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COVER STORY P 10



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Tumut, Canberra events celebrate women's impact on forest industry

Speakers from all sectors reflect on balance-of-gender issues

FORESTRY Corporation of NSW's Tumut staff were at the forefront of International Women's Day celebrations last week, reflecting on the strong contribution women make in the forestry industry.

Tumut's nursery staff marked the day with a morning tea and discussion on what was important for women in the industry.

The nursery team is an essential part of Forestry Corporation's operations, with women making up 50% cent of the nursery's seasonal staff. They successfully deliver around seven million seedlings each year for the ongoing plantation program.

Tumut-based harvesting supervisor Ellen Kromer was also invited to speak at an ACT International Women's Day event for high school students. More than



1/ Planting the gender seed... inspecting seedlings at Tumut nursery, from left are Donna Jeffery, Courtney Thatcher, Lucy Jeffery and Kristy King. Collectively, they represent almost 50 years of nursery experience.

2/ Ellen Kromer, Forestry Corporation NSW, addresses ACT students on working in the forestry industry.



fantastic," Ellen said. "It brings strong women together and gives them something to run with when they get back to

their schools.

She added: "My take home message on the forestry industry was that if you are willing to get in there and have a go, the amount of respect you get is absolutely phenomenal."

Forestry Corporation's CEO Nick Roberts used International Women's Day as an opportunity to reflect

Cont P 3

“IT BRINGS STRONG WOMEN TOGETHER”

200 students heard from Ms Kromer on what it was like working in the forestry industry.

"A day like this is absolutely



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Women in the workplace... Linda Sewell addressed a packed dinner gathering at the Manuka Oval venue in Canberra.

From P 2

on the gender balance in the forestry industry and work to be done.

"With gender balance in employment in the overall forestry industry at around 80:20, we know this is an area we have work to do in," Mr Roberts said.

"Over the past few years we have made a concerted effort in this space; the initiatives in our diversity strategy have helped improve Forestry Corporation's gender balance but there is more to be done.

Nick Roberts added: "When we look at diversity we are looking at balance. Having balance in our work teams – balance of gender, age, background and skill sets – all helps us to look holistically at the issues that confront us and generally make better decisions."

In Canberra last Thursday to celebrate International Women's Day – March 8 – more than 100 women from across Australia's forest industries gathered to hear from experts and industry colleagues about gender equity issues and to discuss improvements in gender equity across the forest industries.

Attendees heard from a panel of speakers including Dr Skye Saunders from the

Australian National University, Joanne Matsoukas from VicForests, Laureta Wallace from the National Farmers Federation and Stuart Ellis from the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council.

Following the guest speakers and a Q&A panel, attendees participated in a workshop to discuss equity issues, well organised by AFPA policy manager Natalie Heazlewood.

Following Thursday's workshop, AFPA's inaugural chair and OneFortyOne CEO Linda Sewell described her own challenges as a leading woman in forest industries as guest speaker at the AFPA members' dinner at Canberra's Manuka Oval.

**“ATTITUDES
NEED TO
CHANGE –
LINDA SEWELL**

More than 140 guests at the dinner listened as Linda highlighted issues for women in the workplace, talked about her own often negative experiences in her career and how attitudes need to change.

International Women's Day is celebrated around the world on March 8, a day to reflect on how far we have come and how far we still have to go to truly achieve gender equality.

UN Women's global theme for IWD 2019 is 'Think equal, build smart, innovate for change', linking with the UN Commission on the Status of Women's focus on social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure.

In Australia, for IWD 2019, UN Women NC Australia joined forces with Chief Executive Women and Male Champions of Change – the two pre-eminent organisations focused on women in leadership and gender equality in business – to showcase an event series on the theme 'More Powerful Together'.

The theme recognises the important role Australians all play – as women, men, non-binary and as gender diverse people.

It takes all of us, working in collaboration and across that which sometimes divides us, breaking down stereotypes and gendered roles, to create a world where women everywhere have equal rights and opportunities.

The 2019 #BalanceforBetter campaign runs all year long. It doesn't end on International Women's Day.

The first IWD occurred in 1911, supported by more than 1 million people. Today, it belongs to all groups collectively everywhere – it is not country, group or organisation specific.



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Network serves up a balanced a-gender for women in timber

SARAH PORTER

THE Women in Forest and Timber Network held its annual International Women's Day Breakfast last Friday.

This year's theme #BalanceforBetter celebrates gender equality as a business issue – for a gender-balanced boardroom, a gender-balanced government, gender-balanced media coverage and a gender-balance of employees.

The WFTN is an exemplar of women thriving and forging significant change in traditionally male-dominated industries. Although men have also taken up membership in support of the network.

In honour of the cause



of bettering outcomes for women and balancing the odds in our favour, the network accepted on behalf of WFTN and the Brisbane Domestic Violence Service – the Queensland WFTN



1/ Spreading the BalanceforBetter message... members of the Women in Forest and Timber Network gather for breakfast at Racecourse Road in Brisbane – from left, Jenni Day, Versace Timbers, Jacinta Colley, Simmonds, Kerrie Catchpoole, DAF, Di Holland, Wilson Timbers, June Dunleavy, TABMA Training, Sarah Porter, Timber Queensland, Jim Burgess, DAF Forestry, Jen Davis, Wilson Timbers, Tahlia Bellotti, TABMA, Hayley Phillips, TABMA, La-Lani Clemett, Versace Timbers, and Radmila Desic, Department of Employment, Small Business and Training.
2/ Helping hand... T&F enews managing editor Jim Bowden presents a cash donation to Women in Forest and Timber Network members Jacinta Colley, Sarah Porter and Jenni Day.



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chapter's charity of choice – a generous cheque from Timber&Forestry enews.

This added to the raising of \$4300 at the network's cocktail event last year, which was a huge success with more than 80 guests.

We will again be supporting BDVS with our fundraising efforts in 2019.

The 2019 WFTN charity fundraiser will take place on Saturday, August 24.

This year, the Queensland chapter is looking to reinvigorate the way the network is organised in order to continue and elevate our legacy of bringing women and men together through professional industry events and communications.

We are seeking expressions of interest from women to fill four roles for the committee.

(See notice, Page 21).

• Sarah Porter is communications officer at Timber Queensland.



Green light likely for start-up of \$54m Bell Bay rotary veneer mill

AS Tasmania's environmental regulator greenlights the proposed \$54 million timber veneer, plywood and woodchip mill at Bell Bay as "environmentally sustainable and acceptable," it remains 'wait-and-see' on the eventual destination of products – mainland Australia or Asian markets, or both.

The Environment Protection Authority's assessment report on Patriarch and Sons' proposed mill, released on Tuesday, shows the new timber company has made a range of commitments aimed at minimising noise and dust pollution should the development go ahead.

The mill, which would process native and plantation timbers, will need the approval of the George Town Council, which meets next Tuesday, before it can proceed.

The mill would source FSC-certified native and plantation hardwoods from public and private suppliers, providing additional opportunities for timber owners to value-add to their resources.



Bell Bay port and industrial centre... site for proposed \$54 million timber veneer, plywood and woodchip mill.

Industry analysts reckon the Shin Yan's first marketing priority would be to ship dried rotary veneers back to its base in Sarawak, but that LVL production "is another story".

Shin Yan has gained significant experience with peeling Tasmanian plantation-grown *Eucalyptus nitens* as a regular buyer of logs exported from that state.

A West Australian company, Patriarch lodged an application for the Bell Bay rotary peel veneer and plywood mill with the EPA in August.

If the George Town Council

approves the mill – and industry and political analysts believe it will – the EPA has attached conditions to its permit, including that the site does not produce more than 96,000 cub m of product and 80,000 tonnes of woodchips each year and that Patriarch and Sons – connected through directorships to Malaysian logging giant Shin

Yang – keeps a complaints log.

Patriarch's state manager Andrew Wye is based at Launceston, which is 48 km from Bell Bay, an industrial centre and port located on the eastern shore of the Tamar River.

A web search shows Mr Wye has experience and knowledge in forest and sawmill management, certification, harvesting, sales and marketing, operations and supply chain planning and safety and stakeholder

“ VENEERS SHIPPED TO SARAWAK A PRIORITY

Cont P 6

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State government considers offers to buy out small Victorian timber mills

THE Andrews government in Victoria is still considering buying out small native timber mills “seeking a lifeline.”

Two crucial federal reviews into the endangered Leadbeater’s possum are expected to be finalised by the middle of this year, and are likely to impact the future of native forests and logging in Victoria. The industry is in a holding pattern, with VicForests ordered not to release a new timber release plan and some operators warning that jobs are in jeopardy as a result.

It is understood that the state government is considering transition plans that would seek to increase



Transition plans... native forest regrowth in East Gippsland.

plantation material used by some mills and reduce reliance on native forest wood.

Premier Daniel Andrews said that a “number of mills” had come to him before the election seeking a buy-out due to challenges in the sector and that this was still a live option.

“We haven’t made a decision yet,” he said.

One of the reports the state government is waiting to see is the status of the endangered Leadbeater’s possum.

While the possum’s status was upgraded in 2015, in 2017 then-deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce successfully lobbied then environment minister Josh Frydenberg for a full review of the listing to save Victorians timber communities.

Mr Joyce said at the time, “it is very important that we don’t put possums before people”

The review into the listing – which is likely to confirm the possum’s “critically

Endangered” status – is due to be handed to federal Environment Minister Melissa Price on March 30.

A national action plan, widely expected to increase large buffer zones around the possum’s habitat in forests, is expected to be finalised in June.

A spokesman for the federal department said it was working with the Victorian government to update and finalise the recovery plan to take account of new information that is being considered by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee

(Herald Sun)

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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From P 5

engagement.

The EPA received three representations on the mill, all of which related to the company’s proposed use of native timbers. The body said it could not consider this for its environmental assessment report.

Tasmania’s Resources Minister Sarah Courtney said the government welcomed proposals that added value to the state’s forestry industry.

Patriarch and Sons has said it would use timber from northeast forests and create up to 109 full-time equivalent jobs.

Shin Yang, a huge conglomerate of companies,

is a dynamic corporation with diversified business activities throughout Asia. The group says it will have 17 million trees in the ground and 1 million ha of forests by the year 2020.

Shin Yang chairman Ling Chiong Ho started his business empire by plying tugboats and then making them. Today his group – among the Forbes-listed 50 richest companies in Malaysia – builds ships, exports timber and develops property.

Chiong Ho derives most of his wealth from listed Sarawak Oil Palms and privately owns tree farms, stone quarries, petrol stations and public buses.

– JIM BOWDEN

MARCH

14: Climate Change and Future Landscapes – Biodiversity Across the Borders Conference.

– Mt. Helen campus, Federation University Australia, University Drive, Ballarat, Vic. Australia.

Hosts Federation University Australia, La Trobe University, Deakin University, Charles Sturt University, University of Melbourne, Parks Victoria and other research partners. No registration fee. Keynote Professor Leslie Hughes, Pro Vice-Chancellor (research integrity and development) and Distinguished Professor of Biology at Macquarie University). Contact (03) 5327 8000 or email s.florentine@federation.edu.au

17: Women in Forest Industries workshop – Canberra, Australia.

More information and registration inquiries to Natalie Heazlewood. Email: natalie.heazlewood@ausfpa.com.au

17: Joint seminar and tour by WoodSolutions and Western Sydney University’s Centre for Smart Modern Construction – Sydney, Australia.

Presenter Lucy Black, head, business relationships at the Construction Scotland Innovation Centre (CSIC), which works with industry to develop the very latest in off-site construction. 10.30am to 1.30 pm at Karstens, 111 Harrington Street, Sydney. Cost: \$75 (inc. gst). Morning

tea and lunch provided. CPD certificates of attendance available for all professions. 1 formal CPD points available for architects. Contact 0420 232 253 or email info@tdansw.asn.au

22: Celebrating International Day of Forest – The Ship Inn, Stanley Street, South Brisbane, Australia.

6.30pm. Guest speaker Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens (Opportunities and Challenges for the Timber Industry in Queensland). RSVP by March 11 – email ifaqlddivision@gmail.com

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

APRIL

1-2: National Sustainability Conference – Brisbane, Australia

3-5: Trucking Australia 2019’s collaborative workshops – Crown Towers, Perth, Australia.

Pick the brains of professional drivers and work with delegates to design the perfect rest area, and better fatigue and road access systems. Supported by Teletrac Navman, each interactive session will form a strong foundation for ATA lobbying activities. Workshops are a chance to join the nation’s trucking operators and industry stakeholders to tackle the big issues. The ATA represents the 50,000 businesses and 211,500 people in the Australian trucking industry. Contact (02)

6253 6900. www.truck.net.au

4: Built Evolution Conference – Perth, Australia.

'Taking timber to new heights' – Timber Insight. For additional information contact Greg Meachem Tel: 08 9791 4599; Mob: 0498 121 262, or email: greg@timberinsight.com.au

10: Mass Timber Update seminar – code changes, cases studies, new solutions – NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills, Sydney, Australia.

8.30am-5pm. The seminar will address the recently published 2019 National Construction Code; deemed-to-satisfy changes to fire protected timber, where the range of buildings, up to 25 m in height now include all buildings types. Case studies on current Australian mass timber projects include Bunjil Place; winner of 2018 Australian Timber Design Awards; Daramu House; Lendlease’s office building at Barangaroo; and BVN’s collection of timber projects. Discussions will also centre on the next generation of mass timber building construction methods, such as CLT band beams, where LVL excels, and free-form/parametric timber design process and examples. The seminar will address how successful fire certification process can be achieved, and the latest and updated cost information on timber buildings. Phone: 0420 232 253 or email tdaevents@woodsolutions.com.au

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

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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.masstimberconference.com/

APRIL

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

MAY

7-9: Sixth Annual Forest Investment Conference – London, UK. Program includes three exclusive opportunities to discover the timberland asset class, with a practical seminar and building visit: and (post-conference) mill visits

to show why wood is an increasingly valuable product. Presented by Fastmarkets RISI and DANA, the event includes one-day mass timber construction seminar with a planned inspection of the MTC buildings in London (May 7); a two-day international forest investment conference (May 8-9) with agribusiness investment presentations; a two-day field trip to Scotland (May 10-11). Highlights of field trip include visits to plantation forests, a large sawmill, wind turbines and a biomass power plant; a field trip (delegates only) seminar on UK and Scottish and comparative UK, US, South and Latin American forest investment economics and returns a visit to a 1900-year-old Roman fort at Hadrians Wall. DANA director Dennis Neilson will be speaking in London about the highlights of a new RISI Review just published 'Russian Timber: A Growing Force in World Trade'. Email conferences@risi.com Tel: Europe: +32.2.536.0748 or US and international: +1.866.271.8525. Visit 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

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

Canadian forestry advocate Peter deMarsh remembered

A STRONG advocate of the Canadian forest sector and woodlot owners Peter deMarsh was reportedly among the victims of an Ethiopian Airlines plane that crashed shortly after take-off from Addis Ababa on Sunday.

"The forestry community lost an incredible man," the president and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada Derek Nighbor said.

"Peter dedicated so much of

his life to our sector and was travelling to Africa to do what he loved to do – talking about the environmental benefits of forestry and advancing opportunities for woodlot owners and forestry families around the world.

"He was a true champion of forestry on the global stage."

Mr deMarsh was a long-serving president of the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners and



Peter deMarsh... dedicated to forest sector.

represented the interests of woodlot owners in Canada for the past three decades. He was also chair of the International Family Forestry Alliance based in Luxembourg,

which represents more than 25 million forest owners worldwide and is a stakeholder member of PEFC.

Mr deMarsh was also dedicated to a number of causes, traveling around the world to share his expertise on rural farming and environmental issues.

All 157 people aboard the plane died in the crash, the cause of which is still unknown.

Bulletin reflects Responsible Wood activity

AHEAD of the autumn release of the Responsible Wood Bulletin, Simon Dorries, CEO of Australia's largest forest certification scheme, reflected on the shifting perceptions of forest certification in the forest products industry.

"For the first time, Responsible Wood (previously known as the Australian Forestry Standard), has developed a 16-page extended bulletin highlighting and showcasing the last three months of activity," he said.

"It has been a busy time at Responsible Wood, as we continue to promote the importance of forest certification through the supply chain and ultimately to the end users of forest products and attention shifts to the development of the

first truly trans-Tasman forestry standard."

From trans-Tasman standard development to global trade, the Responsible Wood and PEFC 'trust marks' are increasingly used by Responsible Wood scheme holders to verify and demonstrate the sustainable origins of forest products.

"Both in Australia and around the world, Responsible Wood scheme holders are making their mark," Mr Dorries said.

"None more so than International House in Sydney which was the recipient of the World Architecture Festival's Best Use of Certified Timber award in Amsterdam."



To read more about International House, the World Architecture Festival and the trans-Tasman standard development click on the Responsible Wood

panel on the cover of Timber&Forestry enews to subscribe to the bulletin.

The bulletin circulates to forest and forest products stakeholders throughout Australasia and across the architecture, specifiers and building sector.

Responsible Wood is the governing body in Australasia for the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

More than 24 million ha of forest is now certified in Australia providing sustainable building materials to architects, builders and retailers and timber and paper manufacturers.

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Wedding Bells state forest rings out a story of multiple-use management

IN the NSW north coast hinterland behind Woolgoolga, within the Gumbaynggirr nation, north of Coffs Harbour, lies the Wedding Bells state forest, a leading example of how a forest can be managed for multiple uses.

Since its dedication as a state forest in 1917, Wedding Bells has operated not only as a successful source of timber production, but as a major recreational asset for the local community and popular attraction for tourists visiting the region.

Timber production is an important part of the management of Wedding Bells and over the past 20 years around 9500 cub m of timber has been harvested each year, produced as part of a cycle of stands of trees harvested and then regrown using natural regeneration techniques.



For the love of forests... Kath Crowe, Forestry Corporation of NSW, looks over a young blackbutt plantation in the Wedding Bells state forest.

Over the past 100 years these stands have been harvested and regrown multiple times. The majority (around 90%) of the timber produced is sold to local sawmills and used to produce high-value products including bridge girders, poles, veneer and sawn timber. This timber production supports the regional economy and produces a product that stores carbon for life, assisting in the fight against climate change.

Responsible Wood certification of this timber is the Forestry Corporation's irrefutable proof that they employ sustainable forest management practices.

The Responsible Wood mark also provides reassurance for the end consumers of the wood to demonstrate to customers that the timber comes from a sustainably managed forest.

Justin Black, Forestry Corporation of NSW's strategic projects and programs leader, regards

“ LEADING EXAMPLE OF HOW A FOREST IS MANAGED ”

Cont P 11



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From P 10

Responsible Wood certification as "very important to us because we invest in ensuring our forest management is robust. Across the business we have three staff dedicated specifically to the forest management system but of course all staff are engaged in this process as it is a fundamental part of what we do each and every day."

Wedding Bells state forest is a mixture of natural forest and eucalypt plantations. The natural forest includes stands of blackbutt, spotted gum, ironbark/grey gum, flooded gum, tallowwood/Sydney blue gum and brushbox with small



Connecting with nature... family walks popular in the Wedding Bells state forest.

replanted with blackbutt.

Forests with Responsible Wood accreditation to Australian Standard 4708 have proven that they are conserved and managed responsibly to ensure they deliver not only environmental but social and economic benefits now and in the future.

Wedding Bells is part of more than 11.4 million ha of Australian forests now certified under the Responsible Wood Sustainable Forest Management standard (AS 4708) while more than 250 operators carry Responsible Wood's chain-of-custody for forest products certification (AS 4707).

“ A MIXTURE OF NATURAL FOREST AND EUCALYPT PLANTATIONS

areas of lowland sub-tropical rainforest restricted to damp gullies and southern facing slopes.

Most of the eucalypt

plantations were established in the 1960s and were predominately flooded gum, which has been harvested over the last 20 years and

On the cover: Tom Newby, Forestry Corporation NSW, and Gumbaynggirr nation women share knowledge on fire management during a cultural burn.



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NSW Forestry Corp gives 25,000 seedlings for community projects

Tree-planting program designed to increase koala habitat and health

MORE than 25,000 eucalyptus seedlings grown at Forestry Corporation of NSW's Grafton nursery in the Northern Rivers have been delivered to Port Macquarie Koala Hospital to support community tree-planting projects designed to increase koala habitat.

Forestry Corporation's senior manager forest stewardship Kathy Lyons said this year's donation built on a successful giveaway last year, when the Koala Hospital distributed 10,000 donated seedlings to community members.

"We grow around half a million top quality



1/ **Tree happy...** Graham Hargreaves, Koala Hospital, Rob White, Grafton Nursery, Steve Withnall, Koala Hospital and Chris Slade, Forestry Corporation NSW.

2/ **Kathy Lyons...** seedlings grown specifically as koala food trees.



food trees alongside this year's commercial crop to restock our timber plantations, so they are top grade and have been carefully nurtured for the past nine months. We specially selected the seeds to ensure they are well adapted to the local conditions and we have also developed a planting guide to help the community protect the seedlings during planting and ensure they survive and thrive.

"It's currently planting season, so it's the perfect time for a giveaway like this. Autumn is a good time to plant as soil moisture increases and the days are not so hot. It also allows the seedlings to establish their roots before winter conditions arrive.

"State forests were continually regrown and we will be planting half a million seedlings of our own in plantations throughout the state's north over coming weeks."

Ms Lyons said the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital did great work and it was a pleasure to be able to support this initiative.

The Forestry Corp is also working with the Koala Hospital and the Department of Primary Industries to carry out in-depth research into how koalas use local forests and surrounding land by fitting koalas with radio tracking devices.

Landholders interested in seedlings should contact the Koala Hospital on (02) 6584 1522 to register.

eucalyptus seedlings each year to replant north coast plantations and have been supplying seedlings, tree forks and branches to the Koala Hospital for many years so we were delighted to grow and donate additional seedlings for this community project," Ms Lyons said.

"The Koala Hospital began this giveaway last year to encourage the community to plant trees on cleared farmlands along the mid north coast – in particular along the coastal strip where there has been lots of koala habitat lost due to development. The demand was so overwhelming that we have more than doubled our donation to 25,000 seedlings this year.

"These seedlings were grown specifically as koala



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The heat is on: coolant tanks survey

WITH unusually warm weather in summer and now through autumn, the Accurate tooling team is visiting timber processors across Australia and in New Zealand to discuss the condition of their grinder coolant tanks.

Technical sales manager Chris Roberts said the warmer weather was a critical time to flush out grinders as bacteria was more prevalent when the ambient temperature was higher.

“If you can see a white scum in the tank

it’s bacteria which gets dragged through the pump, sprayed on grinding wheels and potentially inhaled by operators,” Mr Roberts said.

“You certainly don’t want your workers to be exposed to this toxic material as inhaling it can be detrimental to their health.”

The Accurate team have also found, in some cases, that grinding coolant has not been mixed to the correct ratios (according to a refractometer) and many operations are still using diesel in their moulders.

“Inappropriate substances can actually penetrate the timber which can affect any coating processes such as the application of lacquers and stains,” Mr Roberts said.

“They can also be



Craig Honeyman... innovative and affordable solutions.

detrimental to the seals and O-rings in the pumps. And when left standing, they can leave a build-up of residue in your lines,” he added.

The education push is part of Accurate’s larger ‘fluids and grease’ campaign which includes a series of humorous yet educational videos to remind the timber

industry about the dangers of grinder bacteria, table lube substitutions, harsh tool cleaners and inhaling hazardous coolants.

New videos are launched weekly and can be viewed at accurateaustralia.com/training

Accurate Australia began in 2001 when Craig Honeyman set out to provide support tooling for the timber milling and manufacturing industries not previously available in Australia or New Zealand.

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Tigercat's strengthening journey across Australian forest industries

TIGERCAT'S journey in Australia has gone from strength to strength.

In 1999, Lex McLean from the Forest Centre in Tumut, NSW, decided he would like to become a dealer for Tigercat and after approaching the then president of Tigercat Tony Iarocci he attended a logging show in Atlanta, USA. The show was followed up with a factory visit and field visits that led to putting plans in place to establish a Tigercat dealership in Australia.

A Forest Centre team led by Lex subsequently hit the road and the first Tigercat machine, an H845B Tracked Harvester, was sold in 2000 to Kevin Morgan from Launceston, Tas. Subsequently the first Tigercat 630B skidder was sold to LV Dohnt in Mount Gambier, SA

The next 10 years saw the steady growth in the Tigercat machine population around Australia.

During this time, Glen Marley joined the Tigercat team as a district manager for Australasia and Southeast Asia to support the growing Forest Centre technical, parts and sales team. Another of the Forest Centre service support representatives Steve Green from Tasmania, where Tigercat had its biggest concentration of machines, also joined the Tigercat team.



1/ Onetrak's extensive facilities in Tumut, NSW.
2/ Onetrak's David Hazell... bringing new levels of productivity and efficiency to customers across Australia.

With continued business growth and the need for substantial investment in infrastructure and staff, Tigercat recognised the need for a second dealer in Australia to allow Forest Centre to concentrate their efforts and resources over a more focused area. So Onetrak was appointed as Tigercat dealer in Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria in 2012.

After 12 years as Tigercat dealer, Lex decided on a well-deserved retirement in 2013. As a result of Onetrak's proven customer focus and commitment to the brand Tigercat decided to appoint Onetrak as the sole dealer for the entire country.

Onetrak took over the Forest Centre facilities in Tumut, NSW, and Bunbury, WA, and expanded its reach by opening a branch in Mount Gambier in 2014 and head

office in Tasmania in 2015.

In 2017, Onetrak opened a branch in Somerset

in northern Tasmania, the Bunbury branch was relocated to new premises and the first of the large Tigercat 632E skidders – and coincidentally the 400th Tigercat – was sold to D & M Harvesting.

Another support branch at Rocklea in Brisbane and the relocation of the Mount Gambier branch to new and improved premises both occurred in 2018.

Onetrak managing director David Hazell said the company had always been involved with the forest industry.

"However, it has been the dealership rights for Tigercat

that have allowed us to become a full-time forestry equipment supplier to the Australian market," David said.

David is enthusiastic about the future for the Tigercat brand and for Onetrak.

"There's exciting times ahead for the Tigercat product range with several new models released in 2018," he said.

The expansion of the Tigercat product range continues with the release of the 1185 rubber-tire-harvester now allowing us access to a growing market segment in Australia. This year will see Onetrak release some new products into the Australian market such as the high-powered Tigercat M480B tracked mulching machine combined with Tigercat's own 4061 mulching head.

David Hazell added "Our key objective in 2019 will be to continue to focus on building on our extensive after-sales coverage for our forestry clients, including investments in new facilities across the country and expanding our mobile service vehicle fleet."

“EXCITING TIMES AHEAD FOR WIDE PRODUCT RANGE”



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David Rowlinson, Planet Ark’s Make It Wood campaign manager, joined an illustrious group of presenters at the recent Gottstein forest science course at ANU in Canberra. His presentation, ‘Wood – The Ultimate Renewable’, focused on the significant environmental benefits that wood provides.

The presentation also highlighted the rise and rise of wood encouragement policies across Australia, now adopted by two local government authorities, 16 local councils and one state (Tasmania).

Mr Rowlinson showcased



Artist’s impression... the proposed new Eaton Town Square development.

some recent exemplar projects in Australia, including 25 King in Brisbane, Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School, North Strathfield – ‘the first school of the timber age’, and the newly-opened, BVN-designed Kambri Precinct at the Australian National University in Canberra.

The precinct is ‘innovation-rich’, and incorporates a mass timber 450-bed student accommodation building and a five-storey collaborative teaching building.

“Many of the students went to see the precinct

first-hand, and got a real-life understanding of the warmth and charm that a mass timber building provides,” Mr Rowlinson said.

Meanwhile, Dardanup Shire Council in Western Australia, which formalised its WEP in December 2016, is now poised to bring it to life with the development of a

new multi-million dollar shire administration and library project.

Shire president Mick Bennett confirmed that the building will be developed within central Eaton Town Square in the heart of Eaton, a suburb of Bunbury.

The ground floor, which will open up directly onto Eaton Town Square, will feature a library, meeting rooms, a reception area and spaces for commercial outlets. The second floor will provide much-needed office space,

“ENCOURAGING WOOD USE PREFERENCE ACROSS AUSTRALIA”

Cont P 17

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New funds to support women builders

MORE building and construction industry career opportunities for women will result from the Minister for Women's announcement of \$675,000 for the Women Building Australia program.

Master Builders Australia CEO Denita Wawn says only about 12% of the building and construction industry workforce are women.

"Master Builders is acting to fix this for the benefit of women and the industry," she said.

"Women Building Australia is a building and construction industry initiative to boost the numbers of women in our third largest industry. It raises awareness among young women, their parents and careers advisers of the huge range of rewarding careers and mentors women who have



2
1/ *Construction... a rewarding and fulfilling career for women.*
2/ *Denita Wawn... raising awareness.*

daily challenges of working in a male-dominated industry.

Mrs Wawn provided testimonials from participants in the pilot mentoring program:

"This program pushed me out of my comfort zone and how encouraged me to look more positively at myself professionally. I'm extremely grateful for this year of lessons I have learnt and look forward to what I can achieve."

"When I look back on my experience in this program I realise that my confidence and communication skills have increased drastically. Communication can be daunting in the construction industry and my mentor ensured I received a lot of support and guidance on this well as sharing her industry specific knowledge which has assisted me greatly."

recently made a start in the industry.

The program will deliver three 12-month mentoring programs nationally over a three-year period and raise awareness about the huge range of rewarding and fulfilling careers in the sector

at careers expos around the country.

Mrs Wawn said the funding followed a successful 12-month trial. The pilot mentoring program reinforced the importance of supporting women starting their careers in construction and facing the



1
1/ *David Rowlinson... the rise and rise of wood encouragement policies.*
2/ *Mick Bennett... leading the way with timber construction.*

From P 16

and the third floor will feature council chambers and maker spaces.

"We're creating a three-storey building, which is relatively unusual in the area, with a mindset that it will last us for some time before we need to do anything else," Mr. Bennett said.

The building will have a total floor area of more than 6000 sq m and will incorporate timber as the main structural material.

"It will be made from wood

because we want to lead the way in using our wood encouragement policy," Mr. Bennett said.

"We want to encourage timber usage because it's a major industry within our shire. It's also much better for the environment and we know that there are many health and wellbeing benefits associated with wood construction as well.

"We want to go that way and council is very keen to make it happen," he said.

Construction of the new facility is due to start in 2020.



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NZ wood processors calling for caution on environmental tax recommendations

THE NZ Wood Processors and Manufacturers Association has called for a cautious approach to the Tax Working Group's recommendations for more environmental taxes.

WPMA chair Brian Stanley said a lot of media attention and commentary had been given to capital gains tax options, but the working group report made significant recommendations for environmental taxes which also needed fervent debate

Environmental taxes have the potential to materially change New Zealand's economy, for example by influencing the shape of investment in land. WPMA has long backed policies to encourage investment in forestry and wood processing.

WPMA claims the sector could contribute materially to a future low-carbon and clean-water economy if it grows to meet international demand for sustainable housing, packaging and other products.

"The working group appears to have correctly identified some sectors are not paying their share of the costs for environmental issues," Mr Stanley said. "So, further

environmental taxes can assist, for example including agriculture in the ETS is one appropriate way of improving the system."

However, the WPMA believes not all the working group proposals on environmental taxes will support the economic transformation desired. The greatest concern is the lack of acknowledgement of what other countries do. "It's just too simplistic to suggest you can tax your way to a green economy," Brian Stanley said.

He cited a report commissioned by the Wood Council of New Zealand in 2016, which outlined the myriad of subsidies, support schemes and trade barriers faced by the New Zealand wood industry.

"Our policies need to factor the very aggressive policies in some countries, which aim to directly promote the investment they want," he said.

He highlighted the



Brian Stanley... some sectors are not paying their share of the costs.

example of free ETS units issued to wood processors, suggesting the working group recommendation to phase-out so-called 'EITE assistance' could have a perverse impact by discouraging investment in renewable energy and low carbon building products because it would increase costs for the sector while the same sector in other countries enjoy direct subsidies and tax relief.

"The approach may work if New Zealand was isolated from other parts of the world, but we will lose out if we increase costs at the time our competitors are reducing costs for bio-energy, wood processing and similar low-carbon activities"

These concerns are underlined by the Working Group noting one of New Zealand's long-running economic challenges is its low rate of capital investment.

While WPMA supports the recommendation for a carefully designed regime to encourage large, nationally significant infrastructure projects as one remedy, the association suggests the report is disappointing in its limited consideration of how the tax system could be used to encourage investment in green manufacturing, particularly in comparison to other countries' strong industrial-support policies.

"If we want to build a green economy, it is important to get the balance right between 'carrot and stick', to understand the investment we want and to be mindful of competitor countries' policies," Mr Stanley said.

The minister responsible for national economic development and for trade David Parker has been invited to address the WPMA conference in Christchurch on April 14. Contact Debbie Fergie, promotions manager debbie@wpma.org.nz

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EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

WFTN Executive Committee

This year the Queensland chapter of the Women in Forest & Timber Network is looking to reinvigorate the way the Network is organised. An inspiring core group of women have thus far done an exemplary job of managing the network, but the time has come to introduce some new faces to the team and put a more formal Executive Committee structure in place.

We are seeking four women to fill four roles for this Committee. While these roles will have defined responsibilities there will be some overlap, and so we are looking for four women to work together as a team to continue the WFTN's legacy of bringing us together through professional industry events and communications that uphold the Network's values. These are casual, voluntary roles, and will require approximately only 5-10 hours of your time per quarter, as well as the ability to commit to a quarterly 1-2 hour Executive planning meeting that may take place during working hours (usually from 8 am). These are only co-ordinating roles – no one person will need to undertake all activities listed and it is expected that the Committee will work collaboratively and delegate tasks to bring these events and activities to fruition.

Communications – Social Media

- Promote the Network through social media (a dedicated QLD Facebook page will be created)
- Liaise with industry stakeholders on potential promotional opportunities (e.g. Timber&Forestry eNews etc, company newsletters etc.)

Events

- Work with Executive Committee to set dates for WFTN events (typically a quarterly breakfast and one charity fundraising/cocktail event yearly)
- Book venues and vendors
- Organise topics and speakers
- Coordinate prizes and raffles for charity event

Sponsors/Fundraising

- Putting sponsorship packages together, based on sponsor templates that the Network already has in place
- Organising sponsorship for events and activities
- Liaising with sponsors pre and post event

Communications/Administrator

(position filled)

- Manage online presence and back end – database, registrations and web page
- Establish a quarterly newsletter
- Ability to assist with event organisation and promotion

This is a perfect opportunity for women who are seeking connections outside of their organisation, to get more involved with industry, build relationships and networks, and develop new leadership skills. There are no pre-requisites or CV submissions required for putting your name forward, all you need is to be an effective communicator who is passionate and efficient.

Should you wish to take part in this Committee, please send through an email to Sarah Porter (sarah@timberqueensland.com.au) outlining which role you are interested in, and a brief background story about you and your skills or strengths relevant to the candidacy (dot points are fine).

Any expression to assist with the Network going forward in any capacity is appreciated and welcome.



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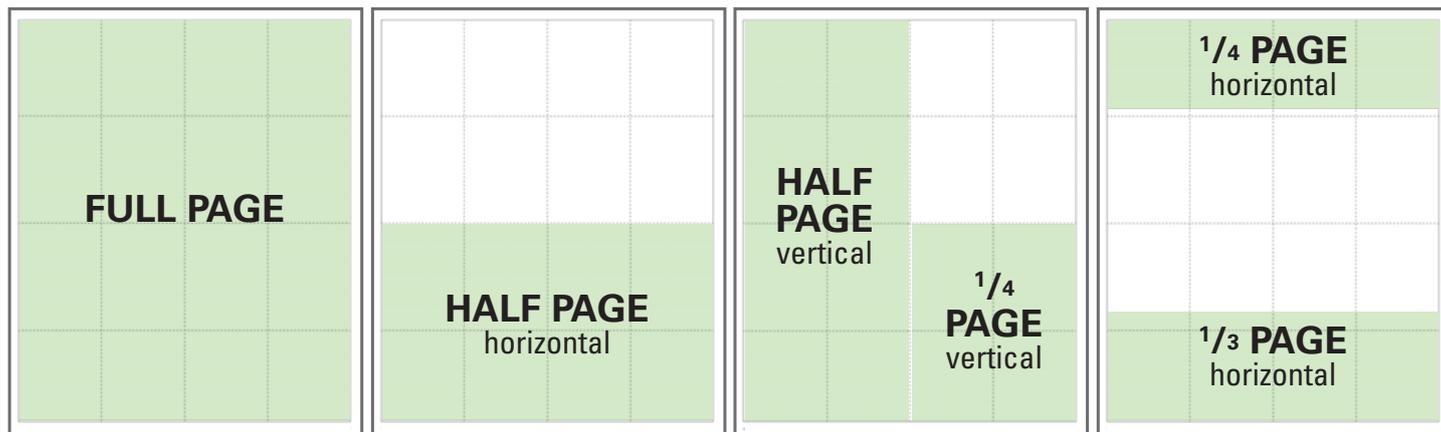
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