In an age of consciousness about conservation, *The Zealous Conservator*, is a worthy biography of a man with a passionate drive for forests.

Charles Lane Poole (1885–1970), Western Australia’s first conservator of forests, is the flawed hero of this biography, written by Canberra-based author John Dargavel. Fired by the ideals of forest conservation and its science, Poole followed their dictates throughout Australia and across the world.

He was the first man to attempt the task of managing and preserving the State’s magnificent jarrah and karri forests at a time when they were being felled for railway sleepers.

This fascinating biography follows his life from his birth in England in 1885 to Ireland, France, South Africa, Sierra Leone, Western Australia, Papua New Guinea, Canberra, where he established Australia’s national forestry school, and Sydney, where he died in 1970.

A pioneer of Australian conservation, Poole was hailed in 1981 by Western Australian Premier Sir Charles Court as the ‘founder of modern forestry.’

*The Zealous Conservator* is the newest addition to over 700 titles produced by UWA Press that have made an important contribution to the discussion of the history, environment, economy and culture of Western Australia and beyond.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr John Dargavel is a Visiting Fellow in the Fenner School for Environment and Society at the Australian National University in Canberra. He has worked in the forest service in South Australia and as an industrial forester with the pulp and paper industry in Victoria. He has written or edited ten books and is the author of more than 70 published papers on forest management.