

Thank you for the opportunity of listening to me today.

Janet King. 17.

The World is watching how we treat our Koalas.

How we will build an overpass, an underpass, maybe both, before the construction starts, as part of the Koala Plan of Management.

How we will ensure guaranteed offset planting to support the Koala Plan of Management for Kings Forest
↓
well over 100 acres

How the Environmental Protection Zones will not be blocked and divided by temporary fencing, and remain traversable for the Koalas to access their food trees.

From the Obama's to Meghan & Prince Harry and my Aunty Lynne, they all come to Australia to hold a Koala. One of the deciding factors for my Aunty Lynne migrating to Australia at the age of 65, was the Koalas. Aunty Lynne had made 3 or 4 trips before and each time visited Koalas at Lone Pine Brisbane, or Featherdale Sydney or Currumbin on the Gold Coast.

When my Mother and Father migrated from England with 3 young children, we could bring only 1 toy. A Batman car was my brother's, a Cindy doll was my sister's, a Koala for me.

On a stopover at Delhi airport I remember 3 things:

- 1) The vinyl seats on the bus transporting us from the plane to the terminal were so hot we couldn't sit down.
- 2) I drank my first ever Coca-Cola from a glass bottle,
- 3) The most memorable, with my Koala under my arm, many, many people knew I was going to Australia. 'You going to Australia then?' they would ask.

A 2nd stopover in Hong Kong. No hot seats but many, many people knew I was going to Australia. 'You going to Australia then?'

International Tourists from across the world do not want to see the extinction of the Koalas. It would be remiss of us to think they had more of an interest in saving our Koalas more than we in Australia have.

The Koala Tourist dollar is invaluable.

According to the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, established in 1947, the Koala is an Iconic Threatened Species. 500,000 visitors each year go to the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary to specifically see the Koalas. They are mesmerised by them.

In 2015 – 2016 there were 343 Koala admissions for care.

In 2017 – 2018 this admission level rose by 28.8% to 442 Koala admissions for care.

You and I would be naïve to think this number won't increase again in 2019 – 2020.

They report 11,000 admissions of various wildlife kinds for care.

The Koala Plan of Management in Kings Forest is in your hands, we are the voice of the Koalas and all wildlife in the catchment areas of this Koala Plan of Management.

We could believe International concern for Koalas and Australian Wildlife is stronger than that of our Federal, State and Local Governments, Land Planners and Developers due to the diminishing natural bushland & wildlife corridors compromising safe environments for Koalas and wildlife to traverse.

This is a Shared Responsibility. It's in my hands Janet King, in your hands Mr Ross Carter, Ms Catherine Hird and Professor Richard Mackay AM.

A shared responsibility for their livelihood, their wellbeing and protection of their habitat.

The Koalas and wildlife cannot escape fire, cannot escape domestic animals, cannot escape the lack of food.

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