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CFA Membership

Chairman's Column

One issue that has begun to dominate discussion within the secretariat and Committees is the financial situation and, in my short period as Chairman, it has struck me that the Association needs once more to review its objectives, focus and modus operandi within the current and foreseeable financial resources, although this is not to suggest a large and expensive external review. With the support of all members and particularly with the active involvement of the members of all Committees and the Regional and National Chairs, I believe that the Chairman, Vice-Presidents, Executive Committee members and Secretariat staff can draw up plans to meet the challenges that now face the Association.

Essentially the Association currently has insufficient income to maintain its activities and services to members. The Technical Director is making valiant efforts to reduce expenditures but it is now difficult to see where further cuts can be made. He is also striving to find ways of increasing membership (especially among younger foresters and those from developing countries) and the income from subscriptions, advertising and additional publishing. Some attempts have been made to raise funds from external donors and charities but the CFA needs to develop urgently more intensive and systematic fund-raising activities, preferably with the involvement of members.

Major benefits of membership of the CFA are well established:

- Sharing our common professional experience, language, camaraderie and Commonwealth background – a special

privilege is access to and a role in Commonwealth Forestry Conferences;

- Networking, contacts and information sharing through journal, newsletter, website and meetings;
- Support for young scientists and managers, courses, study tours and training attachments;
- Recognition of professional excellence by awards.

These benefits go to individual members of the CFA as well as Commonwealth Government Forestry Departments and commercial companies and other forestry institutions that are members. We should particularly seek to revitalize membership of government departments and institutions responsible for forestry administration, research and education.

We need to reconsider the principal objectives and points of focus and the modus operandi for the Association to meet them. I welcome suggestions for the next steps. Above all I urge members to consider volunteering for various tasks within the management of our excellent and historic Association. Finally I would like to thank the President and Vice-Presidents who have made many helpful suggestions and the Secretariat staff who have worked assiduously for the good of the CFA through recent difficult times. I hope that as a result of our deliberations and their continued work the Association will flourish and continue to bring its many benefits and services to its members.

from Professor JEFF BURLEY,
Chairman

The international newsletter of the Commonwealth Forestry Association

“To promote the well-being of the world's forests and all who benefit from them”.

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Association News

AGM 2004



Jeff Burley, Roger Bradley and Alan Pottinger

The joint Meeting of the Governing Council and the 82nd Annual General Meeting of CFA was held on Friday 21st May, 2004 at Millets Farm near Oxford, UK. Members attending were Jeff Burley (Chairman, CFA), Nell Baker, Roger Bradley, John Brazier, John Campbell, Frank Dorward, Derek Earl, David Francis, Arnold Grayson, Mikael Grut, PWT Henry, Tony Hewitt, David Howat, Richard Jenkin, Martin Johnson, Christopher Latham, Peter Latham, Mardi MacGregor, Nicole Mirza, Alan Pottinger (Technical Director), Peter Savill, Tony Stuart Smith, Philip Wardle, Guy Watt, Tony Wood.

The AGM was chaired by Roger Bradley, Vice President, in the absence of the President of the Association, David Bills.

Christopher Latham reviewed the accounts and concluded that "The whole statement is one of concern". Membership income was declining although the reason for this was not clear. He noted the importance of the continued support for the Association from the Commonwealth Foundation. A valuable contribution had also been made through donations to support the special issues of IFR. He stressed the perilous financial state of the Association. Mardi MacGregor stated her view that the CFA had an enviable human

resource amongst its members and stressed that it was their responsibility to assist the Association in whatever way they could.

The meeting adopted the *Proposed restructure of the CFA membership categories*, which had been designed to reduce printing costs and increase income. This is set out below.

John Brazier, Chairman of the publications committee, commended the continued development of the International Forestry Review and noted that Commonwealth Forestry News was the "face of the association" sent to a wide readership. The Editor of the newsletter, Philip Wardle, had indicated his wish to step down from the post by the next AGM. Particular effort will be made to establish a more effective network of national and regional contributors.

Bob Newman (Regional Chairman for South-east Asia and the Pacific) had informed the Executive Committee of the awarding of Regional Awards of Excellence for 2003 to Evan D. Shield, a leading private consulting forester from Australia, and for 2004 to Dr Sadanandan Nambiar of CSIRO Division of Forestry and Forest Products, Australia.

The launch of the Young Forester Award was announced. The first IFR Young Scientist Publication Award had been made to Gordon Hickey of the University of British Columbia for his paper *Regulatory approaches to monitoring sustainable forest management* to be published in the June 2004 issue of the IFR.

Jim Ball was elected to the post of Vice-chairman. Proposals are sought for the position of Treasurer. Members of the Governing Council serve for three years. **The following were re-elected:** Vinod Bahuguna, India; Jeff Burley and John Hudson, UK; Piare Lal, India; Peter Latham, UK. **The following were elected:** Fred Babweteera, Forest Department, Uganda; Angela Cropper, Cropper Foundation, Trinidad; Sarath Fernando, Forest Department, Sri Lanka; Hemant Gupta, Himachal Pradesh Forest Department, India; Marylin Headley, Forest Department, Jamaica; Martin Golman, Australia National University, PNG; Andrew Heaver, Edinburgh University, UK; Mardi MacGregor, Forest Industries Partnership, Australia/UK; Winnie Musonda, UNDP, Zambia; Daniel Pouakouyou, IUCN-WCMP, Cameroon; S.N. Rai, Karnataka State Forest Department, India; Monika Singh, Oxfam, India; Thang Hooi Chiew, Forest Department, Malaysia.

Restructure of the CFA membership categories (effective January 2005)

Category	Cost (£)	Membership benefits			
		Membership of CFA	CFN (HC)	IFR (HC)	IFR online
Student*	10	✓	✓		
Student plus*	25	✓	✓	✓	
Developing country*	10	✓	✓		
Developing country plus*	30	✓	✓	✓	
Ordinary***	50	✓	✓		✓
Ordinary plus	65	✓	✓	✓	✓
Honorary**	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓
Life	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓
Life (w/ IFR)	25	✓	✓	✓	✓
Institutional	180	✓	✓	✓	✓

* IFR online is available at an additional £10 pa.

** Desired membership benefits to be discussed in each case.

***Family membership has also been proposed

Airmail costs to be added. HC = hard copy

In Memoriam

We regret to announce the deaths of J.R.B. Angus, Australia and J.F. (Fred) Hughes, UK.

CFA and the societal agenda

In his Chairman's report, Jeff Burley has made excellent suggestions to review CFA's Mission, objectives, activities and institutional arrangements. The aim is to rejuvenate the CFA and in some ways reinvent the forestry profession from a largely biophysical focus to one that connects the profession to societal agenda, for example, the Millennium Development goals. In this context, CFA can play a very important role in interpreting to its membership the relevant developments impacting on forests and vice versa. Many of our colleagues, particularly in developing countries, do not have an opportunity to participate or even track some of these policy and political developments.

The Review is an extremely valuable instrument and some of the recent issues have attempted to bring together information on current topics such as Small Island Developing States and illegal logging. We need to continue this as well as publications such as "Rio+".

from JAG MAINI, Vice President

Mobilise Commonwealth Organisations

Major matters of concern for the CFA are the falling numbers of members and the need for younger people to take over the helm.

A reasonable strategy to reverse the trends would be to:

Involve the heads of Commonwealth Organisations charged with Forestry matters; the heads of all University and College Departments and the Presidents of all Institutes of Foresters throughout the Commonwealth.

If tackled promptly, with delegation amongst Committee, Council and Association members, communicating with Branches and regions to deliver outcomes, they could be advanced so the concepts move forward at the AGM to be held at the Sri Lanka Commonwealth Forestry Conference.

from BOB NEWMAN, Vice President and Regional Chairman, South-east Asia and the Pacific

CFA, civil society and the Commonwealth

Mardi MacGregor and Alan Pottinger have attended a number of Commonwealth meetings in London on behalf of CFA. A meeting on *Delivering Abuja-Government and Civil Society-Partnerships for Commonwealth Outcomes* was held at the Royal Commonwealth Society on February 27th 2004. The day was designed to review outcomes from the last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Nigeria last year and to provide pointers for planning for the next CHOGM, to be held in Malta in 2005. It embraced presentations from leading institutions in civil society including the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, UK Foreign and commonwealth office, Commonwealth Foundation, BBC and the World Bank on subjects including turning mandates into action, achieving programme delivery – models of government/civil society co-operation and working with multi lateral organisations. Networking groups concluded the afternoon with the CFA represented in the key focus groups on **sustainable development and gender**. The evening reception allowed us to share ideas with other Commonwealth professional societies who are facing the same or similar issues to the CFA and discuss how we can drive forward for the greater good.

Twenty-seven years ago, Commonwealth Heads of Government designated the second Monday in March as Commonwealth Day – a day for young people in particular to learn and mark the day together. On March 8th, as part of this years celebrations 'Building on a Commonwealth of Freedom', there was an Observance at Westminster Abbey where the Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II enforced that "if the Commonwealth is to increase its role as a force for good in the world, strengthening democratic freedoms must remain at the heart of it's purposes". The internationally

renowned saxophonist Courtney Pine performed Bob Marley's redemption song and young people from a diverse spectrum of religions including the Jain, Hindu, Zoroastrian and Buddhist communities asked questions of their church leaders in line with the themes – peace, faith, love, unity in diversity and freedom.

The evening reception at Marlborough House hosted by the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat, HE Rt. Hon Don McKinnon, provided a platform for all the bodies under the Commonwealth to meet and celebrate with members of the Royal Family. I was honoured to meet Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, who, once he grasped I didn't work there, mused over the word trees and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who dedicated a generous portion of his time to discuss uneven aged management systems in the Duchy Estate in Cornwall, where I had luckily been on the CFA UK Branch field tour in May 2002.

Other events attended through the Royal Commonwealth Society and the Commonwealth Secretariat in the last few months included *Women and the informal economy* and *Putting youth engagement into practice: developing a strategy and guidelines*.

These are by no means exclusive events. The RCS has 70 plus branches across the Commonwealth, with varying levels of activity. Check the website www.rcsint.org/society which lists all branches and the contact details. The CFA's attendance at these functions provides invaluable partnership forming and learning experiences for all CFA members. And with Civil Society the buzz word of the moment, such events provide the perfect opportunity to get out and about in the Commonwealth world, contribute and play a role in influencing future agendas.

from MARDI MACGREGOR, Youth Officer, CFA

CFNews – an audio version

An audio version of the CFN is now available on the web site via the CFN page. I have broken the issue into sections but even so the files are large. It requires either patience or broadband to use this facility. The version can also be supplied on CD.

from ALAN POTTINGER, Technical Director, CFA

CFA Dress

Don't forget that CFA ties and ladies scarves are available in navy or maroon at £7 and £10 each respectively (plus postage and packing). If you are interested please contact cfa@cfa-international.org

from ALAN POTTINGER, Technical Director, CFA

May Tour by UK Branch



Nigel Fisher's welcome to Wytham



Guide to badgers

After lunch at the Trout – Inspector Morse and all that – we were welcomed at Wytham Wood by Peter Savill and Nigel Fisher. Wytham is broadleaved woodland belonging to Oxford University and used for research. It used to be managed by the Oxford Forest Institute. One audacious forestry Professor, Prof Laurie, invoked the wrath of the congregation by considering the planting of conifers. Current tree management is in the direction of reducing non-indigenous species so there will eventually be very few species left.

Research on badgers was described. Apparently the English badgers are communal whereas their continental cousins more often live as single families. There are 1,000 bird boxes inhabited by

blue tits to be weighed and counted. The chicks all leave the nest at the same time and have to be ringed for research, so those are days of high productivity for researchers.



The search for badgers

This visit ended with *Ash for the future – defining European ash populations for conservation and regeneration* under the guidance of Dr Bosier. The rather free diversity between trees with male, female or hermaphrodite flowers sometimes on the same tree sometimes changing from year to year offers an alternative model for societies sexual arrangements. One experiment compared the growth of trees of local provenance compared with trees from other parts of southern England. Certain provenances did do well on all sites as well as their own. Apparently, even so, local provenance may be regarded as preferable. It was perhaps strange for some, to hear that indigenous and local might be absolutely preferable to foreign strains or exotics, this in the heart of a country whose tree landscape has in so many respects been determined by the introduction of improved varieties from neighbouring countries over many centuries and by exotics from every temperate part of the world. Many of the landscapes that have resulted are in fact greatly admired.

The Queen's Award for Forestry

The Award

The Commonwealth Forestry Association is seeking nominations for the 2005 Queen's Award for Forestry. The purpose of the Award, which comprises a cash prize and a travel grant to the combined value of £2,000, is both to recognize the achievements and support the future work of an outstanding mid-career forester. The recipient will be the individual who the Selection Committee considers combines exceptional contributions to forestry with an innovative approach to his or her work.

Previous winners of the Award include

- John Turnbull (Australia)
- S.N. Rai (India)
- Yemi Katerere (Zimbabwe)
- Thang Hooi Chiew (Malaysia)
- V.K. Bahuguna (India)
- Jerry Vanclay (Australia)
- Steve Bass (United Kingdom)

The CFA will agree a travel programme in conjunction with the winner that will maximize the benefits to the winner, the hosts and the Association. The successful candidate will be expected to deliver a lecture upon return describing his or her experiences and lessons learned.

The Award is open to all citizens of Commonwealth countries, although in the event of a tie, priority will be given to a member of the Association.

How to nominate

If you would like to nominate a candidate for consideration for the Queen's Award please complete the Nomination Form and return it to the CFA by 31 July 2004. Nomination Forms are available from the CFA website at www.cfa-international.org or by post from Membership Secretary, CFA, PO Box 142, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX26 6ZJ, UK.

May Tour by UK Branch (continued)



Peter Savill and Jeff Burley below the ash

On Saturday morning Gabriel Hemery of the Northmoor Trust guided us round Paradise Wood, a new wood created in 1993 as a centre for broadleaved research. This wood now hosts the largest collection of field trials aimed at selection and breeding to improve the quality of broadleaved timber tree planting stock. Walnut was a particular subject of interest as a species that would thrive in a warmer climate, if the scenario of global warming making Oxfordshire like the South of France comes to pass. The whole trial is young so many results will emerge only later. It is salutary that work to improve the prospect of economic contribution and return from trees which contribute so diversely to our landscape. It is a worthy investment and must get the full support of the agencies that aim to foster sustainable development, as must the products of the research.



Viewing walnut for future warming



In the afternoon Piers Newth introduced us to the delightful collection of the Harcourt Arboretum, a model product of the 19th Century thirst for exploration and experiment in the use of trees from all parts of the world. He also provided insights into the problems of maintaining and extending that heritage and putting it at the service of society today.

Warm thanks to all who contributed to this tour and especially to David Henderson-Howat for arranging it all.

from PHILIP WARDLE

Young Forester Award

Applications are invited from students and young professionals below the age of 30 who are nationals of Commonwealth countries for the Commonwealth Forestry Association's Young Forester Award. The Award is designed to support the professional development of the recipient through the provision of a short-term work placement and consists of a designated **placement** combined with a **bursary** of between £1,000 and £1,500 (depending on the placement selected). The CFA endeavours to provide the recipient with a choice of placements of between three- and six-months in order to meet their professional interest.

Anyone who wishes to apply for the Award should complete the Application Form (available on the CFA website) which requests a short CV and an explanation in less than 250 words of why they wish to be considered. The Selection Committee will discuss placement options with short-listed applicants who will then be asked to write up to 500 words on what they want to achieve on the placement. Candidates will be evaluated for the relevance of the Award to their career outline. Applications will be accepted through the following means:

Post: CFA, PO Box 142, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX26 6ZJ, UK

Fax: 00 44 (0)870 0116645

Email: cfa@cfa-international.org

For further information about the Commonwealth Forestry Association please visit our website at www.cfa-international.org

Around the World

UNFF-4

The fourth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF-4) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 3–14 May 2004. Over 600 delegates representing governments, intergovernmental organizations and major groups were in attendance. Delegates considered progress in implementation with respect to the following thematic areas: social and cultural aspects of forests; traditional forest-related knowledge; forest-related scientific knowledge; finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies; and monitoring, assessment and reporting and criteria and indicators.

One point of clear consensus in Geneva was that UNFF has failed to deliver on its stated aims, and that continuing the arrangement in its current form is neither politically viable nor desirable. Even countries who were traditionally enthusiastic supporters of UNFF are now willing to concede that the arrangement has been only marginally successful and there is virtually unanimous agreement among delegations that a serious change is needed, which should be the starting point for discussions on the post-UNFF arrangement.

The major players conducted their consultations in a constructive mood, eschewing worn-out arguments for and against a convention, and seeking agreement on the particular objectives of a post-UNFF arrangement before trying to choose the most suitable arrangement for achieving these goals. This is perhaps the most significant dynamic shift that has occurred within UNFF since its inception.

Eventually, the effectiveness of any post-UNFF-5 arrangement will depend not so much on its particular modalities, but on governments' political will to work within it. The real question is not what type of umbrella arrangement to create, but what incentives might induce action. Ideas, such as linking forestry to poverty reduction as a way of boosting SFM financing, may be essential for the viability of the multilateral forestry process.

from IISD

Small Island Developing States day at UNFF

This event, moderated by Joanne DiSano, UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, was convened on 11 May, to contribute to the preparations of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

- Mette Loyche Wilkie, FAO, discussed the local and global importance of SIDS' forests to food security, watershed protection, biodiversity conservation, national income, medicine and eco-tourism. Constraints to achieving sustainable forest management include limited resources, population pressure, vulnerability to environmental disaster and species extinction.
- Rafael Franscisco de Moya Pons, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic, said that despite normal levels of rainfall, water quantity was decreasing due to population pressure, deforestation and erosion. Efforts to restore watersheds included replanting state sugar plantations, reducing the wood deficit through a broad network of nurseries, and granting definite titles to the private sector and offering reforestation incentives.
- Rolph Payet, Department of Environment, Seychelles, discussed the uniqueness of his country's forests and their eco-tourism potential. Encroachment, invasive species and

illegal logging are threats to the forests, which are used mainly for medicinal and water resources, rather than wood production.

- Eugene Hendrick, Ministry of Agriculture, Ireland, focused on how SFM could mitigate the effects of climate change on islands.
- Simone Rokolaqa, Fiji, highlighted the economic, cultural and spiritual significance of forests in the South Pacific, the importance of trees as ancestral totems, and open spaces in the forest as venues for spiritual communication.

In discussion, the importance of regional initiatives and the role of forests in a range of development goals were emphasised. The G-77/China drew attention to the land and resource limitations faced by SIDS. The commitment was to regional partnerships and forest-related initiatives such as the Pacific Island Forum and collaboration in the Caribbean. Mauritius suggested a SIDS forestry communication network. Noting the absence of delegates from most SIDS at UNFF-4, Grenada and Australia called for enhancing participation from those states.

from IISD

Future International Arrangement on Forests

In November 2003 the UK government's International Forestry Group prepared a consultation "non-paper" on the *Future International Arrangement on Forests*. The paper is available in the website of the UK Tropical Forest Forum (UKTFF): www.forestforum.org.uk

The paper sets out the advantages and disadvantages of the various main options:- Should there be a legally binding international Forest Convention? Do we need an international arrangement on forests at all, and, if so, what should be its purpose and scope? Should the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) continue as it is now set or should UNFF be closed down and its functions handed over to FAO's Committee on Forestry (COFO)? Should a new World Forest Organisation be created, drawing together FAO's Forestry Department and the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO)?

On 7.1.04 the Director of the UK Tropical Forest Forum, Jane Thornback, asked for comments on the above paper, which had been prepared as part of a UK dialogue leading up to the fourth meeting of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) in Geneva in May 2004.

On 17.2.04 a consultation meeting was held at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London, chaired by Julian Evans and attended by some thirty persons, including CFA members: Mike Arnold, Nell Baker, John Hudson, John Palmer, Jane Thornback and the undersigned. The gist of the comments on the Non-Paper, both during the meeting and in previous emails to Jane, was: that people were disappointed that the huge international dialogue on forests since Rio, most of it in UNFF – countless meetings, papers, working groups and proposals – has led to so little action; that UNFF must be reformed; and that there is no need for a new international forestry organisation or a legally binding forestry convention.

from MIKAEL GRUT

International meetings of forestry interest

June 2004

6–18 June. *2nd International Conference on Forest Measurements and Quantitative Methods and Management and the 2004 Southern Mensurationists Meeting.* Hot Springs, Arkansas, USA. Contact: Mike Strub, mike.strub@weyerhaeuser.com www.mensurationists.com

26–29 June. *Forest Genetics and Climate Change.* Vernon, BC, Canada. Contact: Alvin Yanchuk; Fax: +1-250-387-0046; Alvin.yanchuk@gems4.gov.bc.ca

27 June–2 July. *1st World Congress of Agroforestry 2004. Working Together for Sustainable Land-use Systems.* Orlando, Florida, USA. conference.ifas.ufl.edu/wca.

July 2004

20–23 July. *36th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council.* Switzerland. Contact: Collins Ahadome, Fax: 81-45-223-1111; itto@itto.or.jp; www.itto.or.jp

August 2004

1–10 August. *Worldwide Symposium on Gender and Forestry,* Arusha, Tanzania: contact envirocare_2002@yahoo.com

10–13 August. *Forest Diversity and Resistance to Native and Exotic Pest Insects.* IUFRO 7.03.07. Hammer Springs, New Zealand. Contact: Andrew Liebhold, Fax 1-304-285 1505; aliebhhold@fs.fed.us; iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/

23–29 August. *Social Roles of Forests for Urban Populations (IUFRO).* Hokkaido, Japan. iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/

24–26 August. *International conference on ecological restoration,* Victoria, BC, Canada: http://www.serbc.info/public/ser_seminar

25–30 August. *IUFRO 7 Division Forest Health Project meeting 'Forests under changing climate, enhanced UV and air pollution',* University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland: <http://iufromeeting.oulu.fi/contents/registration.htm>

25 August – 6 September. *32nd International Forestry Students' Symposium: Redefining Forestry in the 21st Century. Integrating Traditional and Scientific Knowledge into the Current Forestry Paradigm,* Toronto/Montreal, Canada. www.forestry.utoronto.ca/ifss2004/

September 2004

1–2 September. *Forest IT 2004 in the Mobile Environment – Congress and Exhibition.* Jyväskylä and Jämsänkoski, Finland. See: www.forestit.net/

3–6 September. *International Conference: Continuous Cover Forestry and EFI 11th Annual Conference,* Bangor, UK. Contact: Anu Ruusila anu.ruusila@efi.fi.

12–16 September. *Building Bridges Between People and Forests,* Groningen, The Netherlands: www.staatsbosbeheer.nl

15–18 September. *Forests soils under global and local changes: from research to practice.* International symposium. Bordeaux, France. Contact: carnus@pierroton.inra.fr

20–23 September. *Conservation Biology and Ecosystem Functioning in Plantation Forests,* Bordeaux, France: www.pierroton.inra.fr/IEFC/manifestations/IUFROD82004.html

22–24 September. *ICECFOP – International Conference on Environmentally-Compatible Forest Products,* Porto, Portugal: www.ufp.pt/events.php?intId=10038

23–29 September. *Regenerating Mountain Forests – prerequisite for sustainable management.* Kloster Seeon, Bavaria, Germany. (IUFRO). See: www.forst.tu-muenchen.de/iufro2004.html.

27–30 September. *The economics and management of high productivity plantations.* University of Santiago de Compostela, Lugo, Spain. Contact: Dr Juan Gabriel Alvarez, Tel + 34 982 252303. Email: algonjg@lugo.usc.es

October 2004

21–23 October. *International Conference: Evaluating Forestry Incentives and Assistance Programmes in Europe – Challenges to Improve Policy Effectiveness.* Warsaw, Poland. Contact: brita.pajari@efilfi, www.efi.fi/events/

27–29 October 2004. *Open Space: People Space: An International Conference on Inclusive Outdoor Environments.* Edinburgh, UK. Contact: openspace@eca.ac.uk, www.openspace.eca.ac.uk

November 2004

1–5 November. *Monitoring the effectiveness of biological conservation:* Vancouver, Canada: <http://fcsn.bc.ca/conferences/mebc/index.html>

17–19 October. *Impacts of the Drought and Heat in 2003 on Forests,* Freiburg, Germany: www.forst.uni-freiburg.de/Waldwachstum/events.htm

22–25 November. *International Conference on "Multipurpose Trees in the Tropics: Assessment, Growth and Management,"* Jodhpur, India: www.afri.res.in

February 2005

7–9 February. *IUFRO Workshop and conference on wood protection under tropical environments* Kumasi, Ghana: iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/iufronet/d5/wu50307/ev50307.htm

28 February–5 March 2005. *17th Commonwealth Forestry Conference.* Colombo, Sri Lanka. Registration by 15 November 2004 – Registration fee US\$ 300. Email: forlib@slt.net.lk - Contact: Libby Jones, Fax: 44-0-131-314-6137; libby.jones@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

March 2005

13–16 March. *Emerging Issues Along Urban/Rural Interfaces: Linking Science and Society,* Atlanta, Georgia, USA: www.sfw.su.uburn.edu/urbanruralinterfaces/

13–18 March. *Forestry Ministerial Meeting and 17th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO)* FAO, Rome, Italy. Contact: Michael.Martin@fao.org

July 2005

10–17 July. *4th International Canopy Conference,* Leipzig, Germany. Contact: Peter Horchler horchler@uni-leipzig.de.

August 2005

8–13 August. *Forests in the Balance: Linking Tradition and Technology XXII IUFRO World Congress,* Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland, Australia. Contact: The Congress Manager, OzAccom Conference Services, PO Box 164, Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006, Australia. Tel: +61 (0)7 3854 1611 Fax: +61 (0)7 3854 1507

Email: iufro2005@ozaccom.com.au Web site: www.iufro2005.com

The web sites of EFI, ETRN, CIFOR and Gyde Lund's Forest Information Update, are acknowledged as sources.

from NELL BAKER

Special Feature

A celebration of Australian Foresters



Michael Hall, President of AFDI at the first planting in April 1988

The National Foresters Grove for Australia was developed in concert with the International Bicentenary Forestry Conference organised by the then Australian Forest Development Institute held in April 1988 in Albury, NSW.

The idea was driven forward by R.L. (Bob) Newman, then Honorary National Secretary of the Australian Forest Growers Incorporated (AFDI) and received the support of the Albury City Council and a local committee of Foresters and Forest Industry people was formed. Interest particularly came from State Forests of NSW, Peter Crowe, Australian Newsprint Mills (now Norske Skog) staff and R.L. Newman and Partners' staff of foresters, particularly Paul Wells.

Initially some 35 trees were planted at Wagga Road, North Albury on a 2.5 ha site, which is owned and maintained by the Albury City Council. Because the Grove site is very dry and the ground hard, the range of species planted has been limited – mainly Ironbark, Box Casuarina and Red Gum trees – some of which have grown remarkably well. The plaque for each person to whom a tree is dedicated in the Grove has the name on it together with membership of professional or industry associations, and some detail of the individual's career. The plaques are secured on a red gum stump placed next to the tree.



Peter Crowe and David Cromarty

An NFG Committee has been convened and led, since 1993, by Peter Crowe, Executive General Manager of Planted Forests in NSW, and David Cromarty. The Committee supervised further plantings, preparing the plaques and liaising with the Albury City Council and has recently secured the interest of East Lavington Primary School students. Bob Newman has continued his involvement, arranging some of the dedications and liaising with those who want a tree dedicated. The support of the NE Victorian Hoo-Hoo Club, The Rotary Club of North Albury and the Lavington Lions Club has also been magnificent, led by Lindsay Bohun, a timber agent and Charles Leaney respectively. These bodies have supported provision of toilets, a covered barbecue area and playground for children. In 1995 a wooden bandstand was erected designed by Canberra architect Alastair MacCallum. It was baptised with a band-playing session and further dedication of trees. In 2001 in memory of Neil Carr, a professional forester, a bridge across the stream in the grove was erected.

At **AusTimber 2004** on 2nd April a major dedication recognised 50 early foresters, contributors to forest management and harvesting from all States and the ACT. This event brought the total number of dedicated trees in the grove to 109. Senator Ian

McDonald, the Federal Minister responsible for Forestry, and Kate Carnell, Executive Director of the National Association of Forest Industries, opened the plaque dedication. Kate Carnell's grandfather was Victor Grenning, the longest serving head of any Australian Forest Service from 1932 to 1964; so she had much pleasure in dedicating personally the plaque for him.

Bob Newman read an appropriate dedication:

“What Foresters have succeeded in doing by encouraging the use of land in Australia to be used for Forest Management and by providing silvicultural skills nothing can alter. The success and any misjudgement; the greatness and the smallness of our story will stand. Whatever of value in the achievement it contains nothing will lessen. Indeed it will rise above any measure of time; and will be a monument to wonderful men and women, including you all here this morning and all those dedicated in this grove.

The achievement will be for this nation an ongoing treasure.”

(From C.E.W. Bean's writing.)

The Australian National Anthem was sung by a pupil from The Murray High School with the Australian Flag flying next to the barbecue where the Lavington Lions Club put on a breakfast.

How dedications are arranged

For this recent planting all the Forest Services in the Australian States and ACT contributed towards the cost of the plaques and thanks are due to them.

Those in public and private sector forestry or in the wood products sector can request a tree to be dedicated for which a charge of \$150.00 per plaque is made to the NFG Committee Fund. Requests can be addressed to Peter Crowe, SFNSW, PO Box 915, Albury 2640 Phone: 02 6043 1007, or to Bob Newman, PO Box 143, Curtin ACT 2605. Phone: 02 6282 5256.



A general view of the NFG taken on 2nd April 2004

Those with plaques in the National Foresters Grove up to April 2nd 2004:

Dr Max Jacobs.

Institute of Foresters of Australia

Sir Walter Massey-Greene, D.A.N. Cromer, Mark Taylor, Bridget Ryan, Sibley Elliot, Michael Kartzoff, Roger Cowley, Alexander Anderson, Trevor Ritchie, Ashley Cuddy, J.H. Colless, H.D. Waring, John Youl, John Chinner, Lindsay Pryor, Les Carron, Alan Guymer, Conrad Lembke, Allan Harris.

Australian Forest Development Institute/Australian Forest Growers Inc.

Neil Barr.

The I.U.F.R.O.

James Ritchie, Keith Lober, E.A. Alstergren, Ken Crawford, William Ritchie, Egon Larson, Hector Wilmott, Jack Gillespie, A. Hyndman-Stein, Brian Nash.

Murray Catchment Branch IFA

J.B. Jack, R.A. Free, David Hills, K.B. Terry, Ian McLaughlin.

Sir Russell Grimwade Scholars, Commonwealth Forestry Association

Kelvin McGrath, Leslie Patterson, Wal Gentle, Ian Marks, Andrew Wood, Gilbert Tewson, Jack Sutherland, Neil Carr, Clem Matthews, Colin and Graeme Crawford, Peter Gaussen, Robert Patterson, Ross Florence, Eric Bachelard, Lauchlan Wright, M.W. Edgerley, R.L. (Bob) Newman, Alexander Wallis, Charles Demby.

Those who had trees dedicated to them on April 2nd 2004:

Queensland

G.L. Board, P. MacMahon, Norman Jolly, E.H.F. Swain, Victor Grenning, Alan Trist, C. Haley, William Bryan.

Tasmania

Alex Crane, Paul Unwin, Murray Cunningham, Peter Lawrence, Donald Kitchener, Reg Needham, William Meadows.

Western Australia

Charles Lane-Poole, William Wallace, Stephen Kessell, Patrick McNamara, T.N. Stoate, D.W.R. Stewart, Walter Eastman, A.C. Shedley, Bruce Beggs.

ACT

John Fielding, Alan McArthur.

NSW

William Muir, Len Hudson, Baldur Byles, Martin Wyatt, Harry Luke, Herbert Porter, Tom Brabin.

Victoria

Alfred Lawrence, Karl Ferguson, William Zimmer, Ben Benallack, Geoff Weste, Albert Head, James McKinty, Frank Incoll.

South Australia

James Hancock, Geoffrey Rodger, Peter South, Andrew Keeves, Richard Woods, Norman Lewis, Vincent Healey.

The grove is now truly well established. It represents many great Foresters with wonderful stories contained in their lives.

**from NATIONAL FORESTERS GROVE COMMITTEE,
Albury, Australia**

Research

Encyclopaedia by chairmen of CFA

The Encyclopedia of Forest Sciences published in April was edited by our chairman and Director-Emeritus of Oxford Forestry Institute, Jeffery Burley and past chairman and Professor of Forestry at Imperial College London, Julian Evans. The third editor was **John A. Youngquist**, retired from USDA Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

Including reviews of the biological, managerial, social and economic aspects of forest science, the *Encyclopedia* also ranges from pure molecular biology to the production and use of wood and non-wood products. It incorporates detailed reviews of major tree species' taxonomy and genetics, the world's forest ecosystems and their ecology, and the biotic, climatic, edaphic and hydrological influences of forests. The work also includes consideration of the social, public and political aspects of forests and the instruments to support effective management.

The four volumes with 2,400 pages are published by Elsevier at the monumental price of \$1,095 – less than 50 cents a page.

from **ELSEVIER**, www.elsevier.com

Phytophthora ramorum in tree species

A Forestry Commission search of British woodlands has failed to find any cases of *Phytophthora ramorum* infection. 1,348 woodland sites across England, Scotland and Wales have been checked. Places where rhododendrons grow alongside trees were deemed to be at increased risk, as the disease is known to be spread through infected shrubs. The climate was also a key to assessing the threat, with mild, wet areas, similar to those where infection has been found in Oregon, USA, categorised at higher risk.

Of the 335 samples collected from woodland plants displaying symptoms similar to those caused by the disease, all tested negative for *Phytophthora ramorum*. Samples were analysed at the Central Science Laboratory and the Scottish Agricultural Science Agency. Surveys will continue to be carried out at a lower level of intensity over the coming months.

Last year over 22,000 inspections were carried out at some 4,000 retail outlets, nurseries and gardens. Defra Inspectors have found 328 outbreaks of the disease in shrubs in England and Wales, and have taken action in each case to eradicate the disease through destruction of infected plants. Restrictions remain in place at 59 sites. In Scotland there were 6 outbreaks in 2003 and all have been eradicated.

from **GB FORESTRY COMMISSION** and **Defra**

News of members and friends

The National Forest Authority in Uganda

The National Forest Authority has been established and the first members of the management team have been appointed.

Mr Olav Bjella has been appointed as Managing Director. He is from Prevista, a consultancy and planning organisation in Norway. Mr Bjella has 15 years experience of the forestry sector and has been involved in several short-term consultancies to the Ugandan forest sector reform process.

Mr Jones K. Ruhombe takes the post of Director of Field Operations with more than 20 years of experience from the forestry sector in Uganda and internationally.

Mr Isaac L. Kapalaga is Director of Support Services, previously a Forest Officer then served for 8 years with USAID projects. Ms Hope M. Rwaguma takes the post of Human Resources Manager with ten years experience in this capacity in different organisations. Mr Maxwell E.P. Akora is appointed as Director of Finance and Administration, with more than 15 years experience in his field.

Mr Bjella states that the forestry sector in Uganda is in the middle of a reform process. In a few weeks the NFA will start to take over responsibility for management of the central forest reserves. A strong and committed management team, fully staffed by April 2004, will make a significant impact on the forest sector in Uganda, improving the environment, enhancing sustainable economic growth and providing a stable framework for investors and other individuals relying on the forest reserves.

from **THE FORESTER**, February 2004, Uganda



Members of NFA, Uganda

Industry



Douglas Fir from Fort Augustus with George MacLarty (Ft Augustus Forest District), Michael Leslie (Joint MD James Jones), Grant MacIntosh (Ft Augustus Forest District) and Bill Gardner (SOC)

Building with Scottish wood

A new timber frame building to be built in Aberlady, East Lothian, will be a prime showcase of Scottish wood at its best.

Forestry Commission Scotland have joined forces with a number of sponsors and the Scottish Ornithologists Club (SOC) to support the development of a new £750, 000 building to be built on land owned by the Wemyss and March Estates. Waterston House building will form the Scottish Birdwatching Resource Centre and will also house the SOC's administration, library and archive.

The Commission have entered into a concordat with SOC to donate quality Douglas Fir from Fort Augustus for the timber frame. Scots pine will provide internal cladding whilst larch will create the external cladding whilst rafters, joists and walls will be made up from Sitka Spruce. The timber is to be sawn and transported by James Jones in Larbert as part of their contribution to Wood for Good. Ian Pirie, Sales Director at James Jones added: "The Douglas Fir we have processed is of superb quality and demonstrates the best of what is available from Scotland".

from FORESTRY COMMISSION, Scotland

Competing models

At the moment we only see the logs for the timber for the Scottish Ornithologists Club. Here are two recent wooden buildings that confront the challenge of building with wood.

One is the sports dome of the University of Joensuu in Finland showing the use of wood in the construction and the scale of the final dome, certainly the largest wooden structure. The second is the imaginative inverted coracle of a workshop of the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum at Singleton in Sussex, UK seen from within during the Woodland Heritage Wood Show in June 2003.



Sports dome in Joensuu



Weald and Downland workshop

Valuation in Uganda

In CFN24 we had a special feature "Valuation or Pennies from heaven". Since November 2003 the Forest Authority and the Wildlife Conservation Society in Uganda have been supporting an environmental economic survey of selected forest types in the Kasagala, Budongo and Bugoma forest reserves and the Rwenzori mountains national park, collecting data on the contribution of natural forests to local peoples livelihoods.

The survey is aimed at providing relevant policy information to show the diverse contributions of forest to the economy so that a more robust case may be made in seeking funds for forest management and protection.

When thinking about the economic benefits from forests normally one would tend to think of the revenue from timber production ... at a stretch one might begin to consider the potential from tourism or in the worst case the value of converting forest to agricultural land. Current broader thinking about forests shows us that there are different direct and indirect economic benefits to be derived from forests, such as the value to local livelihoods and their role in poverty alleviation from the use of non-timber forest products and firewood collection as well as wider ecosystem functions such as soil and water conservation.

Of core interest is the role of natural forests in the livelihoods of people in their locality and hence the contribution to poverty alleviation. If it is possible to demonstrate and quantify the link to livelihoods and poverty alleviation then it may be possible to create opportunities for funding forestry activities aligned to poverty alleviation including forest management and protection.

The results of this first survey are at the stage of completion and entering the planning process. As the author remarks "watch this space!"

from GLEN BUSH in the Forester, Uganda

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