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The views expressed in this publication and any inserts are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Institute of Foresters of Australia.
From the President

The last few months have been an exciting period in the role of President. The highlight was the ANZIF Conference. Every aspect was pleasing including the venue, organisation of events, high quality of papers and presentations, social program, field trips and general positive attitude amongst all who attended. I cannot praise highly enough all those who played their part in the event, I won’t name any for fear of leaving some out.

A number of items came out of the Conference to which I will refer below. The IFA Board has already acted or has put these things on the agenda to address in the near future.

Bill Jackson delivered a wonderful Max Jacobs Oration. Bill is Global Program Manager for Forestry in IUCN based in Geneva—a long way from his early career as a trainee forester in NSW. It was apparent to me that you can take the boy out of NSW, but you can’t take NSW out of the boy. Over dinner, Bill made some interesting points about the role the IFA could play in IUCN activities at a regional level. In particular he suggested that IFA should become a more active IUCN member to promote the cause of good forest management in the region.

The student contribution to the conference was also well received. It is certainly not easy for students in the current day. The high cost of university courses, living expenses, need to hold down part-time jobs and a myriad of other concerns make high contact hour courses such as forestry very difficult for students to complete. On top of that they emphasised that the negative perceptions of forestry among their peers and the general community can be a deterrent as well. I certainly heard what they were saying as did many of the attendees.

The range of occupations that foresters are engaged in is quite staggering. Of course, we have been aware of the change in our industry for some time. This conference highlighted that perhaps the majority of foresters are now in sole trader companies, small enterprises or working as contractors and consultants in various capacities. The proportion of employees of large companies or government organisations has certainly reduced dramatically. It is also obvious that there are many foresters working in what I’d call the ‘environmental services’ sector rather than the ‘traditional wood production’ sector. This presents challenges for the IFA and the broader forest industry. I believe we need to promote the environmental services sector as part of the forest industry, not separate to it. It would certainly help with the perception issues raised by the students.

One of the great benefits of the IFA is the opportunity for cross-generational communication. It was great to see Emil Johnstone and Roy Free attend the conference. These two give us a link back to the first half of last century and it was fantastic to see them passing on knowledge and experience to young students at the conference. The contribution that “retired” foresters such as these two, continue to make to the IFA is priceless and greatly appreciated.

An exciting new development is the National Forestry Masters Program, which is outlined elsewhere in the newsletter. I have been working hard to get an IFA Scholarship scheme off the ground to support this program as well as the undergraduate forestry programs. There will be continuing developments in this area. I ask you to lend your support as the scheme gathers momentum. We especially need corporate support to make it work in the long term.

I look forward to spring and signs of new growth and vigour in the forests and amongst foresters.

Peter Volker

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of The Institute of Foresters of Australia (ABN: 48 083 197 586) will be held at Trinity College, Hamden Road Crawley WA on Wednesday 7 November 2007 at 6.30 pm

AGENDA
1. Attendance and apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 November 2006
3. President’s Report
5. General Business

J. Adrian O’Loughlin
Company Secretary, 15 September 2007
From the Executive Director

The past 3 months has been a particularly busy one for the IFA.

ANZIF Conference
The main activity was the ANZIF Conference held 3 -7 June 2007 at Coffs Harbour NSW. The Chairman Graeme King and his team of hard workers were meticulous in their arrangements and left nothing to chance.

During the IFA/NZIF Forum the IFA President, Dr Peter Volker RPF FIFA, presented the Organising Committee members with Service Awards in appreciation for their efforts and service to the IFA in arranging the Conference.

A summary of discussions arising during the ANZIF Forum is included on page 29 in this newsletter.

The National Office launched its promotional banners and pamphlets at the ANZIF Conference. Many compliments were received and my thanks go to Cassandra for her modern designs. It is intended to develop banners for use by each Division at its functions and other promotional opportunities.

Forest Policy Statements
The Board of Directors has approved the following Forest Policy Statements. They are posted on the IFA website: http://www.forestry.org.au/ifa/g/g0-ifa.asp

No. 1.3 Genetically Modified Organisms in Forestry
No. 1.4 Timber Production & Biodiversity
No. 5.1 Native Forests & Water
No. 5.2 Plantation Forests & Water
No. 5.3 Water Allocation for Environmental Purposes

Other Policies are at various stages of drafting and IFA Policy Officer, Peter Lezaich, is working actively to bring them to conclusion.

Members are encouraged to refer to the Policies in debating the issues and when engaging in media activity.

Special AGM
Members voted overwhelmingly in favour of amending the Company Articles of Association to allow for the merging of the Association of Consulting Foresters of Australia (ACFA) to become a Division of the IFA.

Tropical Forestry Special Interest Group
The Board of Directors has approved the establishment of a Tropical Forestry Special Interest Group (TFSIG). The SIG was established following a survey of members resulting in support for such a network. Dr Bob Thistlethwaite has kindly accepted the President’s invitation to Convene the Group and David Wettenhall has been appointed the Portfolio Director to report to the Board of Directors on the SIG’s activities.

Media Liaison
The Board has reviewed the IFA Media Liaison Scheme which it established just over 12 months ago. Some changes have been made to the scheme and members have not availed of it as much as expected. There have been some internal changes and it is expected that media activity will increase over coming months.

Sani Baker joins our office
I welcome Sani Baker to the staff at the National Office. Sani is the Administrative Assistant and she will provide administrative support to ACFA, the Divisions, SIGs and in general office work.

Borers and Rots Conference
The Institute of Foresters of Australia is holding a Conference on Borers and Rots in Eucalypts from 5 - 7 November 2007. Keynote speakers will head the discussion supported by other speakers. The first two days of the Conference will be spent inspecting problems in eucalypt plantations, native forests and saw mills in the south west of Western Australia and will be followed by a plenary session in Perth on Wednesday 7 November 2007.

Register your interest in attending or sponsoring the event with Don Pearce, Promaco Conventions P/L, Ph: (08) 9332 2900, Email: promaco@promaco.com.au
Jack Bradshaw has added his recent accreditation in the RPF category of ‘GPF with recognised skills in Native Forest Management & Native Forest Silviculture’ to a long list of success to his name. Jack was the 2006 Jolly Medal winner.

A Summary of Jack’s employment and experience is provided below:

1964-73
Officer in Charge of Southern Region Working Plans Office, Manjimup. (Forests Department)
Responsible for photo interpretation, inventory, and yield regulation in the southern jarrah and the karri forest;

1974-75
Senior Divisional Forest Officer in charge of Kelmscott Division. (Forests Department)
Responsible for the management of forest operations within the Division.

1975-80
Planning Officer, Southern Region. (Forests Department)
Responsible for the development of plans and planning systems to integrate the operations of six large sawmills and the export woodchip operation (a total logging operation of about 1M m³/ann) within the framework of multiple use management.

1980-83
Inspector Operations, Southern Region. (Forests Department)
Responsible for the performance of operational programs and associated budgets, and for staff and safety in the Southern Region.

1993-98
Manager, Forest Management Branch (Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia)
Responsible for native forest silviculture, inventory and resource planning

1999-present
Forest consultant

Professional
Fellow of the Institute of Foresters of Australia - 24/09/1993
Churchill Fellowship. Study tour of the USA, Sweden and Germany to examine the management of native forest for multiple use.

Member Tuart Forest National Park Community Advisory Committee. 2007-

Jack’s first professional paper was published in 1971 and he has a host of papers and consultancy reports to his credit.
In June-July of this year 8 forestry students from Melbourne University and the ANU had the privilege of representing Australia at the International Forestry Students Symposium (IFSS) in South Africa. The IFSS is the annual meeting of the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA) and this year was hosted by the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU), seeing approximately 90 forestry students from 20 countries gather to discuss forestry issues and participate in excursions, workshops and presentations on the South African forest industry.

The theme for IFSS South Africa was “The Big Three for Sustainable Forestry”, reflecting the importance of environmental, economic and social aspects in achieving sustainable forest management. Commencing at the George Campus of NMMU, the IFSS covered 2800km travelling north through the Eastern Cape and Kwa Zulu Natal provenances to Kruger National Park.

During the IFSS, students were given an extensive insight into the South African plantation industry, with field visits to the Mondi Business Paper nursery and research facilities, Sappi Forests harvesting operations, and the world’s only fully enclosed woodchip storage facility. Although the genetic and breeding work being undertaken in South African forestry is impressively advanced and achieving excellent results, it was interesting to see the majority of operations being driven by manual labour. A typical Sappi operation consisted of one locally made machine, which was used for debarking, and 14 labourers who did the rest, including cross-cutting and stacking the timber. Although it seemed quite inefficient, this highlighted the impact of the social climate and severe job shortages in South Africa. The impact of AIDS was also quite alarming. AIDS affects 20-40% of forestry sector employees, which has proved costly to the industry and may lead to a shift towards more mechanised operations in the future.

Other field trips included visits to fynbos, succulent karoo and wetland vegetation types and sightseeing in areas that often bore an uncanny resemblance to some areas of Australia. Throughout the IFSS, singing and dancing were a theme, with the opening and closing ceremonies showcasing the vibrancy of South African culture. Another highlight was International Night, where students from each country wear traditional dress, bring along food and drink from their country and perform a traditional song or dance.

The IFSS also provides the opportunity for IFSA to hold its General Assemblies; where the business end of the association is attended to; and this year Australian forestry students continued their history of active involvement within IFSA. Although Elspeth, Geoff R and Joe passed on their positions as Vice President, Councillor and Oceania Regional Representative for the year ’06-’07, Kate was elected as Treasurer, Michelle was voted into Council, Geoff K became CFA-IFSA Liaison Officer and Jarod is the new Regional Representative for Oceania for the year ahead.

This year’s Australian delegation would like to sincerely thank our sponsors for making it possible to attend this years IFSS and continue our active involvement in IFSA.

For more information about IFSA please visit www.ifsa.net.

By Michelle Freeman, The University of Melbourne
New National Forestry Masters gathers momentum

The new National Forestry Masters Program, which delegates at the ANZIF 2007 Conference heard about and discussed, is gathering momentum ahead of its launch in 2008. The Program is a core element of the partnership between the IFA, universities and other forest sector stakeholders to reinvigorate forestry education across Australia; a briefing note was circulated with IFA Bulletin 25-07 on 12 July.

The university partners are continuing to develop the Program, and explore possibilities for connections with other universities to expand its geographic scope. Key forest sector bodies, such as A3P and NAFI, continue to assist in the development of the Program, and the Bushfire and Forestry CRCs have lent their support. The first substantial contributions to scholarship funds have been mooted, but more are needed over the next few years.

The first course in the new Program will be offered in February 2008; the Program website, www.forestry.org.au/masters, generously hosted by the IFA, provides more details. ANU Forestry will continue to offer its undergraduate forestry program as well as participating in the national Masters.

Dr Cris Brack wins Prestigious Teaching Awards

Dr Cris Brack, Convenor of ANU’s Forestry Program, has been honoured for his exceptional contributions to student learning with two prestigious recent awards. Cris was awarded an ANU Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence In Education, which V-C Ian Chubb presented during the July Conferring of Degrees Ceremony, and the Australian Government’s Carrick Institute Citation for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, presented by Minister Julie Bishop in August. Both awards recognized Cris’ successful and continuing innovation in integrating field and problem-based learning, and supporting that learning with imaginative and very effective web-based resources (you can access some of these at http://sres-associated.anu.edu.au/mensuration/BRACKPUB.HTM). Both awards include a significant cash component, which Cris will use to further develop his innovative teaching approaches. Two other Fenner School colleagues also received Carrick citations, indicative of the quality of teaching at ANU.

ANU Forestry students at IFSS 2007, South Africa

Five ANU forestry students - Jarod Dashwood, Melanie Dyne, Joseph Henry, Geoff Kay, and Geoff Roberts – joined over 90 students from 25 countries in the 35th International Forestry Student Symposium, held this year in South Africa. Jarod reports that the program, titled The Big Three For Sustainable Forestry, was designed to highlight the opportunities and constraints facing forestry in southern African nations, particularly the unique ‘Triple Helix’ issues in the industry. These are the social and economic issues associated with the South African Government’s Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Act, the magnitude of HIV/AIDS issues in the workforce, and the severe environmental constraints to forestry, which together make for a very challenging operating environment.

The reputation within the International Forestry Student Association of the Australian contingent as a highly committed and motivated group of students was re-affirmed, with Jarod Dashwood and Geoff Kay, along with Michelle Freeman and Kate Lancaster of the University of Melbourne, taking IFSA leadership roles for 2007/8. The Australian delegation wishes especially to thank those organizations who assisted with sponsorship of their participation in such a wonderful learning experience.
Forester Profile
Billie-Jo Goldspink

I guess you could say I was destined to be a forester. Growing up in the small timber town of Tumbarumba in southern NSW, I was always out and about on some sort of adventure in the forest with my father from a very early age. Both of my grandfathers were involved in the local timber industry, one working as a forestry machine operator and the other as a foreman for the then Forestry Commission of NSW. My father’s love for the bush was instilled in me during our many family camp outs when we would go hunting, fishing and exploring through the beautiful Alpine Ash forests close to home.

The local high school also included forestry and the timber industry in its agriculture and geography syllabus as the school had its own pine plantation and school farm. My own work experience within the field of forestry started during the normal NSW Year 10 work experience program in 1998. I was interested in working with native animals and plants so my father suggested that I ‘check out the Forestry’ - so began my career!

After enjoying the first initial week, I decided that Forestry was a definite possible career choice so during my HSC years of 11 and 12, I decided to pursue a newly formed subject called Work Studies. At the time, Work Studies was only seen as a subject for the not-so-academic students to help them find employment on completion of school studies. However, luckily for me, my school Careers Advisor at the time thought that this was the perfect opportunity to start networking and to really discover what forestry was about beyond the initial week that I had already been involved with. Over the two years of Work Studies I ‘worked’ with the then State Forests of NSW Tumbarumba and Tumut offices and gained wonderful insight into both native and plantation forest management. During school holiday breaks in 1999, I was given my first paid job with State Forests in Tumbarumba, Riverina Region at the age of 16!

After completing Year 12, I took a year off to work and enjoy life away from the books. During some of this time I was employed at the Hyne Softwood Mill in Tumbarumba where I gained some valuable knowledge and experience of the timber processing industry.

In 2002 I then set off to Canberra to Study the Bachelor of Science (Forestry) at the Australian National University. The next four years were filled with fantastic memories of field trips, bar crawls, social events and the forming of a life long pact between three forestry chicks – the 3 musketeers! From the outset in first year until the final exam in fourth year, guys in the class outnumbered the girls. But as the male numbers dropped over the years, female numbers stayed constant – 3! Hence we were always together and so we were aptly named the 3 musketeers. Even when we jointly won the ANU Forestry School Douglas Brodie Memorial award, the plaque was inscribed ‘3 Musketeers’!! Emily May and Melinda Mylek, both foresters & members of the IFA, and myself still stay in very close contact even though we are now ‘separated’!!!

During uni breaks I was employed with State Forest of NSW Hume Region over a number of summers as well as becoming involved in work experience at Bathurst and Oberon (Macquarie Region of Forests NSW) and ACT Forests in Canberra.

Upon graduation in 2005, I was successful in obtaining a Grade One Forester position with Forest NSW in the much sought after location of Batemans Bay, on the NSW south coast, as the Harvest Planning Forester. My job involves using GIS (aaaaarrghhh!!) on an almost daily basis as well as liaising with a number of different stakeholder groups including local councils, neighbours, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, apiarists and graziers. Luckily I’m also based in a position that is not office bound so I’m often in the field – the best part of the job!! I’ve also been fortunate enough to be involved with Aboriginal Cultural Heritage surveys as well as ecology surveys. Fire fighting has also played a major role in my job here at Batemans Bay with me spending a very lonely Christmas Dinner 2006 in the office eating Spaghetti from the can whilst being the Forester-on-duty!! I also had the wonderful opportunity to help out in the 2006 Billo Fire that threatened the Tumut plantations.

Being located in Batemans Bay, I’ve had the great fortune of being involved with forest issues from Nowra in the north to Eden in the south and (believe it or not) Tumbarumba in the
west! Batemans Bay is the ‘central’ location of the Southern Region of Forests NSW which is managed by the very knowledgeable Ian Barnes, past president of the IFA!! So us foresters here in Southern Region are also in the know when it comes to interesting heritage places throughout our forests, especially tramways!! My father, Mark Goldspink, is also part of Southern Region based in Tumbarumba as the Feral Pest Officer so visits back home make for interesting conversations over the dinner table!!

My main interest (or perhaps a concern) for the forestry profession is, like many others, the apparent lack of enrolling students. I would love to go back to my old high school and stand up in front of all those other kids and let them know how exciting, challenging and fulfilling a career in forestry can be. I’m sure that the majority of students at the school don’t even realise that there are professional degrees and careers in the field of Forestry as every time I go back ‘home’ without fail someone will ask what it was that I went off to uni to study or what do I do??!! It is so frustrating.

I guess by harassing my younger brother, who is currently preparing for his Year 12 final exams, I may be able to recruit 1 new forester for the future! Fingers crossed! (And look out Peter Kanowski if I’m successful!)

Billie-Jo Goldspink
billiejo.goldspink@sf.nsw.gov.au

A worthy honor

Forestry runs in the blood of the Shedley family. Phil Shedley is the son of AC Shedley, one of the first Australian trained professional foresters, who was a founder of the IFA, Fellow and President 1939-1941. Phil has rendered outstanding service to forestry and the Institute of Foresters of Australia over more than 55 years.

Phil graduated from the Australian Forestry School in 1950. He served with the WA Forests Department at Willow Springs and Shannon River. He was the inaugural DFO at Shannon, and oversaw the construction of the headquarters and settlement and the introduction of professional forestry to the southern forests. These were days when the focus of forestry was in assessing the native forests and supplying logs to sawmills in small communities, the development of the road and lookout tower network, and firefighting. In 1957 Phil took up a position with the Kauri Timber Company and was involved with log procurement, sawmill management and the development of kiln drying When Kauri Timber Company sold its WA interests Phil returned to the Forests Department based at Collie and Harvey. He was the Department’s Utilization and Marketing Officer marketing the sawn timber from the Department’s four softwood and one jarrah mills. He transformed the Harvey mill into an operations scale research facility. Significant achievements were the use of high temperature drying schedules for eucalypts, VALWOOD® laminated panels and cost effective solar drying kilns.

Since retiring from the public service he has continued research and promotion of value added forest products in particular taking small native forest regrowth and thinnings converted into quality laminated flooring. Phil is a passionate promoter of professional forest and bushfire management and the need to commercially thin overstocked regrowth forests.

Phil contracted polio when he was based at Shannon River with the Forests Department and the fact that he overcame the disease by dint of a self imposed rigorous exercise regime and a refusal to give in, is a hallmark of his tenacity and perseverance.

Phil has come up with some unconventional ideas at times and he has devised solutions to problems in wood utilisation which have demonstrated the inquiring mind he has as well as the ability not to be too concerned at a failure or two along the way.

Phil has been an active member of the IFA and has served the Divisional committee on many occasions in many capacities. He is a tireless author of submissions to government, and letters to newspapers and politicians promoting sound forest management. He regularly attends Institute functions, field trips and conferences. He is currently convening the IFA WA Division Eucalypt Wood Borers and Rots conference which is virtually a single handed effort.

Phil Shedley FIFA
SA Scholarship

The South Australian Division of the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) has presented the inaugural IFA Forestry Scholarship to Bill Crowe of Mt Gambier.

The Scholarship was presented by Lew Parsons, Chairman of the IFA South Australian Division.

Bill Crowe has completed the first year of the Southern Cross University Bachelor of Applied Science (Forestry) course which is being delivered in Mt Gambier. Southern Cross University is located at Lismore, NSW, and conducts the course by extension in Mt Gambier using local TAFE, Tenison College and Mt Gambier High School facilities. Bill was one of the 14 inaugural local students in 2006. In 2007 a new group of 10 students are enrolled for the first year of the degree course.

Originally from Hamilton, Bill Crowe moved to Mt Gambier to work as a logging machine operator for G&R Logging. He is studying for a forestry degree to further his career in the local forest industry.

In receiving the scholarship Bill Crowe has thanked the S.A. Division for making the scholarship possible. He writes …

As a local of the area, I grew up next to forest plantations and saw first hand the benefits of agroforestry in the local/regional economy. The forestry company and the people I currently work for, and with, are professional and offer a great/safe work environment that saw me fulfilling duties including B-Double driver and Forwarder/Loader operator.

In late 2005 Southern Cross University, School of Environmental Science, along with community and industry support offered its world renowned Bachelor of Applied Science Forestry Degree here in Mt. Gambier. I saw this as a wonderful opportunity to be involved (at management level) in an expanding, vibrant, global industry.

To be awarded the IFA Scholarship is a great honor which will enable me to further my studies right here in Mt. Gambier.

The scholarship will be awarded each year to a student from South Australia or the Green Triangle Region of Victoria who is studying for a forestry degree. The value of the scholarship is $4,000, to be provided in annual payments of $1,000 over the 4-year term of the degree course.

A.R. Henderson Grant

The Trustees have awarded the first grant made under the resurrected ‘Henderson Award’ to Ray Mackey of Victoria for the proposed activity of Enrolment at Swinburne University of Technology for study in two subjects in a Certificate IV Conservation and Land Management Course.

The A.R. Henderson Grant is offered only to members of the Institute of Foresters of Australia and will be calling for applications again in May 2008.

Scholarship Scheme - a challenge for IFA

The IFA Board of Directors has approved the setting up of a Scholarship Scheme to support forestry students undertaking tertiary education. This bold move has issued a challenge to the Institute to raise funds to help attract students to undertake Forestry tertiary education courses in Australia.

The Universities of ANU, Southern Cross, Melbourne, Tasmania and Queensland have received Australian Government funding until the end of 2009 to develop and implement a National Forestry Masters program. The IFA assisted the Universities in obtaining this funding.

Members are aware that the 2006 NAFI/ A3P Skills Shortage Audit found that forest growing and management sector employers identified professional foresters as their most serious skill shortage. The Audit found that this shortage is intensifying and will increase with low recent enrolment at Australian universities, and the impending retirement of foresters hired in the 1960’s and 70’s. Educational choices and models are also changing.

A key issue, which the IFA is strongly committed to, is the need to develop adequate scholarship funding to sustain the National Forestry Masters program, and related Undergraduate programs. A total fund of $3.3M would
Global Consensus on Sustainable Forest Management

The United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) held its seventh session in New York in late April. After 15 years of debate, the international forestry community has finally agreed on the text of a voluntary non-legally binding instrument on forests. This is a very significant landmark in the quest to improve the management, conservation and sustainable development of the world’s forests. Delegates at UNFF-7 also agreed on the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) for the UNFF until 2015.

A non-legally binding instrument is regarded as “soft law”, but nevertheless it establishes significant commitments for countries to implement sustainable forest management. The text of the new forests instrument can be found at http://www.un.org/esa/forests/session-documents.html.

The purpose of the instrument is to strengthen commitment and action to implement sustainable forest management, to enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to establish a framework for national action and international cooperation.

Although many countries resisted efforts to define sustainable forest management, one of the significant aspects of the new instrument is that it articulates an international understanding of sustainable forest management as follows:

Sustainable forest management as a dynamic and evolving concept, aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations. Countries are also required to consider the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management, which are drawn from the criteria identified by existing criteria and indicators processes, as a reference framework for sustainable forest management and, in this context, identify, as appropriate, specific environmental and other forest-related aspects within those elements for consideration as criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management.

The instrument reaffirms the shared global objectives on forests and includes a series of commitments covering national policies and measures as well as on international cooperation and means of implementation in order to assist developing countries to implement sustainable forest management.

The MYPOW establishes the themes of the biennial global sessions of the UNFF as well as the topics that will be considered at each session. In the intervening years there will be regional meetings to facilitate greater connection between the global and regional forest processes. The next session of UNFF in 2009 will focus on Forests in a Changing Environment and will cover climate change, biodiversity and means of implementation. The United Nations has also declared 2011 to be the International Year of Forests.

The United Nations Forum on Forests now has a good platform to encourage countries to increase action on implementing sustainable forest management.

(Tony Bartlett)

Ultimately be required to provide 20 scholarships of an indexed $5K annually for each year of a 2-year program.

It is encouraging to note that a 6-figure contribution has already been offered, from a retired professional forester. The IFA is also considering committing a sizeable amount of funding to the scholarship scheme from funds raised by its members. The IFA is also resourcing the initial setting up and administrative costs of the proposed Endowment Fund and covering the initial establishment and secretariat costs. However, it will be the ongoing commitment of stakeholders that will be essential to the ultimate success or not of the venture. The IFA will be approaching stakeholders later this year for a future commitment starting probably starting 1 July 2008.

A Working Party of IFA President Peter Volker, Tony Price and Executive Director, Adrian O’Loughlin has been appointed by the Board to further develop the IFA Scholarship Scheme.
On Friday 19 May, a band of a dozen or so IFA members and guests visited a significant new wood processing plant that was established near Perth in 2005/2006 to produce laminated veneer lumber (LVL). The plant sources wood from 20,000 hectares of Maritime Pine (Pinus pinaster) plantations that have been progressively established in the area north of Perth since the mid 20s. Since these trees were ostensibly established by the Government (on government land) to meet a perceived future shortage of softwood for local markets. Perhaps this represents an insight into the future of all production forestry in establishing plantations to meet perceived future shortages of hardwood as well as softwood timber. With this in mind we included a visit to the Gnangara plantations as a precursor in an attempt to follow the process from tree to product. It also allowed us to consider one additional element in the management of such resources, the increasingly important issue of the impact of plantations on water supplies. A significant part of the plantation area (approx. 6,000 hectares) is located atop the “Gnangara Mound” aquifer which is now a vital element of Perth’s metropolitan water supplies. Hence, to conserve water, much of the harvested area is to be replaced by native vegetation rather than being replanted.

Maritime pine was established on the poor soils [unsuited to radiata] of the coastal plain close to the key market of Perth after WWI and WWII to meet a shortage of softwoods and due largely to its ability to survive in the low rainfall and poor conditions. Much of the timber is therefore reasonably mature (over forty years) and of readily millable size. Although the Forest Products Commission of WA (FPC) does not hold title to the land it is responsible for the harvesting and sale of the timber. However up until recently markets for the pine were somewhat limited as the timber is not greatly favored for sawn timber where radiata is preferred. Hence the main markets have been as chips to supply the local MDF plant and for pallet timber.

The new LVL plant is supplied with peeler logs from the butt logs of the mature stands while top logs and thinnings from younger stands are supplied as “in-forest” chips for WA’s only MDF plant, also near the city. Modern harvesters and forwarders deliver the logs to access tracks for further processing, loading and transport. It is significant however that the specifications for LVL peeler logs are quite restrictive whereas the simpler specification for chips allows for fuller utilisation. Currently a significant proportion of sawlogs are too large for processing by the LVL plant and are therefore being trucked a considerable distance to the pine sawmill located at Dardanup well south of Perth.

Unfortunately the other stakeholders in the land were not present to detail plans for that part of the plantations which are to be clearfelled and converted to parkland and/or housing. It is understood, however, that water tables are being monitored by the CSIRO using a string of test bores located throughout the plantation. Perhaps another visit will be necessary with representatives from the Department of the Environment and Conservation and the Department of Water to get a better understanding of these issues?

Mr. James Malone, Wesbeam CEO, personally conducted the tour of the LVL plant and gave a background on its establishment. The facility is a highly mechanised processing plant costing $80 to $90 million to build and commission. Of particular interest was the electronic sensing equipment designed to calculate the modulus of elasticity (MOE) of the veneer laminates and to precisely locate them to give very consistent strength. The spindleless rotary peeling plant screens and processes various size green logs to veneer in seconds with very little waste. Another interesting aspect is the specific requirement for maritime pine due to its greater density and strength than radiata. The plant has the capacity to...
produce 55,000 cubic metres of LVL per annum with its primary markets being in the Eastern states of Australia where timber frame construction is more prevalent than WA. Some of the output is exported but as is often the case we are too far from most high value markets to be competitive when freight costs are included.

I thought the exercise raised many question of the future for modern production forestry based on plantations. New processes and technology are being developed which can produce high value products from plantation resources. However the cost of such facilities is very high and requires substantial throughput to justify the investment. It is clear that plantation growers will need to have a full understanding of the requirements of potential users if they are to grow the appropriate resource in a cost effective way and always mindful of the potential impact on the environment.

Both FPC and Wesbeam operations were very professional and their hospitality and willingness to respond to our questions were greatly appreciated. It was a very informative and successful field visit though the decision to trial a half-day professional development exercise on a weekday may have limited the attendance.

Kevin Bentley
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Changes to Qld committee

Cathy Skippington has been elected Chair of the Queensland Division. Cathy has been working in Queensland since graduating 1982 when she was appointed as the first female forester in Queensland. She worked nine years with the Department of Forestry in a range of field positions culminating in management of the State forest recreation program.

Since joining the Queensland Department of Environment in 1991 Cathy has continued her interest in sustainable resource management and biodiversity in conservation. She has held a variety of positions including Regional Director of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, which is now responsible for the management of native state forests, Assistant Director-General and is now responsible for Queensland’s marine parks.

Queensland will be host of the 2009 Australian IFA Conference and Cathy will have the support of Steve Walker who has agreed to lead the Conference Organising Committee.

Cathy succeeds Bob Thistlethwaite who has been Queensland Divisional Chair for 6 years, but he will continue his supporting role as a Divisional Councillor and as the Foundation Convenor of the Tropical Forestry Special Interest Group.

At the August AGM, Queensland Divisional members thanked Bob for his committed work with a presentation of a timber mounted plaque commemorating his time as Chair.

Thank you Bob for your hard work and commitment over the last six years, and congratulations to Cathy on her recent appointment.
From Thursday 24 - Sunday 27 May 2007, 10 second year Forestry, Resource and Environmental Management and Science students from Australian National University participated in a field excursion to the south coast region of NSW. The aim of the trip was to expose students to practical forestry operations additional to university curriculum.

The trip commenced with a visit to Pentarch Forest Products' Eden shipping port. Pentarch's National Resource Manager; Matthew Deretic and Eden Resource Manager; Jarod Addinsall, gave students a tour of the log yard, providing an overview of the products and their destination markets. Other topics included the logistics of filling large container ships with logs and the importance of meeting deadlines. The students were then taken to a logging operation run by Pentarch in State Forests (NSW) to supply wood for export. The students then travelled to Bombala where at a local establishment council member Murray Flemming discussed a range of local issues, including the role of forestry in the community before students retired to their tents and swags for the night.

Waking to a cold and frosty morning, the students were greeted by two staff from Willmott Forests Ltd: Project Coordinator Martin Tennant and Bombala Region Operations Manager, Phil Green. A range of sites were visited, including a Radiata plantation ready for the first thinning operation, and a newly prepared site that was being planted. It was very interesting to gain a better understanding of the operations of a MIS company and the unique challenges they are faced with such as the June 30 planting deadlines.

After a demonstration of GIS applications, and a generous and much-welcomed luncheon at Willmott's Delegate office, students were given a tour of Willmott Forests Prime Pine milling operation at Bombala by mill Operations Manager Peter Herde. Topics discussed included products and their uses, environmental issues and interaction with community.

After sleeping at North Durras on Friday night, Saturday morning was spent with Darren Condon-Green from the Batemans Bay Chamber of Commerce, discussing business development, tourism, and the impacts of the newly imposed marine reserve adjacent to the Eurobodalla Shire. Kirk Edgar, General Manager of Murramarang Resort, South Durras supported Darren’s views of maintaining a healthy forestry industry in the Batemens Bay region, and spoke of the complexities of running accommodation within National Park jurisdiction. Students also went for a short forest walk with NPWS Officer Rob Perry, a Resource Management graduate from ANU, where he discussed his role as a Parks Officer and the management plans of the park. Also of interest to the students was Rob's career since graduating and his advice for getting out and getting work experience while still studying.

Saturday afternoon saw the students meet with local apiarist, Gary Polie who gave a comprehensive insight into the intrinsic relationship between forest managers and bee keepers. Gary spoke about both general and localised issues relating to the security of allotment allocation and apiarist's custodial responsibilities in state forest and national parks. On Sunday morning we met and went for a walk with Forests NSW Southern Region Planning Manager and IFA Immediate Past President, Ian Barnes. Students took a tour through the native coastal forest, with Ian describing ecosystem processes, the impacts of past logging operations, and management issues regarding the transition from State Forest to National Park. The difference in management strategies between NSW Forests and Parks and Wildlife was highlighted by students as an important topic for debate in the states future. Many other topics were discussed, including careers in forestry, including Ian's own, Australia's unique environment, fire in the environment, and policy issues. This proved to be a great end to the trip, allowing students to integrate everything learned in the last four days with prior knowledge and to think about their own future careers.

The students would like to thank all mentors who gave us their time and insights into forestry and forestry related industries. The sincerity and enthusiasm displayed towards us and encouragement to discuss all issues made for an excellent educational experience. We would also very much like to thank Phil Pritchard and all IFA members for the funding which payed for petrol, and Professor Peter Kanowski of the Fenner School of Environment and Society at ANU for providing the mini bus that enabled this trip to occur with minimal cost. Very special thanks to George Dashwood, who with great effort, organised (and supervised) the trip and acted as a great mentor. We're not sure if he’s forgiven for the dodgy, uncooked chops though.

Thanks again, from Darren Brown, Martin Dallen, Jarod Dashwood and Peter Sheldon, on behalf of all trip participants.

Jarod Dashwood
jarods@hotmail.com
Acoustics have been used for some time in plywood mills and sawmills to provide a measure of wood quality.

Resonance tools are now being used regularly in log yards to assess wood stiffness in pine logs. These methods mainly use cut surfaces to bounce the sound waves back and forth when resonating. Knowledge of the stiffness of particular logs means that pine sawmills can determine in advance which logs will yield the best recovery of structural products for a higher price than non-structural ones. This is because the resonant frequency of logs is directly related to the stiffness of the timber.

There are now tools on the market for using acoustics to make similar measurements in standing trees within which there are no cut surfaces. These tools measure the time for a shock wave to travel through the wood for a measured distance. This time, too, is directly related to the stiffness of the wood through which the shock wave travels – shorter times mean stiffer wood. The shock wave is provided by a sharp tap applied to a probe inserted into the tree. The shock is detected both at its start and when it passes a probe a measured distance up the stem and the difference timed accurately.

The advantages in measuring standing trees are clear for inventory work by forest growing organisations and for breeding and selection many years before tree harvest.

There are several tools that can be used for this purpose, including the Fakopp, the IML hammer and the purpose-built Director ST-300, all of which can be Googled for details. They differ in how the shock is applied and detected and in whether information is transmitted to the timer by wires or not, but the results are all very similar. All have advantages and disadvantages.

Ensis has demonstrated the value of the tools in NZ and Australia for selection and breeding purposes, particularly in young pines where genetic variation for juvenile wood stiffness has been demonstrated (Matheson, Gapare, Ilic and Wu, Silvae Genetica in press 2007).
On a clear, crisp May winter’s day, 16 keen IFA members attended a very informative field day that included a morning session on eucalypt plantations (hosted by FEA – Tony Cannon) and an afternoon finding out about growing grapes, and of course, sampling the matured product!

A Forest Enterprises Australia (FEA) *E. nitens* plantation near Launceston was our first stop. Our host Tony Cannon introduced us to a typical 6-year old plantation, growing vigorously on ex pasture, and scheduled for a thinning operation within two years. Thinning products will be sent to its new saw in Bell Bay for production of “EcoAsh” products – framing and structural grade timber. (See details at [www.fealtd.com.au](http://www.fealtd.com.au)). A typical silvicultural regime for plantations in the region involves planting at 1200 stems/ha; thinning to 450 – 500 stems/ha between age 7 – 10 years; with final harvest between 13 and 15 years.

The planning requirements for establishing plantations, and the process of determining net plantable area were also discussed. Typically, the proportion is 60 - 70% net plantable area after accounting for Telstra & power lines, houses, streams and special values exclusion areas.

This plantation suffered severe copper deficiency during its first two years of growth.

This can occur in sites with low fertility soils (Eg: sandstones, mudstones & granites). Treatment with aerial copper fertiliser resulted in the trees overcoming the deficiency, forming a now valuable crop. Stem deformities (sweep and multi leaders) were still evident in some trees.

However, much of the discussion was about MIS schemes and the introduction of a secondary market, where investors can on-sell their financial interests in a plantation at age 4. There is useful article on the subject written by Allan Cummine and Tony Cannon “Replacing anti-plantation myths and fictions with facts” in *Australian Forest Grower, Summer 2007*.

After lunch together at the Cellar Door, the group was introduced to Dr Richard Smart - Consultant Viticulturist at Tamar Ridge and acclaimed as one of the best in the world. We were taken on a guided tour of the Tamar Ridge Micro Vinification Facility - a newly commissioned “state of the art” research complex housed in a refurbished shearing shed on the company’s Kayena property. This facility is a successful partnership between the company, industry CRC’s and government.

The focus of work by Dr Smart and 2 PhD students is the improvement of Pinot Noir - looking at practices in the vineyard that relate to fruit yields, quality and colour. From very small parcels of fruit the researchers then produce individual batches of wine in 2-3 litre size plastic bottles. We were shown the controlled temperature rooms which housed hundreds of neatly stacked and tagged bottles, a sight that caused at least a few of the group to re-consider wine research as a career!

All the bottles are analysed and assessed for favourable qualities, with the intention of modifying a range of vineyard practices in pursuit of higher quality wines. It was a very impressive facility, which has the potential to challenge many of the traditions and standard procedures associated with making wine.

Also of interest was the discussion on GIS-based methods used in the selection and evaluation of suitable sites for vineyards in Tasmania along with the influence of temperature, soil moisture and soil quality.

The finale for the day was the tasting back at the Cellar Door where the very knowledgeable & friendly staff assisted with selections of sparkling wines, whites, and best of all the reds.

It was a typically enjoyable and informative field day. Thanks go to Melissa Syme who organised the field day, and to Tony Cannon (FEA) and Dr Richard Smart (Tamar Ridge) for their very informative and interesting talks.

(Paul Adams & Gordon McCutchan)
The SA Division and Green Triangle Branch combined AGM’s were held on the 8th August 2007. Lew Parsons, Divisional Chairman, spoke of another successful year. This year saw the awarding of the first IFA South Australian Division undergraduate Scholarship to Bill Crowe. Bill Crowe has completed the first year of the Southern Cross University Bachelor of Applied Science (Forestry) course which is being run in Mt Gambier. Lew thanked Ruth Ryan, Sue Shaw and Diana Lloyd for their commitment in making the scholarship program a success. The idea of the scholarship program developed from proposals of how to make best use of some of the profits from the successful 2005 IFA conference in Mt Gambier.

The SA Division would also like to acknowledge the presence of David Butterworth at the meeting. David is a member of the Adelaide Branch and visited Mt Gambier specifically for the meeting and to catch up with a few old friends from the ‘good old days’.

The highlight of the GT Branch AGM was a discussion of future Branch events including the timing of the Christmas function. There was unanimous acceptance of a suggestion to hire a bus and tour to the Coonawarra for some fine wine and food. For those interested in attending, put aside Sunday the 18th of November 2007.

The GT Branch also invited Mr Grant Pearce to discuss some of the work he has undertaken with GHD in Sarawak and China. Grant’s background is in Forest Certification, Environmental Impact Assessments and Chain of custody reviews and was previously with ForestrySA. Grant returned from an inspection tour of Sarawak earlier this year and related his observations of the forest industry.

Sarawak is a state of Malaysia that is currently implementing its own forest certification Draft Malaysian Timber Standard. Some of the difficulties Sarawak faces with seeking compliance, besides erodeable soils and high rainfall, is the presence of illegal logging operators. Sarawak is actively converting native forests to plantations (Acacia mangium).

Logs sourced from Sarawak’s native forest are destined for pulp mills either in Malaysia or China. Some of the challenges involve minimising environmental impacts such as erosion, common on slopes which can be in excess of 45°. While the standard clear felling operations meet their environmentally responsibilities by buffering and protecting streamside reserves, locally called “Concession” areas. Illegal loggers and local villagers mine these areas for logs once the formal operations have been completed.

Clear felling is often completed by hand falls with logs carried and stacked by hand. The major extraction is via a canal network with logs floated and/or towed by canoes to log yards. Roading is difficult because of steep terrain and road surfaces often slippery after rain, which is in the range of 3,300mm to 4,600mm per year.

The majority of logs are currently sourced from the native forests, previously on a 20 year rotation. Cleared areas are now progressively being converted to Acacia mangium plantations at a staggering rate of 2,500ha per month (all year round). This is a concern for ecologists with the continual discovery of many new plant and animal species. It is anticipated that all harvesting of native forest will cease within two years.

The GT Branch then thanked Grant for sharing his experiences and presented him with a copy of ‘Old Growth Foresters’.

Other information about Sarawak sourced from the Sarawak Tourism Board website.

Sarawak is also one of the world’s largest exporters of tropical hardwood timber. However, the state government has imposed strict log-production quotas over the recent years to ensure sustainable forestry management. Sarawak still, however, produces approximately 9 to 10 million cubic metres of logs annually.

Jane Charles
charles.jane@forestrysa.sa.gov.au

Left: Aerial views of Sarawak, Malaysia
Above right: The SA & Green Triangle AGM Dinner saw presenter Grant Pearce talk on some of his work with GHD
The following letter was sent to Senator Eric Abetz, Minister for Forests regarding Forestry Managed Investment Schemes. His response is also included

The Institute of Foresters of Australia
ABN 48 083 197 586

13 March 2007

Senator The Hon. Eric Abetz
Minister for Forests
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Forestry Managed Investment Schemes
The Institute of Foresters of Australia congratulates you and the government on its continued support for forestry Managed Investment Schemes.

These schemes have facilitated a shift mainly of investment by government and large corporate investment in plantation forestry to investment by small and medium sized investors. The outcome has been an increased rate of reforestation of the Australian landscape and investment of city based capital in rural and regional areas. No other funding mechanism has been as effective in meeting these positive challenges as the MIS. Government capital is released for application in other areas of need and environmentally desirable rural projects are supported by retail investors around Australia.

It is important that forestry MIS be managed to high standards. The IFA is supportive of both the Australian Forestry Standard and other recognised certification schemes as they relate to MIS plantation management. We recognise the leading role of Australian Forest Growers in promoting and supporting private investment and management of plantations on private land.

The IFA believes there is an opportunity for MIS companies to verify the standards of management by encouraging their foresters to become Registered Professional Foresters® under the IFA scheme.

The IFA would also welcome any initiatives to formally accredit Independent Experts engaged by MIS Companies in the formulation of their offer documents and subsequent reporting to investors. In particular, the RPF® scheme offers a means to verify the expertise of Independent Foresters engaged by these companies and the Trust Companies, which operate on behalf of investors. The IFA would be happy to work with your Department and the Australian Tax Office on this matter.

Many Eucalyptus species have an ability to regenerate from stump coppice. The taxation treatment of forestry currently inhibits forestry MIS from exploiting the use of coppice as a cost efficient and low biological risk means to establish second forest crops. The IFA would support a review of the taxation treatment of coppice crops with a view to facilitating this efficient silviculture which also minimises disturbance of our valuable soil resource.

We share a common zeal for sound, science based forestry.

Yours sincerely

Dr Peter Volker RPF FIFA
(President)

cc. Australian Taxation Office, Canberra ACT 2600
26 APR 2007

Dr Peter Volker
President
The Institute of Foresters of Australia
PO Box 7002
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Volker,

Thank you for your letter of 13 March 2007 regarding forestry managed investment schemes (MIS). I regret the delay in responding.

First, I would like to thank you and the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) for your continued support of the Australian Government’s commitment to expand the plantation estate through MIS. You may be aware that investment in new plantations is needed to support important processing proposals, valued at over $3 billion, over the next few years.

I support your proposal to have MIS companies verify their management standards by encouraging them to become Registered Professional Foresters® (RPF) under the IFA scheme. However, accreditation such as forest certification is a matter for individual companies, based on the demands of their investors and broader market requirements and expectations. I am therefore supportive of a voluntary accreditation system for MIS companies under the IFA scheme.

Finally, you suggest that the new taxation arrangements for forestry MIS are a barrier to regeneration from stump coppice. This matter was recently discussed by the forest and wood products industry, the Treasury, the Australian Taxation Office, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and my Department. The conclusion was that coppicing is a viable and appropriate silvicultural practice, within the scope of direct forest expenditure, under the new taxation arrangements.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

ERIC ABETZ

Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 Telephone 02 6277 7270 Facsimile 02 6273 7096
I have never been to Africa, and only fleetingly to India. Nevertheless, both continents have always powerfully fascinated and drawn me. This stemmed from my early interest in their romance and history, thanks to avid reading of the novels of Conrad, the short stories of Hemingway, and Alan Moorhead’s wonderful histories of the White Nile and the Blue Nile. All of this was enhanced by the fortuitous circumstances of my working life as a young forester in WA.

In the early 1960s, our Conservator (AC Harris) was responsible for a remarkable recruiting coup. He secured the services of about a dozen African foresters who were looking for fresh fields following independence and the consequent changes to the colonial forest services in countries such as Uganda, Tanganyika, Nigeria, Kenya and others, where they worked. These were excellent men. They were English or Scottish trained and had years of experience running remote forest districts and plantations in Africa, they were independent and practical, and well-versed in forestry organisation and administration. Often they were ex-servicemen, and as well as being good foresters they tended to be very sociable, enjoying company and a few quiet beers on a Friday after work. Amongst those whose friendship I enjoyed and from whom I learned a great deal about forestry as well as about Africa, were Frank Pridham, John Robley, Peter Kimber, Alistair Mather, Ron Nightingale, Bob Brierley, Peter Richmond and Jock Gilchrist.

Without exception these men were also good raconteurs. They loved to yar over their African experiences, and I loved to listen. Together with the Australian foresters and bushmen whose culture and recollections of the early days I absorbed like a sponge at that time, the ex-African foresters added an extra and welcome dimension to my education.

I knew no Indian foresters, but I always felt I knew something about India. For one thing, since Australia was a fellow-member of the British Empire at the time, the geography and history of India had been well-taught to children in the 1940s and early 1950s when I was in primary school. And Indian forestry was familiar to every student of Australian forestry because of the historical roots of the latter in the former. The Indian influences had arrived in WA from the Indian Forest Service via the Imperial Forestry Institute in Oxford, through powerful professional institutions of the time such as the Empire Forestry Conferences and from that indefatigable ex-Indian Forest Service forester CE Hutchins, who had been an influential consultant to the WA government at the time of World War I.

Given this background it is no wonder that I started these two books with special interest. The first is David MacIntosh’s book of memoirs of his time as a forester in west and central Africa, the “white man’s grave” of his title. MacIntosh is a Highland Scot, whose father was a woodcutter who from an early age ingrained in his son a love for, and an interest in the ways of the woods, predestining him to become a forester. Soon after graduation in the early 1950s David MacIntosh took up an appointment in Nigeria. He lived and worked in the rainforests of Cameroon, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Liberia and Nigeria for most of the rest of his career. The book is a collection of stories written after retirement. Any one of the chapters can stand alone (indeed, they were written initially for publication as articles in periodicals), but the book can easily be read straight through from cover to cover. I did so very happily on a plane flight from Perth to Melbourne.

MacIntosh writes beautifully and with dry Scots humour. His descriptions are poetic, and he reveres the great African rainforests, their people and their wildlife.

‘MacIntosh writes beautifully and with dry Scots humour. His descriptions are poetic, and he reveres the great African rainforests, their people and their wildlife’
contrast to the sombre bottle green leaves of the giant mahoganies and walnuts higher up the slope.

MacIntosh evokes the native people of these regions with affection and humour, and some of his snake stories made the hair stand up on the back of my neck. As I have a few hair-raising snake stories of my own (the best of them, I admit having been told to me by that wondrous forester-yarn spinner Len Talbot), I felt almost envious.

This is a book I would recommend to any reader, but one which I know all foresters would enjoy, especially those ex-Africans still in our midst.

By coincidence at the time I was reading MacIntosh I came across a little hardback in a secondhand bookstore entitled Adventures of a Botanist's Wife by Eleanor Bor, and the two books make an interesting comparison. Mrs Bor's story is set in an earlier time (the 1930s) and in a different place, the Bhutan-Assam region of northeastern India, where she accompanied her husband on his travels as a forester. Dr. Bor started his career as a “forest officer” (a term one never hears these days, but it was the title I had myself on my first appointment) and a district administrator. Later in his career he became the region's first forest botanist. He was responsible for the bulk of the official botanical collections in this region. After leaving India, Bor became Director of Kew Gardens in London.

Mrs Bor bravely accompanied him through the mountains and forests, riding an elephant or pony, walking, or travelling in Army lorries, and making the best of the rough conditions in bush camps or in the old Raj’s Rest Houses in which they usually overnighed. She was a Memsahib, and therefore much more straight-laced than MacIntosh, who liked to swap ribald yarns with the market mammies and eat monkey stew with the bush natives in their camps or villages. Memsahib Bor was nevertheless a keen and sympathetic observer of the people and their lives and times, and of the forests where they worked.

Bhutan is a place I know little about, although my brother went on a walking tour through part of it a few years ago, and came back full of admiration for the beauty of the forests, and concern for their future. I doubt Bor's book would be obtainable outside an old public library, and although I enjoyed it, I fancy it would be of greatest interest these days to the Australian foresters who have been carrying out consultancy work in Bhutan (my friends and colleagues Phil Montgomery, Frank McKinnell and Jerry Leech among them). They would feel some empathy for the following extract from Mrs Bor's book:

Of the lorry drive from the railway up into the mountains I have vivid and horrible memories. The road was worse than any I had encountered in the way of motor roads and the driver drove at a dangerous speed the whole way. When we turned into the valley of the Beas River my nerves, already frayed, were not improved by the frequent sight of notices warning you to ‘beware of falling rocks’. If any of the overhanging cliffs and lightly balanced boulders had fallen on us we would have had no time to beware of them, or of anything else in this life.

A disappointing aspect of both books is the lack of any detail of the forestry work undertaken by MacIntosh and Bor. In the case of the former, he refers to his status as a “tree finder” which I have taken to mean that he was engaged in forest inventory work and perhaps tree-marking in advance of selective logging, while Mrs Bor's book is really more about her than about her husband or his work. This is fair enough, considering her book's title.

However, both books have one common theme: MacIntosh and Bor were working as foresters in these areas in the time before large-scale forest exploitation by European, American or Asian timber interests began. Both foresaw trouble ahead and were concerned that the political systems in Africa and India at that time would not be equal to the task of regulating the industry, or putting a responsible forest management policy in place. But these are mere undercurrents to the stories, probably more obvious to a forester than to most readers, and they will not distract you.


Editors note: We have found that copies of ‘Travels in the White Man’s Grave’ and ‘Adventures of a Botanist’s Wife’ are still available for sale through various outlets and through the internet.
Kenneth William Earle Vear

It is with regret that the IFA acknowledges the passing of Ken Vear, just short of his 80th birthday.

Ken grew up and was educated in Victoria. He attended the University of Melbourne and became one of the early Victorian students to attend the Australian Forestry School to complete his Forestry degree. He accepted a position with the then Woods and Forests Department in South Australia in 1949 and retired in 1981 after a career during which he made significant contributions to the management of plantations and to the IFA, for which he was recognised as a Fellow of the Institute.

Those of us who had the privilege of working with Ken remember him as a dedicated forester with an enquiring mind and ability to analyse technical problems and develop practical solutions. His quiet and relaxed demeanour masked a strong desire to bring out the best in his staff.

Among Ken’s achievements were investigations into nutritional problems with P radiata at Kuitpo Forest in the Adelaide Hills during the 1950’s. This was a landmark review which set the policy for regular treatment of failing sites at Kuitpo and Second Valley. Ken also assessed the site characteristics associated with large and small responses, and produced a 3-way site classification. He surveyed Kuitpo F.R. and mapped the probable occurrence of three site classes. It was a very useful mapping effort and has stood the test of time. Considering the survey was only 10-12 years after ‘rescue’ applications of superphosphate were made, he did a great job, showing his sound knowledge of plantations and logical thinking. As a professional forester in operations management he was rated by his peers as among the best we had and probably the most sensitive to the remarkable characteristics of radiata pine, well aware it was well-within its climate ‘comfort zone’, but needing a bit of nutritional assistance.

Ken moved to the South East in the late 1960’s as District Forester at Mt Gambier. At that time the Woods and Forests Department was refining the fire management and suppression systems that were to serve it well for the next 40 years. The Department was the pioneer in using canvas hose for plantation fires. The dilemma of how to effectively roll out lengths of hose was solved by Ken who invented and then constructed the first prototype of the figure eight hose roller that allowed hose to be run out by pulling both ends from a central point as well as the clamp to close off the end of the hose and allow other lengths to be attached.

He moved back to Adelaide in 1971 and became the Regional Forester responsible for all forest management activities in the Adelaide Hills and mid North.

He arrived at a time when public interest in forests for recreational activity was starting to increase rapidly. It was a phenomenon for which the Department was ill prepared and Ken was instrumental in developing strategies for the coexistence of commercial plantations with the public desire to use them for different activities; or as it was called then, “Multiple Use Forestry”.

One of his final contributions to the Department was the planning and establishment of urban woodlands to be an integral part of Government’s satellite city of Monarto which never eventuated.

This project led to ground breaking work on revegetation in the low rainfall areas of the State with many of the processes now widely adopted including mechanical direct seeding and managing dry and drought years. The Monarto project also included the establishment of a new amenity nursery with Ken being responsible for the development of soil sterilisation processes and equipment and materials handling innovations.

As his past colleagues and members of the IFA we mourn his passing and honour his memory through the notable contributions that he made to the forestry profession during his career. We extend our condolences to his family.

(Lew Parsons)

J.M. (Max) Gilbert

Max Gilbert joined the Tasmanian Forestry Department in 1934 at the age of 21. He arrived after graduation and as the largest bushfires in Tasmania’s history were burning over huge areas of the State; no doubt this event profoundly influenced his thinking on the importance of fire in forest management. His early work was in applying the scientific knowledge he had gained and in organising fire protection. Later, in the late 1940s and 1950s, he made significant contributions to improving the quality of radiata pine plantations in Tasmania through better nursery practices, selection of plus trees in plantations, establishment of progeny trials and the development of seed orchards. He became Fire Protection Officer in 1945 and the Head of the Silvicultural and Fire Protection Branch in the early 1950s. Max was in charge of the Forestry Commission’s silvicultural research activities until his retirement in 1974.

Max’s best known contribution to Australian forestry lies in his work on the practical methods to achieve eucalypt regeneration after logging in wet eucalypt forests, based on a sound understanding of the natural processes. In the 1950s, the regeneration of cut-over eucalypt forest was often unsatisfactory and the ecological and silvicultural requirements for achieving good regeneration were poorly understood. In 1954, Max received the first Australian Newsprint Mills Fellowship to study regeneration of wet eucalypt forests in the company’s forest concession areas, particularly the Florentine, Styx and Tyenna Valleys.
Max’s post-graduate studies from 1955-58 resulted in the first Ph.D. on forest ecology to be awarded in Tasmania. This work was a landmark event in the history of ecological research generally, and particularly in forest ecological research in Tasmania. Max made a detailed analysis of the geology, climate, forest types and role of fire in the mixed eucalypt-temperate rainforests of the Florentine valley. He concluded that the ecological processes operating there were best explained by the traditional "succession and climax" theory first mooted by Clements (1916) and later modified by others to the “fire climax” theory where fire was a re-occurring event. In the mixed forests of the Florentine valley, the hypothesis was that fire is the major factor preventing the general attainment of climax vegetation – temperate rainforest. His story of succession in these wet, mixed forests on soils of moderate to high fertility is summarised from his Royal Society of Tasmania paper (Gilbert 1959), a seminal work and one of the most referenced papers in Australian forestry science:

- If an area of mixed forest (eucalypt forest with a rainforest understorey) remains unburnt for 350-400 years (the life span of the main eucalypt species) then the climax condition is achieved;
- If an area is burnt infrequently but with an interval of less than 350 years it remains under mixed forest. The forest is destroyed by each fire but the species present in the fully developed mixed forest regenerate immediately after the fire;
- With a fire frequency of once or twice per century, the mixed forest is replaced by eucalypt forest with a broad-leaf understorey characterised by *Pomaderris*, *Olearia* and *Acacia* instead of climax rainforest species;
- Still more frequent fires, perhaps at 10-20 year intervals, will not only prevent eucalypt forest progressing to mixed forest but will maintain *E. obliqua* and *E. delegatensis* at the expense of the much more fire sensitive *E. regnans*.

The findings of Max Gilbert and Murray Cunningham and subsequent operational trials resulted in the clearfell, burn and sow system for wet eucalypt forest. This system has successfully established well over 200 000 ha of regrowth forests in Tasmania. Max, Murray and other colleagues developed the first systematic harvesting and regeneration systems for Tasmanian forests that have since been broadened to include a range of partial harvesting systems.

In an interview in 2005, Max explained: “What I was really interested in was that the management and treatment of the forests could be improved or be made much better because we had a better knowledge of why the forests are as they are today”.

He recalled that when he began work in the 1930s: “People had very little idea about what was going on in the bush and as to whether anything should be done to get regeneration, I don’t think entered anybody’s mind. The only action I remember being taken was that heaps of heads of felled trees were burnt if there was a suitable opportunity. I’ve forgotten whether that was done as a fire protection measure or in the hope that there would be some regeneration obtained. But in 1934, any ideas as to how to regenerate cut-over forest I’d say, by and large, did not exist.” (Cubit 1996).

The importance of light and fire to wet eucalypt forests began to dawn on Max when he discovered that the biggest myrtles in a forest he was studying were the same age as the eucalypts. “I remember thinking about this and I decided that fire had something to do with this and scratched the litter of the surface soil” Max recalled. “There was no sign of charcoal on any of the vegetation, but when I scratched the surface I found scattered bits of charcoal and it became pretty obvious that the forest originated in the regrowth that comes after a really hot fire killed everything. And so if you like, the present mixed forests are the children of destructive fires of similar types of forests. This improved knowledge was a great help in deciding how to develop better management of the forest.”

The Perpetual Gilbert-Cunningham Trophy was introduced by Forestry Tasmania in 2005 to be awarded annually for excellence in growing native forests. The naming of this award recognises the key contributions that Max Gilbert and Murray Cunningham made in developing a solid silvicultural foundation for sustainable forest management in Tasmania.

Max Gilbert treated everyone in a friendly way and became a role model for many young foresters. His fine sense of humour is fondly remembered by those who worked with him. Max had a great love of the bush and was a keen observer with a questioning mind, qualities which underwrote his great success in forest research. Australian forestry has been indeed fortunate to have his contribution to forest management over many years. Perhaps an even more important contribution was his influence on the generations of foresters who followed him.

(Humphrey Elliott and Ken Felton)

References


The greenhouse gas benefit of maintaining forests or planting trees does not stop at carbon

Steve Livesley

Forest ecosystems can contribute to the mitigation of rising atmospheric greenhouse gases by preserving carbon stocks in existing forests and planting new ones. The obvious benefit is that growing forests are a net sink for carbon dioxide; actively capturing and "locking up" large quantities of carbon in woody biomass and soil.

Methane (CH$_4$) and nitrous oxide (N$_2$O) are two other important greenhouse gases that contribute up to 25% of Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions. Recent research in the School of Forest and Ecosystem Science at the University of Melbourne shows that native forests and plantations can reduce emissions of these other greenhouse gases compared to other land uses. For example, measurements in mature *E. delegatensis* and *E. regnans* forests in NSW and Victoria indicate that methanotroph bacteria in undisturbed forest soils can remove between 100 and 200 kg CO$_2$-equivalents of CH$_4$ per hectare per year.

N$_2$O is produced naturally in soils through two main processes: *nitrification* in well-aerated, dry and moist soils and *denitrification* in compacted or wet to saturated soils. Tight nutrient cycling in these mature eucalypt forests also means little N$_2$O is produced (<500 kg CO$_2$-e ha$^{-1}$ yr$^{-1}$) in comparison to intensive, fertilized agricultural systems in Australia (up to 2000 kg CO$_2$-e ha$^{-1}$ yr$^{-1}$).

It is also possible that establishing forest plantations on previously-cleared agricultural land will increase the ability of soil to take up CH$_4$, whilst reducing the production of N$_2$O. This can occur because trees improve nutrient cycling as compared with crops or grasses, nutrient inputs (through fertilizer and animal excreta) are reduced and soils become drier and less compacted. Recent field measurements in Western Australia indicate that soil CH$_4$ uptake in eucalypt and pine plantations established on previously legume-grass pastoral land is more than double that in the pasture and approaching levels in undisturbed *E. marginata* woodland (Fig. 1). Likewise, N$_2$O emissions are also an order of magnitude lower in the afforested systems than in the legume-grass pasture.

For further information contact Dr Steve Livesley or Dr Stefan Arndt (sjlive@unimelb.edu.au; samdt@unimelb.edu.au).

This research is funded by the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Australian Greenhouse Office through an Australian Research Council (Linkage Grant) with support from Timbercorp (Pty Ltd) and Forest Products Commission (WA).

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**Fig. 1** Soil methane uptake in an undisturbed native woodland and following land-use change to grazed pasture (1950’s), and subsequent re-afforestation to *Pinus radiata* (1987) and *Eucalyptus globulus* (1998) near Albany, Western Australia.
Our meeting up again in Yangon (Rangoon) earlier this year after a space of 25 years co-incided with a move to form a Tropical Forestry Special Interest Group within the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA). The precise focus of this Group has not yet been resolved but there seems no reason why it should be anything but ‘wide angle’ at the outset. This, and the recent merging of the Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA). The co-incidence provided the stimulus for this article.

Thanks to an excellent little publication, ‘A brief history of the Australian Forestry School’ written by Dr Les Carron and edited by Dr John Gray for the AFS Reunion 2000, it was known that sixteen Myanmar (Burmes) studied at the school between 1948 and 1962. The booklet had been taken to Myanmar to give to U Menh Ko Ko Gyi who was the first from Myanmar to study at the Australian National University (ANU). Ms. Paula Reid, OAM, who is well known among foresters as librarian and friend at both the Australian Forestry School (she started there in 1950!) and the ANU Forestry Department, was able to provide his contact details. It seemed a good idea to try to write some notes on these foresters and to expand to include foresters from Myanmar who studied at the ANU Forestry Department. Ms Christine Keller Smith, the ANU Alumni Director, helped in providing the names of graduates on their register. Subsequently the list was expanded still further to include the University of Melbourne, Victoria and the University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales.

How did these Myanmar come to Australia? Recorded within a compilation ‘Australia and the Colombo Plan 1949-57’ published by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in 2005, a note written by the Department of External Affairs in December 1949 on Australian aid to SE Asian countries states that a sum of £60,000 had been allocated in January 1948 for postgraduate fellowships— fellowships that were intended to be six months to two year refresher courses to assist in postwar reconstruction. At the same time, three scholarships were to be awarded annually at technical school or university level. The first Myanmar to attend the Australian Forestry School, U Maung Gale in 1948, U Maung Ko Ko Gyi in 1949, and U Tha Tun San and U Sein Maung Wint in 1950 were Burma State Scholars. By 1956, when five Myanmar were enrolled, the students were sponsored under the Colombo Plan which had been operational for five years but preferentially available to the Commonwealth countries, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (Ceylon) ahead of other recipient member countries which, by 1954, included Myanmar (Burma) (memo by Department of External Affairs, August 1952 titled ‘An appraisal of the Colombo Plan’ in the DFAT publication cited above). Myanmar who attended the AFS later—2 in 1958, 3 in 1959 and 2 in 1961—were also sponsored under this Plan as were at least some of the students attending the ANU. Others would have come out under a program of Australia Development Scholarships which largely replaced the Colombo Plan. An Australian forestry degree was last awarded to a Myanmar in 1994.

The notes that follow on Myanmar foresters who came to Australia to further their forestry qualifications, while brief, show the significant roles that these men played in forestry in their country, while their supervisors, lecturers and fellow students in Australia and abroad would have benefited from their experience of tropical forestry. The notes should be of interest to all who knew them, as well as being a historical record of Australia—Myanmar co-operation. Perhaps a tropical forestry interest group within the Institute of Foresters might include provision for membership from among these Myanmar foresters and others from tropical countries who have studied or worked in Australia.

In addition to those coming as students, there have been a number of visiting delegations, but we don’t intend to touch on these here. Notes on students follow:

**Australian Forestry School, Yarralumla, Australian Capital Territory**

1961 U Khin Maung Mya
Retired from FD as Deputy Director General then served a few years as Advisor to the Director General before complete retirement. He lives at Insein, Yangon.

1961 U Kyaw Myint
Retired from FD as Territory Director. He now lives in Mandalay.

1959 U Khin Maung Htwe
Retired from FD and passed away at Yangon.

1959 U Tin Maung Oo
Retired as Territory Director. Now living at Taunggyi, Shan State. He worked part-time with FREDA for a few years.

1959 U Aung Than
Retired from FD as Wildlife Director and lived in Aye Tharyar Myothit, Taunggyi.

This co-incidence provided the stimulus for this article.

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Passed away early 2006.

1958 U Than Htay
Lives in Aye Thar Yar new town, Taunggyi, Shan State after retiring from FD as Territory Director.

1958 U Thein Lwin
Retired from FD as Deputy Director General, now served a few years as Advisor to the Director General. Now living in Yangon.

1956 U Myint Aung
Retired from FD and migrated to Oregon, USA. Passed away a few years ago.

1956 U Hau Zanang Kimlai
After retiring as Director of Forests in Sagaing Division he was a director of a timber extraction company for four years. Lives in Sagaing and Yangon.

1956 U Kyaw Myint Than
Retired as FD HQ Director. Passed away 1993.

1956 U Ral Lian Sun
Migrated to USA after he retired from FD as Deputy Director General.

1956 U Sein Win (1)
Retired as Territory Director of FD and died of a heart attack in 1988 at Yangon.

1950 U Tha Tun San
Retired from FD as Planning Director and passed away at Yangon.

1950 U Sein Win (2)
Retired from FD as Director General (formerly Chief Conservator), served FAO as Chief Technical Advisor for Asia Pacific Regional Project for three years 1988-1990. Now back in Yangon working as chairman of the NGO, Forest Resources and Environment Development Association (FREDA).

1949 U Ko Ko Gyi
Arrived in Australia in February 1949 but returned home in April of the same year citing family reasons (archives)

1948 U Maung Gale
Retired from FD as Chief Conservator and migrated to USA. He suffered and overcame heart problems

Australian National University Forestry Department, Canberra

1994 U Than Myint
Left FD and now working for WCS, a wildlife conservation organization based in USA

1993 U Aung Than
Became Rector of the Forestry Institute, Yezin before retiring. He also worked for TOTAL on loan, but rejoined FD. He lives in Insein, a suburb of Yangon.

1992 U Thein Win
Transferred from the Forestry Institute, Yezin, Pyinmana to the Dry Zone Re-forestation and Greening project. Now retired and living in Yangon.

1990 U Khin Maung Lwin
Left FD and now working for CARE organization in Myanmar

1990 U Myint Swe
Working as Director in Dry Zone Afforestation and Greening Department under Ministry of Forestry

1989 U Shwe Thein
Left FD and now working for CARE organization in Myanmar

1988 U Saw Win
Resigned from FD to join TOTAL Oil Company where he still works. Lives in Yangon.

1982 U Aung Kyin
Worked as Rector in the Forestry Institute, Yezin. After retirement worked as Advisor there till early 2007.

1981 U Tin Ohn
Retired from Myanmar Timber Enterprise (MTE) and now working at the Daewoo Jointventure enterprise as Advisor. Lives in North Dagon new town, Yangon.

1981 U Aung Kyaw Myint
Retired from FD after 30 years service including as Computing Manager and National Project Director UNDP/FAO Community Mangrove Project. Also worked with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in Nepal for two years,

1980 U Sein Win (2)
Studied watershed management. After retiring from FD as Director of Administration, worked in Nepal as Chief Technical Advisor for FAO projects then worked with FREDa for some years. Passed away at Yangon in 1998.

1978 U Shwe Kyaw
Retired as Director General of FD but still working as Advisor to the Minister of Forestry. Lives in Yangon.

1976 U Soe Tint
Worked in the Forest Research Institute Yezin, then became Director General of the Planning and Statistics Department of the Ministry of Forestry (at the Minister's Office). Retired after working 2-3 years beyond retirement age and now lives in Yangon.

1976 U Sein Thet
Retired from FD at the level of Director and now working in ITTO Teak project.

1973 U Menh Ko Ko Gyi

Retired from FD at level of Director and now works in ITTO Teak project. Awaiting government approval to establish an NGO, Environmental Conservation and Community Development Initiative (ECCDI), together with other retired foresters

University of New England, Armidale, New South Wales, Australia

1991 U Soe Win Hlaing
Working as Director General of FD in Naypyidaw (old name Pyinmana) where the forestry school was situated before it was moved to Taungoo and Pyin Oo Lwin (Maymyo).

1990 U Chit Hlaing
Retired from FD as Deputy Director General, Planning & Statistics Dept. Now living in North Dagon new town, Yangon.

1989 U Tun Paw Oo
Working as Director of Wildlife at FD, Naypyidaw, nearing retiring age.

1985 U Uga
Retired as Director, Wildlife Division of FD and now chairing his own NGO, Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA) in Yangon

University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

1986 U Tin Tun
Deputy Director of FD

1985 U Ba Than
Left the FD and lives in Pyin Oo Lwin where he runs a medical store and clinic.

U Aung Kyaw Myint
profakmyint@gmail.com
Kim Wells
ditingplus@cenart.net

1This article is to appear in the August issues of both the Australian Forest History Society’s newsletter and the Institute of Foresters of Australia publication ‘The Forester’

2Copies are still available from the IFA secretariat, email: ifa@forestry.org.au

3Order of Australia Medal for services to forestry

4Year of enrollment

5Myanmar Forestry Department

6Year degree awarded
**Notice Board**

The IFA has lost contact with some of its members. This can be caused when a member moves residence and the new address/email/contact details do not get forwarded to the IFA National Office.

Below is a list of IFA members and if anyone can help in identifying their whereabouts, please contact Cassandra Spencer, Member Services Manager by email: ifa@forestry.org.au or phone: (02) 6281 3992. Alternatively please pass this newsletter to the missing members and have them contact the IFA National Office direct.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Last known Address</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Addicott</td>
<td>C/- Willmott Forests, Albert Park, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gavin Matthew</td>
<td>10B The Esplanade, Thornleigh, New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Mennen</td>
<td>C/- DEC, Busselton, Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Miller</td>
<td>61 Palm Avenue, Leeton, New South Wales</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### A Place Name for Max Jacobs in Canberra

Canberra has a very nice way of remembering it’s people by naming streets and other land marks in their memory. Arrangements are being made with the A.C.T. Government for a Canberra Place name for Dr Max Jacobs I.S.O who was Principal of the Australian Forestry school between 1944 and 1959 and Director General of the Forestry-Timber Bureau (equivalent to the Head of DAFF) between 1960 & 1970. He died in 1979.

The arrangements are being led by IFA Fellow, Bob Newman OAM with the involvement of Nancy Sutherland, Max Jacobs elder daughter and Tom Battison, his son-in-law.

Many IFA members will know Max was one of the founders of the IFA. Members no doubt will be interested to know the location of this permanent memory for Max and we will keep you informed.

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### Coming Events

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<td>16-18 October 2007</td>
<td>The Future of Forests in Asia and the Pacific: Outlook for 2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:patrick.durst@fao.org">patrick.durst@fao.org</a></td>
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<td>Borers and Rots in Eucalypts Conference</td>
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<td>(08) 9332 2900</td>
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<td>17 - 21 February 2008</td>
<td>“Old Forests, Newmanagement” Conservation and use of old-growth forests in the 21st century</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.neyland@forestrytas.com.au">mark.neyland@forestrytas.com.au</a></td>
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If you have a ‘Coming Event’ you would like included, please email ifa@forestry.org.au with the details of the event. Alternatively, paid advertising of your event in this newsletter as a full or half page is as easy as contacting the National Office on ifa@forestry.org.au or phone 02 6281 3992.
Dear Editor,

Evelyn’s “Sylva”

I cannot contribute to your search for the missing “Sylva” (First Edition), but am tempted to make a few comments.

I understand that the successive editions were expansions of the First, therefore if the Second Edition has been recovered, perhaps the IFA is better off without the missing one, in terms of contents.

On the other hand, I understand from John Dargaval, that No 1 is the one to go for if you are an antiquarian book valuer.

Some years ago, John Dargaval wrote an editorial in the journal of the Australian Forest History Society, telling the readers about John Evelyn and his works. This sparked my curiosity, and I hot-footed it to the Baillieu Library of University of Melbourne, and accessed “Sylva” (I think it was No 2 or 3). I was disappointed, having had the impression that Evelyn was virtually the First Forester. I would prefer to describe him as the Peter Cundall of the 17th century. The information he was imparting was trite and contributing mostly a mish-mash of landscape gardening skills and simple botany, with not so much dendrology. I looked for the startling assertion attributed to him, that “trees f**k up the water in the soil”, but could not find it. What I did find was an illustrated set of directions on how to make good cider.

But I found the book loaded with the politics of the day, which revolved around slavish expressions of utter loyalty, even adoration, towards the current Royalty. It was rather nauseating. Apparently, when the Reformation appeared on the horizon, Evelyn absented himself for European climes, returning after the Monarchy was duly restored.

I gather that he and a group of kindred spirits were instrumental in founding the Royal Society.

Regards,
Norman Endacott

Dear Editor

As a new-comer to the ranks of IFA membership, I was pleased to read Norman Endacott’s letter in The Forester. In the last couple of years I have been pushing toward getting a group of Tasmanian foresters together who will speak out for the profession. Many are technically trained and a number are graduate foresters who are dissatisfied with the IFA.

Since then I have discovered that there are some 70 organisations representing forestry in one form or another around the country. We don’t need another one, as people don’t know who to listen to now, but we DO need a loud strong voice from the peak body representing foresters. Once again we find ourselves in the firing line leading up to a federal election and once more the forest industry is in the firing line from misinformed anti-development "green" bodies. With the change to membership eligibility we now have opportunity to really grow this organisation and get ourselves heard.

When the media and government start coming to IFA for comment on public forestry issues we will have an indication that we have a voice. Until then, organisations like Timber Communities Australia will take that role. All your readers will know potential members so let’s get out there and encourage them to join. (Maybe we can even reduce the membership fee if we get a few hundred more!) We need to build the IFA membership base and encourage public comment from the IFA. It has been pleasing to see occasional comment recently, but there needs to be a very strong push to raise the profile of the profession. Our survival depends on it. Our voice gets drowned out by the misinformation peddled by the anti’s. They don’t look after our forests - WE DO - and we need to let everyone know that! I know there are political decisions that direct our activities at times, but regardless of that direction every one of us does the best job we can to ensure a sustainable forest industry.

(Richard Shoobridge)
ANZIF Conference 2007 – IFA/NZIF Forum discussions

(It is traditional at IFA Conferences for time to be set aside for members to take the opportunity to informally discuss items of interest among themselves and with the Board of Directors. The discussions were wide and varied and are summarised below for the information of members.

1. ANZIF future (Ferguson)
Discussion centred on an article written as Guest Editor for the Australian Forestry Journal – June 2007 issue (Vol.70 Issue 2). The Forum resolved “That this joint Plenary session recommends that the Boards of the respective Institutes establish a joint Working Party to consider how closer co-operation between the Institutes might best be developed over the next decade.” At some point contact with other Pacific countries should be made.

2. Women in Forestry (Ket Bradshaw/Hilary Smith) - recommendations
- There should be an ANZIF women’s newsletter
- IFA should have a gender issues forum in their Strategic Plan
- ANZIF 2011 Conference should have a Women’s Networking Session (WNS) to suggest action plans.
- Forestry educators to consider incorporation of female role models.

3. Active Catchment Management
- Suggested that the IFA should be a Catchment Management SIG.

4. Education - Ron Wilson
- Explained IFA’s commitment to the National Forestry Master’s Program
The Forum resolved: That the IFA should commit itself to the Australian Forestry Education Program (a partnership of the IFA, universities, governments, the forest industries & their peak bodies, forestry secondary educators...) as environmental champions – be positive & get over the pain of the past. Foresters seem to be the source of knowledge and information in ecosystem services. Capitalise on this?
- Find ways to move forward with our former opponents.
- IFA should be recognised as a conservation movement. Use the term ‘stewardship’ – better outcomes for forestry.
- Need a media strategy to demystify forestry (and the organisations?)
- Awards – promote Forester of the Year.

5. Perception of forestry
- IFA/NZIF to take initiative to improve the perception of forestry & foresters to secondary students and the community???
- Change terminology and use terms such as ‘forest creation’, rather than ‘forest management’ and harvesting’. Use ‘Climate change’ at every opportunity. Distinguish between ‘forestry’ and ‘forest industry’. Promote forestry and have the experience to manage forests for a range of economic, social and environmental benefits.

8. President, Dr Peter Volker, has agreed that the IFA Board would look at the above views in its Strategic Planning considerations for 2007/08.

Summary of Email Bulletins distributed since previous issue

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<td>Gottstein Trust - Applications for 2008 awards</td>
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<td>Strategic Plan - Summary report to members 2006-07</td>
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If you are not receiving your weekly email bulletins contact the National Office ifa@forestry.org.au to register your email address.
The Institute of Foresters of Australia (IFA) is a professional body engaged in all branches of forest management and conservation in Australia.

The Institute is strongly committed to the principles of sustainable forest management and the processes and practices which translate these principles into outcomes.

Our membership represents all segments of the forestry profession, including public and private practitioners engaged in many aspects of forestry, nature conservation, resource and land management, research, administration and education.

Membership with us is not restricted to professional Foresters. Other persons associated with or interested in the area of forestry are welcome to join IFA!

The many benefits of being a Member of the IFA include:

- Employment vacancy notices
- Regular email Bulletins
- Australian Forestry - our own scientific journal
- The Forester quarterly newsletter
- Accreditation as a Registered Professional Forester
- Professional recognition, including our prestigious N.W. Jolly Medal award
- Access to scholarships, grants and professional development awards
- Field days focusing on forestry issues
- Professional conferences
- Locally based meetings and activities
- Student work placement notices
Membership Grades

The admission membership grades of the IFA are:

- Voting member
- Associate member
- Student member

VOTING MEMBER

You are eligible for Voting membership if you:

1. Hold a tertiary degree qualification in forestry recognised by the Institute together with at least two years appropriate forest management or forest science experience and can demonstrate knowledge of and/or skills in the core subjects of Australian forestry

Or

2. Hold any other tertiary qualification or other relevant experience acceptable to the Institute together with at least four years appropriate forest management or forest science experience and can demonstrate knowledge of and/or skills in the core subjects of Australian forestry.

Persons holding forestry qualifications of Diploma, Associate Diploma or Certificate IV will be eligible providing they meet the following forest management or forest science experience:

- Diploma = 6 years
- Associate Diploma = 8 years
- Certificate IV = 10 years

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

You are eligible for Associate membership if you:

1. Have an interest in forestry

Or

2. Have other relevant experience in forestry

STUDENT MEMBER

You are eligible for Student membership if you are attending as a full time student in your first undergraduate formal course of forestry related study at any University or Tertiary institution recognised by the IFA.

Membership Fees

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2007 - 08
## IFA Merchandise

**Get yours today!**

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<tr>
<td>ITEM: Institute Bucket Hat</td>
<td>Great new release, bucket hat. Protect your ears face and neck when out in the sun. Light Beige colour with green and black print with black trim. Sizes XS/S, L/XL. Note that hats will shrink in wash.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITEM: Institute Cap</td>
<td>New design of this popular item. Black with green print front and back with a white trim. Adjustable to fit any size.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITEM: Silviculture Notes for NSW on CD</td>
<td>A fantastic compilation of field experiences collected by George Baur from observations and research from the earliest times through the 1980’s.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITEM: Growth Habits of the Eucalypts</td>
<td>Describes some of the morphological characters and physiological reactions of the eucalypts. By M.R. Jacobs. Green hard cover book.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>$32.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITEM: The Foresters</td>
<td>Written in the jubilee year for the IFA, The Foresters tells important things about forestry in Australia through the lives of a number of early notable Australian foresters. By Athol Meyer.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITEM: History of Australian Forestry School</td>
<td>Originally compiled for the reunion of 2000, it stands as a reminder of the significant contribution which the AFS made to the establishment of the professional forestry education in Australia, NZ and the South East Asian regions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITEM: Institute Tie</td>
<td>Colours: Royal blue, Forest green.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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Complete the QTY above and fill in your contact and payment information below and forward to:

- **By post:** Institute of Foresters of Australia, PO Box 7002, Yarralumla ACT 2600
- **By Fax:** (02) 6281 4693
- **By Email:** ifa@forestry.org.au

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*ABN 48 083 197 586*