

Don't Bag the Environment

Devil Island Project

Paddy Pallin established the 'Don't Bag the Environment' program in 1992 as a means by which we could make a positive contribution towards reducing unnecessary packaging from our stores.

To encourage you to support our efforts, every time you decline to take a bag with your purchase, Paddy Pallin will donate 20 cents towards a project which helps to preserve Australia's natural heritage.

'Don't Bag the Environment' aims to:

- Reduce packaging waste, so that less rubbish finds its way into our bushland and waterways.
- Conserve energy resources which would otherwise be used in the manufacture of the bags.
- Reduce the use of landfill tips, thereby retaining land for native wildlife habitats.
- Support environmental projects by raising funds to assist them.
- All proceeds go directly to the nominated beneficiary, which is changed every six months.
- Naturally, you are welcome to make a personal donation as well in store or at www.paddypallinfoundation.org.au

From October 2009 – March 2010 funds collected from the Don't Bag the Environment program will be donated to help preserve the Tasmanian Devil through the Devil Island Project. All proceeds will go directly to the Devil Island Project to support and preserve their wild population of disease free devils.

The Tasmanian Devil (*Sarcophilus harrisii*) is now listed as a threatened species. A cancer, Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD), has decimated the population in less than ten years by over 70 percent. It is passed by biting and once contacted there is no escape or immunity. The Devils face a certain, painful and slow starvation as the hideous tumours stop them from eating.



Bruce Englefield, owner of Natureworld, a wildlife park at Bicheno in Tasmania had the idea of using a double security fencing system to quarantine disease free devils. He and his wife donated a 28 acre block of land where the Devils could run free and keep their wild behaviours, thus making eventual release and survival possible.

Bruce, his wife, and eight other dedicated conservationists raised the \$140,000 required to build the first enclosure by running the London marathon. Shane Gould MBE and Kerry Finch MLC joined as Patrons and the project was built, stocked with Devils and officially opened in just 15 months from the original idea.

The whole idea was taken up by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and a report published which highlighted the need for more Devil Islands or Free Range Enclosures (FRE's). The premier of Tasmania promised government funding of \$400,000 and the Devil Islanders pledged to raise another \$260,000 to build the next three.

Devil Island 1 is working well and there are mums with Joey's. All funds raised will support the Devil Island project to build the next three FREs so that the new Joey's have somewhere safe to grow up.

Paddy Pallin