

Vale Marjorie Beck

A mighty advocate for flying-foxes



Marjorie worked with many people to educate the community about flying-foxes. She organised displays with live flying-foxes at public events and made sure the education flying-foxes were given the best possible care.



Marjorie loved being in the bush with the flying-foxes at Ku-ring-gai Flying-fox Reserve.

She joined the Bushcare Group and developed a good knowledge of native plants and weeds.



She planted seedling trees and monitored their growth. Marjorie was always hands on.

From 1994 she made a huge contribution organising people to count flying-foxes as they flew out of the Reserve. The records of the 'flyout counts' contributed to the national monitoring of the grey-headed flying-fox.





Left: Penny and Marjorie selecting seedling trees to fill canopy gaps in the reserve.



Hands in the soil again, Marjorie shows rhizomes of the evil weed, madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*



Marjorie was not afraid of the 'political' element of bat conservation. In 2009 she and Nancy took the NSW Member for Davidson and NSW Minister for Environment into the bush to explain to them why shooting flying-foxes must stop and commercial fruit growers needed assistance to install netting to protect their crops. Further lobbying achieved this.



Marjorie often arranged for researcher, Peggy Eby to share her knowledge of flying-foxes with KBCS members and here, in the reserve, with neighbours and Council staff.



Marjorie and Rolf were keen to rescue the remnant of forest in Killara Park because of the diversity of the native trees, shrubs, grasses and herbs.

They were active members of the Bushcare Group at Killara Park from 2003.

Marjorie has left a strong legacy of care for nature and especially flying-foxes. Many of us will remember her with affection.