
NOTICE OF AGM AND ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Our next Annual General Meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Sunday October 1st in the DSE Office, Sydney Rd. Benalla.

To assist members to keep in touch with the sawlog plantation industry, we have two excellent speakers lined up.

Joanne Roberts, is the Commonwealth Government's "National Plantation Strategy Coordinator". In this role, Jo manages to travel widely across the nation, exploring what people are doing in plantation establishment and management, keeping in touch with growers large and small, and is therefore in a position to share her knowledge as she experiences what people (such as ourselves) are doing.

Angus has been privileged to hear one of Jo's presentations, and reports that she has a lot of exciting information about what is going on in other parts of the country which is relevant to us.

Andrew Lang is the Chairman of the Smart Timbers Cooperative. He has recently undertaken a study tour to North America, Finland and Scandinavia, and will report on how these countries are successfully using woody biomass to generate a significant share of their energy. He will also speak on how the forest owners associations are managing thinning, harvesting and marketing of mixed forest stands down to 0.4ha area, while generating impressive profits, stimulating local industry, managing certification, training and environmental works. Smart timbers has been involved in a marketing survey that has yielded valuable insights into the marketing of high value sustainably produced timbers into the Victorian market, and the

attitudes of the buyers.

Two members of our Board are up for re-election and a new board member is required.

It would be nice to have new faces on the Board to continue the work being done to continue pushing the aims of the Co-Operative.

Please give this some thought. Nomination forms in this issue.

BUSINESS PLAN NEWS

The Business Plan subcommittee has still been beavering away slowly. Curly Humphries has developed a draft agreement for plantation establishment investment. This agreement will be between private landholders and plantation investors, with an entity such as FFORNE being the manager. The agreement is now at the stage to take to a solicitor and then to some of our members to determine if will be in an acceptable form.

FFORNE BOARD NEWS

At the last board meeting, Chris Tuck suggested the need for the board to employ a manager to really move ahead the plantation investment program, as reliance on volunteers is proving slow. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

TREESMART

The TreeSmart scheme was launched in August 2006. The scheme is hoping to provide financial support to farm foresters in exchange for the carbon sequestered in their eucalypt trees which are destined for sawlog or fuel wood production.

TreeSmart has now opened its books for “tree registrations” for anyone wishing to participate in the scheme. For further information and registrations go to www.treesmart.com.au.

FIRE PREVENTION TIME

With a dry season predicted, protecting your plantation asset from fire will be even more important than usual, especially as most of the FFORNE plantations are now getting towards 10 yr old and their value is appreciating.

Establishing fire breaks and ensuring access around, and through, plantations and assessing your water availability, are crucial for minimising the effects of fire.

Fine fuels less than 6 mm in diameter, such as leaves twigs and bark, burn easily and contribute most of the heat to a fire front. Breaks created by bare earth, slashing or herbicides, can slow fires and disrupt the horizontal or vertical continuity of fuel. Clearing thinnings and prunings from around the outside rows of plantations and beside access tracks can minimise the risk of fire moving into the crowns of the trees. Crown fires are intense and difficult to suppress and can cause greater tree losses than ground fires.

Heavier fuels such as logs and branches greater than 25 cm in diameter can provide fuel for fires but are slower to ignite and give off heat more slowly. They need to be put out after the fire front passes to prevent them being a continuing source of fire.

Breaks should be at least 4 m wide and 4 m high to enable truck access.

Plan early and undertake preventative action NOW.

Visions from our FFORNE Small Log

Milling Field Day at Jim and Susie Martins. Thanks to them for providing the site and logs- a really interesting day was had by all.



Ian Shultz explaining the use and characteristics of small logs and demonstrating the Lucas Mill.



David Matuschka demonstrating milling small logs with the Kara saw.

FFORNE Hardwood Co-operative Ltd

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 1st October 2006

DSE Offices

35 Sydney Road, Benalla

Registration 10:30 am

Meeting 11:00 am

\$10.00 per person (inc. G.S.T.)

Day to include:

- **10:00 am** **Registration and Coffee**
- **10:30 am** **Annual General Meeting**
- **11.30 am** **Joanne Roberts, Coordinator of the National Plantation Strategy.**

Jo manages to travel widely across the nation, exploring what people are doing in plantation establishment and management, keeping in touch with growers large and small, and is therefore in a position to share her knowledge as she experiences what people such as ourselves are doing. She has a lot of exciting information about what is going on in other parts of the country which is relevant to us.

- **12.30 pm** **Lunch**
- **1:00 pm** **Andrew Lang, Smart Timbers, Lismore**

Andrew has recently travelled overseas for a second time investigating timber industries in Europe and will speak on his investigations into thinnings, biomass, timber harvesting machinery and policy makers.

Please RSVP by Friday 28th September 2006 to:

Peter Houghton

PO Box 538 Benalla 3672

Phone (03) 5766 4212 Fax (03) 5766 4393

Email: phoughton@bigpond.com

Mobile 0428 316 813

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elections will be held to elect 3 new Board of Directors. The Election of Chairman to take place at the first Board Meeting after the Election of Directors.

The Board calls for nominations from members for election to the Board of Directors of the Co-operative.

Rule 39 Qualifications of Directors

- (1).A person is not qualified to be a director unless he or she is –
 - (a) A member of the co-operative or a representative of a body corporate which is a member of the co-operative (“member director”)

Rule 41 Election of Directors

- (3) A nomination must –
 - (a) Be signed by 2 or more members~ and
 - (b) Provide details of the qualifications and experience of the person nominated’ *** and
 - (c) Be accompanied by a notice in writing signed by the candidate agreeing to his or her nomination

*** Brief résumé, dot pointed, not more than half A4

Nominations Close Friday 22nd September 2006 at 4:00 pm



NOMINATION FOR ELECTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006 / 2007

(Proposer)..... Signed
(print name)

Nominator..... Signed
(print name)

Secunder..... Signed
(print name)

Return to:

**The Secretary
FFORNE Hardwood Co-operative Ltd.
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Email: phoughton@bigpond.com**

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The Board of Directors

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