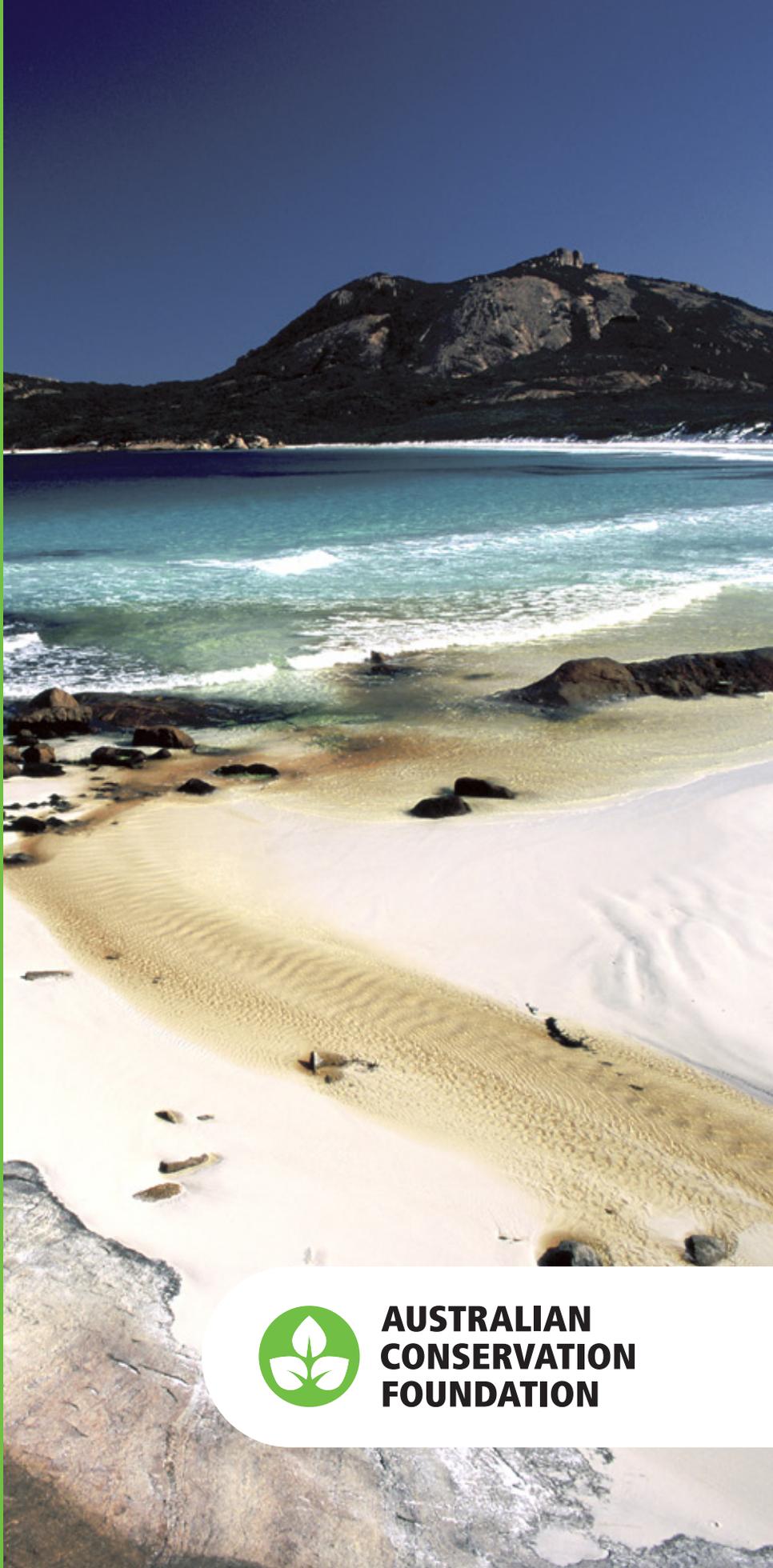

Supporters'
Report 2014

*Thank
you*



**AUSTRALIAN
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION**

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Letter from the CEO

Kelly O'Shanassy

It was with great excitement and humility that I stepped in to lead this wonderful organisation, following in the mighty footsteps of Don Henry – a great Australian and environmentalist.

Many question my sanity in taking on this role in the current political environment and with the enormous challenges that we and our magnificent environment face. For me, it's the perfect time.

Our strategy is not swayed by which party is in government, it is based on our own leadership and the willingness of Australians like you to speak up for nature and our future.

That is not to say that times are not tough. In their first year in office, the federal government made many irresponsible decisions that will endanger our ecosystems and make Australia a more dangerous place to live.

In particular the government's dismantling of Australia's working carbon price and support of new coal and gas mines allows pollution to reign free and makes us the only nation on earth to go backwards on climate policy.

Incredibly, even in these most trying of times, the generosity and passion of ACF's supporters has shone through – showing that when the people lead the leaders will follow.

Around 90 per cent of our income comes from generous individuals, philanthropic institutions and households. Your support is absolutely vital to our work particularly as we can no longer rely on our governments to make the necessary changes to deliver a safe environment.

It's been a turbulent year bringing mighty wins and gut-wrenching losses, along with big changes for ACF. All the while, ACF has relied heavily on the generosity of our members and supporters, without whom, we couldn't do what we do.

We are going to have to lead – you and me and everyone else in Australia that cares about our magnificent country. I hope you will continue to speak up for a better tomorrow.

Thank you,

Kelly O'Shanassy



Acting President's report

Rob Fowler

It's been a big year for ACF and a rewarding few months for me as acting President, a role I have shared with Vice President, Irina Cattalini, during a brief interregnum in the office of ACF President.

In March we bade farewell to former CEO Don Henry – an extraordinary environmentalist who will be remembered for his fervent devotion to the cause and his steadfast resilience in the face of overwhelming odds.

We were delighted to welcome aboard Kelly O'Shanassy as CEO in April. Her leadership, passion and determination clearly charts the future direction for ACF – an inspiring vision that will see more and more Australians coming together to speak up for our magnificent country and the places we love.

We also saw our former President, Ian Lowe, conclude his service in mid-2014 after seven years of dedicated leadership. His tactful and good-humoured leadership has been an invaluable asset for the organisation, and will be missed.

In September we were delighted to welcome prominent businessman and environmental activist, Geoffrey Cousins, into the role of President. Geoff is a strong supporter of the notion that when people stand together governments and business will notice.

We're thrilled to have Geoff and Kelly at the helm at this critical time for nature in Australia.

At a time when we're seeing regressive government agendas and a broad assault on the not-for-profit sector, I'd like to take the opportunity to humbly thank you – our generous donors, members and supporters – who allow us to continue working for lasting change and a better future for all Australians. We certainly couldn't do it without you.

Thank you,

Rob Fowler



I'd like to take the opportunity to humbly thank you
– our generous donors, members and supporters –
who allow us to continue working for lasting change
and a better future for all Australians.



Our financial position

More than 90% of ACF's income is received through the generosity and goodwill of our individual and private trust supporters, bequests and memberships.

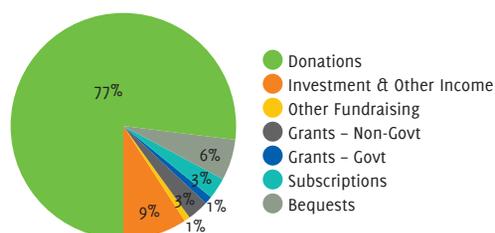
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
INCOME	12,420,169	13,316,212
Environmental programs expenses	5,915,305	6,158,788
Fundraising – acquisition of new supporters	2,059,780	2,394,282
Fundraising – staff, appeals, supporter & other costs	3,134,290	2,844,875
Governance, Finance & Operations	1,748,870	1,727,278
Expenses	12,858,244	13,125,222
Surplus (Deficit) from Continuing Operations	(438,075)	190,990
Net Unrealised (loss) on revaluation of financial assets	171,933	303,778
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(266,142)	494,768

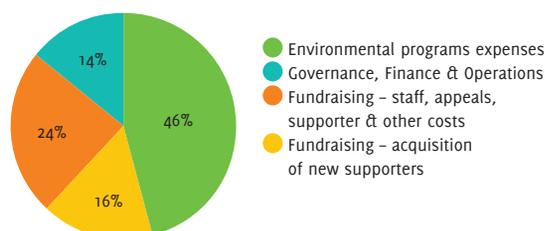
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2014

	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
CURRENT ASSETS	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Cash and cash equivalents	4,832,453	5,051,898
Trade and other receivables	138,515	814,355
Financial assets	1,684,046	1,541,600
Other assets	71,837	53,881
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	6,726,851	7,461,734
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Artwork	10,250	18,500
Property, plant and equipment	9,035,696	9,021,384
Intangible assets	218,585	290,165
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	9,264,531	9,330,049
Trade and other payables	943,425	930,647
Provisions	600,631	1,159,846
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,544,055	2,090,493
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	2014 (\$)	2013 (\$)
Provisions	54,298	42,117
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	54,298	42,117
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,598,353	2,132,609
NET ASSETS	14,393,029	14,659,174
EQUITY		
Reserves & Retained Earnings	14,659,174	14,164,407
Surplus / (Deficit)	(266,143)	494,767
TOTAL EQUITY	14,393,031	14,659,174

ACF INCOME



ACF EXPENDITURE



This concise financial report is an extract from the full financial reports of the Australian Conservation Foundation. The financial statements and specific disclosures included in the concise financial report have been derived from the full financial report which provides a full understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the organisation. Further financial information can be obtained from ACF's full financial report, a copy of which, including the independent audit report, is available to all members on our website, and will be sent to members without charge on request.

<http://www.acfonline.org.au/about-us/governance/annual-reports>



Your support in action





Nelson River, Tasmania
© Bette Divine



Healthy Ecosystems Program

Jonathan La Nauze
Program Manager

With your support, we've taken a lead role in developing Australia's biggest ever alliance of environment groups – the Place You Love Alliance. It's exciting to be building a movement of people from across the community to build social and political power for nature.

Protecting Tasmania's precious forests

In June 2014, we mobilised our supporters and worked with fellow environmental organisations to ensure that 74,000 hectares of Tasmanian forests remained on the World Heritage list despite the Abbott Government's attempt to delist it.

The campaign was an outstanding example of ACF and our supporter base at its best.

- 47,935 ACF supporters were part of a 368,869-strong petition handed over to the World Heritage Committee by an alliance of groups in Doha, Qatar.
- 296 volunteers called eight key decision makers every two hours for the fortnight prior to the decision.
- 5036 supporters emailed ministers Greg Hunt and Julie Bishop urging them to withdraw the government's request to delist Tassie forests.
- 56 supporters sent faxes to the email-shy PM Tony Abbott.
- We sent every MP and Senator in the country a tree native to their local area. 161 ACF supporters turned out to personally hand deliver trees at their local MP's offices with a simple request – that the parliamentary representatives of the Australian people stand tall for Tasmania's forests and respect World Heritage.

The UNESCO World Heritage committee took all of seven minutes to reject the Abbott Government's proposal to delist Tasmania's new world heritage forests.



Grampians National Park
© Bruce Paton



Green Tree Frog, Cape York Peninsula
© Kerry Trapnell

Joining forces to protect our national environment laws

This year ACF has taken a lead role in developing Australia's biggest ever alliance of environment groups.

The Places You Love Alliance is at the forefront of a campaign to defend our national environment laws in the face of an attempt from the federal government to devolve powers to the states.

The Alliance is building a movement of people from across the community to build social and political power for nature. It works on the premise that Australians are deeply connected to nature in a multitude of ways, and beautiful natural places are part of our national identity. Most of us value escaping the city for the bush or the beach. And we all appreciate the healthy food and lifestyle our natural world gives us.

Through the Alliance, environment groups are working together to empower and mentor community leaders who are fed up with governments reversing hard fought gains. ACF is thrilled to be taking a lead role in this exciting new movement.

Partnering with the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative

Stretching from the Grampians in Victoria to the wet tropics in Queensland, the Great Eastern Ranges (GER) is one of Australia's most important ecosystems to protect people and wildlife in a changing climate.

The GER landscapes encompass Australia's tallest mountains, most reliable rainfall, most carbon-dense forests and greatest biological diversity.

Its catchments supply fresh water to the 11 million people living on the east coast of Australia as well as to farmers in the Murray Darling Basin.

Its elevated, cool and wet ecosystems will become an increasingly important refuge for both nature and humanity in a hotter and more hostile future climate.

It is for these many reasons that the GER represents an urgent 'natural infrastructure' investment priority for Australia.

This year we were excited to formerly partner with the Great Eastern Ranges initiative to restore and connect this 36,000km stretch of land to enhance biodiversity; safeguard fresh water; and sequester carbon.



James Price Point, WA
© Jill Swanson



Northern Australia Program

Graham Tupper
Program Manager

Our vision is for a future in Northern Australia which values nature and sustains people. This year, with your support, we've made some big progress on landscape scale conservation on Cape York and in the Kimberley - thank you.

ACF's vision for Northern Australia is for a future which values nature and sustains people. To that end, we are working hard with Indigenous organisations and other sectors, such as tourism, to advance an economic pathway for the north which meets the tests of being environmentally sustainable and economically resilient.

Cape York land tenure reform with landscape scale conservation outcomes

Over the last twenty years the land tenure reform program on Cape York has returned over 2.2 million hectares of country to Traditional Owners and, with their consent, created a network of over 1.3 million hectares of co-managed National Parks and Nature Refuges. This was set to be boosted significantly with the help of ACF through 2013-2014.

In December 2013, with support from the Myer Foundation, a Wuthathi Cultural Mapping and Knowledge System Project was completed to help set up future management plans of Wuthathi country. Under the Cape York land tenure reform program the Wuthathi are set to have around 113,000 ha of their country at Shelburne bay returned to their custodianship. This stunning country is home to high conservation value sand dune systems, freshwater lakes and coastal wetlands in the north east of Cape York. With the informed consent of the Wuthathi, these areas are set to be protected under a new National Park.

Throughout the year ACF also assisted the Olkola Aboriginal Corporation as negotiations progressed for the return of around 740,000ha of their country in the southern central region of Cape York.



Michael Ross, Traditional Owner and Chairman of the Otkola Aboriginal Corporation
© Kerry Trapnell

In particular, we are helping the Otkola to secure the funds they need, including for more Indigenous rangers, to manage their country and to develop new enterprises.

In March 2014, over 5,500 ACF members wrote submissions on the Queensland Government's Cape York Regional Plan seeking to improve the conservation outcomes under the plan. While some progress was made, and the State Government was forced to change their approach, there is still much to do to protect the outstanding natural and cultural values of Cape York while building sustainable economic opportunities for Indigenous communities.

Countering threats to clean water and healthy land in the Kimberley

Building on prior work to prevent gas processing and industrial development on the pristine Kimberley coast, ACF is now focussed on countering new threats to the national heritage listed values of the Kimberley from massive shale gas development and new coal mines.

In late 2013 ACF sought a full and independent environmental assessment of the long term risks from shale gas development, before any exploratory wells were allowed to proceed. Then in early 2014, we mobilised hundreds of members to send in appeals when the need for an independent environmental impact assessment was rejected by the WA Government.

The proposals for shale gas drilling in the Kimberley are of a massive scale, up to 40,000 well heads, and involves fracking (hydraulic rock fracturing) deep underground using a mix of toxic chemicals and posing major risks to healthy land and water systems.

Our efforts have helped to delay the gas program into 2015, however it will take a major effort to halt these threats, in cooperation with the Traditional Owners who are very concerned about the risks to their country and aquifers.

Nuclear free and northern Australia's economic future

In June 2014, after almost seven years of protests, processes and presentations, ACF stood proudly with the Traditional Owners of Muckaty when the federal government scrapped their plan to dump radioactive waste on their land following a long battle. The federal government's decision to withdraw their dump plan for Muckaty was a win for Traditional Owners, the environment and, we hope, for more responsible radioactive waste management in Australia. ACF's nuclear free campaigner, Dave Sweeney, has been at the forefront of this battle along with others at the Beyond Nuclear Initiative, Friends of the Earth and environmental groups in the NT. However, the campaign is far from over and ACF is now working hard for to achieve a transparent and responsible approach to radioactive waste management, not for the government to just announce another site and another contest.



Living sustainably

Dugald Murray
Chief Economist

Australians must take action to ensure that we maintain prosperity and, most critically, that we are environmentally sustainable. With your support we've been able to keep up the pressure on the federal government over its environmentally destructive budget.

We believe that economics and environment go hand-in-hand: activity in one system impacts on others – agricultural activities and other land uses pollute the water catchments that drain into the sea, having a substantial impact on the health of the Great Barrier Reef.

This influences not only the intrinsic value of the largest coral reef in the world, but also the productivity of fisheries and tourism industries, which contribute \$5.4 billion to the Australian economy. These already compromised ecosystem services will continue to decline if levels of exploitation and pollution remain unchecked.

Sadly this past year has seen renewed priority given to polluting industry and economic growth ahead of the interests of our communities and environment.

The Australian economy needs a transformation. We must take action to ensure we can maintain our prosperity. But we also must ensure that this prosperity is fairly shared, that our economy creates enough jobs for everyone and, most critically, that we are environmentally sustainable.



During 2013-2014 we put significant pressure on the federal government over its environmentally destructive budget. We will maintain this pressure until the federal budget settings are changed to protect and restore our environment.

We also provided substantial leadership on economic thought and action through major submissions on:

- Australia's innovation system, demonstrating that by creating policies and institutions that drive research and foster innovation, Australia can secure prosperity for all without increasing costs or compromising intergenerational sustainability.
- International trade, arguing for increased environmental protections at home and abroad rather than the Government's proposals of weakening protections.
- Infrastructure, noting that infrastructure planning can result in triple dividends for the economy, society and the environment. However, investment in infrastructure can also compromise our long-term sustainability through poorly conceived and executed decisions that fail to take into account the full range of costs and benefits. The Abbot Point coal terminal and West Petrie Bypass, both in Queensland, are two examples of poorly conceived infrastructure projects that will have devastating effect on local environs of the Great Barrier Reef and a Koala population.

2013-2014 has also been a time for development of new ideas and collaboration. This includes ongoing work with unions and civil society on the role of government, the relationship between rising inequality and environmental degradation and how ACF and business leaders can work together to create an economy that works to create jobs and prosperity and protect and restore Australia's unique and fragile environment.



Solar dishes
© Dave Linahan



Climate Change Campaign

Victoria McKenzie-McHarg
Campaign Manager

Your support meant that we could campaign to protect our working climate laws, saving the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, ARENA and the Renewable Energy Target (for now), and brought Al Gore to Australia to train hundreds of new climate leaders – thank you.

In June last year we had a working price on pollution and a suite of complementary policies that were cutting pollution across our economy and driving new investment in clean energy.

Since then, the election of a new federal government has signalled a significant change in the action our government is prepared to take to cut pollution and act on climate change.

The fight to save our working climate laws

Our campaign to protect our climate laws and the clean energy industry amplified the voices of Australians who support action, ensured those voices were heard by our political leaders in Canberra, and helped secure important cross-bench support for key policies in the Senate.

Canberra Advocacy Plan

- On June 18 – 19, a community delegation visited MPs and senators in Canberra to deliver a petition with over 34,000 names of people who wanted to keep our working climate laws. The community delegation consisted of one person from each State and Territory of Australia who represented different sectors in our society.
- We produced a video documenting the action which has close to 6,000 views on our YouTube channel (high engagement for that channel), to build connection to the advocacy day among our supporters.



Adam Majcher, Climate Reality Project Manager
© www.jamesthomasphoto.com

- We briefed and worked with target MPs and key influential senators to build support for the carbon price and other important legislation that was facing the chopping block – the Climate Change Authority, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA).
- Immediately following the repeal of the carbon price, 3,000 ACF supporters pledged with us they would keep up the fight for action on climate change.
- We conducted a targeted Letters to the Editor campaign after the repeal which resulted in letters published across the nation in several major newspapers.

The result of our hard work, strong alliances and decisions by key cross-bench Senators we built relationships with is that we have managed to save the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, the Climate Change Authority and ARENA from the scrap heap and The Renewable Energy Target could yet live on as a key policy to deliver energy transformation.

Mobilising Australians for climate action

ACF's support for major climate rallies following the September 2013 election helped put the need for climate action back on the national agenda. At the same time, our supporters hosted over 60 events nationally to participate in the global 24 Hours of Reality event, when 20 million people viewed a live climate broadcast.

The Climate Reality Training

In June 2014 our work with The Climate Reality Project brought Al Gore to Australia to train 525 people from 32 countries to become climate leaders in their communities, and help us build the community power we know is needed to win on climate change.

Climate leaders come from all walks of life. They are parents, health professionals, school kids, firefighters, tradespeople, investment managers and sports stars. Since 2006 climate leaders have delivered 70,000 presentations to a global audience of over 7.3 million. To date, one in 58 Australians has seen a Climate Reality presentation.

Climate leaders are trained at a professional conference over three days where they learn from industry leaders and climate scientists and receive professional training in a wide range of areas from media to public speaking.

Unlike other conferences and trainings of this calibre and scale, The Climate Reality Project is funded entirely out of philanthropic donations. The generosity of donors to the Australian Conservation Foundation allows us to offer this life-changing training program entirely free of cost to anyone who wishes to become a leader in the fight against climate change.



Supporter in action

Jessa Boanas-Dewes

Director of Toot Sweet Consulting, Jessa Boanas-Dewes, was both a donor to The Climate Reality Project and attended the training. Here's what the new Climate Reality leader had to say about it:

"I was fortunate enough to be invited to take part in the Climate Reality Project training as an ACF donor.

The three-day training was amazing, inspiring, and sobering all at the same time.

I left feeling so inspired and so charged, but also feeling the gravity of the situation and the fact that we have no time to waste.

I guess that is what is so special about people like Al Gore who can present difficult facts but inspire people to get into gear.

His message that "we will win this, because we have to" is a really great one. And it's true.

Now that I'm a Climate Leader, I'm thinking about ways to use humour to communicate difficult topics. It's human nature to switch off when we get upset by uncomfortable facts.

The training really got me thinking about how we can use humour in a fun way to engage people and get difficult messages across to produce more action and awareness. The thing is, we know what the problems are and there are very clear ways to address them, which is a big start!

It's empowering to acknowledge the problems but then put the worry to one side and say "right, what can I do to help this"?

Thank you

Thank you to the following individuals and donors who generously donated \$5000 or more in the 2013–2014 financial year.

The President's Circle

Leader (\$25,000+)

Mr Geoff Ainsworth AM
Mrs Edith Burgess
Ms Vicki Olsson
Mr Julian Tertini and
Ms Jenny Mines

Protector (\$10,000+)

Dr Susan Adams and
Mr Andrew Kirk
Dr Barbara Baird
Mr Clive Blazey and
Mrs Penny Blazey
Ms Jessa Boanas-Dewes
Mrs Mary Bush and Mr Bill Bush
Mrs Linda Childs-van Wijk and
Mr Carl Childs-van Wijk
Mr Joseph Grundy
Ms Annelie Holden
Dr Bill N Holsworth
Mr Doug Jackson and
Mrs Tim Jackson
Ms Valerie Johnstone
Mr Ross Mallam and
Mrs Julie Mallam
Ms Ann Miller
Mr Conrad Oppen and
Mrs Alice Oppen
Mr Brian Snape AM and
Mrs Diana Snape
The Honorable Tom Waddell
Mr Darrell Wade and
Mrs Anna Wade
Mrs Marjorie White

Advocate (\$5,000+)

Ms Nan Brown
Mr Lindsay Crawford and
Mrs Ann Crawford
Mr George Dalton
Dr Tom Evans
Mr Jack Hoadley and
Mrs Ruth Hoadley
Mr Larry Kornhauser and
Mrs Sophie Kornhauser
Ms Natalie Mamone and
Laurence Stonard
Dr Patrick Moriarty
Ms Pam Petschack
Mr Leigh Rowe
Mr Eric Walker and
Mrs Judy Walker OAM
Mrs Elisabeth White and
Mr Oliver White
Anonymous donors

Legacy Leader

(Bequest value \$100,000+)

Miss Marian Bear
Ms Alice Beauchamp
Mr Stephen and
Ms Janice Blakeney
Miss Margaret Bowman
Ms Rhonda Boyle
Ms Barbara Briggs
Mr George Dalton
Ms Helen Gillam
Ms Margaret and
Mr Graham Hardy
Dr Jennifer Herrick
Ms Annelie Holden
Ms Valerie Johnstone
Mr Harold Levien
Mr Bruce Lindenmayer
Mr Neil and Ms Pam McDonald
Mr Eric Miller
Dr Barry Moore
Mr Philip Morris
Mrs Ruth Pfanner
Mr Frank Pierce
Ms Morag Ryder
Mr Gil Smith
Ms Diana Snape
Mr Brian Snape
Mr Peter Timms
Mr Jack Trezise
Ms Laurel Tsang
Ms Beverley Weynton
Ms Marilyn Whimpey
Dr Judy Williams
Ms Patricia Williamsz

Support of ACF campaigns

ACF is fortunate to receive financial and in-kind support from many trusts, foundations and business which allow us to do our work. Thank you to the following people and organisations who helped sustain our campaigns in 2013–14.

6A Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Greenspring Pty Ltd <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Minax Uriel Pty Ltd <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
AMP Services Ltd <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Henry's Hydraulics Pty Ltd <i>The Climate Reality Project</i>	Neil Stevenson, Human Synergetics <i>"Into the Blue" culture programme</i>
Arnold Bloch Leibler <i>Pro bono legal services</i>	Hill Family Conservation Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Oomph <i>Habitat digital publishing</i>
Australian Camps Association <i>Sponsor Nature Connect Conference</i>	Hootville Communications <i>Media training</i>	Our Community <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
Australian Council of Learned Academies <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Hunter Hall International Limited <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Paradice Family Foundation <i>The Climate Reality Project</i>
Australian Ethical Investment Ltd <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Karma Currency <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Platinum Cables <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
Brad Sadler, Dana Consulting <i>Organisation change and executive leadership</i>	Kevin Murphy Business Services Pty Ltd <i>The Climate Reality Project</i>	PMF Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
City Of Melbourne - Urban Landscapes <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	King & Wood Mallesons <i>Pro bono legal services</i>	PreviousNext <i>Web design & development</i>
Corrs Chambers Westgarth <i>Pro bono legal services</i>	Koreen Conservation Ltd <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	ShareGift Australia <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
Darinka Pty Ltd <i>General Counsel</i>	KS Environmental Services P/L <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Skellern Family Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
Department for Communities <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Macquarie Group Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Stevenson and Halifax P/L <i>Organisation change and executive leadership</i>
Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	MAPgroup Documentary Photographers <i>Supply of professional images</i>	The Intrepid Foundation <i>Northern Australia Program</i>
Department of Industry <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Marich Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	The Myer Foundation <i>Northern Australia Program</i>
DLA Piper - Chicago <i>Assistance with US application</i>	Microsoft Pty Ltd <i>Software Donation Program</i>	The Pratt Foundation <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>
	Middendorp Electric Co Pty Ltd <i>Support of ACF campaigns</i>	Toot Sweet Consulting Pty Ltd <i>The Climate Reality Project</i>

Living legacy community

ACF's bequest supporters are recognised through our Living Legacy community events and activities. Your support is of great value and importance to our work. Thank you.



Leaving a living legacy

Mike Hill

Mike is co-director of WestWyck, a company transforming the former Brunswick West Primary School in Melbourne into an ecovillage. He is currently the chair, Natural Resources Conservation League and Board Member of the Centre for Urban Research at RMIT, and an ACF bequest supporter.

I was part of a family and a generation that really abhorred waste, didn't leave food on our plates, didn't buy things that weren't necessary and really resisted throwing things out. There was no 'away'! We turned off dripping taps and the lights when we left the room. We were a conserver family living in a conserver society before we had ever heard of the term and as the consumer society encroached upon our world we resisted it as crass and wasteful and saw it as individualising people, pulling them apart, treating them as individuals, as consuming units.

As a teacher and community worker supporting unemployed young people I worked to set up one of Victoria's first comprehensive kerbside recycling schemes and when the Council jettisoned it I stood for Council and as Mayor introduced not only a recycling system but a raft of energy and resource conservation measures. I carried my passion into the State sphere where I chaired the State's waste authority and became a Board Member of the Sustainable Energy and the Environment Protection Authorities during an era when Victoria was seen as an environmental leader, genuinely committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Shattered by Australia's unsustainable development model my partner and I committed to establishing an urban ecovillage as part of a retrofit of a decommissioned primary school. By the time WestWyck is completed it will contain thirty dwellings and around ninety people living sustainably in a mutually supportive environment. WestWyck is the first Australian community to achieve One Planet endorsement.

I believe in a world where we can live within our planetary allocation, where we can bequeath an ecologically balanced planet to our children and grandchildren. But we are going to need to fight hard to achieve this and that fight is at a personal, community, local, regional and national level. We can't do this alone and in isolation and bodies like the ACF, with their strong commitment, their high level of skill and expertise and their capacity to attract people of passion, deserve our backing. I like the thought that some of my battles will be carried out through the ACF long after I am gone and therefore I have no hesitation in leaving a percentage of my meagre wealth to maintain the battle. Imagine if we were all to do this!

Legacies living on

ACF has been fortunate to receive the following new estate gifts in 2013-14. We are grateful to receive these special gifts which help to keep ACF a strong and vital force for protecting nature. We offer our condolences to the family and friends of these members and supporters who left a bequest to ACF in their Will this year.

Mr Brian Abel, QLD

Mrs Beryl Bell, QLD

Mr Hugh Bignold, NSW

Miss Judith Butler, TAS

Ms Jean Dagger, QLD

Mrs Peggy Frayne, SA

Ms Heather Graham, SA

Miss Winsome Gregory, NSW

Mr Robert Griffiths, SA

Ms Patricia Gwynne, NSW

Mr Alan Hutton, SA

Ms Agnes Kilroy, QLD

Ms Patricia McHugh, ACT

Ms Jennifer Morrison, NSW

Mrs Tina Nevins, ACT

Mr Russell Pearson, TAS

Mrs Joan Viner, NSW

Mrs Margaret Willimott, VIC

Mr Terence Wollaston, SA

Gift in Will Confirmation

We would love to be able to invite you to our Living Legacy community functions for bequest supporters, and ACF special events. To do this we need to hear from you!

Please let us know if you have included ACF in your Will or intend to do so. You can find a Gift in Will Confirmation form online at www.acfonline.org.au/bequests; email and request a copy bequests@acfonline.org.au; or phone 1800 132 510.

Your advice is confidential but gives us the opportunity to thank you for your support and keep in touch. You may also be eligible to be listed in our Annual Report as an ACF Legacy Leader and we will be in contact if that is the case.

Leaving a gift to ACF in your Will is an easy and powerful way to support our work beyond your lifetime. To find out how to leave a gift in your Will, use the contact information above to ask for our bequests brochure.

Thank you for considering supporting our work through your Will.

Living legacy events

ACF bequest supporters have participated in events in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney this year.

In August, we held a Melbourne “boardroom morning tea” in our green building headquarters to introduce our new CEO, Kelly O’Shanassy. This was the first opportunity Kelly had to meet and hear from our Melbourne bequestors.

Ayers House in Adelaide provided a gracious setting and lovely lunch in September. We heard from Kelly – why she was so thrilled to take up the ACF CEO role and her vision for ACF, and Director of Campaigns Paul Sinclair.

October was a busy month. In Melbourne, bequestors were invited to a donor evening event,

and in Sydney both a bequests morning tea and donor evening event were held. Again, we were able to introduce Kelly to our supporters and also hear from Paul about new ways of achieving positive outcomes for our environment.

Also in October, we paid a second visit to the new and developing Australian Garden section of the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens in Victoria, south-east of Melbourne. From our informative guide, Trevor Blake, we learnt how Australian plants have evolved and adapted over millions of years and how human interaction with plants has changed over time. And of course had cake after our tour.



Tour guide Trevor Blake talking to ACF group at Cranbourne Gardens.
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