

DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

Like and
follow us on



ISSUE 795 // March 21 2024

timber & FORESTRY *e*news

**LATEST
JOBS:**

• Bush Operator
[Click to apply](#)



Art meets business at FTMA conference

COVER STORY P 8

TimberTrader
news

**subscribe
now**

for your printed magazine

 **Responsible
Wood**
RW/1-10-1

To find certified
organisations or
wood products
on our database...

[Click here.](#)

 **Wood
Solutions**
design and build

www.woodsolutions.com.au

**NEED CREATIVE
HELP?**

We have an experienced,
in-house, artistic team
who can deliver polished ads,
promotions, brochures
and more.

[ENQUIRE TODAY](#)

**ALL UNDER
ONE ROOF**

- IR SUPPORT
- TRAINING
- EMPLOYMENT
- WHS
- COMMUNITY



 **NTHA**
NATIONAL TIMBER &
HARDWARE ASSOCIATION

1800 822 621

Forestry joins in protection of coastal environment from weed invasion

FORESTRY Corporation has partnered with Nambucca Valley Council, Nambucca Heads Local Aboriginal Land Council and Reflections Holiday Parks in a program funded by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

The funding is to undertake bush regeneration work throughout coastal environmental areas and endangered ecological communities such as Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll, Littoral Rainforest, Swamp Oak Forest and Themeda Grasslands that occur along the coast of the Nambucca Local Government Area.

Nambucca Valley Council Environmental Project Officer Keegan Noble said Nambucca Valley Council will coordinate contractors on lands around Valla Beach, Nambucca



Forestry Corporation Senior Planner – Upper North Coast Steve Pickering, Keegan Noble from Nambucca Valley Council, Lloyd Ellis and Sally Cavanagh from Happy Valley Landscaping and Concrete and Forestry Corporation Operations Coordinator Jason Bee.

Heads and Scotts Head.

Mr Noble said the works will connect the dots between previous areas that have received weed control works.

“This is a valuable project for the Valley and will improve the resilience and environmental value of endangered ecological communities along the coast,” Mr Noble said.

Forestry Corporation Senior Planner – Upper North Coast Steve Pickering said the

work, starting this month, will occur across multiple tenures including Nambucca State Forest.

“A lot of the work will involve hand pulling weeds followed up with the use of chemicals to treat the

“ IMPROVE RESILIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE

heavier infestation areas,” Mr Pickering said.

“Working across multiple tenures will ensure maximum effectiveness of the weed control work by keeping them out of the bush altogether and not just up to a line on a map.

“Many of these areas are in a good ecological condition and this work will enable us to keep weeds under control and help protect these valuable ecological communities,” he said.

Forestry Corporation has provided in-kind support planning and supervising weed control works and ensuring known locations containing rare or threatened plants, cultural heritage items or other forest values are protected.

As a public land manager, Forestry Corporation works closely with NSW government agencies, local councils and landowners to control weed infestations protecting the biodiversity of forests and public lands.

Find out more about Forestry Corporation at www.forestrycorporation.com.au

Preserve your Project, Preserve Timber

Choose a timber preservative with colour to set your project application apart.

- Micronised pigment technology
- Enhances timber grain
- A combination of Micropro's attributes with the added benefit of long lasting colour

www.kopperspc.com.au
1800 088 809

VicForests setting the record straight... again

VICFORESTS has released a statement following the recent public commentary about the closure of VicForest saying there have been numerous false and misleading claims.

VicForests knows there are individuals and organisations who are opposed to native timber harvesting who will be celebrating VicForests' closure. But this doesn't mean it's open season – and it will never be acceptable to treat the men and women of VicForests with blatant disrespect.

False claims do harm. This includes the impact on the mental health and well-being of people who have dedicated themselves to the management of forests for future generations.

The most offensive category of false claims being made is the suggestion VicForests is "rogue" or a "cowboy agency".

These claims are demonstrably false – but repeated often by those opposed to the legal activity undertaken by VicForests in furtherance of longstanding government policy.

VicForests is a government agency, overseen by an independent Board and otherwise subject to the ordinary governance obligations and control of any government agency. The executives and staff of VicForests are Victorian public servants. It is self-evident that if VicForests was acting otherwise than in accordance with Government policy – or behaving illegally - then it was clearly within the power of the Government to intervene.

The system of regulation



VicForests has released a statement following concerns over misinformation.

in Victoria is based on compliance with explicit rules to manage known threats to the environment that have been developed by forestry and environmental experts over many years. These legal rules balance environmental objectives with economic and social objectives. This balance is required by the Principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development – which is a cornerstone of Australian and International environmental law.

VicForests has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to meeting, and often exceeding, the explicit rules set by Government. It has never been prosecuted by the independent environment regulator.

This is backed up by the latest published independent audit result from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, which saw VicForests achieve an average of 96% compliance across four environmental areas: environmental values in

State forests, conservation of biodiversity, operational planning and record keeping, and coupe infrastructure for timber harvesting operations. The 96% average compliance findings are a testament to the work our staff undertake in Victoria's state forests.

Litigation brought against VicForests over the last few years was based on arguments that VicForests had a duty to protect the environment that goes far beyond the balanced rules set by the Victorian Government. Recent outcomes in these cases were based on novel interpretations of laws that had been decided in VicForests' favour previously.

The effect of these recent cases is that VicForests could never know what it needed to do to comply with the law, because the rules will now be decided by the Courts – not the Government – on a case-by-case basis without reference to the balance explicitly required by the National and State policy arrangements.

VicForests even had multiple cases brought against it by different environmental groups arguing that different measures were needed to protect the same species in overlapping locations – so that different judges were being asked to set new and different rules at the same time. And inevitably as VicForests adjusted

its processes to respond to legal threats, plaintiffs simply changed their claim or brought new cases arguing for something different.

Another category of offensive claims are that VicForests is an "environmental vandal" or that we are "putting countless threatened species at greater risk of extinction".

Any organisation or person who is truly committed to the protection of Australia's threatened species would understand that the greatest risk – by far – is the risk of invasive species – affecting 82% of threatened species in Australia. [<https://www.publish.csiro.au/pc/pdf/PC18024>]. Professional and impartial forest scientists know that the threat of timber harvesting is comparatively low, well understood and managed through the extensive system of rules and practices reflected in the code of practice.

VicForests worked in

Cont P 5

WFTN celebrate Women

THE Women in Timber & Forests Network, Queensland (WFTN QLD) proudly held their first quarterly breakfast of 2024 to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8.

The event was a resounding success according to attendees and organisers, with a notable gathering at Lady Marmalade Café in Stones Corner. A highlight of the morning was the privilege of hearing from Sacha Drake, a celebrated Australian fashion designer, who shared her inspiring journey to becoming a successful businesswoman.

The event was supported by our breakfast sponsor, VIDA Wood, and annual partner Woodhouse Timber Company.



1/ Attendees enjoyed hearing from Sasha as she shared her journey.
 2/ Fashion icon Sacha Drake was the guest speaker for the event. L-R: Jacinta Colley, VidaWood, Sacha Drake, Jenni Day, Versace Timbers, and Tahlia Bellotti, NTHA.
 3/ The event was the first of the year with a number to follow.

"As part of our commitment to giving back, we were also excited to announce the date for our upcoming annual Charity Function, scheduled

for September 7, 2024," Tahlia Bellotti from NTHA said.

"There will be three more breakfasts hosted for the year, which will take place on 19 June, 2 October and 12 December."

Anyone interested in finding out more and staying updated with the latest news and events from WFTN, we encourage you to sign up for our correspondence. Visit <https://www.ntha.com.au/membership/women-in-forests-timber-network-wftn/> to subscribe.

NTHA CAN

TRAIN AND UPSKILL YOUR EXISTING TEAM MEMBERS

- ✓ Nationally recognised qualifications and training
- ✓ Specialist industry trainers

STRENGTHEN YOUR TEAM

RETAIL, SALES, BUSINESS, SUPPLY CHAIN OPERATION AND LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

(RTO 5343)
1800 822 621
ntha.com.au

The united voice for Australia's forest industries

0408 404 764
enquiries@ausfpa.com.au
www.ausfpa.com.au

Australian Forest Products Association

From P 3

very small areas of native forests and operated in areas managed by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). The areas in which we planned our harvesting operations were set by the government through a Ministerial Order.

No harvesting could ever be undertaken in the areas explicitly set aside to protect threatened species – to ensure the State of Victoria could meet its obligation to preserve viable populations of native species throughout their natural ranges [Framework for the management of threatened species and native timber harvesting (vicforests.com.au)].

Areas available for harvest had previously been harvested or were bushfire regrowth forests. In a normal year VicForests would harvest about 0.04% of the forests, or four trees in every 10,000. All harvested areas are re-grown by law with our compliance audited on a regular basis.

Prior to any timber harvesting, our staff undertook comprehensive planning to ensure all operations met the harvesting and biodiversity requirements under Victoria's strict environmental regulatory system. Pre-harvest studies and surveys undertaken by VicForests included: Aquatic (Fish & Crustacean) Surveys, Arboreal Spotlight and Owl Call Playback, Biodiversity Coupe Inspection, Bird, Coupe Habitat and Sign Survey, Frog, Habitat Tree and Resource Inventory Survey, Intensive Tree Geebung Surveys, Leadbeater's Possum Arboreal Camera Trapping, Leadbeater's Possum Thermal Imaging, Old-growth, Targeted Fauna and Flora Species Survey, Targeted Plant Surveys and Terrestrial Camera Trapping.

Where required, special protections were applied for the management of threatened species and their habitat. Such protection measures complied with, and often exceed, regulatory prescriptions. For example, between 2014 and 2021 we established well over

1000 exclusion zones around sightings of Leadbeater's possums in state forests. This resulted in over 14,000 hectares of forest being preserved and protected as new Leadbeater's possum colony reserves. We also protected all hollow-bearing trees as well as a selection of trees likely to develop hollows in the future to provide habitat for native species such as the Leadbeater's possum and the Greater Glider.

Over 4500 large old hollow-bearing Ash trees were retained in areas planned for harvest.

So contrary to false claims, our people are passionate about the health of forest ecosystems and remain committed to the care of Victoria's forests. Our staff have specialist degrees and are professionals in a range of

fields from environmental and forest scientists to ecologists, policy and compliance officers, research and modelling analysts. Our expert foresters specialise in tactical and operational planning, roading, harvesting and contract management, silviculture and native forest regeneration.

This includes foresters who have put their lives at risk over the last month, as they have many times before, directly fighting fires threatening people, homes and forests throughout Victoria.

And we are proud of the legacy we leave behind. Timber harvested by VicForests is now in countless homes, public buildings and products throughout Australia. Through the 20 years of its existence, VicForests met its mission by selling 25.9 million m³ of timber to customers, generating around \$1.8 billion in direct revenue for the State and many billions in economic activity – mostly in rural and regional towns.

VicForests will close on June 30.

“THESE CLAIMS ARE DEMONSTRABLY FALSE”



Are you following us on social media?

Please like and share our page so we can get the timber and forestry message out to a bigger audience. If you like our publication, please leave us a review.



Looking for certified organisations or products?

Search our database to find Responsible Wood certified forests, businesses, wood products and chain of custody certified organisations.

responsiblewood.org.au



Keeping Tasmania's forestry industry strong

WITH just days to go until Tasmanians head to the polls, current Premier Jeremy Rockliff is standing by his promise that a re-elected majority Liberal Government will unlock Tasmania's native forestry "Wood Bank".

As protests continue in the lead up to the election, Rockliff's policy will provide an up to 10 per cent boost in the annual supply of high-quality sawlog to Tasmanian sawmillers.

"The Liberals are the strongest supporters of Tasmania's high-value native forestry industry, backing in Tasmanian sawmillers, contractors, and local jobs," Premier Jeremy Rockliff said.

"Under the devastating Labor-Greens Tasmanian Forestry Agreement signed in 2011, the area of production forest land in Tasmania was nearly halved and wood supply to local sawmillers was gutted.

"Timber communities across the State were decimated and two out of every three jobs in the sector were sacrificed by Labor seeking to appease the Greens.

"Following our election in 2014, we rescued 356,000 hectares of production native



Following protests on the streets of Tasmania, Jeremy Rockliff who is seeking re-election is standing firm on his policy to unlock the southern state's 'wood bank'.

forest from being permanently locked up, and set it aside in a "Wood Bank" – the Future Potential Production Forest – for a rainy day.

"That rainy day has now arrived.

"As a result of both the closure of native forest industries in Western Australia and Victoria under Labor Governments, as well as growing global demand for sustainably produced wood and fibre products, now is the right time to open this Wood Bank."

That's why a re-elected majority Liberal Government will:

-Make available up to 40,000 hectares of the Future Potential Production Forest

"Wood Bank";

-Make available an additional wood basket of up to 158,000 cubic metres of high-quality sawlog to Tasmanian industry – that's an up to 10 per cent increase annually; and

-Make this new supply exclusively available to existing Tasmanian customers.

"Importantly, by making this additional timber available exclusively to existing Tasmanian customers of Sustainable Timber Tasmania, this will ensure that Tasmania's native forestry sawmillers have more of the timber they need," Premier Jeremy Rockliff said.

Minister for Resources, Felix Ellis, said that Tasmania's forest industry supports over

5,700 direct and indirect jobs, not just in harvesting but also across transport, associated support industries and sawmills around the State.

"Sawlog from our native forests is of high value and used in products ranging from high-quality floorboards to feature walls to bespoke furniture," Minister Ellis said.

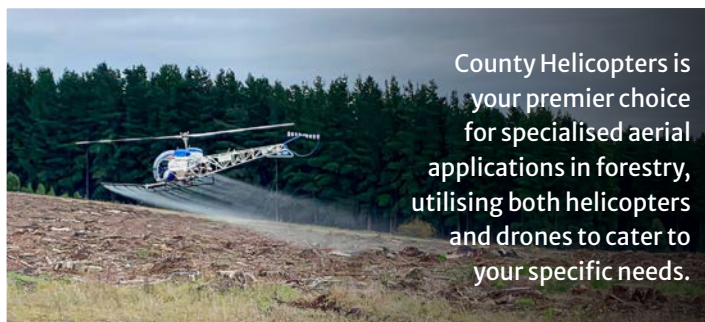
"It's important to remember, more than 50 per cent, or 3.43 million hectares, of Tasmania is in formal reserves, making Tasmania one of the most protected places on earth. This includes around 58 per cent of the State's native forests and over 85 per cent of its old-growth forests.

"Within 100 days of re-election, we will commence the process to unlock the Wood Bank as outlined in Section 7 of the Rebuilding the Forestry Industry Act 2014.

"We have already identified 27 parcels of FPPF land totalling approximately 39,000 hectares of largely regrowth forest in the northeast and northwest, which is suitable for conversion back to production forest.

"The parcels have been identified on the basis that

Cont P 10



County Helicopters is your premier choice for specialised aerial applications in forestry, utilising both helicopters and drones to cater to your specific needs.

COUNTY HELICOPTERS

P: 0417 442 980
ashley@countyhelicopters.com.au
www.countyhelicopters.com.au

PREMIUM QUALITY STRUCTURAL FRAMING
TIMBER, LVL AND I-JOIST
PRODUCTS.



www.vigidas.com.au phone: +61290984323 sales@vigidas.com.au



MAY

1-2: Sydney Build Expo – Sydney. Sydney Build is the only event in Australia to offer 300+ accredited presentations, 500+ exhibitors and incredible networking opportunities for all of Australia's construction, architecture, engineering and infrastructure industries. For more information, visit www.sydneymbuildexpo.com

1-2: International Forest Investment Conference – New York City. For more information, visit www.getfea.com

20-21: IV International Forest Business Conference – Sheraton Sopot Hotel, Poland. A two-day conference on megatrends that shape responsible forest and wood industry investments. The conference aims to bring together leading timberland investment management organizations, investors interested in forestry asset class and sustainable wood industry representatives in order to exchange and share experiences and ideas about new forest business frontiers. Register at www.fba-events.com or contact rafal@forest-analytics.com

22-23: Wood Transport & Logistics 2024 – Rotorua, NZ and online. With an international focus and a rich understanding based in the forestry expertise of New Zealand, this regular conference delivers insights into

wood handling and transport innovations, automation, log scheduling and logistics being employed by leading forestry, wood harvesting and log transport companies. Topics include transitions to new electric, hydrogen and diesel-hybrid powered heavy vehicles, including the integration of truck automation and platooning, as well as new innovations in log measurement, scheduling and logistics. For more and to register, visit <https://innovatek.co.nz/event/wood-transport-logistics-2024/>

JUNE

14: NTHA Vic/Tas State Awards. More details to follow. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact alicia@ntha.com.au

25-26: Fire Summit – Melbourne Connect, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC. Theme: Prescribed fire: Exploring science, culture and practice. This Summit will review and discuss cultural fire practices, evidence from recent wildfires, fire science, lived experience and current prescribed fire practices. The Summit will also look to the future and consider more effective use of prescribed fire, health impacts of fire and smoke and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and forest scientists can encourage two-way capacity building to support healthy and resilient forests. For more information, visit <https://www.forestry.org.au/2024-fire-summit-prescribed-fire-exploring-the-science-practice-and-culture/>

27: NTHA Qld State Awards. More details to follow. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact alicia@ntha.com.au

JULY

27: NTHA SA State Awards. More details to follow. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact alicia@ntha.com.au

AUGUST

9: NTHA SA State Awards. More details to follow. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact alicia@ntha.com.au

12-13: Timber Construct Conference – Rydges, Melbourne. The Timber Offsite Construction Conference and Exhibition has been rebranded as the Timber Construct Conference to encompass the full spectrum of timber building. The conference provides an invaluable forum to address pressing challenges and opportunities influencing timber's role across the built landscape. Technical sessions will cover research updates, emerging products, building code enhancements, and best practice case studies. For more information, visit <https://timberoffsiteconstruction.com>

SEPTEMBER

13: NTHA NSW State Awards. More details to follow. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact alicia@ntha.com.au

23: Latin America Forest Investment Conference –

Porto Alegre, Brazil.

24-25: International Woodchip and Biomass Trade Conference – Porto Alegre, Brazil.

25-27: Field Trip – Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil.

OCTOBER

11: NTHA WA State Awards. More details to follow. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact alicia@ntha.com.au

22-23: International Woodchip and Biomass Seminar and Networking Event – Singapore.

29-31: Forestry Australia's 2024 Symposium – Mercure Ballarat Convention Centre, Golden Point, VIC. Theme: Healthy and resilient forests for our future, will facilitate conversation and collaboration that regardless of land tenure and ownership, healthy and resilient forests should be the objective for all forest and land managers. The Symposium is a focused three-day gathering, consisting of two days of plenary and concurrent sessions, and a day of Field Trips. The two-day program will feature a range of Keynote and Invited Speakers, who are experts and thought leaders in their field. The Symposium will also feature several social functions, facilitating networking and collaboration in an informal and relaxed environment. For more information, visit <https://www.forestryconference.com.au/>

A CUT ABOVE...

Do you crosscut timber packs at ±1mm accuracy?
Or cut structural timber, panel products (MDF & LVL), paper rolls?
 Or produce pallet dimensions or studs on fixed lengths?

HOLTEC has a solution for you!

Our scope of supply:

- Mobile and stationary chainsaws
- Timber crosscut stations
- Log cutting stations
- Circular saws

- Mechanisation
- Sorting lines
- Scanning and optimising systems
- Special systems



For more information contact:



Ph: +64 9 416 8294 // Fax: +64 9 416 8296
 Email: sales@holtec.org // Web: www.holtec.org

The Art of Business

THE Frame and Truss Manufacturers of Australia (FTMA) are looking “outside the triangle” when it comes to their 2024 National Conference. Inspired by the location for the conference, the Geelong Arts Centre, instead of the traditional trade exhibition spaces, partners and event sponsors have been asked to provide a piece of art that represents their business.

In keeping with the theme, FTMA said in a statement there are a ‘few different angles to art and businesses’.



Jacinta Colley and Tim Wardle, VIDA Wood, are proud to support the Art Exhibition at the FTMA conference. Their artwork, designed and created by Zonya Bird of Creative Bird Design, titled 'Forest to Frame', depicts the passion of being a renewable, sustainable, reliable and secure source of quality timber products.

“What gets displayed on the walls in a reception area will tell visitors a lot about the business; its ethics, its motivations, its responsibilities, its opinions, its forward-thinking, or its limitations,” they shared.

“It can welcome people or put them off. It also sets the tone for employees.


“Then there is specifically creating an art piece to demonstrate who you are. Not just the prints hanging in the reception, but creating a visual

image with the intention of it representing the business.”

“Sometimes potential clients don’t just see the words you write about your business, and they don’t just hear what you tell them. Humans are animals and respond to so much more. An art piece is something solid and creative that can give so many clues and spark intrigue about what you are. It shows that a business can think outside of the box, think inventively, and be innovative.”

Businesses have been asked to contribute a piece of art reflecting their business be it traditional art, digital printed, photography, sculpture or more. Art works could be from a local artist engaged to create a work on behalf of the

Cont P 9



BUILD BETTER WITH ATS

At ATS Building Products, we understand that everything has to line up. Great projects – no matter the size – require a mix of quality, timeliness, & competitive pricing.

You can count on our team to make sure your projects run efficiently and deliver value from start to finish. We are driven to help you do your best work.

Right products. Right time. Right price.

Visit us in person or online at www.ATSBP.com to learn more about how we can help you build better.

NSW	NSW	NSW	QLD	VIC	SA
157 Briens Road Northmead, 2152 t. 1800 577 551	17-23 Longfeld Street Lansvale, 2166 t. 1800 577 551	4B/400 Moorebank Ave Moorebank, 2170 t. 1800 577 551	Unit 3 / 153 Rossmanns Rd Stapylton, 4207 t. (07) 3667 8217	372 Lower Dandenong Rd Braeside, 3195 t. (03) 9034 3994	48 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 5015 t. (03) 9034 3994



Meyer Timber. 'What Drives Me'.
Graphic designer: Geneveive Dahl.



WoodSolutions. 'Timber Portal'.
Artist: WoodSolutions Team.



Staxa. 'Timber in Shades of Gold'.
Artist: Barrie Wilson.



AB Phillips. 'Imminent'. Design team: The Reactor.

From P 8

business, a team effort or may have unlocked a hidden talent from an existing staff member.

FTMA then worked with the Gordon Institute to help curate an art exhibit open during the event.

Following the conference, the art pieces will be put into a booklet which will include a picture of each art piece along with a blurb description of the art and a QR code taking people to the business' website. The FTMA Art Book will be distributed to all fabricators across Australia.

"The Art Exhibition at the 2024 FTMA National Conference was a remarkable success, transcending traditional boundaries and showcasing the incredible creativity within our sector. It was a privilege to



Dindas Australia. 'Dindas Story Legacy'. Artist: John Cannard / Designer: Johnny Bannach.



Multinail. 'Multinail Family Photo'. Artist/designer: Fin Winther.



MiTek. 'Sharing Connections'. Artist: Leah Cummins, Bunya Designs.



Hundegger. 'Harmony in Motion'. Artist: Valerie Durand Deslongrais.



Tilling Timber. 'Morning Tea Atop a SmartJoist'. Artist: Claire Robertson.

witness our partners channel their values, culture, and dedication into such powerful

and evocative artistic expressions. This initiative not only highlighted the artistic prowess that exists within our industry but also deepened the connection between our members and their values. It's a testament to our community's ability to innovate and think creatively," stated Kersten Gentle, FTMA CEO.

Kersten continued, "The overwhelming positive feedback from delegates has been truly heartening. Seeing

the genuine interest and engagement with each piece of art showcased the depth of interest in understanding the stories behind our partners companies. This wasn't just an exhibition; it was a conversation starter and a unique way to celebrate our collective identity and ethos."

Reflecting on the future, Kersten added, "This art exhibition has set a new precedent for how we conceptualize and celebrate our conferences. The remarkable response from participants and partners alike has inspired us to continue exploring innovative avenues for showcasing the vibrancy and diversity of our sector. It's clear that when we look outside the traditional frameworks, we uncover extraordinary opportunities for connection and expression. I am already excited about the possibilities for our next gathering."

The FTMA conference was held on March 18 & 19 in Geelong Victoria featuring expert speakers providing insights and strategies on how to navigate external factors and leverage business.

On the cover: Standing in front of the featured artwork commissioned by FTMA titled 'Coming Together' by artist Chloe Chatterton of Karingala Art is (L-R): Scott Gentle, Kersten Gentle, Kat Welsh, Lyn Dennehy Tupaea and Nikita Gentle.

Building a forest-friendly future: The innovations of Timberlink Australia

FOLLOWING the recent pledge by the Australian Government and 16 other nations during COP28 in Dubai to enhance timber usage in construction, attention has been drawn to the significant environmental benefits of timber. Its renewable nature and role as a carbon sink hold immense promise for combating climate change. However, responsible sourcing is paramount, with FSC certification ensuring timber originates from sustainably managed forests, safeguarding biodiversity and the rights of local communities and workers. Embracing FSC-certified timber aligns with global sustainability goals, reinforcing the resilience



TimberLink Tarpeena facility is committed to innovation and support for sustainable forestry.

of our built environment for future generations. As we mark International Day of Forests with this year's theme of 'Forests and Innovation,' the journey of FSC-certified engineered wood products and mass

timber Timberlink Australia reflects the innovative spirit driving sustainable forest management practices within the timber manufacturing industry.

Timberlink's dedication to transforming sustainably grown FSC-certified plantation pine into quality timber products embodies a fusion of environmental considerations and modern manufacturing methods. Since securing FSC Chain of

Custody certification in 2013, Timberlink has cemented its role as a staunch supporter of sustainable forestry. With an estimated 80% of Australian detached houses built with timber framing and Timberlink's advocacy for responsibly sourced timber, the company is helping to drive a shift towards sustainable construction practices and mitigating the environmental impact of urban development. Moreover, Timberlink's FSC certification not only validates its commitment to sustainable forestry but also assists consumers in making environmentally conscious choices that contribute to the preservation of global forests.

Timberlink's latest endeavour—a world-class facility in Tarpeena, South Australia—reflects its commitment to innovation and support for sustainable forestry. Equipped with

Cont P 14



Develop our future workforce

ForestWorks is an industry-owned not-for-profit organisation offering services to support the skills development of the forest, wood, paper, timber and furnishing industries.

ForestWorks works with industry, government and the education and training sectors to improve skills standards and qualifications and support the development of forestry-related industries, their people, and enterprises.

To find out more:

Email: forestworks@forestworks.com.au
 Phone: 1800 177 001
www.forestworks.com.au

From P 6

the State's comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system is not compromised, that there is no negative impact on STT's current and future certification and that maximise carbon carrying capacity, fire protection and recreational opportunities.

"Additionally, areas of regrowth forests with previous forest management and roading activity have been prioritised.

"We will work closely with industry to implement this process of unlocking the Wood Bank within the first 100 days

of a re-elected majority Rockliff Liberal Government.

"Once opened, the timber from this Wood Bank will be made available through Sustainable Timber Tasmania exclusively to existing Tasmanian-based customers.

"This process will make available up to an additional 158,000 cubic metres of high-quality sawlog to Tasmanian sawmillers. It is expected that this will provide an up to 10 per cent boost in annual supply to the industry.

"Only a re-elected majority Rockliff Liberal Government has a 2030 Strong Plan to keep Tasmania's native forest industry strong."

Boost to new home sales

"SALES of new homes nationally increased by 5.3 per cent in the month of February 2024, from very low levels," stated HIA Chief Economist, Tim Reardon.

Thursday, 14th March 2024

The HIA New Home Sales report is a monthly survey of the largest volume home builders in the five largest states and is a leading indicator of future detached home construction.

"Despite the increase in February, sales remain around the low levels that prevailed in the second half of 2023," added Mr Reardon.

"The slowdown in sales is caused primarily by the rise in the cash rate which has eroded the capacity of households to borrow and impaired market confidence.



New home sales have increased from January however are likely to remain low given high borrowing costs.

"The slowing in sales and building approvals will flow through to a decade low volume of new houses commencing construction in 2024. The economic impact of this slowdown will become increasingly evident in 2024, as employment in the home building industry falls.

"The higher borrowing costs are compounding the elevated cost of land and construction, drying up the pipeline of new home building work despite the significant pent-up demand for housing.

"The increase in sales in February was observed in most of the large states. Given

the weakness of January data, it is not all too surprising to see an uptick in February," concluded Mr Reardon.

New home sales saw a monthly increase in most large states, led by Queensland (+8.4 per cent), followed by New South Wales (+6.5 per cent), Victoria (+6.3 per cent) and Western Australia (+5.0 per cent). South Australia saw a 5.5 per cent decline in February.

Sales in the three months to February 2024 were stronger compared to the previous year in Western Australia (+39.9 per cent), Queensland (+20.4 per cent) and New South Wales (+16.0 per cent). Declines were recorded in Victoria (-7.7 per cent) and South Australia (-13.9 per cent).

arxada

IS IT SAFE TO USE
PRESERVATIVE - TREATED
WOOD FOR MY RAISED
GARDEN BED?

Yes!

TANALITH® E Copper Azole treated timber is safe to use around fruit and vegetables!



TRUST

Tanalised®

Ecowood®

PROVEN WOOD PROTECTION

Tanalised, Tanalith, & Ecowood are registered trademarks of Arxada @ 2023

Famous London plane trees disappearing from Sydney streets

Forward By Chris Parker

“JUST a few weeks ago Campbell and I travelled to the late John Halkett’s residence in Sydney’s inner-city suburb of Potts Point. We were there to sort through a large range of books and retrieve more of his precious notes and writings. Afterwards, we took a short stroll with some of John’s family and friends down to the fountain and stood beside it as the various market stalls fired up for breakfast. It was here John had started to write about the Plane tree”. John’s notes from 2020 stated: The dominant tree in the neighbourhood is the deciduous London plane tree. With large maple-like leaves and towering height the London plane is a tree of pomp and circumstance. The branches begin high up the trunk so that mature trees have a lofty, architectural quality, giving plenty of shade without restricting the view at street level.

Planted throughout London in the nineteenth century to complement the cities imposing squares and thoroughfares, the plane tree was the ideal symbol for the capital of a growing empire. Visitors watching in awe and envy at the state possessions along plane tree-lined boulevards between Parliament and Buckingham Palace, would have got the message here was the centre of a powerful industrialised country.



1/ Famous London plane trees disappearing from Sydney streets.
2/ Household Cavalry walk along the plane tree-lined Mall in London towards Buckingham Palace.

However, the plane tree is not merely an immigrant, but one of mixed parentage. It is a hybrid between the American sycamore and the Oriental plane that is native to south-eastern Europe and south-western Asia.

In the heyday of its planting, the London plane grew up along factories – the nineteenth century engines of Empire. But the industrial revolution which harnessed steam power also left London black and sort covered. Few species could survive such an environment, but the London

TALKING TREES

With the late **JOHN HALKETT**
Sponsored by
Forestry Corporation of NSW

plane that is a specially well adapted to urban life having a special trick that helps it thrive in polluted air.

The bark of the London plane, like that of some other species is dotted with tiny spores a millimetre or two across called lenticels which allow the exchange of gases. If these become clogged the tree suffers. The ability of the plane to slough off a layer of grime that it has removed from the

atmosphere helps keep both this city dweller and its human companions healthy.

City planners around the world have recognised the advantages of the tree for their own cities, and what was originally and almost exclusively a London phenomenon and has spread across the temperate world. Paris, Rome, New York and Sydney.

However, not everyone is a fan of the plane tree. They have been derided by prominent Australian scientist Tim Flannery who called them; “... foreign weeds ... about as much use to our wildlife as concrete posts.”

As the City of Sydney continues to loosen its ties with Mother England there is a phasing out the many hundreds of London plane trees lining inner city streets, due to the ongoing debate over their role in causing allergies in people susceptible to hay fever.

Outlining the reason plane trees have been so widely planted by successive Sydney councils, the spokesperson said they were versatile and hardy. However, plane trees will continue to have a place in Sydney as they survive in particularly harsh urban environments, provide shade in summer, cool footpaths and public places, and lose their leaves during winter allowing in sunlight.



The largest manager of commercial plantations and native forests in NSW
Visit us at forestrycorporation.com.au

1075C



UNMATCHED PRODUCTIVITY. UNMATCHED RELIABILITY.

The Tigercat 1075C forwarder is unmatched in terms of productivity and reliability. Innovations like low-wide® and the hooked crane set Tigercat apart from the competition. The 1075C Forwarders now include the Tigercat built WideRANGE transmission.

Experience the Tigercat 1075C forwarder for yourself.



www.onetrak.com.au



www.tigercat.com



Scan to learn more

Nominations open for key role

THE Forest Stewardship Council Australia and New Zealand (FSC ANZ) has announced the resignation of Lorraine Cassin from her role representing the Social Chamber on the Standards Development Group (SDG).

Lorraine, a valued SDG member from the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union (AMWU), has made significant contributions, and we extend our gratitude for her dedicated work. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

THE REPLACEMENT PROCESS

The FSC ANZ Board has approved the process for appointing Lorraine's replacement so that the SDG can continue its important work. The process will be identical to that undertaken when the SDG was originally constituted. Upon publication of this call for Expression of Interest, applications will be

“EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY ARE KEY

open for four weeks, closing on 21 April, 2024.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Standards Development Group members are chosen for their experience and ability to represent key interest areas that are important for the revision and FSC's values and policies.

Eligibility for the Standards Development Group requires that applications include and demonstrate:

- Membership of FSC ANZ. Or submission and approval of an FSC ANZ membership application as part of the expression of interest process.
- Up-to-date knowledge of FSC's systems and procedures.
- Representation of points of view from the social chamber, ideally based on experience from a workers' rights organisation or equivalent experience from the cross-section of forest management and workers' rights and employment conditions.
- An understanding of the impact of the standard on affected stakeholders.
- An understanding of and commitment to FSC's mission and vision.
- A desire to seek and reach consensus on controversial issues.
- An ability to actively participate in the process until final approval of the revised standard.
- Support from two members



Lorraine Cassin has announced her resignation with colleagues saying she was a valued member.

of the corresponding chamber in the form of letters of support.

- An ability to review and comment on documents in English.
- Expert knowledge of and/or experience in the development, implementation and/or analysis of standards will be highly regarded.

The FSC ANZ Board will consider applications and approve the candidate.

More information on becoming an FSC ANZ member can be found here.

Read more about the revision here.

Please email expressions of interest to info@au.fsc.org by close of business 21 April, 2024.

For more information on the Standards Development Group and the process for appointment, please contact Stefan Jensen, FSC ANZ's Policy and Standards Manager: s.jensen@au.fsc.org

From P 10

state-of-the-art technology, this facility heralds a new era of timber production in Australia, capable of producing NeXTimber® Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) panels and Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) with efficiency and precision. Beyond its technological prowess, the Tarpeena facility embodies FSC's vision for a future where sustainability and innovation converge to create tangible solutions to global environmental challenges. The FSC ANZ team was thrilled to have the opportunity to attend

the opening of the facility on the 29th of February.

"We are well positioned to play our part in supporting the Australian government's COP28 commitment to increase the use of timber in the built environment by 2030", said Timberlink's CEO, Paul O'Keefe.

As Timberlink continues to push the boundaries



NeXTimber® Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) panels and Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) are produced with efficiency and precision at the facility.

of sustainable timber manufacturing, its journey serves as a beacon of inspiration for industries worldwide. By prioritising

sustainability, embracing innovation, and upholding the highest standards of responsible forest management, Timberlink exemplifies the transformative power of businesses committed to leaving a positive impact on the planet.

For more information, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRRreSElqV1o>

Rewarding growth forecast for US lumber

ECONOMIC experts are forecasting the next 12 to 18 months could be rewarding for investors in the US timber industry.

Speaking to Bloomberg, Daryl Swetlishoff, head of research at Raymond James said experts expect building material share prices will increase alongside higher commodity prices.

Despite a tough start to 2024 Commodity prices are currently higher for wood products. Lumber prices are up 30 per cent year on year however the sleeper is OSB (oriented strand board) which is up 75 per cent y-o-y.

"It gets a little overlooked but for a company like West Fraser, half of their product exposure is OSB and that is a key reason why it is our annual favourite," Daryl said.

"I think one reason OSB is doing better is that single-family housing is more important in use. About two-thirds of OSB goes into single-family housing. OSB has more leverage on the home builder product.

"Lumber on the other hand has more leverage in Repair and Renovation (R&R), about 40 per cent of the product goes into R&R. The levels are holding pre-covid, but demand needs to improve there," he continued.

Daryl said that in the US market as existing home sales pick up, repair and renovation will increase and with it the commodity price of timber.

Despite the positive underlying fundamentals in the US, the timber market remains stable with growth



Experts are forecasting economic growth in the sector in the coming 12-18 months

not exponential which many are saying is a result of the higher interest rates and uncertainty.

"From a demand point of view, housing is good, R&R improves seasonally, and the only other factor is supply." Daryl believes this is another issue currently being resolved both in the US and globally with supply chains easing.

Across the US and Canada, there have been a significant number of mill closures with

Daryl saying more are likely.

"In British Columbia, we think there are more closures on the way. Moving forward we witnessed the terrible wildfire situation last

year; we think there will be less wood available in Ontario and Quebec, and we think we could see the impact of that. Unfortunately, there is already an early start to the fire season with a low snowpack.

Overall, Daryl believes there is still room for multiple expansions in valuation.

"We think that there is a large opportunity for growth over the coming 12-18 months," Daryl concluded.

Need creative help?

We have an experienced, in-house, artistic team who can deliver polished ads, promotions, brochures and more.

ENQUIRE TODAY

timber
& FORESTRY *e*news

Contact Campbell McInnes at
campbellm@timberandforestrynews.com



Forests and innovation: International Day of the Forests



21 March
International Day of Forests

THURSDAY,
March 21 marks the International Day of the Forests a day which has been proclaimed by The United Nations General Assembly.

First marked in 2021, the Day celebrates and raises awareness of the importance of all types of forests. On each International Day of Forests, countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organize activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns.

The theme for the 2024 International Day of Forests is forests and innovation.

Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Chief Executive Officer, Diana Hallam said "This year's theme highlights one of the exciting opportunities for forestry and forest products in Australia – utilising



1/ *The day has been proclaimed by The United Nations General Assembly.*

2/ *This year's theme is Forests and Innovation which is being globally celebrated.*



research, innovation and technological change to maximise the value from our forest resources, including counting the value of stored carbon in trees and forestry products.

"Just last week, the new National Institute for Forest Products Innovation – known as Australian Forest and Wood Innovations (AFWI) was launched in Launceston, Tasmania. AFWI will boost Australia's research and innovation capabilities for our industry and help match us with other leading forestry and forest product nations.

"Innovation across our sector will help us better realise the value of our

assets and encourage decision makers to recognise the significance of trees and wood and fibre products to help the Federal Government meet Australia's emission reduction targets.

"This International Day of Forests, I encourage all Australians to think about the importance of our sector in everyday life and a future low-carbon bio-based economy. Happy International Day of Forests!" Diana Hallam concluded.

FAST FACTS

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) says sustainably managing our forests for timber and wood products

delivers the best climate change mitigation results.

- The average timber-framed house stores as much carbon as is emitted by a car driving two-thirds the way around the world.
- The CSIRO has found that forests provide the easiest and cheapest technology for Australia to invest in, to combat climate change, principally through the maintenance and expansion of Australia's plantation estate.

Globally we are being asked to take a picture of your favourite forest and share it on social media using the #forestday hashtag to celebrate.

New toolkit and information to help Trees on Farms

A SERIES of information initiatives aimed at advising potential farmers and landowners interested in the on-farm forest plantation sector is now available as part of Trees on Farm initiative.

This includes a toolkit, developed by the South Australian Government, in tandem with the Green Triangle Forest Industries Hub (GTFIH), featuring expert information and printable

fact sheets to support and guide landholders in their commercial plantation investment.

In addition to the toolkit, other information for prospective growers is also available from five research reports and associated seminar videos conducted under the Trees on Farm initiative from both the PIRSA and GTFIH websites. The research projects focussed on

short-rotation silviculture,

- Enhancing commercial viability via logistics and processes
- Spatial analysis of suitable land areas for trees into farming
- Comparison of the Emissions Reduction Fund methods
- Development of taxation treatment in a farming framework

The GTFIH website also

includes an interactive web map that allows users to explore the estimates of saleable wood and carbon credits, in agricultural areas within South Australia and Western Victoria.

For further information on the Trees on Farm initiative including the toolkit, research reports videos and interactive map visit www.pir.sa.gov.au/trees-on-farms and www.gtfih.com.au/treeson-farms

Former AFPA Chair's son farewelled following tragic accident

THE timber and forestry industries have joined the nation in expressing their condolences to former Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) Chair and Labor MP Joel Fitzgibbon following the tragic death of his son Lance Corporal Jack Fitzgibbon earlier this month.

33-year-old Fitzgibbon was injured during a routine parachute training exercise at the RAAF base at Richmond in Sydney on March 6th with the Defence Force announcing the next day he had sadly passed away.

His father, former Hunter MP Joel Fitzgibbon is well-known in the forestry industry having sat in the position of Chair for AFPA since 2023. He served in federal parliament for 26 years including through the Rudd administration where he held the position of Defence Minister.

Taking to social media Joel said the family is heartbroken over the loss of their much-loved son.

"On March 7 our hearts broke and our lives changed forever," Mr Fitzgibbon shared.

"We are shattered.

"But we are proud of our beautiful Jack. He died doing something he loved and in service to his country. That brings us great comfort. We have been overwhelmed by expressions of love, sympathy and support. That has also brought us comfort.

"The family thanks everyone for their amazing responses," he shared.

The Defence role was his son's dream job, Mr Fitzgibbon also said.

Lance Corporal Jack was



Former AFPA Chair Joel Fitzgibbon is hugged by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese as he farewelled his son earlier this week. (source Facebook)



33-year-old Lance Corporal Jack Fitzgibbon tragically dies following routine parachute training at the RAAF. (source Facebook)

not just a well-respected member of the Defence Force he was also a passionate local footballer with members of his local team the Cessnock Goanna's holding a vigil and game in his honour over the last weekend with members of the Fitzgibbon family in attendance.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was among those to share his condolences for the family.

"Our thoughts are with our friend Joel Fitzgibbon and his family following the tragic death of his son, Lance Corporal Jack Fitzgibbon, in a Special Forces training accident," Mr Albanese MP shared in a statement.

"The extraordinary men and women who volunteer to serve in the Australian Defence Force do our nation proud every day.

"Every death in the service of Australia carries the heavy weight of loss and sadness. The tragedy of a life cut cruelly short.

"This tragic accident is a harsh reminder that there are no easy days for those who defend our nation.

"We are so grateful to every Australian who serves and puts themselves on the line

for all of us.

"Our hearts are filled with sorrow for Jack, and his loving family – Joel, Dianne and his sisters - who are now holding on to his precious memory.

"We think

also of all who served with Jack and are now coming to terms with the loss of their friend and mate.

Joel Fitzgibbon's successor in the seat of Hunter, Labor's Dan Repacholi, said Lance Corporal Fitzgibbon would be remembered for his "dedication, courage, and selflessness".

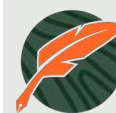
"Our hearts ache for Jack and his beloved family, Joel, Di, Caitlin, Grace and Maxine, his partner, their extended family, and friends," he said.

"My thoughts are also with all those who served alongside Jack, grappling with the loss of their comrade and friend.

"The Fitzgibbon family has been an indispensable pillar of the Cessnock community, and the loss of Jack will undoubtedly resonate deeply within our local circles, leaving a profound impact on us all."

Defence Minister Richard Marles said Jack Fitzgibbon served with honour and great ability.

Lance Corporal Jack Fitzgibbon was farewelled on Monday with military honours and surrounded by friends and family.



Timber Media
AUSTRALASIA

Timber & Forestry enews an authoritative and rapid deliverer of news and special features to the timber and forest-based industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. Enews is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with other industry publications. Timber & Forestry enews hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

HEAD OFFICE

Timber Media Australasia Pty Ltd
PO Box 3001
Maraylya NSW 2765

PUBLISHER

Timber Media Australasia Pty Ltd

EDITORS

Nicky Ainley
Donyale Harrison
Jess Hockridge
editors@timberandforestryenews.com

ADVERTISING

Campbell McInnes // +61 (0) 406 223 007
campbellm@timberandforestryenews.com

ACCOUNTS

Chris Parker // +61 (0) 413 710 203
cparker@ttnews.com.au

SUBSCRIBE

www.timberandforestryenews.com

The information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources assumed to be reliable. However, the publishers disclaim all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability or adequacy of the information displayed. Opinions expressed in Timber & Forestry enews are not necessarily those of directors or the Timber & Forestry enews team. We do not accept responsibility for any damage resulting from inaccuracies in editorial or advertising. The publishers are therefore indemnified against all actions, suits, claims or damages resulting from content in this publication.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

EMPLOYMENT

ADVERTISING PACKAGES

BUY AND SELL -
New and Used
Machinery/Equipment

Click this link
to advertise
here & online...

LATEST JOBS:

• Bush Operator
Click to apply

Click this link
to advertise
online...

PACKAGES:

Click this link
to learn about
advertising
packages...

ADVERTISING RATES

DISPLAY AD RATES

FULL PAGE: 297mmH x 210 mmW **\$540**

HALF PAGE: 320
Vertical • 256mmH x 93mmW
Horizontal • 125mmH x 190mmW

THIRD PAGE: 240
Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

QUARTER PAGE: 210
Vertical • 125mmH x 93mmW
Horizontal • 63mmH x 190mmW

BANNER ADVERTISING PACKAGES

• PREMIUM PACKAGE:

FRONT PAGE publication module, email and website modules

- Front page module • 68mmW x 45mmH
- Top email banner • 1200pxW x 145pxH
- Home page website banner • 1000pxW x 120pxH

• STANDARD PACKAGE:

PAGE 6 (or similar) module, email newsletter and website module

- Module • 93mmW x 63mmH
- Email module • 336pxW x 336pxH
- Website module • 720pxW x 744pxH

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

JOB / BUY & SELL ADS: ONLINE & IN PUBLICATION
720pxW x 744pxH

TERM DISCOUNTS

12 WEEKS: 7.5% 24 WEEKS: 10% 48 WEEKS: 15%

All pricing is excluding GST and based on a weekly booking. Overseas bookings are exempt from GST.

DEADLINES

Display ads: Book by 9.00am Tuesday prior to publication.

Supplied artwork: 12noon Tuesday prior to publication.

Supply hi-res jpg or pdf to our specifications. This is a digital publication, therefore **NO crop marks or bleed is required.**

Classified advertising: JOB ADS ARE COMPLETED ONLINE.

Go to www.timberandforestrynews.com/post-a-job/ to place a job vacancy. **Book by 12noon Tuesday prior to publication.** Job ads are for individual positions. If more than one position is to be advertised, separate ads will need to be created and advertised accordingly.

BUY & SELL ADS ARE COMPLETED ONLINE. Go to www.timberandforestrynews.com/product/buy-sell-advertisement/ to place an ad. **Book by 12noon Tuesday prior to publication.**

PAYMENT TERMS

New clients invoiced on booking. Existing clients 14 days. All other standard Terms & Conditions apply.

CONTACTS

Media releases and editorial:

Nicky Ainley // Donyale Harrison // Jessica Hockridge
e: editors@timberandforestrynews.com

Display ad bookings:

Campbell McInnes // e: campbellm@timberandforestrynews.com

Accounts:

Chris Parker // e: cparker@ttnews.com.au

Have some news to share?

Send media releases, news stories, events, any timber and forestry news related information with us anytime to Nicky, Donyale and Jess -

editors@timberandforestrynews.com

timber
& FORESTRY *e*NEWS

Contact Nicky,
Donyale or Jess today...