STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

Associations Incorporation Act 1981 — Section 5(b)

1. The name of the proposed incorporated association is WOMBAT FOREST SOCIETY Incorporated

2. The purposes for which the proposed incorporated association is established are:—
(Note: The purposes should be set out in numbered paragraphs.)

1. To end export woodchipping in the Wombat Forest by seeking the Federal Government to cancel the export woodchip licence for Midways Forest Products.
2. To reduce all timber quotas to sustainable levels.
3. To get DCNR to adopt environmentally sustainable management Techniques.
4. To transfer CSR to plantations.
5. To campaign with local residents as our support base.
6. To look at ways to establish the "Geoff Williams Reserve" at South Lyonville.
7. To encourage the department and industry to establish timber plantations on degraded farm land adjoining the Wombat Forest.
8. To survey and nominate a reserve system to adequately protect the environmental and community values of the Wombat Forest.

Signature of applicant: *(Same person that signed overleaf)*

Alan T Gray

Dated 26/4/94

LODGED BY	OFFICE USE ONLY CERTIFICATE of INCORPORATION granted on 23 MAY 1994
ADDRESS	
PHONE No. *(Business Hours)*	Deputy/~~Assistant~~ Registrar of Incorporated Associations

Harston Partridge & Co. Pty. Ltd., Printers, Melbourne AIA 01

 Ballarat Courier 18 May 1995

No hidden agenda for forest society

I am writing in my capacity as director of the Wombat Forest Society to clarify some matters regarding the aims of the Society, and the widespread community concern about overharvesting for timber and woodchips from the Wombat Forest.

In the past six months people in the timber workers' union, PR executives in the timber industry, and senior State Government foresters have spread false and specific accusations about my true intentions.

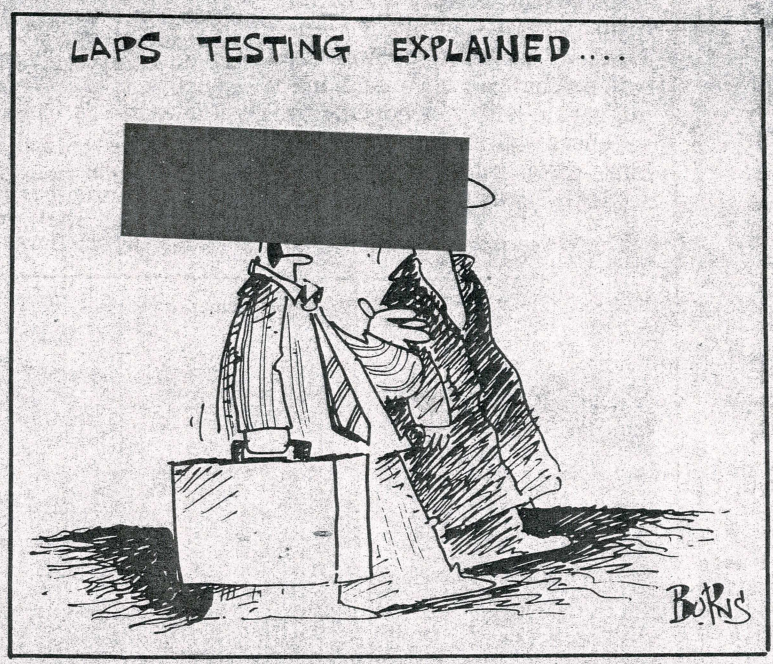
It is claimed that my hidden agenda as director of the society is a total shutdown of the entire timber industry in the Wombat Forest with its attendant employment and social consequences.

These accusations are contained in Government newsletters and statements made directly to Society committee members. The truth is that neither I, nor the rest of the Wombat Forest Society committee, have ever sought a total shutdown of timber operations in the Wombat Forest, and nor is there some hidden agenda directed and funded by "outside, extreme Green elements".

In fact, it is the Society which has been working behind the scenes for the past six months to create employment by improving the quality of the severely degraded regrowth left behind after the woodchippers and some of the greedier sawmillers have had their fill. If we wanted a total close-down of the industry we would not be trying to create better quality sawlogs for our children — we would be attempting the opposite.

The Society simply wants to see a timber industry operating on a sustainable basis, while considering other forest values such as flora and fauna, tourism and other forest related activities in our publicly owned forest.

— ALAN T. GRAY, Director.



"It'll tell you who are the problem children we can't afford specialist teachers for."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be no more than 300 words, and sent or delivered to: The Editor, *The Courier*, 110 Creswick Road, Ballarat, or faxed to 053 331651. Letters may be edited for length or clarity. Preference will be given to shorter letters which are typed or clearly written and double-spaced. They must be signed, whether the name is intended for publication or not, and the writer's name and address clearly written. Letters making personal attacks will NOT be printed anonymously. Home or business telephone numbers should be provided so that letters can be verified.

of amalgamation, and we can expect a drop of $4m in our collective rate bill next year.

Chief Commissioner Robson's achievement in making the $5m savings since May 1994 is especially commendable given all the extra costs borne by the council in the past 12 months.

These include purchase of the old water board offices; redundancies for 50 or 60 staff, with the costliest of these only taking place since last Christmas; unbudgeted costs for three commissioners and an interim chief executive; purchase of a $1.2m computer system; unanticipated costs to complete the regional aquatic centre; and the recruitment of an almost entirely new senior management team.

I am sure that Commissioner Robson is above playing accountant's tricks in announcing the savings.

The 1994/95 budget forecasts a $6 million surplus, merely because of a new way of accounting for council reserve funds which are, and always have been used to replace trucks, machines, not the result of writing off reserve funds in one year, but is a sustainable recurrent saving.

Commissioner Robson confuses me a little when he talks about shedding further staff. Surely with $5m saved in the first year, despite a host of once-off additional costs, there should be no need to shed more staff to continue to make savings.

Perhaps the staff he is thinking of shedding are some senior ones, particularly in the finance area. Commissioner Robson was able to set next year's $18m rate revenue expectation before presentation by officers of the draft budget for 1995/96.

I'm all for persuading him not to retire and go fishing next year. With him capable of operating such an efficient organisation without the need for officer advice, he's too valuable to lose.

— JOHN BARNES, Scott Pde, Ballarat.

Umpires not given support

general and those others given the responsibility to make decisions.

I imagine this would not have been an issue had this player's services not been required at the weekend. Keep up the good work umpires.

— HARRY GOODFELLOW, Sebastopol.

ALP may need name change

I am opposed to the Keating Government selling the people's bank (Commonwealth Bank). This is a departure from the original objectives of the party's Principles of Action (constitution adopted 1939).

I am strongly against the selling of any government undertaking to private enterprise. The debate that private enterprise is more efficient and competitive and provides better service is a heap of rubbish.

If government enterprises are inefficient it is the responsibility of the Government to change the management, so they will be viable