



VIC FIELD TRIP: TREES THAT WORK FOR TIMBER, CARBON & CRITTERS

7 JUNE 2025

Nearly 40 passionate landholders and experienced tree growers braved cold, wind, and rain to join a walk and talk at the Lancefield Tree Farm. A warm fire, hot coffee, and extra shelter provided comfort, while the weather improved with only a brief shower.

Michael Wright, the property's 140-hectare owner, guided attendees through thriving plantations, showcasing mixed-species areas and blocks with individual species.

Gary Featherston from Forest Strategy showcased productive and biodiversity-friendly farm designs, highlighting species including Spotted gum, Yellow stringybark, Lightwood, and Cypress.

Erin Hodgson of PF Olsen discussed the findings from the Trial Review Information and Genetics (TRIG) project initiated by Forestry Australia and FFGV, highlighting the importance of planting reliable timber species of improved stock.

(cont.)



An old plough shows the history, geology and plantation diversity of the property.



Gary Featherston addressing the crowd in the Lightwood and ironbark plantation



A brisk walk to the next site warmed people up.

Ben Boxshall from Wood4Good shared insights into planning, planting, and managing trees for diverse benefits. Carbon farming opportunities were explained by **Erin Hodgson**, illustrating potential farm applications.

Neil Devanny from the Working Rabbit Action Group emphasised long-term rabbit control methods, stressing the importance of warren ripping as the only reliable long-term method.

Increased wildlife biodiversity was evident as a result of the initial planning involving permaculture and FSC certification requirements, with a notable increase in bird species on the property from just 5 to 45 since planting in 2002.

A local lunch featuring sandwiches, cake, and tea offered a delicious break from the misty rain.

The event was organised collaboratively by Farm Forest Growers Victoria, Forestry Australia, Nulla Vale Pyalong West Landcare, Nulla Vale CFA, and Deep Creek Landcare.



Signs from the TRIG project



Ben Boxshall demonstrating the cambium layer on a tree to be thinned.