

## Update from Jennifer Marohasy, Easter 2008

I have been busy.

In October I sold my house in Brisbane and am now living in the Blue Mountains. It's a great place for bushwalking and one of my first expeditions was into the famous blue gum forest of the Grose Valley. Not so long ago the forest was described in the Sydney Morning Herald as "hanging in the balance" because of a wildfire made "more intense, unpredictable and extensive by massive back-burning operations". There are no roads into the forest. It is an arduous climb into and out of the Grose Valley from a place called Perry's Lookdown and so while many Australians have heard of the forest, it is unlikely they will ever visit it. To see what I found click here: <http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/002738.html>

On the way to the Mountains I spent some time with friends at Barham on the Murray River. I started most days with a large glass of Murray River water and on the best days finish with a swim in the river. You can see some pictures of the river and red gum forests by scrolling down here: [http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/cat\\_murray\\_river.html](http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/cat_murray_river.html) .

I was in New York earlier this month for the 2008 International Climate Change Conference sponsored by the Heartland Institute. Over 500 global warming skeptics attended - of course none of us are skeptical of climate change but rather the extent to which carbon dioxide drives warming. I blogged on the conference here <http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/002809.html> here <http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/002813.html> and here <http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/002820.html> .

The most important presentation was probably by Roy Spencer. Dr Spencer leads the team analysing data from NASA's Aqua Satellite. The satellite was launched in 2002 and for the first time has enabled the collection of detailed information on clouds and water vapour and their response to temperature anomalies. Climate models assume a positive feedback when there is warming, but Dr Spencer's team found that in reality the opposite happens disproving a key component of current global warming theory. Some of Dr Spencer's findings have been published; others are 'in press'. They are not being disputed by the meteorological community - rather ignored. In short, the data is showing that a combination of enhanced solar reflection and infrared cooling by the rain systems is so strong that, if such a mechanism is acting upon the warming tendency from increasing carbon dioxide, it will reduce manmade global warming by the end of this century to a small fraction of a degree.

The next big event in my calendar is a lecture by Aynsley Kellow, Professor and Head, School of Government, University of Tasmania. Professor Kellow will discuss his new book 'Science and Public Policy: The Virtuous Corruption of Virtual Environmental Science.' The lecture will be on Thursday May 1, 2008 - 5.00pm for 5.30pm start at The Brisbane Club, The Edinburgh Room, 241 Adelaide Street, Brisbane. If you are

interested, please indicate your attendance to Andy Poon at [apoon@ipa.org.au](mailto:apoon@ipa.org.au) by cutting and pasting: "Yes, thank you, I am likely to attend the Brisbane Club Lecture Series May 1, 2008" into the subject line. A formal invitation will follow.

My brother, Jim Turnour, was elected to the Australian Parliament and gave his maiden speech as the new member for Leichhardt on March 11, 2008. You can read his speech here:

<http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog/archives/002836.html>

Blog readership is continuing to increase with 3-4,000 different computers (unique IPs) logging in each day. A medical researcher, Paul Biggs, and an ecotourism operator, Neil Hewett, now help me out at [www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog](http://www.jennifermarohasy.com/blog).

That's all for now,

Kind regards,

Jennifer Marohasy

March 21, 2008

[www.jennifermarohasy.com](http://www.jennifermarohasy.com)