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Forest scientists say new approaches needed to address escalating forest wars in Victoria

CFMEU: Andrews government's 30-year plan for the forestry industry is in tatters

AS industry concern mount over the escalating 'forest wars' in Victoria, the professional foresters peak body says the state's current approach to forest management in "simply not working".

Forestry Australia vice-president Dr Michelle Freeman says the worsening forest wars that have been playing out in the media and in the courts over recent months highlight an untenable situation for state forest management in Victoria.

"Our communities are being let down and the very health, future and sustainability of our forests is being put at risk by policy failures and lack of decisive government leadership," Dr Freeman said.

"Two years ago, the Victorian government announced its policy to end native forest timber harvesting in public native forests by 2030. The Victorian Forestry Plan was pitched as



Forest Industries Federation CEO Adele Farina joins forest workers at a Bunbury demonstration last Friday.

providing a pathway forward for a sustainable future for our forests, renewable timber supply and communities who rely on them.

"However, since the release of the plan, conflict between the industry and environmental groups has only intensified and there remains no clear vision for the future of our forests."

Dr Freeman says it is beyond time for the government to clearly explain to stakeholders and the community how they will

deliver the Victorian Forestry Plan amid the current media furore, the use of law fare and broader community concern.

"Genuine and effective dialogue is needed to break the current impasse, and traditional owners, whose voices are being drowned out by the acrimony between

CONFLICT BETWEEN THE INDUSTRY AND GREEN GROUPS HAS ESCALATED

environmental activists and industry, must be heard," she said.

Dr Freeman said Forestry Australia advocated for active management as vital to ensuring the future health and resilience of native forests and the communities who relied on them.

"We need new approaches and a new dialogue around forest management to deliver all forest values, including carbon, biodiversity, water and community needs, such as connection to country, climate change adaptation, fire risk mitigation and local timber supply," she said.

"Our members work in national parks and conservation agencies, fire services and with multiple-use forest managers and we are uniquely placed to help develop landscape solutions to better manage forests.

"We stand ready to work with the Victorian government."

Cont P 5



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CEFC report focus on low-carbon advantages of engineered timber construction in Australia

‘Embodied carbon the next frontier in the task to decarbonise the building sector’

JIM BOWDEN

AUSTRALIA must tackle greenhouse gas emissions right across the economy to meet the challenge and deliver on its international climate goals.

Commenting on the 6th assessment report from the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Clean Energy Finance Corporation CEO Ian Learmonth says the building and construction sector account for 39% of global emissions and represent a great opportunity to help Australia transition to a low-emissions economy.

“Significant progress has already been made to reduce the sector’s operational emissions,” Mr Learmonth said.

Introducing a report – Australian Buildings and Infrastructure: Opportunities for Cutting Embodied Carbon – prepared for CEFC, the Green Building Council and the Infrastructure Sustainability Council, he said embodied carbon was the next frontier in the task to decarbonise the sector.

Embodied carbon in the production of building materials was responsible for 28% of emissions from the building and construction sector globally, he said. Between now and 2050 it was expected to account for



1/ Embodied carbon emissions of an engineered timber building can be 60% to 75% less compared to concrete-steel on a per square metre basis.
2/ Ian Learmonth...CEFC has a strong track record of supporting the built environment sector to reduce emissions.



are taken into consideration, the embodied carbon emissions of an engineered timber building can be 60% to 75% less compared to concrete-steel on a per square metre basis,” the report says.

The report features a \$75 million La Trobe University plan to reach net zero emissions by 2029, to become the first Victorian university to achieve net zero. In a tender to develop new student

Cont P 4

almost half of total emissions from new constructions, with concrete, steel and aluminium considered some of the more challenging materials to decarbonise.

The report played up the use of engineered timber in construction as an extremely effective option to reduce embodied carbon. The ability to sequester carbon provides timber with a negative carbon footprint, which can offset remaining emissions to provide a lower overall emission profile. However, the report said, there were several aspects which needed to be considered while evaluating the carbon reduction potential of timber in a building project. These include structural and design parameters, responsible sourcing of timber, service life, and end-of-life scenarios of the timber components.

“Assuming all such aspects

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“ OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSITION TO A LOW-EMMISSIONS ECONOMY

Carlie brings wide experience to AFCA role

KEY roles across the fibre value chain and forest certification have equipped Carlie Porteous well for her new position as general manager of the Australian Forest Contractors Association.

Ms Porteous brings more than 10 years' experience in the forest and timber industries working with contractors, growers, processors and government agencies.

Her appointment on December 1 follows her role as manager, forestry and fibre compliance, at Visy Industries, enhancing communication and collaboration with industry groups, supply chain members and customers to achieve a responsible supply chain across Visy's manufacturing sectors.

Ms Porteous has expertise in FSC and PEFC certification systems and successfully managed the largest FSC chain of custody certificate within Australia while participating in a number of industry groups, including as a trustee on the board of the Gottstein Trust and a director of FSC Australia and New Zealand.

AFCA chair Adan Taylor said he was delighted with the appointment that ensured AFCA remained the single united national body representing forest contract businesses.

"Carlie not only brings a deep understanding of the forestry value chain, but a genuine passion for the people and communities that support this truly sustainable industry," he said.



Carlie Porteous... deep understanding of the forestry value chain.

AFCA represents a membership group responsible for harvesting, handling and transporting forest products within Australia as well as in-field

chipping, the transportation of woodchip and other operations including silviculture and civil activities.

Ms Porteous has a Bachelor of Business from CQ University and diplomas in quality auditing and management from the Line Management Institute of Australia.

She says she is excited to be representing forest contract businesses across Australia and can't wait to meet the members AFCA represents.

Carlie will be based in Brisbane. She can be contacted at carlie@afca.asn.au

From P 3

accommodation, architects at Jackson Clements Burrows provided an innovative design utilising a mass timber structure made up of CLT and glulam structural columns and beams, rather than the traditional materials of concrete and steel.

Static, as services engineers for the project, undertook an analysis of the 'global warming potential' of the project, compared with a traditional concrete structure.

The team assessed a 75.62% reduction or, 7500 tonnes CO₂-e, when compared to a concrete benchmark. The weight of the CLT structure was significantly less than an equivalent steel or concrete structure, resulting in a reduction in the sub-structure requirements, further reducing the carbon footprint by eliminating deep piling and

large concrete footings.

Ian Learmonth said the CEFC had a strong track record of supporting the built environment sector to reduce emissions.

"Our investments finance projects spreads the benefits of clean energy across the commercial, industrial and residential property sectors, including through the uptake of international and home-grown innovation in design, materials and technology," he said.

"This includes an investment this year of up to \$54 million in Northcote Place, Melbourne, to help build sustainable townhouses that have an impressive average 8-star rating under the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme, a rating achieved by less than 2% of new homes built in Australia in 2020."

The homes also feature Holcim ECOPact, a low-carbon concrete mix that uses waste by-products that would go into landfill reducing embodied carbon by 30-60%.

UNIVERSITY PLAN TO REACH ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2029



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From P 2

Meanwhile, as the Victorian timber industry faces a fresh crisis with contractors and timber workers stood down last week because of more recent injunctions placed on the harvesting of coupes by VicForests, CFMEU manufacturing division national secretary Michael O'Connor says the Victorian 30-year plan for the forestry industry announced just two years ago is in tatters.

The timber workers union held urgent talks with forest contractors and their national association last Friday about the hundreds of workers stood down or at risk of being stood down as Christmas approaches.

The union is calling on the Andrews government to urgently act to get contractors and their crews back to work, prevent mills running out of timber and, in the interim, pay the wages of workers that are stood down through no fault of their own but due to government bungling.

"We warned the government that its plan to get out of native forests without an agreement from green groups to cease harassment, protests and law fare would leave timber workers vulnerable," Mr



Dr Michelle Freeman... our communities are being let down and the health and sustainability of forests is at risk.



Michael O'Connor... government must get contractors and their crews back to work and prevent mills running out of timber.



Adele Farina... a vacuum of information is compounding industry uncertainty in Western Australia.

O'Connor said.

"Injunctions on harvesting as a result of environmental law fare started impacting contractors and timber workers livelihoods and wood supply in February last year, less than three months after the plan was introduced," he said.

"It took the government until June 2020 to do anything about it. The government promised amendments to the code of practice to 'minimise the risk to short-term supply obligations arising from third-party litigation'.

The union welcomed this announcement, anticipating swift action that did not eventuate.

"The code changes, which took the Government almost 18 months to gazette, do not go far enough, as the latest

injunctions attest to," Mr O'Connor said.

"We warned the government that their code changes were inadequate, and that green groups would find another angle to cause chaos in the industry and hurt timber workers and communities.

"That is exactly what has happened, and the government now has a responsibility to these workers to fix it."

In Western Australia, forestry business owners and employees staged a peaceful protest in Bunbury last Friday, frustrated with a

“CODE CHANGES INADEQUATE AND DO NOT GO FAR ENOUGH

lack of clarity from the state government surrounding its decision to end native forestry.

The protest coincided with the second meeting of the Native Forestry Transition Group, 11 weeks after the announcement that native forestry would cease from 2024. Since the politically-driven announcement, impacted businesses and employees have received no details as to how the so-called Just Transition Plan will assist them. Forest Industries Federation CEO Adele Farina called on the government to honour its commitment to support timber businesses, impacted by its decision to ban native forest harvesting, through the transition process.

"A vacuum of information is compounding industry uncertainty, with frustration levels increasing with each passing day and that is what we are seeing at the protests, that frustration is understandably spilling over," Ms Farina said.

"I urge the state government to step up and treat impacted timber businesses fairly. It is the right and proper thing to do and they deserve far better than the treatment they have received to date."



Royd Clan's House, entrant in the 2021 Australian Timber Design Awards – Australian certified timber category.

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Industry applauds FTMA's Kersten Gentle as she enters Association Forum's Hall of Fame

Recognising individuals who have made an outstanding contribution and commitment

JIM BOWDEN

TIMBER industry dynamo Kersten Gentle who "lives to work in her chosen field" was inducted into the Association Forum's 2021 Hall of Fame on Wednesday.

The honour given to Kersten as executive officer of the Frame and Truss Manufacturers Association of Australia has been applauded across the sector.

The Hall of Fame award recognises individuals who have made an outstanding high-level contribution and commitment to an association or associations over a long period ... well deserved by Kersten for all her enthusiastic and professional efforts on behalf of the forest and wood product industry over the years.

Established in 2004, the Association Forum is a commercial, member-based network of 600 associations, charities, clubs, societies and other not-for-profit organisations. Since its foundation, the forum has provided assistance to hundreds of associations and charities in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, India, South Africa and other nations.

Kersten was appointed in 2009 to the FTMA, an independent, national organisation representing the



head of FWPAs WoodSolutions Program.

Kersten said she was "absolutely

honoured to be inducted into the Association Forum's Hall of Fame."

She added: "Everyone knows I love my job, love our industry and I even though we don't do the hard work for the recognition, I am humbled to be recognised by one of my peers, especially when they are someone I admire so much.

Kersten Gentle... absolutely honoured to be inducted to the Association Forum's Hall of Fame.

prefabricated timber truss and wall frame industry in all states. She has represented FTMA on many industry committees and boards such as Wood Products Victoria, Women in Forest and Timber Network, Innovative Skills Program and various ForestWorks committees.

She is also a member of the Coalition for Safer Communities and was recently appointed to the Victorian Victims of Crime Consultative Committee by the Victorian Attorney General to raise, address and implement changes to support victims of crime and hopefully reduce crimes against people.

Previously, Kersten was Victoria manager and national coordinator (1997-2009) of Timber Communities Australia.

Kersten "grew up with sawdust in my boots." Her grandfather was a sawmillier and native forest contractor, her husband Scott's great

uncle was a forester – Dr Wal Gentle (1932-1989) NSW Commissioner of Forests and William Jolly Medal winner – and her family has worked continuously in the industry.

With Scott, she ran a forest-based business regenerating harvested coupes. "In fact, 98% of my entire working life has in some way been involved in the forest industry," she says.

During the 2020-21 Black Summer bushfires, Healesville-based Kersten revived the Friends of Forestry network, which provided a united 'grassroots' response to the state's fires, working within the industry to coordinate volunteers and their forest machinery and equipment.

Kersten was nominated for the Hall of Fame award by Eileen Newbury, head of marketing and communications at Forest and Wood Products Australia and

"Thank you, Eileen, for the nomination and for recognising the hard work, passion and dedication I have given to FTMA and Timber Communities Australia over many years."

Kersten's selection puts her among many luminaries across Australia who have entered the Hall of Fame, including Wilhelm Harnisch, former CEO, Master Builders Australia, Janet Reynolds, professional development coordinator, Home Economics Institute of Australia, Susan Sundstrom, Careers Advisors Association, Marilyn Yates, Home Economics Institute of Australia, Julie Hammer, Engineers Australia, and Marilyn Yates, education issues, Home Economics Institute of Australia.

Kersten and Scott have three children Neil, Darcy and Nikita ... "and we're happy living in the gorgeous Yarra Valley," she says.

“RECOGNISED FOR PASSION AND DEDICATION TO TIMBER INDUSTRY”

APRIL 2022

NB. REVISED DATE

3-8: Gottstein Trust Understanding Wood Science Course – Sunday evening, April 3, 2022, in Albury, NSW, for the field trip component, ending on Friday, April 8, in Canberra.

The course is fully booked and a wait list is operating on a first-in-first-served basis. Delivered in partnership with the ANU, the course timing prior to next Easter matches up with the semester break. The course program can be downloaded at www.gottsteintrust.org

JUNE 2022

NB. REVISED DATE

13: AFPA gala dinner. –TBA. POSTPONED EVENT. www.ausfpa.com.au

NB. REVISED DATE

21-22: Frame Australia Timber Offsite Construction –Crown Promenade Melbourne, VIC.

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EVENTS LISTS MAY CHANGE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS. PLEASE CHECK THE RELEVANT WEBSITES FOR UPDATES.

JANUARY 2022

28-29: International Conference on Forest Resources Accounting and Economics – Australia World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, Sydney, Australia. Forest industry accounting, methodological and issues and environmental accounting for forestry. For further information see; <https://waset.org/forest-resources-accounting-and-economics-conference-in-january-2022-in-sydney>

MAY 2022

23-24: International Forest Business Conference – Sheraton Sopot Hotel, Poland. A two-day conference on megatrends that shape responsible forest and wood industry investments for climate action. The conference aims to bring together leading forest management organizations (TIMOs), investors interested in forest assets and carbon offsets (e.g., public and corporate pension funds, wealth managers and private banks, sovereign wealth

funds, foundations and endowments) and sustainable wood industry representatives in order to exchange and share experiences and ideas about challenges and opportunities for forest sector as a natural climate solution. The main theme of the conference is New Forest Business Frontiers. Register at www.fba-events.com or contact karolina@forest-analytics.com

• Please send events to John Halkett: johnh@timberandforestrynews.com

AFPA, NFF acknowledge benefits of forestry on farms

FARM forestry can deliver benefits for farmers, battle climate change and help with the timber shortage crisis

Adding timber production trees to farms can yield significant productivity and financial benefits for landowners as well as increase property values, according to landmark new research.

The Forest and Wood Products Australia paper, which reveals that a take-up of farm forestry would

also help strengthen regional economies, has been welcomed by both the Australian Forest Production Association and National Farmers Federation.

The research contained in 'Lifting Farmgate Profitability through High Value Modular Agroforestry', highlights exciting opportunities for farmers to integrate with agroforestry.

The sites studied showed major benefits including

improved cashflow using tree rotations, increased shelter for stock, biodiversity improvements and land restoration benefits. At one location tree planting helped increase pasture productivity by 30%.

NFF CEO Tony Mahar said farm forestry could complement traditional farming enterprises through long-term investment.

AFPA CEO Ross Hampton said the research showed

that support for integrated trees among farmers was high, with recognition for benefits including for shelter, biodiversity, aesthetics, direct economic benefits and land restoration.

"The Covid pandemic-induced building boom has given Australians a glimpse into the future revealing how difficult it will be to source timber if more production trees aren't planted urgently," Mr Hampton said.



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CSIRO analysis over three decades has linked severe forest fire to climate change, fuel loads

NEW research by CSIRO shows climate change has driven a significant increase in Australia's forest fire activity over the last three decades.

A lengthening of the fire season towards autumn and winter were also identified, along with an increase in fire activity in cooler and warmer regions including alpine forests in Tasmania and tropical rainforests in Queensland.

The research published in Nature Communications is the first of its kind and combines analysis of previous forest fire sites with eight drivers of fire activity including climate, fuel accumulation, ignition and management (prescribed burning).



Thirty-two years of satellite data and 90 years of ground-based datasets from climate and weather observations, and simulated fuel loads for Australian forests, formed the basis of the research, which allowed researchers

Over the last 90 years, three of the four mega fire years occurred after the year 2000. A mega fire year is defined as the cumulative burned area of forest over one year of more than 1 million ha.

Australia's mean temperature has increased by 1.4 deg. C. since 1910, with a rapid increase in extreme heat events, while rainfall has declined in the southern and eastern regions of the continent. Globally fire activity is decreasing. However, the extent of forest fires in Australia is increasing.

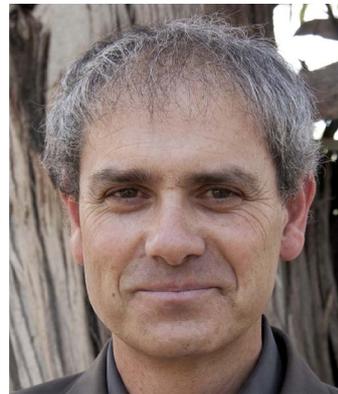
When comparing the first half (1988-2001) with the second half (2002-2018) of the record studied, the research showed that the average annual forest burned area in Australia increased 350%, and 800% when including 2019.

Comparing the same time period, the research showed a five-fold increase in annual average burned area in winter and a three-fold increase in autumn, with spring and summer seeing a 10-fold increase.

"In Australia, fire frequency has increased rapidly in some areas and there are now regions in the southeast and south with fire intervals shorter than 20 years," Dr Canadell said.

"This is significant because it means some types of vegetation won't reach maturity and this could put ecosystems at risk," she said.

"Understanding these trends will help to inform emergency management, health, infrastructure, natural resource management and conservation."



Dr Pep Canadell... frequency of forest megafires likely to continue under future projected climate change.

to identify climate change driven increases versus natural variability.

CSIRO scientist Dr Pep Canadell said the research was one of the most extensive studies of its kind performed to date, and was important for understanding how continued changes to the climate might impact future fire activity.

"While all eight drivers of fire-activity played varying roles in influencing forest fires, climate was the overwhelming factor driving fire-activity," Dr Canadell said.

"The results also suggest the frequency of forest megafires are likely to continue under future projected climate change."

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Mass timber stadium overall winner in 2021 Timber Design Awards

Entries explore the versatility of engineered wood

A MASS timber stadium structure in western Sydney – a ‘first’ for glulam in Australia – was judged overall winner of the 2021 Australian Timber Design Awards in a virtual presentation on Wednesday.

The Eric Tweedle Stadium, named after a 99-year-old English-born war veteran and the oldest surviving Australian Rugby representative, also won the People’s Choice Award for Pymont-based architects dwp Australia & Northrop.



Eric Tweedle Stadium... overall winner and the People’s Choice.



Casey Brown Architecture for Permanent Camping 2, located at Berry, NSW, on a gently rising hill, among lush green paddocks overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

m is the minimal footprint where two people can co-exist without uncomfortably invading each other’s personal space. The structure

The floor plan at 3 m x 3

Cont P 10

“STADIUM INCLUDES A 760-SEAT GRANDSTAND

An impressive achievement in timber engineering, the judges said the roof structure design was “very ambitious” with three main cantilever spans 8.5 m over the spectator’s seating, 13.7 m beams span over the multi-purpose area and a double cantilevered roof frame at each end of the roof structure.

The entire roof slopes west and is supported by 26 240 x 380 mm timber glulam columns.

The stadium includes a 760-seat grandstand with change rooms, multi-purpose rooms, first-floor function space, commercial kitchen and outdoor viewing deck.

Structural engineer was Northrop Consulting Engineers; the builder Belmadar; and the timber supplier and fabricator Rubner Holzbau and Theca Australia.

(Sponsor FWPA/Wood Solutions)

Winner of the Residential Class 1 new building was

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From P 9

is all-recycled ironbark from a disused wharf. Finely crafted timber elements are predominately displayed and prefabricated onsite using traditional joints without the need for bolts or nails. The structure is designed for disassembly, enabling the components to be reused.

(Sponsor: Timber NSW)

The Interior Fit-Out Residential Buildings Award went to Jackson Clements Burrows Architects for Divided House.

Structural elements contrast hardwood beams, brick and steel. Two timber species are featured – Victorian ash glulam beams and vertical glulam slabs form open joinery, solid timber benchtops, windows, doors, custom table, and intricate details throughout and spotted gum in the form of plywood panels used as surface treatments to internal wall linings, floors and joinery.

(Sponsor: Responsible Wood/PEFC).

Level Architecture Konstrukt won the Certified Timber Award for Royd Clan's House built on a clustered pavilion concept to deflect



Winner of the Residential Class 1 new building... Casey Brown Architecture for Permanent Camping 2.

strong wind turbulence.

The choice to use timber in the interior played an essential role in the residence's design, structure, and energy performance. CLT was used for floors,

“ CLUSTERED PAVILION WINS CERTIFIED TIMBER AWARD ”

walls, and roofs which gave a cohesive interior. The supporting walls for the internal stairs are the scattered stones from the remains of the late 1800s house on the site.

The use of Australian certified timber was crucial for this project as it added to the overall sustainable objective. All parts of the project strived to be a leader in sustainable design,

including ensuring that the timber had been sustainably managed.

(Sponsor: Responsible Wood/PEFC).

The Sustainability Award was won by Matt Elkan Architect for Smash Repair House, a renovation of a former car workshop on a corner site in the Paddington conservation area of Sydney.

The building exists within a relatively intact streetscape of

Victorian terrace houses, yet historically and formally does not fit the terrace typology. Environmentally, the house is the re-purposing of an existing structure retaining up to 90% of the perimeter brick walls. Timber is used for the overwhelming majority of the new building work for its embodied energy

Cont P 11



The Interior Fit-Out Residential Buildings Award went to Jackson Clements Burrows Architects for Divided House.



Sustainability Award was won by Matt Elkan Architect for Smash Repair House.

From P 10

benefits, carbon capture and connection to nature.

The architects described the use of timber for philosophical and environmental reasons, and both of these add to the house's overall sustainability.

All new timber, including hardwood and softwood, is responsibly sourced from known Australian suppliers and certified under the PEFC scheme. Salvaged hardwood from the site was reused to build two tables for the new

“TASSIE OAK FEATURES ON RISING STAR AWARD

house and the extensive use of hardwood for optimised durability ensures the overall longevity of the house.

(Sponsor: Planet Ark Make it Wood Campaign).

Architect Matt Sansom of Circa Morris-Nunn Chua took the Rising Star Award for Arthur Circus located in one of the most romanticised and cherished heritage precincts in the heart of Battery Point, Hobart.

The tight spatial constraints and heritage restrictions led to a design response emphasising the separation of the original cottage from the new work.

An off-the-cuff search for a cheaper source of native timber led to a local supplier

Cont P 12

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From P 11

who embraces the irregularities of the species, offering upcycled timber deemed below grade for mainstream supply.

Tasmanian oak lining boards were also chosen for their ability to line the floor, walls, and ceiling. The timber was left roughly sanded to allow penetration of a white tinted oil wax which finishes the timber akin to its natural state.

The judges noted the architectural detail, commenting on the young designer's level of maturity and the quality of execution in the final presented space.

(Sponsor Kennedy's Timber).

The Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas won the Veneer Award for Tzannes Architecture – a contextual building adapting reuse of two heritage-listed warehouse buildings and a new addition.

Timber veneer has been used on the joinery throughout the first and second floors, including individual offices, general offices and kitchens. In addition, there is extensive veneer joinery to the board room and reception space.

The multipurpose and activity spaces on the second floor have extensive veneer joinery housing media and concealing services. On the ground floor, a timber veneer wall forms the front entry and security screen.

Straight-grained American oak was specified because of its warm honey tones to



Level Architecture Konstrukt won the Responsible Wood Certified Timber Award for Royd Clan's House.

match the oak flooring. The use of the veneer tied the solid timber elements in the joinery on the ground floor to the veneer elements on the first and second floors. An oil coating was used to allow

maintenance to occur via touch-ups without requiring sanding and resurfacing to the entire unit.

(Sponsor: Timber Veneer Association of Australia).



Eden Port Welcome Centre won the Recycled Timber Award for Cox Architecture.

Eden Port Welcome Centre won the Recycled Timber Award for Cox Architecture. The building's structure is made from recycled hardwoods as a celebration of the local timber industry. The building form and cladding have reference to the maritime fishing industry.

Each piece of timber has its own story, where the markings cuts and imperfections are celebrated throughout. The recycled Ironbark beams and columns are from a multitude of locations in NSW and Victoria and have unique tool cut marks from when the timber was originally cut by hand.

“ WELCOME TO RECYCLED HARDWOODS ”

The balcony's ironbark joists are from a warehouse in Brisbane, and the 25 mm recycled ironbark decking is from the Hawkesbury River. The interior staircase is made from recycled ironbark and tallowwood from local decommissioned piers. Old bolt holes are filled with black epoxy and

Cont P 13



Rising Star Award for Arthur Circus won by Matt Sansom of Circa Morris-Nunn Chua.

From P 12

flaunted in the treads and risers. The recycled timber benchtop also locally sourced has the markings of teredo worms from its previous life underwater.

(Sponsor: Kennedy's Timber).

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- Multi-Residential - Adelaide Oval Hotel by Cox Architecture + Carr.
- Interior Fitout - Commercial - F+P Studio by

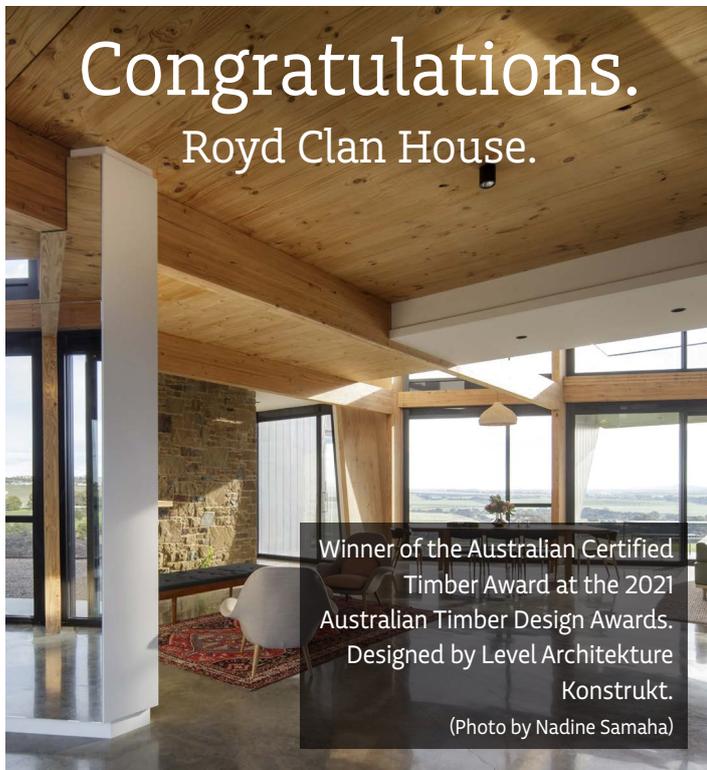
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- Stand Alone Structure - Suspended Remnants –

Funicular Timber Pavilion by Baber, Burry, Chen & Gattas.

On the cover: Mass timber stadium structure takes both Overall Winner and the People's Choice Award at the 2021 Timber Design Awards.
Photo: Brett Boardman



Veneer Award... Judith Neilson Institute for Journalism and Ideas won by Tzannes Architecture.



Congratulations.

Royd Clan House.

Winner of the Australian Certified Timber Award at the 2021 Australian Timber Design Awards. Designed by Level Architekture Konstrukt. (Photo by Nadine Samaha)



Congratulations.

Divided House.

Winner of the Interior Fitout – Residential Award at the 2021 Australian Timber Design Awards. Designed by Jackson Clements Burrows Architects. (Photo by John Gollings Photography)

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\$9.6m funding to breed trees with traits for high carbon storage and drought resistance

More than 360 students from across Australia logged into online sessions

SCIENTISTS from New Zealand's Tauranga PlantTech Research Institute are celebrating successful funding bids to the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment's Endeavour Fund.

In one of the bids, PlantTech is working with Crown Research Institute Scion on a five-year, \$9.6 million project called 'Seeing the Forest for the Trees: transforming tree phenotyping for future forests'.

This will explore the phenotype (characteristics) of trees to identify trees that grow well in specific environments.

The research program is focused on forest phenotyping using remotely sensed data and advanced concepts in data science. Combined with genomic data, Scion expects to select and breed trees with traits such as high carbon storage and resistance to disease and drought.

In an example at Gisborne it may become more important to use a drought resistant radiata pine if droughts increase in severity.

Scion data and geospatial intelligence principal scientist Dr Mike Watt welcomes PlantTech's participation in the project, citing their advanced capability in hyperspectral

“ASSESSING THE ATTRIBUTES OF TREES THAT CAN'T BE SEEN BY THE NAKED EYE



1/ *Seeing the forest for the trees ... transforming tree phenotyping for future forests.*

2/ *Mark Begbie... PlantTech chief executive.*

developed for radiata pine. Effectively, this would be a map showing where each genotype can be allocated throughout New Zealand to optimise productivity or resistance against water or drought stress.

"We know that if you optimally allocate different genotypes to the right site, then you can get a gain of 20% in productivity," Dr Watt says.

"That translates into quite a bit of value for radiata pine."

Radiata is not the only focus of the program. Indigenous forests will also be included, as Scion aims to explore the cultural links that Māori have to forests and taonga (treasure) species. For example, the researchers want to find out what cultural

phenotypes are important to Māori, such as a tree's potential for carving.

It is hoped that cultural phenotyping could incentivise the planting of indigenous tree species leading to more diverse forests and more opportunities for Māori to harvest indigenous trees for carving or other traditional uses.

Administered by the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment, the Endeavour Fund awards funding to science and technology projects each year. The funding is available through two mechanisms – Smart Ideas and Research Programmes. With Smart Ideas, applicants can request between \$0.4 million to \$1 million, for a term of two or three years. The 2021 investment round is \$18 million. With Research Programmes, applicants can request \$0.5 million or more in periods of three, four or five years.

In this year's round of funding, 69 new scientific research projects were awarded more than \$244 million from the Endeavour Fund, New Zealand's largest contestable research fund.

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Adapting to Tigercat machines ‘a breeze’ says logging contractors who were first to use them

‘After trials, it quickly became apparent the new 570 head was fast and super reliable’

FIELDING Logging was among the first contractors in Australia to buy Tigercat products when they arrived.

The company, based at Riana in northwest Tasmania, is also one of the first owners of the original 575 series harvesting heads.

“Our first 575 has over 20,000 hours on it,” Laurence Fielding said. “We only had to pin and bush it once during this time. We have put some big wood through it over the years. It’s been a great head, and it certainly influenced us to look hard at the Tigercat processors for our new contract.”

Initially, Fielding Logging trialled the Tigercat 570 processor in its development stage, working closely with Tigercat. It quickly became apparent that the new 570 was fast and super reliable.

“That first head has close to 6000 operating hours now, and its performance, combined with our experience with the original 575 processor, made it an easy decision to purchase more Tigercat 570 processors,” Laurence said.

Today, Fielding Logging has five Tigercat 570 processors working between two eucalyptus plantation contracts in Tasmania.

“It’s hard to step away from



Forico daily. From a management perspective, we have detailed cut information for each harvester with full visibility, which creates a fun but competitive atmosphere among the boys to produce more than the rest.”

Jeffrey said the Tigercat 570

outperforms all competitors’ heads.

“The 570 is classed as a 20 in. harvesting head. It’s fast but has the torque and capability of a much bigger head, in my opinion.

“When we were upgrading to the new Tigercat 570 processors, they recommended the 360-degree rotation. Now no leaks – and it’s working great.”

Jeffrey is now operating the new Tigercat H845E harvester. “The E-series has better visibility on all sides of the machine, and the hydraulic pumps are more responsive,” he said.

“I also like the longer, heavier track frame. The reach is great and the toolboxes have been improved with better storage.”

Laurence has owned 12 Tigercat machines and six processing heads since he bought the first one in 2000.

“The Tigercat dealer here, Onetrak, support us very well and have plenty of good factory-trained mechanics.”

1/ Fielding Logging has five Tigercat 570 processors working between two eucalyptus plantation contracts in Tasmania.

2/ Adam Fielding... “I’ve turned 100% from being a sceptic to a true supporter – I’ll never change back from Tigercat.”

low maintenance with large diameter taper lock bearings, where others use a smaller pin and bush style. It just makes it so much easier.

“One thing that stands out is how much better laid out the Tigercat 570 is compared to other harvesting heads – the way the hydraulic hoses are out of the way of the wheels on the sides. You just avoid any potential damage while working.”

The company’s new contract with Forico asked for full optimisation and StanForD compliant data transfer, including geo mapping.

“This is simple with the Tigercat 570 processor,” Jeffrey said.

“A couple of clicks at the end of the day, and I’ve got it all on my phone. I transfer the StanForD compliant file to

what you know and make big changes – which is what we had to do when we switched to Tigercat heads,” Adam Fielding said.

“One of the big changes is that the Tigercat heads use the debarking knives to hold the wood in conjunction with the drive wheels,” Adam Fielding said.

“It took a couple of weeks to get used to, but I’ve turned 100% from being a sceptic to a true supporter – I’ll never change back from Tigercat.”

Jeffrey Fielding continues: “Like with the Tigercat machines, every component on the harvester head is big and solid. They’re just extremely reliable and efficient. They are super-



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Job Vacancy



Timber Treatment Technician / Customer Services Role

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Providing market leading service, products, and quality, we are seeking a talented all rounder to provide additional technical support to our customers as well as further assist in the extensive development work which we undertake.

It is envisaged that the successful candidate will be located at our Moolap / Geelong facility in Victoria though there is some flexibility to allow this position to be filled by a person working in another region of Victoria. The successful candidate should possess the following attributes:

- It is desirable (though not essential) that the candidate will have work experience in wood products or forestry related areas with a preference for this experience to be in timber preservation
- Formal qualifications in a science or engineering based discipline will also be looked upon favourably
- The ability to form good working relationships with customers at all levels
- Be creative, independent and motivated.
- Willingness to travel (mainly within Victoria and some interstate)
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Good general IT skills

To succeed in this role, you must be able to work autonomously within the structure of a small professional team to help reach key performance targets. You will also be able to work as part of a larger international team sharing information and collaborating on projects.

You will enjoy working in an environment that encourages teamwork, transparency, innovation, and excellence. Training will be provided to the right candidate.

If you believe that you are the person for the job, and you are ready to join the Koppers team, please submit your written application and **resume by 17th December 2021** to:

General Manager

Koppers Performance Chemicals Australia

kpcjobs@koppers.com.au

Applicants must possess a suitable visa for working in Australia.

Ray, you were a pain we were glad to have!

At age 74 and having spent more than 40 of those years working with the forest industry as a trainer, safety officer and all-round legend Ray Walker is hanging up the keys of his trusty Nissan Patrol to head into retirement.

Week after month after year Ray criss-crossed Tasmania bringing his cheerful but sage advice to contractors and their staff on their jobs, averaging 60,000 to 70,000 km a year.

"I was reasonably hard on tyres early on, but the tyres got better as I got older, or I might have slowed down a bit," Ray humoured.

For all that he never lost a point on his licence, and in fact only had a couple of warnings from the constabulary – one for crossing the centre line and one for going a bit quick.

"By geez I must have been lucky," Ray concedes.

Ray has been missed by the life-long friends among the contracting crews he has worked with and remains in touch giving a bit of help or advice.

"They're a resilient bunch, with all the closures and limitations put on by the mills and authorities they just get on with it," he said.

Some of his contact with them extended to some extra-curricular weekend 'roo shooting trips.

Ray is proud of being inducted into the AFCA Hall of Fame for services to the industry. The AUSTimber expo in 2016 at Traralgon required him to take a trip out of his beloved Tasmania.



Ray Walker... inducted into the AFCA Hall of Fame for services to the industry.

"I had to go to New Zealand about 1980 and I swore I'd never go far again," he said.

"Tassie's as good a place as you'd get so I didn't see the point in travelling too far from home. They got me over there under false pretences anyway.

"They got me up at this presentation 'do' and I didn't know what to say!"

And the reason he stayed so long in the industry?

"It's only for those northern ladies I call them that I lasted as long as I did – Karen Hall, Denise DeBattista, Debbie Tickner, Eva James and Sandy Hodge.

"Being the age I am I was never very savvy with computers and stuff and they used to keep me going. I wouldn't have lasted anything like as long if it wasn't for them, even though they used to call me PITA — pain in the arse."

The Australian Forest Contractors Association and the whole of industry thanks Ray for his huge contribution over the years and wishes him the best with his retirement.

AKD ‘pinks up’ to raise \$176,000 for cause

AKD’S annual ‘Pink Up October’ initiative has raised more than \$176,000 for the McGrath Foundation, far exceeding the target of \$100,000.

This takes the total raised over the last two years to over \$250,000, contributing vital funds to this valuable cause.

With breast cancer the most diagnosed cancer in Australia, AKD CEO Shane Vicary said raising over \$176,000 was a huge effort. “We have been blown away by the generosity of people and how our team, industry, customers, suppliers and our communities have got behind the cause.”

The AKD community went all out this year to ‘pink up’ in support of the cause. From pink shoelaces to pink mohawks, all sites added something unique to the fund-raising effort. However, the focus is more than just raising money, with the team committed to raising awareness of the need for



breast health understanding and regular screening for the eligible population.

“Being aware of breast cancer is not just for October, it’s important that this is something you think about

1/ In the pink at the Colac site... Mick Ritchie, Emma Methven, Emily Hay, Toni Kirkup, and Jason Biggs.

2/ Breast cancer has touched AKD’s NSW state manager Matt Taylor’s life and family in a very personal way. He shared his story about this in a special ‘pink up’ way.

regularly,” Mr Vicary said.

McGrath Foundation CEO Holly Masters said the foundation was focused on a future where the free support of a McGrath Breast Care Nurse was available to every person who needed one.

“Our mission is to ensure

that no one goes through breast cancer without the care of a McGrath Breast Care Nurse. Right now, we need 79 more nurses to meet that goal, all the while continuing to fund our existing cohort of nurses.”

The breast care nurses provide vital physical, psychological, and emotional support to individuals and their families experiencing

breast cancer from the time of diagnosis and throughout treatment.

“While the support of our nurses is free to patients we rely on donations from the community and corporate partners to make this a reality,” Ms Masters said.

AKD would like to thank their team, customers, suppliers, communities and shareholders for their efforts and contributions to this year’s Pink Up.

“We are extremely proud and grateful,” Shane Vicary said.



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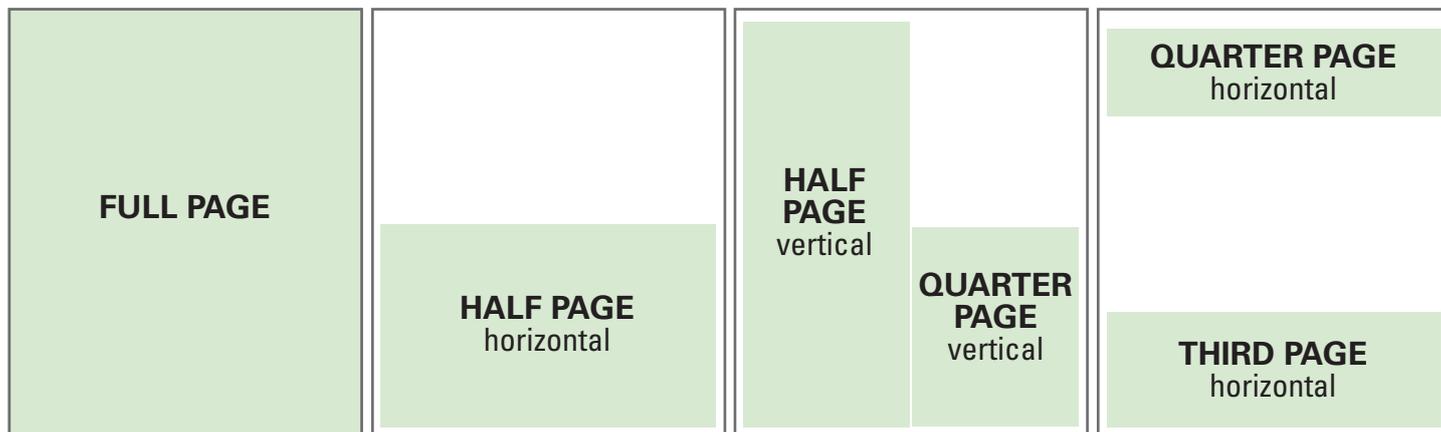
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