

Wake up and smell nature

OVER the last seven years I have had the privilege of teaching at a local primary school. During this time I have taught many students about the importance of our environment and about the care of our native animals.

I have enjoyed many stories from the children about their encounters with wildlife within the area.

These students have been privileged enough to live with their yards adjoining the ADI site. I have had many stories about patting possums, chasing echidnas, being swooped by sugar gliders and also the occasional curious koala story.

Now why do I have to play devil advocate? Why do I have to explain to these children that the council (that we chose and elected) has decided that money is more important than our nature?

How do I explain that profit means the death of these animals

that they have known all their lives? When is the council going to wake up and smell nature? This area is important to the survival of the Cumberland Plains and animals that survive in this unique area.

I am a local who has supported conservation attempts. I used to love driving home every day; it was always fun to see how many kangaroos had joeys, or how many emus I would see each day. Now I shudder and drive a different way.

When is the government going to do something about this negligent act?

When are they going to preserve this area for the children of the future?

Why should council profit from the destruction of nature?

When are the people of Penrith and St Marys going to stand together and demand a stop to this atrocity?

**J. Quinn
Cranebrook**

Symphony concert