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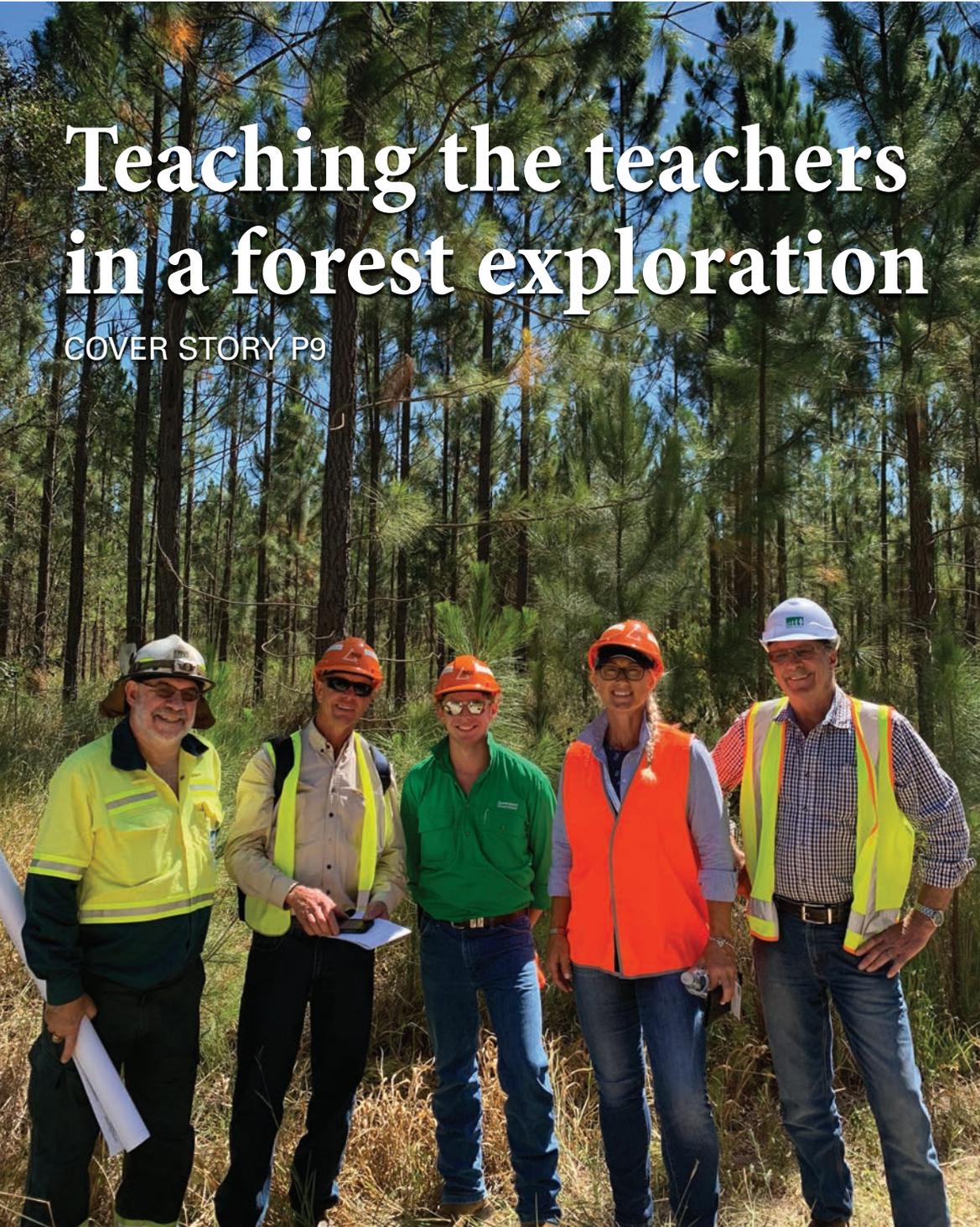
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UK timber industry prepares for a no-deal Brexit with new check list

UK timber importers and exporters are being asked to consider requirements for their businesses in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs says delivering a deal with the EU remains the government's top priority. This has not changed. However, the government must prepare for every eventuality, including a no-deal scenario.

"In a no-deal scenario, businesses importing timber and timber products from the European Union and European Economic Area and placing it on the UK market will have to carry out checks (known as 'due diligence') from day one of EU exit," a department official said.

"These checks demonstrate they are importing legally harvested timber, helping to protect against illegal deforestation."

“ASSESSING THE RISK OF ILLEGAL TIMBER”

He says due diligence checks would involve:

- Gathering information on the timber, including its species, quantity, supplier, country of harvest and compliance with applicable legislation.
- Assessing the risk of timber being illegal, applying set criteria in the regulations.
- Obtaining additional information or taking further steps to verify legality (for example testing or assessment of the supply chain).

Businesses can either develop their own systems for these checks or use one provided by an approved monitoring organisation. This is what businesses currently have to do when they import timber from the rest of the world.

There will be no changes to the current process for businesses importing from outside the EU, UK producers first placing on the market, and internal UK trade. As before, they will need to conduct checks to confirm their timber is legally



Therese Coffey... UK will abide by European regulations.

harvested.

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) – the body responsible for enforcement – has been working with companies involved in the timber trade to keep them informed.

Meanwhile an announcement by Dr Therese Coffey, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, has confirmed that the UK government will continue to abide by European rulings regulating the harvesting of timber supplies in the aftermath of Brexit.

The minister's pledge has been welcomed by the UK Timber Industry, which was instrumental in the development of the EU's Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade policy (FLEGT) and the EU Timber Regulations (EUTR).

Since its instigation in 2013, the purpose of the EU Timber Regulations (EUTR) has been to ensure that all timber supplies used within the EU are harvested in a responsible and sustainable manner.

The EUTR prohibits the distribution of illegally harvested timber products throughout the European Union, and places full responsibility for the ethical sourcing of timber on individual distributors.

Dr Coffey said when left unchecked, illegal logging activity had a vastly detrimental effect on the world's most valuable forest areas, and this in turn could lead to a devastating chain reaction which impacted negatively on wildlife and the ecosystem.



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'Ideologues want to shut down our native forests, destroy jobs'

The Federal Minister responsible for forestry Senator Richard Colbeck responds to recent criticism by ENGOs of Regional Forest Agreements

IT is not surprising that these groups have taken the stance they have. They are not much more than anti-forestry ideologues who want to shut the native forest industry down.

It is a bit rich for them to be trying to pick holes in either the RFAs or the process, given they chose to boycott the consultations, spending their time protesting instead.

Instead of running around in the forest disrupting hard-working Australians going about their legitimate business they would be better placed getting across the genuine science and facts on forestry and the many positive attributes that it can bring to our communities instead of spouting the tired, old, uninformed urban myths that they trot out on a regular basis.

The federal government is committed to the ecological sustainable management of our forests and the long-term conservation of Australia's threatened species and communities. It is important to note that timber harvesting is only one factor that may impact on threatened species.

The Australian and NSW governments together recently renewed and extended the three NSW RFAs. These are overarching commonwealth-state agreements that provide for

continuous improvement and adaptive management of forests within each designated RFA region.

These agreements have been designed to take into consideration all uses of our forests in the RFA regions. This includes the environmental, social and economic values which are all carefully considered.

SUPPORTED BY \$9.2M FOREST MAPS PROGRAM

The decision to renew and extend these agreements was based on comprehensive and publicly available information including the report 'NSW Regional Forest Agreements: Assessment of matters pertaining to renewal of Regional Forest Agreements'. This assessment report considers the likely impact of the extension of NSW RFAs, drawing on information from the State of the Forests Reports, five-yearly reviews of the NSW RFAs, NSW government information and independent research.

The NSW RFAs are implemented through the NSW forest management framework. The overview of the framework, produced during the RFA renewal process, captures policy, legislation, institutional and administrative arrangements



to effect forest management in NSW.

The framework is adaptive to changing circumstances, such as changes to the listing of threatened species under the EPBC Act, and will be updated as changes occur. This provides the commonwealth with the assurance that the NSW management framework is appropriate.

We also took into account the recommendations of the independent reviews of implementation of the NSW RFAs and published joint government responses to these reviews. These reports, along with the varied RFAs and the assessment report, are available at: www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/policies/rfa/regions/new-south-wales.

The renewed NSW RFAs will be supported by a new \$9.2 million forest monitoring and mapping program funded by the NSW government. This will lead to further adaptive management and additional fine-tuning in the state's management of the forest estate. It will also mean that NSW can more comprehensively report against national and international sustainability metrics, set out in the RFAs.

I look forward to working with the NSW government on the extended RFAs which will continue to be of benefit to regional communities.



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Malaysian Wood Expo opens gate to key markets in SE Asia

Visitors will tap into an unlimited fast-growing ASEAN economy

THE inaugural Malaysian Wood Expo in Kuala Lumpur in November is expected to attract the finest international wood-based manufacturers, exporters as well as woodworking machinery suppliers and buyers who will tap into the unlimited opportunities in the fast-growing southeast Asian economies.

MWE 2019 at the Putra World Trade Centre from November 19 to 21 has been jointly organised by the Malaysian Timber Council and the publisher of wood magazines Panels & Furniture Group.

"MWE 2019 will be the first



Malaysia... timber manufacturing hub for export to ASEAN countries.

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Malaysia is also a good timber manufacturing hub for export to ASEAN countries, which have a combined population of more than 640 million and a GDP of \$US2.8 trillion.

Both organisers – MTC and Panels & Furniture Group – have pulled out all the stops to make MWE 2019 a successful event.

All the imperatives are in place to make MWE 2019 an important tool in one's business wheelhouse.

MWE 2019 is going to be about the market, trends, new products and the place where the tendencies of tomorrow are going to be discovered by all.

The Malaysian Timber Council was established in January 1992 to promote the development and growth of the Malaysian timber industry globally. MTC's main objectives are to promote the Malaysian timber trade and develop the market for timber products globally.

MTC promotes this development by upgrading the industry's manufacturing technology base, to augment the supply of raw materials, to provide information services and to protect and improve the Malaysian timber industry's global image.

For further information email info@malaysianwoodexpo.com.my or visit www.malaysianwoodexpo.com.my

time top exhibitors have been brought together in this part of the world," organisers say.

"ASEAN as the third largest economy in Asia and fifth largest economy in the world, offers great opportunities with its recovery of exports and robust domestic demand."

Since 2006, ASEAN's GDP has stood steadily at 5.3%. Total exports from the ASEAN economies rose by 14.7% to \$US1322 billion in 2017. With several free trade agreements under its belt, trading with ASEAN countries will lead to a wealth of business opportunities.

Ranked as the second most competitive economy within the ASEAN bloc, Malaysia, with its well-developed infrastructure, sound political climate, strategic geographical location and business facilities, makes it an excellent gateway to 10 countries in southeast Asia

Celebrating glulam outside and in

New Hyne construction project a team effort, harnessing skills from the Fraser Coast regional business community

HYNE Timber was joined by Queensland's Acting Premier and Minister for State Development Cameron Dick, Bruce Saunders MP Maryborough, and Mayor George Seymour last Thursday to officially 'turn the sod' ahead of construction of Hyne's new glue laminated timber production plant.

News of the massive capability expansion in Maryborough was announced last October after the company secured a grant through the Queensland government's Jobs and Regional Growth Fund.

During the sod turning ceremony, Hyne Timber's CEO Jon Kleinschmidt said the new building would be constructed using the company's own products,



services throughout delivery of the project with a priority on Fraser Coast businesses where possible.

"Every part of this development will celebrate

and showcase Queensland businesses and skills as so many businesses and people have supported us over our 137 years of operations."

Hyne Timber continues to partner with Queensland company Stirling Machinery, which is supplying the new production equipment made up of 14 different machines.

Queensland project management company MCD is overseeing site development, working with Badge Construction and local architect Adam Perrier of Bloc Design.

Cont P 6



1/ Turning the sod... George Seymour, MP Maryborough, Jon Kleinschmidt, CEO Hyne Timber, Cameron Dick, Minister for Development, Bruce Saunders, Maryborough Mayor, Chris Hyne, fourth generation of the Hyne timber family and Greg Moynihan, Hyne director.

2/ Minister for State Development Cameron Dick confers with Chris Hyne at the Maryborough glulam celebration.

"Further, Hyne Timber remains committed to using Queensland products and

“COMMITTED TO USING QUEENSLAND PRODUCTS”

"The new building will be constructed using our own GLT, manufactured at our existing plant in Maryborough to further showcase capability and more than 40 years of GLT manufacturing experience," Mr Kleinschmidt said.

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From P 5

A number of other specialist consultants have already been engaged, all of them based in Queensland.

With construction to commence in a few weeks, up to 80 jobs will be created in what has been labelled by local service providers as one of Maryborough's largest developments in recent history.

The recruitment of a range of permanent, specialist roles has already commenced with more operational and specialist jobs created as production scales up.

Hyne's GLT sales manager John Hesse said the company had been experiencing an increase in both inquiries and demand in GLT as consumers searched for sustainable building solutions,

"There is little doubt that



Talking regional growth...
Cameron Dick, Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning, Katie Fowden, Hyne manager strategic relations, and Jon Kleinschmidt, CEO Hyne Timber.

responsibly-sourced timber is experiencing a renaissance for a range of reasons but predominantly for its environmental credentials," Mr Hesse said.

"In addition to the standard residential housing market where GLT is usually covered up, we are seeing more and more GLT designed and specified in projects such as

schools, offices, healthcare and public spaces where the GLT is used for the key structural components while also providing a beautiful natural aesthetic.

"There is currently a lack of Australian supply options so the commissioning of this new, additional plant towards the end of the year presents a game changer for construction.

is carbon that the growing tree has removed from the atmosphere.

Australian Forest Products Association CEO Ross Hampton welcomed the announcement of the GLT manufacturing plant to be located on Hyne's existing processing site near Maryborough.

"Not only is this a significant new \$20 million timber industry investment, which will underpin 80 construction jobs and up to 42 new jobs in the long term, it is also a vote of confidence by both Hyne Timber and the state government in advanced manufacturing of innovative renewable timber products," Mr Hampton said.

"GLT is a flexible, zero waste and environmentally friendly alternative for steel and concrete in large-scale commercial and infrastructure construction projects.

"Hyne Timber's investment will increase the supply of GLT in Australia providing developers with renewable timber product building solutions where traditionally they have not been considered an option.

"This new plant will make Hyne Timber one of the largest GLT manufacturers in the southern hemisphere."

“NEW PLANT WILL INCREASE VOLUMES AND IMPROVE SPEED

"A highly automated plant, it will increase volumes, improve the speed of delivery while broadening product capability to capitalise on new growth opportunities."

In an age where climate change and environmental credentials are important community values, Hyne Timber is proud to produce products from certified, sustainable, locally grown plantation softwood.

Hyne is promoting timber as renewable, recyclable, waste efficient, biodegradable, non-toxic with the ability to lock away carbon. In fact, up to 50% of the dry weight of timber

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FEBRUARY 2019

18-22: Gottstein Forest Science Course – Australian National University Canberra, Australia. Visit www.gottstein.org.au

27: Launch of Queensland Parliamentary Friends of Forest & Timber Network – Brisbane, Australia. 6.30-8 pm. Open to all of industry – a landmark event demonstrating to MPs the strength and diversity of the entire industry supply chain. Lock it in! Industry associations will send out invitations to their members. Anyone interested should email admin@timberqueensland.com.au for more detailed information.

MARCH

1: Top of the South Forestry Awards – Nelson and Marlborough, New Zealand. Inaugural awards in fourteen categories to be awarded across individual and companies, with the ultimate

award being the Skilled Professional of the Year. The awards will culminate to an evening of celebration, presentations and dinner in Nelson on Friday, June 14 at the Trafalgar Event Centre. For further information see: www.totsforestry.co.na or call Prue Younger, Event Manager +64 (21) 2765484

2: AFPA board meeting and members’ dinner – Canberra. 6pm.

8: AFPA members’ forum and chamber meetings – Canberra.

17: Women in Forest Industries workshop – Canberra, Australia. More information and registration inquiries to Natalie Heazlewood. Email: natalie.heazlewood@ausfpa.com.au

26-29: AUSPACK Packaging and Processing Week – Melbourne, Australia.

APRIL

1-2: National Sustainability Conference – Brisbane, Australia

JUNE

16-21: 2019 DANA Ecuador Forestry and Agri-/Aqua-business Investment Tour – Ecuador. This event will introduce potential investors to the forestry and agri- and aqua- business; as well as the commercial, financial, political, and economical aspects of investments in Ecuador. Included will be field visits to operating forests, manufacturing, and processing of wood products, and selected agri- and aqua- export oriented operations. For further information and to register see: <https://danaevents.co.nz/2019ecuador/>

17-18: Frame Australia – Crown Promenade Melbourne, Australia. A dedicated conference and

exhibition will allow delegates to fully understand the exciting developments in the Timber Offsite Construction space. The conference will feature prominent local and global experts, with topics exclusively devoted to timber and mass wood building construction. It will be the only event that will enable delegates to appreciate the world-wide transformation that is taking place and how building costs are being lowered. At the Frame Australia exhibition, booth sizes will be larger at no extra cost, with booths two to three times the previous floor area without any change in pricing from 2018. Visit www.frameaustralia.com

19: AFPA board meeting and members’ dinner – Canberra. 6pm.

20: AFPA members’ forum and chamber meetings – Canberra.

Brazil lumber exports up but modest returns a concern

SOFTWOOD lumber exports from Brazil increased 36% from January through November last year compared to the same period in 2017.

In US dollar terms, the export price has only gone up a modest 3% from the third quarter 2017 to the 3Q/18. But

because of the weakening Brazilian real, there has been a 26% increase in the export price in the local currency over the past year.

This development has led sawmills to expand export sales, which has resulted in higher demand for sawlogs.

As a consequence, there has been continued upward pressure on log prices, which reached a new all-time-high in the third quarter 2018.

In US dollar terms, Brazilian sawlog prices have declined the past year because of the strengthening dollar.

However, the limited price improvements over the past few years, oversupply and potentially more attractive land-use alternatives in the agricultural sector have led some landowners to choose to plant agricultural crops rather than trees.



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JANUARY 2019

24: Mapping the Course: Timberland, Forest Products Processing, and Fiber Issues for 2019 – Vancouver, Washington, USA. The conference and optional workshop will provide an in-depth analysis on forest products market challenges, opportunities, and threats for 2019 in the North American West Coast timberland region. For further information see: <https://westernforestry.org/upcoming-conferences/mapping-the-course-timberland-forest-products-processing-and-fiber-issues-for-2019>

MARCH

19-21: International Mass Timber Conference – Portland, Oregon. The largest gathering of cross-laminated timber and other mass timber experts in the world, with a special focus on manufacturing and mid-to high-rise construction. Over 1,200 experts from 22 countries attended in 2018. The conference will explore the supply chain for cross-laminated timber (CLT), nail-laminated timber, glulam beams and panels,

mass plywood panels, dowel-laminated timber, and laminated veneer lumber; and the opportunities and obstacles for mass timber in global manufacturing and construction. See: www.masstimmerconference.com/

APRIL

10-12: Focus on Forestry 2019 – Mpumalanga, South Africa. For further information see: www.cmo.co.za

MAY

7-9: RISI's Sixth Annual Forest Investment Conference – London, UK. A key two day conference that will take an in-depth look at timberland investments around the globe and how these opportunities will unfold in the near future. For further information see: www.risi.com/invest

8-11: World Conference on forests for Public Health – Athens, Greece. For further information see: www.fph2019.org

20-23: A Century of National Forest Inventories: Informing Past, Present and Future Decisions – Oslo, Norway. For further information see: www.nibio.pameldingssystem.no/nfi100years

no/nfi100years

JUNE

16-21: 2019 DANA Ecuador Forestry and Agri-/Aqua-business Investment Tour – Ecuador. This event will introduce potential investors to the forestry and agri- and aqua- business; as well as the commercial, financial, political, and economical aspects of investments in Ecuador. Included will be field visits to operating forests, manufacturing, and processing of wood products, and selected agri- and aqua- export oriented operations. For further information and to register see: <https://danaevents.co.nz/2019ecuador/>

JULY

8-18: IUFRO Small-scale Forestry Conference – Lake Superior in Duluth, Minnesota, USA. Presentations and field sessions will explore a mix of family-owned, tribal, industrial, and public ownerships with a focus on small-scale forest management. For further information see: <http://iufrossf.umn.edu/>

SEPTEMBER

16-17: ICATEA 2019: 21st International Conference on Advanced Timber Engineering and Applications – Zurich, Switzerland. The conference aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of advanced timber engineering and applications. For further information see: <https://waset.org/conference/2019/09/zurich/ICATEA>

SEPT/OCT

29 SEPT-25 OCT: XXV IUFRO World Congress – Curitiba, Brazil. For further information see: www.iufro2019.com

NOVEMBER

19-21: Malaysian Wood Expo 2019 – Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur. Email: info@malaysianwoodexpo.com.my or visit www.malaysianwoodexpo.com.my

• Please send any events listings to John Halkett via email: johnh@timberandforestrynews.com

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Teachers applaud learning curve on visits to forests and workshops

‘I love trees and I love wood. Now I know they’re OK for the planet’

NATIONAL industry educational resource ForestLearning last week had a rewarding task of communicating, through trade displays, bus tours and workshops, the renewable forest and wood cycle to more than 100 high school teachers.

The occasion was the AgForce School to Industry Partnership Program’s Food, Fibre and Agricultural



manager strategic relations and communication Clarrisa Brandt was also on the stand to meet teachers and share the Queensland timber story.

On Day 2, ForestLearning hosted teachers on a bus tour to the DAF Queensland Salisbury Wood Science Research Facility where innovations in wood engineering and infrared spectrometry was demonstrated.

David Menzies from Private Forest Services Queensland, based in Gympie, led teachers through a hands on practical demonstration of forest

“Our display was shared with the Primary Industries Education Foundation, through which all ForestLearning resources are also accessible,” Beth said.

Timber Queensland’s

Cont P 10



Educators Conference, held in Brisbane from January 13 to 17.

Manager of the ForestLearning education program Beth Welden said using these hands-on and face-to-face experiences to promote free downloadable teaching and learning resources on the ForestLearning website (www.forestlearning.edu.au), would inform teachers and enable them to feel confident

1/ At the ForestLearning trade display in Brisbane... David Gall, St Francis College, Brisbane, Ku Lacey, Rockhampton Girls Grammar School, Clarissa Brandt, Timber Queensland’s manager strategic relations and communication, and Beth Welden, manager, ForestLearning education program.

2/ Colin Balboni, EHS manager at AKD Softwoods (right) welcomes Gerard Doyle, Caboolture State High School.

and capable of delivering messages of sustainable forests and wood products to their students.

Day 1 of the conference saw all teachers able to access free teacher packs and hands-on learning tools, such as the new Tree Carbon Storage Tape Measure, from the ForestLearning trade display.

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From P 9

management skills, such as tree identification and volume calculations. This provided a backdrop to the wood processing science taking place at Salisbury and demonstrated that sourcing wood responsibly and forest management is underpinned by science. Responsible Wood's Jason Ross explained the certification process in Australia to teachers, and how consumers can be confident that certified wood is sustainably managed and harvested.

On Day 3, ForestLearning partnered with AKD's Caboolture softwood mill, HQPlantations and Responsible Wood to tell the renewable timber resource story from plantation to mill.

Twenty-four teachers attended the excursion, visiting the expansive AKD softwood mill to learn more about the innovations, automation, technologies and diversity of careers within timber processing.

During lunch, attendees heard about other diverse and exciting training and career opportunities in the timber industry. This message was delivered by AKD's own passionate and positive current cadets and



Lessons in science and forest management... teachers and their hosts gather at AKD Softwoods at Caboolture.

apprentices.

Responsible Wood's Jason Ross also discussed the benefits of certified wood and the process behind certification in Australia. He went on to explain why as consumers, we need to be

“OUTLINING BENEFITS OF FOREST CERTIFICATION

conscious purchasers of certified wood products. He encouraged teachers to explore wood products in the classroom to determine if they are certified.

As a demonstration of the certification process, teachers then traced the logs entering the sawmill to nearby HQPlantations, from where they had been sourced, to learn about the science and management behind the production of sustainable

timber in the plantation.

The fourth and final day was an opportunity for ForestLearning to review the learnings from the teachers' first-hand experiences of the forest and wood cycle and how they can use this new knowledge in teaching Australian curriculum outcomes across subject areas and year levels.

Beth Welden said teachers were also given the opportunity to learn more about ForestLearning teaching resources available incorporating science research, hands-on ideas and activities, lesson plans and student resources to improve student learning experiences.

“Ku Lacey from Rockhampton Girls Grammar School, who is on the expert writing panel for the new 2019 Agricultural Science Curriculum in Queensland, outlined the benefits of using ForestLearning teaching and

learning resources in the classroom,” Beth said.

“Ku, who has also aligned the ForestLearning resources to the new syllabus ready for its launch this year, outlined and showcased a week's unit of work for year 11 teachers who were very excited to receive prepared lessons for their new school year.

“Jason Ross from Responsible Wood also outlined further benefits of forest and wood certification, with teachers left in no doubt of the benefits of buying certified wood products.”

At the conclusion of the workshop, to sum up the success of ForestLearning's involvement in the conference, one teacher exclaimed “I love trees and I love wood – I feel I can now use it and know that it's OK for the planet. I can't wait to share this with my students.”

For more information contact Beth Welden at beth@forestlearning.edu.au

On the cover: At HQ Plantations pine plantation at Ningi on the Sunshine Coast during the ForestLearning initiative in Queensland last week are, from left, Peter Venz, HQ Plantations, Paul Blico and James Pitts, Wilsonton Ag Centre, Toowoomba, Tess Stafford, Laidley State High School, and Barry Darko, HQ Plantations.



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PEFC-commended camp structure inspired by Tasmania's first people

AWARDED for the first time at the World Architecture Festival, the Best Use of Certified Timber Prize, supported by PEFC, brought extraordinary buildings and inspirations for a sustainable future in construction.

A number of Australian firms were recognised in their respective categories at the festival, held in Amsterdam late last year.

Some of the world's leading architects were recognised from a record shortlist of 535 projects divided into two categories – completed buildings and future projects.

Architects from 57 countries presented to live juries over the three-day conference, which culminated in the announcement of the 2018 World Building of the Year, the Kampung Admiralty in Singapore.

Besides the winning project, the jury – which included Brisbane eco-architect Mark Thomson, a director of Responsible Wood – awarded the highly-commended prize to Krakani Lumi, a standing camp in Tasmania, inspired by the traditional constructions of the Tasmania's first peoples and designed by Taylor and Hinds Architects.

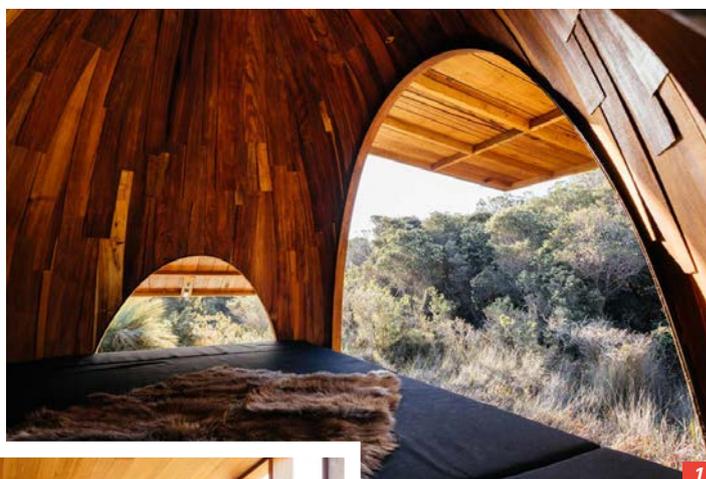
Located in North East National Park, the camp serves as a stop-over for visitors taking guided walks through the aboriginal land. A key priority of the project was environmental awareness and respect for the native culture.

In considering the cultural background, the architects aimed at preserving the encounter with the cultural interior, while at the same time delivering a modern



Mark Thomson... architect and member of the judging panel at the World Architecture Festival.

1 & 2/ Krakani Lumi... designed and constructed using a variety of Tasmania's unique timbers.



timber building typology for a high quality tourism experience.

The result is a protective shroud that conceals the cultural interior, preserving the agency of the aboriginal community in the telling of their story.

The camp consists of a communal dome and several smaller, half-domed lodges. The main construction material is PEFC/Responsible Wood-certified, durable hardwood, supplied by Smithton-based Britton Timbers, producer of quality timbers for more than 110 years.

Britton Timbers is one of Australia's largest importers of sustainably-produced

hardwoods and a recognised source for premium native timbers.

While the exterior shroud of the Krakani Lumi project consists of charred silver top ash, opening the sliding doors reveals the warm interior, lined with blackwood and Tasmanian oak.

All linings were installed on site, with the help of members of the local aboriginal community.

A fireplace at the mouth of

the dome invites everyone to gather and listen to the captivating stories about two centuries of conflict, dispossession and exile, and the eventual return of a sacred landscape.

By the end of the 19th century, the surviving aboriginal community was forcibly removed from a landscape to which it had belonged for over 40,000 years.

Situated in a sacred site, Krakani Lumi seeks to set the scene for the telling of a very large story.

"We have always sought to achieve an architectural sensibility that allows the spaces of Krakani Lumi to make the fullest experiential offering to the aboriginal community in the telling of their story," director of Taylor and Hinds Architects Mat Hinds said.

"Protecting indigenous people's rights is also a priority for us at PEFC, and a key part of its revised sustainable forest management benchmark standard," CEO of PEFC Ben Gunneberg said.

**“ARCHITECTS
CONSIDERED
CULTURAL
BACKGROUND**

'Late night slogging' earns MSc for veteran forester Bob Newman

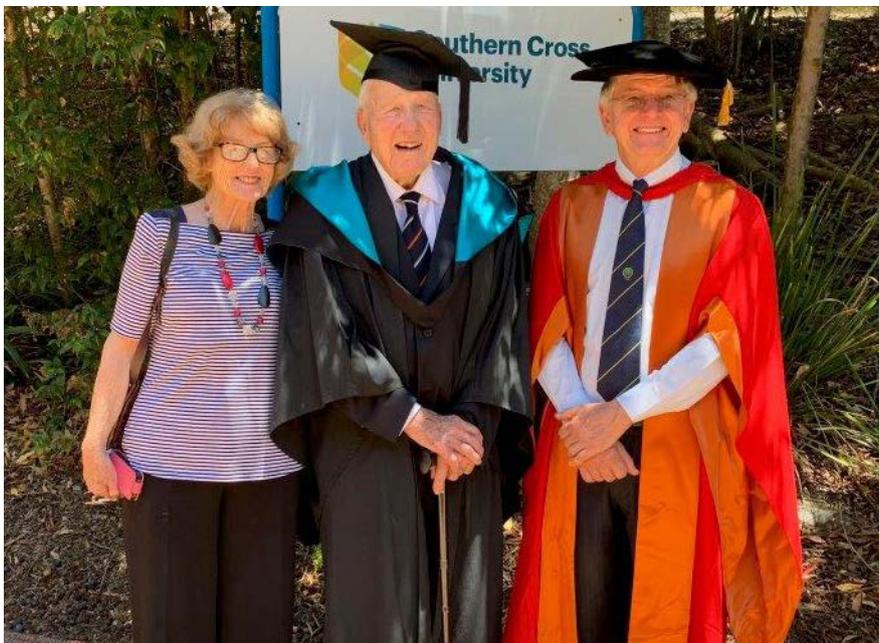
RESPECTED and devoted forester R.L. (Bob) Newman, OAM, who turns 90 in July, has received a Master of Science by Research degree on the subject of Mechanisms for Investing in Private Forestry Plantations in Australia.

"A lot of late-night slogging," the William Jolly Medal winner told us.

Bob is regarded as one of the leaders in the development of private forestry in Australia spanning the years from the 1970s. He gained a B.Sc. (For) from Melbourne University in 1958 and a Diploma from the Australian Forestry School, Canberra, in 1955.

In 1964 he was one of the first students to enter the private sector and has enjoyed a career in forestry and the forest industries spanning more than 60 years and covering forest establishment and management, including eucalypt and pine silviculture and fire and catchment management.

Bob started working in forestry as a student in 1951 for the Forests Commission



Well-earned... Bob Newman, OAM, is congratulated on receiving his Masters degree by his wife Janet, and Jerry Vanclay D.Sc., professor and supervisor, Southern Cross University.

of Victoria. During 1952-53 he worked with the CSIRO Division of Forest Products and then attended the Australian Forestry School.

At the end of 1955 he was appointed forester with Australian Newsprint Mills at Maydena in southern Tasmania responsible for resource assessment and supporting Dr Max Gilbert with his silvicultural research.

In 1964 he accepted the position of development manager for Strahan and Davies with pine sawmills at Myrtleford and a hardwood sawmill in the Otways.

During a four-year period he was responsible for the construction of a major timber treatment plant and installation of a veneer peeling plant at Myrtleford and new timber drying facilities at the company's HQ in Melbourne.

With the sale of the pine mill to Bowater Scott in 1968, Bob took up an offer as general manager ACT and southern

“LEADER OF PRIVATE FORESTRY IN AUSTRALIA

NSW for George Hudson. Later, with the support of timber suppliers in Sydney and Melbourne, he commenced trading in Canberra in 1970 until 1976.

Bob then commenced full time consulting with his first job from 1976 to 1980 at Risby Forest Industries in Tasmania. He combined consulting with plantation establishment which included the role of secretary, Timber Preservers Association of Australia.

He spearheaded organisation of the Bicentenary Forestry Conference before moving to Albury with his staff in 1987. After the conference in 1988 he was instrumental in establishing the National Foresters Grove in Albury.

During his career, Bob has worked in Papua New Guinea, Malaysia the Solomon Islands, South Africa, New Zealand, Canada, China and the UK.

He has been a member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia since 1951.

– JIM BOWDEN

PEFC celebrates 20 years as guardian of global forests

PEFC this month celebrates 20 years of caring for forests

Before the birth of PEFC, forest certification was designed primarily for large-scale forest owners, managing huge areas of land

and able to shoulder the burden of certification. But this meant the millions of small family and community forest owners were shut out, unable to afford a certification that was not created for them.

It was in 1999 when European small-forest owners came together to create an international forest certification system that had their needs at heart and the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification

was created.

In November, the whole PEFC alliance heads to Würzburg, Germany, where one of the first meetings took place, for the 2019 PEFC Forest Certification Week.

A great national koala park .. or is it a great national koala scam?

'Sound recordings show there are five times as many as experts thought'

NOTED forester and ecologist Vic Jurskis says he seems to be a 'lone voice in the wilderness' defending forestry against moves to establish a national park for koalas that would see 175,000 ha of state forests added to existing protected areas to form a 315,000 ha reserve in the Coff's harbor hinterland.

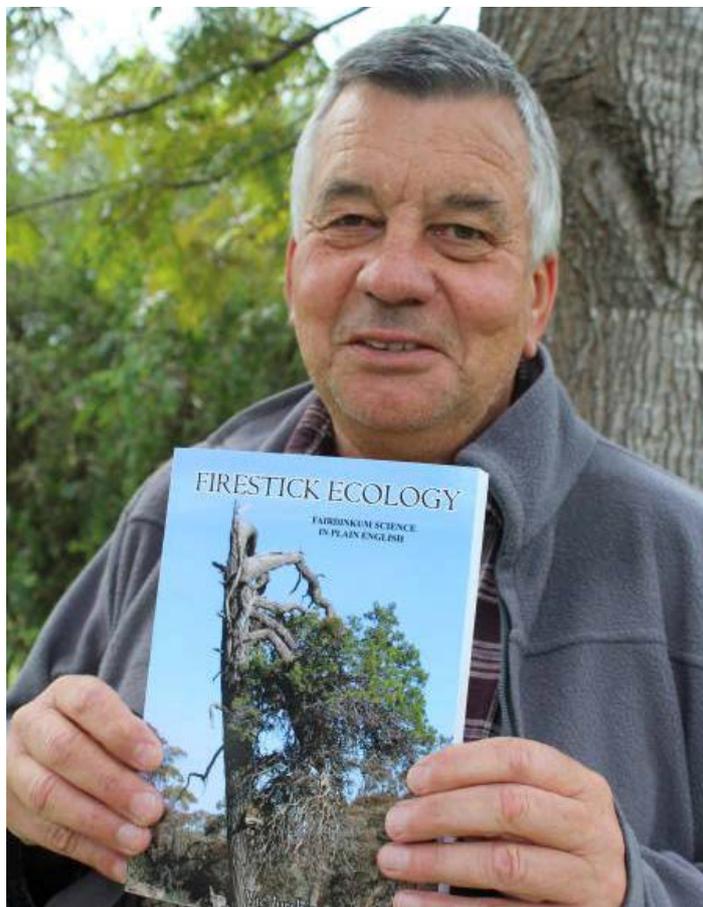
And he says it seems incredible that sections of the forest industry and the National Party appear unwilling to expose the "great koala scam".

Mr Jurskis, B.Sc. (forestry) lives at Eden on the NSW southeast coast and has published a research paper in *Wildlife Research*, a peer-reviewed CSIRO journal and international forum for debate on the ecology and management of wild animals in natural and modified habitats.

Mr Jurskis says ignorance about koalas and poor management of native forests have led to a situation where the decline of koala populations from unsustainable and unnaturally high levels is misinterpreted as a crisis.

In the following opinion piece written for *Timber&Forestry* enews, Mr Jurskis backgrounds some of his research:

“INDUSTRY SEEMS UNWILLING TO EXPOSE THE SCAM”



Vic Jurskis... forester and ecologist with one of his publications.

KOALAS (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) were rare and healthy when aboriginal burnings kept eucalypts mostly well-spaced, with hard, dry leaves of poor food value.

Professor Bill Gammage, an Australian academic historian at ANU, said their habitats were "distinct, lightly populated and few".

Europeans didn't see any until dense new forests with juicy and nutritious young foliage grew up, and old trees declined, constantly resprouting soft young leaves. Fifty years after Arthur Phillip raised the Union Jack, koalas irrupted into plagues again.

Meanwhile, graziers sold off forests for hobby farms and urban development, exacerbating the problem.

Over abundant koalas suffered malnutrition and chlamydia. As they wandered around searching for food, they were mauled by dogs or hit by cars.

During the Millenium Drought, koalas inevitably crashed in stressed western forests and in rural/suburban areas. Green NGOs were delighted with this latest 'crisis'; it bolstered their creed against logging, clearing, cars and dogs, as well as their income from false and cynical advertising campaigns.

'Experts' in the multi-million dollar research industry used the crash to convince the federal government that koalas are a vulnerable 'species', ensuring more funding for this growth industry.

The ultimate aim "to stabilise and then start to increase koala numbers" is an extraordinary idea for a species that has behaved as a pest for more than 130 years. It relies on ignorance of more than a century of ecological history after European settlement. Our new national narrative tells of natural abundance, cruel slaughter by our inhuman forebears, and then gradual recovery, before recent wilful destruction of habitat by loggers, miners and farmers.

AKF, NPA, the Wilderness

From P 13

Society, WWF and sections of the media all agree that our recorded history is wrong. There were really millions of koalas where explorers and settlers saw none.

Professor Frank Carrick made a map showing them right across the east in 1788, 15 years before 'whitefellas' saw any, and 50 years before they were seen in any numbers. Because eight million skins were exported after 1888, the experts seem to agree that explorers and settlers were blind, deaf or just stupid.

By 1991, research established that north coast

“LOW DENSITY POPULATIONS SURVIVED UNSEEN IN THE FORESTS



A decline of koala populations from unsustainable and unnaturally high levels is misinterpreted as a crisis.

koalas were concentrated in dense regrowth from heavy logging. Since then, chronic decline has spread through the forests with lack of mild burning, and koalas have irrupted again.

Twenty-five years on, sound recordings have shown that there are five times as many as experts thought.

Now they are distributed right across the landscape, irrespective of logging intensity, time since logging, or the amount of unlogged forest. Incredibly, Dr Bradley Law of DPI said his research shows that koalas tolerate selective logging, but we need more research and new prescriptions to protect the species.

More incredibly, industry and government departments are happy with this conclusion.

No doubt we will see a Great Koala National Park and ongoing irruptions and crashes of koalas, just as we have seen with psyllids and bellbirds.

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Operational changes at ForestWorks

Diana Lloyd praised for challenging restructuring role

INDUSTRY skills development organisation ForestWorks has appointed policy and project management specialist Tim Woods as acting general manager following the resignation of Diana Lloyd.

Ms Lloyd, who was appointed general manager in September 2016, came to ForestWorks with a solid background in education and training and as a practicing forester in regional Victoria and South Australia,

"Diana led ForestWorks through a very difficult transition period and has had to deal with some very challenging restructuring of the business in order to maintain our financial viability," acting chair Tony Price said.

"On behalf of the board I would like to thank Diana and wish her well in her future endeavours.

"The forestry, wood products and pulp and paper industries have experienced a period of sustained economic growth," he said. "The industry's workforce, their skills and qualifications remain a key element of the current and future prosperity



Diana Lloyd



Tim Woods

of the entire industry."

Mr Price said ForestWorks had an important role to play in supporting the future of the industry and the training and education needs of the people who worked in it.

"We remain focused on this important mission," he said.

The ForestWorks board has put in place interim management support arrangements until a new general manager is appointed.

Tim Woods takes on the role of acting general manager and is currently working with the ForestWorks' team, having previously undertaken a similar role at ForestWorks.

He has more than 25 years expertise in the fibre, wood products and pulp and paper

“PERIOD OF SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH”

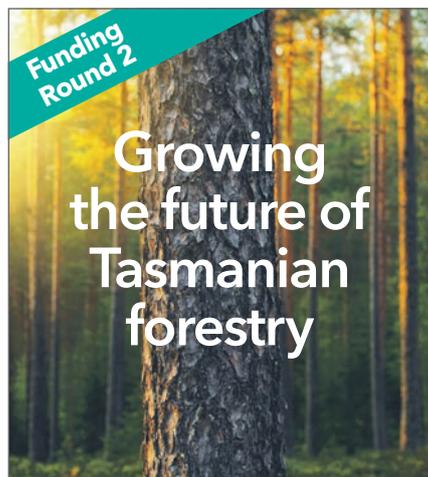
industries. He has a solid background in research, policy, strategy and project management.

He leads IndustryEdge assignments, in conjunction with data analysts and consultants and associates in Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney and internationally. He is contributing editor of Pulp & Paper Edge and Wood Market Edge.

ForestWorks projects currently under way include advances in wood machining and saw doctoring; and sawmill timber and process optimisation.

These projects commenced with the establishment of technical advisory committees in August last year. Following feedback and consultations, work has started on reviewing the Certificate III in Sawdoctoring and Certificate III in Woodmachining including their units of competency.

Technical committee members also supported a series of site visits to identify skills and knowledge needs regarding timber and process optimisation in sawmills.



\$2 million research funding investment to boost sustainability, jobs and economic benefits in partnership with industry

With the support of the Australian and Tasmanian governments, the Launceston Centre of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation has up to \$2 million available for research grants to grow the future of forestry. Individual research grants will range from \$50,000-\$500,000 and will be for periods of up to three years in duration.

Funding proposals close on Friday 15 February 2019 and should be lodged via email to funding.tas@nifpi.org.au. For further information, including a proposal template and briefing document, see www.nifpi.org.au

About us The Launceston Centre of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation is a joint venture between the Australian Government, the Tasmanian Government and the forest and wood products industry with the goal of growing forestry into the future.



Spotted gum connected to nature

THE ancient life cycle of majestic sea turtles is one of global significance. The largest concentration of marine turtles on the eastern Australian mainland choose Mon Repos as their nesting place.

Mon Repos is a conservation park near Bundaberg, Qld, where passionate rangers and scientists at the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service manage conservation and research programs to enhance the success of nesting before hatchlings make their perilous journey to the sea some months later.

Mon Repos famous turtle encounters are a connection with nature like no other. That's why the construction of the new Mon Repos Turtle Centre meets the same brief



Environmental credentials... spotted gum is admired by Katie Fowden, manager, strategic relations, Hyne Timber, and Dr Andrew Magub, principal at Richard Kirk Architect.

– connected to nature.

The new centre's award-winning architect Richard Kirk said the whole brief focused on sustainability and environment,

"Firstly, the location is established behind sand dunes which provide a natural shield between the building and the hatchlings to conceal the possible spill of the building's light," he said.

"The entire glue laminated

timber structure is certified spotted gum, not only meeting exceptional sustainability credentials, but from a practical perspective allowing large spans with no internal structural walls.

"This means the interior

TIMBER AND TURTLES AT MON REPOS

can be readily, seasonally reconfigured to meet the educational and conservation needs of the centre and its year-round visitors.

"Construction times and site disruption are shorter with the timber manufactured to +/-2mm tolerance, ensuring the GLT structure can be manufactured off-site and assembled rapidly as a kit of parts," Mr Kirk said.

Hyne Timber's glue laminated timber business development manager, commercial, Rob Mansell said the project represented a perfect case study in support of early contractor involvement.

"Innovative and unique designs using timber need the design team to come together with the timber manufacturers from the start."

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For more information about the course and discounts, contact Helen Murray gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com



The logo for Willdoo IT, featuring the word "willdoo" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font, with "IT" in a smaller, blue, uppercase font to its right, all set against a background of cracked wood.

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The logo for TIMMS ANYWHERE, featuring the word "timms" in a bold, black, lowercase, sans-serif font with a green leaf icon above the 'i', and the words "A N Y W H E R E" in a smaller, black, uppercase font below it.

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A satellite-style image of the Earth from space, showing the blue oceans, white clouds, and green landmasses of Southeast Asia and Australia.

Some standards enforced in Australia originate from international certifying bodies

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The logo for ATIF (Australian Timber Importers Federation Inc), featuring a stylized tree icon to the left of the letters "ATIF" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Australian Timber Importers Federation Inc
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The logo for WOOD NATURALLY BETTER, featuring a stylized leaf icon to the left of the words "WOOD" and "NATURALLY BETTER" in a black, sans-serif font.

New Zealand's oldest exotic tree is still growing strong after 300 years

JUST before launching into this month's column I want to express my appreciation to the Forestry Corporation of NSW for its continued support and sponsorship, so thanks to chief executive Nick Roberts and his dedicated staff.

Right ... well thinking of exotic trees in a New Zealand forestry context, radiata pine immediately springs to mind. However, the country's oldest exotic tree, a Williams Good Christian pear tree near Kerikeri in Northland, is still going strong as it enters its third century this year.

When Maori warrior chief Hongi Hika granted European missionaries some land in the early 1800s, the first thing they did was plant food crops and orchards, including the now-elderly pear tree.

The venerable old pear tree is now entirely hollow, but still going strong, says Liz Bigwood from the Kerikeri Mission. (Yes, you got that right, Bigwood).

It's of the Williams Bon Chrétien (Williams Good Christian) variety, with which the missionaries would have

“GOOD CHRISTIAN PEAR CHOICE OF MISSIONARIES



The Williams Good Christian venerable old pear tree... the oldest surviving exotic tree in New Zealand is now entirely hollow.

been familiar.

The origins of this variety of pear tree are uncertain. 'Bon Chrétien' (Good Christian) is named after Francis of Paola, a holy man called to King Louis XI of France's deathbed as a healer in 1483. Francis offered the king a pear seed from his native Calabria with instructions to plant and care. Hence the pear tree was called 'Good Christian'.

The Williams pear is thought to date from 1765 to 1770 from the yard of an Aldermaston, England, schoolmaster named John Stair, giving rise to the now-obscure synonyms 'Aldermaston' pear and 'Stairs' pear.

A nurseryman named Williams later acquired the variety, and after introducing it to the rest of England, the pear became known as the

things that were mentioned in the Bible, such as olives and figs, whether they subsequently grew in the local New Zealand conditions or not."

Establishing food sources was the first priority for missionaries. John Butler, one of the earliest missionaries, wrote in his journal that he was planting upward of 150 fruit trees a day to use as much land as he could.

The idea was to as get as much food into the ground as possible. On October 1, 1819, John Butler wrote that he had completed sowing all their seed in the gardens and orchards. The planting was a substantial undertaking with about 3000 sq m, all dug by hand.

Pear trees are famously hardy and enduring, and arguably the longest-lived of all the fruit trees.

"There's another one on the river bank orchard which is 10 to 15 years younger," says Liz.

"Both are now hollow, which is quite common for elderly pear trees and it doesn't affect them in any way, they just tend to hollow out. The elderly pear has weathered its share of abuse with no ill effects."

TALKING TREES

With JOHN HALKETT

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Forestry Corporation of NSW

'Williams' Pear'. However, the pear's full name is now recognised as 'Williams' Bon Chretien', of 'Williams Good Christian' pear tree.

"It's was the most popular European pear and probably the missionaries chose it because it was a 'good Christian' pear," says Liz Bigwood.

"Often they would plant



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Building boom still bears fruit for housing construction, affordability

AUSTRALIA'S record home building boom continues to improve housing affordability.

Housing Industry Association senior economist Geordan Murray says the HIA affordability index for capital cities registered 75.4 in the December quarter of 2018. This is a level that is 1.5% higher than in the previous quarter and 3.3% higher than a year earlier.

"Last year was the fifth consecutive year where the industry commenced construction of more than 200,000 homes and it was a record year in terms of new dwelling completions," Mr Murray said.

"This strong flow of new housing supply is one of the key factors behind the moderation in price pressures in housing markets across



1

1/ Builders busy... industry commenced construction of more than 200,000 homes last year.

2/ Geordan Murray... housing affordability more favourable than the 20-year average.

the country, which has ultimately improved housing affordability.

"The other key factor has been the modest improvement in wages growth. Strong growth in employment over the last two years has boosted demand for workers. We are seeing the early signs that this tightening in the labour market is translating into rising wages."

Mr Murray said the combination of declining



2

home prices, growth in wages and historically low interest rates created a situation where the HIA affordability index showed that affordability in six of the eight capital cities was more favourable than the 20-year average.

Melbourne and Hobart

were the only exceptions.

"Despite the improvement in affordability over recent quarters, housing in Sydney and Melbourne remains far from affordable for average households," Mr Murray said.

"We will need to see wage growth continue to exceed home prices in order to restore more appropriate levels of affordability."

Five of the eight capital cities saw improved affordability over the year to December 2018. Sydney continues to be home to the greatest improvements, its index is up by 11.3%. This was followed by Melbourne (+5.9%), Perth (+5.7%), Darwin (+3.2%) and Brisbane (+0.8%). Affordability deteriorated in Hobart (-9.3%), Canberra (-3.6%) and Adelaide (-3.3%).

**TIGHTENING
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