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Issue 42

Winter 2009

What's happening ...



Gumeracha Agroforestry Demonstration Area—10am Sunday Aug 9th; watch out for the field day signs at the entrance to the new car park just north of Chain of Ponds on the Kersbrook road. BYO BBQ/picnic to follow. Your committee has begun to plan the preconference tour which is to begin in Adelaide and end up in Mt Gambier for the 2010biennial conference
Jill Stone, President Tel: 0407 695 029 or email: stone.jm@bigpond.com

TreeSMART seminar

Dr Tony Richardson presented an excellent well attended seminar on the prospects for carbon trading at Mt Pleasant.

He expects that two systems will operate concurrently: a voluntary system (already in operation); and an audited one, the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (now delayed a year).

He felt that such a 'cap and trade' system would more effective in reducing emissions than a price-inelastic 'carbon tax'. **He presented a compelling graphical case that harvested forests sequester 'way more carbon' than revegetation.**

Farm forestry could have a role in methane offsets (21 x the effect of CO₂) in agriculture.

Firewood harvesting & marketing project update

The final phase of the harvesting and marketing at David Handyside's (Meadows) is underway.

Soon after the David's 'vintage', Tony Williams' SA Plantation Logging (SAPL) **forwarder extracted the debarked logs (>200t) and loaded the log trucks** to take the wood to Adelaide Wholesale Landscaping Supplies (Greg Traeger) at Lonsdale (right top pic)—that is, all bar a couple of loads of logs that were too slippery to safely unload. These logs are now sitting in the SAPL yard near to the Kuitpo mill.

Samples (right pic) have been taken from the logs to get a 'feel' for how more much moisture needs to be lost prior to sale. Moisture content varied quite markedly (20-50%).

Subject to getting the wood on average <25%, Greg plans to process and sell the wood this season when the red gum supplies are depleted. David is to be paid for the wood at \$83/t based on the weight of the 'dry' processed wood that is delivered to the woodyard. This may be 15-20% less than the weight of the partly dried wood that was delivered.

The wood processed by the **small-scale system** was lined up to sell to Robin Ryan from Blackwood Fuel Supplies. Even though we had a dry season, the wood inside the wood pile did not dry enough to market. The heap was not spread out until autumn.

David's best option for this split wood and other unprocessed logs, now seems to be to sell it on the property in potato bins. He should get \$250-300/t instead of \$160/t wholesale and not have the loading, transport costs and having to split the unprocessed logs (bottom pic—where blocks have been cut from the log heap).



Australian Forest growers – representing & promoting private forestry

PO Box 325
 MACCLESFIELD SA 5153
pbulman@bigpond.net.au
www.afg.asn.au

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Jill Stone President 0407 695 029
 Clare Buswell Sec/Treas 8388 9516
 Peter Bulman Newsletter 8339 5055
 Tony Dickson Committee 8554 5283
 Malcolm Boxall Committee 8553 9016
 Barrie Spencer Committee 8568 5622
 John Campbell Committee 8556 2916

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MLR-KI to host the pre-conference tour

Quite a number from MLR-KI have attended preconference tours. This time its our turn and it's a pretty good 7 days that can be honed back if needs be.

The plan is for members to liaise with the tour leader and independently rendezvous with the group at any of the sites of interest.

4 - 10 October 2010		Search Calendar				
4 Monday	5 Tuesday	6 Wednesday	7 Thursday	8 Friday	9 Saturday	10 Sunday
					Ursula's birthday	Oma's birthday
8 am	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel Kingscote to Penneshaw	Victor Harbor to Hinc	Gemini downs to Willalooka via Tilley Swamp Rd
9:00	Pick ups from Adelaide Franklin St Travel to Gumeracha	Bingfield (or Bracken Ridge in Meadows or Mt Com	Great Southern & spacing trial	Malcolm & Faye Boxall	Ferry to Fleurieu	Coorong & Murray Mouth tour Hindmarsh Is
10:00	Gumeracha Agroforestry Demonstration Area	Morning tea; Meado		Travel	Travel	Peter & David Will
11:00		Knott's Hill catchment monitoring or SASpine sawmill		Travel	Deep Creek/Foggy Farm & Emu Wren	Travel to Willalooka
12 pm	Cut lunch or BBQ GADA arboretum	Travel	Travel	Travel	Travel	Lunch Willalooka
1:00	Travel Gumeracha to Keyneton	Lunch & winetasting McLaren Vale	Marron farm Lunch	Travel	Packed lunch	Jamie & Josie Jackson Willalooka
2:00	Bill Evans or Wes Seeliger's Keyneton or Mt Torrens	Regreen the Range	Remarkable Rocks Flinders Chase	Travel & NEC plantat	Adelaide Blue Gum plantations and water/planning issues Callawonga Hill	Willalooka to Naracoorte Caves
3:00		Bracken Ridge?; Mt P	Travel	Travel	Travel	Caves tour & woodcraft or winery Naracoorte or Coonawarra
4:00	Travel Keyneton to Hahndorf/Warrawon	Travel Cape Jervis	Travel	Euc oil or honey production or Dunstal's farm for	Ferret Farm and/or Three Streams?	Travel to Mt Gambier
5:00		Ferry from Cape Jervis to KI	Travel	Travel	Travel	
6:00	Hahndorf Resort or Warrawong	Island Resort Kingscote	Island Resort Kingscote/fire managment	Island Resort Kingscote/Koala mgt	Victor Harbor Four star motel	Gemini Downs Salt Creek
7:00						Ice Breaker
8:00						



Members recently been 'walkabout': Clare and Heiko to Switzerland—note the cable suspending the tree (left) and fine growth rings (above—age of tree?)
 and Peter to Arizona— high elevation ponderosa pine and canyon country behind gnarled juniper stems (right)



Mt Lofty Ranges PF

See page 1 for the firewood harvesting and marketing project update.

An overview of private forestry industry development in the Mt Lofty Ranges has been largely prepared for the recently formed Forest Industry Development Board advising Minister Caica. If you ever plan to sell wood, download a copy and have a good read of a prognosis for our local patch. [www.mlrfp.asn.au/files/An overview of private forest industry development in the Mt Lofty Ranges.pdf](http://www.mlrfp.asn.au/files/An%20overview%20of%20private%20forest%20industry%20development%20in%20the%20Mt%20Lofty%20Ranges.pdf)

The next and probably final major task for the EO is to prepare an 2010-11 funding application for a project that focuses on working with industries/landholders to 'leverage private investment in more resilient landscapes' ie integrating a range of NRM issues such as renewable energy, carbon sequestration/ reducing 'footprints', linking fragmented remnant native vegetation and helping to maintain viable rural communities.



www.mlrfp.asn.au
p_bulman@bigpond.com