

SAVE OUR KOALAS RALLY

25th Sept 2009

Brisbane Square

(in front of the Casino)

sign in:

11am

Start:

12pm



**For more information or to register
your interest email: saveourkoalas@gmail.com**

Firebug causes \$2m in damage

By DANIEL TANG

POLICE have appealed for public help to find an arsonist responsible for a factory fire on Horizon Drive, Berrimah, about 8pm on Monday.

Firefighters took nearly three hours to contain the blaze, which destroyed about two-thirds of the shed and caused at least \$2 million worth of damage.

The building is about 60m by 30m and contained plants, plastering products and timber doors.

Southpak, a plastering subcontractor, was just one of three businesses affected by the blaze.

Co-owner Donna Payne said the fire had destroyed the shed, which alone would cost at least \$1 million to replace.

"Whoever did it has upset three businesses, not just me," she said. "But we're not going to let this stop us."

"Our offices have been damaged but we're staging up again."

Plants In Transit co-owner Linda Farnsworth said her



TOUGH BREAK: One of the businesses hit by the blaze.

business lost at least \$300,000 worth of plants.

"We've lost 50 per cent of what we had - it's put us under a bit of stress," Mrs Farnsworth said.

"We're a family business and we'll keep on going."

"We have a great customer base and we'll get through it."

Mrs Farnsworth said the firefighters on the night were "brilliant" in battling the blaze.

A passer-by first noticed the fire and called in the emergency services.

No one was injured.
Phone Crimestoppers on 1800 333 020.

Walk to save our koalas



ON A MISSION: Paulette Oldfield with an at-risk furry friend.

Picture: Richard Walker

A SHAILER Park mum will lead a march through Brisbane next Friday in a bid to stop the destruction of critical koala habitat.

Paulette Oldfield organised the "Save Our Koalas" rally to protest against the State Government's urban development policies.

"The community has had enough of ineffective

planning and the government not doing enough to protect koalas," she said.

"Development needs to happen but there's a place for it - and if you're putting it in the middle of koala country, the koala will die out."

"Given that Logan is home to the largest urban koala habitat in the world, it's really important

for us to think about what we're doing in our own back yard."

Save Our Koalas protesters will meet at Brisbane Square outside the Conrad Treasury Casino at 11am and march to Parliament House.

The march coincides with National Koala Day.
Email saveourkoalas@gmail.com.

Demand high in suburbs

LOGAN City has recorded the biggest annual increase in house prices across South-East Queensland as buyers continue to flock to the city.

The median house price in 2008-09 was \$340,000, up from \$310,000 in 2007-08, an increase of nearly 10 per cent.

Across sales also increased, rising 11.1 per cent.

Real Estate Institute of Queensland figures showed Berrimah, Jimboomba and New Beith led the growth, with an annual increase of 6.7 per cent, 19.7 per cent and 9.5 per cent, respectively.

Suburbs that saw a fall in prices were Tamborine, Windaroo and Fiesoldale, which dropped 13 per cent, 7.1 per cent and 6.3 per cent, respectively.

REIQ Logan zone chairman Jon McVinnie - who has been selling properties in Logan for 23 years - said that he expected Logan house prices would remain strong.

"There's been a lot of activity at the bottom end of the market where first-home buyers can afford to get into the market and pay off a mortgage," he said.

"Investors also see this as a very good area to invest in - they get good returns and the rental market is strong."

Mr McVinnie said average prices in the area had been driven up after developers bought out owners in the new urban development area of Rochdale.

Smell strikes

THE Australia Post mail distribution centre at Underwood, was evacuated on Wednesday after reports of a strong smell.

Paramedics treated 10 patients for complaints of chest pain, wheezing, coughing and nausea.

The cause of the smell had not been identified by late on Wednesday.

Grant funding up for grabs

COMMUNITY groups are invited to apply for funding grants under the Logan Mayors' Community Service Committee.

The committee has raised a record \$150,000 in the past year to give to non-profit

registered charities and welfare organisations in the Logan region.
 Grant applications close on November 6.
See www.logan.qld.gov.au or phone 3208 4716 for further application details.

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Opposition mounts for quarry

By Gary Worrall

COMMUNITY opposition to the Barro Group's proposed extension to its Mt Cotton Quarry has continued to grow, with more than 300 residents attending a meeting recently.

Jean Dalglish, a spokesperson for Residents Against Intrusive Development (RAID), said the turnout included Logan residents from Springwood, Daisy Hill and Shailer Park, as well as Logan City Mayor Graham Able and councillors Darren Power and Peter Collins.

State Labor MP John English, who represents the Redlands electorate, also attended the meeting, and used the opportunity

to state his opposition to the quarry, despite apparent government support for the proposal.

Mrs Dalglish said one of the main speakers was environmental scientist Ian Bridge, who raised a number of concerns over the Barro Group application.

Mr Bridge, a Mt Cotton resident who lives within one kilometre of the proposed new pit, said he has 24 years experience in the field of monitoring, managing and controlling pollution.

He said among his concerns were questions about how noise impacts were assessed, including the measurement of background noise, which is required as part of the Environmental Protection Act.

"The Barro application did not meet the regulations, it only tested for a total of 35 minutes, not for two continuous weeks as required," Mr Bridge said.

"The site selected for the noise measurements was also not representative of the residents living near the new pit."

Mr Bridge said it was also 'quite apparent' that there would be impacts outside the pit area, however these were not covered in the environmental studies carried as part of the application.

"It will reduce the amount of groundwater, the water available if you sank a bore or a well, available on the site, which will affect vegetation growing around the rim."





■ Tourist attraction ... Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service ranger Sascha Stehr with Seeana at Daisy Hill Koala Centre.

More questions than answers on alfresco hub

WITH \$1.1 million of council money allocated to upgrade Fitzgerald Drive to create an alfresco hub, I need to ask why?

Why is council money going into this project? Who is benefiting from this project?

Why are the shopping centres not contributing? While the landscape will no doubt be attractive, I wish to ask where the alfresco dining will go?

A friend recently attempted to establish such a business in this area only to discover there was no space.

Until such time as space is created, again, I ask why are we spending this money?

Wouldn't our ratepayers' money be better spent on changing Logan's perception or misperceptions by promoting its positive attributes rather than a name change to Silver City?

We have 250,000 visitors a year to Daisy Hill State Forest - Logan's largest tourist attraction.

Why are we not promoting this as a destination that the city can not only be proud of, but can reap the financial rewards from?

Twenty months ago such a proposal was put to Logan City Council and several ministers at the time. Alas, the nearly 5000 people who supported the Daisy Hill issue missed out badly, as did all of Logan.

Lisa Bradley,
Daisy Hill

Issues more than a road

I AM afraid Mr McCallum is rather misled (*Your say*) July 29 edition.

The issues with the Daisy Hill development are far more than Chatswood Rd extension.

And this is not the first time I have mentioned it.

For four months there has been an electronic petition and paper petition which clearly states both topics, which were also mentioned in my July 20 letter.

Not only does Chatswood Rd Reserve have endangered rainforest but it is also one of the main koala corridors between Venman Bushland Reserve, Daisy Hill State Forest Reserve and Springwood Conservation Park.

The Ison Report, which was an assessment on the property in 1991, states that the remnant subtropical rainforest is relatively uncommon in Logan City.

It must be remembered that the Daisy Hill property is part of the koala coast, which has Australia's largest and most genetically diverse semi-urban koala population.

It was listed in the highest rating (KMA-A1) under the Koala Nature (2005) Conservation Plan, released on February 1.

KMA-A1 rating has the most significant koala population with the highest density of koalas, the strongest breeding rates, lowest disease rates and sufficient undisturbed habitat to sustain a viable population.

It was initially outside the urban footprint under the draft South



■ Cuddles Koala and Lisa Bradley petition to stop development at Daisy Hill.

East Queensland Regional Plan 2004 and 78 per cent was proposed for conservation in the draft Logan Planning Scheme (2004).

With the first two plans stating there should not be urban development, we have every right to

object to a broken promise to the community for conservation, not only for us but also for future generations.

I encourage you to check out www.savedaisyhill.com website.

Lisa Bradley, Daisy Hill



RESIDENTS and wildlife organisations, who have banded together for 15 years to try and seek protection of 80 hectares of nationally important bushland buffering Daisy Hill State Forest, met on Monday for the last time to attend a 'Red Ribbon Ceremony'.

Logan resident and environmental activist,

Lesley Noah, asked everyone to write their names and messages on red ribbons and to place these on the tree of remembrance.

"I am deeply concerned that the single wildlife spotter

appointed by the Developer will not be able to keep pace with the bulldozers and that it will be helter-skelter," she said.

"Despite many protest meetings, hundreds of letters and submissions

and thousands of signatures on petitions, the overwhelming 'will of the people' and their constitutional rights, have once again been blatantly disregarded by our elected officials" she said.

A SAD DAY: Losing a valuable wildlife habitat prompted nine year old, Jacinta Daglish, from Cornubia to make her statement at the "tree of remembrance".

PICTURE: Desley Daniels

Battle lost, but not forgotten



SPEAKING OUT: Campaigners rally during the Growth Summit and (inset) organiser Paulette Oldfield. Pictures: Jim Campey

Protesters lend support to koalas

KOALA campaigners used last week's Growth Summit at the State Library of Queensland to call on the government to stop unlimited development.

Save Our Koalas Rally

organiser Paulette Oldfield, from Shailer Park, said the summit discussed ways the state's population could double from four million to eight million people.

She said that would have

a catastrophic effect on koala populations.

"We want the government to get the koala mapping 100 per cent accurate, which it's not at the moment," she said.

"We want the Federal

Government to list the koala as endangered so the koala is considered whenever any development occurs."

■ See more photos at www.albertlogannews.com.au.



JC189130

Logan council labels state koala maps 'a farce'

NEWS

ENVIRONMENT

24 FEB 10 @ 08:33AM BY KOREN HELBIG



CONCERN: Logan City Council fears the koala population will continue to plummet.

A STINGING attack has been launched on State Government maps designed to save koala populations. Logan City Council has denounced the government's \$1 million mapping project as "close to unworkable" and "highly inaccurate".

More coverage: [Koala map hinders mushroom farm's \\$40 million expansion](#)

The council, which fears the Logan koala population will continue to plummet, has outlined to the News its own plans to launch a koala strategy by June.

Environment and Sustainability branch manager Jim McDonnell said the council had purchased an \$8000 American thermal imaging camera in a bid to accurately gauge koala numbers.

He said the council's rescue strategy would also involve residents, with plans to designate and revegetate new "corridors" linking key koala habitats.

"The State Government mapping by definition is wrong – the company that did the mapping said it was only 82 percent accurate," Mr McDonnell said.

"The state rushed the process through (and) because they didn't have sufficient time to ground-truth it, to test it, there's all sorts of difficulties.

"Yarrabilba is a case in point where it's very dense weed and grass but it's showing up as a forest, as high quality koala habitat."

Logan's core populations live at Daisy Hill and Carbrook but koalas have also been spotted at the Munruben wetlands, Chambers Flat and New Beith.

Shailer Park koala campaigner Paulette Oldfield agreed the mapping, out for public consultation until February 28, was "riddled with holes".

"They obviously need to work together a bit more because it's apparent that the State Government has done this in isolation of the local government who probably know their backyard a little bit better," she said.

She was backed by Australian Koala Foundation CEO Deborah Tabart, who said the state had relied on "inferior" mapping technology.

She said governments must not allow another tree to be cut down, instead embracing development that

did not require razing of the landscape.

"It's absolutely possible – what's missing is the will," she said.

Council Environment and Sustainability Committee chairwoman Lisa Bradley said the proposed state legislation was based on land zoning rather than known koala habitat.

She said it meant 93 per cent of properties within Logan would be assessed under state koala conservation policies, despite only 34 per cent containing bushland.

Mr McDonnell said that would force anyone wishing to develop their land to engage a consultant to "prove there are no trees" on the property.

"Ultimately, it will drive each local government to do more detailed mapping otherwise its community will be constantly required to make unnecessary applications at unnecessary expense," he said.

Cr Bradley said she would meet with the government to voice the council's concerns.

See <http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/koalas> for the state maps. Public submissions close this Sunday, February 28.

<http://www.whereilive.com.au>



Neighbourhood hubs

Bligh walks us through '15-minute' blueprint

Rosemary Odgers
Ursula Heper

"FIFTEEN-minute neighbourhoods" where residents live, work, and play in the one place could be the blueprint for future development in Queensland to help ease the state's growing pains.

Developing a regional centre like Townsville as the state's second capital city or creating more satellite cities on the outskirts of Brisbane have also been proposed by the state's leaders at a summit called to address the looming population crisis in the southeast corner.

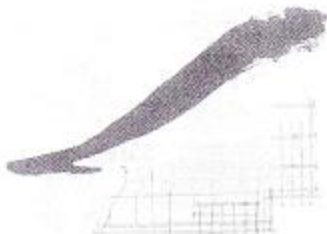
Premier Anna Bligh floated the idea of 15-minute suburbs, using New York City as an example where people embrace high-density living and sustainability by giving up their cars in exchange for public transport.

"Nobody wants to see Manhattan on the banks of the Brisbane River," Ms Bligh told 250 delegates at the Queensland Growth Management Summit in Brisbane yesterday. "But the general idea that

well planned density can result in better use of scarce natural resources such as energy, water and fuel, I think is thought-provoking.

"We could be thinking locally of 15-minute neighbourhoods where everything that we need to live work and play is within 15 minutes walking distance.

OUR FUTURE YOUR SAY



DISTURBANCE: Anti-development protesters rally outside yesterday's summit in Brisbane.

Picture: Darren England

Rally a first step

A SHAILEY Park mum wants Logan residents to lobby the State Government as the fight to save critical koala habitat intensifies.

Paulette Oldfield, who organised last month's Save Our Koalas rally in Brisbane, said "people power" was needed to stop habitat destruction caused by urban development.

Almost 1000 people flooded the streets of Brisbane on September 25, converging at Parliament House in a peaceful protest against the

State Government's lack of action.

Five small coffins carrying dead koalas showed the bleak reality of increasing urban sprawl.

"The community has come out in force and said they've had enough. They are sick of lip service," Ms Oldfield said.

She said the State Government committed to handing over 2.4ha of Alexandra Hills koala habitat to the care and protection of Redland City Council.

But she said the commitment, which came on the morning of the rally, was a token measure of support.

"It's beside one of the busiest roads. It will not sustain one lizard, let alone one koala," she said.

"It's like putting a tree in the middle of a roundabout and saying koalas will live there happily. It's a knee-jerk reaction. It's not enough."

Ms Oldfield said Logan housed the largest urban koala habitat in the world.



STRONG MESSAGE: Rally organiser Paulette Oldfield (right) leading the march.

A517632



JG100919

■ Nowhere to go ... koalas are disappearing from our suburbs.

Developers destroy wildlife habitat

THERE are no sounds of silence for the residents of Daisy Hill any more – only the sounds of tractors as they destroy the homes of vulnerable animals.

The developers have not complied with their agreements and did not keep the

trees at the top for the koalas and other animals.

A poor koala was seen in the gutter on Daisy Hill Rd desperately searching for its home. They also have only one wildlife spotter and promised one per tractor. How can they get away with

this cruelty? If it was the developers' homes that were being destroyed there would be an uproar.

Wildlife are living things too and deserve the same respect and consideration.

The developers should be wary and mindful of this

kharma coming back to them.

I complained to our local member and Wildlife Warriors. Let's hope someone can help quickly.

Kaye Larkin,
Shailer Park



PG101384

■ **Protesting development . . .** Chelsie, Jascinta and Siobhan Daglish make their point with red ribbons at the Daisy Hill site.

Red ribbons mark wildlife destruction

By FIONA ROSS-EDWARDS

A RED ribbon ceremony to mark the death of wildlife was held at the Daisy Hill Rd development on Monday. Local residents, Logan City Councillors and wildlife organisations, who have been fighting to save the 80ha of bushland, gathered at the site where work

started last week.

The site, 113-131 Daisy Hill Rd, is being developed into 180 residential lots by NCR Securities.

Springwood resident Lesley Noah said the group wrote their names and messages on red ribbons to place on a tree.

She said clearance of the land should have been car-

ried out gradually to allow wildlife to escape.

"Despite many protest meetings, hundreds of letters and submissions, and thousands of signatures on petitions, the overwhelming will of the people and their constitutional rights have once again been blatantly disregarded by our elected officials," Ms Noah said.

Fight for survival

Brian Williams

Plan 'must stem' huge fall in koala numbers

THE State Government is expected to release its Koala Conservation Plan as early as today amid fears koala numbers in the Redlands area have dropped by 40 per cent in fewer than seven years.

New research is expected to show that koala numbers had fallen from 4000 to about 2000 in the Redlands area east of Brisbane — the marsupial's key habitat — Wildlife Preservation Society bay-side branch secretary Simon Baltais said yesterday.

A spokesman for Environment Minister Desley Boyle said the plan would be released soon.

At the turn of the last century, Queensland had millions of koalas but these had been reduced to somewhere between 100,000 and 300,000.

"If the Government does not bring in strong protection measures, koalas are stuffed," Mr Baltais said.

"It's appalling that on Labor's watch koalas have gone from common to vulnerable in their most significant habitat.

"They've done a woeful job and need to pull their finger out. They should probably lose a few seats on the basis of what's happened."

Mr Baltais said it was obvious protection measures put in by the Government and Redland Shire Council had not worked.

Although the area was called the koala coast, development had been approved in key koala habitats.

Bushland clearing had to be stopped, better dog laws had to be

encouraged, fauna crossings built over main roads and less emphasis placed on upgrading high speed roads — all factors in koala deaths.

The impact of drought was considered minor compared with tree clearing for development.

According to the draft plan the best way to protect koalas was to protect their habitat.

"(In koala areas) urban development will only be permitted where it is compatible with koala conservation," the draft plan states.

An average 450 koalas are taken to the department's Moggill koala hospital each year.

From 1997 to 2003 more than 1000 koalas were taken there after dog attacks.

Wildlife suffering at hands of development

DEVELOPERS destroy wildlife. Every week, we read about this happening in Logan.

To Logan City Council, we must ask the question: "What do you consider is more important - the dollar

or quality of life?" When we look how once-green Logan is being turned into the new Parramatta, the answer is obvious - money talks.

As you drive around Logan, look around and think how it was not long ago.

Developers now rule in Logan.

To Logan City Council: thanks but no thanks.

Support Wildlife Warriors and stop the destruction.

**Steve Bull,
Tanah Merah**

Who's going to clean up Shailer Park mess?

AS a resident of Shailer Park I am concerned about some of the dealings and decisions made by the Logan City Council regarding in particular the development of the Shailer property on Daisy Hill Rd.

Our mayor, or should I say ex-mayor, stated in his resignation that he had made a number of decisions in the past couple of months using, in his words "heart and not my head, and on reflection I believe the decisions I have made are not in the best interests of the city as a whole."

There is no question that the decision to very hurriedly change the zoning of this parcel of land and therefore the subsequent approval of this intrusive development was not in the best interest of the residents of Logan.

I would like to know who is now going to fix this mess?

The residents of Logan very clearly stated that they did not want this development to go ahead and there were up to 5000 signatures that were submitted to both the council and the state.

The impact to the wildlife in this area will be catastrophic as there is already for sale signs up opposite

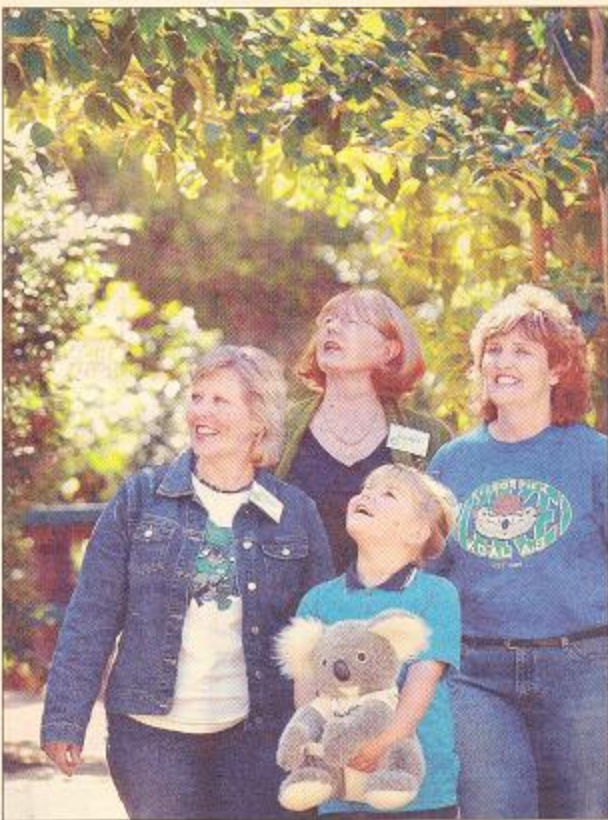
the Buddhist Temple in Rochdale that plans to bite into over 30ha of bushland on the other side of the state forest.

Our State Government has the power to do something about this and I am sick of hearing them constantly put the onus back on to the council when clearly the council did not make the right decision.

Are we then going to hear our government admit further down the track that they made a mistake by not stepping in?

**Craig Oldfield,
Shailer Park**

School visitors show us up



JR74507

■ Chatswood Hills State School Year 3 pupil Remi Matheson with visiting Texan teachers Marsha Hammack and Ann Knight, whose school in the United States has a koala as its mascot, and Australia Koala Foundation education manager Jo Knights.

I am concerned about the details regarding the development on Daisy Hill Rd, Daisy Hill.

To have a housing estate in an environmentally sensitive area which houses the largest koala habitat in Australia is obscene and I struggle to understand what our local councillors were thinking when they approved this development.

I have heard that housing blocks will be starting from 485m². I have seen these types of estates and, nothing against their concept, but quite frankly this type of development is not aligned with the rest of the residential area around Shailer Park or Daisy Hill.

We have a unique area and we need to protect it. As a concerned community member and parent who wants my children to be able to enjoy their native wildlife I urge the rest of the community to stand up to our government and say no.

I read with delight an article in the *Albert and Logan News* (Wednesday, August 3) about school students from America who have a koala as their school mascot and had travelled from America to visit the Daisy Hill Koala centre.

What's wrong with us? Why can't we look after our own backyard?

We live in a unique environment and we need to look after it now.

It's too late when we drive up the road and see an ocean of rooftops with tiny houses all exactly the same just with a different roof colour.

**Paulette Oldfield,
Shailer Park**



PG10/917

■ Taking a stand ... Cr Aidan McLindon and Darren Power are supporting locals against the development of Daisy Hill.

Development destroys native habitat

IT was a sad day for our environment and wildlife when clearing started on the Daisy Hill development site last Monday.

I drive past this site every day when I take my children to school and not a week goes by where I don't see a dead animal on the side of the road on either Daisy Hill Rd or Springwood Rd.

Wallabies, possums, birds

and even an echidna, and it is only going to get worse with the development of this site in the coming months.

Development in the months where all wildlife are in the height of their mating season was also a very poor decision.

We have to work together Logan residents to ensure that this sort of disaster doesn't happen again.

I beg to differ Mr Rix that only a handful of people opposed this development.

I don't call 5000 plus people a handful and I certainly don't think that a sea of houses in the middle of the largest urban koala habitat in Australia is progress.

I read in the paper this week that the AKF are currently working towards listing the koala as endangered

in South East Queensland. So what are we doing?

I wonder if Mr Freeman has driven past this site lately during his campaigning for Councillor for Division 1 to reflect on one of the decisions that was not in the best interest of the city that was made while he was mayor of our city?

**Paulette Oldfield,
Shailer Park**



Fight over ... Cr Aidan McLindon has tried, and failed, to stop the development of Daisy Hill.

Tears at Sanctuary

BRYONY TRIGGS

BULLDOZERS started work on the Daisy Hill Rd development on Monday, marking the beginning of the end of a long local protest. The site, at 113-131 Daisy Hill Rd, is being developed by NCR Securities into 180 residential lots, in what will be known as The Sanctuary Daisy Hill.

Logan City Councillor Aidan McLindon, who has been fighting the development since 2004, said Monday was "a very dark day" at Daisy Hill.



closeup
work starts

- Bulldozing begins at Daisy Hill Rd development.
- End to local community and councillor's fight

"This is the direct result of a council that, under the Freeman era, blatantly ignored the pleas of more than 5000 residents over the past decade and in turn awarded higher density development

to a Gold Coast developer. This precedent has put Logan on the map as an easy target to similar potential developments," he said.

Cr McLindon said the site had had the potential to be Logan's "icon", with a Mt Coot-tha like set up for education and tourism.

"Instead, we have lost it to 180 houses - this is a devastating loss with major long term impacts."

Daisy Hill resident and Division 1 candidate Lisa Bradley who has campaigned against the development since 2004 said it

proved that the community "should be included from day one".

"Today wouldn't be such a sad day, had this (community involvement) taken place," she said.

NCR Securities spokesman Greg Rix said although it had "taken a long time to get it right", he was "very happy" work had finally begun on the development.

"We could have developed 70 per cent of the site three years ago," he said.

"But it was our decision, as developers, to go back and reduce the development

to 45 per cent."

Mr Rix said only a "handful" of people were opposed to the development, which had the support of the Environmental Protection Agency, state forestry and the RSPCA.

He said 18ha of "magnificent rainforest", part of a 48.35 ha parcel of land bought for about \$6 million from Mark Shailer, had been donated to the state government for preservation.

Mr Rix expected construction of the estate to take months.

Councillors will regret their Berrinba choice

I MET an amazing woman. After a phone call the previous day, I attended a protest gathering outside the Berrinba Wetlands Industrial Park development site and met Trixie Benbrook.

Throughout one's life one meets many people and makes many acquaintances and, if one is lucky, a few special friends.

I have been blessed with a circle of friends whose value to me is beyond the measure of earthly materialism.

In meeting and talking to Trixie I made a special friend.

Trixie is a person who causes you to wonder: "How did God cram such a huge heart into such a meagre frame?"

The Berrinba Industrial Park is a perfect example of progress in the wrong direction. In the future, when Logan City resembles Parramatta, God help us, councillors who supported this environmental thugery will regret their decision.

The chance to preserve a small piece of old-growth

Text the editor
SMS: 0421 261 275



forest in suburbia is something that should be grabbed with both hands and thanks given for the opportunity to protect a piece of priceless habitat.

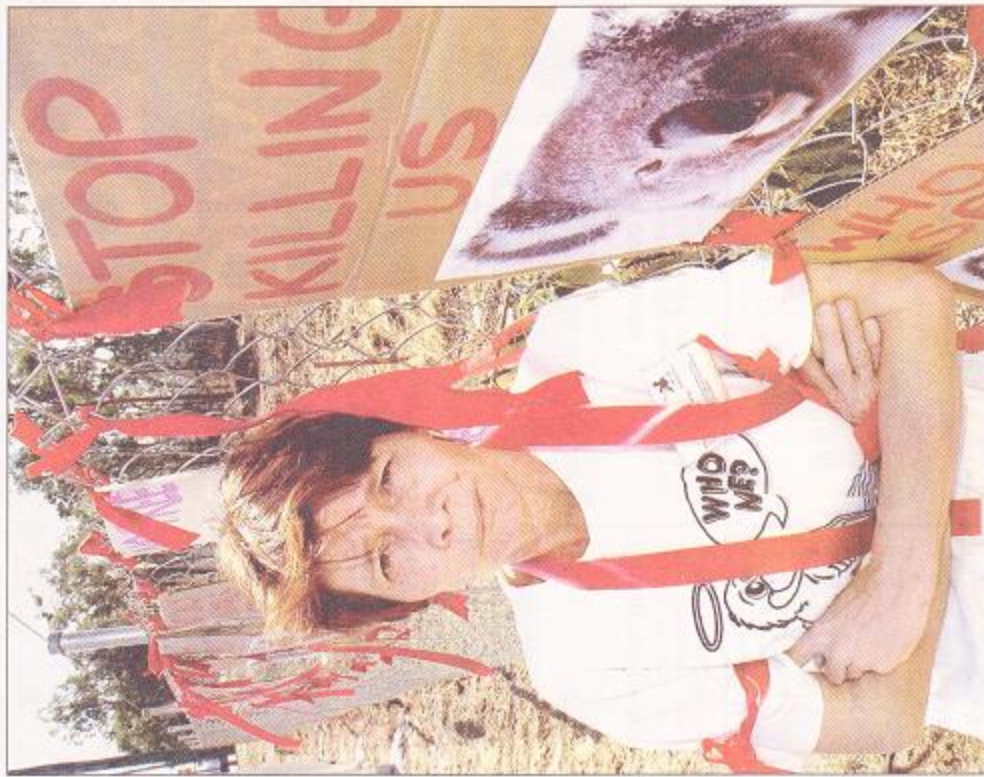
It is easy to mix and pour concrete and it is not too difficult to lay brick, I have done that, though tradesmen would probably snicker at my effort.

To create what was bulldozed at Berrinba in a few short hours is beyond mankind's capabilities and to attempt it would take several generations.

I have seen many so-called regenerations after mining and no environmental specialist would ever suggest they recreated what went before.

They are merely a pathetic attempt to make good after mining. It is an honourable thing, though we admit it is a patch up.

Clive Bellby,
Underwood



■ Trixie Benbrook at the Berrinba Wetlands development site.

X095482



to the point

■ I AM sorry to hear about John Freeman's illness, but it cost ratepayers about \$250,000 to elect a new mayor. His illness forced him to retire with two years of his term left to run.

If he is elected a councillor, he may become ill again and cost ratepayers another election.

I am also checking out the large billboards around Logan to see if his company will start advertising again, with his face all over them.

J Kneen,
Crestmead

■ Praise to whoever does the bits for the trivia section.

On September 29 I found the final point most remarkable:

"Every human spent about half an hour as a single cell."

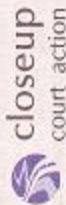
Notice the key words there, "every human". This government needs to cease with its pro-death regime of child murder.

J Michael,
Daisy Hill

■ The campaign for the election of a councillor for Logan City Council Division 1 has started. The ALP is not running a candidate and I personally send my best wishes and good luck to all candidates. I look forward to working with the person the people of Division 1 choose to represent them in council.

Barbara Stone,
State Member for
Springwood

Clearing outrage



closeup
court action mooted

- Council takes steps to prosecute.
- Protected land cleared at Daisy Hill site.
- NCR Securities open to out-of-court resolution.

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LOGAN City Council has taken its first step towards prosecuting the developer and contractors of a controversial Daisy Hill site.

On Monday, the health and city standards committee inspected the 113-131 Daisy Hill Rd site and recommended the council instruct its solicitors to start prosecution proceedings against NCR Securities Pty Ltd, Burchill VDM, and Hepburn and Thorpe (Qld) Pty Ltd for breach of a court order and permit conditions.

Committee chairman Phil Pidgeon said it was "obvious half an acre" of land set aside as an environmental park had been cleared.

Protection of the land was subject to a court order as part of the settlement in the Planning Environment Court last year.

"It's obviously been done by accident but the law's the law," Cr Pidgeon said. "I'll be making efforts to sit down with the developer to try and secure a rehabilitation order."

"I'd prefer a rehabilitation order rather than going to court and



■ Inspection ... Logan City councillors at the Daisy Hill development site check the cleared area.

costing ratepayers' money."

NCR Securities spokesman Greg Rix said the case would "never, ever get to court".

Mr Rix said the issue had escalated to become a "mountain out of a molehill".

"Things go wrong," he said. He said the company was preserving 28ha of land and only a "couple hundred metres" was razed. Cr

Aldan McLindon (Division 4) described the clearing as "environmental devastation".

"If we didn't prosecute we may as well hand council over to developers," he said. "The developer needs to be used as an example that council won't back down." Cr McLindon said 65 per cent of "designated environmental parkland" had been cleared.

A final decision on prosecution will be made on October 31.