, however the leaseholders, Stanbroke Pastoral Company, a whollyowned subsidiary of AMP, do not consider the bilbies to be at risk.

The ACF, with the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and trade union support, is pressing AMP to save these threatened bilbies. If discussions fail, consumer action against AMP may be necessary.

#### Green Jobs Research

Research by the ACF-ACTU Green Jobs Unit into the potential for 'green jobs' in the Australian economy is now being drawn together into a report, likely to be available in April. In the meantime, joining Louise Vickery and Manager, Lyn Wilks, are new unit staff Helen Shortell, working on developing projects from research results to create new green jobs, and Stuart Toplis, to work specifically on eco-tourism.

For further information contact ACF Campaigns Manager, Michael Krockenberger.

#### MINUTES OF THE 27TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 27th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Conservation Foundation was held at 340 Gore Street Fitzroy, at 8.00pm on Saturday November 27th, 1993.

Ms Pat O'Shane, a NSW Magistrate, gave an impassioned speech about the key issues for indigenous people and their relationship to environmental protection and social justice.

The Acting President, Ms. Penny Figgis, introduced Professor David Yencken as the new ACF President.

Apologies were received from Geoff Mosley, Rob Gell and Anthony Psarros. The apologies were received on the motion of Barry Clugston, seconded by Alaric Fisher.

The minutes of the 26th AGM were confirmed on the motion of Sean Cadman, seconded by Karen Robinson.

The Executive Director, Tricia Caswell, spoke briefly to the Annual Report, noting that the report reflected the great breadth and depth of the issues the ACF is involved in.

The Treasurer, Mr. Simon Rowell, presented the results for the year ending 30 June 1993 to the AGM.

The motion "That the Annual Report, Financial Statements and Audit Report as presented be adopted" was moved by Simon Rowell, seconded by Simon Neville and then carried.

Presentation of Honorary Life Membership to Jack Mundey

The motion "That the AGM appoints Mr Jack Mundey as an honorary life member of the ACF" was moved by Fay Sutton, seconded by Peter Brotherton, and passed by acclamation. Jack Mundey is best known for his involvement in the BLF's Green Bans during the 1970s, and has been an ACF Councillor for 20 years.

Announcement of 1993 Peter Rawlinson Award
The Campaigns Manager, Michael
Krockenberger, announced the winner of the 1993
Peter Rawlinson Award. The winner was David
Allsop, who has been involved in a large number of
environmental issues and projects over many years,
including establishment of the Cairns and Far North
Environment Centre.

#### Member motions

"Noting (I) that the ACF's recent survey of members revealed that population was second only to forest destruction among the concerns, and (ii) that ABS statistics over the past two years show that Australia's birthrate has surprised demographers by continuing to rise, with the annual surplus of births over deaths now exceeding 140,000.

This Annual General Meeting instructs the Executive urgently to undertake a project, preferably with the help of advice from the National Family Planning Association, to raise awareness amongst all Australians that to have a large family (several children per couple or per individual) is environmentally unwise and damaging.

That the ACF Executive Director write to the Prime Minister, Treasurer and Minister for the Environment urging them to be cautious of financial policies or incentives which may have the effect of encouraging people to have larger families or of penalising smaller families; and that these letters be released to the media and published in the ACF's newsletter."

Moved by Sheila Newman, seconded by Peter Carter

An amendment to the motion was moved by Michael Krockenberger whereby the word "undertake" be replaced with the word "investigate" and the words "(several children per couple or per individual)" be deleted from the motion. The amendment was seconded by Karen Robinson

#### Special mortgage rates for Green Homes

People building to ACF Green Home guidelines and seeking a mortgage of more than \$100,000 could be eligible for a special rate from the

ACF Green Bond.
The attractive loan has no upfront management or entry fees.

For further information contact Andrew Hirst at the Over 50s Friendly Society on (03) 603 2800 or 008 033 0262

#### **ACF FUNDRAISER**

SPECIAL MELBOURNE PREVIEW OF DAVID WILLIAMSON'S NEW PLAY

#### SANCTUARY

SATURDAY 30TH APRIL 8.00PM TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR \$29.50 Proceeds to ACF.

#### **ACF Christmas Raffle Results**

- 1st Prize a holiday of your choice, courtesy of One World Travel: \$5,000
   Julian Saunders, Bundoora Vic ticket no. 041394
- 2nd Prize a week sailing in the Whitsundays for 4, donated by Sail Whitsunday Yacht Charters: \$4500
   D. Willcocks, Manly Vale NSW ticket no. 182317
- 3rd Prize tent and camping gear, donated by Mountain Designs: \$1000 Michael Smith, Bannockburn Vic ticket no. 150963
- 4th Prize Repco mountain bikes & accessories, donated by Repco: \$800 Mr C. Davies, Ballarat Vic ticket no. 402189
- 5th Prize Samsung microwave oven, donated by Samsung: \$499
   Cecile Eigenmann, Kirrawee NSW ticket no. 013960
- 6th and 7th Prize products from the ACF catalogue, value of \$100 each M. Nearhos, Curtin ACT ticket no. 026995
   Amber Tom, North Rockhampton ticket no. 127868
- 8th and 9th Prize Habitat Australia subscription, valued at \$44 each Noellette Mann, Craigieburn Vic ticket no. 038615
   Basil Bean, Westend Qld ticket no. 068885
- Ticket Seller's Prize mystery flight & 2 nights' accomm. for 2, courtesy Qantas Michelle Thomson, Cairns Qld

#### **ACF** Favourites

The ACF Favourites catalogue is out now, with all the tried and trusted best-selling products from ACF at special discount prices for members and regular buyers.

Be quick - the discounts are a once only special offer.

Call the Melbourne office on 008 633 657 for your catalogue. If you've already got one, fax your order today on (03) 416 0767.

#### ABORIGINAL PAINTINGS

ACF is proud to present paintings from Central Australia, now on display at the ACF office in Melbourne as part of an ongoing exhibition of canvases and boards. The work currently showing is by a group of women artists from the Institute of Aboriginal Development, who have been producing work for many years.

ACF bopes to continue a rotating exhibition of the traditional art from a number of desert communities. By presenting these pieces ACF is able to contribute to the economy of the communities, give an insight into the richness of their culture and develop stronger links with the Aboriginal communities.

All works are for sale, with some of the proceeds to ACF.

#### YES! I want to become a member of ACF!

Use the form below for your new membership.

Mr / Ms / Mrs / Miss(Given name) (Family name)	Membership categories	
Address Phone: (bh) (ah)	☐ Individual Membership (includes quarterly newsletter) ☐ Concession Membership ☐ Schools/Community Groups ☐ Household Membership	\$39.00 \$22.00 \$55.00 \$55.00
Payment details	(NB: Overseas and corporate rates are available on request)	
Enclosed is ☐ cheque/money order, or charge my ☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Diners	plus Habitat (special membership discount rate)	\$35.00
Card number	or Habitat only (for non-members)	\$44.00
Expiry date/_ Signature	☐ Donation (tax deductible) (Donors of \$1,000 or more may be eligible for Life Membership)	\$
I'd like information on Earthfund, ACF's regular donation program.  Please send me information on leaving a bequest to ACF.	TOTAL	\$